

DRAFT MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 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, Interim County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley, Attorney Russ Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

Also present were: Finance Director Samantha Reynolds, County Engineer Marcus Jones, Health Director Steve Smith, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Senior Planner Janna Bianculli, Code Enforcement Director Matt Champion, Recreation Director Carleen Dixon, Parks and Recreations staff members Bruce Gilliam, Melanie Adams, Bridgette Galloway, Lindsay Pressley and Matt Russell, HR Director Karen Ensley, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Chief Deputy Vanessa Gilbert, Emergency Management/Rescue Coordinator Jimmy Brissie, Internal Auditor/Budget Manager Megan Powell, Budget Analyst Sonya Flynn, Tax Assessor Darlene Burgess, PIO Kathy Finotti – videotaping, Deputy Christopher Stepp as security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

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

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Commissioner Andreotta.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**2021.54 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION OFFICIALS AWARD**

The (NACPRO) recognizes and honors excellence in parks and recreation at the county, regional, and special district level throughout the nation. NACPRO has recognized the Henderson County Recreation Department with a 2021 NACPRO Award “in recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of Parks and Recreation” for the activity bags the department developed for distribution during COVID.

Commissioner Hill presented Carleen Dixon and staff The National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials Award.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

1. David Nock spoke in opposition to the COVID vaccine.
2. Darcey Rose spoke in regard to constitutional rights and the COVID vaccine.
3. Phillip Ortiz spoke in opposition to the COVID vaccine.
4. Kathy Yurista spoke in opposition to the COVID vaccine.
5. Paul Weichselbach spoke regarding the Health Department’s COVID response.
6. Carolyn Widener spoke in regards to health policies.
7. Sheila Wildfever spoke about health policies and freedom.
8. Elizabeth Holshue and her son Bryson Holshue spoke in opposition to mask requirements in schools.
9. Kathy Johnson spoke in opposition to masks and the COVID vaccine.
10. Bobby Roland spoke about medical misinformation and the hypocrisy of the media.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Motion:

Commissioner Andreotta made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVED:

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Draft minutes were presented for board review and approval of the following meetings: August 2, 2021 and Special Called Meeting August 3, 2021.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the minutes of August 2, 2021 and August 3, 2021.

TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT

The attached report from the office of the Tax Collector was provided for the Board’s information.

Please find outlined below collections information through August 9, 2021 for 2021 real and personal property bills yet to be mailed. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

2021 Beginning Charge:	\$86,102,677.38
Discoveries & Imm. Irreg.:	\$126,730.63
Releases & Refunds:	(\$51,877.61)
<u>Net Charge:</u>	<u>\$86,177,530.40</u>
Unpaid Taxes:	\$85,629,239.36
Amount Collected:	\$548,291.04



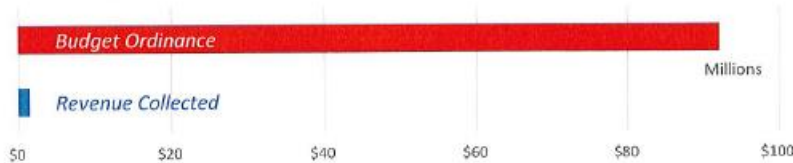
Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$863,012.99
Unpaid Taxes:	\$1,265.68
Amount Collected:	\$861,747.31

99.85%

Henderson County FY22 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$91,127,728.00	\$1,410,038.35
Prior Years:	\$980,000.00	\$154,781.02
Budget Total:	\$92,107,728.00	YTD Revenue: \$1,564,819.37



VAYA HEALTH - QUARTERLY FISCAL MONITORING REPORT (FMR) FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

N.C.G.S. 122C-117(c) requires the staff of the local area mental health authority to provide the County Finance Officer with the quarterly Fiscal Monitoring Report (FMR) within 30 days of the end of the quarter. The County Finance Officer is then required to provide the FMR to the Board of Commissioners at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. The attached FMR for Vaya Health was received by the County Finance Officer on August 2, 2021.

Fiscal Monitoring Report

LME / MCO NAME: VAYA HEALTH FOR THE PERIOD ENDING: 8/30/2021 (Preliminary - Unaudited)
 # of month in the fiscal year (July = 1, August = 2, . . . , June = 12) 12

1. REPORT OF BUDGET VS. ACTUAL	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	PRIOR YEAR		CURRENT YEAR 2020-2021			
	2019-2020		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BALANCE	ANNUALIZED
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	YR-TO-DATE	(Col. 3-4)	PERCENTAGE
REVENUE						
Interest Earned	350,000	312,941	50,000	45,255	4,745	90.51%
Appropriation of Fund Balance	5,096,414	-	1,992,790	-	1,992,790	-
Other Local	1,022,900	544,824	1,260,724	890,541	370,083	70.65%
Total Local Funds	6,469,314	857,765	3,303,514	935,896	2,367,618	28.33%
County Appropriations (by County, Includes ABC Funds):						
Alexander County	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	100.00%
Alleghany County	115,483	115,483	109,709	109,709	-	100.00%
Ashe County	189,566	189,566	189,566	189,566	-	100.00%
Avery County	89,600	89,600	89,600	89,600	-	100.00%
Buncombe County	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	-	100.00%
Caldwell County	121,881	122,139	123,438	125,017	(1,579)	101.28%
Cherokee County	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	-	100.00%
Clay County	15,000	-	15,000	15,000	-	100.00%
Graham County	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	-	100.00%
Haywood County	104,950	103,742	105,500	106,867	(1,367)	101.30%
Henderson County	528,612	528,612	528,612	528,612	-	100.00%
Jackson County	123,081	123,081	123,081	123,081	-	100.00%
Macon County	106,623	106,623	106,623	106,623	-	100.00%
Madison County	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	100.00%
McDowell County	67,856	67,856	67,856	67,856	-	100.00%
Mitchell County	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	-	100.00%
Polk County	78,535	79,125	79,191	79,211	(20)	100.02%
Swain County	27,219	27,192	28,500	28,769	(269)	100.94%
Transylvania County	99,261	99,261	99,261	99,261	-	100.00%
Watauga County	171,194	171,194	171,194	171,194	-	100.00%
Wilkes County	269,993	270,129	234,112	236,472	(2,360)	101.01%
Yancey County	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-	100.00%
Total County Funds	2,913,854	2,895,603	2,876,243	2,881,837	(5,594)	100.19%
DMH/DD/SAS State and Federal Funding	86,995,234	82,608,687	97,305,878	91,177,741	6,128,137	93.70%
DHB Capitation Funding (Medicaid)	335,491,557	332,647,880	390,822,192	391,198,353	(365,161)	100.09%
DHB Risk Reserve Funding (Medicaid)	4,785,200	4,938,000	5,951,607	6,011,422	(59,815)	101.01%
All Other State/Federal Funds	1,132,000	1,134,341	1,390,000	1,498,087	(108,087)	107.78%
Total State, Federal and Medicaid Funds	428,403,991	421,328,908	495,469,677	489,875,603	5,594,074	102.66%
TOTAL REVENUE	437,787,159	425,085,275	501,649,435	493,693,334	7,955,098	98.41%
EXPENDITURES:						
Administration	55,054,417	49,309,356	72,725,697	51,423,998	21,301,699	70.71%
LME Provided Services (Service Support)	1,986,847	1,736,773	2,266,624	1,934,182	332,442	85.33%
Provider Payments (State Funds)	61,941,409	60,228,930	58,711,464	57,448,412	1,263,052	97.85%
Provider Payments (Federal Funds)	17,807,926	15,501,979	32,434,186	28,305,933	4,128,253	87.27%
Provider Payments (County Funds)	2,913,854	2,897,259	2,876,243	2,825,937	50,306	98.25%
Provider Payments (Medicaid)	297,213,865	288,551,773	331,537,697	330,383,738	1,153,959	99.65%
Permanent Supported Housing and Back at Home Payments	858,840	834,804	1,097,524	913,702	183,822	83.25%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	437,787,159	419,060,873	501,649,435	473,235,902	28,413,533	94.34%
Net Income or (Loss) (from Operations and Risk Reserve)		6,024,402		20,457,432		
Less Risk Reserve Revenue		(4,938,000)		(6,011,422)		
NET INCOME OR (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS		1,086,402		14,446,010		
2. FUND BALANCE						
Restrictied Fund Balance for Risk Reserve		49,540,249		55,551,671		
Restrictied Fund Balance - State Statute, Prepaids & Investment in Fixed Assets		11,817,686		9,543,249		
Unrestrictied Fund Balance (Including Board Commitments)		18,871,086		35,591,534		
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		80,229,021		100,686,454		
3. CURRENT CASH POSITION						
Current Cash in Bank (Including Risk Reserve)				144,562,769		
Less Risk Reserve Cash				(55,551,671)		
TOTAL OPERATING CASH				89,011,098		*See additional Document
4. ESTIMATED SERVICES INCURRED BUT NOT REPORTED/PAID (IBNR)				27,729,128		

Motion:
 I move the Board of Commissioners approve the Vaya Health Fiscal Monitoring Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2021.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – REQUEST FOR PROJECT POSITION

The EMS department has identified a need for a project position for staffing needs while a current full time EMS employee is on military leave with the Army National Guard. The deployment is anticipated to last approximately one-year, exact date of deployment is to be determined. This position will work on an ambulance, back filling the opening created by the military deployment.

The request is for one full time Paramedic / Advanced EMT that would be deemed as a project position. The cost of the position would be covered by funds approved in the EMS budget which will not be utilized by the staff member being deployed. The position would end when the military deployment is over. The staff member filling the project position will either being absorbed into an available full-time position or the EMS Auxiliary.

Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners approve the addition of one Paramedic/advanced EMT project position for staffing needs due to a military deployment.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – REQUEST FOR COVID PROJECT POSITIONS

The Henderson County Department of Public Health has identified a need for expanded core capacity to support long term response activities for COVID-19. These needs include vaccine management and distribution, central coordination of case investigations, testing oversight/reporting and ongoing support to long term care facilities, schools, daycare centers and other institutions for testing, reporting and clinical guidance.

The request is for 2 public health nurses, 1 medical office assistant and 2 administrative assistant positions (Public Health Nurse II's, Medical Office Assistant, Administrative Assistant I and Administrative Assistant II classifications respectively) that would be deemed project positions. The cost of the positions would be covered by funds afforded specifically for COVID-19 response through the NC Department of Health and Human Services including the recent Agreement Addendum for a School Health Liaison in the amount of \$115,000. The positions would end when there is no longer a need, or the funds are exhausted. No local appropriations are required.

