

**Joint Board of County Commissioners and Board of Education Committee Meeting**  
**October 29, 2019**  
**9:00am**  
**Chowan County Public Safety Center**  
**305 West Freemason Street**

Minutes

A Joint committee consisting of three Chowan County Board of Commissioners and three members of the Edenton Chowan Board of Education met on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 9:00 am at the Chowan County Public Safety Center, 305 West Freemason St. Edenton, NC 27932.

Attendees:

County Commissioners/Staff

Chair Patti Kersey  
Commissioner Ron Cummings  
Commissioner Don Faircloth  
Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager  
Susanne Stallings, Board Clerk

Board of Education/Staff

Chairman Gene Jordan  
Mr. Ricky Browder  
Mr. Paul Clifton (absent)  
Dr. Rob Jackson, Supt.  
Sarah Hare, Board Clerk

Chairman Gene Jordan of the Board of Education and Chair Patti Kersey of the County Commissioners called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**Discussion on School location**

The Committee discussed the comments that both Boards received at the public hearings as well as those they have received personally. After some discussion Mr. Faircloth moved to recommend to the Board of Education that John A. Holmes High School remain at the current location in Town. Mr. Browder seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously (5-0) (Unanimously)

**Update on Construction Manager Hiring Process**

The School Board will meet on November 5<sup>th</sup> where they will select the Construction Management Firm and layout a timeline. The School Board will have to decide if they will renovate the school or build a new school. A timeline for the decision regarding cost, type of project and educational programming will take place over the next four months. Parents and other stakeholders will be involved.

**Update on Bond Counsel Hiring Process**

Mr. Howard updated the group on the hiring of Bond Counsel noting the contract had not been signed but the Board had voted to engage Parker Poe. The County has not chosen a financial consultant. Parker Poe has indicated that May 8, 2020 is the drop-dead date for getting on the ballot. The Referendum question has to be ready by July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the State could change this date.

## **Action Items**

### **Next Meeting Date**

The Committee will meet again in early January to get an update from the schools, looking at January 14<sup>th</sup> as the next date. The Committee will get an update from the schools.

### **Discussion of Next Steps/Timeline**

The committee discussed public involvement with the construction planning process. Dr. Jackson stated the community will be involved all along.

Dr. Jackson discussed the monies available are the \$15 million (which mean a loss of Lottery monies for 5 years) and another \$10 million available in the State budget. The committee agreed that they will work together to advocate legislators for these monies.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Cummings moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.