#### Chairman Nelson asked the Board for a motion for these resolutions. On motion made by Alan Lennon, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh, the Board unanimously adopted the following two resolutions:

## RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO AMEND THE CURRENT TIER DESIGNATION SYSTEM IN NORTH CAROLINA UNDER G.S. § 143B-437.08

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Commerce recently released county tier designations for 2021; and

WHEREAS, the tier designations for 22 counties were changed with Perquimans County moving to a less distressed tier ranking; and

WHEREAS, tier designations determine eligibility and guidelines for several different grant programs that N.C. Commerce administers including the One North Carolina Fund, building reuse, water and sewer infrastructure, and the downtown revitalization Main Street program and they play a role in the state's performance-based Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) program, serving as a mechanism to channel funds for infrastructure improvements into more economically distressed areas of the state as well as several programs that assist in economic development.

WHEREAS, changing Perquimans County's tier designation reduces Perquimans County's eligibility for many grant programs; and

WHEREAS, Perquimans County is of the firm opinion and belief that some of the areas within geographical boundaries of counties are more economically distressed than is reflected by the new tier designation; and

WHEREAS, Perquimans County is also of the firm opinion and belief that there should be alternative ways of designating county tiers that would take into account the needs of rural counties to create a more equitable system for distressed citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County request the North Carolina General Assembly to change the methodology prescribed by the North Carolina General Assembly in General Statue \$143B-437.08 so that it more accurately reflects each county's economic status.

Adopted this 1st day of February, 2021.

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

# Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

SEAL

**RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF** FORMER SENATOR MARC BASNIGHT

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Perquimans and citizens were saddened by the death of Marc Basnight, former member of North Carolina State Senate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Basnight served the 1st district from 1984 through his resignation just before the start of his 14th term in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Basnight served as the President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina Senate from 1993 to 2011; and

WHEREAS, during the 14 terms that Mr. Basnight served the 1<sup>st</sup> district, he worked closely with the rural communities to make sure that they received their fair share of state resources, whether it was for water-sewer bonds, transportation funding, public school funds for small counties, or economic-development incentives; and

WHEREAS, the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners were saddened to hear of his passing on December 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Perquimans County reaps the benefits of his capable leadership and selfless contributions to Perquimans County and to the State of North Carolina for many years to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners for the County of Perquimans do hereby express its sympathy to the members of his family and its gratitude for all that he did for the rural communities of 1st District of North Carolina. **ADOPTED** the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2021.

Attest:

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

Clerk to the Board

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comment was made:

Tim Brinn: Mr. Brinn thanked the Board for contracting with ZLS to handle Tax Foreclosures and talked about code enforcement issues on properties.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on motion made by Joseph W. Hoffler, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board

MEMBERS PRESENT:

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

February 15, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Special Notice for tonight's meeting: The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners' SPECIAL CALLED **MEETING** will be held on Monday, February 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. Because this is considered an essential meeting, the public will be able to attend but social distancing will be required. If you have any questions, please contact the County Manager's Office at (252) 426-8484.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a SPECIAL CALLED MEETING on Monday February 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. The meeting was moved from Commissioners Room located on the first floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex.

> Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Joseph W. Hoffler

Fondella A. Leigh, Vice Chair T. Kyle Jones

SEAL

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Charles Woodard

MEMBERS ABSENT: OTHERS PRESENT:

Frank Heath, County Manager Hackney High, County Attorney

Alan Lennon

None

Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Hoffler gave the invocation and the Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Nelson explained that this Special Called Meeting was scheduled to hold a Closed Session, per NCGS #143-318-11(3)(5), to consult with the county attorney regarding a legal matter and to discuss negotiations for acquisition of property.

### AGENDA

Chairman Nelson stated that a copy of the Agenda was at their seats tonight. Fondella A. Leigh made a motion to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler and unanimously approved by the Board.

### CLOSED SESSION: CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY REGARDING A LEGAL MATTER & TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(3)(5), T. Kyle Jones made a motion to go into Closed Session to consult with the county attorney regarding a legal matter and to discuss negotiations for acquisition of property. The motion was seconded by Fondella A. Leigh and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Closed Session was adjourned and the Special Called Meeting reconvened on motion made by Alan Lennon, seconded by Charles Woodard, and unanimously approved by the Board.

### SPECIAL CALLED MEETING ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Special Called Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. on motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board

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## WORK SESSION

February 15, 2021

7:00 p.m.

<u>Special Notice for tonight's meeting</u>: The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners' WORK SESSION will be held on Monday, February 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. Because this is considered an essential meeting, the public will be able to attend but social distancing will be required. If you have any questions, please contact the County Manager's Office at (252) 426-8484.

Chairman Nelson opened the February 15, 2021 Work Session stating that he only had one item to discuss with the Board and that was the Confederate Monument on the Courthouse lawn.

### **DISCUSSION ON CONFEDERATE MONUMENT**

Chairman Nelson explained that on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, Frank Heath, Fondella A. Leigh, and himself had a conference call with a facilitator through UNC School of Government about the Confederate Monument located on the Courthouse lawn. The facilitator's name is Dr. John Stephens who was recommended by NCACC. The timeline for this matter is as follows:

March 15<sup>th</sup> Work Session: The Board will need to discuss the following items:

- Decide on the group member names and to consider the appointment of Dr. Stephens as the facilitator for this group.
- Formalize the charge to the work group
- Discuss the expectations of how the group will operate: honesty; consensus is the goal or majority if consensus fails; and no public comment at these meetings. That will be reserved for future public hearing. However, it will be an open meeting Commissioners may attend but they will not engage the group. Procedural and factual questions/disagreements will be settled by the County Manager & facilitator.

- Approve the general time line of resolution of the group's work. Below is the suggested timeline:
  - March Work Session: discussion of the above items
  - April Regular Meeting: vote on the consensus of the above items that were discussed at the March Work Session.
  - Mid-April: hold organizing meeting Early May: hold meeting #1

  - Early June: hold meeting #2

  - Mid-June: hold meeting #3 (if necessary) July Regular Meeting: County Manager will present group's report to the Commissioners. August Regular Meeting: Public hearing and Board consideration of group's suggested course of action.

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any further comments from Mr. Heath or Commissioner Leigh. There being none, he asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. There being none, Chairman Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m. on motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board

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