Motion:

I move the board approve the addition of two public health nurses, one medical office assistant and two administrative assistant project positions for COVID-19 response.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT– REQUEST FOR FAMILY CONNECTS PROGRAM PROJECT POSITION

The Henderson County Department of Public Health, in conjunction with Smart Start Partnership for Children, will be implementing the Family Connects program. This program is a community-based, public health-oriented intervention designed to promote infant and parent well-being and avert negative outcomes, such as child maltreatment. Family Connects provides support for parents caring for newborn babies and is available to all families with a new baby born in Henderson County. The attachment provides some additional information about the program and the position. Despite the title of home visiting nurse, the initial interactions will be virtual based on guidance from Duke University.

The request is for one (1) public health nurse position (Public Health Nurse II classification) that would be deemed a project position. The cost of this position would be covered by the Family Connects grant. No local appropriations are required.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the addition of one (1) public health nurse project position for the family Connects Program.

2021.55 BUDGET AMENDMENT– ECUSTA TRAIL BRIDGE LOAN

The Board is requested to ratify a Budget Amendment to fund a bridge loan to Conserving Carolina for the acquisition of the Ecusta rail line corridor. A Budget Amendment was originally approved by the Board at the May 19, 2021 meeting, when the closing was anticipated to be during FY 2021. With the purchase delayed until FY 2022, a new budget was required to be established for the purchase.

The organization closed on the property on August 12, 2021. The County will be reimbursed in full by Conserving Carolina upon receiving the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant from NCDOT, which was approved by the NCDOT Board of Transportation at their May 6, 2021 meeting.

Motion:

Chairman Edney made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS**2021.56 PUBLIC HEARING TO CLOSE PORTION OF OLD HENDERSONVILLE ROAD RIGHT OF WAY**

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to go into Public Hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Planning and Property Addressing staff received the attached petition to abandon NCDOT maintenance and close a portion of Old Hendersonville Road right-of-way. Under North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) 153A-241, counties have the power to close any public road or easement not within a city, except public roads or easements for public roads under control of the Department of Transportation. To close any road, the Board must:

- Vote to adopt a resolution declaring its intent to close the public road or easement.
- Call and notice a public hearing on closing the road or easement, with notice “reasonably calculated to give full and fair disclosure of the proposed closing to be published once a week for three successive weeks before the hearing, a copy of the resolution to be sent by registered or certified mail to each owner as shown on the county tax records of property adjoining the public road or easement who did not join in the request to have the road or easement closed, and a notice of the closing and public hearing to be prominently posted in at least two places along the road or easement”.
- Hold the public hearing, where the Board must “hear all interested persons who appear with respect to whether the closing would be detrimental to the public interest or to any individual property rights”.
- Then, if the Board “is satisfied that closing the public road or easement is not contrary to the public interest and (in the case of a road) that no individual owning property in the vicinity of the road or in the subdivision in which it is located would thereby be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and egress to his property, the Board may adopt an order closing the road or easement.”
- File a copy of the Board’s order with the Register of Deeds.

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney to go out of Public Hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board approve closure of the rights-of way and certify the Order of Closure. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

2021.57 PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION SECTION OF THE LDC (#TX-2021-03)

Motion:

Commissioner Lapsley made the motion to go into Public Hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

At the request of the Site Development Director/Project Engineer, Natalie Berry, administrative text amendments to the Flood Damage Prevention section are needed. These changes are related to the model ordinance as a result of the adoption of NCGS 160D. The Board of Commissioner adopted the 160D amendments to the Land Development Code, but there are additional administrative amendments necessary to comply the NC's model ordinance as it relates to the 160D changes.

The Planning Board discussed the proposed text amendments at its meeting on June 17, 2021 and voted unanimously to send forward a favorable recommendation on the proposed amendments as attached.

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to go out of Public Hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion that the Board adopt the attached resolution regarding the consistency with the CCP, and that the Board adopt the proposed text amendments to the LDC (#TX-2021-03) related to Flood Damage Prevention as discussed. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

HENDERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM RENOVATIONS

At the Board's August 2, 2021 meeting, the Board was presented an update from PFA Architects on options related to the renovation of the stadium at Hendersonville High School. There was discussion of the options, including issues with the lighting. The Board was requested to continue the discussion, and direct Staff accordingly.

Vice-Chair McCall referred to the options that were presented to the Board during the August 2, 2021, regularly scheduled meeting from PFA regarding the Athletic Field Options. She shared her concerns with the lighting at the field and how moving, or centering, the field would affect the current lighting. She explained she had obtained the original drawing and design files from General Electric of the current lighting that was installed in 2010. She then introduced Michael Owens, a retired Application Engineering Manager from General Electric, to explain how moving the field would impact current lighting. Mr. Owens presented slides that showed the original design and layout of the field lighting. (Slides presented are attached to these minutes.) Mr. Owens explained each slide and the process of creating the design with field conditions at that time. He continued to say moving the field 8 yards would allow the use of the current lighting design, and the lights would only require re-aiming fixtures to the adjusted field location. This would be an acceptable design. Vice-Chair McCall asked Mr. Owens what his recommendation would be. He stated, in his opinion, the option that includes moving the field 8 yards is the best option.

Vice-Chair McCall then asked Hendersonville High School principal, Bobby Wilkins, to give his opinion on leveling the field. He said he did not like the idea of leveling the field. He stated that option A or B would be the best decision. The slope in the field is something that has been present for 100 years and it has served the school well.

David Berry presented the Board with a proposal from Vannoy Construction that included the "all in" costs for both Options A and B. (The proposal presented is attached to these minutes.) The proposal included Options A and B with the Architect and Engineering fees included. Figures were provided that included each option with storm drainage and each option without storm drainage. The figures were as follows:

These figures include the cost for the repair of the storm water running under the track and field.

New Turf Field and Track – Option A	\$2,224,350.00
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New Turf Field and Track – Option B	\$2,218,013.00
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These figures do not include the cost of the repairs to the storm water running under the track and field.

New Turf Field and Track – Option A	\$2,047,825.00
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New Turf Field and Track – Option B	\$2,041,488.00
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David Berry referred to John Mitchell to detail the deduction calculated in the costs. John Mitchell explained Vannoy was asked to provide an “all-in” – “turnkey number” inclusive of all costs associated with each option minus the cost for the storm drainage. Recent discussions have revealed that those costs may be eligible for the American Rescue Program funds. The value of this work is \$176,525.00 and was deducted from original fees presented.

Vice-Chair McCall stated if the field moves only 8 yards the need to address the bleachers would not be a factor. However, if the field is moved 15 yards, the bleachers would need to be addressed. The bleachers, restrooms and concession stand could be a project that is addressed later with help from the school’s Booster Club. Vice-Chair McCall continued to say her main concern is for the children and their ability to play on the new athletic field next football season. She states she is a “steward of the taxpayers’ money”, and the county has already committed to one million dollars to replace the turf field. All options involved have been considered.

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to proceed with option A. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote. Commissioner Edney was the nay vote.

TRAFFIC ON SIGNAL HILL ROAD

Commissioner Andreotta requested the inclusion of this update to discuss traffic on Signal Hill Road and Berkeley Road.

Commissioner Andreotta detailed the problem with large truck traffic that travel Signal Hill Road and Berkeley Road. First Sergeant Greg Reynolds with the NC Highway Patrol took questions from the Board regarding accidents/incidents involving large truck traffic on Signal Hill and Berkeley Road.

Motion:

Commissioner Andreotta made the motion that the Board pass a resolution to petition the NC Department of Transportation to restrict the traffic allowed to use Signal Hill Road and Berkeley Road to the Stop sign at the Kimberly Clark Plant. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UPDATE

David Berry provided the Board with an update on County construction projects. 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.

HENDERSON COUNTY 2045 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Autumn Radcliff provided the Board an update on progress regarding the 2045 Comprehensive Plan.

The website www.hendersoncounty2045.com is up and available for citizens to monitor progress and complete the community survey which will be open until December. Planning will have a strong staff presence at the Henderson County Apple Festival to answer questions and encourage citizens to complete the community survey.



HENDERSON COUNTY 2045

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

PHASE 1

The comprehensive plan is a detailed plan that will take 18 months to complete. The process is broken into three phases. Phase 1 is anticipated to run through the end of 2021.

AUGUST 2021 UPDATES

WEBSITE - WWW.HENDERSONCOUNTY2045.COM

The County's 2045 Comprehensive Plan has its own website! The website is linked from the County's homepage and on the Planning Department's page.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The survey is live online and will also be mailed out in August to real and personal property owners in the County tax bill. The survey will remain open until December.

SOCIAL MEDIA PUSH AND ONLINE PRESCENCE

In coordination with the PIO, staff created a social media push to encourage community members to take the survey. A press release is being prepared and staff is working with the Library Director for customer access to the survey.

MEETING IN A BOX

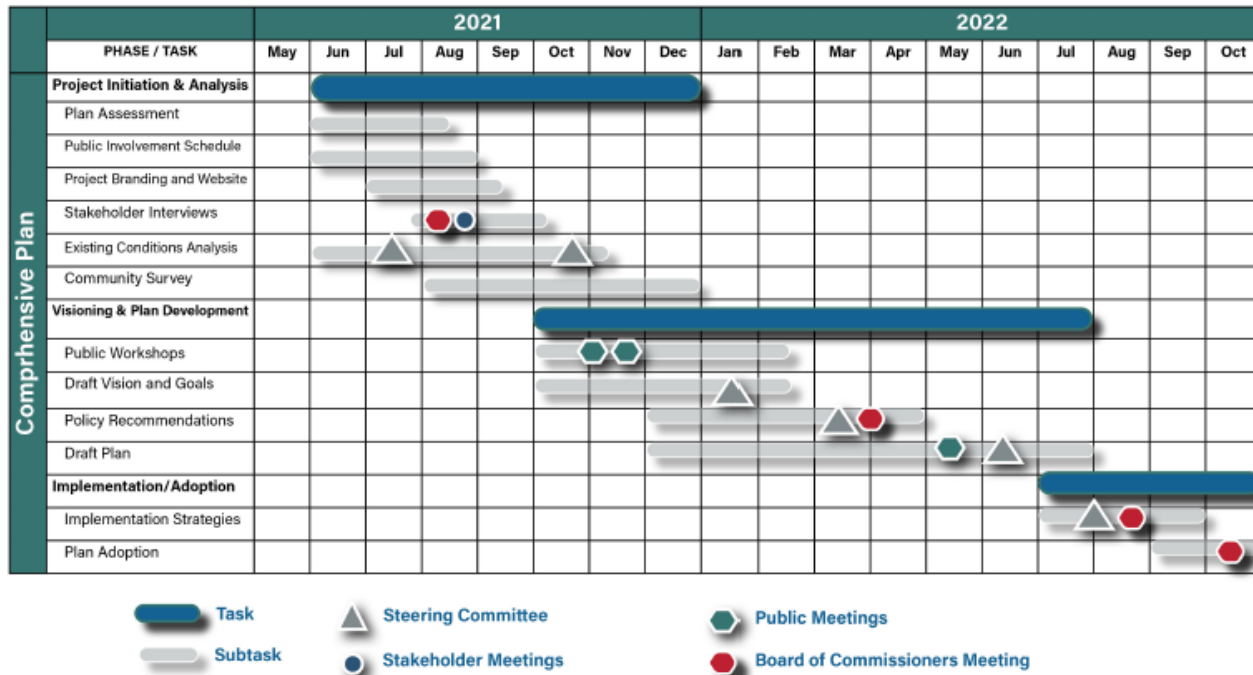
Interested neighborhood groups, churches, or just a group of friends can conduct their own informational session about the comprehensive plan with a "meeting in a box". A video presentation is available with a survey and private link to an interactive mapping activity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Staff is working in conjunction with the Environmental Coordinator to have information and surveys available at the Apple Festival.
- Staff will host a series of meetings throughout the community. A calendar of these meetings will be posted on the plan's website later this month.
- The consultants will interview over 50 identified stakeholders for their input on the plan in late August. The Planning Board, serving as the plan's steering committee, will also participate in these interviews.

Schedule

We anticipate the following schedule for development and adoption of the Henderson County Comprehensive Plan:



HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CHROMEBOOK DISCUSSION

Dr. John Bryant provided the Board with an update on the study requested regarding Henderson County Public Schools and their continued use of Google Chromebooks. Dr. Bryant included context of the conversations regarding Chromebooks and how they are operational to the school system. The school board is currently in year six of an initiative that the Board, at that time, supported - “Project Empower Initiative”. That was a \$600,000 investment the Board made as it related to the purchase of individual devices that would support students and school system operations, and the continuation of the allocation of those dollars is for the sustainability of that program. The continued investment and the replacement costs over a six-year period would be approximately \$3.6 million and would allow the school system the ability to supply specific devices for students and staff. That initial investment allowed the schools to be as responsive as they were when the COVID pandemic first began in March 2020. Henderson County was one of the few school systems in the state of North Carolina that was able to provide a “fully virtual” option just days after schools were closed, because the devices and resources were available. This allowed every child that needed a device to be provided with one and with internet. Many school systems statewide were waiting in line for the ability to provide devices or instruction. There are approximately 15,000 Chromebook devices that are utilized currently in our school system. The alternative would be a device that will utilize a Microsoft Office platform. Chromebooks right now are about \$280.00” all in” for a school system at state level pricing. A comparable device that is supported by Microsoft would be about \$500.00 per device. The annual subscriptions for Google software licensure agreements are approximately \$36,000 annually and Microsoft platforms would be approximately \$210,000 annually.

Commissioner Edney asked Dr. Bryant to develop a plan to start phasing in the Microsoft devices at the High School level so there would be two options when budget discussion begins for the next fiscal year.

Chairman Lapsley requested to move the Closed Session up in the agenda and allow for a lunch break after which the Board meeting would resume.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(5). All voted in favor and the motion carried 5- 0.

Chairman Lapsley called the meeting back to order at 1:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR A SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE PROJECT POSITION

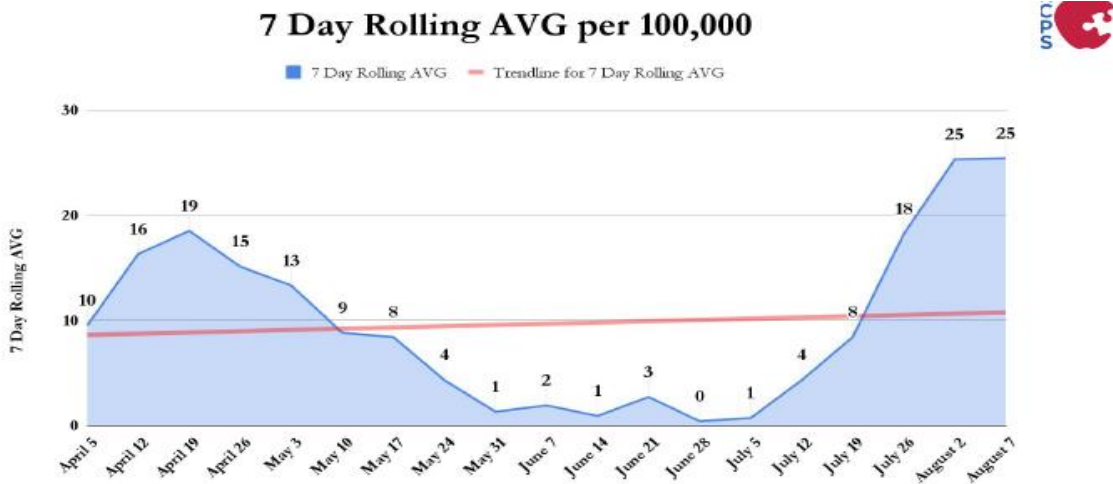
On August 2, 2021, during a special called meeting, the Henderson County Board of Public Education made a decision to pursue additional full time school nurse positions based in the Department of Public Health to support COVID-19 response duties within the school system. The decision centered on every school achieving a full-time nurse which would require 5 additional nurse positions (Public Health Nurse II positions).

