

**Minutes of the  
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates  
June 18, 2020 6:00 P.M.**

**Opening**

Chair Tracey A. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation**

Commissioner Fondella Leigh led the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Rob Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Determination of Quorum**

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator, Ashley Stallings, by a roll call, with eleven (11) Members present.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
Clayton Riggs	Camden
Harriett DeHart	Chowan
Owen Etheridge	Currituck
Elizabeth White	Currituck
Rob Ross	Dare
Howard Swain	Dare
Linda Hofler	Gates
Earl Pugh	Hyde
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
Fondella Leigh	Perquimans
Tracey A. Johnson	Washington
 <b><u>Absent Members</u></b>	
Sandra Duckwall	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Jordan Davis	Tyrrell

**Partners, staff, and guests present:**

Attorney John Leidy of Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland

**Staff members:**

David Whitmer, Interim Executive Director  
Angela Welsh, RPO Director  
Laura Alvarico, AAA Director  
Emily Nicholson, Interim NWDB Director  
Jeri Hansen, Finance Officer  
Ashley Stallings, Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator

**Guests and Partners**

None

**Agenda (VOTE):**

Commissioner Linda Hofler motioned to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Clayton Riggs, motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Consent Agenda VOTE:**

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Riggs, the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**A. FY 20-21 Proposed Budget Approval VOTE**

Commissioner Ross asked to discuss questions he had about Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) carryforward and special projects.

Commissioner Ross motioned to approve the FY 20-21 Budget as presented, seconded by Commissioner Riggs. With a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

None.

**Staff Reports**

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director Laura Alvarico gave an update on the continued work the AAA is doing for the older adults in our region.

Albemarle Rural Planning (RPO) Director Angela Welsh informed the Board RPO's funding will not be affected by the budget issues the NCDOT is having.

**Report of the Interim Executive Director:**

Interim Executive Director David Whitmer informed the Board the audit contract was approved by the Local Government Commission. Albemarle Commission is currently in the process of providing information to the Auditor, as requested. Interim Executive Director Whitmer talked about our reopening plan. Albemarle Commission staff continue to work remotely, in line with the Governor's plan. Interim Executive Director Whitmer thanked the staff for stepping up during these difficult times and mentioned how proud he is of the staff.

Chair Johnson stated the weekly report Interim Executive Director Whitmer sends out is appreciated by the Board.

At-Large Delegate Howard Swain and Commissioner Riggs both commented how well written the weekly reports are and thanked Interim Executive Director Whitmer.

Commissioner Ross mentioned Chair Johnson and Interim Executive Director Whitmer attended the NC Council of Governments Board and Forum meeting on June 5, 2020. Commissioner Ross asked if there was anything they wanted to discuss about the meeting. Chair Johnson spoke about the discussion with the Commissioners, and presenting to the General Assembly the role of the Council of Governments.

**Committee Reports**

None.

**Closed Session**

Commissioner Riggs motioned to enter into a Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) and (6) to consult with the Board attorney regarding a matter protected by the attorney-client privilege and to discuss confidential personnel matters, seconded by Commissioner Hofler. With a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously. The Board entered into a Closed Session at 6:45 p.m.

The Board returned to the open session at 7:50 p.m.

In open session, At-Large Delegate Swain motioned to hire Mr. Michael Ervin as the Executive Director of the Albemarle Commission, at a hiring salary of \$95,000, with a 3-year contract, on terms to be approved by Attorney Leidy, with any language the attorney feels he needs to add.

Commissioner Griffin requested the motion include an option to extend after the 3-year contract.

At-Large Delegate Swain amended his original motion to state, to hire Mr. Michael Ervin as the Executive Director of the Albemarle Commission, at a hiring salary of \$95,000, with a 3-year contract, with annual adjustments to the contract as agreed on by the Albemarle Commission, and on terms that may be needed as approved by the Albemarle Commission Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Riggs.

Chair Johnson thanked Interim Executive Director Whitmer for his time serving.

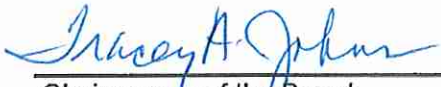
With a roll call vote, ten (10) Board Members were in favor, and Board Member Commissioner Leigh was opposed. With a majority in favor, the motion carried.

**Board Member Comments:**

Commissioner Owen Etheridge suggested the Board provide a Resolution of Appreciation to Interim Executive Director Whitmer for his time serving as the Interim Executive Director.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairwoman of the Board  
Tracey A. Johnson

Attested by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board, Ashley Stallings

7/16/20  
Date