

September 21, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for its Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. via an electronic meeting (Zoom) with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chair Shelley Dickerson, Cedric K. Jones, Sr., Harry L. Foy, Jr., Mark Speed, David Bunn and Michael Schriver.

The public was not allowed to physically attend this meeting; however, the meeting was livestreamed on YouTube at <http://franklincounty.today>. Citizens were also able to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom.

Chairman Dunston called the meeting to order and asked the Board to consider an addendum to the consent agenda to include Item 1-H (August 3, 2020 Minutes).

Commissioner Bunn made a motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Schriver made a motion to remove Item 1-H for further clarification of the August 3, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schriver and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Foy made a motion to remove Item 1-G for questions regarding the Franklin Plaza Lease. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bunn and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

After discussions regarding Item 1-G and 1-H, Chairman Dunston asked the Board to consider approval of the entire consent agenda.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schriver and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

The items approved are as follows.

## I. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Releases, Adjustments, Refunds, and Tax Collection Rate
- B. National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Proclamation
- C. Fire Prevention Week Proclamation
- D. Website Redesign Contract with REVIZE, LLC (multiyear contract)
- E. Budget Ordinance Amendment #3 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$87,500.)
- F. Franklin County Government Facility Project Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 1 in the amount of \$67,213

G. Franklin Plaza Lease  
H. August 3, 2020 Minutes

## Item I-B

**NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTER'S MEMORIAL PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress and the President of the United States have designated the weekend of October 3-4, 2020 as a time to honor firefighters and emergency services personnel who have sacrificed their lives to save others by lowering the American flag on all federal buildings to half-staff; and

**WHEREAS**, an average of 100 firefighters courageously make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the events of September 11, 2001, brought national attention to the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices faced by fire and emergency services personnel on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, firefighters and emergency services personnel play an essential role in the protection of lives and property in our local community; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Memorial Service marks the beginning of the annual Fire Prevention Week observance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is of major importance that we increase our efforts to reduce deaths, injuries, and property losses from fire;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim to all citizens of Franklin County and upon all patriotic, civic, and educational organizations to observe the weekend of October 3-4, 2020, in recognition of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of our fire and emergency services personnel by lowering American flags to half-staff.

The Board encourages appropriate services and ceremonies in which all citizens may participate to honor fire and emergency services personnel, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to duties, have rendered invaluable services to our community and its citizens.

The Board further calls upon citizens of Franklin County to remember all fire and emergency personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community and to pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes.

## Item 1-C

**2020 Fire Prevention Week Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Franklin is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Franklin County; and

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

**WHEREAS**, home fires killed more than 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 357,000 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 173,200 annually between 2013 and 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire

**WHEREAS** Franklin County residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

**WHEREAS**, Franklin County first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

**WHEREAS**, Franklin County residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!!" effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

**THEREFORE**, The Franklin County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim October 4 -10, 2020, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this county, and we urge all the people of Franklin County to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2020,

and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Franklin County's fire and emergency services.

Item 1-E



Finance Office  
 Jamie Holtzman, Finance Director  
 113 Market Street  
 Louisburg, NC 27549  
 Phone: 919.496.3182

**Amendment to the Franklin County Budget Ordinance  
 2020/2021  
 Amendment No. 3**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 159-15, the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

SECTION 1 of the Franklin County Budget Ordinance, pertaining to the General Fund operations of the County, shall be amended as follows:

Increase/(Decrease) Appropriations:

Aging Department	\$ 87,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 87,500</b>

Increase/(Decrease) Revenues:

Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ 87,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 87,500</b>

This Amendment:

\* appropriates funds to the Aging Department budget for lease payments for the Franklin Plaza location.

Funding Source: Fund Balance Appropriated

SECTION 2: Copies of this amendment shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SIDNEY E. DUNSTON, CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
 KRISTEN G. KING, CLERK

## Item I-F

 <p><b>Franklin County</b> A Research Triangle Region Community</p>	<p>Finance Office  <b>Jamie Holtzman, Finance Director</b>          113 Market Street          Louisburg, NC 27549          Phone: 919.496.3182</p>
<p><b>Amendment to the Franklin County Government Facility Project Budget Ordinance</b>  <b>Amendment No. 1</b></p>	
<p>BE IT ORDAINED by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 159-8 and 159-13.2, the following amendment be made to the Franklin County Government Facility Project Budget Ordinance.</p>	
<p><b>SECTION 2</b> of the Franklin County Government Facility Project Budget Ordinance shall be amended as follows:</p>	
<p><u>Increase/(Decrease) Revenues:</u></p>	
Transfer from General Fund	\$ 67,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 67,213</b>
<p><b>SECTION 3</b> of the Franklin County Government Facility Project Budget Ordinance shall be amended as follows:</p>	
<p><u>Increase/(Decrease) Appropriations:</u></p>	
Franklin County Government Facility	\$ 67,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 67,213</b>
<p>This Amendment:          * is for architectural fees/professional services for Franklin Plaza.</p>	
<p><b>SECTION 4</b> Copies of this amendment shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.</p>	
<p>ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.</p>	
<p>_____          SIDNEY E. DUNSTON, CHAIRMAN</p>	
<p>_____          KRISTEN G. KING, CLERK</p>	

## 2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

This was the time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals to address the Board on issues concerning the county.

Members of the public who wished to make public comments were required to register by emailing [publiccomments@franklincountync.us](mailto:publiccomments@franklincountync.us) before 12:00 pm (noon) on Monday, September 21, 2020 and include their name, address, comment topic, phone number they would call from and email address. Individuals were recognized (by video or phone call using the instructions listed at the beginning of this agenda) for comments in the order registered. The time limit for each speaker was five minutes with a total time limit set aside for informal public comments totaling 30 minutes.

Frank Winstead, 145 Victoria Court, Youngsville

- Spending

## 3. UPDATE: COVID-19

Health Director Scott LaVigne provided an update on the pandemic. No action was requested.

#### 4. BID AWARD – PUMP STATION REHABILITATIONS

Seven bids were received for the rehabilitation of three sewage pump stations in the Franklinton service area. The apparent low bidder's bid is within the project budget of \$1,365,000. Gary Flowers, Project Manager for MESCO, certified the bid tabulations and has sent a recommendation of award letter recommending the lowest and most responsible bidder, Herring-Rivenbark. It is the department's recommendation to have the commission award the pump station rehabilitation bid to Herring-Rivenbark, Inc in the amount of \$854,760.00. Public Utilities Director Chris Doherty made the following presentation. Mr. Flowers was available to answer board questions.





## PROJECT PURPOSE

### Oak Ridge Pump Station

- Station is over 20 years old, exceeded useful life
- Replace pumps, motors, controls, level control & SCADA
- By-pass pump around connections
- New safety features

### Highway 1A Pump Station

- Station is over 20 years old, exceeded useful life
- Replace pumps, motors, controls, level control & SCADA
- By-pass pump around connections
- New safety features

### Korea Street Pump Station

- Station is over 20 years old, exceeded useful life
- Replace pumps, motors, controls, level control & SCADA
- By-pass pump around connections
- New safety features



Pump Station Rehabilitations

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## ONE PROJECT

- Project Funding is a state loan from the Water Infrastructure Fund - \$ 1,365,000.00
- Take advantage of bid environment, bid the three pump stations as one project
- Engineers Estimate - \$ 1,100,000.00
- Seven bids received

Pump Station Rehabilitations

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## BID RESULTS

Project bid on September 2, 2020 @ 2:00 PM

Contractor	Location	Bid Amount
Herring-Rivenbark, Inc.	Kinston, NC	\$ 854,760.00
Ralph Hodge Construction Co.	Wilson, NC	\$ 936,600.00
Step Construction, Inc.	LaGrange, NC	\$ 1,000,620.00
HG Reynolds Co., Inc.	Henderson, NC	\$ 1,049,328.00
Jones & Smith Contractors, LLC	Ayden, NC	\$ 1,111,150.00
Carolina Civilworks, Inc.	Raleigh, NC	\$ 1,227,951.00
TA Loving Company	Goldsboro, NC	\$ 1,412,300.00

Pump Station Rehabilitations

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## BID RESULTS

- Low bidder was Herring-Rivenbark, Inc. from Kinston, NC
- Herring-Rivenbark has been doing work since 1949, and has worked on similar projects for other municipal and county utilities
- Municipal Engineering recommends award be made to Herring-Rivenbark, Inc for the low bid amount of \$ 854,760.00

Pump Station Rehabilitations

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Commissioner Schriver made a motion to award the bid to Herring – Rivenbark, Inc. in the amount of \$854,760.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

5. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION UPDATE**

Franklin County Economic Development Commission Director, Richie Duncan and Existing Industry Coordinator, Andy Kuhn participated in the virtual annual meeting of the North Carolina Economic Development Association. The team shared some of the data and presentations given, highlighting sections of the program that specifically addressed Franklin County.

