BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 15, 2026
6:00 P.M.

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on the above date at 6:00 p.m., Commissioners' Chambers, David R. Sandifer Administration Building, County Government Center, Bolivia, North Carolina.

PRESENT:	Commissioner Mike Forte, Chairman Commissioner J. Martin Cooke, Vice-Chairman Commissioner Randy Thompson Commissioner Pat Sykes Commissioner Frank Williams
STAFF:	Steve Stone, County Manager Bryan Batton, County Attorney David Stanley, Deputy County Manager Niel Brooks, Deputy County Manager Aaron Smith, Finance Director Daralyn Spivey, Clerk to the Board LeAnn Weigand, Executive Assistant Currie Elkins, IT Lt. Barbour, Sheriff's Office

Board Action, containing all items in this set of minutes, is filed within the Clerk to the Board's office.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Forte called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Williams gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Forte asked for adjustments to the agenda.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sykes and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marilyn Matteo, speaking on behalf of a group of citizens, spoke to her concerns with developers' lack of concern for wildlife.

Rebecca Bower spoke regarding DR Horton's intentional removal of restrictions required from a stormwater permit from HOA Covenants Conditions and Restrictions.

Marjorie Burnside spoke regarding the financial responsibilities the County is facing as a result of developers.

Nicole Sullivan spoke regarding development and the lack of cemetery preservation.

Shannon Curcio spoke regarding development and overcrowded roads, lack of emergency preparedness and unsafe roads occurring over the last five-to-ten years.

Shirly Sullivan spoke regarding the current state of development within the County and addressing the evacuation routes that are outdated.

Carl Parker spoke regarding access to clean water for all County citizens.

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice – Chairman Cooke moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

1. **Clerk to the Board – Meeting Minutes June 1, 2026, Regular Meeting**
   The Board approved the Meeting Minutes for the June 1, 2026, Regular Meeting.

2. **County Attorney – Declaration of Surplus Property – Parcel 141AC00201**
   The Board approved property obtained by the County through tax foreclosure as surplus property to be placed on the County's website for possible future purchase.

3. **County Attorney – Ocean Ridge Plantation, Ph 3, Sec 2, Lots 64-69 and 76-86 (17 lots) Barrington Place Deed of Dedication**
   The Board approved the Deed of Dedication for water and sewer infrastructure for Ocean Ridge Plantation, Phase 3, Section 2, Lots 64-69 and 76-86 (17 lots), Barrington Place.

4. **County Attorney – Timber Farms, Spine Road, Entrance and Pump Station Deed of Dedication**
   The Board approved the Deed of Dedication for water and sewer infrastructure for Timber Farms, Spine Road, Entrance and Pump Station.

5. **Engineering – Utility Easement for 1050 Calabash Rd (Parcel # 2250013204)**
   The Board approved a utility easement over parcel 2250013204 which is owned by Brunswick County for sewer connection by parcel 2250013202.

6. **Finance - Fiscal Items**
   The Board approved Budget Amendments, Capital Project Ordinances and Fiscal Items of a routine nature on the consent agenda to include the following:

   -Concealed Weapons
   Appropriated projected Concealed Weapons Permit Revenues and associated Concealed Weapons Permit Fees due to the NC State Bureau of Investigation.

   -Airport Grant 36244.58.16.2 Budget Amendment and CPO
   Appropriated additional Airport grant 46333.1.1 revenue in the amount of $192,303 and corresponding grant match of $21,367 for grant modification 74125 as approved by NC Department of Transportation

   -Airport Grant 46333.1.1 Budget Amendment and CPO
   Appropriated additional Airport grant 46333.1.1 revenue in the amount of $29,500 for grant modification 78468 as approved by NC Department of Transportation.

   -West Brunswick Reclaimed Water Line Budget Amendment and CPO
   Transferred $1,500 to the West Brunswick Reclaimed Water Line project for software access fees associated with the project.

   -Financial Reports for May 2026 (unaudited)

Summary Information for General and Enterprise Funds, ARPA, and Opioid project statuses, key revenue indicators, and Cash and Investment details are included. All year-to-date fiscal reports are provided at: https://brunswickcountync.gov/finance/reports

7. **Finance - Property and Capital Asset Policy Rewrite**
The Board adopted a policy to establish clear, uniform guidelines for the acquisition, use, control, maintenance, and disposal of assets obtained for official Brunswick County business.

