SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

HYDE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019

Following opening prayer by Commissioner Simmons; and, Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Pugh called the Special Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m., on Monday, November 18, 2019 in the Hyde County Government Center Multi-Use Room and the Ocracoke Community Center using electronic conferencing equipment.

The following members were present on the mainland: Chairman Earl Pugh, Jr.; Commissioners Ben Simmons, Shannon Swindell and James Topping; County Manager Kris Cahooon Noble; Attorney Franz Holscher; Clerk to the Board Lois Stotesberry; IT Director Donnie Shumate; and, members of the public.

Vice-Chair Tom Pahl; EM Director Justin Gibbs; Teresa Adams and members of the public were present on Ocracoke.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA:
Commissioner Swindell moved to approve the Monday, November 18, 2019 Special Meeting Agenda as presented by the Clerk with addition of Item No. 4 – Lifting the Visitor Evacuation Order on Ocracoke. Commissioner Pahl seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:
November 4, 2019 – Regular Meeting Minutes (tabled)

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Hearing no comment from the public, Chairman Pugh continued the meeting.

ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION:

Memorandum of Agreement - OSBM
Kris Cahooon Noble, County Manager, reported Hyde County has received the attached Memorandum of Agreement from the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) to support Hurricane Dorian Housing Recovery Support Services. The grant agreement outlines the duties of both OSBM and Hyde County, names the County Manager as the Party’s Agreement Administrator, outlines monitoring and auditing and other terms of agreement. Attachment A – Scope of Work and Budget outlines assistance provided, provisions and funding category restrictions.

Commissioner Pahl moved to approve State Grants for Hurricane Dorian Housing Recovery Support Services. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

Project Budget Ordinance: Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services
Kris Cahooon Noble, County Manager, reported this Project Budget Ordinance authorizes the Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services between the County of Hyde and the Office of State Budget and Management, an agency of the State of North Carolina. Further, the Project Budget Ordinance authorizes Hyde County staff members to proceed with the Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services within the terms of the document(s) and the budget contained herein.

Revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project activities in the amount of $600,000.00 from the Office of State Budget and Management Grant. The ordinance dictates the following amounts will be appropriated for completion of the project activities including the purchase of travel trailers for the long term recovery of Ocracoke Island residents, rental assistance, project management and contingency.

Commissioner Pahl moved to adopt Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services Project Ordinance 2019-11-18. Commissioner Swindell seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

Clerk’s Note: A copy of "Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services Project Ordinance 2019-11-18" is attached herewith as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

Gifting of County Property to Tyrrell County
Hyde County Sheriff Guire Cahooon requested approval to gift a canine, whose handler has left employment with Hyde County, to the Tyrrell County Sheriff’s Office. The canine is 6 years old and has had 3 handlers. The Tyrrell County Sheriff’s Office has agreed to take Argo and assist Hyde County whenever possible.
Commissioner Swindell moved to gift canine Argo to the Tyrrell County Sheriff’s Office. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:
Kris Cahoon Noble, County Manager, reported Ocracoke Island will not open for tourist on the 22nd. At today’s meetings with NC Highway Division, Ferry Division and National Park Service the NC DOT reported they were not able to give the County a set date to re-open the Island due to conditions still occurring on Highway 12. Ms. Noble reported Highway 12 was still experiencing over wash and had lost 80% of the sand from the dredge spoil site.

Vice-Chairman Tom Pahl recommended the Board take no action at this time and allow NCDOT to assess damages and report their findings to the Board.

Commissioners Simmons and Swindell recommended the Island be open to tourists now.

Commissioner Topping reported the Island is still in shambles and is not ready to receive visitors. Mr. Topping moved to table discussion and to take a look at re-entry for visitors on December 2nd. Commissioner Pahl seconded the motion and after further discussion withdrew the motion.

Franz Holscher, County Attorney, reported the County has a statutory duty to provide safety to citizens and visitors.

Vice-Chairman Tom Pahl reported the Board could not make decisions based on the unreliability of Highway 12 and there is no guarantee that Highway 12 will stay open through the winter.

Commissioner Simmons moved to recess the meeting and to request Emergency Management post signs and/or bulletins at ferry terminals making visitors aware of the possibility they may not be able to leave the Island for medical emergencies based on weather, fog, wind, etc.

Justin Gibbs, Emergency Manager, reported there is not specific language in the State of Emergency. He has increased EMS coverage through November 22nd. Mr. Gibbs will review the ongoing State of Emergency.

Kris Cahoon Noble, County Manager, reported Chairman Pugh and/or Vice-chair Pahl can enact or terminate a proclamation without conducting a commissioners meeting during a State of Emergency.

After discussion, Commissioner Simmons restated his motion to recess the meeting and to reconvene on Wednesday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. Discussion continued.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Sundae Horne, Ocracoke – stated the Ocracoke Control Group should announce meetings with subject, date and time noted. Ms. Horne asks that a statement be released immediately after a meeting. She would like to see a list of Control Group members and a record of their attendance. Ms. Horne did evacuate and reports that she was not allowed back on the Island until Monday.

Darlene Styron, Ocracoke – stated recent ferry schedule changes implemented would prevent volunteers from coming to Ocracoke on Saturday.

Justin Gibbs, Emergency Manager, will re-evaluate the plan for patient transport in an emergency and evaluate other forms of transportation off the Island during an emergency. He will evaluate options available such as the Coast Guard for transportation and Dare County to assist with patient care.

Reverend Ivey Belch, pastor of the Ocracoke Assembly of God Church – asked how we will address visitors coming to Ocracoke and what we are to do if they can’t get off the Island.

Gregory Brown, Contractor – stated ferry prices would be reinstated if the evacuation is lifted and the cost would be passed on the customer.

Connie Leinbach, Ocracoke – invited the Board of Commissioners to come to Ocracoke.

Robin Macek, Ocracoke – reported she is having a hard time getting supplies.

B. J. Oeslegal, Ocracoke – asked if the County can be legally released from its responsibility.

Hearing no further comment from the public, Chairman Pugh continued the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION: (none)
ADJOURN:
Commissioner Swindell moved to recess and reconvene the meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6:00p.m. in the Hyde County Government Center Multi-Use Room and the Ocracoke Community Center using electronic conferencing equipment. Commissioner Pahl seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

The meeting recessed at 7:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes approved on the 2nd day of December, 2019.

Attst:
Lois Stotesberry, CMC, NCCO
Clerk, Hyde County Board of Commissioners

Earl Pugh, Jr.
Chair, Hyde County Board of Commissioners

Attachments
Exhibit A: "Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services Project Ordinance 2019-11-18"

RECONVENCED – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

HYDE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019

Chairman Pugh called the reconvened Special Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00p.m., on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 in the Hyde County Government Center Multi-Use Room and the Ocracoke Community Center using electronic conferencing equipment.

The following members were present on the mainland: Chairman Earl Pugh, Jr.; Commissioners Ben Simmons, Shannon Swindell and James Topping; County Manager Kris Cahoon Noble; Attorney Franz Holscher; Clerk to the Board Lois Stotesberry; and, IT Director Donnie Shumate.

Vice-Chairman Tom Pahl; EM Director Justin Gibbs and members of the public were present on Ocracoke.

DISCUSSION – OCRACOKE RE-ENTRY

Kris Cahoon Noble, County Manager, reported the NC Highway Division does not have a full assessment of Highway 12 damages at this time due to the recent northeaster storm. Ms. Noble reported based on discussion with the Ocracoke Control Group, NCDOT, NPS and the Ferry Division access to and from Ocracoke Island originally planned for November 22nd should be moved forward another two weeks. Milestones not met at this time include access to Highway 12 and debris removal.

Commissioner Pahl moved to open Ocracoke Island to visitors on Monday, December 2, 2019 at 5:00a.m. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion.

Chairman Pugh reported delaying reentry will give us options to work with the Ferry Division for more runs.

Commissioner Swindell suggested reentry on Wednesday, November 27th at 4:00p.m.

Commissioner Topping recommended the Board respect the Control Group’s decision and suggests all Ocracoke citizens be included in making this decision. Mr. Topping recommended Ocracoke citizens and businesses rebuild during this off season. He also has concerns about ferry traffic.

Kris Cahoon Noble, County Manager, stated re-entry is challenging but she is comfortable with the December 2nd decision. She reported Ocracoke citizens and businesses are working diligently towards economic recovery.

Commissioner Pahl stated the Board should set a date as we have an obligation to the citizens of Ocracoke. Mr. Pahl stated it is time to take action. He stated December 2nd is a fair compromise.

Commissioner Pugh recommends setting a date for Ocracoke residents to work towards.
Commissioner Simmons agrees with Commissioner Swindell to reopen on November 27\textsuperscript{th} but stated he respects Commissioner Pahl's December 2\textsuperscript{nd} re-entry date.

Commissioner Pahl thanked everyone for all they have done for the citizens of Ocracoke.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Pugh called for a vote.

The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons and Swindell; Nays – Topping; Absent or not voting – None.

**ADJOURN:**
Commissioner Simmons moved to adjourn the reconvened Hyde County Board of Commissioners Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 7:20p.m. Commissioner Pahl seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Pahl, Simmons, Swindell and Topping; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes approved on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} day of December, 2019.

Attest:

\[\text{Lois Stotesberry, CMC, NCCOC} \]
Clerk, Hyde County Board of Commissioners

\[\text{Earl Pugh, Jr.} \]
Chair, Hyde County Board of Commissioners
HURRICANE DORIAN OCRACOKE HOUSING RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES
Project Ordinance 2019-11-18

Be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of Hyde County, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Project Ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services between the County of Hyde and the Office of State Budget and Management, an agency of the State of North Carolina.

Section 2. Hyde County staff members are hereby directed to proceed with the Hurricane Dorian Ocracoke Housing Recovery Support Services within the terms of the document(s), and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project activities:

| Office of State Budget and Management Grant | $600,000 |
| Total Project                                | $600,000 |

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for completion of the project activities:

| Travel Trailers | 200,000 |
| Rental Assistance | 160,000 |
| Project Management | 225,000 |
| Contingency      | 15,000  |
| Total Project    | $600,000 |

Section 5. The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records.

Section 6. The Finance Officer is directed to report on the financial status of each project element in Section 4.
Section 7. Copies of this Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 18th day of November, 2019

Earl Pugh Jr., Chair
Hyde County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST

Clerk to the Board