

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

Those present were: Chairman William Lapsley, Vice-Chair Rebecca McCall, Commissioner Mike Edney, Commissioner Daniel Andreotta, Commissioner David Hill, County Manager Steve Wyatt, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley, Attorney Russ Burrell, Clerk to the Board Teresa Wilson and Clerk to the Board in training Denisa Lauffer.

Also present were: Director of Business and Community Development John Mitchell, Finance Director Samantha Reynolds, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Health Director Steve Smith, Engineer Marcus Jones, Code Enforcement Director Matt Champion, Recreation Director Carleen Dixon, Construction Project Manager David Berry, Cooperative Extension Director Terry Kelly, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Emergency Management/Rescue Coordinator Jimmy Brissie, Budget Manager Megan Powell, Project Engineer Natalie Berry, PIO Kathy Finotti – videotaping, Deputy Mike Marsteller as security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Lapsley called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Pastor Tyler Frank of the Biltmore Church Hendersonville campus.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Chairman Lapsley.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Via E-Mail – The Board received public comment regarding Senate Bill 688 “Sports Betting” from Dennis Justice.
2. Via E-Mail – The Board received public comment regarding shooting ranges from Greg and Annette Cloos.
3. Via E-Mail – The Board received public comment regarding a public access channel from Bruce MacDonald.
4. Bruce MacDonald spoke regarding a Public Access Channel.
5. Nancy Wilson spoke in opposition to an asphalt plant.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented. He further moved to adopt the Discussion Agenda with the addition of setting a Public Hearing on Conditional Rezoning R-2021-01-CD, a COVID 19 update, and adding Attorney/Client to Closed Session. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA consisted of the following:

Minutes

Draft minutes were presented for board review and approval of the following meeting(s):

April 5, 2021 - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Motion:

I move the Board approves the minutes of April 5, 2021.

APPROVED: May 3, 2021

Tax Collector’s Report

The April 9, 2021 report from the office of the Tax Collector is provided for the Board’s information.

Please find outlined below collections information through April 8, 2021 for 2020 real and personal property bills mailed on August 1, 2020. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

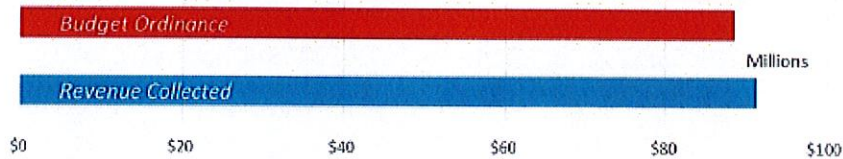
2020 Beginning Charge:	\$86,176,774.09	<p>Unpaid 1.56%</p> <p>Paid 98.44%</p>
Discoveries & Imm. Irreg.:	\$289,699.54	
Releases & Refunds:	(\$440,225.75)	
<u>Net Charge:</u>	<u>\$86,026,247.88</u>	
Unpaid Taxes:	\$1,338,957.68	
Amount Collected:	\$84,687,290.20	

Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$5,823,933.70	99.28%
Unpaid Taxes:	\$41,955.62	
Amount Collected:	\$5,781,978.08	

Henderson County FY21 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$87,594,211.00	\$90,469,268.28
Prior Years:	\$1,035,000.00	\$886,711.94
Budget Total:	\$88,629,211.00	YTD Revenue: \$91,355,980.22



Hola Carolina Arts Lease Renewal

In October 2019, the Board approved a new lease with Hola Community Arts to utilize office space in the Jackson Park House. This was a new type of partnership for Parks and Recreation and the Board had many questions on how this would work. We are happy to report that the first 2 years have been a great success. Hola has completed all the interior upgrades/renovations to the building that they agreed too, and they have worked closely with us on all of these. The inside looks great, and they were extremely easy to work with through the entire process. They have also translated a number of documents for Parks and Recreation as well as placed full page marketing in the Hola Carolina Magazine as a part of our agreement. We also continue to work on various partnerships for the community through events, some of these have been cancelled or delayed due to current restrictions. We are hopeful to soon be partnering to host these community events.

Hola Carolina recently reached out to request a lease renewal as instructed per their agreement with Henderson County. The agreement allows the lease to be renewed up to 4 times, each time subject to the Board of Commissioners’ approval. The Department of Parks and Recreation supports this request as the first two lease terms have been a positive experience for all.

Motion:

I move the Board of Commissioners approves the proposed lease renewal as presented.

Proposed Change in Library Hours of Operation

With recent COVID related guidelines on gatherings being relaxed by the State, Library Staff and the Board of Directors requested the Board approve the new proposed library hours of operation, to be effective May 3, 2021.

Hours of Operation						
Branch Library	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Main (56)	9AM-7PM	9AM-7PM	9AM-7PM	9AM-7PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM
Fletcher (37)	9AM-6PM	CLOSED	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-3PM	9AM-3PM
Edneyville (31)	9AM-6PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM	CLOSED	9AM-3PM	CLOSED
Etowah (37)	9AM-6PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM	CLOSED	9AM-3PM	9AM-3PM
Green River (31)	9AM-6PM	CLOSED	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-3PM	CLOSED
Mills River (31)	9AM-6PM	9AM-5PM	CLOSED	9AM-5PM	9AM-3PM	CLOSED

2021.25 Budget Amendment – Phone System Project

The Board was requested to approve a Budget Amendment, transferring \$650,000 from the General Fund (IT Department) to the Capital Projects Fund, in anticipation of the county-wide phone system project crossing into the next fiscal year. The phone system project was originally approved as part of the FY2021 budget ordinance.

Motion:

I move the Board approves the budget amendment as presented, transferring funds from General Fund to Capital Projects Fund.

Notification of Vacancies

The Notification of Vacancies is being provided for the Board’s information. They will appear on the next agenda under “Nominations”.

1. Nursing /Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 1 vac.
Position #22

2021.26 Etowah Trail Project

Three things have been identified since the original quote to do the Trail work at Etowah Park. Two current drains that travel under the current trail need to be enlarged and/or repaired before the new trail can be paved. A tree that will need to be removed will require stump removal and a high-quality fill to ensure it does not cause future trail failure. Additional paving costs due to the rise in material costs since our original quote are significant. Based on the low bid the variance in costs is \$35,000; and due to costs savings on another contracted maintenance service we would like to propose utilizing this costs savings to make up the difference with the low bid.

Motion:

I move the Board approves the proposed Budget Amendment.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2021.27 LDC Text Amendments (#TX-2021-02) Related to Shooting Ranges

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to go into public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Autumn Radcliff stated on March 17th, 2021, the Board of Commissioners directed the Planning Board to provide a recommendation on the draft language for shooting ranges as discussed by the Board. The Planning Board was given 30 days to review the draft language and provide a recommendation on the proposed text amendment. The proposed amendment to the Land Development Code (#TX-2021-02) is related to indoor and outdoor shooting ranges for both private and commercial operations.

The Planning Board discussed the proposed text amendments at its meeting on March 18, 2021 and voted to hold a special called meeting on March 24th, 2021 to continue its discussion. At the special called meeting the Planning Board voted unanimously to send forward a favorable recommendation on the proposed amendments.

Overview

On March 17, 2021, the Board of Commissioners directed the Planning Board to review the draft language approved by the BOC and make a recommendation with any proposed changes discussed by the Planning Board within 30 days.

The Planning Board discussed the amendments at its meeting on March 18, 2021 and at a special called meeting on March 24, 2021 and voted to send forward a favorable recommendation on the proposed amendments.

LDC Text Amendments TX-2021-02

Remove the current definition for shooting ranges and replace with the following:

Shooting Range, Commercial. - An area, indoors or outdoors, designed and operated for profit for the use of rifles, shotguns, pistols, silhouettes, skeet, trap, black powder, or any other similar sport shooting. This includes any such area owned and/or operated by a for-profit or non-profit entity which requires membership dues to be a member, or which requires any remuneration (including “donations”) in exchange for access to the area, or any other organization that meets the requirements of the exception to the Noise Ordinance in Section 18-4.A.3. For the purpose of this chapter, private shooting that does not meet the above standards for commercial shooting ranges shall be allowed by right without a zoning permit provided that it complies with Chapter 23 of the Henderson County Weapons Ordinance, 23-10.C.

Add the following provision for HOA’s to the LDC general requirements for all uses:

§42-13

In the event a parcel is subject to restrictive covenants, homeowners or property owner’s association rules, in a situation where those covenants or rules are more restrictive in terms of permitted land use than this Ordinance, the provisions of such covenants or rules would be unaffected by this Ordinance.

Amend the Table of Permitted and Special Uses for shooting ranges:

USE TYPE	GENERAL USE DISTRICT										
	P=Permitted; S=Special Use Permit										
	R1	R2	R2R	R3	R4	OI	LC	CC	RC	I	SR
4. RECREATION USES											
Shooting Ranges, Indoor			S	S	S		S	S	S	S	4.17
Shooting Ranges, Outdoor				S	S					S	4.18
Commercial Shooting Ranges, Indoor			p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	4.17
Commercial Shooting Ranges, Outdoor			p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	4.18

Amend the SR requirements as follows:

SR 4.17. Commercial Shooting Ranges, Indoor

Site Plan. Major *Site Plan* required in accordance with §42-331 (Major Site Plan Review).

Lighting. *Adequate lighting* shall be placed in areas used for vehicular/pedestrian access including, but not limited to: stairs, sidewalks, crosswalks, intersections, or changes in grade. *Lighting mitigation* required.

Structure. Indoor *shooting ranges* shall be designed to contain all projectiles fired within portions of the *structure* specifically designated for firearm discharge.

Amend the SR requirements as follows:

SR 4.18. Commercial Shooting Ranges, Outdoor

1. Site Plan. Major *Site Plan* required in accordance with §42-331 (Major Site Plan Review).

2. Lighting. *Adequate lighting* shall be placed in areas used for vehicular/pedestrian access including, but not limited to: stairs, sidewalks, crosswalks, intersections, or changes in grade. *Lighting mitigation* required.

3. Dust Reduction. Unpaved *roads, travelways* and/or parking areas shall be treated to prevent dust from adverse effects to adjacent properties.
4. Separation. An outdoor *shooting range* shall not be constructed or newly located within:
 - a) One-half (½) mile of an existing *school, library, day care facility, healthcare facility and/or religious institution*; and
 - b) One thousand (1,000) feet of an existing *dwelling unit* (located in a *residential zoning district* and not located on the same property as the *use*).
5. Security. The operations of an outdoor *shooting range* shall be totally enclosed by: (1) a security fence at least eight (8) feet in height; or (2) a wall at least eight (8) feet in height. Entrances and exits should be secured and locked during non-operating hours.
6. Perimeter Setback. Fifty (50) feet.
7. Perimeter Buffer. Twenty-Five (25) feet.
8. Structure. Outdoor *shooting ranges* must be designed to contain all projectiles fired on-site.
9. Hours of Operation. 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
10. **Special events that include, but not limited to, turkey shoots, competitions, etc., shall be allowed with a Special Events Permit provided it complies with SR 11.5 and/or SR 11.6. These events are allowed in all zoning districts.**

Notices of the public hearing were published in the Hendersonville Lightning on April 7 and April 14, 2021.

Public Input

1. Via E-Mail – The Board received public comment regarding shooting ranges from Sissy Owens.
2. Jere Brittain – Opposed to shooting outside in residential area. Noise is extremely loud and disturbs the peace and tranquility of his property.
3. Mahala Orren – Opposed to outdoor Shooting Ranges. Understands the need for gun ownership and shoots on her own property at times. Expressed concern about noise disturbing the peace and tranquility of her property.
4. Joseph Cox – Vietnam Veteran who suffers from PTSD is opposed to Outdoor Shooting Ranges.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to go out of public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner McCall made the motion to amend the Table of Permitted and Special Uses, found in Section 42-62 of the Henderson County Code, to include a Special Use Permit requirement to Residential Districts and Commercial Outdoor shooting ranges. The Clerk polled the board and the motion failed with Commissioners Hill, Andreotta and Edney voting against and Commissioners Lapsley and McCall voting in favor.

Commissioner Hill made the motion that the Table of Permitted and Special Uses for Shooting Ranges for the Office Institutional District be modified from Special Use Permit required to Permitted Use. The Clerk polled the board and the motion passed with Commissioners Hill, Andreotta, Lapsley and Edney voting in favor and Commissioner McCall voting against.

Commissioner McCall made the motion to modify Supplemental Requirement 4-18.9., found in Section 42-63 of the Henderson County Code), by changing the Hours of Operation from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. daily to 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Weekdays and 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Weekends. The Clerk polled the board and the motion failed with Commissioners Hill, Andreotta, and Edney voting against and Commissioners Lapsley and McCall voting in favor.

Commissioner Hill made the motion (1) to modify SR 4-18.6, found in Section 42-63 of the Henderson County Code) by changing the perimeter setback from 200 feet to 50 feet and to delete the parenthetical sentence previously in SR 4.18.6; and (2), to modify SR 4-18.7, found in Section 42-063 of the Henderson County Code, by changing the perimeter buffer from 50 feet be to 25 feet. The Clerk polled the board and the motion passed with Commissioners Hill, Andreotta, Lapsley and Edney voting in favor and Commissioner McCall voting against.

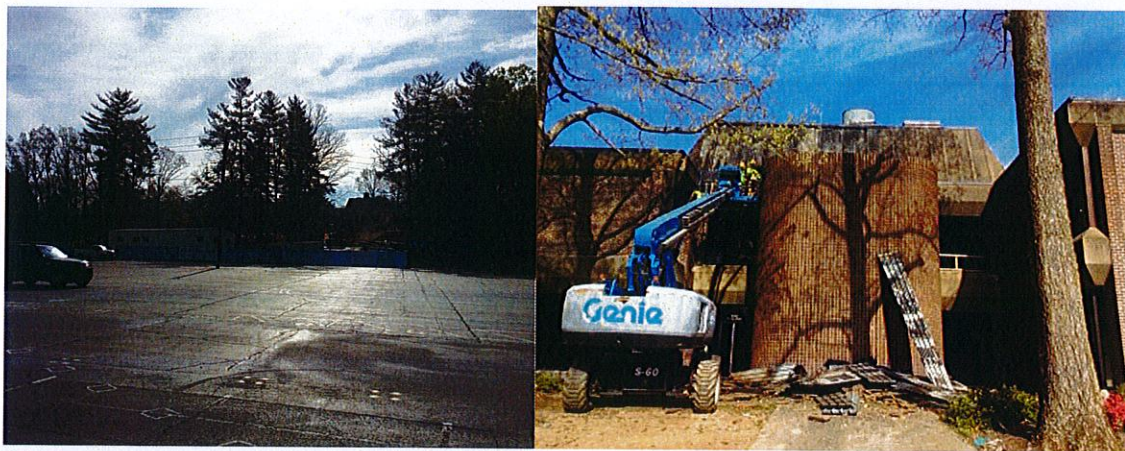
Commissioner Mike Edney made the motion to strike the verbiage “on individual property” from the LDC Text Amendments TX-2021-02 definition for shooting ranges. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Mike Edney made the motion to adopt the amendments with changes as approved. The Clerk polled the Board and the motion carried with Commissioners Hill, Andreotta, Lapsley and Edney voting in favor and Commissioner McCall voting against.

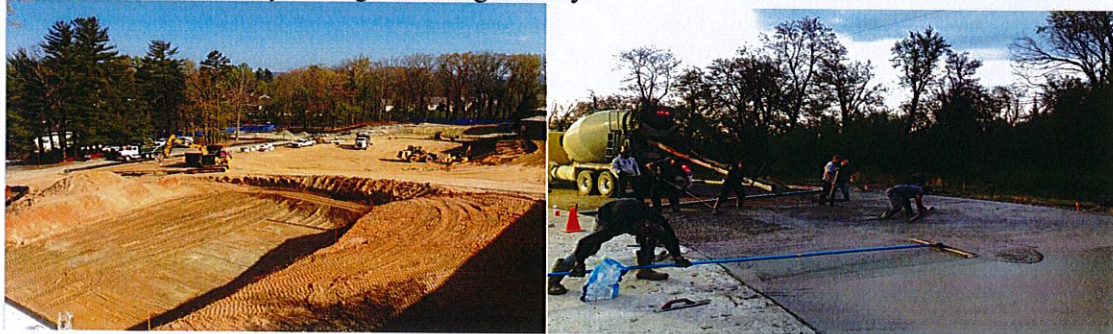
OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS

Construction Project Update

David Berry provided the Board of Commissioners with an update on the following construction projects around Henderson County. This monthly report is a review of the scope and statuses of assigned construction management responsibilities and includes specific updates regarding County funded construction activities.



Blue Ridge Community College Training Facility



Facilities Maintenance, Repair, Technology and Security Initiatives

- Rugby Secure Main Entrance: H&M Construction started this project Monday April 19,2021.
- Edneyville Library Porch Enclosure: Bartholomew Construction will begin construction in two weeks.
- Henderson County Activity Center Shower and Restroom Floor Coating: Project is ongoing.
- Animal Shelter Roof Replacement: Replacement designs are complete, the job has been bid, and contract is being finalized.

Blue Ridge Community College Facilities Maintenance, Repair, Technology and Security Initiatives

- Flat Rock Building Restroom Renovation: Contract to be awarded to low bidder, Dunlap Construction, once receipt from Finance is received.
- Killian Building Chiller Replacement: Chiller has been ordered, Contractor - Johnson Controls.
- Sink Building Piping Replacement for Air Handler Units: Project continues, Contractor - Haynes HVAC

- Henderson Building Welding Booths: Project continues, Contractor – IMOCO
- Henderson Building Roof Re-coating: RFP in process.

David Berry noted that all Facilities Maintenance, Repair, Technology and Security Initiatives are within budgets appropriated.

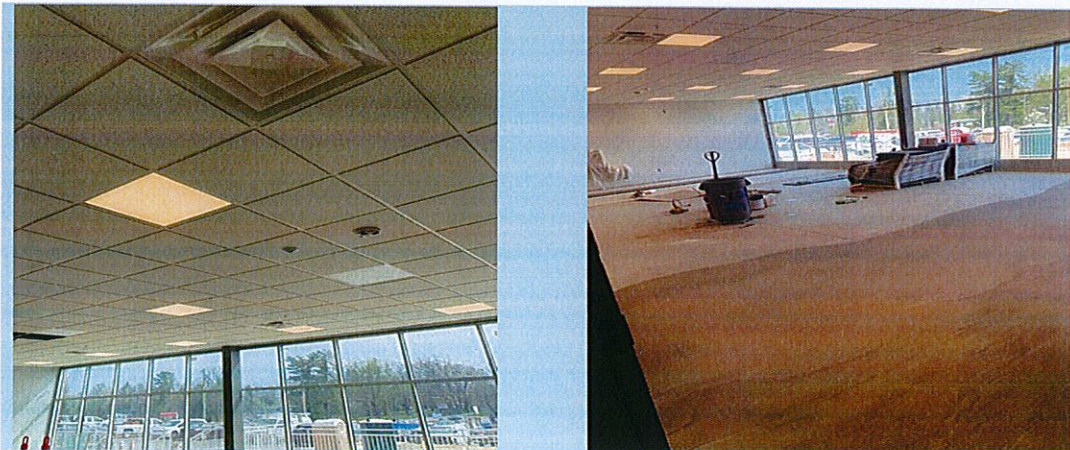
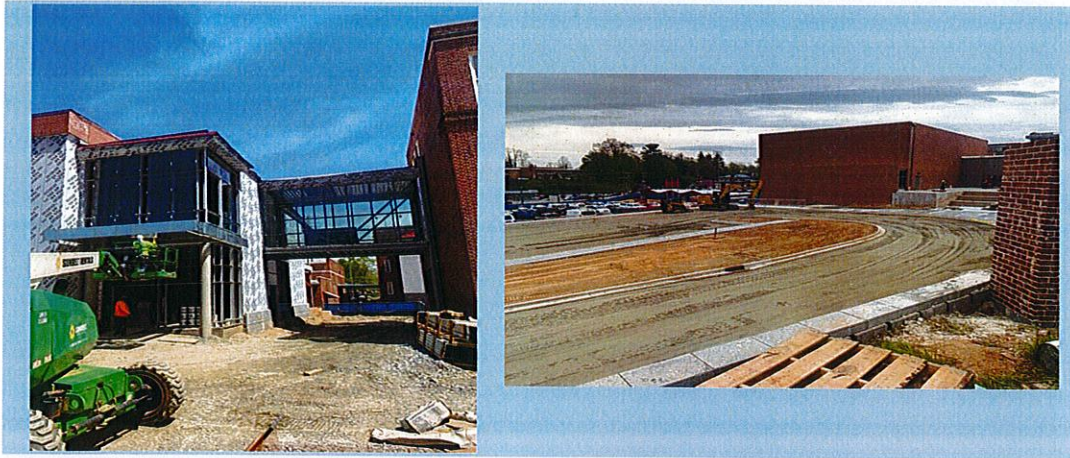
Hendersonville High School Project

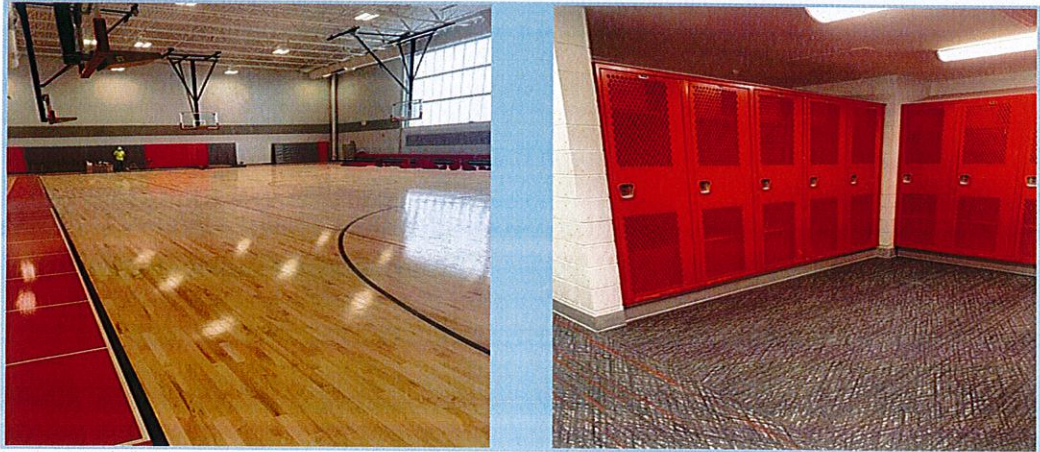
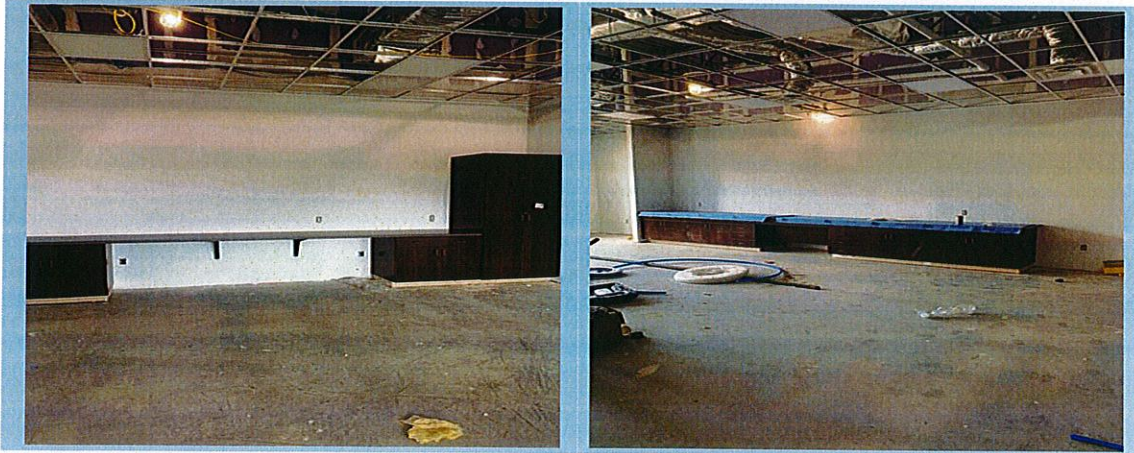
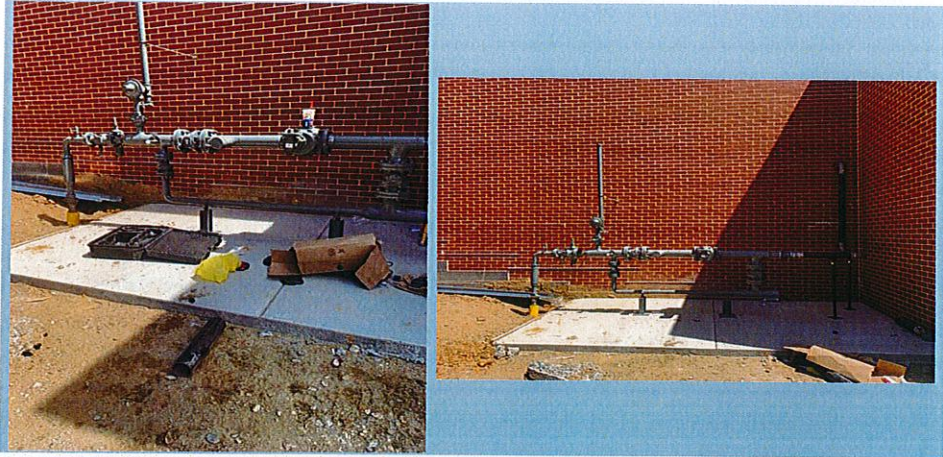
David Berry updated the Board stating that work continues with the Hendersonville High School project. Interior finishes, exterior site work, and the future turning lane from Highway 25 into the school parking lot are all progressing as expected. He also noted that Hendersonville High School plans to hold their 2021 Commencement Ceremonies in the newly renovated gymnasium. Due to the efforts of everyone involved, this project is ahead of schedule by 11 months and with a savings of approximately \$500,000. The new projected delivery date for the Hendersonville High School Project is August 2022.

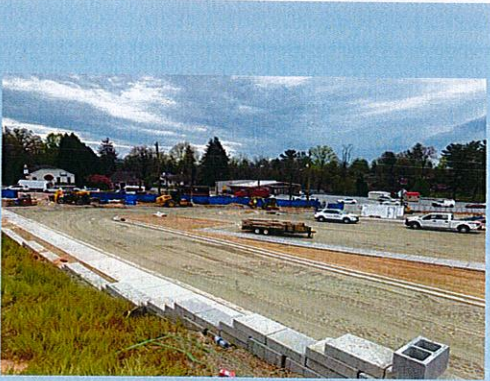
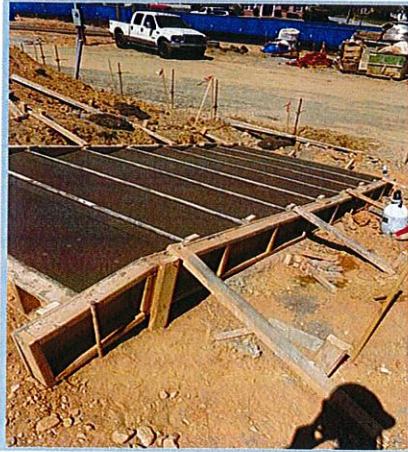
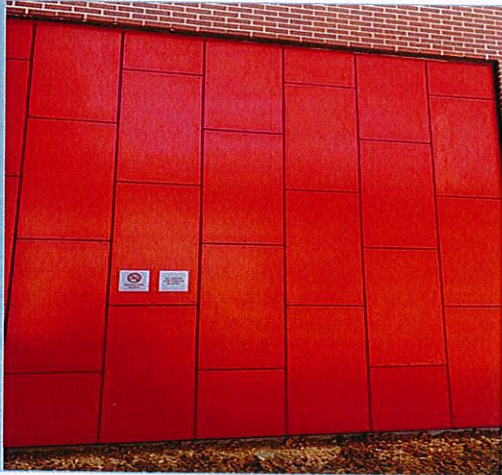
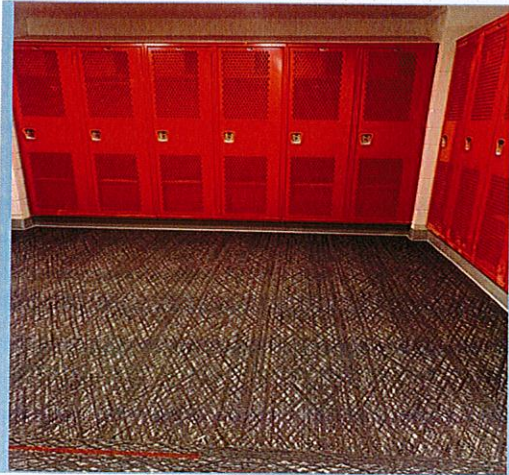
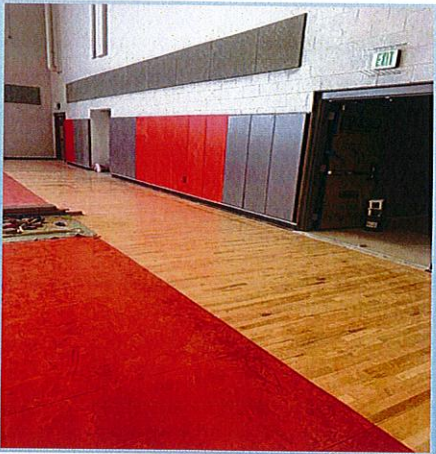
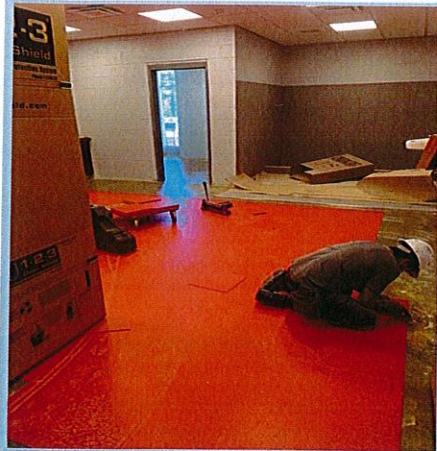
County Manager Steve Wyatt commended David Berry, John Mitchell, and Dr. John Bryant and all involved for their combined efforts in the Hendersonville High School project and the proposed early completion date of this project.

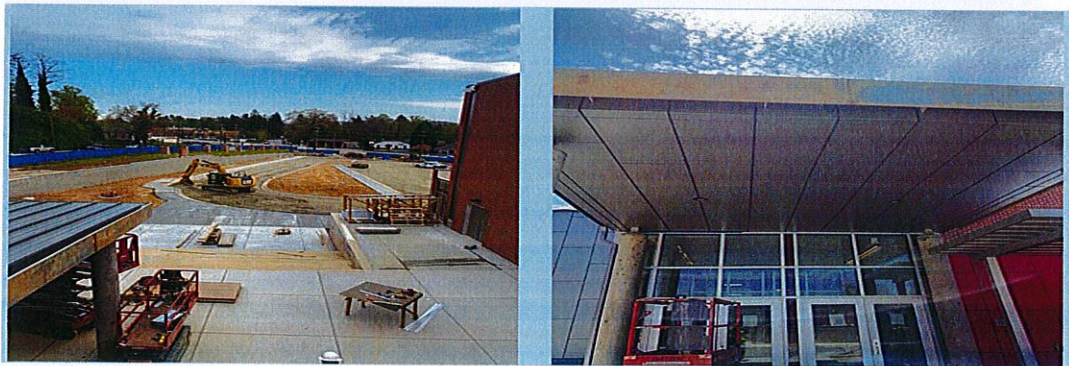
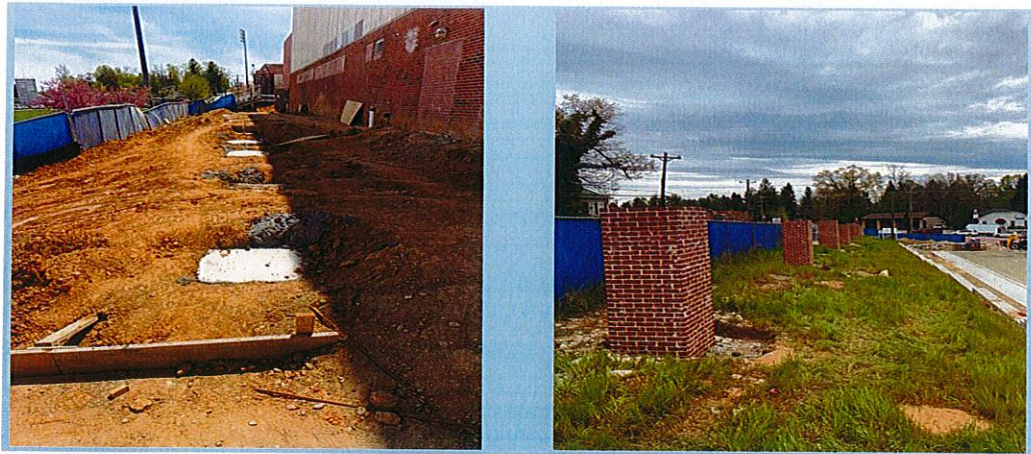
Chairman Lapsley explained that any changes in the scheduled delivery, or impact of savings would be an amendment to the existing contract with Vannoy Construction.

Commissioner Michael Edney made the motion to direct staff to execute necessary paperwork to amend the contract to allow delivery of the project 11 months early and half a million dollars under budget. All voted in favor and the motion carried.









HHS Schedule Summary - April 15, 2021

Original Turnover Commitments

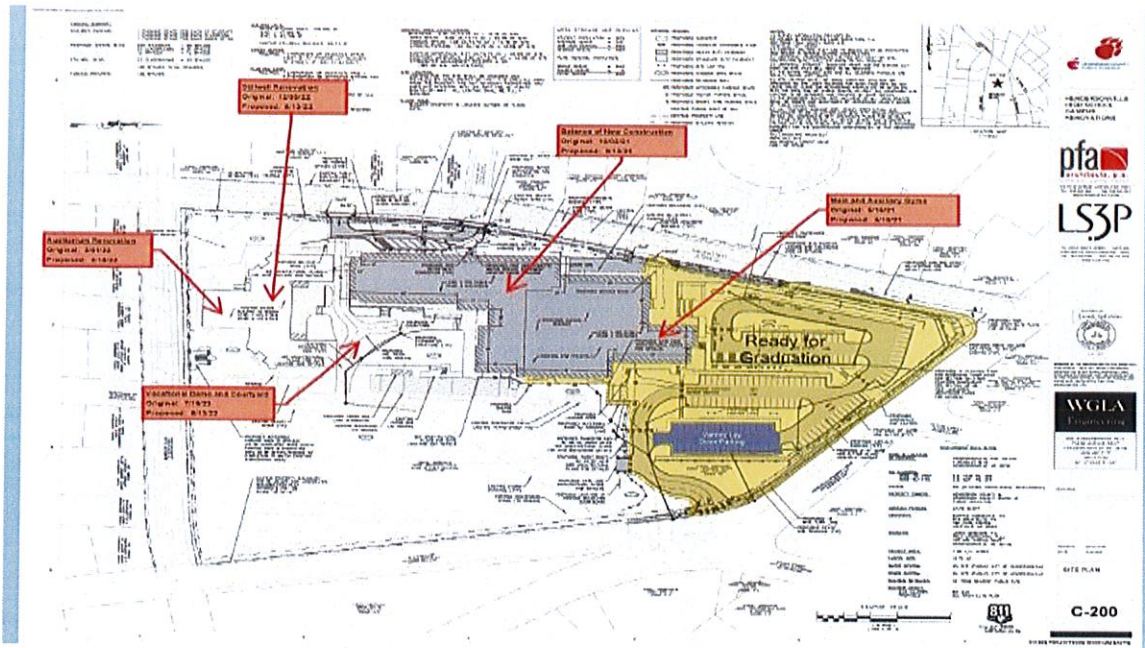
- New Construction:**
 Area C – May 16, 2021 (Gyms Only for Graduation)
 Locker Rooms in C and Area D by August 13, 2021
 Area A – December 2, 2021
 Area B – December 2, 2021
- Renovations:**
 Stillwell Auditorium – March 01, 2022
 Stillwell – December 09, 2022
 Demo Vocational – Start December 2022
 Courtyard Site Work – July 19, 2023
- Project Complete by July 2023**

Proposed Turnover Commitments

- New Construction:**
 Areas C and D – May 16, 2021 (on time)
 Area A – August 13, 2021 (3.5 months early)
 Area B – August 13, 2021 (3.5 months early)
- Renovations:**
 Stillwell Auditorium – February 18, 2021 (2 weeks early)
 Stillwell – August 13, 2022 (4 months early)
 Demo Vocational – Start June 2021
 Courtyard Site Work – August 13, 2022 (11 months early)
- Project Complete by August 2022 (11 Months Early)**

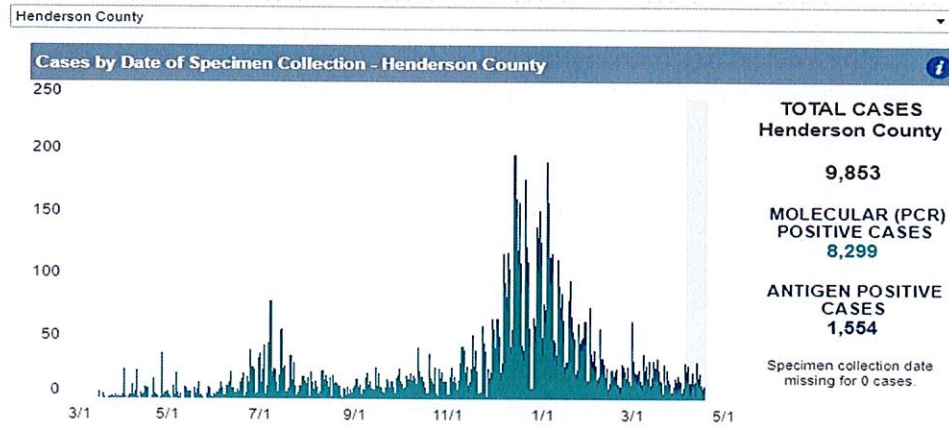
Needs

- Henderson County Public Schools vacate Stillwell and Vocational in June 2021.
 - Prior to New Construction complete.
 - May require temporary storage, faculty moving personal/classroom material twice, etc.
 - Will require replacing the Vocational Building swing space (i.e. – alternative teaching schedule, creative spaces in New Construction for classes, mobile classrooms, etc.).
- Start the Stillwell Auditorium renovation in June 2021 as soon as the students are gone for the summer.
- Start Stillwell Building renovation in June 2021 after school is out and building can be emptied.
- Demolition of the Vocational Building can occur during Summer with no Students around.
 - More efficient and quicker.
 - Less concern and temporary requirements for student safety.



COVID 19 Update – Add on
 Steve Smith and Jimmie Brissie provided the following update.

Data and Trends



Daily New Cases Rate per 100,000

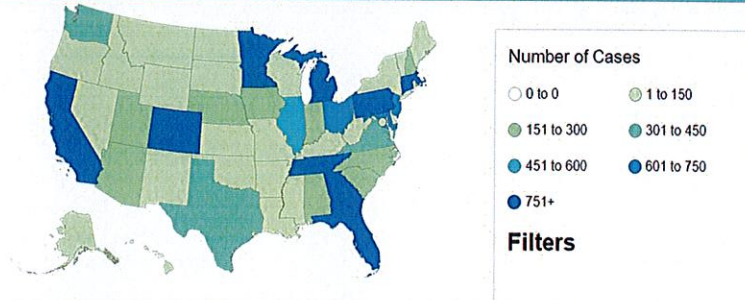
	February 9	March 9	April 13	April 21
United States	35	18	21	21
North Carolina	58.3	18.9	18.1	20.2
Henderson County	58.3	24.7	14.5	20.7

Henderson County had been lower than 14.5 in late March and cases are now trending up.

Harvard Global Health Institute

	Nov. 10, 2020	Jan. 12, 2021	Feb. 8, 2021	March 9, 2021	April 13, 2021	April 21, 2021
CASES	2,655	6,413	8,178	9,027	9,701	9,853
DEATHS	68	91	127	150	153	157
TESTS	44,830	73,403	102,639	*	*	

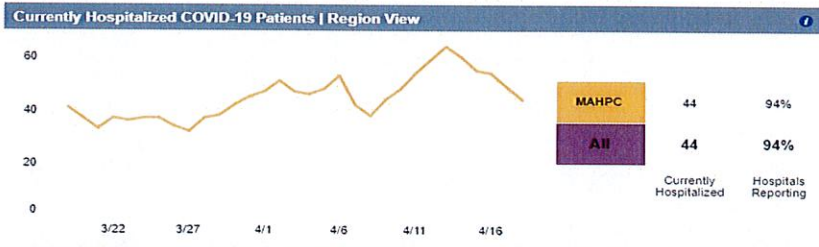
Cases of Variants of Concern in the United States†



Over 200 confirmed variant cases in North Carolina with dominant type being the U.K. strain. Variants will continue to increase in the coming weeks.

COVID 19 Vaccination Campaign


Emergency Services & Healthcare



- There are currently eight local hospitalizations for COVID in Henderson County (peak of 60 on January 4th)
- EMS is averaging two COVID transports daily (peak of 17 on January 13^h)
- EMS has been operating a Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) for additional COVID support since March 2020, this truck is being scaled back in April/May but will remain available to return to service as needed. The 911 center continues to assist in triaging calls for service for appropriate response
- 1st doses administered – 44,380 (37.9% of population)
- 2nd doses administered – 32,392 (27.7% of population)
- Vaccine supply is readily available
- Janssen vaccine (J & J) remains suspended
- Demand for vaccination appointments has rapidly declined
- Shifts of vaccine supply to other types of private sector options (grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.) now occurring

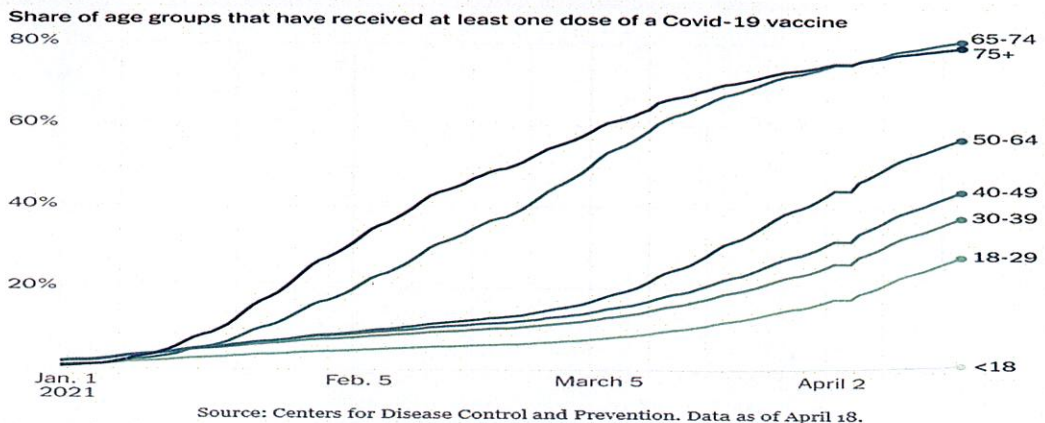
Henderson County Vaccine Update

All Groups **Updated April 19**



	Vaccines administered by the Henderson County Health Department	Henderson County residents vaccinated as a whole*
Partially Vaccinated	10,392	44,380
Fully Vaccinated	6,887	32,392

*Source: NCDHHS



- Extensive vaccination efforts have been possible thanks to a community rich with cooperation and collaboration



CLOSED SESSION

The Board is requested to go into Closed Session for the following reason:

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.
2. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.

Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(3) & (6), for the reasons set out in the Request for Board Action in the Board's agenda packet. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner McCall made the motion to go out of closed session and reconvene into open session. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lapsley reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Vice Chairman McCall made the motion to remove “Masks Encouraged” signs from all County buildings. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion for the Board to submit a letter to NC Governor Roy Cooper stating it is the opinion of the Board that is time for the Governor to end the executive order requiring mask requirements, open businesses and schools to full mode. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

SET PUBLIC HEARING ON CONDITIONAL ZONING APPLICATION – Add on

Russ Burrell stated Pursuant to Chapter 160D of the General Statutes, prior to consideration of any zoning map change, the Board must hold a public hearing. The Planning Board has completed its consideration of zoning change application R-2021-01-CD.

The Board is requested to set a public hearing. Due to anticipated public interest, it is suggested that the Thomas Auditorium on the campus of Blue Ridge Community College be the location of the hearing. In anticipation of this, availability of the Thomas Auditorium has been reserved for any of May 17, May 18, May 24 or May 25.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion that the Board set a public hearing on May 17, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., to be held at the Thomas Auditorium at Blue Ridge Community College, regarding rezoning application R-2021-01-CD. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS

NC Cooperative Extension Update

Dr. Kelly will provide an update to the Board on the work of the Henderson County Cooperative Extension office.



Programs Directed or Assisted by HCCE

- Youth Programs – 4-H
- Youth Day Camp
- Local Tailgate Markets
- Community Gardens
- Community Development Groups
- FRESH program at Carl Sandburg Home
- EFNEP at Dana Elementary
- Faithful Families
- Beekeepers Association
- Blue Ridge Apple Growers
- Embryology
- Local Beautification Projects
- Food Safety Training
- Pesticide Training
- Roadside Markets-BRFDMA
- Apple/Vegetable Schools
- Landscaper Trainings
- Master Gardener/Food Volunteer Training
- Bullington Gardens – BOOST, Hort Therapy
- Farm City Day



Recent Staff Changes


HCCE added three new staff members during 2020.

Keai Tilly— Became our new Administrative Assistant in February. She has proven to be a refreshing addition to our team and has very capably taken over for Ivy.

Annie Higgins— Became the BullingtonGardens Administrative Director in October. She is funded by BullingtonNCSU and Henderson County.

Isaac Wyatt – Became our new Countyfunded Ag Intern through our program with BRCC in December.



Recruiting the Best Talent

Plus, We Have Added Three New Staff in 2021.



Hannah Worrell – Transitioned to the role of 4-H Agent January 15. She is taking over the best 4-H program in the West District.



Courtney Clemons – Became our new 4-H Program Assistant on April 1 and replaces Hannah Worrell in that role.



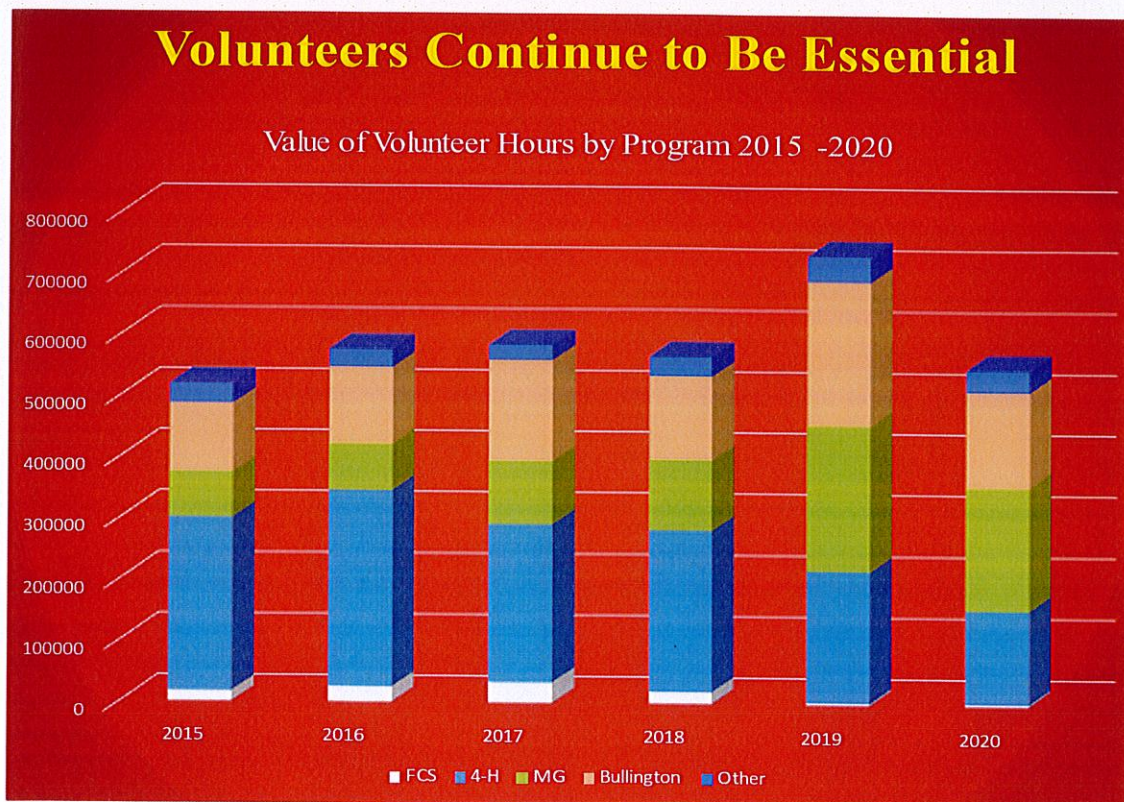
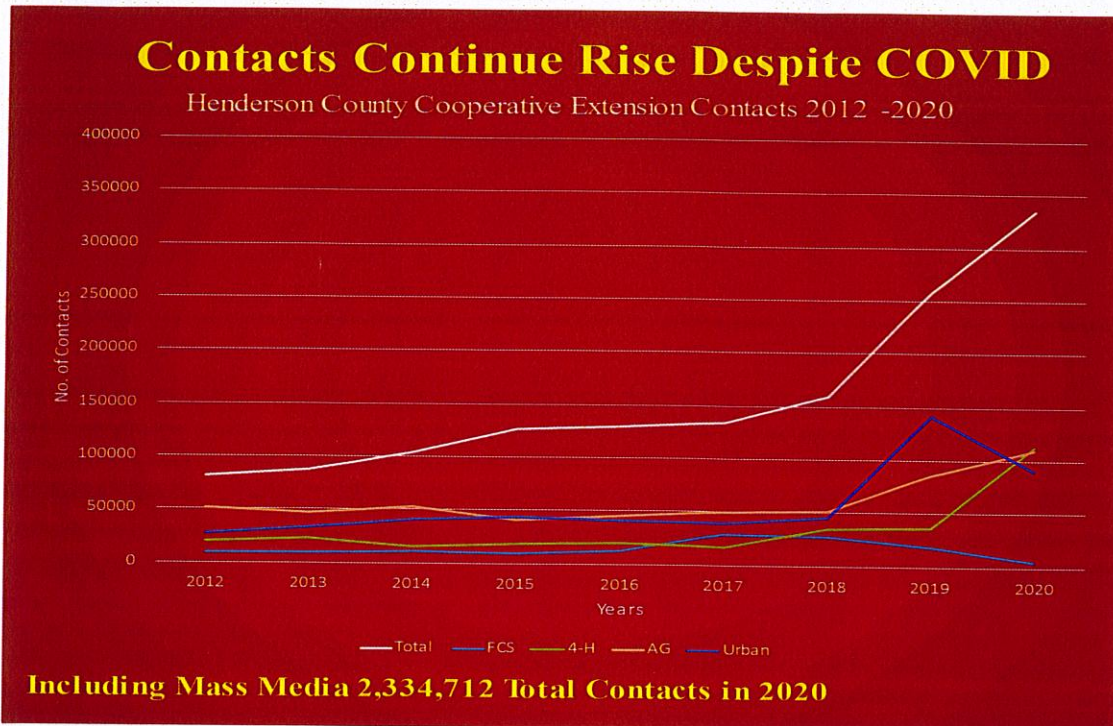
Melena Dillingham – Becomes our new Administrative Support Specialist on May 1.

Highlights for 2020 and Early 2021

- PPE Distribution to Ag Community and others
 - Over \$80K in PPE Distributed to farmers/farmworkers
- Connecting with local LatinX community
 - Working with True Ridge, Hola, El Centro on programs with nutrition and providing PPE
- Virtual Farm City Day
- Virtual 8Grade Agricultural Field Day
- Hiring six new staff members
- Nutrition education provided to 350 school children
- Working with local providers to get farmworkers vaccinated
- Staff recognized with 15 state, regional or national awards
- Generated \$285,188 in external funds – grants, gifts, etc.
- 540 licenses & recertifications for Pesticide and Food Safety
- New Farmer’s Market Coalition to work with local markets

Our Programs Continued to Grow Through Different Media

- HCCE held 263 meetings/programs/activities/consultations (down 86%).
- Those had 6,780 participants (down 63%)
- 88 print articles, radio, television shows (up 13%)
- 278 web posts (up 109%)
- Over 68,000 Facebook hits on our main page (up 78%)
- An additional 33,000 on our four other pages
- Over 73,360 web page views (up 249%)



Adding Value Through Volunteers

Volunteer Hours and Value for 2020

Program	# of volunteer hours	estimated value
Consumer Horticulture	7,902	\$200,947
4-H Youth Development	6,000	\$152,580
Family & Consumer Sciences	138	\$3,509
Bullington Gardens	6,125	\$155,759
Administration & Tree Fruit	1,427	\$36,111
Commercial Vegetables & Small Fruits	0	\$0
Total	21,592	\$549,085

***Value based on Federal Figure of \$25.43/hour.**

@Equivalent to ~11 Fulltime employees.

Cost per Contact Continues to Decline

Does Not Include Mass Media Contacts

Cost Per Contact by Year



4-H Youth Development Program

In 2020 Henderson County 4H had:

- 7 clubs, 2 of which were in public schools
- Over 240 total club members
- Conducted embryology on-line for most second graders after COVID closures.
- Increased contacts over 2019 due to keeping activities going on-line.

Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program

- Henderson County had 23 open projects in 2020.

Included:

- 19 main projects (projects “owned” by EMGV Program, e.g. Bountiful Harvest Community Garden)
- 9 side projects (projects that EMGV’s assisted with)

- Henderson County's EMGV program ranked #1 in the state in volunteer hours with a total of:
 - 115 volunteers
 - 7,902
 - 600 educational hours
 - Ranked 8th in NC in Volunteer Hours/Capita

Social/Mass Media Presence is More Important Since COVID 19

We currently have five Facebook pages to keep you informed. Our website traffic basically doubled in 2020. We have also developed a regular presence in mass media including newspaper, radio and television. In 2020, we had over two million mass media contacts.

Still Connecting Students to the Farm

- Our Annual School Tour went virtual this year
- Many teachers from the 4 middle schools used it – Rugby, Hendersonville, E. Flat Rock and Apple Valley
- The Virtual Tour included videos and interviews
- Exposed to technology & careers related to Agriculture
- Hoping to be back live in 2021
- Reviews have been overwhelmingly positive
- Goal to get all 8th graders involved
- Partial tour funding was included in the county budget
- <https://sites.google.com/ncsu.edu/hendersoncountygatour/home>

New and Upcoming Programs

Gardening in the Mountains

Steve Pettis has a new radio show on WTZQ on Saturday Mornings at 8:00 a.m. He will answer all your garden questions. Tune in each week for the latest garden information.

On Saturday May 1 and May 8 HC Cooperative Extension will help to sponsor the first annual Henderson County Garden Tour. Ten nurseries and garden centers from around the county will be highlighted just prior to Mother's Day to supply all your spring garden needs.

Farm City Day Returns

Farm City Day will return for its 60+ year on October 2, 2021. Pending no further setbacks in the COVID restrictions, the plan is to have a full-scale Farm City Day with all necessary precautions. Save the date for Henderson County's premier farm event.



NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Lapsley opened the floor for nominations.

1. Cemetery Advisory Committee – 2 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

2. EMS Peer Review Committee – 1 vac.

Chairman Lapsley nominated Robert Griffin for position #18.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the reappointment of Robert Griffin to position #18 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Governmental Financing Cooperation – 1 vac.

Commissioner Michael Edney nominated Steve Wyatt for position #2.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the reappointment of Steve Wyatt to position #2 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. Henderson County Planning Board – 3 vac.

Vice Chair McCall nominated Steve Dozier for position #2, Roy Ford III for position #4, and James Miller Jr. for position #7.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the reappointment of Steve Dozier to position #2, Roy Ford III to position #4, and James Miller Jr. to position #7 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

5. Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

6. Hendersonville Business Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

7. Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

8. Hendersonville Planning Board – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

9. Historic Resources Commission – 1 vac.

Chairman Lapsley nominated Matthew Ballance for position #2.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the appointment of Matthew Ballance to position #2 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

10. Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

11. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 1 vac.

Commissioner Edney nominated Libby Myers for position #7.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the appointment of Libby Myers to position #7 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

12. Laurel Park Planning Board – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

13. Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation and Development Program – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

14. Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 13 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

15. WCCA Board of Directors (Western Carolina Community Action) – 1 vac.

Commissioner Edney nominated Claudia Maldonado for position #1.

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the appointment of Claudia Maldonado to position #1 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioner updates include current and ongoing items of interest in the County and allow commissioners an opportunity to bring the full Board up to date on issues that occur between meetings. Commissioners may also use this opportunity to report on related committee work and assignments.

Topics for this meeting are as follows:

American Rescue Plan Act

Chairman Lapsley had requested the inclusion of this update, to discuss American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Staff Research:

\$22,770,000 is the estimated allocation amount for Henderson County. In addition to the County's allocation, municipalities will receive their own allocations directly from the Federal government.

Funds will be distributed by the U.S. Department of Treasury, and the deadline to spend the funds is December 31, 2024. The County will receive the first half of the funding no later than 60 days after enactment, and the second payment will come no earlier than 12 months after the first payment.

Local governments, including counties, will be required to provide "periodic reports" providing a detailed account of the use of the funds. If a state, county or municipality does not comply with any provision of the bill, they will be required to repay the U.S. Treasury an equal amount to the funds used in violation.

Guidance from the US Department of Treasury on specific provisions as mentioned above has not yet been issued. Staff has been in contact with both the NCACC and NACO and understand that they expect that guidance to be released in mid to late May.

Chairman Lapsley anticipates several nonprofit organizations will apply. Staff has been directed to develop an application and have it ready once we have the guidelines on the allocation of funds. Chairman Lapsley has offered possible joint ventures with the municipalities with with American Rescue Plan Act. He also shared with LGCCA that the County is in early stages of the Comprehensive Plan.

Vice-Chair McCall is collaborating with the schools on water safety.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATES

General Assembly updates include current and ongoing items of interest to the County related to the North Carolina General Assembly.

Megan Powell provided an update regarding House Bill 489 Regulation of Erosion.

Amy Brantley stated Natalie Berry is looking at the Legislation. Staff is looking at passing the information on to our representatives.

Amy Brantley stated that there is no movement with House Bill 119 at this time.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

The County Manager provided the Board of Commissioners with a brief update concerning any issues that should be brought to the attention of the Board.

ADJOURN

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to adjourn at 2:15 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Attest:

Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board
Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board in training

William Lapsley, Chairman

During the April 21, 2021 regular meeting, the Board enacted the following:

2021.25 Budget Amendment – Phone System Project

2021.26 Etowah Trail Project

2021.27 LDC Text Amendments (#TX-2021-02) Related to Shooting Ranges

Henderson County Board of Commissioners

1 Historic Courthouse Square • Suite 1 • Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4808 • Fax (828) 692-9855 • www.hendersoncountync.gov

William G. Lapsley
Chairman
Rebecca K. McCall
Vice-Chairman



J. Michael Edney
Daniel J. Andreotta
David H. Hill

April 22, 2021

Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor
State of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-0301

RE: COVID 19 Governor's Executive Orders

Dear Governor Cooper:

On Wednesday, April 21, 2021, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session and reviewed the status of the COVID 19 pandemic and how it has impacted our County to this date. After review of all the pertinent data it has become apparent to us that the continuance of further restrictions on the personal liberties of our citizens and business owners is no longer justified. Accordingly, the Board has advised the County staff to operate in the following manner from this date forward:

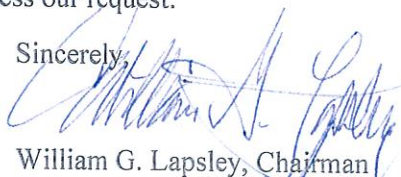
- The restriction for all persons entering County owned buildings to wear a mask has been removed. Any citizen who wishes to wear a mask while inside a County building may do so, but this is strictly voluntary. It is acceptable for any County staff member who wishes to wear a mask while inside the building to do so but will not be a requirement.

The Commissioners request that you act expeditiously on the following executive order measures to return the freedoms and liberty that has been taken from our citizens for over a year:

- Remove the requirement for all students, teachers, and staff of the Henderson County Public School system to continue to wear masks. If a student, teacher and/or staff member should choose to wear a mask that is fine – but it is their choice and not mandatory. (Our data shows that 80% of citizens over the age of 65 have been vaccinated as have all teachers who chose the option for vaccination).
- Remove the requirement for privately owned businesses to have their employees and/or patrons to wear masks. The business owner should have the right to either require the employees and/or patrons to wear the mask or not. The government's role, in our opinion, in this matter has long since expired.
- Remove the restrictions placed on private businesses for limited occupancy. These restrictions, in our opinion, are not having any significant impact on the spread of the virus in our community. Continued limitations on our business community have had and will continue to have a substantial negative economic impact.

State and Local Government has done its job in protecting the overall community population from this deadly virus. There is no further need to prolong the restrictions on our personal liberty and freedoms. Please reconsider your position on this matter and take appropriate actions to address our request.

Sincerely,



William G. Lapsley, Chairman



RESOLUTION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. General Statute §160D, Article 1, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners exercises regulations relating to development within the County's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners (Board) adopted the Land Development Code (LDC) on September 19, 2007 and has amended the LDC to address new and changing issues;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to update and revise the regulations of the LDC; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Department and Planning Board provided recommendations regarding the proposed text amendments with case #TX-2021-02; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. General Statute §160D-601, the Planning Department provided the prescribed public notice and the Board held the required public hearing on April 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, N.C. General Statute §160D-605 requires the Board to adopt a statement of consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan (CCP); and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. That the Board reviewed the proposed text amendments related to (#TX-2021-02 to the Land Development Code) and finds that it reasonable, in the public interest and it is consistent with the principles and goals of County Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Management Strategy located therein; and
2. That the Board determines that the proposed text amendments provides for the sound administration of the LDC while balancing property rights and promoting reasonable growth within the County; and
3. That this Resolution shall be retained in the Office of the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

THIS the 21st day of April, 2021.

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: 

WILLIAM LAPSLEY, Chairman
Henderson County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


TERESA L. WILSON
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

[COUNTY SEAL]

**LINE-ITEM TRANSFER REQUEST
HENDERSON COUNTY**



Department: FINANCE

Please make the following line-item transfers:

What expense line-item is to be increased?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
<u>115980-598040</u>	<u>TRANSFER TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND</u>	<u>\$650,000</u>
<u>405400-552000-1601</u>	<u>CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY</u>	<u>\$650,000</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

What expense line-item is to be decreased? Or what additional revenue is now expected?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
<u>115422-552000</u>	<u>IT - CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY</u>	<u>\$650,000</u>
<u>404400-403500-1601</u>	<u>TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>\$650,000</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Justification: *Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.*
 TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FOR THE COUNTY-WIDE PHONE SYSTEM PROJECT (\$650,000), IN ANTICIPATION OF THE PROJECT CROSSING FISCAL YEARS. APPROVED BY THE BOC 4.21.2021.

 Authorized by Department Head 4.21.2021
 Date

 Authorized by Budget Office _____
 Date

 Authorized by County Manager _____
 Date

For Budget Use Only

Batch # _____

BA # _____

Batch Date _____

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF HENDERSON

LEASE EXTENSION

This LEASE EXTENSION is made as of July 1, 2020, by and between the County of Henderson, a body corporate and politic of the State of North Carolina (the "County") and Hola Community Arts, a North Carolina non-profit corporation (the "Tenant").

Facts

A. The parties entered into a Commercial Lease Agreement (the "Lease") dated October 8, 2019, under the terms of which the County leased certain premises to the Tenant in return for certain consideration.

B. Both parties have been satisfied with the circumstances of the performance of the Lease, and wish for it to continue, on the terms stated herein.

Agreement

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein and in the Lease, the parties agree as follows:

1. The term of the Lease, as stated in paragraph 11 of the Lease, is extended for a period of one year, until June 30, 2022.


2. Except as modified hereby the Lease remains in full force and effect.

Executed by the parties with full authority this the 21 day of April, 2021, but effective as of the date first written above.

COUNTY OF HENDERSON

HOLA COMMUNITY ARTS

By: _____


County Manager

By: _____

President