

Greg Edds, Chairman
Jim Greene, Vice- Chairman
Mike Caskey
Judy Klusman
Craig Pierce

Aaron Church, County Manager
Carolyn Barger, Clerk to the Board
John W. Dees, II, County Attorney

Rowan County Board of Commissioners

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS July 24, 2020 – 9:00 AM

**PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC
THE MEETING WAS HELD BY REMOTE PARTICIPATION FOR THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS, STAFF AND THE PUBLIC**

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Commissioners Participating:

Greg Edds, Chairman
Jim Greene, Vice-Chairman
Judy Klusman, Member
Craig Pierce, Member

Absent: Mike Caskey, Member

County Manager Aaron Church, Clerk to the Board Carolyn Barger, County Attorney Jay Dees, Assistant County Manager/CIO Randy Cress and Assistant County Manager/Finance Director Leslie Heidrick also participated.

Chairman Edds convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Chaplain Michael Taylor provided the Invocation.

Chairman Edds led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Pierce moved, Commissioner Klusman seconded and the vote to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

1. DISCUSS EXTENSION OF DISCOUNT PERIOD FOR EARLY PAYMENT OF ROWAN COUNTY TAX BILLS

County Manager Aaron Church explained the purpose of the meeting was to ask the Board to consider extending the discount deadline from July 31, 2020 to August 13, 2020 for early payment of taxes.

Chairman Edds asked if the bills would have the updated discount date printed on them and Tax Collector Tonya Parnell responded yes.

Commissioner Klusman recalled the same situation had happened last year and she inquired as to whether the extension had been confusing for the County's citizens. Ms. Parnell said the citizens had done okay; however, the date had not been changed on the bills last year. Ms. Parnell said those who had sent their payments in with the August discount had been refunded back the difference.

Mr. Church said the correct date for the extension should be August 14, 2020 instead of August 13, 2020.

Chairman Edds said there was consensus among the Board to have the Tax Office work on a July 1st mailing date for tax bills going forward. Chairman Edds said the Commissioners could discuss the matter with the County Manager and tax administration staff in an effort to get the bills out earlier instead of running into a time crunch. Chairman Edds said the July 1st mailing date was the goal unless there was an issue from a systems standpoint that was keeping the bills from going out earlier. Chairman Edds said he was not putting the request in the form of a motion as there was further discussion to be had.

Ms. Parnell explained that statutorily the County's municipalities had until midnight on June 30th of each year to report their tax rate and the Tax Office needed those rates in order to create the bills. Ms. Parnell said while the July 1st date sounded good, the County was looking more at July 10th -13th because the information had to be sent to the printers.

Chairman Edds stated there were a lot of moving parts and the Commissioners would like to hold further discussions and set some expectations for the future that would be more fair to the taxpayers of Rowan County.

Chairman Edds moved to extend the discount, including the information being on the bills about to be printed, to August 14, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed unanimously (4-0).

2. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Klusman moved to adjourn at 9:10 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and passed unanimously (4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,



Carolyn Barger, MMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board