

**Cleveland County Board of Commissioners**  
**December 5, 2016**

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

**PRESENT:** Jason Falls, Chairman  
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chair  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Jeff Richardson, County Manager  
Susan Allen, Commissioner  
Ronald Hawkins, Commissioner  
Warren Daniel, NC Senator  
Kelly Hastings, NC Representative  
Betsy Harnage, Register of Deeds  
Tim Moore, County Attorney  
Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney  
Henry Earle, Clerk to the Board  
Kerri Melton, Community Services Director  
Brian Epley, Finance Director  
Chris Green, Tax Administrator  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director

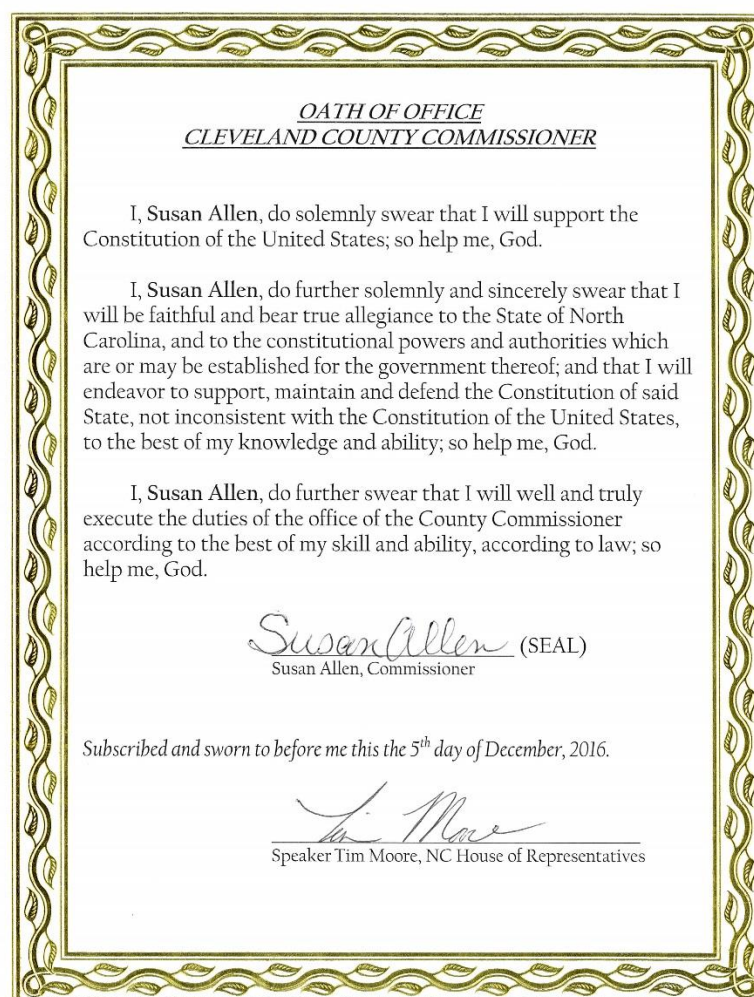
**CALL TO ORDER**

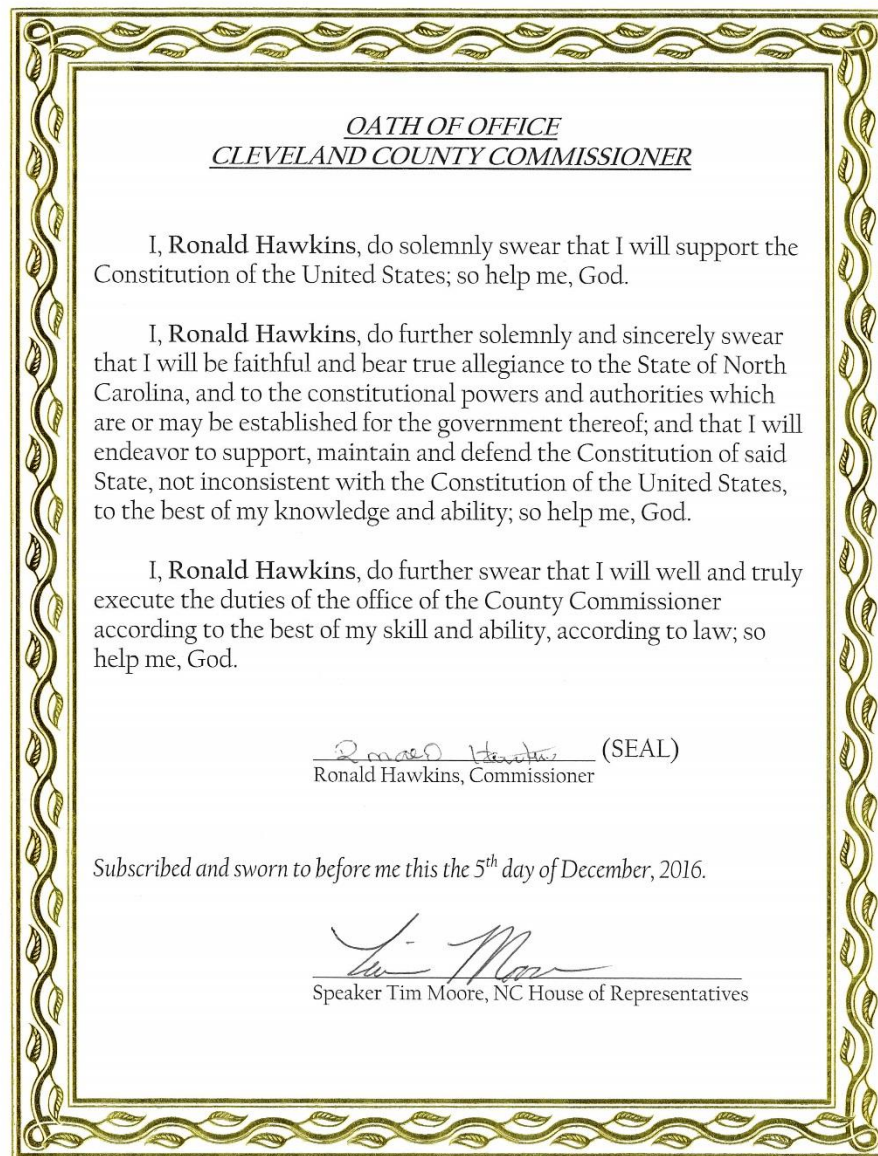
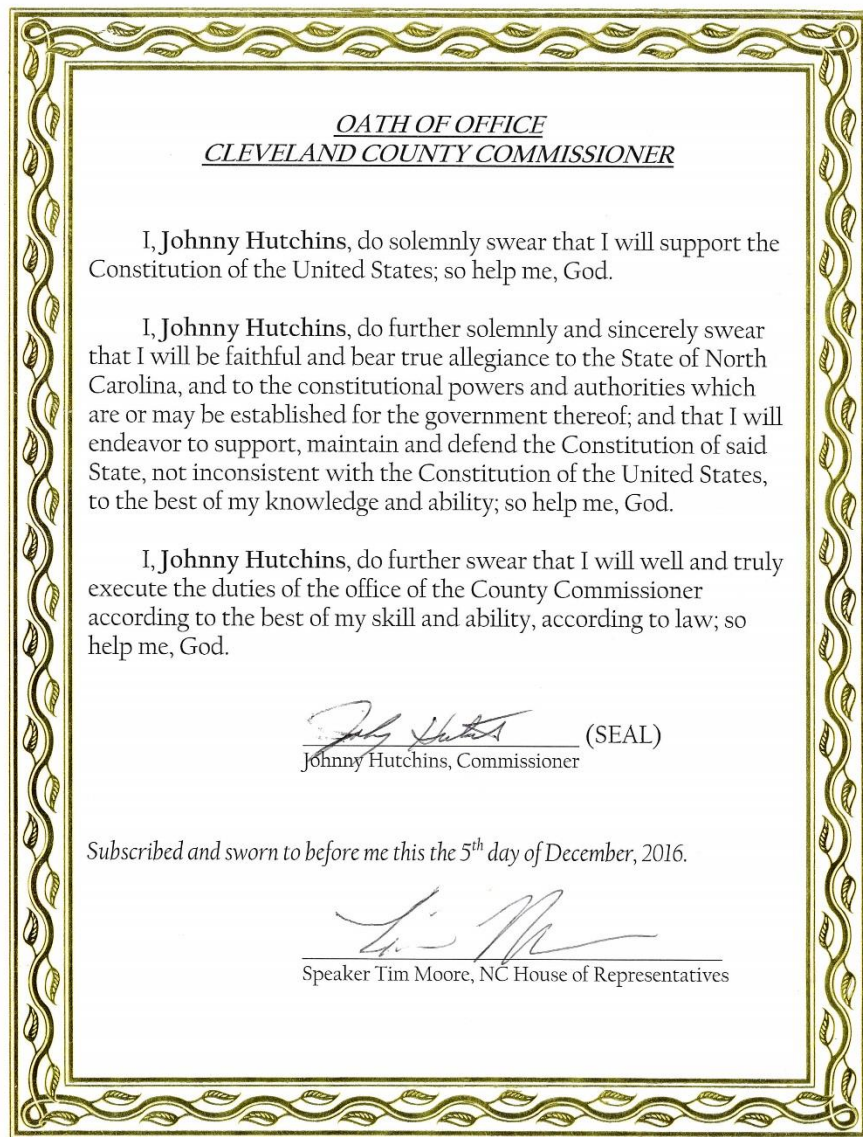
Chairman Jason Falls called the meeting to order and Vice-Chair Eddie Holbrook led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

