



Minutes

**Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 5:00 PM
Hampstead Annex Auditorium
15060 Highway 17, Hampstead, NC, 28443**

PRESENT:

Chairman Brad George
Vice-Chairwoman: District 4 Jackie Newton
Commissioner: District 5 Fred McCoy
Commissioner: District 3 Jerry Groves
Commissioner: District 2 Randy Burton

ABSENT:

**OTHER
PRESENT:**

Michael Silverman, County Manager
Trey Thurman, County Attorney
Lexi Stanfield, Clerk to the Board
Allen Vann, Assistant County Manager
Other Staff and Members of the Press and Public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brad George called the meeting to order at 5PM.

2. INVOCATION

Commissioner Burton gave the invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Groves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION

Daniel Adams, Planning Director, presented. Adams gave an overview of the regulatory process within Pender County. There are a few processes in which a planning project can be reviewed: legislative, quasi-judicial, and administrative. Adams answered board members' questions regarding rezoning and county and state powers. Adams reviewed the top three housing units within Pender County: Blake Farm, Hawksbill Cove, and Lanes Ferry. Adams discussed development and housing trends from 2020-2024. Briefly, Adams discussed the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, a document that helps inform future regulations over the next 20–25 years. Pender County's planning department is currently holding community engagement events to update the comprehensive land use plan. Adams answered questions from the boards.

5. PENDER COUNTY SCHOOLS SYSTEM PRESENTATION

Dr. Breedlove, Superintendent, presented. Breedlove reviewed the local growth from 2010-2020, which has Pender County listed as #6 with a 15% growth rate. Pender County is estimated to see a 23.9% growth rate from 2020-2030. Dr. Breedlove reviewed the expected impact of the growth on the County schools and the student population. Pender County currently has 11,161 students in grades k-13. Dr. Breedlove reviewed the current capacity of the schools

and the projected enrollment within the next ten years. Pender County schools are expected to become overcrowded without the addition of new schools. Dr. Breedlove briefly spoke about the issues with transportation, citing the longest bus ride was two hours and seven minutes. Modular homes were discussed as a temporary fix to overcrowding in schools. Breedlove answered questions from the Boards.

6. POST MEETING GOALS

The Board discussed the school bonds approved in 2024 and the grants given by the state. They spoke briefly about acquiring properties for new schools, the responsibilities of finding land, and the different processes used in the past to acquire it.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.