8. **Sheriff's Office - 911 Cybersecurity Grant Application Approval**
The Board ratified the County Manager's approval of the grant application submitted to the North Carolina 911 Board for costs associated with replacing the current cybersecurity infrastructure network for the 911 Communications Center. The grant does not require a county match.

9. **Sheriff's Office - IDEMIA LiveScan - Sole Source Resolution and Budget Amendment Approval**
The Board approved a Sole Source Resolution and associated Budget Amendment for the purchase of a new Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) machine for the detention center. The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF IDEMIA LIVESCAN SYSTEM UNDER SOLE SOURCE EXCEPTION TO FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S 143-129(e)(6), Procedure for Letting of Public Contracts, allows for the waiver of formal bidding requirements for purchases of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment when performance or price competition for a product are not available, or a needed product is available from only one source of supply, or standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Brunswick County Detention Center is responsible for the intake and housing of subjects taken into custody for criminal processing by law enforcement agencies within Brunswick County; and

WHEREAS, the Detention Center is responsible for the proper retention and updating of the criminal history database by using digital fingerprints to connect directly to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety ("NCDPS") and its Automated Fingerprint Identification System ("AFIS"); and

WHEREAS, Idemia Identity & Security USA LLC has been the sole provider of the AFIS infrastructure at NCDPS since 1987 and is the only vendor who can deliver a LiveScan system that is 100% compatible with the NCDPS system; and

WHEREAS, the Detention Center must maintain standardization and compatibility with NCDPS and its AFIS infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the governing board must approve the purchase under this bidding exemption prior to awarding the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners approves the purchases described herein utilizing the exception to formal bidding requirements contained in N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(6) and finds that the conditions described in that statute have been met.

Adopted this, the 15th day of June 2026.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

10. Sheriff's Office - NCIC - Inmate Phone Agreement Approval
The Board approved a new agreement with Network Communications International Corp dba NCIC Correctional Services for detention center inmate phone services.

11. Sheriff's Office - SCAAP Grant Application Approval
The Board approved a grant application for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) offered by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). This grant requires no matching funds from the County and is typically submitted on an annual basis.

12. Social Services - Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Interagency Agreement School Year 2026-2027
The Board approved the Every Student Succeeds Act Interagency Agreement between DSS and Brunswick County Schools for fiscal year 2027.

13. Soil and Water - NC DEQ Water Resources Development Grant Application Approval — Jump and Run Creek Stream Restoration
The Board authorized the application for the NC DEQ Division of Water Resources Water Resources Development Grant. The grant will be used toward the design of a stream restoration project for Jump and Run Creek, Southport NC. The Resolution reads as follows:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STUDY RESOULUTION – WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT GRANT

WHEREAS, Brunswick County desires to sponsor Jump and Run Creek Stream Restoration, a project to evaluate, design, and engineer stream restoration measures along Jump and Run Creek in Southport, North Carolina. The proposed project will address ongoing streambank erosion, reduce sedimentation, improve water quality, protect adjacent commercial property and infrastructure, enhance aquatic habitat, and increase watershed resilience to future storm events and flooding; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
1) The Council/Board requests the State of North Carolina to provide financial assistance to Brunswick County for Jump and Run Creek Stream Restoration in the amount of $ $52,028 or 50% percent of nonfederal project costs, whichever is the lesser amount;
2)The Council/Board assumes full obligation for payment of the balance of the study costs (or non-federal portion);
3)The Council/Board will comply with all applicable laws governing the award of contracts and the expenditure of public funds by local governments.

Adopted this, the 15th day of June 2026.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

14. **Superior Court - Superior Court Judge's Office - FY27 MOA with NC Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC)**
The Board approved the annual renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement between Brunswick County, Judge Jason C. Disbrow and the North Carolina Office of the Courts for the Trial Court Coordinator State Employee Position and delegated signing authority of agreement to the County Manager.

15. **Tax - June 2026 Tax Releases**
The Board approved the June 2026 releases.

16. Utilities – **Baynor Construction Carolina Shores Splitter Box Construction Contract**
The Board approved a budget amendment, authorized staff to issue a Notice of Award and authorized the Chairman and Clerk to the Board to execute a contract with Baynor Construction in the amount of $598,000.00 for the construction of the Carolina Shores Splitter Box project.

17. Utilities – **Longwood Rd. Sewer Project – Brass Group (DEQ-ARPA Grant SRP-W-ARP-0297 CN5) – Agreement w C. I. Thornburg Co., Inc. d/b/a CITCO Water**
The Board approved appropriations; approved the attached Resolution of Tentative Award; authorized staff to issue a Notice of Award; authorized County Manager to sign Project Bid Information; authorized the Chairperson and Clerk to the Board to execute a contract with C. I. Thornburg Co., Inc. d/b/a CITCO Water in the amount of $40,226.00 for the purchase of the aforementioned brass group grinder pump accessories for the Longwood Road Sewer Project (SRP-W-ARP-0297-CN5), contingent upon County Attorney review and approval of the contract, performance and payment bonds, NC E-Verify documentation, affidavits of compliance, and insurance certificates; contingent upon receiving Authorization to Award from NCDEQ – Division of Water Infrastructure. The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF TENTATIVE AWARD

WHEREAS, Brunswick County, North Carolina has received bids, pursuant to a duly advertised notice therefor, for the purchase of ancillary materials, namely, brass group grinder pump accessories associated with the Longwood Road Sewer Project, DWI Project No. SRP-W-ARP-0297-CN5 (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities reviewed the bids for the purchase of the aforementioned brass group grinder pump accessories; and

WHEREAS, The C.I. Thornburg Co., Inc. d/b/a CITCO Water was the lowest bidder for the accessories in the bid amount of $40,226.00; and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities recommends **TENTATIVE AWARD** to the lowest bidder, The C.I. Thornburg Co., Inc. d/b/a CITCO Water.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that TENTATIVE AWARD is made to the lowest bidder, The C.I. Thornburg Co., Inc. d/b/a CITCO Water, in the amount of $40,226.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such TENTATIVE AWARD is contingent upon approval of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

Adopted this, the 15th day of June 2026 at Brunswick County, North Carolina.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

18. Utilities - Longwood Rd. Sewer Project – CTS Group (DEQ-ARPA Grant SRP-W-ARP-0297 CN5) – Agreement w Ferguson Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks #1104

The Board approved appropriations; approved the attached Resolution of Tentative Award; authorized staff to issue a Notice of Award; authorized the County Manager to sign Project Bid Information; authorized the Chairperson and Clerk to the Board to execute a contract with Ferguson Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks #1104 in the amount of $69,000.00 for the purchase of the aforementioned CTS Group grinder pump accessories for the Longwood Road Sewer Project (SRP-W ARP-0297-CN5), contingent upon County Attorney review and approval of the contract, performance and payment bonds, NC E-Verify documentation, affidavits of compliance, and insurance certificates; contingent upon receiving Authorization to Award from NCDEQ – Division of Water Infrastructure. The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF TENTATIVE AWARD

WHEREAS, Brunswick County, North Carolina has received bids, pursuant to a duly advertised notice therefor, for the purchase of ancillary materials, namely, CTS group grinder pump accessories associated with the Longwood Road Sewer Project, DWI Project No. SRP-W-ARP-0297-CN5 (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities reviewed the bids for the purchase of the aforementioned CTS group grinder pump accessories; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Enterprises, LLC of Virginia d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks #1104 was the lowest bidder for the accessories in the bid amount of $69,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities recommends **TENTATIVE AWARD** to the lowest bidder, Ferguson Enterprises, LLC of Virginia d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks #1104.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that TENTATIVE AWARD is made to the lowest bidder, Ferguson Enterprises, LLC of Virginia d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks #1104, in the amount of $69,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such TENTATIVE AWARD is contingent upon approval of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

Adopted this, the 15th day of June 2026 at Brunswick County, North Carolina.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

19. Utilities - Longwood Rd. Sewer Project - Grinder Package Group (DEQ-ARPA Grant SRP-W-ARP-0297 CNS) - Agreement w Crane Pumps & Systems PFT Corp.

The Board approved appropriations; approved the attached Resolution of Tentative Award; authorized staff to issue a Notice of Award; authorized the County Manager to sign Project Bid Information; authorized the Chairperson and Clerk to the Board to execute a contract with Crane Pumps & Systems PFT Corp. in the amount of $768,000.00 for the purchase of the aforementioned Grinder Package Group for the Longwood Road Sewer Project (SRP-W ARP-0297-CNS), contingent upon County Attorney review and approval of the contract, performance and payment bonds, NC E-Verify documentation, affidavits of compliance, and insurance certificates; contingent upon receiving Authorization to Award from NCDEQ - Division of Water Infrastructure. The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF TENTATIVE AWARD

WHEREAS, Brunswick County, North Carolina has received bids, pursuant to a duly advertised notice therefor, for the purchase of ancillary materials, namely, grinder pump packages, associated with the Longwood Road Sewer Project, DWI Project No. SRP-W-ARP-0297-CN5 (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities has reviewed the bids for the purchase of the aforementioned grinder pump packages; and

WHEREAS, Crane Pumps & Systems PFT Corp. was the lowest bidder for the grinder pump packages with a bid amount of $768,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities recommends TENTATIVE AWARD to the lowest bidder, Crane Pumps & Systems PFT Corp.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that TENTATIVE AWARD is made to the lowest bidder, Crane Pumps & Systems PFT Corp., in the amount of $768,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such TENTATIVE AWARD is contingent upon approval of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

Adopted this, the 15th day of June 2026, at Brunswick County, North Carolina.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

VI. PRESENTATIONS

1. **Administration – Christian Recovery Centers Inc. (CRCI)**
   The Board received a presentation from Josh Torbich of CRCI regarding programs and outcomes.

2. **Emergency Management - Brunswick County Emergency Management**
   The Board received a presentation from Leslie Stanley, Emergency Management Recovery Planner, regarding the Brunswick County Emergency Management Damage Assessment process and the technology tool developed in-house by the Information Technology (IT) and Government Information Systems (GIS) departments to complete the assessment and documentation of any damage experienced after a disaster.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Planning - Strategic Maco Road Project Area Development Agreement**
   Marc Pages, Planning Deputy Director, informed the Board that McKim and Creed have made a request to bring a Planned Development Agreement in front of the Board of Commissioners as allowed by the Unified Development Ordinance. Mr. Pages provided a brief summary of the overall project consisting of 4,000 acres and 12,499 homes including school sites, emergency services station location, commercial spaces and parks. The Planning Department currently recommends denial of the agreement as there are the following outstanding items not yet addressed by the applicant:

   Site Plan Concerns:

- The applicant has declined requests to improve/pave approximately 3.3 miles Town Creek Road from the proposed development entrance to the Columbus County line where pavement resumes. Staff feel this is needed for better interconnectivity and establish another evacuation route out of Brunswick County.
- Proposed County Park location is not directly adjacent to school site and is largely located in a Flood Zone Hazard Area.
- Parking required for the individual lots should not include indoor garage parking. Staff recommends a minimum of 2 non-garage parking spaces per lot.
- There is no workforce housing proposed, despite staff recommendation.
- A Flood Study has not yet been completed.
- No proof or written documentation that the developer has the authority to use the private roads Angels Gift Trail, Beasley Road, and Farm Meadows Drive for access.
- Locate and clearly delineate the existing Cemetery known as the Potter Cemetery purportedly located adjacent to Turkey Branch in the southeastern section of the project.
- Include the correct Tax Parcel ID's for the project in the site data table.
- Remove Tax Parcel 03500025 from the Voluntary Agricultural District.
- Recommend minimum 20-foot buffers around jurisdictional wetlands.
- Propose Neighborhood Commercial acreage closer to the center of the project for area residents. This will promote a more walkable community.

<u>Development Agreement (DA) Concerns:</u>

- The proposed common signage language in the DA is inconsistent with the UDO and will allow larger signage and temporary signs. Staff recommends using the existing UDO standards instead.
- Revise DA Section 4.14 to state that mediation will take place after termination and prior to litigation.
- Revise DA Section 4.6.(f) to add the following language in the highlighted section below:
- Developer shall have no obligation to install, construct, complete, repair, or remove any improvements or otherwise conduct any work on, to, or for the benefit of the Park and Recreation Site or Additional Facility Sites or the County's use thereof. However, notwithstanding the foregoing and as a condition precedent to conveyance, Developer represents and warrants that the Park and Recreation Site shall, at the time of conveyance: (i) consist of not less than eighty percent (80%) upland soils as classified by the United States Army Corps of Engineers; (ii) contain no land area located within a designated floodway as delineated on the applicable Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) in effect at the time of conveyance; and (iii) be contiguous with and directly adjoining the parcel designated as the school site under this Agreement, sharing a common boundary of sufficient length and configuration to allow for reasonable joint access and use. Developer shall provide County with documentation sufficient to verify compliance with conditions (i) through (iii) above no later than thirty (30) days prior to the conveyance.

