

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for a special called meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2026, in the Administrative Board Room, 406 County Complex Road, Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Allen McLamb, Vice Chairman Eric Pope, and Commissioners Houston Crumpler, III, Thaddeus Godwin, and Lethia Lee.

Chairman McLamb called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Pope who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Godwin then provided the invocation.

Pre-Budget Workshop

Chairman McLamb called upon County Manager Allen Vann who reviewed the Strategic Goals that were adopted by the Board during the FY25-26 Budget Planning Period and affirmed the Budget Guidance that was adopted by the Board on June 20, 2025.

Mr. Vann called upon Finance Officer Melissa Burton and Tax Administrator Jim Johnson who provided an overview of major revenues and fund balance. Mrs. Burton discussed sales tax, property tax, and historical appropriations of fund balance. Mr. Johnson reviewed information regarding the calculation of property tax values, present use value, and property tax reform.

Mr. Vann went on to discuss FY 26-27 budget priorities and budget drivers. He touched on the current state of the county's agreement with GFL for the operation of the solid waste convenience sites as well as the funding deficit for the new Hobbton High School. Human Resources Director Nancy Dillman then provided an overview of budget considerations as they relate to personnel.

The Board viewed a video on the county impacts of HR1 (The Big Beautiful Bill) that was provided by the NCACC. Following the video, Social Services Director Patty Santos provided an overview of HR1 and its projected impacts to Sampson County DSS. Health Director Wanda Robinson then reviewed the federal and state impacts to the Sampson County Health Department.

Economic Development Director Ray Jordan reviewed next steps in Economic Development infrastructure considerations as well as the challenges currently facing the county when it comes to diversifying the tax base.

Mr. Vann reviewed the budget calendar, stressing the importance of collaboration between department heads, key staff, and the Board of Commissioners.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lee the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

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C. Allen McLamb, Chairperson

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Stephanie P. Fulton, Clerk to the Board