

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 11:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

Those present were: Chairman Charlie Messer, Vice-Chairman Tommy Thompson, Commissioner Mike Edney, Commissioner Larry Young, Commissioner Grady Hawkins, County Manager Steve Wyatt, Interim Assistant County Manager David Whitson, Attorney Russ Burrell and Clerk to the Board Teresa Wilson.

Also present were: PIO Christina Hallingse (video-taping), Finance Director J. Carey McLelland, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Sheriff Charlie McDonald, Recreation Director Tim Hopkin, Fire Marshal Rocky Hyder, Engineer Marcus Jones, Research/Budget Analyst Amy Brantley, Soil & Water Conservation District Director Jonathan Wallin, Internal Auditor Darlene Burgess, Library Director Bill Snyder, IT Director Becky Snyder, Public Health Director Tom Bridges, Chief Deputy Rodney Raines, Registrar of Deeds Nedra Moles, Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift, Director of Communications Lisha Corn, Planner Matt Cable, Building Services Director Tom Staufer, Elections Director Beverly Cunningham, Lieutenant Gloria Nock, Deputy County Attorney Sarah Zambon, Social Work Program Administrator Jerrie McFalls, DSS Director Liston Smith, Code Enforcement Director Toby Linville, Assessor/Tax Collector Stan Duncan, DSS Income Maintenance Administrator Sandy Morgan, Environmental Programs Coordinator Megan Piner, Director of Business and County Development John Mitchell, Budget Specialist Jack Westerhoff, Accounting Technician Keisha Gary, Department of Public Health Administrative Assistant Cathy Nicholson, and HR Director Jan Prichard.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Messer called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. He stated the purpose of the meeting is discussion and review of the FY 2013-2014 Budget.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Messer requested a moment of silence in recognition of the recent passing of Inspector Ken Redden.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

County Manager Steve Wyatt had presented the recommended budget and presented the Board with the following questions:

What does the Board wish to do with regards to EMS?

- a) Add the new requested peak time crew = 12 hours per day/7 days per week?
- b) Offset the cost for this addition with changes to the fee schedule?

Mr. Wyatt noted that it has been six (6) years since any capacity was added in the Edneyville area, and the fee schedule is below the maximum Federal rates.

It was the consensus of the Board to add the new requested peak time crew and modify the fee schedule to maximum Federal rates to offset the expenses at a projected cost of \$303,208.00.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Does the Board wish to make any adjustment to the Sheriff's budget?

APPROVED: June 24, 2013

Sheriff McDonald’s 2014 Budget request included the following additions:

1. One Crime Analyst position – to provide necessary oversight/analysis of data collection to meet objective. Approximate Cost: \$60,931.00
2. One School Resource Officer – to provide SRO for North Henderson High School. This position was used to staff the DEU unit when the current SRO retired. A reserve deputy was assigned to North to complete the school year. Approximate Cost: \$62,891.50
3. Two Tele-Communicators – currently answering 83.32% of 911 calls within 10 seconds which does not meet State 911 Board standards. Approximate Cost: \$92,640.00

Commissioner Hawkins suggested increasing the Sheriff’s budget by \$216,462.50.

TUXEDO PARK/HENDERSON COUNTY ACTIVITY CENTER

Does the Board wish to set aside funding for Tuxedo Park? Does the Board wish to set aside funding for the Henderson County Activity Center?

Henderson County did not receive the PARTF Grant for the Henderson County Activity Center. Other grant applications can now be applied for on behalf of the Tuxedo Park.

Commissioner Edney recognized that approximately \$500,000 was previously allocated for artificial turf at the Activity Center. Given that a good portion of the field is in the railroad right-of-way and may take up to ten years to get permission to put in turf, Commissioner Edney suggested that the County begin placing artificial turf on all of the high school fields beginning with Hendersonville High School.

Chairman Messer suggested allocating \$440,000 in the budget for Tuxedo Park.

A break was taken for lunch and the Board reconvened into closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board is requested to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(3) for the following reason(s):

1. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

Chairman Messer made the motion that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(3), for the reasons stated above. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Messer made the motion to go out of closed session and return to open session at 1:55 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL REQUEST

At what level does the Board wish to fund Henderson County Public Schools?

	As Proposed at 1%
Cost of salary increase for all locally funded employees (Includes salaries and benefits)	\$ 82,493
Increase in local supplement due to salary increases (Includes salaries and benefits)	\$ 44,850
TOTAL POTENTIAL SALARY INCREASE ESTIMATES	\$127,343

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

At what level does the Board wish to fund Blue Ridge Community College?

Dr. Molly Parkhill noted that \$280,000 of their budget request would go toward the Advanced Manufacturing Programs. More detail will be provided at a later date.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Director Liston Smith noted that a priority in the Social Services budget is case managers for the elderly.

RESCUE SQUAD

What does the Board wish to do with regards to the Rescue Squad?

- a) Fund all or a portion of the \$100,000 request for operational expenses?
- b) Purchase the new 4wd ambulance? If so, cash purchase or finance?

It was the consensus of the Board to finance an ambulance with the first payment due in 2015.

No decision was made on the \$100,000 request for operational expenses.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Health Department submitted a new fee schedule on May 15th. Due to the timing of the submission, Staff does not recommend any changes at this time. Does the Board wish to consider the revised fee schedule?

Commissioner Thompson made the motion that the Board accepts the new fee schedule as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Henderson County Fire Tax Districts FY 2013-2014

Fire Dept.	ISO Rating	# EMP.	Current Tax Rate	Req. Tax Rate	Rec. Tax Rate	Year of Last Rate Change	2013 Est. Value **	Total Projected Revenue *	1 Cent Equals ***
Bat Cave	7	0	.10	.10	.10	11, 08, 07, 01, 99, 95	87,460,000	84,564	8,746
Blue Ridge	5	11 + PT	.095	.095	.095	11, 07, 00, 96	829,800,000	754,317	82,980
Dana	5	4 + P/T	.11	.11	.11	11,06, 00, 96, 94	436,900,000	463,450	43,690
Edneyville	5	2 + P/T	.095	.095	.095	11, 07, 06, 05, 00, 99, 98	641,030,000	586,898	64,103
Etowah-HS	4	4 + P/T	.095	.095	.095	11, 08, 07, 05, 02, 99, 96	1,086,870,000	995,562	108,687
Fletcher	4/5	25 + P/T	.10	.10	.10	11, 00, 94	727,640,000	701,456	727,640
Gerton	6	1 P/T	.125	.125	.125	11, 05, 04, 99, 93	81,980,000	100,125	8,198
Green River	6	0	.065	.07	.07	11, 07, 01, 00, 97, 93	570,050,000	685,477	57,005
Mills River	4	5	.075	.075	.075	11, 00, 96, 92	936,600,000	747,166	93,660
Mtn. Home	5	14 + P/T	.105	.105	.105	11, 07, 04, 01, 99, 98	1,170,240,000	1,182,634	117,024
Saluda	7	3 + P/T	.085	.085	.085	11, 08, 07, 01, 96	176,460,000	144,941	17,646
Valley Hill	4	25 + P/T	.08	.085	.085	11, 07, 01, 00, 94	1,512,850,000	1,234,823	151,285
Valley Hill II	4	0	.08	.085	.085	11, 07, 01, 95			

*COUNTY ONLY ** from DEPARTMENT WORKSHEET **BOLD DENOTES REDUCTION IN TAX RATE** *** DOES NOT INCLUDE 97% COLLECTION RATE **RED/BOLD DENOTES INCREASE IN TAX RATE**

Significant Issues

1.	The Board sets the rate for Valley Hill II as part of the Budget Ordinance, since it was established separately under NCGS §69.25. All funding though, is budgeted in combination with Valley Hill I.
2.	Green River, Valley Hill I and Valley Hill II are all requesting a ½ cent increase in their tax rate.
3.	The Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee will hold meetings with the Fire Departments in May, and will present their formal recommendations on May 17, 2013.

The Board of County Commissioners annually set the tax rates for the County's Fire Districts as part of the budget adoption process.

Fire District/Department	FY 2013 Rate	FY 2014 Requested Rate	FY 2014 FRAC Recommendation
Bat Cave	\$0.100	\$0.100	\$0.100
Blue Ridge	\$0.095	\$0.095	\$0.095
Dana	\$0.110	\$0.110	\$0.110
Edneyville	\$0.095	\$0.095	\$0.095
Etowah-HS	\$0.095	\$0.095	\$0.095
Fletcher	\$0.100	\$0.100	\$0.100
Gerton	\$0.125	\$0.125	\$0.125
Green River	\$0.065	\$0.070	\$0.070
Mills River	\$0.075	\$0.075	\$0.075
Mtn. Home	\$0.105	\$0.105	\$0.105
Saluda	\$0.085	\$0.085	\$0.085
Valley Hill	\$0.080	\$0.085	\$0.085
Valley Hill II	\$0.080	\$0.085	\$0.085

It was the consensus of the Board to set the Fire District Rates as presented.

MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) FUNDING

At July 1, 2013, Henderson County will have \$118,834 in reserve at Western Highlands.

The Board discussed the requested funding of \$68,000 for Jail Services, but no consensus was reached.

NON-PROFIT/MENTAL HEALTH

What does the Board wish to do with regards to Non-Profit requests?

- a) Agri-business? As planned at 60%?

Commissioner Young made the motion to approve funding for the Agri-Business Henderson County for two years at \$120,000. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

- b) Flat Rock Playhouse?

Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$20,000 to Flat Rock Playhouse Youth Theater. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

- c) Hendersonville Little Theater?

Commissioner Hawkins made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$20,000 to Hendersonville Little Theater. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

- d) Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra?

Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$10,000 to Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

- e) Pisgah Legal Services?

Commissioner Young made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$16,833 to Pisgah Legal Services. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

f) Chamber of Commerce?

Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$37,500 over a three year period to the Chamber of Commerce. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

g) Vocational Solutions?

Commissioner Hawkins made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$51,500 to Vocational Solutions. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

TAX RATE

At what level does the Board wish to set the tax rate?

It was the consensus of the Board to wait until the Public Hearing to set the tax rate.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Young made the motion that the Board adjourn at 4:40 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Attest:

Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board

Charles D. Messer, Chairman