<u>County Attorney's suggested language for major modifications:</u>

- This Agreement may be amended, modified, or terminated, or the Term extended, by the mutual consent of the Parties. Amendment, modification, or termination of this Agreement, or extension of the Term, shall not require the consent of any Parcel Owner. Either Party may propose a modification to this Agreement. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a proposed modification, the County Planning Director shall determine whether it constitutes a major modification or a minor modification and shall notify the Developer of that determination.

- The following shall constitute major modifications to this Agreement, all of which shall require approval by the BOC:
  a) Any increase in the total number of dwelling units or density permitted for the Property beyond what is established by the Master Site Plan.
  b) Any change in the permitted land use categories or use types not otherwise contemplated by the Master Site Plan.
  c) Any modification to the boundaries of the Property subject to the Master Site Plan.
  d) Any reduction in open space below the threshold established by the Master Site Plan.
  e) Any modification to the Terms of this Agreement.
  f) Any modification to the vested rights conferred by this Agreement.
- All other proposed modifications to this Agreement not listed above shall be deemed minor modifications. Minor modifications MAY be approved administratively by the County Planning Director, at the Planning Director's discretion, without BOC approval.

Vice – Chairman Cooke made the motion to open the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

Amy Schafer, attorney with Kaess Paker Lee provided information on the process for the Planned Development Agreement, stated the applicant would like feedback from the Board and public, then introduced Richard Collier as the project engineer.

Richard Collier of McKim and Creed, outlined the Planned Development Agreement and advised the Board on the current status of the project in working with the schools, land management, soil testing, master land planning, flood study, traffic impact analysis, flexible park location, developer funding for utilities, paving roads, shifting of the commercial spaces to a more central location within the property, cemeteries will be located, surveyed, buffered and protected, signage has been modified to meet the Unified Development Ordinance. This project will be a thirty-five (35) year project. The developer and applicant are willing to work with the citizens and the Boards requests going forward.

Mike Bowers spoke to his concerns opposing the planned development agreement due to the overall size of the project. The infrastructure of the County cannot handle a project of this magnitude. The location of the schools in relation to a current gun club that was established in 1980 and the land used for hunting would require the schools to go into immediate lockdown until the issue is resolved is also concerning.

Melissa Papp-Shelton spoke to her concerns opposing the planned development agreement due to the location of the gun clubs and lockdown for the students is very traumatic. Schools currently have land that is not being utilized to its fullest. Maco Road is a dangerous, two-lane, curvy road as it is today.

Holly Long spoke to her concerns opposing the planned development agreement as this project is larger than all but two (2) municipalities within the County. This project disregards the citizens' concerns with roads, hospitals, grocery stores, Doctors offices and schools.

Nancy Merill-Dziadul spoke to her concerns opposing the planned development agreement due to topography of the land is a swamp, not wetlands, and her concerns with using Partick Drive as ingress and egress site as a private road under an easement which allows for timber and utilities only.

Edward Dziadul spoke to his concerns opposing the planned development agreement due to the number of traffic increases on Maco Road as it cannot handle that number of trips, it's a two-lane road, the area is in a flood zone. Patrick Road is a private road, not county and not state. Concerns over the heavy rain will result in flooding.

Maureen Johndro spoke to her concerns opposing the planned development agreement due to the Maco Road being a small two-lane road. Fill dirt brought in is staggering. Without the swamp to absorb the water runoff, flooding will be worse and schools are at capacity.

Jennifer Gates, speaking for Brunswick County Conservation Partnership, spoke of her group's concerns, opposing the planned development agreement due to the agreement being written to benefit only the developer as presented. The increase in traffic is the most concerning part of this agreement along with the emergency services and the schools being in such close proximity.

Nicole Sullivan spoke to her opposition to the planned development agreement referencing the issues with the current lack of concern for the local legacy cemeteries dating back to the 1700's.

Amy Schafer, attorney with Kaess Paker Lee requested the Board consider continuance allowing for further negotiating of the development agreement but not to deny the agreement outright. The applicant has other avenues to use if they must. The planned development is going to go forward, with or without the agreement, but the applicant would like to have a collaborative process.

Commissioner Sykes expressed concerns with the number of existing approved homes versus the availability of water and sewer to those already permitted along with issues with overcrowded schools, fire departments, law enforcement, stormwater, EMS all being overextended.

