

## MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2012**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

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

Also present were: Public Information Officer Christy DeStefano, Finance Director J. Carey McLelland, Planning Director Anthony Starr, 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, Animal Services Director Brad Rayfield, Registrar of Deeds Nedra Moles, Assistant Registrar of Deeds Patsy Higgins, Deputy Register of Deeds Willa Blair, Deputy Register of Deeds Shelley Delapouyade, Deputy Register of Deeds Linda Honeycutt, Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift, Director of Communications Lisha Corn, Lieutenant Gloria Nock, Engineering Intern Amanda Cash, and HR Director Jan Prichard.

### CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. He stated the purpose of the meeting is a public hearing in regard to the budget, followed by discussion and review of outstanding issues.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Commissioner O'Connor.

### PUBLIC HEARING

*Commissioner Messer made the motion that the Board go into public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

### PUBLIC INPUT

1. Kenny Barnwell – Mr. Barnwell is a member of the Agri-Business Development Board. He asked the Board to consider a reduction rate for Agri-Business of 10% instead of the proposed 20% for this budget year as they transition to a 5013C non-profit.
2. Noland Ramsey – Mr. Ramsey is a member of the Agri-Business Development Board and asked the Board to consider a reduction rate of 10% instead of 20%.
3. Jimmy Chandler – Mr. Chandler spoke in regard to the Children and Family Resource Center. He asked the Board to fund the United Agenda for Children in the amount of \$2500.
4. Elisha Freeman – Ms. Freeman asked the Board to fund the United Agenda for Children in the amount of \$2500.
5. Patrick Kennedy – Mr. Kennedy is the Executive Director of Housing Assistance. He feels the statistics provided by the United Agenda for Children are vital and asked for funding of \$2500.
6. John McCormick – Mr. McCormick is the Chair of the Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees. He asked the Board to consider providing additional funding for BRCC.

APPROVED: June 4, 2012



7. Kaye Caldwell – Ms. Caldwell is a local business owner and against increasing the occupancy tax. She loses business already to neighboring counties because their occupancy tax is lower.
8. Donna Hastie – Ms. Hastie is with the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra. She feels they bring in business to the county and the value to community may be lost without funding. Ms. Hastie requested that the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra be funded in the FY13 budget.
9. Karen Rhoads – Ms. Rhoads feels the Board must look at anticipated income and expected expense when making their decisions. The reserve is great and must not be spent. “What will you do when the reserve is gone, raise taxes? Say no to excessive spending.”
10. Blanca Nuckolls – Ms. Nuckolls is with The Healing Place and requested \$10,000 in funding as grants require local support.
11. Melissa Pruitt – Ms. Pruitt asked the Board to fully fund the Henderson County Public Schools and to trust the Board of Education.
12. Will Penny – Mr. Penny asked for funding for the Flat Rock Playhouse. He feels they have a great impact on the economy for Henderson County.
13. Scott Rhodes – Mr. Rhodes is the principal at Flat Rock Middle School. He asked the Board for full funding for the Henderson County Public Schools as this is the most challenging time for employees of the school system.
14. Vincent Marini – Mr. Marini is with Flat Rock Playhouse. He feels Arts & Cultural are suffering. They are a magnet for tourism. He asked for funding and an increase in occupancy tax to be shared with the Flat Rock Playhouse.
15. Bill McKibbin – Mr. McKibbin is on the Flat Rock Playhouse Board of Trustees. He feels art is vital in this area and an economic driver. He asked for funding and an increase in occupancy tax to be shared with the Flat Rock Playhouse.
16. Barb Irk – Ms. Irk is the president of the Henderson County Board of Educators. She asked that the public schools be funded at their full request.
17. John Garrenberger – Mr. Garrenberger owns a vacation rental. He asked the Board not to increase the occupancy tax. The increase is not warranted and will make it hard to compete with neighboring counties.
18. Mary Cervini – Mrs. Cervini spoke on behalf of the Community Partnership for Pets and the spay/neuter program. The euthanasia rate is down and the number of animals entering into the shelter has decreased. She asked the Board for funding.
19. Susan Mehiel – Ms. Mehiel asked the Board to look at what they are or are not getting for the cost of Land-of-Sky Regional Council.
20. Ron Kauffman – Mr. Kauffman is against the budget as proposed and asked the Board to not use reserves.
21. Lynn Penny – Ms. Penny spoke for Flat Rock Playhouse. She feels the Flat Rock Playhouse offers an educational artistic experience for the schools, an extraordinary impact to the community, and brings in many tourists.
22. George Danz – Mr. Danz was against funding for the Land-of-Sky.
23. Lee Luebbe – Ms. Luebbe is the Chair of the Social Services Board. She asked the Board to reconsider funding the Children and Family Resource request of \$2500. Ms. Luebbe feels it is a small request for a great service.

*Commissioner O'Connor made the motion that the Board go out of public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

County Manager Steve Wyatt stated the statutory obligation has been fulfilled by the Board of Commissioners for a public hearing. The Board must make decisions on all issues and an ordinance must be crafted.



Budget Analyst Amy Brantley provided the following tally for discussion by the Board.

FY2012-2013 Budget Tally			Total Budget	Fund Balance
<b>FY 2011-2012 Manager Proposed Budget as Presented May 16, 2012</b>			<b>\$ 105,046,847</b>	<b>\$ 3,191,969</b>
<b>Budget Revisions since original 5.16.12 presentation</b>			<b>\$ 105,046,847</b>	<b>\$ 3,191,969</b>
1	Reinstate mosquito control program		\$ 35,000	\$ 3,226,969
<b>Budget Revisions based on 5.22.12 Discussion</b>			<b>\$ 105,081,847</b>	<b>\$ 3,226,969</b>
1	Sheriff – Add 3 new personnel positions. 2 in Patrol, 1 in CID (Funding within Sheriff (\$56,353) and IT (\$20,035) budgets)		\$ 76,388	\$ 3,303,357
2	Detention – Add 1 new position (Increase total budget but not fund balance – funded by transfer from ICE)		\$ 48,388	\$ 3,303,357
3	Finance – Add Purchasing Agent position		\$ 58,633	\$ 3,361,990
4	EMS – Add Training Officer position		\$ 61,146	\$ 3,423,136
5	Rescue Squad		\$ 11,710	\$ 3,434,846
6	Forestry Services – Funding for vehicle replacement		\$ 13,200	\$ 3,448,046
7	Library – Additional funding for publications		\$ 100,000	\$ 3,548,046
8	Transfer to the Capital Project Fund (Funding for the planning process for the E911 move)		\$ 60,000	\$ 3,608,046
9	Transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund (Transfer for Parks and Recreation future projects)		\$ 200,000	\$ 3,808,046
10	Henderson County Public Schools – Full funding for Current and Capital Requests		\$ 1,064,117	\$ 4,872,163
<b>TOTALS Following May 22, 2012</b>			<b>\$ 1,728,582</b>	<b>\$ 4,872,163</b>

- 1) Sheriff – Add 3 new personnel positions. 2 in Patrol, 1 in CID (Funding within Sheriff (\$56,353) and IT (\$20,035) budgets)

*Commissioner O'Connor made the motion to approve the request for three (3) new personnel positions, 2 in Patrol, and one (1) in CID for the Sheriff's Department at \$76,388. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

- 2) Detention – Add 1 new position (Increase total budget but not fund balance – funded by transfer from ICE)

*Commissioner Young made the motion to approve the request of one (1) new position in the Detention Center as an increase in the total budget but not fund balance, with \$48,388 funded by a transfer from the ICE Program. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

- 3) Finance – Add Purchasing Agent position

*Commissioner Young made the motion to approve the request of adding a purchasing agent position in Finance at \$58,633. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

- 4) EMS – Add Training Officer

*Commissioner Messer made the motion to approve the addition of a training officer position to EMS at \$61,146. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

5) Rescue Squad

*Commissioner Young made the motion to approve additional funding for the Rescue Squad in the amount of \$11,710. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

6) Forestry Services – Funding for vehicle replacement

*Commissioner Messer made the motion to approve funding for vehicle replacement to the Forestry Services at \$13,200. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

7) Library – Additional funding for publications

*Commissioner Young made the motion to approve additional funding for the Library at \$100,000 for publications. The motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner O'Connor voting nay.*

8) Transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund (Funding for the planning process for the E911 move)

*Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve a transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund in the amount of \$60,000 for funding for the planning process for the E911 move. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

9) Transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund (Transfer for Parks and Recreation Future projects)

*Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve a transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund for Parks and Recreation future projects. The motion passed 3-2 with Commissioners Young and Thompson voting nay.*

10) Henderson County Public Schools – Full funding for Current and Capital Requests

*Commissioner Messer made the motion to approve additional funding of \$1,064,117 to the Henderson County Public Schools for full funding for Current and Capital Requests totaling \$21,200,000. The motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner O'Connor voting nay.*

**Issues for Board Consideration from May 22<sup>nd</sup> Work Session**

	<u>Cost</u>
1 Flat Rock Playhouse	\$ 100,000
2 Increase to BOC salaries	\$ 20,959
3 Increase to Register of Deeds employee salaries	\$ 21,512

1) Flat Rock Playhouse

*Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve funding for Flat Rock Playhouse in the amount of \$100,000 in FY2013 Budget. The motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Young voting nay.*

Commissioner O'Connor abstained from voting which is an affirmative vote.

2) Request for introduction of bill to increase occupancy tax

*Commissioner Edney moved that the Board be resolved to request the General Assembly to authorize the increase in Henderson County's room occupancy tax from five percent of gross revenues to six percent, and that the revenue from this increase be appropriated by the Board of Commissioners and not by the Travel and Tourism Board. The motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Young voting nay.*

3) Increase to BOC salaries

No motion was made. Salaries remain the same for the Board of Commissioners.

4) Increase to Register of Deeds employees salaries

Commissioner Edney feels this issue is being handled by the Human Resources Director and the County Manager and no intervention is necessary. No motion was made and no funding was allocated.

Public Hearing issues:

1. MOE Funding
2. United Agenda for Children

*Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board approves allocation of Maintenance of Effort Funding as funded in the prior year and proposed. He further moved that the United Agenda for Children be funded at \$2,500. (With MOE funds if they meet the criteria) All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

3. Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra

*Commissioner O'Connor made the motion that the Board approves funding for the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra in the amount of \$10,000 in the FY13 Budget. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

4. Community Partnership for Pets

No motion was made and no funding was allocated.

5. Henderson County Education Initiative

*Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board approves funding for the Henderson County Education Initiative in the amount of \$2,000 in the FY13 Budget. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

6. Mineral and Lapidary Museum

No motion was made and no funding was allocated.

7. Agri-Business Development Board

*Commissioner Messer made the motion that the Board approves funding for the Agri-Business Development Board at 90% in the FY13 Budget for an additional amount of \$13,429.00. The motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner O'Connor voting nay.*

8. Land-of-Sky Regional Council

*It was the consensus of the Board to reduce funding to the Land-of-Sky Regional Council in the amount of \$3,219.00, for the portion billed for Mills River's membership.*

Chairman Thompson directed the County Manager to formulate the FY13 budget as proposed and present to the Board of Commissioners on June 4, 2012 with recommendations of how to pay for the extra expenses. Mr. Wyatt was asked to include a 12% and 15% Fund Balance, and no increase to the tax rate.

**ADJOURN**

*Commissioner Messer made the motion that the Board adjourn at 9:35 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

Attest:

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Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board

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Thomas H. Thompson, Chairman