

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 28, 2020 – 10:00 AM
117 DICK STREET, FIRST FLOOR, ROOM 118
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

This special meeting was conducted as a remote meeting under the N. C. Governor's State of Emergency Declaration. In compliance with the N. C. General Assembly's S.L. 2020-3, SB 704, this remote meeting was simultaneously streamed online with live audio and video, and was available to the public and media live via the Cumberland County website (co.cumberland.nc.us), Youtube page (youtube.com/user/CumberlandCountyNC/videos) and on Fayetteville Cumberland Education Channel (FCE-TV) Spectrum Cable Channel 5.

PRESENT: Commissioner Marshall Faircloth, Chairman
Commissioner Glenn Adams, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Jeannette Council (arrived at 10:25 a.m.)
Commissioner Charles Evans (attended by video conference)
Commissioner Jimmy Keefe
Commissioner Larry Lancaster
Amy Cannon, County Manager
Duane Holder, Deputy County Manager
Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager
Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney
Candice H. White, Clerk to the Board
Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Commissioner Michael Boose

With a quorum being present, Chairman Faircloth called the special meeting to order. The clerk advised Chairman Faircloth that Vice Chairman Adams and Commissioners Keefe and Lancaster were physically attending the meeting and Commissioner Evans was attending the meeting via video conference.

Amy Cannon, County Manager, stated the purpose of the special meeting was for the Board of Commissioners to provide input and consider approval of the CARES Act-Coronavirus Relief Fund County Action Plan that was developed under the leadership of Deputy County Manager Duane Holder and a work group.

Mr. Holder stated the CRF funds were appropriated by the federal government, passed down to the state and the state decided how the CRF funds would be passed down to local governments.

Mr. Holder provided background information as follows:

- \$2.2T Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Stability (CARES) Act
- CARES Act included \$150B in state/local aid; NC allocated \$4 billion
- HB1043 passed by NC Gen Assembly - \$150M in immediate aid to counties, additional \$150M in reserve
- Cumberland County allocated \$5.7M

Mr. Holder stated the state decided to withhold half of the funds or \$150 million in federal funds for future use.

Mr. Holder stated because the CRF funds are federal funds, they have regulations or guidelines tied to them:

- Must be used for COVID-19 response
- Examples of permitted use – testing and equipment, payroll, technology, personal protective equipment (PPE), redirected staff compensation, disinfection, protective measures, financial assistance
- Reimbursement of costs to municipal governments
- Cannot make up for lost revenue

Mr. Holder stated the time period during which the funds must be utilized is March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Mr. Holder stated guiding principles directed the efforts of the work group as it:

- Considered availability of other funding sources to maximize use of CRF funds

- Prioritized public health and public safety (mandated services)
- Identified process for periodic updates to the Board
- Accounted for possible resurgence of COVID-19 in the Fall

Mr. Holder stated it should be kept in mind that local governments can also apply for several other funding sources such as FEMA funds, Community Development Block Grant funds, justice grants for law enforcement and transportation grants. Mr. Holder stated the emphasis on CRF funds is to utilize them for activities for which there are no other funding sources or limited funding available. Mr. Holder stated the CRF fund expenditures will be tracked and updates will be provided at the monthly agenda session meetings on projects and expenditures.

Mr. Holder stated staff recommendations for CRF funds include the following:

- Reimburse already incurred County eligible expenses
- Continue and expand County medical activities
- Continue and expand County public health activities
- Continue funding for COVID-19 payroll expenses
- Anticipate expenses to comply with public health measures
- Support for municipalities' expenses

Mr. Holder reviewed the following proposed CRF fund expenditures for which Cumberland County would be eligible:

County Expenses to date	\$1,000,000
Future Medical	200,000
Future Public Health	900,000
Future Payroll	1,800,000
Future Compliance	800,000
Municipal Expenses to date	175,122
Future Municipal Expenses	<u>824,878</u>
Total	<u>\$5,700,000</u>

Mr. Holder presented expenses incurred to date:

- Cumberland County has incurred \$1,000,000 to date
 - Amount includes payroll expense, teleworking technology, PPE, testing supplies/equipment, shelter costs, other protective measures
- City of Fayetteville, and towns of Hope Mills, Spring Lake reported total of \$175,122 to date and are the only municipalities that submitted a request for CRF funds
 - Amount includes food delivery, telework technology, PPE, other protective measures

Mr. Holder stated these expenses do not include an additional \$240,000 the Health Department has expended that will be reimbursed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Mr. Holder stated with this included, the total expenses the county has incurred to date is approximately \$1.25 million.

In response to questions posed by Commissioner Evans regarding shelter costs incurred, Mr. Holder stated those costs represent temporary lodging for homeless individuals who were either tested and awaiting results or tested and needed isolation because they were at-risk for spreading the virus. Mr. Holder also stated the homeless individuals were identified by the Health Department that was actively engaged with local providers who deliver services to the homeless population. Mr. Holder responded to questions posed by Commissioner Adams and Commissioner Keefe about individuals experiencing instability in housing and stated although those individuals have not been engaged, that is not to say they have been excluded. Mr. Holder stated efforts were targeted at individuals in congregate living situations who presented with COVID-19 symptoms and acute needs. Mr. Holder stated the effort can be enlarged going forward.

Mr. Holder stated with the \$1 million for county expenses to date and \$175,122 for municipal expenses to date, the county is now moving into the phase of future medical expenses in the plan. Mr. Holder stated this includes the following:

- \$200,000 – COVID Testing, Telemedicine, Jail Health Expenses Resulting from COVID-19

Mr. Holder stated future Public Health expenses are projected to be as follows:

- \$900,000 – PPE, Protective Barriers, Disinfection of County Facilities

Mr. Holder stated future Payroll expenses are projected to be as follows:

- \$1,800,000 – Conservative projection of public health and public safety employee time devoted DIRECTLY to COVID response/mitigation to include county staff whose duties have been reassigned to those functions.

Mr. Holder stated expenses for future compliance to facilitate public health measures are projected as follows:

- \$800,000 – Technology for telework/virtual, temporary lodging for homeless, Jail sanitation, temp monitors & dishwasher

Mr. Holder stated municipal support to those municipalities that requested funding is being recommended as follows. Mr. Holder stated Fayetteville requested \$3,150,000; Hope Mills requested \$50,000; and Spring Lake requested \$226,000.

- 1,000,000– Funding for municipal expenses
 - Fayetteville \$900,000
 - Hope Mills \$50,000
 - Spring Lake \$50,000

Mr. Holder stated because the county will be accountable for the expenditure of these federal funds, municipalities will be funded on a reimbursement basis and only for qualified expenditures. Mr. Holder stated some of the municipal requests were for nonallowable expenditures and staff feel the amounts being recommended represent a fair and equitable distribution of funds. Mr. Holder stated interlocal agreements will have to be initiated with municipalities which will include claw back provisions just as the federal and state governments have with the county.

Commissioner Council arrived at 10:25 a.m.

Mr. Holder concluded his presentation with the following CRF plan expense recap:

County Expenses to date	\$1,000,000
Future Medical	200,000
Future Public Health	900,000
Future Payroll	1,800,000
Future Compliance	800,000
Municipal Expenses to date	175,122
Future Municipal Expenses	<u>824,878</u>
Total	<u>\$5,700,000</u>

Chairman Faircloth asked whether municipalities received this funding. Mr. Holder stated there was no direct funding out of the CRF, but municipalities have received other funding for things such as law enforcement and transit. Mr. Holder stated the Sheriff's Office received a \$40,000 justice grant. Commissioner Keefe asked whether Cumberland County Schools received CRF funding. Mr. Holder stated his understanding is that they received their own allocation. Commissioner Keefe stated it is imperative that clear guidance is given to municipalities from the beginning. Mr. Holder stated the interlocal agreements will mirror the provisions the county received from the federal and state government. Commissioner Adams asked how county facilities would be sanitized once they are all opened to the public and whether the possibility of adding contract workers was included in the plan. Mr. Holder the county has received the results from a request for proposals for disinfection and sanitation of all county facilities through December 2020. Ms. Cannon stated management is in the process of developing a reopening plan department by department with deep disinfection and daily cleaning for the safety of employees and the public. Additional questions followed.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to approve the CARES Act-Coronavirus Relief Fund County Action Plan.

SECOND: Commissioner Lancaster

Chairman Faircloth called for the vote.

By a show of hands, Chairman Faircloth and Commissioners Adams, Council, Evans, Keefe and Lancaster voted in favor.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

MOTION: Commissioner Lancaster moved to adjourn.

SECOND: Commissioner Council

Chairman Faircloth called for the vote.

By a show of hands, Chairman Faircloth and Commissioners Adams, Council, Evans, Keefe and Lancaster voted in favor.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Approved with/without revision:

Respectfully submitted,

Candice H. White
Clerk to the Board