**SWEARING IN FOR COMMISSIONERS-ELECT SUSAN ALLEN, RONALD HAWKINS AND JOHNNY**

**HUTCHINS:**

Chairman Falls asked Commissioners-elect Susan Allen and Johnny Hutchins to come down front. County Manager Jeff Richardson had Commissioner Ronald Hawkins on speaker phone. Speaker of the House Tim Moore administered the following oath to the three newly elected Commissioners.





Commissioner Hutchins thanked his family, his team, and everyone that supported him. He also reminded citizens that he is a Commissioner for everyone, regardless of party. Commissioner Hutchins stated that he was very thankful for another term and looked forward to working hard for Cleveland County.

Commissioner Allen echoed the sentiments given by Commissioner Hutchins, thanking her family and those in attendance.

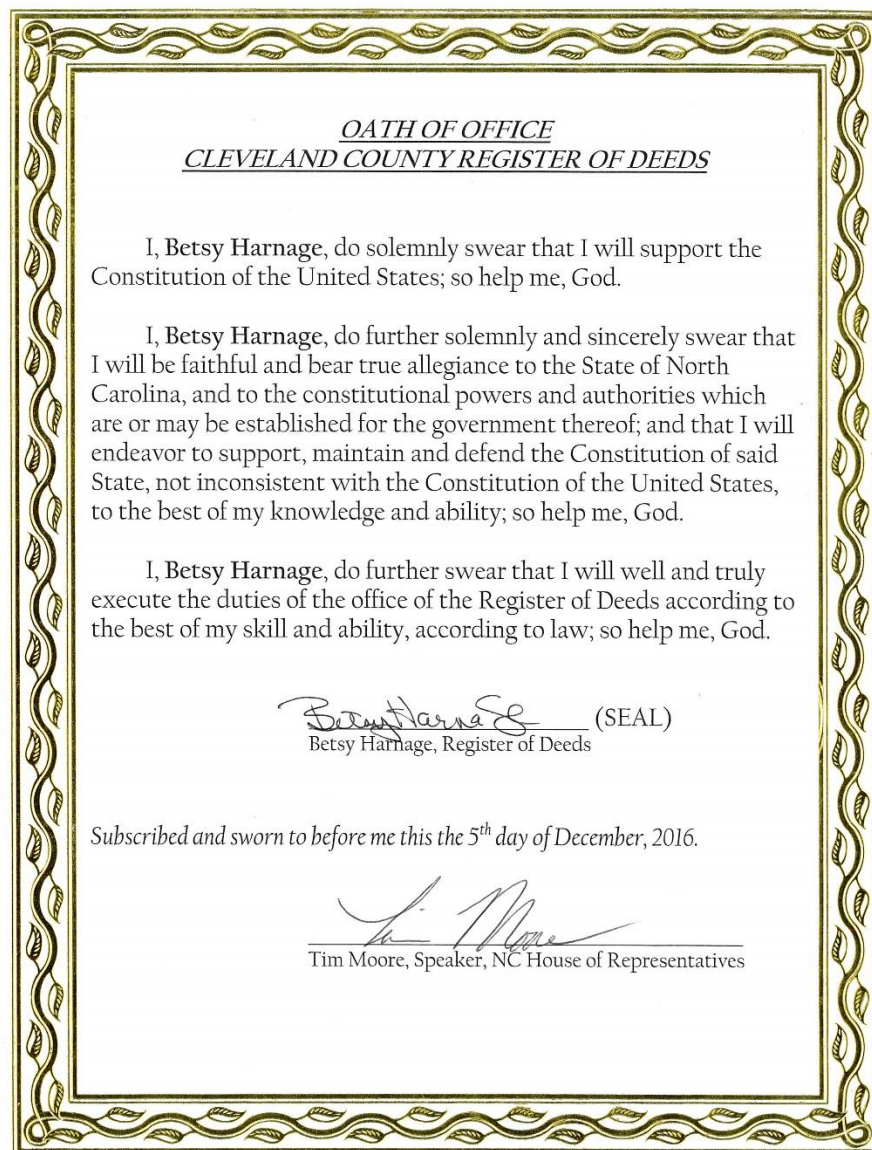
**SWEARING IN OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SUPERVISORS RANDY MCDANIEL AND MICHAEL UNDERWOOD**

Chairman Falls asked Michael Underwood and Randy McDaniel to come down front. Speaker of the House Tim Moore administered oaths to Mr. Underwood and Mr. McDaniel simultaneously. Mr. McDaniel thanked everyone in attendance and stated that he was not originally from Cleveland County but being in the County and serving as a Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor it was apparent to him how much agriculture meant to Cleveland County and that he was honored to be a part of making sure that continued.

Mr. Underwood stated that he was from Cleveland County, having been born and raised here. Mr. Underwood stated that he was thankful for and humbled to be serving in this capacity again. Mr. Underwood stated that he knew the value of agriculture and its impact on Cleveland County and that he looked forward to helping make sure that it was a big part of Cleveland County for years to come.

**SWEARING IN OF REGISTER OF DEEDS BETSY HARNAGE**

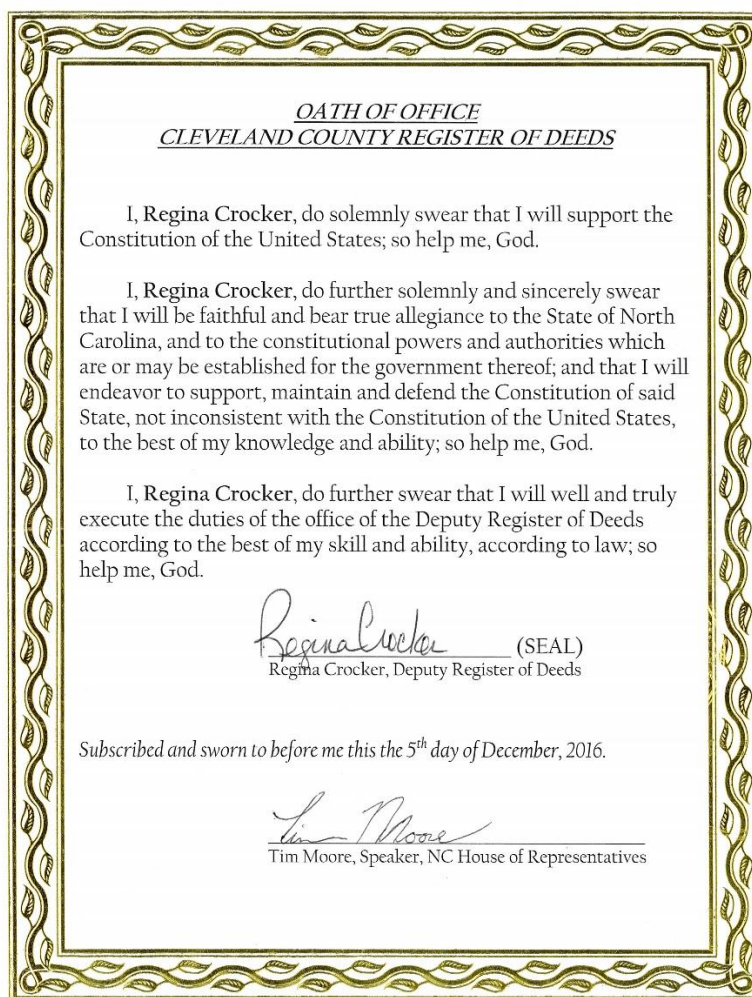
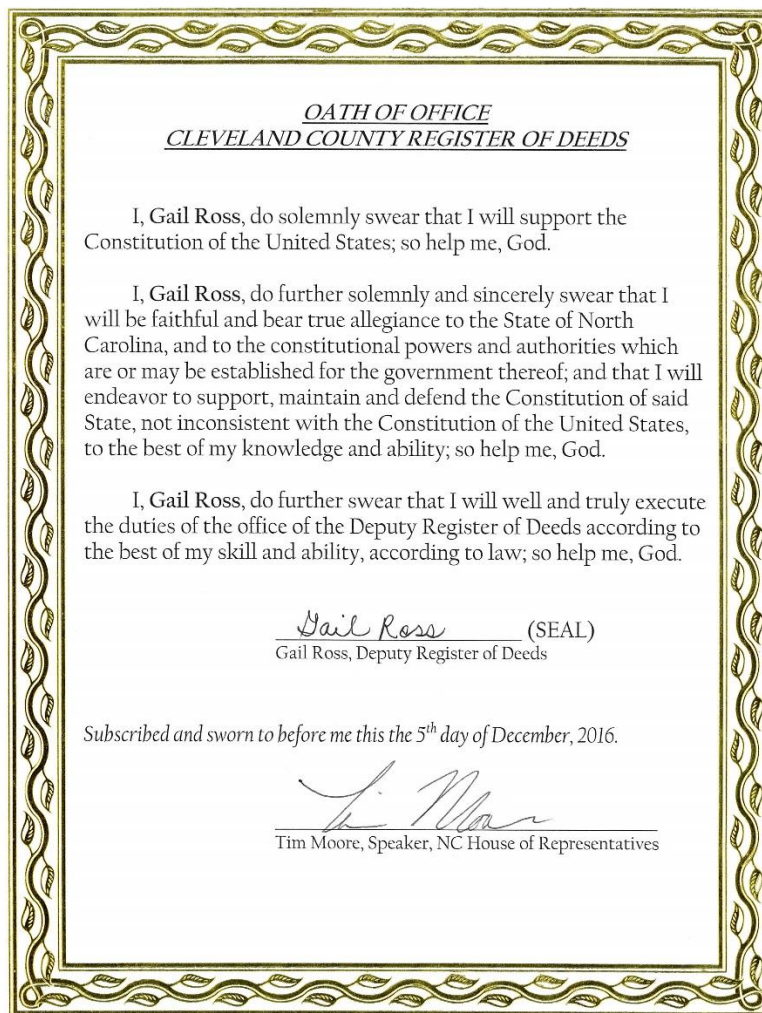
Chairman Falls asked Mrs. Harnage to come to the front. Speaker of the House Tim Moore administered the oath of office for the Register of Deeds.



Mrs. Harnage stated that she was humbled and thrilled to be the newly elected Register of Deeds for Cleveland County. Mrs. Harnage thanked the Commissioners for their support of her campaign. Mrs. Harnage thanked her husband and her family for being her biggest supporters as she ran for office.

**SWEARING-IN FOR THE REGISTER OF DEEDS STAFF**

Chairman Falls asked the Register of Deeds staff to come to the front. Mrs. Harnage held the Bible for her six staff members as Speaker of the House Tim Moore administered the oath of office to the team.



OATH OF OFFICE  
CLEVELAND COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

I, Susan Ledford, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; so help me, God.

I, Susan Ledford, do further solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Susan Ledford, do further swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of the Deputy Register of Deeds according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

 (SEAL)  
Susan Ledford, Deputy Register of Deeds

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.

  
Tim Moore, Speaker, NC House of Representatives

OATH OF OFFICE  
CLEVELAND COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

I, Kathy Greene, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; so help me, God.