Vice – Chairman Cooke agreed this area is swamp land. The state will not allow the County to deny development, then must provide infrastructure (water and sewer). NC DOT will not provide support for those roads. Highway 87 is a "farm-to-market" road, it's not designed for heavy traffic. Protecting cemeteries is a priority.

Commissioner Williams concurred with the issues of traffic specifically on Maco Road. This would fundamentally affect the make-up of that area of the county.

Commissioner Thompson also agreed with the issues already identified. There are stormwater, water and sewer issues among others, already in place and adding 12,500 homes is a public health and safety issue.

Chairman Forte commented on the professionalism of the team presenting this proposal and acknowledging this project has created such angst within the community. This project is just too large.

Ms. Shafer presented Mr. Batton with a written request to withdraw only the request for a development agreement, not the project.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to close the public hearing at 9:17 p.m. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

Clerk's Note: With the withdrawal of the proposed Planned Development Agreement, no action was taken by the Board.

2. **Administration – Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the FY 2027 Brunswick County Budget, Fees, and Capital Improvement Plan**
Mr. Stone requested that the Board of Commissioners continue the recessed Public Hearing of June 1, 2026, to receive comments on the Manager's FY 2027 Recommended Budget, Proposed Fees, and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Chairman Forte reconvened the public hearing at 9:27 p.m.

Nancy Cook spoke to her concerns regarding the current fire marshal inspection fee increase to $100 and is looking for clarification of charges of per office or per tenant.

Amy Viccione-Byntar requested an additional line item be added to the FY 2027 budget titled "Conservation Land Acquisition" to replace what is being taken by developers.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Thompson made the motion to close the Public Heairng at 9:34 p.m. Commissioner Sykes seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

VIII. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT</u>

1. **Administration – Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Ordinance, Fees, Capital Improvement Plan, and Opioid Settlement Fund Resolution**
Mr. Stone reported this is the same recommended budget presented June 1, 2026, to include the Budget Ordinance, Budget Document and the Opioid Settlement Resolution for consideration and approval. The Resolution reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF BRUNSWICK TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS, Brunswick County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids.

WHEREAS, the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA") and the Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds from Additional Settlements of Opioid Litigation ("SAAF");

WHEREAS, Brunswick County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA;

WHEREAS, section E.6 of the MOA states that, before spending opioid settlement funds, the local government's governing body must adopt a resolution that:

I. indicates that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; and,
II. states the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy; and,
III. states the amount dedicated to each strategy for a specific period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT in alignment with the NC MOA and SAAF, Brunswick County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized
    a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
    b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
    c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #3
    d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $40,871
    e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
    Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
    f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provide care navigation services to families involved with the Department of Social Services to support parents in treatment or recovery and/or who use drugs in accessing needed services.
    g. Provider: Department of Social Services
2. Second strategy authorized
    a. Name of strategy: Early Intervention
    b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
    c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #6
    d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $40,871
    e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
    Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
    f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provide supportive services, programs, and training to youth involved with the Department of Social Services who are struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions due to their parents' substance use.
    g. Provider: Department of Social Services
3. Third strategy authorized
    a. Name of strategy: Post-Overdose Response Team
    b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
    c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #8
    d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $55,166
    e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
    Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
    f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Post-overdose response team to connect persons who have experienced non-fatal drug overdoses to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being.
    g. Provider: Emergency Medical Services and Health Department
4. Fourth strategy authorized
    a. Name of strategy: Collaborative Strategic Planning
    b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
    c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #1
    d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $25,560
    e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
    Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
    f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Health Educator to support collaborative strategic planning to address opioid misuse, addiction, overdose, or related issues and staff to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Commission.
    g. Provider: Health Department

5. Fifth strategy authorized
    a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
    b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
    c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #3
    d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $361,350

e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
   Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provide recovery support services, including peer support specialists and/or care navigators in a community-based organization that supports individuals in treatment, recovery, or who use drugs in accessing and/or providing treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health and well-being.
g. Provider: The Healing Place

6. Sixth strategy authorized
   a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
   b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
   c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #3
   d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $180,769
   e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
      Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30, 2027
   f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provide recovery support services, including peer support specialists and/or care navigators in a community-based organization that supports individuals in treatment, recovery, or who use drugs in accessing and/or providing treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health and well-being.
   g. Provider: Christian Recovery Center, Inc. (CRCI)
7. Seventh strategy authorized
   a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
   b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
   c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #3
   d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $205,769
   e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
      Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
   f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Fund up to 100% of two positions responsible for the implementation and management of an evidence-based substance use treatment program that operates within the Brunswick County Detention Center. Program provides treatment services to incarcerated individuals with current or prior Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) or any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or mental health condition and provides other recovery support services needed to improve the health and well-being of the participant throughout the program and upon release.
   g. Provider(s):
      Brunswick County Detention Center (ARROW Program)
      Contracted Services – Treatment services for persons with current or prior OUD or any co-occurring SUD or mental health condition
8. Eighth Strategy authorized
   a. Name of strategy: Naloxone Distribution
   b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
   c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #7
   d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $25,000
   e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
      Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
   f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Naloxone Distribution is a key strategy identified in the Opioid Settlement MOA and is a proven intervention. Distribution of Naloxone to partners such as municipalities and agencies is proven to save lives by having readily accessible, easy-to-use naloxone nearby to reverse the deadly effects of an opioid overdose. This strategy will also work in tandem with the county's approved opioid projects, such as the Community Para-Medicine Program and Recovery

Support Services projects, to keep individuals alive and steer them into successful treatment and recovery.

g. Provider: Health Services

9. Ninth Strategy authorized
   a. Name of strategy: Evidence-based Addiction Treatment
   b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
   c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: #2
   d. Amount authorized for this strategy: $25,000
   e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place: Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
   f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provide evidence-based addiction treatment to the underinsured residents of Brunswick County who are at high risk of overdose. Services will include medical and psychiatric evaluations, ongoing medication management, regulated dosing and monitoring of opioid treatment medications, individual counseling, group counseling, and peer support.
   g. Provider: Coastal Horizons

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above-named and authorized strategies is $960,356.

This, the 15th day of June 2026.

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Thomspon made a motion for the Capital Outlay for Wastewater Improvements be voted on separately from the budget. Commissioner Sykes seconded the motion and passed (3 to 2) with the poll as follows:

Commissioner Thompson: Aye
Commissioner Forte: Nay
Commissioner Cooke: Nay
Commissioner Sykes: Aye
Commissioner Williams: Aye

Vice – Chairman Cooke made the motion to approve the budget as presented. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed (3 to 2) with the following poll:

Commissioner Thompson: Aye
Commissioner Forte: Nay
Commissioner Cooke: Aye
Commissioner Sykes: Nay
Commissioner Williams: Aye

Commissioner Thomspon made the motion to deny the Wastewater Capital Improvement Capital Outlay projects excepting those contracts for design that have already been approved. Commissioner Sykes seconded the motion. The motion failed (3 to 2) with the following poll:

Commissioner Thompson: Aye
Commissioner Forte: Nay
Commissioner Cooke: Nay
Commissioner Sykes: Aye
Commissioner Williams: Nay

Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the Wastewater Capital Improvement Capital Outlay as presented in the FY 2027 Budget. Vice – Chairman Cooke seconded the motion. The motion passed (3 to 2) with the following poll:

Commissioner Thompson: Nay
Commissioner Forte: Aye
Commissioner Cooke: Aye
Commissioner Sykes: Nay
Commissioner Williams: Aye

2. Administration – Fire Contract Administration and Funding Committee
Mr. Stone requested the Boards input on the creation of a working group to develop a recommended funding model for the fire service in Brunswick County to include one of each of the following: the Chiefs Association, the Board of Commissioners, the County Managers Office, Municipal Mayor, the County Tax Administrator and other Staff participation when their expertise is needed. Commissioner Williams made the motion to include two Commissioners, two Mayors (one with a Municipal Fire Department and one without), two Chiefs (one from a Municipality and one from a non-profit), two Citizens and up to three Staff. Vice – Chairman Cooke seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

IX. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1. Clerk to the Board – 2026 Annual Board Appointments
Vacancies:
Board of Equalization and Review Alternate Seat (2):
Commissioner Williams made the motion to appoint Marc Fields and Jennifer Mikkelson as the alternate appointees to the Board of Equalization and Review. Vice – Chairman Cooke seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

Health and Human Services Optometrist Position
Vice – Chairman Cooke made the motion to appoint Dr. Erin Fuchs to the open Optometrist seat on the Health and Human Services Advisory Board. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

X. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMAL DISCUSSION

No other business brought before the Board.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sykes made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 p.m. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and passed unanimously (5 to 0).

Mike Forte, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Daralyn Spivey

Daralyn Spivey, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

BRUNSWICK COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA