

March 30, 2022 Minutes – Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

CALL TO ORDER

The Currituck County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Meeting with members of the Currituck County Board of Education to receive a facility needs assessment report from Education Consultant, Jim Cosby. The meeting took place at 5:30 PM in the Sanderlin Auditorium of the Currituck Cooperative Extension Center, 120 Community Way, Barco, North Carolina.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael H. Payment	Chairman	Present	
Paul M. Beaumont	Vice Chairman	Present	
J. Owen Etheridge	Commissioner	Absent	
Mary "Kitty" Etheridge	Commissioner	Present	
Selina S. Jarvis	Commissioner	Present	
Kevin E. McCord	Commissioner	Absent	
Bob White	Commissioner	Present	

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

SCHOOL NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND REPORT

School Superintendent, Dr. Mark Lutz, introduced Jim Cosby, Education Consultant, who was contracted by Currituck County Schools to perform an assessment to determine school capital needs based on growth projections for Currituck County. Mr. Cosby provided a brief overview of the role and focus of the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners and presented data and studies used to determine his findings. A ten-year projection noted school capacity would be needed for the middle grades and high school due to growth in Moyock. He does not believe another elementary school will be needed following expansion of Moyock Elementary and construction of the new Tulls Creek Elementary. Mr. Cosby recommended building a new middle school and freeing up middle school space to utilize for high school.

Mr. Cosby responded to questions to clarify needs and capacities. He addressed challenges with vocational training tracks and said vocational training programs are being provided by several districts in North Carolina. He suggested the Board of Education would need to consider re-districting more often to address school capacities. Options for school construction funding presented included needs-based grants, pay-as-you-go financial planning, and borrowing or bond referendums. Processes and considerations for a bond referendum were reviewed and Commissioners expressed a preference for pay-as-you-go funding.

Following discussion amongst the Boards, the Board of Education agreed to provide the following information to Currituck County staff:

- Impacts of moving district lines as a way to mitigate immediate capacity issues for middle and high school.
- Request the Board of Education provide numbers for student enrollment and compare with actual in-school attendance.
- Ensure expanded elementary and middle school capacities and new construction capacities are calculated and included in data.

A needs assessment for school facilities maintenance totaling \$20 million was relayed to the Board of Commissioners, and Commissioners requested a list to include details and maintenance priorities with costs.

Discussion concluded and Mr. Cosby thanked both Boards for the opportunity.

ADJOURN

There was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.