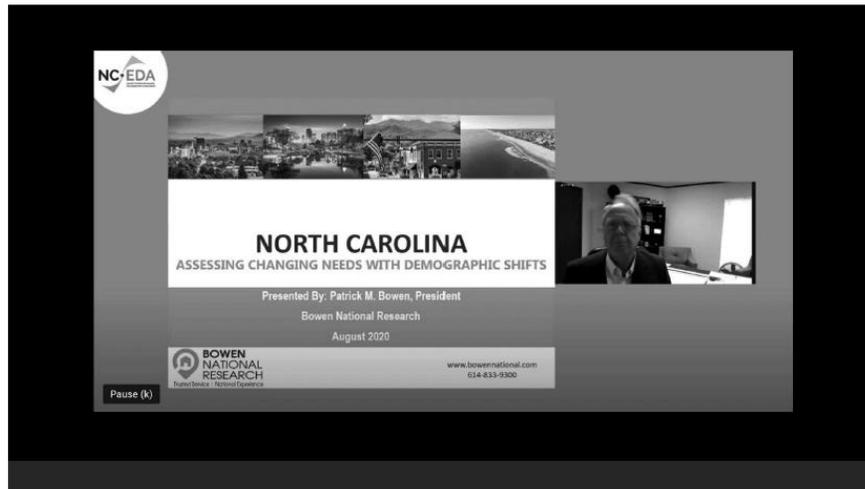


Annual Meeting Summary | AUGUST 2020



1. Franklin County expects overall 1.56% population growth per year over the next 5 years (one of only 13 NC counties with net positive anticipated growth)
2. Senior household growth over 19.5% by 2025
3. 60% of county homeowners are "cost burdened"- paying over 33% of monthly income in mortgage/rent

Data Courtesy Bowen Research via. Carolina Demography



## Site Selector Insights

1. Site selection process has been slowed by Covid-19 but has not stopped
2. Demands for manufacturing sites remains high
3. Existing buildings continue to be preferred as the needs for speed to market intensify

Panel: Jeanette Goldsmith, VP Strategic Development Group  
 Chris Lloyd, SVP McGuire Woods Consulting  
 Marvin Price, VP Charlotte Regional Business Alliance

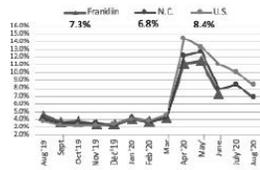


RTI Research  
Area Regional  
Skills Analysis

Survey compiled by RTI and includes over 1,000 responses from employers/employees within the Triangle and the Cape Fear region

1. 57% of respondents intend to grow workforce in the next 3 years
2. Anticipating 17K-32K new hires
  1. Manufacturing 5200
  2. Health Care/Health Service 4700
  3. Information Services 4600

Unemployment Rate (as of 9/18)



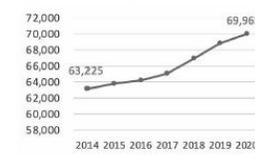
Permit Activity (as of 8/12)



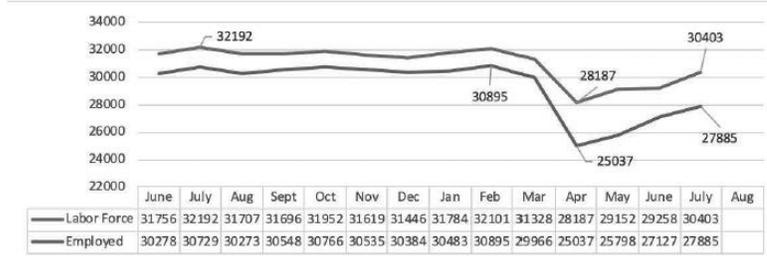
Average Weekly Wages (as of 8/21)



Population (as of 5/14)



Labor Force vs. Employed (as of 9/7)



North Carolina							
Data Series	Back Data	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020
<b>Labor Force Data</b>							
Civilian Labor Force <sup>(1)</sup>	NA	5,114.7	4,971.2	4,687.9	4,816.2	4,787.2	4,932.2
Employment <sup>(1)</sup>	NA	4,922.1	4,755.5	4,082.2	4,200.7	4,430.1	4,592.3
Unemployment <sup>(1)</sup>	NA	182.6	215.7	605.7	615.5	357.1	419.8
Unemployment Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	NA	3.6	4.3	12.9	12.8	7.5	8.5
<b>Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment</b>							
Total Nonfarm <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	4,612.0	4,567.7	3,956.2	4,061.5	4,229.1	4,386.3
12-month % change	NA	1.2	0.2	-12.4	-11.1	-7.6	-6.4
Mining and Logging <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4
12-month % change	NA	0.0	-1.8	-1.8	-5.2	-5.2	-6.9
Construction <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	231.9	231.5	218.6	218.2	220.4	221.9
12-month % change	NA	0.4	0.3	-5.2	-5.5	-4.7	-4.0
Manufacturing <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	477.8	472.7	424.1	430.4	442.6	437.0
12-month % change	NA	0.0	-1.0	-11.2	-9.9	-7.3	-8.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	849.2	841.1	771.6	788.3	812.8	816.2
12-month % change	NA	0.5	-0.6	-8.9	-7.0	-4.2	-3.8
Information <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	79.0	78.8	73.2	71.4	71.3	70.8
12-month % change	NA	4.1	3.4	-3.2	-5.4	-6.1	-6.8
Financial Activities <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	259.5	259.9	251.3	251.5	251.5	252.2
12-month % change	NA	4.6	4.8	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.6
Professional & Business Services <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	648.5	646.4	593.0	603.0	613.8	618.6
12-month % change	NA	0.0	-0.4	-8.3	-7.0	-5.6	-4.7
Education & Health Services <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	624.5	620.1	553.7	568.6	583.6	585.5
12-month % change	NA	0.2	-0.6	-11.5	-6.3	-7.0	-6.8
Leisure & Hospitality <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	535.8	512.1	256.8	309.4	372.8	386.3
12-month % change	NA	4.5	-0.2	-48.1	-39.8	-26.6	-24.9
Other Services <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	162.5	161.2	136.6	137.9	154.9	153.9
12-month % change	NA	2.5	1.3	-20.4	-13.5	-3.6	-3.8
Government <sup>(3)</sup>	NA	737.6	738.3	711.7	673.3	695.1	738.5
12-month % change	NA	1.1	1.2	-2.7	-7.4	-5.1	0.5

**Footnotes**  
 (1) Number of persons, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.  
 (2) In percent, seasonally adjusted.  
 (3) Number of jobs, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.  
 (P) Preliminary

N.C. Industries hardest hit initially by Covid-19

April 2020

1. Leisure/Hospitality (-48.1%)
2. Other Services (-20.4%)
3. Non-Farm Ag (-12.4%)

June 2020

1. Leisure/Hospitality (-26.6%)
2. Non-Farm Ag (-7.6%)
3. Manufacturing (-7.3%)

Leisure/Hospitality rebound of over 21% (or nearly 100K jobs)

Manufacturing job losses in excess of 35,000, how/will/can they come back?



## Kerr-Tar Regional Council Of Governments

# Open for Business Loan Program

We know small and local businesses have been hit hard as a result of COVID-19 and we want to help. The Open for Business Loan Program is designed to help small to medium size businesses recover from the economic affects of this pandemic. Funds are intended for use as working capital (rent, payroll, utilities, etc.) and/or equipment during shutdown and reopening.

- 5-10 year, interest free loans
- Non-forgivable loans ranging from \$10,000-\$100,000
- Must demonstrate a direct loss of revenue as a result of COVID-19
- Can be used for working capital and/or equipment

Serving Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, and Warren counties

Funds are locally administered, funded by the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration with funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

**Apply online today!**  
[www.kerrtar.org](http://www.kerrtar.org)

## Questions?

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No action was requested or taken.

### 6. APPOINTMENTS

#### Agricultural Advisory Board

The Board was asked to consider appointing Brent Strickland (Harris Township) and Tonya Pearce (Louisburg Township) to the Board for three-year terms (2020-2023).

Commissioner Bunn made a motion to appoint Brent Strickland (Harris Township) and Tonya Pearce (Louisburg Township) to the Board for three-year terms (2020-2023). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schriver and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

### 7. OTHER BUSINESS

### 8. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk to the Board Kristen G. King: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Sidney E. Dunston: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Shelley Dickerson: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Harry L. Foy, Jr.: No comments were offered.

Commissioner David Bunn: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Mark Speed: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Cedric K. Jones, Sr.: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Michael Schriver: No comments were offered.

County Manager Angela L. Harris: No comments were offered.

## 9. CLOSED SESSION

The Board was asked to conduct a closed session pursuant to the following North Carolina General Statutes:

- ✓ NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(4) Industry/Economic Development
- ✓ NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) Attorney-Client Privileged Communication

At 7:48pm, Commissioner Bunn made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(4) Industry/Economic Development. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schriver and was approved 6 to 1 with Commissioner Foy voting in opposition.

Commissioner Schriver made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(3) Attorney-Client Privileged Communication. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bunn and was approved 6 to 1 with Commissioner Foy voting in opposition.

Following closed session, Commissioner Speed made a motion to enter back into open session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schriver and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Schriver then made a motion to call for an October 5, 2020 public hearing regarding a possible incentive for NC Turf Care. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

At 9:42pm, Commissioner Bunn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Schriver. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

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Sidney E. Dunston, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board