

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

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 Rebecca McCall, Vice-Chair J. Michael Edney, Commissioner William Lapsley, Commissioner Daniel Andreotta, Commissioner David Hill, County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley, and Attorney Russ Burrell.

Also present were: Director of Business and Community Development Christopher Todd, Chief Communications Officer Mike Morgan, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Register of Deeds Lee King, DSS Director Jerrie McFalls, IT Director Mark Seelenbacher, Health Department Director Steve Smith, Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift, Wellness Director Dr. Jamie Gibbs, Emergency Services Director Mike Barnett, Human Resources Director Karen Ensley, Library Director Trina Rushing, Building Services Director Crystal Lyda, Soil and Water Director Jonathon Wallin, Cooperative Extension Director Dr. Terry Kelley, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Major Todd McCrain, Senior Deputy Vanesa Gilbert, Engineer Natalie Berry, Parks, and Recreation Director Bruce Gilliam, Emergency Services Director Mike Barnett, County Engineer Deb Johnston, PIO Kathy Finotti – videotaping and Deputy Chris Stepp provided security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

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

INVOCATION

Commissioner Andreotta provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman McCall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

2023.64 Resolution of Appreciation – Tax Administrator Darlene Burgess

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners was requested to adopt a Resolution of Appreciation for Darlene Burgess. Darlene Burgess will retire on May 31, 2023, having been with Henderson County since May 10, 1993.

Chairman McCall read the Resolution aloud.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

DARLENE BURGESS - HENDERSON COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, Darlene Burgess first began her career with Henderson County on May 10, 1993, working as a Paralegal in the Henderson County Tax Collector's Office; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Burgess was appointed Deputy Tax Collector on October 26, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Burgess was named Internal Auditor on August 17, 2006; and

Approved:

WHEREAS, having served faithfully and dutifully served the County for 18 years in these critical roles, Darlene became the Henderson County Tax Administrator in December 2015; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as the Tax Administrator, Darlene Burgess amassed a wealth of institutional knowledge and provided outstanding service to the Board of Commissioners, staff, and citizens of Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, for the 2023 Reappraisal, Darlene Burgess lead her team to complete the first-ever full in-house measure and list appraisal; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Burgess has represented Henderson County throughout the State through her service on boards such as the North Carolina Association of Assessing Officers, where she is the immediate past president, and the Oversight Committee for the North Carolina Property Tax Solution County Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Burgess will retire from her service to Henderson County and its citizens on May 31, 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners expresses their deep admiration for the experience and wisdom that Darlene Burgess brought to the positions she served in with Henderson County. On behalf of the citizens and staff of Henderson County, we express our deepest appreciation for a job well done.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the County of Henderson to be affixed.

Adopted this the 17th day of May 2023.

Chairman McCall made the motion to approve the resolution as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

2023.65 Service Badge and Sidearm Request – Corporal Allan Corthell

The Henderson County Sheriff’s Office requested that the service badge and sidearm of Corporal Allan Corthell be given to him in recognition of his retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office.

Corporal Allan Corthell began his career with the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office on January 8, 2007, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, Sergeant, and Captain for over 16 years in the Sheriff’s Office. To honor him and show our gratitude, the Sheriff’s Office intends to present his service badge and service sidearm.

Sheriff Griffin made this request on behalf of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2(a).

Chairman McCall read the following Resolutions aloud:

Resolution Honoring Corporal Allan Corthell

**For 16 Years of Law Enforcement Service and
Awarding His Badge and Sidearm**



- WHEREAS,** Officer Corthell joined the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office as a Deputy on January 8, 2007, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, and Sergeant and Captain.
- WHEREAS,** Corporal Corthell’s service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office and service, dedication and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during his 16 total years of service are hereby recognized and commended; and
- WHEREAS,** N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring officers of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the Henderson County; and
- WHEREAS,** N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners may, in its discretion, award to a retiring officer the service sidearm of such retiring officer at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners, upon securing a permit as required by N.C.G.S. 14-402 et seq; and
- WHEREAS,** Officer Corthell has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office for a period of more than 16 years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office on March 24, 2023, and

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

1. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 to transfer to Officer Corthell the badge worn by him during his service with the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office; and
2. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 to transfer Officer Corthell his service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon his securing a permit required by N.C.G.S. 14-402.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners recognizes and thanks Officer Corthell for his dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens.

Adopted this on the 17th day of May 2023.

2023.66 Service Badge and Sidearm Request – Senior Deputy Edwin Scott Estremera

The Henderson County Sheriff’s Office requested that the service badge and sidearm of Senior Deputy Edwin Scott Estremera be given to him in recognition of his retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office.

Senior Deputy Scott Estremera began his career with the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office on December 21, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Senior Deputy, Corporal, and Sergeant for over 28 years in the Sheriff’s Office. To honor him and show our gratitude, the Sheriff’s Office intends to present him service badge and service sidearm.

Sheriff Griffin made this request on behalf of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2(a).

Resolution Honoring Senior Deputy Edwin Scott Estremera



**For 28 Years of Law Enforcement Service and
Awarding His Badge and Sidearm**

WHEREAS, Officer Estremera joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy on December 21, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Senior Deputy, Sergeant, and Corporal.

WHEREAS, Senior Deputy Estremera's service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and service, dedication, and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during his 28 total years of service are hereby recognized and commended; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring officers of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners may, in its discretion, award to a retiring officer the service sidearm of such a retiring officer at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners, upon securing a permit as required by N.C.G.S. 14-402 et seq; and

WHEREAS, Officer Estremera has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office for a period of more than 28 years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on December 28, 2022, and

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

1. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Estremera the badge worn by him during his service with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office; and
2. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Estremera his service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon his securing a permit required by N.C.G.S. 14-402.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners recognizes and thanks Officer Estremera for his dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens. Adopted this on the 17th day of May 2023.

2023.67 Service Badge and Sidearm Request – Sergeant Paul Blackwell

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office requested that the service badge and sidearm of Sergeant Paul Blackwell be given to him in recognition of his retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Sergeant Paul Blackwell began his career with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office October 3, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, and Sergeant. for over 28 years in the Sheriff's Office. To honor him and show our gratitude, the Sheriff's Office intends to present his service badge and service sidearm.

Sheriff Griffin made this request on behalf of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office pursuant to North

Carolina General Statute 20-187.2(a).

Resolution Honoring Sergeant Paul Blackwell

**For 28 Years of Law Enforcement Service and
Awarding His Badge and Sidearm**



WHEREAS, Officer Blackwell joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy on October 3, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, and Sergeant.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Blackwell's service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and service, dedication and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during his 28 total years of service are hereby recognized and commended; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring officers of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners may, in its discretion, award to a retiring officer the service sidearm of such retiring officer at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners, upon securing a permit as required by N.C.G.S. 14-402 et seq; and

WHEREAS, Officer Blackwell has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office for a period of more than 28 years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on December 30, 2022, and

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

1. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Blackwell the badge worn by him during his service with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office; and
2. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Blackwell his service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon his securing a permit required by N.C.G.S. 14-402.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners recognizes and thanks Officer Blackwell for his dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens. Adopted this on the 17th day of May 2023.

2023.68 Service Badge and Sidearm Request – Master Deputy Michael Marsteller

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office requested that the service badge and sidearm of Master Deputy Michael Marsteller be given to him in recognition of his retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Master Deputy Michael Marsteller began his career with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on January 4, 1995, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Master Deputy, Corporal, and Sergeant. for over 28 years in the Sheriff's Office. To honor him and show our gratitude, the Sheriff's Office intends to present him with his service badge and service sidearm.

Sheriff Griffin makes this request on behalf of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2(a).

Resolution Honoring Master Deputy Michael Marsteller



**For 28 Years of Law Enforcement Service and
Awarding His Badge and Sidearm**

WHEREAS, Officer Marsteller joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy on January 4, 1995, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Master, Deputy, Corporal Sergeant, and Lieutenant

WHEREAS, Master Deputy Marsteller's service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and service, dedication and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during his 28 total years of service are hereby recognized and commended; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring officers of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners may, in its discretion, award to a retiring officer the service sidearm of such retiring officer at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners, upon securing a permit as required by N.C.G.S. 14-402 et seq; and

WHEREAS, Officer Marsteller has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office for a period of more than 28 years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on January 13, 2023. , and

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

1. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Marsteller the badge worn by him during his service with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office; and
2. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Marsteller his service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon his securing a permit required by N.C.G.S. 14-402.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners recognizes and thanks Officer Marsteller for his dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens. Adopted this on the 17th day of May 2023.

2023.69 Service Badge and Sidearm Request –Major Christopher Denny

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office requested that the service badge and sidearm of Major Christopher Denny be given to him in recognition of his retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Major Christopher Denny began his career with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on March 25, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, Sergeant, Captain, and Major for over 29 years in the Sheriff's Office. To honor him and show our gratitude, the Sheriff's Office intends to present him with his

service badge and sidearm.

Sheriff Griffin made this request on behalf of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2(a).

Resolution Honoring Major Christopher Denny

**For 29 Years of Law Enforcement Service and
Awarding His Badge and Sidearm**



WHEREAS, Officer Denny joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office as a Jailer on March 25, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy II, Deputy III, Corporal, Sergeant, Captain, and Major.

WHEREAS, Major Denny's service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and service, dedication, and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during his 29 total years of service are hereby recognized and commended; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring officers of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners may, in its discretion, award to a retiring officer the service sidearm of such retiring officer at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners, upon securing a permit as required by N.C.G.S. 14-402 et seq; and

WHEREAS, Officer Denny has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office for a period of more than years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on March 24, 2023, and

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

1. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Denny the badge worn by him during his service with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office; and
2. Sheriff Griffin is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 20-187.2, to transfer to Officer Denny his service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon his securing a permit required by N.C.G.S. 14-402.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners recognizes and thanks Officer Denny for his dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens. Adopted this 17th day of May 2023.

Sheriff Lowell Griffin stated that he was honored to have worked many years with each of the officers, recognized and commented on their dedication as employees, and all were outstanding citizens.

Chairman McCall made the motion to approve the resolutions as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Vice-Chair Edney said that he had known both Tax Administrator Darlene Burgess and the retired officers recognized today for twenty-plus years, and he echoed the Sheriff’s comments on what good people they are.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Chairman McCall made the motion to revise the agenda to add the following two items to the agenda: Consent Agenda item K – MOU of Agreement with the Village of Flat Rock - Animal Control, and a Closed Session Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish or to instruct staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Chairman McCall made the motion to accept the consent agenda with the revisions outlined in the above motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of May 1, 2023, and May 3, 2023, meeting minutes.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023, and the May 3, 2023, meetings.