Dr. John Bryant, School Superintendent had indicated to the board that their Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds could be utilized to pay for the positions. The arrangement would require a specific memorandum of agreement to delineate the expectations and method of reimbursement to Henderson County.

The positions would end when there is no longer a need, or the funds are exhausted. No local appropriations are required.

The following is the presentation provided. Please note the presentation is from an HCPS Board Meeting held August 2, 2021. Some verbiage in the presentation has changed due to updates in the status of COVID-19 cases since the meeting date.

Return to Learn Update – Henderson County Board of Education



Local Health Information – Henderson County, North Carolina

Research from the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGH) Data indicates risk levels that are calculated based on daily cases per 100,000 populations with a seven-day rolling average.

NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (2021/08/18)

County	Current Tier (Updated 8/18/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive*	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (8/2/21)
Carrboro County	Low/Green	7.28	1.1%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Catawba County	Significant Yellow	58.40	3.7%	Moderate Impact	Significant Yellow
Davidson County	Significant Yellow	103.80	6.1%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow
David County	Low/Green	14.70	3.6%	Low Impact	Significant Yellow
DuPage County	Significant Yellow	47.70	2.8%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	42.80	1.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgemont County	Moderate/Light Yellow	91.30	3.8%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	81.70	3.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant Yellow	88.70	4.0%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Gaston County	Substantial Orange	111.80	3.6%	Moderate Impact	Substantial Orange
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	43.30	3.8%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Graham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	209.10	1.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greenville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	14.80	0.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	189.80	3.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant Yellow	81.80	2.9%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Halter County	Moderate/Light Yellow	108.00	3.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harrick County	Significant Yellow	108.80	5.2%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Haywood County	Moderate/Light Yellow	86.30	4.8%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Henderson County	Low/Green	18.31	2.7%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Moderate/Light Yellow	18.80	0.8%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Substantial Yellow	116.80	7.2%	Medium Impact	Substantial Orange



As of June 10, 2021

NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (2021/06/24)

County	Current Tier (Updated 6/24/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive*	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (6/2/21)
Carrboro County	Moderate/Light Yellow	14.40	1.5%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Catawba County	Significant Yellow	78.40	2.3%	Moderate Impact	Significant Yellow
Davidson County	Moderate/Light Yellow	88.30	3.5%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow
David County	Low/Green	37.30	2.0%	Low Impact	Low/Green
DuPage County	Significant Yellow	44.30	2.6%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	25.30	0.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgemont County	Significant Yellow	52.50	2.4%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	42.60	2.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant Yellow	53.00	1.5%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Gaston County	Significant Yellow	81.10	3.0%	Moderate Impact	Substantial Orange
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	34.80	2.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Graham County	Significant Yellow	213.30	0.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greenville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	13.30	0.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	123.40	2.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant Yellow	38.30	1.3%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Halter County	Moderate/Light Yellow	48.00	2.5%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harrick County	Significant Yellow	64.00	3.4%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Haywood County	Low/Green	88.30	1.8%	Low Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Henderson County	Low/Green	37.80	1.5%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Low/Green	8.48	1.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Moderate/Light Yellow	63.40	3.0%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow



As of June 24, 2021

NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (2021/07/22)

County	Current Tier (Updated 7/22/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive*	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (7/2/21)
Carrboro County	Moderate/Light Yellow	54.80	2.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Catawba County	Significant Yellow	181.80	6.8%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Davidson County	Moderate/Light Yellow	92.80	3.8%	Low Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
David County	Significant Yellow	137.40	7.1%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
DuPage County	Significant Yellow	186.80	7.6%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	72.20	2.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgemont County	Moderate/Light Yellow	133.80	4.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	58.80	2.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant Yellow	41.80	2.8%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Gaston County	Significant Yellow	77.10	4.0%	Moderate Impact	Significant Yellow
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	68.50	3.0%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Graham County	Substantial Orange	284.30	10.3%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow
Greenville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	51.30	1.1%	Slight Impact	Significant Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	78.80	1.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant Yellow	62.80	2.4%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow
Halter County	Moderate/Light Yellow	34.80	3.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harrick County	Significant Yellow	148.80	7.7%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Haywood County	Moderate/Light Yellow	84.70	4.8%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Henderson County	Low/Green	88.80	2.0%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Significant Yellow	38.80	5.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Substantial Orange	184.80	6.0%	Medium Impact	Significant Yellow



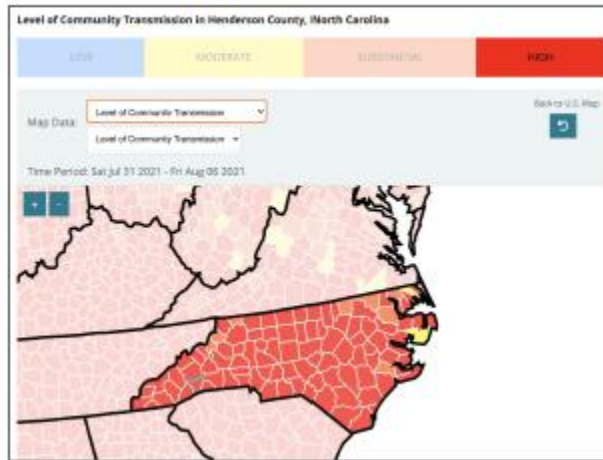
As of July 22, 2021

NC DHHS County Alert System Report

Beginning August 6, 2021, NCDHHS transitioned to using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Covid-19 Community Transmission Map to monitor Covid-19 activity in North Carolina counties.

