There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. on motion made by Fondella A. Leigh, seconded by Charles Woodard.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board WORK SESSION October 21, 2019 7:00 p.m. The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a Work Session on Monday, October 21, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room located on the first floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex. MEMBERS PRESENT: Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Fondella A. Leigh, Vice Chair Joseph W. Hoffler T. Kyle Jones Alan Lennon MEMBERS ABSENT: Charles Woodard OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Heath, County Manager Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Lennon gave the invocation and the Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following matters were discussed during the Work Session:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POSITION

Chairman Nelson recognized County Manager Heath who explained the situation with our Economic Development Contractor, Dave Goss. During the Budget Work Sessions, the Board became aware that Mr. Goss was not going to renew his annual contract but would work on a month to month basis until the Board decided how to proceed with this position. Mr. Heath stated that there were four (4) options: (1) keep Dave Goss on as Economic Development Consultant on a month-to-month basis; (2) inform Mr. Goss to stop and to allow County Manager Heath to handle the economic development business; (3) advertise for a part-time Economic Developer; or (4) advertise for a full-time Economic Developer. Commissioner Lennon stated that he is leaning toward advertising for a part-time position. Commissioner Jones is flexible either way but feels that the government should be limited to zoning and that his least favorite of the four choices is the hiring of a full-time Economic Developer. His most favorable choice is to keep Mr. Goss on a month-to-month basis until FY 2020-21 budget time. Commissioner Hoffler stated that he feels that we should keep Mr. Goss on until FY 2020-21 budget. Chairman Nelson stated that we need to find sources of revenue to keep the government programs going. After much discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have Mr. Heath talk to Mr. Goss to see if he would be willing to stay on a month-to-month basis until FY 2020-21.

MENTAL HEALTH BUILDING

Mr. Heath stated that he had one other item that he wanted to make the Board aware of. Sandra Boyd of Trillium met with Mr. Heath to let him know that they want to sell the old Mental Health Building located between the Health Department Building and the Albemarle Commission Building. Mr. Heath explained that the County donated the land to Albemarle Mental Health so that they could build this building. It was built in 1998. Former Chair, Janice Cole, tried to get the building transferred to Perquimans County when Trillium took over Albemarle Mental Health but was not successful at that time. They have not formally advertised the building for sale. The Town of Hertford had approached them about purchasing the building for their police department. Ms. Boyd explained that they wanted to let the County have an opportunity to purchase it since they donated the land. Mr. Heath showed the Board pictures of the building and explained the possible repairs that needed to be done. He feels that the County could purchase it without borrowing the money. The Board discussed it and asked Mr. Heath to move forward with looking at the purchase and hold a closed session in November to discuss the matter further.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Commissioner Lennon updated the Board on the funding for Tourism Development from the Town of Hertford. Sharon Smith, Tourism Director, was instructed to discuss the matter with Pam Hurdle, Hertford Town Manager. Ms. Hurdle suggested for them to wait until after the election to ask for the funding, which Ms. Smith will do.

TOWN OF HERTFORD 911 FEES

Mr. Heath explained that Chairman Nelson, Hackney High, Fondella Leigh and himself are scheduled to meet with Pam Hurdle, Horace Reid, Hertford's attorney, and Gracie Felton tomorrow to discuss the 911 fees that the Town of Hertford has been billed for.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Work Session was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman