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

130 West Innes Street • Salisbury, NC 28144 Telephone 704-216-8180 • FAX 704-216-8195

May 16, 2022

HomeTrust Bank PO Box 10 Asheville, NC 28802-0010

Re: Municipal Lease and Option Agreement between HomeTrust Bank and Ellis Cross-

Country Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

I am Chairman of the County Commissioners of Rowan County. This letter is to advise you that Ellis Cross-Country Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is a qualified Volunteer Fire Department, assigned to protect a specific fire district within Rowan County.

In addition, a special ad valorem (fire tax) is assessed on the real property owners of this district. Said tax is to be used exclusively to provide equipment, facilities, and training as is necessary to provide fire protection for said district. Said funds may also be used to upgrade equipment as the need arises. This tax is collected by the County and disbursed by the Finance Office to the Fire Department on a regular basis by the County Finance Officer. The Fire Department is operated and managed by the Board of Directors of the Fire Department and the Officers of said Department. The Department is currently meeting the requirements of their fire service contract.

The Fire Department has made us aware of their intention to acquire new capital assets through a Lease Purchase transaction with your firm. Please be advised that the County has no objection to this transaction.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Edds, Chairman Board of Commissioners