

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2026, in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan 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 acknowledged Vice Chairman Pope who called upon members of the Sampson County Veterans Council to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and provide the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Commissioner Crumpler and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

- Corrected a typographical error on Item 3D

Item 1: Public Information

Chairman McLamb called upon Daniel Jones and Lance Eason with NCDOT who provided an updated on various roadway projects throughout the county. Interim Public Works Director Ashley Holland then provided an update on current and ongoing water system projects.

Item 2: Special Recognition Resolutions

Chairman McLamb read a Resolution Observing Public Service Recognition Week and Commending Public Servants for their Dedication and Continues Service to Sampson County. Commissioner Godwin read a Resolution Recognizing May 7, 2026 as the National Day of Prayer in Sampson County. Commissioner Lee read a Resolution Celebrating Juneteenth 2026 in Sampson County. Upon a motion by Commissioner Crumpler and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to adopt all three resolutions as presented.

Item 3: Consent Agenda

Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Crumpler the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Approved the minutes of the April 6, 2026 meeting
- b) Authorized the execution of an easement from Sampson County to Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.
- c) Approved the withdrawal of weeded items from the collections of the Sampson-Clinton Public Library and authorized the disposal of the weeded items and any donated items as of Monday, May 4, 2026 per the Library's Collection Development Policy

- d) Adopted a Resolution Authorizing the Conveyance of Surplus Personal Property to the Suttontown Rescue Squad
- e) Authorized the execution of Change Order 1 for project WBS No.36237.12.19.1
- f) Approved tax refunds and releases as submitted
- g) Approved budget amendments as submitted

Item 4: Public Hearing – Naming of Private Roads

Chairman McLamb opened a public hearing and called upon Clerk to the Board Stephanie Fulton who reviewed names proposed by the 911 Addressing Committee. Chairman McLamb then opened the floor for public comments and hearing none closed the public hearing. Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lee the Board voted unanimously to name the private roads as recommended by the 911 Addressing Committee.

Item 5: Action Items

Amendment to Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Agreement Chairman McLamb called upon County Attorney Joel Starling who reviewed negotiations between Sampson County and GFL for operation of the Sampson County Convenience Sites. Commissioner Crumpler recused himself from voting on the matter due to having an ongoing business relationship with GFL. Upon a motion by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to allow Commissioner Crumpler to recuse himself from voting on the matter. Mr. Starling shared that GFL has agreed to continue operating the sites free of charge until June 30, 2028. Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lee the Board voted unanimously to authorize the execution of the amendment and all necessary related documents.

Discussion of a Resolution Opposing Modifications to County Property Tax Authority Chairman McLamb called upon County Manager Allen Vann who shared a brief video from NCACC regarding property tax reform. Mr. Vann went on to share more details about the proposed reform and read a Resolution Opposing Modifications to County Property Tax Authority aloud. The Board agreed to take the information into consideration and revisit it at a later date.

Item 4: Public Comment

Chairman McLamb opened the floor for public comments. The following were received:

Elaine F. Hunt – “My name is Elaine F. Hunt. I reside at 7171 Old Warsaw Road, Turkey, North Carolina and I have several things I want to mention briefly. And the first thing was the I like the video. First thing it talked about was good water. And you know, I'm waiting for the day when we can turn on our water tap and we have clean and safe water. But some of my neighbors are now asking can we get an estimated time frame. I think last month you talked about the survey and the design uh either being submitted or received, but tonight I know you mentioned it was received and I know it's not going to happen overnight, but so people won't grow weary in this matter if we can perhaps get an estimated

time frame as to when we will see something taking place. you know. Okay, and so I guess we'll give something to you. And the second one is littering on our on the old Warsaw Road. Uh I've called NCDOT I think three times. Uh walking in the morning, you see all those fertilizer bags in the ditches. I know some roads I see people cleaning and the trash bags and all this and that, but whenever I call NCDOT, the young lady tell me that she would take down my message, but I hear nothing from anybody. My third question or concern is if someone has a concern regarding the central office and the leadership or just have questions on who would they come to air out their concern. And I know the other thing I was told that I might need to be put on your payroll and, I am, I am retired.”

Stephaine Graham – “Hello everyone. I am Stephaine Graham, address 108 Samson Street, Clinton, North Carolina. Good evening, Chairman, Commissioners, and Sampson County community, of course. I am Stephaine Graham representing Community Uplift Initiatives, a nonprofit serving Sampson County residents as well as the nonprofit that is behind the Sampson Juneteenth celebration that is forthcoming. I would like to say first and foremost, thank you for recognizing and for reading and taking the time to review the Juneteenth proclamation on tonight. This moment matters. Community, I’m going to look at you. That matters. Okay? Juneteenth isn't just something that's for a certain type of people. Juneteenth isn't just for us. Is for each and every one of us near and far. Not only in our community, but across the world. And I want to make sure that we in our community stand behind the promise, that we don't forget the promise, and we don't forget what happened. Juneteenth for everybody. Stephanie, what is Juneteenth? Juneteenth marks June 19th, 1865, when the last enslaved African-Americans learned that they were free, it reminded us that while freedom was declared, yes, y'all free, but it took time to reach everyone. That history will still cause us to come together today. Now, this year, we've got something planned that's big, just even bigger than last year and the year before and the year before. So, as you can understand, this isn't a new event that's going on. We've been celebrating, but now we want to make sure that the entire community is at the party this year. So, on June the 19th, we invite you to the Sampson County Civic Center. That is on Friday. Yes, on that Friday starting at 3:00 PM all the way until about 9:00, we've got live bands, cultural activities, and activities for the kids. Y'all, there's something for everybody. So, I want to leave this in closing. Y'all, please go and register for Juneteenth at juneenthsampson.com because this is our celebration.”

Roger Smith - Good afternoon. I am also a part of the Juneteenth celebration and I'd like to thank each of you for inviting us to join you all at your meeting tonight. And you all had a lot of resolutions. I mean, resolution that was said, stated, and hopefully can work out. You know, we know that things don't just happen overnight. We know that just like with Juneteenth stuff, they took two years before some of them even found out they were free. Just like the lady said that she has been trying to get somebody to work on water for two years, but it's coming. All we've got to do is just hold on. So, all I do is just ask every one of you all that know, you know how Sampson County is. I'm not originally from Sampson County, but I am a Sampsonian because I've been here so long. But as a part of Juneteenth, we're looking for everybody, not just the black, not just the whites, not just the Mexican. We want the whole community to come out and have a great time. It's not about for color or people or something of that nature. We want everybody to see that Sampson County has something to offer. Everybody, not just the one group, not just the next group, but every group of people that live in the Sampson County area should be able to mingle and have fun together and come together and show that this is what it's all about. We are not looking for a big, big, but we want to have a big, big because we want Sampson

County to stay on the map. Just like I'm wearing Sampson County. It's not African. This is Sampson County. If you look at it, this is actually the county of Sampson that you know a lot of people say, "Oh, you got on Africa sign." No, I don't. I got on Sampson County sign because that's what we represent. Thank you."

Larry Sutton – "Good evening, commissioners and staff. I live at 4761 Bearskin Road, Clinton, North Carolina. And I am Larry Sutton. My concern tonight is Memorial Day. It's coming up on May the 25th, the last Monday in this month. And as you may already know, Memorial Day began following the Civil War around 1865, 1866. It was to celebrate at that time the massive loss of life in this country. And it eventually evolved into a federal holiday where it was designed to honor those who gave their life in service to this country. Well, on this May 25th at the Memorial Day in this county, you will hear names being called out going back to the Civil War period. And those names for the Civil War are the ones who died in the fight from Sampson County. Now remember the Civil War was being fought between the grays and the blues, the South and the North. We had a divided country, terribly so at that time. And today I'm here to ask you uh to support my effort and my effort is from the NAACP branch here in the county. We are trying to include some context if the names are going to still be called out. We're saying we want to have some context and that context I sent to everyone on the commissioner's board and the manager and Ms. Ann Knowles and it reads as follows: 'As we gather to honor all who have died in service to this nation, we remember that the Civil War was a painful defining chapter that tore families and the country apart. Among the names we call today are those of Confederate soldiers, Americans who swore an oath pledging loyalty to the state of North Carolina, breaking ties with the United States. By remembering them, we acknowledge the high cost of a divided country and honor the hope for a reunited country, undivided nation, one where we can continue to work together in closing the wounds of the of the past, shaping Sampson County in a manner that we all can thrive. It's time we come together from all walks of life, working to save our common humanity, being willing to confront our history of racial injustice and its legacy so we can continue to move forward.' I solicit your support in helping to get that context included before we call out any names at this year's Memorial Day service. And thank you again for your work for the county and all you do for the citizens in the county. Thank you again."

Ann Knowles – "I'm sure y'all know that Memorial Day is coming up, I just want to remind you. Good evening to the Chairman and to the Board and to the staff. First of all, I want to extend an invitation from the Veterans Office for all of you to attend Memorial Day. It's out at the old armory, the little tip end of it. Jerry Hobbs gave us that years ago. And we have bricks when names of people who have purchased we put out there. So, if you're not busy, you're not at the beach or the lake, come down and have a good day with us. We'll have some good celebration. We have keynote speakers. I think we've got one sitting over there that's going to be our keynote speaker and we appreciate it. But Memorial Day is a day set aside to recognize every period of service. Not single out anybody, but to recognize everybody. And this year we're going to call out Revolutionary Veterans from Samson County. We've been working with the archives and we have a great list on that. So that's going to be new. We've always had a few, but we have more. But these, the wars that have been from the Revolutionary to the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and they've even added Afghanistan and Iraq as a different, but it celebrates all of the wars that our county have had people in. There's not one war I've even found people in Revolutionary War. 23 people from Sampson County were in the Revolutionary War. So, we're celebrating everybody that put on the uniform and went to

war for their country. For everyone that served in service and did not have to go into war, they are still a veteran and we still celebrate them. But this is a special invitation for y'all to come, and the audience. This is your invitation. Each one of you have a family member somewhere down the line that's been in a war from Revolutionary until now. Well, this is your celebration, too. We don't look at color. We don't look at what nationality they are. They're all veterans from Sampson County. So, they are our veterans and we want to give them the respect that they deserve. Thank you."

Item 6: County Manager's Comments

Chairman McLamb called upon County Manager Allen Vann who shared updates regarding budget workshops, the National Day of Prayer celebration, Fire Commission budget presentations, and an Airport Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Vann also noted that county offices will be closed on May 25 for Memorial Day and encouraged the Board to attend the celebration at Veterans Park.

Item 7: Commissioners' Comments

Chairman McLamb opened the floor for Commissioners' Comments. Vice Chairman Pope noted that May is a special month for the Community College and City and County School systems. He mentioned graduation ceremonies throughout the county and wished all graduates the best of luck.

Item 8: Closed Session – N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3) [Attorney/Client Privilege]

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Pope and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted to enter into Closed Session. Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Pope and seconded by Commissioner Crumpler the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session. Upon a motion by Commissioner Crumpler and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to authorize the execution of a contract for legal services with Mewborn and DeSelms, Attorneys at Law.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Pope and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

/signed copy on file in Clerk's Office

C. Allen McLamb, Chairperson

/signed copy on file in Clerk's Office

Stephanie P. Fulton, Clerk to the Board