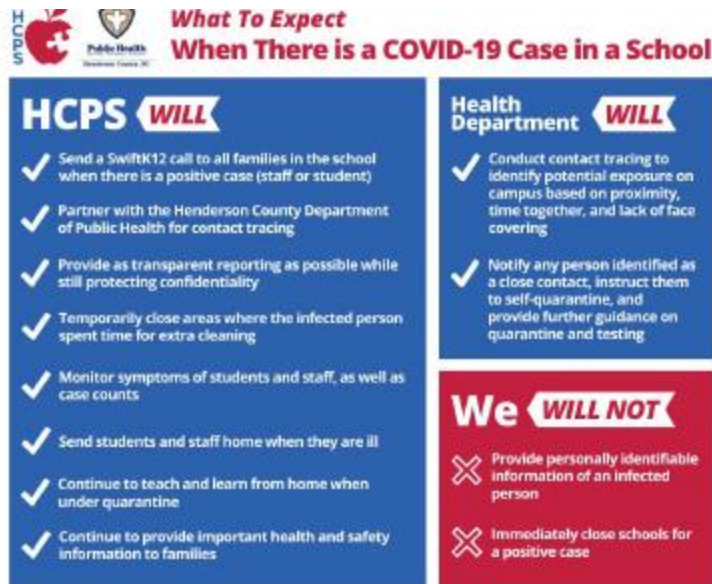
The map is updated daily and uses a combination of total cases per 100,000 population and percent positivity in the last 7 days to measure the level of community transmission in counties.

CDC COVID Data Tracker



HCPS District Dashboard





StrongSchoolsNC Tool Kit – Last updated July 20, 2021/ StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)

The StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit was updated on July 21 to align to the CDC Guidance for Covid-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools updated on July 9, 2021. The provisions of this Toolkit became effective July 30th at 5:00 p.m.

Summary of the major updates to the Toolkit from the previous version:

- Each section of the Toolkit has been organized into categories that prioritize implementation of the strategies that have been shown to be most effective in lowering the risk of Covid-19 exposure and spread in school sessions and school activities:
- Strategies that **SHOULD** be implemented by all schools. These are strategies that, if not implemented, create conditions of high risk for Covid-19 exposure and spread. NCDHHS strongly advises that school leaders adopt all strategies in the Should sections.
- Strategies that school leaders **COULD CONSIDER** adopting. These are strategies to provide additional layers of prevention and that, if implemented, will further reduce the risk of Covid-19 exposure and spread.

Operation Flexibility and Planning for Different Scenarios

The Toolkit has been updated to provide school leaders with greater flexibility in implementing the layered prevention strategies based on current Covid-19 trends and updated CDC guidance. School leaders should continue to consult with local public health officials for input on community transmission and vaccine uptake to make local decision.

School leaders should continue to maintain plans for different potential scenarios depending on what restrictions are necessary by state or local public health leaders at any time in the school year to control the spread of the disease.

Strategies that **SHOULD** be implemented by all schools. These are strategies that, if not implemented, create conditions of high risk for Covid-19 exposure and spread.

NCDHHS strongly advises that school leaders adopt all the strategies in the **SHOULD** sections.

If a school does not require all individuals to wear a mask, they should ensure a layered mitigation strategy, including physical distancing, ventilation, hand hygiene, adequate access to diagnostic and screening testing and closely monitor for increases in Covid-19 cases.

What are We NOT Doing?



- ❑ HCPS does not require all children and staff in schools K-12th grade to wear face coverings consistently when indoors. Face coverings for all HCPS students, staff, and visitors are optional, beginning August 23, 2021.
- ❑ HCPS does not require teachers and staff to report vaccination status.
- ❑ HCPS does not require teachers and staff who are unvaccinated, or do not disclose vaccine status, participate in screening/testing programs.
- ❑ HCPS has not incorporated a screening testing strategy consistent with CDC recommendations, including required screening testing for unvaccinated teachers and staff.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)

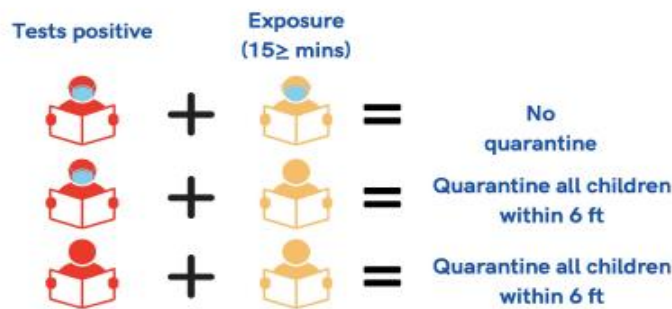


Quarantine is required for an individual who has been a close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period) of someone who is determined positive with COVID-19 either through testing or symptom consistent diagnosis, with the following three exceptions:

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms do NOT need to quarantine after a close contact. Individual should get tested 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask around others until receiving a negative test result.

Quarantine Protocols (HCDPH)

Quarantine for Exposures



Quarantine Protocols (HCDPH)

Shortened Quarantine for Exposures

HCPSS



School Nurse Support



- Commit to the allocation of ESSER funds to provide HCDPH the resources to hire one full-time school nurse for each school campus
- Commitment would be for 5 additional school nurse positions
- Provide this funding through September 2024
- Immediately communicate this commitment to the Board of Commissioners and Henderson County leadership

Virtual Learning Option (K-8)

- Launched online registration for students in grades K through 8
- In process of hiring staff to provide virtual learning, exclusively
- Requiring families to commit to at least one semester
- Students will be served across the school district
- School day will mirror RLO under Plan C
- May include blended grade levels based on staffing
- Not a hybrid option
- Not available to students under quarantine

Virtual Learning Option (9-12)



- Registering online and then with school counselor*
- Continue to provide online asynchronous courses via
 - HCVPS
 - NCVPS
 - Edmentum
- Require families to commit to a full semester
- Students will be served across the school district
- Not a hybrid option
- Not available to students under quarantine

**Must have previously demonstrated success in virtual learning*

Summary Thoughts



- Plans will continue to be fluid models and contingent on local health data.
- We will continue to work in close coordination with the Henderson County Department of Public Health and local partner agencies.
- We will respond to questions, concerns, and updated direction from NCDPI, NCDHHS, and other state governing bodies.
- We will continue meeting the instructional obligation to all students everyday.

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to approve the addition of (5) Public Health nurses for COVID-19 response duties in Henderson County Public Schools. The motion carried 4-1, Commissioner Hill was the nay vote.

NOMINATIONS

1. Cemetery Advisory Committee – 2 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #6 At large

Unable to serve another term: #7 At large

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

2. Environmental Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #9 At large

Applications of file: Elizabeth Owen and Kevin Campbell

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to appoint Elizabeth Owen for position #9 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

3. Hendersonville Zoning Board of Adjustment – 1 vac.

Unable to serve another term #3 Hendersonville ETJ

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

4. Historic Resources Commission – 2 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #1 At Large

Unable to serve another term: #7 Flat Rock Representative

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

5. Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #5 At Large

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

6. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 4 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #16 Health Director

Unable to serve another term: #18 Parks & Recreation Representative

Unable to serve another term: #23 At Large

Unable to serve another term: #25 Person under 18

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to appoint Melanie Adams for position #18 by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

7. Laurel Park Planning Board – 1 vac.

Unable to serve another term: #1 Resident of Laurel Park ETJ

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

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

Unable to serve another term: #2 At Large

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

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

Unable to serve another term: #5-#12, #15, #16, #18, #19,#22

Applications on file: Several applicants to resume training October 2021.

Motion:

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to appoint Johanna Dokter for position #9. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioner updates included 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 were as follows:

Housing Assistance Corporation Update - This item was moved to a future meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the presenters.

2021.58 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Vice-Chair McCall read the resolution aloud. (Copy attached to these minutes).

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to approve the Resolution in support of the Constitution. All voted in favor and the motion carries 5-0.

Commissioner Edney discussed Pardee Hospital's Infusion Program.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion for staff to work with Pardee Hospital to prepare the documentation necessary to allow the County to grant an initial \$250,000 toward the Pardee Hospital's infusion program and asked the hospital report back to the Board the progress and any additional needs. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lapsley provided an update on the Edneyville Sewer Project. He outlined an additional option number 5, which is a slight modification to option 5 that was presented at the August 3, 2021, Special Called Meeting that eliminates a substantial section of gravity sewer line. Chairman Lapsley shared that in the State Budget Senator Edwards included in the Senate version a 4-million-dollar appropriation for this project. In the House Budget that was approved Thursday, August 12, 2021, there was an additional item included for 10 million submitted by Representative Moffitt. This coupled with American Rescue Plan dollars will help this Board make a decision which option to choose.

Chairman Lapsley addressed concerns brought forward at the August 3, 2021, Special Called Meeting by an adjacent property owner to Edneyville Elementary School's existing septic system. John Mitchell has tasked Marcus Jones to work with engineers to determine what options may be available. John Mitchell stated Marcus Jones and Engineers are meeting this week with the property owner on his property.

Chairman Lapsley made the announcement that North Carolina based developer SunCap Property Group has purchased 40.42 acres from Brightstar Associates Inc. and Brightstar's LLC for development of a 250,000 square foot industrial facility in Mills River at Ferncliff Park. The estimated project cost is approximately 50 million dollars. Final site development permitting is currently underway and construction site work is expected to commence within the next thirty days with an anticipated completion date in July 2022. The tenant for the property is a Fortune 500 Company which will have a new facility for product packaging and distribution at this site. SunCap has worked closely with Henderson County staff and the Mills River Town staff in the permitting process. There will be no request for financial assistance from Henderson County or the Partnership for Economic Development, and this will be a fast-track project

Commissioner Hill stated that he was the surveyor for this project and with the lack of county incentive this was not a conflict of interest.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATES

Interim County Manager John Mitchell informed the Board that the Senate passed a trillion-dollar infrastructure bill. He will see if any of the money would be available to help fund the Edneyville Sewer Project and will keep the Board updated.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim County Manager John Mitchell thanked the Board for attending the ribbon cutting ceremonies for Etowah Park and the Ecusta Trail. He then informed the Board due to the recent devastating flood damage in Haywood County as a result of tropical storm Fred, Henderson County Emergency Services Director, Jimmy Brissie, sent 2 ambulances and one swift water rescue team to Haywood County to assist with medical transports as well as search and rescue efforts.

ADJOURN

Motion:

Vice-Chair McCall made the motion to adjourn at 2:41p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Attest:

Denisa A. Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

William Lapsley, Chairman