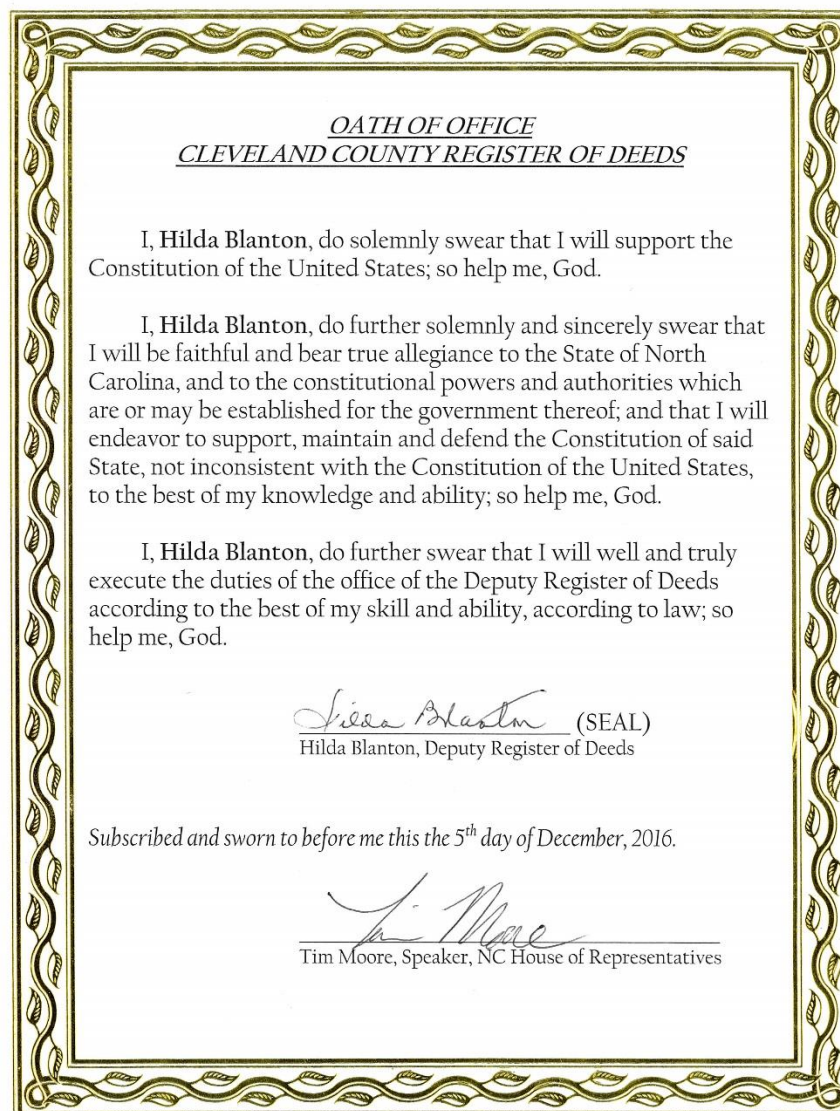
I, Kathy Greene, do further solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Kathy Greene, do further swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of the Deputy Register of Deeds according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

 (SEAL)  
Kathy Greene, Deputy Register of Deeds

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.

  
Tim Moore, Speaker, NC House of Representatives



### **NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD CHAIR**

Chairman Falls turned the meeting over to County Manager Jeff Richardson. Mr. Richardson stated at this time he would open the floor to nominations for Chairman of the Board for the year 2017.

**ACTION:** Chairman Falls nominated Vice-Chair Eddie Holbrook to succeed him as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Holbrook thanked outgoing Chairman Falls for his exemplary leadership over the past three years. He looked forward to working with the Board as they moved forward, beginning with a work session in January or early February. Commissioner Allen and Commissioner Hutchins both thanked Commissioner Falls for his work as the Board Chair and for his leadership.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIR**

Chairman Holbrook opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2017.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins nominated Commissioner Susan Allen for Vice-Chair. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

Vice-Chair Allen thanked the Board for their confidence in her and she stated that she would continue to work hard for the Board and to put the needs of Cleveland County citizens first. Commissioner Hutchins stated that he was very excited about the new Board leadership and that it was going to be a great team. He thanked Chairman Holbrook for his previous role as Vice-Chair and for him taking on the responsibility of being the Chairman.

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Holbrook entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Falls, seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Chamber.