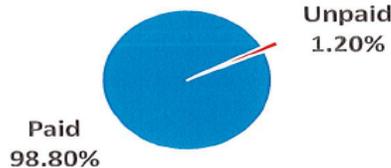
Tax Collector’s Report

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

Please find outlined below collections information through May 2, 2023 for 2022 real and personal property bills mailed on August 5, 2022. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

2022 Beginning Charge:	\$91,627,197.91
Discoveries & Imm. Irreg.:	\$764,815.08
Releases & Refunds:	(\$1,125,592.31)
Net Charge:	\$91,266,420.68
Unpaid Taxes:	\$1,093,514.53
Amount Collected:	\$90,172,906.15



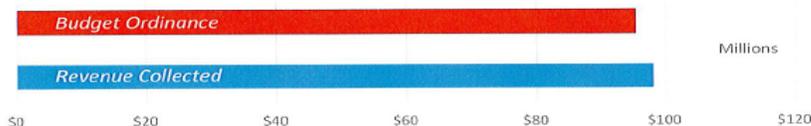
Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$7,160,705.83
Unpaid Taxes:	\$21,029.40
Amount Collected:	\$7,139,676.43

99.71%

Henderson County FY22 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$94,458,998.00	\$97,312,582.58
Prior Years:	\$981,000.00	\$809,297.49
Budget Total:	\$95,439,998.00	YTD Revenue: \$98,121,880.07



American Rescue Plan – Approved Projects Update

The American Rescue Plan approved projects update as of March 31, 2023, was provided for the Board’s review and approval. The update included all approved projects to be funded by American Rescue Plan funds with the amount of funds currently encumbered and expended. Amounts expended and encumbered have been reported to the US Department of the Treasury via State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance Reports for Quarter 1 2023.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
Funding Plan - Approved Projects
\$22,806,876
MARCH 31, 2023

ARP Project #	Project Description	ARP Eligibility (Expenditure Category)	State Eligibility	PLAN		Encumbered (Contract in Place)	ACTUAL	
				Standard Allowance	ARP Eligible		Expenses	Remaining Encumbrance
				10,000,000.00	12,806,876.00		22,806,876.00	
9031	Infusion Therapy - Pardee (8.18.21)	1.6 - Medical Expenses	§ 153A-449		250,000.00	250,000.00	33,391.17	216,608.83
9032	Infusion Therapy - Advent Health (9.15.21)	1.6 - Medical Expenses	§ 153A-449		250,000.00	250,000.00	-	250,000.00
xx	Broadband GREAT Grant Funding (3.22.22)	5.17 - Broadband, Other Projects	§ 153A-459		1,000,000.00	-	-	-
2059	Edneyville Sewer - Collection System (5.2.2022)	5.2 - Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection	§ 153A-274(2)		9,300,000.00	-	-	-
9050	Self Insurance Reimbursement (5.2.2022)	1.6 - Medical Expenses	§ 153A-92(a)(d)		559,822.00	559,822.00	559,822.00	-
9040	VFW Renovation and Repair (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-169	4,200,000.00		256,788.83	78,872.77	177,916.06
9027	Fletcher EMS (5.22.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§143-514, §153A-149(c)(5)	3,100,000.00		91,016.64	16.64	91,000.00
9052	Mills River Tower Upgrade (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-149(c)(11)(17)	150,000.00		15,000.00	-	15,000.00
9043	Stryker Power Load Systems (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§143-514, §153A-149(c)(5)	117,170.00		115,138.25	115,138.25	-
9047	Foster Care Services (7.20.2022)	3.8 - Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth	§ 108A-49		348,000.00	348,000.00	348,000.00	-
2056	All Inclusive Playground (9.21.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 160A-353(4)	400,000.00		400,000.00	-	400,000.00
XX	Recreation Sports Complex (10.3.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-149(c)(11)(17)	2,032,830.00		-	-	-
xx	Apple Valley Housing Complex (11.7.2022)	5.2 - Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection	§ 153A-274(2)		1,099,054.00	-	-	-
TOTAL				10,000,000.00	12,806,876.00	2,285,765.72	1,135,240.83	1,150,524.89
REMAINING BALANCE				-	-		Unspent/Unencumbered: 20,521,110.28	

Total interest earned to date: \$ 364,148.78

Motion:



I move that the Board of Commissioners approve May 17, 2023, American Rescue Plan approved projects as presented.

American Rescue Plan – Proposed Plan Revisions

A proposed plan revision for the American Rescue Plan funds was provided for the Board’s review and approval. Contracts for Infusion Therapy for both Pardee and Advent Hospitals, as well as the purchase of the Stryker Power Loaders, included expenditures less than originally anticipated. Staff is requesting the Board reallocate the remaining funds to increase funding for Self-Insurance Reimbursement, Recreation Sports Complex, and Apple Valley Housing Complex. (See attachment to these minutes)

Motion:

I move the Board approve American Rescue Plan Revisions as presented.

2023.70 2023 Food Waste Reduction Grant

The Board was provided information about the grant awarded to Henderson County through the Department of Environmental Quality's 2023 Food Waste Reduction Grant Program. The grant was included in the FY24 Solid Waste budget to fund the expansion of the Henderson County compost program.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the 2023 Food Waste Reduction grant.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – County Funding Plan Revision #2

The Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCPC), as part of its annual funding allocations, provides funding for local juvenile crime prevention programs. The JCPC requested the funding plan revision include funding that was not originally included as part of the original JCPC budget. The overall allocation of JCPC funding from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety has not changed. The revisions requested relate to adjustments to required matching funds for Kids at Work!, Aspire Vocational Direction, and Hope Rising – Teen Court Program. (The revised funding plan is attached to these minutes).

Motion:

I move the Board approve the updated Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Funding Plan.

Vaya Health – Quarterly Fiscal Monitoring Report (FMR) for the quarter ended March 3, 2023

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 FMR for Vaya Health was received by the County Finance Officer on May 1, 2023.

Motion:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the Vaya Health Fiscal Monitoring Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2023.

2023.71 Budget Amendment – Appropriation of Fund Balance

The Board was requested to approve a Budget Amendment, appropriating \$34,500 in fund balance from the Capital Projects Fund in anticipation of incurring professional services for potential property transactions.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the budget amendment as presented.

ABC Permit Request – Cognative Brew House

Andrea Elizabeth Bankert and Cognative Brew House LLC, doing business as Cognative Brew House, have applied for an on-premise malt beverage and unfortified wine permits. A request for comment has been made to the Sheriff's Office. This matter was placed on the agenda pursuant to Board policy.

In the absence of objections meeting the statutory criteria, the County's standard response is to provide a notice that it does not object to the permit to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the standard County comment on the ABC permit application.

2023.72 Substance Abuse Task Force – Opioid Funds Authorization

The Board was requested to authorize the expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds received in accordance with the State-Subdivision Agreement under the National Opioid Settlement Agreement. These expenditures, not to exceed \$27,100, are for Substance Abuse Task Force members to travel to and attend the RISE23 conference in Houston, TX. The RISE23 Conference is an annual training conference for members of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), along with individuals in public health and public safety fields.

Once approved, staff also requested the Board approve a Budget Amendment for the expenditure of Opioid Funds for registration, travel, meals, and lodging for the RISE23 Conference.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the requested authorization and Budget Amendment as presented.

2023.73 Memorandum of Understanding with the Village of Flat Rock – Animal Control (Add On)

The Board was requested to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) between Henderson County, the Henderson County Sheriff’s Department, and the Village of Flat Rock on the enforcement of the Animal Ordinance under Henderson County Code §16-2.B within the Village for the fiscal year 2024. (MOU attached to these minutes).

Commissioner Lapsley made the motion to approve the consent agenda as revised with the addition of Item K- MOU with the Village of Flat Rock, Animal Control. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION

FY24 Budget Workshop

At the May 1, 2023, meeting, the County Manager’s FY24 Proposed Budget was presented to the Board of Commissioners. The Board was requested to discuss the budget as presented and direct staff accordingly. The following schedule was suggested to structure the discussion and overview.

- 10:00 am Budget Overview
- 10:15 am Henderson County Public Schools
- 10:30 am Blue Ridge Community College
- 10:45 am Break
- 11:00 pm Review of Henderson County Departmental Budget Proposals
- 12:00 pm Break
- 1:00 pm Review of Henderson County Departmental Budget Proposals

County Manager John Mitchell explained that the County’s Budget preparation is a year-long process. He expressed his gratitude to Budget Manager Sonya Flynn, Budget Analyst Jennifer Miranda, Finance Director Samantha Reynolds, Tax Collector Darlene Burgess, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley,

and all other Department Heads in attendance for their hard work in helping to prepare the FY24 proposed budget so the Board may allocate the public’s money effectively. He stated that the Board had its first meeting regarding this budget back in January, followed by a budget overview in May. This meeting was where the County “opens the books” for the public to get a line-by-line look at where all tax dollars are going. He believes Henderson County has the most transparent budget policy in the state.

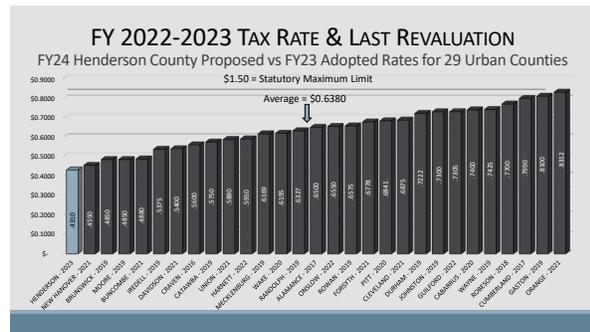
FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

TAX RATE DECREASE

Tax Rate decreased to the Revenue Neutral Rate of \$0.431

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

FY23 Recommended Budget	\$ 190,936,500
Tax Rate	\$ 0.431
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ 18,681,665



FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Budget Preparation Framework

- Property Tax reduced to \$0.431
- Sales tax projections reflect actual receipts from FY22
- TRE at 98%= \$2,301,750

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024 Proposed	Variance
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$95,439,998	\$98,736,662	\$3,296,664
Local Option Sales Taxes	\$32,577,783	\$41,726,791	\$9,149,008
Other Taxes and Licenses	\$1,655,000	\$1,655,000	\$0
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Revenue	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenue	\$16,422,643	\$16,845,619	\$422,976
Permits and Fees	\$2,090,795	\$2,067,735	(\$23,060)
Sales and Services	\$8,361,912	\$8,251,423	(\$110,489)
Investment Earnings	\$502,500	\$1,505,000	\$1,002,500
Other Revenues	\$1,262,648	\$1,344,388	\$81,740
Transfers from Other Funds	\$2,290,327	\$72,217	(\$2,218,110)
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$19,509,951	\$18,681,665	(\$828,286)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	\$180,163,557	\$190,936,500	\$10,772,943

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

FY24 Proposed Expenditures -	\$190,936,500
FY23 Revised Budget -	\$194,119,126
\$ Variance =	(\$ 3,182,626)
% Variance =	(1.6%)

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

- Full funding of County’s Debt Service obligation of \$19,178,617
- Maintains funding to meet current and approved future obligations

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Funding Priorities

➤ Education	\$ 54,893,276	29%
➤ Public Safety	\$ 47,700,597	25%
➤ Human Services	\$ 38,959,824	20%
	\$ 141,553,697	74%

FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Proposed Expenditures	\$190,936,500
Proposed Revenues (Excluding Fund Balance)	\$172,254,835
Variance	\$ 18,681,665



Debt Service Schedule

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
Henderson County Public Schools	\$ 4,845,288	\$ 4,540,088	\$ 4,434,888	\$ 4,324,688	\$ 4,214,488	\$ 4,104,288	\$ 3,994,088	\$ 3,883,888	\$ 3,773,688	\$ 3,663,488
Hendersonville High School	\$ 2,098,069	\$ 2,037,069	\$ 1,976,069	\$ 1,915,069	\$ 1,854,069	\$ 1,793,069	\$ 1,732,069	\$ 1,671,069	\$ 1,610,069	\$ 1,549,069
Edinville Elementary	\$ 1,376,131	\$ 1,349,313	\$ 1,322,495	\$ 1,295,677	\$ 1,268,859	\$ 1,242,041	\$ 1,215,223	\$ 1,188,405	\$ 1,161,587	\$ 1,134,769
2016 Innovative High School	\$ 902,151	\$ 866,119	\$ 830,087	\$ 794,055	\$ 758,023	\$ 721,991	\$ 685,959	\$ 649,927	\$ 613,895	\$ 577,863
2013 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 731,069	\$ 696,184	\$ 661,299	\$ 626,414	\$ 591,529	\$ 556,644	\$ 521,759	\$ 486,874	\$ 451,989	\$ 417,104
2008 Veterans/Chiles River	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
Professional Services	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
TOTAL HC PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$11,961,704	\$11,642,876	\$11,324,048	\$11,005,220	\$10,686,392	\$10,367,564	\$10,048,736	\$9,729,908	\$9,411,080	\$9,092,252
Blue Ridge Community College	\$ 661,832	\$ 661,372	\$ 660,912	\$ 660,452	\$ 660,000	\$ 659,548	\$ 659,096	\$ 658,644	\$ 658,192	\$ 657,740
Health Sciences Education Center	\$ 926,534	\$ 889,528	\$ 852,522	\$ 815,516	\$ 778,510	\$ 741,504	\$ 704,498	\$ 667,492	\$ 630,486	\$ 593,480
2013 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 1,778,900	\$ 1,741,500	\$ 1,698,500	\$ 1,655,500	\$ 1,612,500	\$ 1,569,500	\$ 1,526,500	\$ 1,483,500	\$ 1,440,500	\$ 1,397,500
Patton Renovation/New Buildings	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Professional Services	\$ 3,372,268	\$ 3,297,403	\$ 3,222,538	\$ 3,147,673	\$ 3,072,808	\$ 2,997,943	\$ 2,923,078	\$ 2,848,213	\$ 2,773,348	\$ 2,698,483
TOTAL BRCC	\$10,339,534	\$9,947,275	\$9,555,016	\$9,162,757	\$8,770,498	\$8,378,239	\$7,985,980	\$7,593,721	\$7,201,462	\$6,809,203
TOTAL EDUCATION DEBT SERVICE	\$22,291,238	\$21,590,151	\$20,879,064	\$20,167,977	\$19,456,890	\$18,745,803	\$18,034,716	\$17,323,629	\$16,612,542	\$15,901,455

Debt Service Schedule

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
Henderson County	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
95 Courthouse (\$238,5M)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,742,813	\$ 7,060,625	\$ 6,881,875	\$ 6,703,125	\$ 6,524,375	\$ 6,345,625	\$ 6,166,875	\$ 5,988,125
Detention Center (\$71.5M)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 963,313	\$ 931,813	\$ 899,313	\$ 866,813	\$ 834,313	\$ 801,813	\$ 769,313	\$ 736,813
Emergency Services HQ	\$ 1,013,713	\$ 988,513	\$ 963,313	\$ 938,113	\$ 912,913	\$ 887,713	\$ 862,513	\$ 837,313	\$ 812,113	\$ 786,913
Health Sciences Education Center	\$ 1,323,663	\$ 1,322,746	\$ 1,321,829	\$ 1,320,912	\$ 1,319,995	\$ 1,319,078	\$ 1,318,161	\$ 1,317,244	\$ 1,316,327	\$ 1,315,410
2013 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 609,562	\$ 585,216	\$ 560,870	\$ 536,524	\$ 512,178	\$ 487,832	\$ 463,486	\$ 439,140	\$ 414,794	\$ 390,448
2012 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 791,094	\$ 756,366	\$ 721,638	\$ 686,910	\$ 652,182	\$ 617,454	\$ 582,726	\$ 548,000	\$ 513,272	\$ 478,544
2010 HCCourt Services	\$ 596,069	\$ 572,007	\$ 548,000	\$ 524,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 476,000	\$ 452,000	\$ 428,000	\$ 404,000	\$ 380,000
Professional Services	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
TOTAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT	\$ 4,344,932	\$ 4,238,341	\$ 4,131,750	\$ 4,025,159	\$ 3,918,568	\$ 3,811,977	\$ 3,705,386	\$ 3,598,795	\$ 3,492,204	\$ 3,385,613
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$10,636,907	\$10,303,817	\$10,000,000	\$9,696,124	\$9,392,246	\$9,088,368	\$8,784,490	\$8,480,612	\$8,176,734	\$7,872,856
TOTAL ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE CHANGE	\$ (713,047)	\$ (400,290)	\$ (364,019)	\$ (328,112)	\$ (292,115)	\$ (256,118)	\$ (220,121)	\$ (184,124)	\$ (148,127)	\$ (112,130)



- ### FY 2024 BUDGET PROCESS
- ✓ May 1, 2023 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting
 - County Manager's Recommended Budget Presented to the Board of Commissioners
 - Schedule the Public Hearing for Monday, June 5, 2023
 - ✓ Advertise the Presentation and Publication of the Recommended Budget and June 5th Public Hearing
 - The Budget Publication, Workshop, and Public Hearing will be advertised in the Hendersonville Lightning on May 3rd
 - ✓ May 17, 2023 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting
 - FY24 Budget Workshop
 - ✓ June 5, 2023 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting
 - FY24 Budget Public Hearing
 - FY24 Budget Adoption

Henderson County Public Schools – Local Appropriation Request 2023- 2024

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
115691

MISSION: The public school system is one comprehensive school district serving the entire County. The mission and system-wide goals are integral to providing exceptional education opportunities to the County's students.

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Current Expense	\$ 30,133,459	\$ 31,612,938	\$ 32,953,000	4.2%
Capital Expense	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	0.0%
Debt Service	\$ 11,270,386	\$ 11,951,709	\$ 11,642,875	-2.6%
MRTS	\$ 4,934,424	\$ 5,132,424	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 47,838,269	\$ 50,197,071	\$ 46,095,875	-8.2%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,064,638	\$ 900,000	\$ 900,000	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	2%	2%	2%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- 1 As of the printing of the Budget Message, the public schools have not submitted their budget request which is statutorily required to be submitted by May 15th. The proposed amount is based on their January 18th Budget Retreat presentation.
- 2 Current expense for FY23 & FY24 includes funding for School Resource Officers [\$250,000]

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 MRTS	\$5,132,424	\$0.02230

Henderson County Public Schools Superintendent Mark Garrett presented the Board with the Henderson County Public Schools County Appropriation Request for FY2023-2023.



Henderson County Public Schools County Appropriation Request 2023-2024

Presented to the Board of Commissioners May 17, 2023

2023 - 2024 Additional Appropriation Needs (based on General Assembly Budget Bill [H.B. 259])



- Local Payroll Uncontrollables \$1,200,000
Local Operational Increases \$500,000
0.25% Increase to Local Supplement \$260,000

After discussion of the 0.25 Increase to Local Supplement, Vice-Chair Edney asked if Henderson County was still planning to start the school year earlier than the state statute allows.

Commissioner Hill revisited the \$1.2M requested for Local Payroll Uncontrollables and asked what that figure is based on. Mr. Garrett said that number comes from legislative salary increases.

Commissioner Hill asked Mr. Garrett to obtain comparisons from surrounding counties on the supplements offered for their school systems.

Maintenance, Repair, Technology & Safety Fund (MRTS)

- School Facilities & Systems Replacement Schedule
Campus Overview
Heating
Air Conditioning
Controls
Paving
Roofing

Campus Overview

Table with columns: School, School Number, Type, Square FT, Main Bldg Constructed, Acres. Lists various schools like Apple Valley, Clear Creek, etc.

Heating

Table with columns: School, Type of Heat, Year Installed, Replacement Year, Years until Replacement. Lists heating systems for various schools.

Controls

Table with columns: School, Type of Controls, Year Installed, Replacement Year, Years until Replacement. Lists control systems for various schools.

2023 - 2024 Total Budget Request



Funding Category	FY24
Current Expense Continuation Appropriation	\$31,378,000
Requested Increase	\$1,960,000
Capital Outlay	\$1,500,000
Total Appropriation Request	\$34,838,000
Capital Outlay [MRTS] (.03 of the tax rate)	\$5,453,200 (estimated)

Commissioner Hill asked what the HCPS total budget amount was that includes state, federal, and local. Mr. Garrett said that with the ESSIR dollars the total budget is \$170M. He noted that the amount would dip significantly after all ESSIR dollars are spent. The HCPS budget without the ESSIR dollars is \$150M.

Commissioner Lapsley said he strongly supports MRTS funds and believes the \$5,453,200 requested needs to be funded and would not support a vote with that number being removed. However, he acknowledged that this would create an increase in a revenue-neutral number.

The consensus of the board was that there does need to be a number in the budget for MRTS, but the majority did not support the .03 cents of the tax rate that was requested.

John Mitchell proposed that Budget staff work on providing information that includes various amounts of funding for MRTS to share with the Board.

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 115691

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Current Expense	\$ 30,133,459	\$ 31,612,938	\$ 32,953,000	4.2%
Capital Expense	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	0.0%
Debt Service	\$ 11,270,386	\$ 11,951,709	\$ 11,642,875	-2.6%
MRTS	\$ 4,934,424	\$ 5,132,424	-	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 47,838,269	\$ 50,197,071	\$ 46,095,875	-8.2%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,064,638	\$ 900,000	\$ 900,000	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	2%	2%	2%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	As of the printing of the Budget Message, the public schools have not submitted their budget request which is statutorily required to be submitted by May 15th. The proposed amount is based on their January 18th Budget Retreat presentation.
2	Current expense for FY23 & FY24 includes funding for School Resource Officers [\$250,000]

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1	MRTS \$5,132,424	\$0.02230

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
115692

MISSION: The County is responsible for assisting the local community college with certain operational and personnel expenses as well as facility maintenance and debt service.

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Operating/Capital Expense	\$ 4,747,181	\$ 5,250,000	\$ 5,500,000	4.8%
Debt Service	\$ 3,439,452	\$ 3,372,266	\$ 3,297,401	-2.2%
MRTS	\$ 3,289,616	\$ 3,421,616	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 11,476,249	\$ 12,043,882	\$ 8,797,401	-27.0%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	No significant issues for FY24
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Operating Expenses	\$394,613	\$0.00171
2 Capital Outlay - Buildings and Improvements (MRTS)	\$2,113,665	\$0.00918

Blue Ridge Community College President Dr. Laura Leatherwood presented the Board with the Blue Ridge Community College 2023–2024 Budget Request. (Attached to these minutes)

Dr. Leatherwood stated that in the last four years, the college has secured, with the foundation and grants, \$10,513,000 to support the college. This includes money to help with the llama farm and the Public Safety Training Facility. The college also raised an additional \$2M to offer free college to Henderson County residents. Contributing a combined total of \$12,513,000 to support and leverage the county’s funds for the college.

In January, the college presented its four-year plan to the Board to continue with the MRTS program. Dr. Leatherwood asked that the Board renew the .02 that was funded in the past.

Vice-Chair Edney said the County needs to plan now for the \$48,171,700 needed for FY26-27 to construct the new student center at the college. He advised the Chair that he would like to move on with the project.

Chairman McCall asked budget staff to provide information on how including those numbers would affect the current budget.

Commissioner Lapsley supports that the \$2,113,665 MRTS funds requested be included in the current budget.

SHERIFF
115431

STAFFING LEVELS				
	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	176	183	183	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER				
	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 16,485,420	\$ 18,131,718	\$ 19,953,089	10.0%
Operating	\$ 2,637,643	\$ 4,201,198	\$ 3,212,612	-23.5%
Capital	\$ 1,066,302	\$ 264,603	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 20,189,364	\$ 22,597,519	\$ 23,165,701	2.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,738,458	\$ 1,800,947	\$ 1,643,718	-8.7%
Revenue % of Expenditure	9%	8%	7%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Operating costs primarily due to decreases in automotive supplies and telephone & communications and grants & asset forfeiture purchases during FY23
2	Variance in Capital Outlay costs due to items purchased throughout the year in FY23 with DOJ forfeiture / grant funds

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Animal Enforcement Investigator (with equipment)	\$137,856	\$0.00060
2 SUV (replacement vehicle)	\$47,752	\$0.00021
3 Full-Size Truck (replacement vehicle)	\$44,928	\$0.00020
4 Automotive Supplies (upfit for 3 unfunded vehicles)	\$42,000	\$0.00018
5 Mac Studio (video editing workstation)	\$2,768	\$0.00001
6 Travel & Staff Development	\$15,000	\$0.00007

Sheriff Lowell Griffin addressed the need to recruit new employees and retain existing quality employees. The Sheriff’s office currently has 23 vacant positions.

John Mitchell said there is included in the proposed budget a 5% CPI for all Henderson County staff, but he does not think that goes far enough for some positions.

Chairman McCall said she does not like across-the-board wage increases (except for COLA). She believes there may be some positions already at the wage they need to be and some that need to be increased substantially, especially some entry-level position wages.

John Mitchell said staff would include in the budget to be revised after today’s discussion the backup for the salary study to ensure that county employees are being paid at a market rate.

Commissioner Lapsley stated that if the Board approves the budget shown in yellow, they approve it with the clear understanding that the \$19.9M will increase. He said if the tax rate is not adjusted to accommodate that, it will have to come from the unappropriated fund balance.

Vice-Chair Edney asked if there were any projections of leftover funds from the Sheriff and Detention Center’s FY23-24 budget from the currently vacant positions. Amy Brantley said staff would make some projections to provide to the Board. He proposed that any leftover funds may be utilized to retain current staff.

John Mitchell clarified that the Board was directing Staff to solve the critical issue of staff retention at the Sheriff’s Department and Detention Center.

DETENTION FACILITY
115432

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	56	56	56	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 4,012,661	\$ 4,618,856	\$ 5,036,099	9.0%
Operating	\$ 1,361,964	\$ 1,626,177	\$ 1,791,857	10.2%
Capital	-	\$ 35,805	-	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,374,626	\$ 6,280,838	\$ 6,827,956	8.7%
Total Revenue	\$ 367,162	\$ 291,500	\$ 240,500	-17.5%
Revenue % of Expenditure	7%	5%	4%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Reduction in Capital Outlay costs due to the purchase of (3) commercial washers in FY23
2	Anticipated decrease in revenues primarily due to inmate telephone & sales commissions and a decrease in the need for inmate housing for those awaiting transfer to prison (post-Covid)

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Detention Officer Positions (8)	\$511,283	\$0.00222
2 NEW Detention Facility Cook (1)	\$51,524	\$0.00022

Major Todd McCrain was asked to provide information regarding 24-hour medical services at the Detention Center. Mr. McCrain said that 24-hour medical was included in the four-year plan in conjunction with the proposed JCAR project presented to the Board at their January Meeting. He noted that the numbers presented were based on current numbers that their provider provided. Current coverage includes nursing 16/hours per day Monday-Friday and 12/hours per day on Saturday and Sunday, with physician visits Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$483,886 per year. Those services were projected in FY26-27 with 24-Hour nursing with physician visits Tuesday, and Thursday would increase current costs by \$193,000 per year, using today’s numbers.

Vice-Chair Edney asked if there had been a cost projection to develop our own medical services with nurses and PAs staffed by Henderson County Employees. There has not.

Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(5), for the reasons set out in the Board’s agenda packet. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (E-911)
285411

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Operating	\$ 272,123	\$ 452,332	\$ 245,419	-45.7%
Capital	\$ 23,580	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 295,703	\$ 452,332	\$ 245,419	-45.7%
Total Revenue	\$ 725,317	\$ 452,332	\$ 245,419	-45.7%
Revenue % of Expenditure	245%	100%	100%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Reduction in Operating costs due to reductions in non-capital technology and M&R equipment [PSAPS may carry forward no more than 20% of the average yearly amount of the prior two years for eligible expenditures]
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

The discussion began regarding the Social Services proposed budget. Amy Brantley stated the primary change was twelve additional staff added due to Medicaid expansion. In addition, two positions were added for community support (CSST) and an auditor position.

SOCIAL SERVICES
115531/115535/115536

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	187	190	202	6.3%
Part Time	1	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 13,059,178	\$ 14,906,285	\$ 16,524,355	10.9%
Operating	\$ 5,572,701	\$ 5,781,718	\$ 6,061,786	4.8%
Capital	\$ 25,478	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 18,657,357	\$ 20,688,003	\$ 22,586,141	9.2%
Total Revenue	\$ 11,607,704	\$ 10,061,919	\$ 10,951,874	8.8%
Revenue % of Expenditure	62%	49%	48%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (12) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget [primarily due to Medicaid expansion]
2	Slight increase in Revenues due to federal and state funding amounts

Moving on to Public Health, Amy Brantley said the most significant change were the startling percentages going down almost \$3M in operating. This is because so much of Public Health in the last few years has been grants coming in due to COVID. There was also a reduction in revenue from 6.7 down to 3.3. Another significant change is capital going up due to the \$1M meeting/training room renovation discussed with the Board in January.

Vice-Chair Edney asked what the \$39,000 for the replacement of medical equipment represented in the budget was for. Health Department Director Steve Smith said that was for a complete blood count analyzer, a significant piece of equipment that had reached its end-of-life cycle and needs to be replaced, and two fetal monitor replacements. This is strictly replacement equipment. Budget Manager Sonya Flynn added that a vision screener replacement for school health was also included.

Commissioner Hill asked if there were any architectural plans for the Meeting/Training Room renovations, as \$1M seems like a hefty amount for a room renovation.

Capital Project Manager Bryan Rhodes said that the project was unfunded at the initial meeting with staff to determine what renovations were needed, so no architectural plans were obtained. Chairman McCall asked what it would take to get real numbers for this project. Mr. Rhodes said a project of this size would need to be done by an architect as the space is currently a shell space with a concrete slab and unfinished space.

Mr. Smith said the Meeting/Training Room was a space that would be used daily by Public Health, Social Services, as well as other county departments and community partners.

Chairman McCall asked Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift for an update on the workload at the Environmental Health Department. Mr. Swift said the workload has improved, and staff is only 2-3 weeks out for onsite wastewater systems. There are eight positions – 7 field positions that are fully trained. Food and Lodging expect to have their newest employee fully trained by the second week in July. That is the best Environmental Health staffing has been in quite a while.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
115512

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	15	17	17	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,331,386	\$ 1,565,147	\$ 1,756,824	12.2%
Operating	\$ 85,113	\$ 140,139	\$ 119,963	-14.4%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,416,499	\$ 1,705,286	\$ 1,876,787	10.1%
Total Revenue	\$ 503,713	\$ 320,000	\$ 320,000	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	36%	19%	17%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- 1 Slight increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs
- 2 Slight decrease in Operating Costs due to minor adjustments in several department expenditure lines

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

GOVERNING BODY
115401

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	1	1	1	0.0%
Part Time	5	5	5	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 314,625	\$ 318,283	\$ 355,268	11.6%
Operating	\$ 317,747	\$ 264,908	\$ 310,387	17.2%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 632,372	\$ 583,191	\$ 665,655	14.1%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- 1 Increase in Operating costs due to increases in department supplies, non-expendables, and contracted services

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
115403 / 115404

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	5	6	6	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 962,909	\$ 1,066,412	\$ 1,216,036	14.0%
Operating	\$ 56,508	\$ 78,951	\$ 78,337	-0.8%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,019,417	\$ 1,145,363	\$ 1,294,373	13.0%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

HUMAN RESOURCES
115405

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	6	10	11	10.0%
Part Time	1	1	0	-100.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 888,499	\$ 983,711	\$ 1,202,871	22.3%
Operating	\$ 221,669	\$ 191,149	\$ 241,136	26.2%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,110,168	\$ 1,174,860	\$ 1,444,007	22.9%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Personnel costs due to staffing change of (1) part-time employee to full-time for FY24 and adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Increase in Operating costs primarily due to recruitment, event, and insurance & general bonding costs

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Compensation Study	\$55,000	\$0.00024
2 Student Loan Repayment Navigator	\$9,000	\$0.00004

Amy Brantley said there were two unfunded requests in the Human Resources Department; one was a compensation study that was discussed as part of the four-year plan. She said this was not recommended as Staff analyze departments on a case-by-case basis and make those adjustments in-house. The student loan repayment navigator was also not recommended.

ELECTIONS
115408

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	5	5	5	0.0%
Part Time	1	1	1	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 537,504	\$ 602,705	\$ 751,727	24.7%
Operating	\$ 371,133	\$ 392,028	\$ 376,092	-4.1%
Capital	\$ 400,015	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,308,652	\$ 994,733	\$ 1,127,819	13.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 104,683	\$ 370	\$ 34,150	9129.7%
Revenue % of Expenditure	8%	0%	3%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs and additional funds for Temp/PT workers for upcoming elections
2	Variance in Revenues shown based on election cycles

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

COUNTY ATTORNEY
115416

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	7	7	7	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 834,470	\$ 931,171	\$ 1,023,064	9.9%
Operating	\$ 32,193	\$ 60,709	\$ 62,999	3.8%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 866,662	\$ 991,880	\$ 1,086,063	9.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 329,177	\$ 349,261	\$ 329,177	-5.8%
Revenue % of Expenditure	38%	35%	30%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight increase in Personnel costs includes reclassification requests for (3) employees for FY24
2	Revenues shown reflect indirect costs for County departments

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Additional reclassification requests	\$13,173	\$0.00006

REGISTER OF DEEDS
115418

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	6	6	6	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 475,019	\$ 506,899	\$ 565,329	11.5%
Operating	\$ 113,074	\$ 196,555	\$ 162,144	-17.5%
Capital	\$ 27,266	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 615,359	\$ 703,454	\$ 727,473	3.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 802,470	\$ 630,500	\$ 563,000	-10.7%
Revenue % of Expenditure	130%	90%	77%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Reduction in Operating costs primarily due to non-expendables (cabinets & shelves) purchased in FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Amy Brantley said due to current trends the recording fees were reduced by about \$50,000 in the Register of Deeds budget.

FACILITY SERVICES / GARAGE
115419 / 115420

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	30	30	33	10.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 2,041,687	\$ 2,294,327	\$ 2,630,966	14.7%
Operating	\$ 2,631,750	\$ 3,857,064	\$ 4,124,449	6.9%
Capital	\$ 35,024	\$ 107,930	\$ 31,177	-71.1%
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,708,460	\$ 6,259,321	\$ 6,786,592	8.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 71,018	\$ 172,190	\$ 60,000	-65.2%
Revenue % of Expenditure	2%	3%	1%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (3) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget
2	Decrease in Capital Outlay and Revenues primarily due to VW settlement grant [DC Fast Chargers] received in FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

		\$ REQUEST	TRE
	Facility Services		
1	NEW Maintenance Assistant	\$50,580	\$0.00022
2	Pressure Washer	\$17,000	\$0.00007
3	Snow Plow	\$11,917	\$0.00005
4	M&R - Building and Grounds	\$28,000	\$0.00012

There were three new recommended positions in Facility Services would begin for in March 2024 to take over the current mowing contract. The future proposed contract prices for mowing has more than doubled, and Staff has determined that the mowing services can be done in-house for the same price as the current mowing contract.

Chairman McCall asked if the budget included a new mower. Sonya Flynn said the budget includes three new pieces of equipment; a mower for \$14,000, a Scag Tiger for \$9,800, and a walk-behind mower for \$7,000.

Facilities Services Director Andrew Griffin said all mowers and equipment combined do not exceed \$40,000.

COURT FACILITIES
115421

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 143,080	\$ 153,000	\$ 153,000	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 143,080	\$ 153,000	\$ 153,000	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 134,310	\$ 153,000	\$ 125,000	-18.3%
Revenue % of Expenditure	94%	100%	82%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Operating expenses remain consistent with FY23 budget levels
2	Decrease in Revenues due to trending reduction in court costs

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
115422

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	14	15	17	13.3%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	1	1	1	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,348,131	\$ 1,667,234	\$ 1,785,324	7.1%
Operating	\$ 2,117,889	\$ 3,754,035	\$ 4,034,202	7.5%
Capital	\$ 158,435	\$ 324,145	\$ 394,100	21.6%
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,624,456	\$ 5,745,414	\$ 6,213,626	8.1%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (2) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget
2	Increase in Capital cost due to technology equipment requested in FY24

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Business Analyst	\$79,747	\$0.00035
2 Temporary/Part-Time Salaries	\$16,157	\$0.00007
3 Technology items for new positions shown as unfunded in FY24 Proposed Budget	\$23,500	\$0.00010

The budget staff recommended within this budget two additional staff positions, one computer support technician and an A/V Technician.

Vice-Chair Edney asked if this budget included funds for new screens in the meeting room, and Mark Seelenbacher said those funds were included.

WELLNESS CLINIC
115436

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	7	8	8	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 895,368	\$ 1,045,571	\$ 1,139,349	9.0%
Operating	\$ 238,314	\$ 306,744	\$ 321,637	4.9%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,133,682	\$ 1,352,315	\$ 1,460,986	8.0%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Operating expenses reflect a small increase for HRA costs
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Chairman McCall asked for an update on the status of the Wellness Center expansion at the King Street Building. Amy Brantley said cost is a significant factor in the project, and with the future of the King Street Building being unknown, they are reluctant to move forward.

Vice-Chair Edney asked Budget staff to get the cost for an X-Ray Machine for the Wellness Clinic.

DEBT SERVICE
115913

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
2015 Series LOBs	\$ 1,322,747	\$ 1,323,663	\$ 1,322,746	-0.1%
2013 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 633,412	\$ 609,562	\$ 585,216	-4.0%
2012 Refinancing Bonds	\$ 830,657	\$ 791,994	\$ 756,366	-4.5%
2010 LEC/Court Services	\$ 620,000	\$ 596,000	\$ 572,000	-4.0%
2016 LOBS	\$ 947,071	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
2017 Emergency Services	\$ 1,038,913	\$ 1,013,713	\$ 988,513	-2.5%
Professional Services	\$ 6,558	\$ 10,000	\$ 13,500	35.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,399,357	\$ 4,344,932	\$ 4,238,341	-2.5%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	The FY24 Proposed Budget includes funding for debt to be paid down at prescribed levels
2	Increase in Professional Services reflects additional fees for Moody's required for additional borrowing [JCAR]

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Vice-Chair Edney asked what was the maximum debt ceiling limit under this budget. Amy Brantley said; it is essentially 8% of the tax base.

Commissioner Hill asked if the JCAR project was included. Ms. Brantley said no, there would not be any debt service in FY24. However, she said there is presumably an interest-only payment in FY25 and a full year of debt service in FY26.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL
115930

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 13,168	\$ 405,616	\$ 300,000	-26.0%
Occupancy Tax Transmittal	\$ 3,748,446	\$ 4,153,408	\$ -	-100.0%
Retiree Insurance Fund	\$ 254,696	\$ 814,518	\$ 455,510	-44.1%
Bat Fork Creek Grant	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	-100.0%
Pleasant Grove Grant	\$ -	\$ 950,000	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,016,310	\$ 7,323,542	\$ 755,510	-89.7%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Personnel expenses are for workers' compensation and unemployment insurance claims that arise during the fiscal year
2	Occupancy tax transmittal is for TDA occupancy taxes, and a budget amendment will be processed at the end of FY24 to bring in that revenue and expense
3	Retiree Insurance Fund is to cover medical and dental costs for anticipated retirees in FY24

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Chairman McCall asked for an explanation of Occupancy Tax Transmittal. Ms. Brantley said that is the occupancy tax that is collected in the county and is not budgeted for here because the amount has yet to be known. As the occupancy tax is collected throughout the Fiscal Year, and there is a better idea, a budget amendment is brought before the Board to bring those funds in. This is pass-thru money that comes in and goes to the TDA. There will be a number there; it is just unknown at this point.

Commissioner Lapsley asked if there was a projection of that number. Ms. Brantley said, in looking at the trend, that her best guess was approximately \$4.2M.

Vice-chair Edney said he had asked Ms. Flynn to look into expenses to expand the insurance coverage on retiree health family coverage. Ms. Flynn said she had spoken to Human Resources Director Karen Ensley and feels Mrs. Ensley is better qualified to answer Edney's question on what may and may not be done. Ms. Brantley said Staff would get that information to the Board.

TRANSFERS FROM GENERAL FUND
115980

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Capital Reserve Fund (Fund 21)	\$ 1,894,808	\$ 1,710,808	\$ -	-100.0%
Fire Districts Fund (Fund 23)	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	-100.0%
E911 Fund (Fund 28)	\$ 1,830	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Transit Fund (Fund 38)	\$ 280,515	\$ 14,874	\$ -	-100.0%
Capital Project Fund (Fund 40)	\$ 5,323,551	\$ 2,029,528	\$ 250,000	-87.7%
HCPS MRTS Fund (Fund 44)	\$ 4,934,424	\$ 5,132,424	\$ -	-100.0%
BRCC MRTS Fund (Fund 45)	\$ 3,289,616	\$ 3,421,616	\$ -	-100.0%
Debt Service (Fund 50)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,224,535	100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 15,744,744	\$ 12,329,250	\$ 7,474,535	-39.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 2,740,152	\$ 3,315,319	\$ 72,217	-97.8%
Revenue % of Expenditure	17%	27%	1%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	The Capital Project Fund includes \$200,000 for IT depreciation and \$50,000 towards future replacement of a communications tower (year 3 of 3)
2	The Debt Service Fund transfer of \$7.2 million is to smooth the debt service over the next four years for the JCAR project
3	FY22 & FY23 revenues included transfers in from the Debt Service Fund
4	The transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund of 1 cent TRE was suspended to provide funding for the JCAR 4-year cycle

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Ms. Brantley said Transfers from General Fund’s budget are where cost for planning projects such as JCAR would be shown.

Commissioner Lapsley asked for a reminder of what Fire District Funds were. Ms. Brantley said that was \$20,000 that was directed to the Mills River Fire Department in the PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) fund at this Board’s direction the last two years. Commissioner Lapsley suggested that \$20,000 be added back for FY24. And added a reminder that he would like the funds for MRTS added back for Henderson County Public School and Blue Ridge Community College.

FINANCE
115413

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	11	12	12	0.0%
Part Time	1	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 991,277	\$ 1,111,014	\$ 1,195,021	7.6%
Operating	\$ 114,514	\$ 138,734	\$ 149,632	7.9%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,105,791	\$ 1,249,748	\$ 1,344,653	7.6%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	No significant issues for FY24
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

TAX DEPARTMENT
115414 / 115415

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	21	21	22	4.8%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,705,091	\$ 1,845,909	\$ 2,028,230	9.9%
Operating	\$ 544,499	\$ 693,652	\$ 694,759	0.2%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,249,591	\$ 2,539,561	\$ 2,722,989	7.2%
Total Revenue	\$ 413	\$ 750	\$ 750	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (1) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

		\$ REQUEST	TRE
	Tax Assessor		
1	NEW Compliance Auditor	\$65,617	\$0.00029
2	Additional reclassification request	\$1,314	\$0.00001

The Tax Department encompasses both the Tax Collector and the Tax Assessor. There was request for a new Compliance Officer that was not funded in this recommended budget. There was one new position recommended for a GIS Specialist to replace an employee with vast institutional knowledge that will retire in the next two years.

REAPPRAISAL RESERVE FUND
255417

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	12	13	13	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 711,177	\$ 929,862	\$ 969,611	4.3%
Operating	\$ 139,283	\$ 522,631	\$ 540,410	3.4%
Capital	\$ 48,308	\$ 64,888	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 898,769	\$ 1,517,381	\$ 1,510,021	-0.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,153,683	\$ 1,517,381	\$ 1,510,021	-0.5%
Revenue % of Expenditure	128%	100%	100%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Capital Outlay costs due to vehicles purchased in FY23
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Real Property Appraiser I	\$104,102	\$0.00045

Commissioner Lapsley asked how many vehicles the county owns. Andrew Griffin said including the approximately 250 sheriff department vehicles there were 444 county-owned vehicles.

Chairman McCall took the opportunity to remind county employees who drive those vehicles to carefully obey all traffic laws because you never know who may be watching.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / FIRE SERVICES
115433 / 115434

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	7	8	8	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,059,690	\$ 916,567	\$ 1,266,708	38.2%
Operating	\$ 419,279	\$ 765,752	\$ 517,068	-32.5%
Capital	\$ 295,913	\$ 165,970	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,774,881	\$ 1,848,289	\$ 1,783,776	-3.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 311,515	\$ 174,043	\$ 65,479	-62.4%
Revenue % of Expenditure	18%	9%	4%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Personnel costs due to reclassification of (1) position in FY23 and budgeting for workers' compensation costs reinstated by the State for FY24 also reflected in the FY24 decrease in Operating expenses
2	Decrease in Capital Outlay costs due to items purchased with grant funding during FY23
3	Decrease in anticipated Revenues due to grants received during FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

		\$ REQUEST	TRE
	Emergency Management		
1	Enclosed Box Truck (Used)	\$81,119	\$0.00035
	Fire Services		
1	NEW Fire Training Facility Technician	\$76,924	\$0.00033
2	Truck Cap	\$3,707	\$0.00002
3	Cargo Glide	\$2,899	\$0.00001
4	Forklift (could use Capital Reserve Fund)	\$87,781	\$0.00038
5	Trailer for Forklift (could use Capital Reserve Fund)	\$7,995	\$0.00003
6	Digital Radio Upgrade	\$163,001	\$0.00071
7	NEW Full-Size Truck	\$55,372	\$0.00024

There is one increase in personnel and one reclassification, but the most significant portion was for workers' compensation. There was approximately \$250,000/per year budgeted due to State changes regarding their coverage of volunteer firefighters. The state has covered the costs in the past but the expense is not covered in the next fiscal year and foreseeable future.

Commissioner Andreotta referenced the unfunded request for a new Fire Training Facility Technician. He would like to see this position funded in next year's budget.

Emergency Training Director Jimmy Brissie said the Fire Training Center located on the campus of BRCC was funded by and large by local fire departments. An agreement was signed to put a portion of their fire tax into a fund to pay for the facility. The day-to-day governance of that facility is currently covered by a committee of fire chiefs. Fire Marshal Kevin Waldrup and Mr. Brissie have determined that this model needs to be changed because someone needs to check in after classes to ensure that things are being done. The college's focus is program delivery and not day-to-day maintenance.

The association had conversations about the new Fire Training Facility Technician position and voted to fund \$30,000/per year from its fire training center fund to help pay for this new position. This would also open up the facility for more users. The goal moving forward with the training center is to make it more of a true public safety training center where the needs of Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, and Rescue may be met.

Commissioner Andreotta asked if the new addition to the budget would be \$46,924. Mr. Brissie said that position would have some associated costs like the truck and the other items that would go with the truck – the truck cap and cargo glide. The first-year cost would be higher due to the need to provide a vehicle.

Chairman McCall asked why a vehicle was needed if the employee was always at the training center. Mr. Brissie said the employee would need to run errands to purchase supplies and move equipment.

Vice-Chair Edney said that BRCC’s budget included amounts from \$35,000 - \$55,000 over the next four years for the Fire Training Center. Mr. Brissie said those funds were likely for the completion of training center props that have been started over the last two years. In addition, the college has leveraged foundation and state funds to buy additional props.

Chairman McCall asked if it was for operating costs because the college pays for the electricity, garbage, and groundskeeping. Mr. Brissie said that with the lease agreement, the college is now responsible for maintaining the new building that the county constructed, which could also be included in those costs.

Commissioner Lapsley asked if the Board needed to add \$76,924 to the budget to fund the position and associated costs. Amy Brantley clarified that with the addition of the costs added for the new position, costs would also need to be added for the truck cap and the new full-size truck. Which would go to Fire Services staff, and a used truck already in service would be utilized for the new position.

John Mitchell stated that if the Board wishes to add this position, Staff will investigate the associated costs.

The consensus of the Board was to add the requested Fire Training Facility position.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
115437

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	75	75	76	1.3%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	1	1	0	-100.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 6,345,577	\$ 8,179,423	\$ 10,539,406	28.9%
Operating	\$ 740,144	\$ 1,166,036	\$ 1,745,654	49.7%
Capital	\$ 725,143	\$ 117,512	\$ 54,108	-54.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 7,810,865	\$ 9,462,971	\$ 12,339,168	30.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 4,381,442	\$ 4,225,000	\$ 4,075,000	-3.6%
Revenue % of Expenditure	56%	45%	33%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (1) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget and adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Increase in Operating costs due to increases in medical supplies, fuel costs, contracted services, insurance & general bonding, and the purchase & upfit of (3) ambulances for FY24 vs. (2) in FY23
3	Decrease in Capital Outlay due to additional medical equipment purchased in FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Vice-Chair Edney asked if EMS had successfully filled vacant positions with the salary increases the Board had approved earlier in the fiscal year. Mr. Brissie assured the Board that the investments they had made have changed a lot of lives. EMS went from having one truck and sometimes two ambulances out of service and twelve open positions in January to the two vacant positions currently open. In addition, EMS brought back at least four employees who had left employment with the County due to wages.

Commissioner Andreotta asked for an update on the Fletcher EMS station. County Engineer Marcus Jones said the contract documents are expected this week. Staff will review those documents and then begin the bidding process.

RESCUE SQUAD
115442

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 381,902	\$ 557,750	\$ 633,150	13.5%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 381,902	\$ 557,750	\$ 633,150	13.5%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Items funded per 4-year plan requests [volunteer expenses, wage structure adjustment & staffing increase]
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Operational Expenses	\$124,600	\$0.00054

Commissioner Hill said in speaking with Mr. Brissie that Rescue Squad EMTs are currently \$8.72/hour behind the EMS rate for an EMT. Those two positions are essentially the same position. The \$124,600 Operational Expenses that were unfunded would have provided the wage to be increased to within \$2.72/per hour behind the EMS rate. Commissioner Hill requested that this be added back into the budget. Jimmy Brissie said this was a different job function running convalescent service and backup 911. He believes the increased wage would be a reasonable differential wage.

The consensus of the Board was to add the \$124,600 back into the proposed budget.

BUILDING SERVICES
115435

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	14	17	17	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,119,578	\$ 1,318,483	\$ 1,480,009	12.3%
Operating	\$ 110,977	\$ 187,047	\$ 175,739	-6.0%
Capital	\$ 24,385	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,254,940	\$ 1,505,530	\$ 1,655,748	10.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 2,066,686	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,575,000	5.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	165%	100%	95%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

ANIMAL SERVICES
115438

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	8	8	9	12.5%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 530,587	\$ 587,159	\$ 722,568	23.1%
Operating	\$ 180,562	\$ 276,964	\$ 231,859	-16.3%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,368	100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 711,149	\$ 864,123	\$ 963,795	11.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 87,159	\$ 87,500	\$ 87,500	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	12%	10%	9%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (1) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget and adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Decrease in Operating Costs due to purchase of a replacement vehicle in FY23
3	Increase in Capital Outlay costs due to the request for new animal cages in the Proposed Budget

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
115492

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	3	3	3	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 264,036	\$ 289,537	\$ 295,525	2.1%
Operating	\$ 7,077	\$ 47,158	\$ 35,778	-24.1%
Capital	\$ 26,630	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 297,743	\$ 336,695	\$ 331,303	-1.6%
Total Revenue	\$ 66,910	\$ 71,500	\$ 60,000	-16.1%
Revenue % of Expenditure	22%	21%	18%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Operating costs primarily due to decreases in printing & binding and M&R vehicles
2	Decrease in anticipated Revenues due to program grant [Abandoned Mobile Home] received in FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
115471

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	4	4	4	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 367,779	\$ 389,468	\$ 408,788	5.0%
Operating	\$ 52,591	\$ 542,691	\$ 117,301	-78.4%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 420,370	\$ 932,159	\$ 526,089	-43.6%
Total Revenue	\$ 69,931	\$ 530,732	\$ 108,150	-79.6%
Revenue % of Expenditure	17%	57%	21%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Operating costs and anticipated Revenues due to grant funding received in FY23
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Overtime	\$1,533	\$0.00001
2 NEW Full-Size Truck	\$58,115	\$0.00025
3 Inventory	\$500	\$0.00000

PLANNING

115491

STAFFING LEVELS

	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	6	7	8	14.3%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER

	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 532,124	\$ 760,319	\$ 911,199	19.8%
Operating	\$ 157,537	\$ 153,108	\$ 115,756	-24.4%
Capital	\$ 24,154	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 713,816	\$ 913,427	\$ 1,026,955	12.4%
Total Revenue	\$ 13,815	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	2%	2%	1%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Includes funding for (1) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget and adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Decrease in Operating costs primarily due to a reduction in professional services for FY24

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

PUBLIC TRANSIT

335497

COST CENTER

	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ 115,470	\$ 118,934	3.0%
Operating	\$ 907,614	\$ 972,933	\$ 936,144	-3.8%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,707	100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 907,614	\$ 1,088,403	\$ 1,147,785	5.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 2,268,179	\$ 1,088,403	\$ 1,147,785	5.5%
Revenue % of Expenditure	250%	100%	100%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Capital Outlay due to the proposed purchase of a new transit bus for FY24
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

SITE DEVELOPMENT

115493

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	2	2	2	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 227,234	\$ 241,325	\$ 267,624	10.9%
Operating	\$ 7,421	\$ 6,016	\$ 53,866	795.4%
Capital	\$ 24,154	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 258,808	\$ 247,341	\$ 321,490	30.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 136,975	\$ 88,295	\$ 42,535	-51.8%
Revenue % of Expenditure	53%	36%	13%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs
2	Increase in Operating costs due to the proposed purchase of a replacement vehicle for FY24
3	Decrease in Revenues due to anticipated reduction in land disturbance projects over 5 acres

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 Temporary/Part-Time Salaries	\$26,389	\$0.00011

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

115496

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	2	2	2	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 272,196	\$ 278,772	\$ 257,021	-7.8%
Operating	\$ 4,663	\$ 8,028	\$ 10,339	28.8%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 276,858	\$ 286,800	\$ 267,360	-6.8%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Personnel costs due to retirement of long-term employee in FY23
2	Slight increase in Operating Costs due to minor adjustments in several department expenditure lines

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
115498

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Bright Farms	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77,168	100.0%
Demmel	\$ 22,255	\$ 22,255	\$ -	-100.0%
Flat Rock Playhouse	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Gaia Herbs	\$ 50,794	\$ 52,393	\$ 53,239	1.6%
Jabil	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,464	100.0%
Kimberly Clark	\$ 52,594	\$ 46,283	\$ 39,971	-13.6%
Low Impact Technologies USA	\$ -	\$ 17,672	\$ 27,088	53.3%
Meritor	\$ 46,643	\$ 2,790	\$ -	-100.0%
Norafin	\$ -	\$ 81,812	\$ 81,812	0.0%
Partnership for Econ Development	\$ 376,750	\$ 439,000	\$ 434,000	-1.1%
Partnership Match for EIF	\$ 77,500	\$ 77,500	\$ 82,500	6.5%
Payments to Other Agencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	100.0%
Smart Products Inc.	\$ -	\$ 11,655	\$ 11,655	0.0%
Smart Trac	\$ -	\$ 50,364	\$ 84,880	68.5%
Total Expenditures	\$ 656,536	\$ 801,724	\$ 930,777	16.1%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Economic Development incentives are budgeted each year pursuant to Board action
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

HERITAGE MUSEUM
115494

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	90%	90%	90%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	No significant changes for FY24. Operating expenses remain consistent with FY23 budget levels.
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

AGRIBUSINESS
115499

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	1	1	1	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 170,098	\$ 185,917	\$ 197,134	6.0%
Operating	\$ 37,865	\$ 1,351	\$ 1,407	4.1%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 207,964	\$ 187,268	\$ 198,541	6.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 57,526	\$ 37,268	\$ 48,541	30.2%
Revenue % of Expenditure	28%	20%	24%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	County contribution remains at \$150,000 for FY24 Proposed Budget
2	Increase in revenues represents increase in agribusiness program fees necessary to cover operating costs

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Temporary/Part-Time	\$21,543	\$0.00009
2 Additional \$40,000 contribution from County	\$40,000	\$0.00017

Vice-Chair Edney said the Board needs to consider the new temp/part-time position that was requested but not funded. Chairman McCall agreed and noted that a part time position does not include benefits. Amy Brantley said the position would include FICA but not medical or retirement benefits. Chairman McCall said it is a small price to pay to ensure that Mark Williams can be out doing what is intended for his position as opposed to completing tasks that a temporary/part-time position could complete.

AgriBusiness Director Mark Williams clarified that The \$40,000 additional contribution from the County included the Part-time position and was NOT in addition to the \$21,543 request. The additional funds would be used for general operating expenses due to growth.

It was the consensus of the Board to add a total of \$40,000 to the Agribusiness Budget; \$21,543 for the temp/part-time position and the remaining \$18,457 to be used for general operating expenses.

FORESTRY SERVICES
115470

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 49,173	\$ 91,484	\$ 151,972	66.1%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 49,173	\$ 91,484	\$ 151,972	66.1%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Operating costs due to request to replace (2) trucks for FY24 [County share = 40%]
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
115495

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 395,334	\$ 522,883	\$ 531,221	1.6%
Operating	\$ 71,651	\$ 75,473	\$ 72,942	-3.4%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 466,985	\$ 598,356	\$ 604,163	1.0%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Slight reduction in Operating costs due to a reduction in contracted services based on anticipated educator salary costs
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

		\$ REQUEST	TRE
1	NEW Farmworker Health & Safety Agent	\$73,095	\$0.00032
2	Community Event Expenses	\$1,000	\$0.00000
3	WNC Development Association (Non-Profit)	\$2,781	\$0.00001

Chairman McCall asked the Board to consider funding the New Farmworker Health & Safety Agent. She explained that this is a currently an existing position being funded by grants associated with the pandemic and losing this already established position that provides educational information to farmworkers would be a hardship.

Cooperative Extension Director Dr. Terry Kelley clarified that the position would be a state position that the County funds. He believes there is only one other position that the County fully funds.

Commissioner Hill asked if the \$73,095 was for salary and benefits only, and Dr. Kelley said yes, that was correct, and the Cooperative Extension’s existing budget would fund any travel required.

It was the consensus of the Board to fund the new Farmworker Health & Safety position for \$73,095, the Community Event expenses for \$1,000, and the \$2,781 for WNC Development Association (non-profit).

HOME & COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT
115513

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 893,189	\$ 820,541	\$ 820,541	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 893,189	\$ 820,541	\$ 820,541	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 893,189	\$ 820,541	\$ 820,541	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	100%	100%	100%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Funding amounts for FY24 have not been received from the State as of the printing of the Budget Message, therefore FY23 budget amounts have been used as an estimate. Program is 100% grant funded.
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

MEDICAL SERVICES
115516

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 97,050	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 97,050	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1 No significant issues for FY24. Funding remains consistent with FY23 budget levels.

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

MENTAL HEALTH
115520

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 528,612	\$ 528,612	\$ 528,612	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 528,612	\$ 528,612	\$ 528,612	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 259,989	\$ 200,000	\$ 225,000	12.5%
Revenue % of Expenditure	49%	38%	43%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1 No significant issues for FY24. Funding remains consistent with FY23 budget levels.
2 Anticipated Revenues are from ABC net revenues and bottle sales.

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

RURAL OPERATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
115521

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 123,557	\$ 201,384	\$ 201,384	0.0%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 123,557	\$ 201,384	\$ 201,384	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$ 201,432	\$ 201,384	\$ 201,384	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	163%	100%	100%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1 No significant issues for FY24. Program is 100% grant funded.

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS
115541

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating	\$ 303,088	\$ 218,745	\$ 302,020	38.1%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 303,088	\$ 218,745	\$ 302,020	38.1%
Total Revenue	\$ 269,295	\$ 193,745	\$ 266,020	37.3%
Revenue % of Expenditure	89%	89%	88%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	The majority of the funds for Juvenile Justice are State funds to be allocated by the JCPC
2	Funding for Juvenile Detention is recorded in juvenile detention fees and is county-funded at \$36,000 for FY24

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

VETERANS SERVICES
115582

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	0	0	2	0.0%
Part Time	1	1	0	-100.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 63,726	\$ 123,309	\$ 226,637	83.8%
Operating	\$ 17,216	\$ 17,811	\$ 19,067	7.1%
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 80,942	\$ 141,120	\$ 245,704	74.1%
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Revenue % of Expenditure	0%	0%	0%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Personnel costs due to staffing change of (1) part-time employee to full-time and funding for (1) additional staff for FY24 Proposed Budget
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UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS: NONE

Commissioner Lapsley asked what the projected start date was for the VFW Renovation project. Chris Todd informed the Board that Blum Construction had the project out for bid to get the actual GMP (guaranteed maximum price) to report to the Board. Those numbers are expected to be in June, and Staff has instructed Blum to be ready to begin the project in July as long as this Board gets an acceptable GMP number back.

The project is expected to be completed in 12 months; the Board expressed that they would like to hold the grand opening on July 4, 2024.

LIBRARY
115611

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2024 Goal	TARGET
New titles on shelves within 15 days of arrival	42%	57%	53%	50%	43%	45%	55%	80%
Programs offered	1,432	1,526	1,162	250	970	980	1,000	1,550
Technology classes offered	55	49	37	10	29	40	60	80

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	40	40	40	0.0%
Part Time	5	5	5	0.0%
Project	1	1	1	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 2,852,298	\$ 3,069,111	\$ 3,301,024	7.6%
Operating	\$ 741,144	\$ 963,163	\$ 719,853	-25.3%
Capital	\$ 47,779	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,641,221	\$ 4,032,274	\$ 4,020,877	-0.3%
Total Revenue	\$ 283,507	\$ 385,556	\$ 161,486	-58.1%
Revenue % of Expenditure	8%	10%	4%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Decrease in Operating costs due to reductions in several department lines such as publications, department supplies, and telephone & communications funded in FY23 with donations & endowments
2	Decrease in Revenues primarily due to donations / endowments which are received during the fiscal year and will be brought in via budget amendment as they are received

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Librarian II	\$62,214	\$0.00027
2 Publications	\$35,000	\$0.00015

Vice-Chair Edney asked if funds were included in this budget to finish the Barbara Barker Collection. He said that during the budget meeting in January, he asked that this be included and was told it would be.

Chairman McCall shared an update on the bookmobile for the library that has been on backorder. The vendor was waiting on the chassis to be delivered, and the county expedited the chassis to them, and they are moving forward to complete the order.

RECREATION
115612

STAFFING LEVELS	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Full Time	15	17	17	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Project	0	0	0	0.0%

COST CENTER	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
Personnel	\$ 1,418,362	\$ 1,640,901	\$ 1,897,780	15.7%
Operating	\$ 823,517	\$ 1,007,425	\$ 1,247,531	23.8%
Capital	\$ 44,510	\$ 6,025	\$ -	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,286,389	\$ 2,654,351	\$ 3,145,311	18.5%
Total Revenue	\$ 328,645	\$ 245,000	\$ 236,000	-3.7%
Revenue % of Expenditure	14%	9%	8%	

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1	Increase in Personnel costs due to adjustments in salary / benefit costs and additional overtime & auxiliary funds needed for more special events and programs
2	Increase in Operating costs primarily due to increases for fuel, building & grounds maintenance, professional services, insurance & general bonding, and the PARTF grant for Etowah Park
3	Decrease in Capital costs due to equipment purchased in FY23
4	Slight decrease in Revenues due to a reduction in anticipated softball fees for FY24 and donations received in FY23

UNFUNDED BUDGET REQUESTS:

	\$ REQUEST	TRE
1 NEW Park Technician II (with vehicle)	\$111,834	\$0.00049
2 NEW Office Assistant IV	\$53,195	\$0.00023
3 NEW Park Technician I (with vehicle)	\$113,682	\$0.00049
4 NEW Recreation Programmer	\$66,640	\$0.00029
5 Tennis Courts (lower) - replacement	\$250,000	\$0.00109
6 Tennis Courts (upper) - resurface	\$25,200	\$0.00011
7 Flip Field 7 - Jackson Park	\$30,000	\$0.00013
8 AAC Turf Soccer Field Replacement	\$475,000	\$0.00206
9 Kubota Utility Vehicle	\$15,500	\$0.00007
10 Buffalo Blower	\$9,700	\$0.00004
11 Kubota Mini Track Hoe	\$51,000	\$0.00022
12 Jackson Park - Lighting Upgrade (Fields 8 & 9)	\$457,000	\$0.00199
13 Snow Plow	\$10,867	\$0.00005
14 Divider Screen for gym	\$23,650	\$0.00010
15 Cleaning & Janitorial	\$2,750	\$0.00001
16 Printing & Binding	\$1,500	\$0.00001
17 Gasoline & Diesel	\$2,925	\$0.00001
18 Propane/Natural Gas	\$500	\$0.00000
19 Maintenance & Repair - Parks	\$6,000	\$0.00003
20 Professional Services	\$10,000	\$0.00004
21 Payments to Other Agencies	\$5,000	\$0.00002

Chairman McCall wants the Board to consider funding the New Office Assistant IV. This position would provide someone to answer the phones and answer questions about the numerous programs and camps the Recreation Department offers.

Chairman McCall asked if item 6 – Tennis Courts (upper) – resurface was asked for due to a safety issue. Mr. Gilliam said yes, there is a safety issue at the tennis courts

Mr. Gilliam said he had made a mistake on item 7 – Flip Field 7 – Jackson Park for \$30,000; that number should be \$150,000. He explained that flipping this field would help with traffic flow and assist any ambulances entering or exiting the park.

Chairman McCall said she would like to visit that field with Mr. Gilliam because flipping the field may affect the positioning of the light poles.

It was the consensus of the Board to fund the Office Assistant position for \$53,195 and to resurface the tennis courts (upper) for \$25,200.

DUES AND NON-PROFIT CONTRIBUTIONS

115402

Expenditures by Category

FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2024 REQUESTED	FY 2024 PROPOSED	% CHANGE
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Dues and Memberships

Land of Sky Regional Council	\$ 38,426	\$ 38,426	\$ 34,487	\$ 34,487	-10.3%
NC Assoc of County Commissioners	\$ 12,287	\$ 12,554	\$ 12,554	\$ 12,554	0.0%
School of Government	\$ 16,055	\$ 16,055	\$ 16,239	\$ 16,239	1.1%
Local Government Transit Match	\$ 9,692	\$ 9,692	\$ 9,692	\$ 9,692	0.0%
Land of Sky Regional Council MPO Match	\$ 22,865	\$ 26,950	\$ 26,950	\$ 26,950	0.0%
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 99,325	\$ 103,677	\$ 99,922	\$ 99,922	-3.6%

Non-Profits

Boy Scouts of America (Daniel Boone Council)	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0.0%
Flat Rock Playhouse	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	0.0%
Hendersonville Theatre	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ -	0.0%
NCAJ HS Moot Court	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 5,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 30,000	-9.1%

Human Service Non-Profits

Aspire Youth & Family, Inc. - Kids at Work!	\$ -	\$ 21,664	\$ 21,664	\$ 21,664	0.0%
Aspire Youth & Family, Inc. - Vocational Directions	\$ -	\$ 16,680	\$ 16,680	\$ 16,680	0.0%
Back on Track Addiction Ministries	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	-100.0%
Back on Track Addiction Ministries - Expansion of Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0.0%
Boys and Girls Club	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000	0.0%
Children & Family Resource Center	\$ 17,340	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	0.0%
Child Care Assessment (one time study)	\$ -	\$ 5,800	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
Council on Aging	\$ 36,075	\$ 40,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 40,000	0.0%
The Free Clinics	\$ 27,645	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	0.0%
H3 Collective (formerly Fostering Hopes)	\$ -	\$ 348,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	-100.0%
Henderson County Education History Initiative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ -	0.0%
Henderson County Young Leaders Program (Camplify)	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
The Hope Center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ -	0.0%
Housing Assistance Corporation	\$ 11,750	\$ 11,750	\$ 20,000	\$ 11,750	0.0%

Interfaith Assistance Ministry	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 20,000	0.0%
Literacy Connections (formerly Blue Ridge Literacy Council)	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.0%
The Mediation Center	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500	0.0%
Medical Loan Closet	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0.0%
Only Hope WNC	\$ 18,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 24,000	0.0%
Only Hope WNC (expansion request)	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
Open Arms Crisis Pregnancy Center	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 20,000	0.0%
Pisgah Legal Services	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,500	0.0%
Safelight	\$ 47,500	\$ 50,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 50,000	0.0%
Smart Start Partnership for Children	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0.0%
St. Gerard House	\$ 50,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 60,000	0.0%
United Way 211 Program	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.0%
Vocational Solutions	\$ 41,625	\$ 41,625	\$ 75,000	\$ 41,625	0.0%
WNCSource: Medical Transportation	\$ 11,100	\$ 11,100	\$ 14,000	\$ 11,100	0.0%
WNCSource: Community Transportation Grant Match	\$ 38,905	\$ 38,905	\$ 46,803	\$ 38,905	0.0%
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 362,440	\$ 880,524	\$ 893,647	\$ 463,724	-47.3%

Total Expenditures	\$ 466,765	\$ 1,017,201	\$ 1,063,569	\$ 593,646	-41.6%
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SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

1 See unfunded expansion budget requests
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UNFUNDED EXPANSION BUDGET REQUESTS:

		\$ REQUEST	TRE
1	Boy Scouts - Daniel Boone Council	\$ 10,000	\$0.00004
2	Hendersonville Little Theatre	\$ 30,000	\$0.00013
3	Back on Track Addiction Ministries	\$ 50,000	\$0.00022
4	Back on Track Addiction Ministries - Expansion	\$ 100,000	\$0.00043
5	Boys and Girls Club	\$ 5,000	\$0.00002
6	Children & Families Resource Center	\$ 5,000	\$0.00002
7	Council on Aging	\$ 10,000	\$0.00004
8	H3 Collective	\$ 20,000	\$0.00009
9	Education History Initiative	\$ 7,000	\$0.00003
10	The Hope Center	\$ 30,000	\$0.00013
11	Housing Assistance Corporation	\$ 8,250	\$0.00004
12	Interfaith Assistance Ministry	\$ 70,000	\$0.00030
13	Medical Loan Closet	\$ 5,000	\$0.00002
14	Only Hope WNC	\$ 8,000	\$0.00003
15	Open Arms Crisis Pregnancy Center	\$ 10,000	\$0.00004
16	Pisgah Legal Services	\$ 12,500	\$0.00005
17	Safelight	\$ 10,000	\$0.00004
18	SmartStart	\$ 20,000	\$0.00009
19	St Gerard House	\$ 15,000	\$0.00007
20	Vocational Solutions	\$ 33,375	\$0.00014
21	WNC Source - Medical Transportation	\$ 2,900	\$0.00001
22	WNC Source - Community Transportation	\$ 7,898	\$0.00003

Vice-Chair Edney would like to add back item 3 – Back on Track Addiction Ministries for \$50,000 and item 4 – Back on Track Ministries – Expansion for \$100,000.

Chairman McCall asked if Back on Track had been audited. Ms. Brantley said no, it had not been. Chairman McCall would like this to be a condition of funding the \$150,000. She would also like to look into the current need for funding Flat Rock Playhouse before funding the \$30,000 currently funded in the proposed budget.

A representative from Open Arms Crisis Pregnancy Center spoke about the needs of the non-profit and thanked the Board for any contributions provided.

Michael Absher with Only Hope WNC spoke about the needs of the non-profit. He shared that the City of Hendersonville had agreed to pay the water bill for the non-profit in the future.

A representative from Back on Track Ministries spoke about the needs of the non-profit and thanked the Board for their consideration of funding their requests totaling \$150,000 contributions provided.

Boys and Girls Club Director Karen Milford spoke about the needs of the non-profit and thanked the Board for any contributions provided.

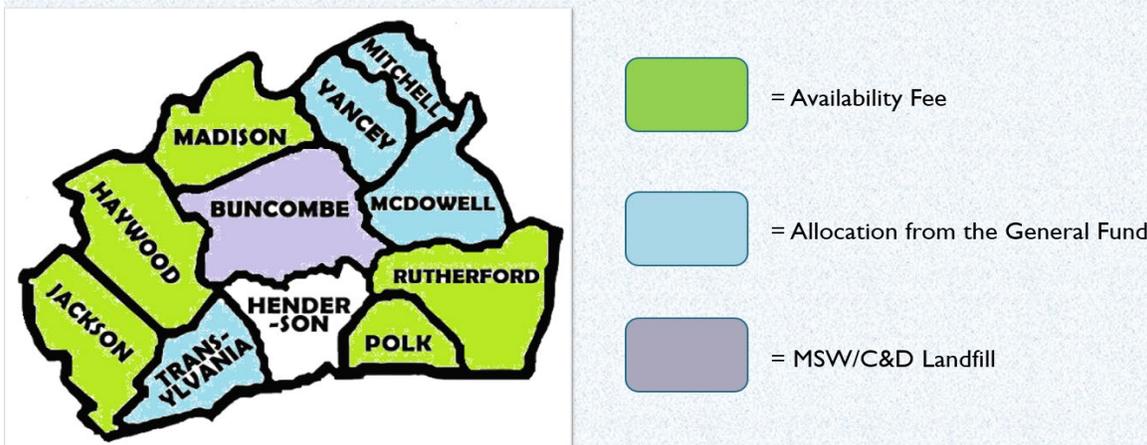
Commissioner Lapsley would like the Board to consider adding back the \$20,000 requested by H3 Collective (formerly Fostering Hope). This non-profit was funded last year but not in this proposed budget. He would also like consideration of the \$20,000 request made by the Housing Assistance Corporation. He was also in support of the additions requested by Vice-Chair Edney.

The next item presented was the proposed budget for Solid Waste.

SOLID WASTE FUNDING OPTIONS
FY 2023-2024 FUNDING SHORTFALL = \$2,090,288

- Solid Waste User Fees made up 93.78% of the non-grant related revenue picture in FY 2022-2023
- As proposed, FY 2023-2024 user fees make up 93.43% of the estimated non-grant related revenues
- Recommendation:
 - General Fund Allocation = \$1,500,000
 - Budget Hauling Contract costs at \$5,622,256 (a 25% increase from FY23)

SOLID WASTE FUNDING OPTIONS
FY 2023-2024 FUNDING SHORTFALL = \$2,090,288



John Mitchell said there was a two-part ask for solid waste. First, a request that the Board approve a budget amendment to move \$1.5M from fund balance to Solid Waste in this fiscal year. Secondly, that the Board would agree with the theory presented for the next fiscal year to bring in \$1.5M from the general fund as opposed to a availability fee or some other mechanism.

County Engineer Marcus Jones said the hauling contract was approximately a \$4M/year contract, and with the fuel surcharge, the impact by approximately \$1M on that line item. That is a 25% increase on that one item.

For Clarity, Commissioner Lapsley asked if the Board would need to approve a \$1.5M budget amendment for this shortfall again in the next fiscal year. John Mitchell said no, this amount would be included in the budget for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Jones said they are asking for a change in funding policy for Solid Waste.

Amy Brantley added the approval of the \$1.5M budget amendment to get Solid Waste through FY23 and to add \$1.5M to your FY24 proposed budget is what is being presented for the Board's approval.

Commissioner Lapsley would like to approve the budget amendment for this fiscal year but wants to revisit the addition of the \$1.5M for FY24 in August.

Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to approve the budget amendment for \$1.5M for FY23. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

FY 24 Fire Departments Budget Overview

Jimmy Brissie thanked the Board for allowing him to update the Board on the twelve local fire departments. For the public's benefit, he explained the purpose of the Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee (FRAC). This is a group of volunteers that was enacted in 2000. The committee is an intermediary between the Board and the fire departments evaluating their budgets and assisting them in determining needs. Since the committee was formed, several counties have followed the model and enacted their own committees.

FRAC met in February to discuss their budget process, reminding them that this is the year to present the Board with their four-year plan. Once FRAC met with Darlene Burgess and her team from the tax office, the fire departments began working on their budgets, which were submitted in April and then shared with the FRAC. This year the budgets packets were 745 pages long and included their tax returns and audits. The FRAC reviewed the submissions and developed questions to ask ahead of the budget presentations at the fire departments.

Four Year Plan Emerging Issues

Each Fire Department was asked to identify the top three emerging issues they would be facing in the next four years. The results included:

- Staffing
- Replacement Fire Apparatus
- Facilities



Emerging Issues - Staffing

- 100% of departments reported this as a need
- All Fire Departments are seeing a continued decrease in volunteers interested in serving their community. When coupled with the increased demand for services they are required to add additional staff.
- To overcome increased competition in the private sector and other public safety agencies in the County and region agencies are having to adjust starting pay rates. Most are increasing from an average of \$37,000 to an average of \$47,000. Most departments are implementing a career ladder program to encourage retention.
- Agencies are having to increase benefits to remain competitive in the market.
- **57% of the total proposed increases of FD expenses are allocated for payroll and benefits.**



Emerging Issues – Apparatus & Equipment Costs

- 67% of departments reported this as a need
- All departments reported the need to replace or refurbish apparatus in the next four years

New fire engine cost in 2018: \$484,000
 Cost of the same truck in 2022: \$719,000 (49% increase)*
...the manufacturer has reported a 6% increase in truck costs since 2022

- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards specify turnout gear be replaced every 10 years. Due to the exposure to carcinogens OSHA recommends firefighters have two sets of turnout gear available for use. There are over 500 firefighters countywide.

New turnout gear cost in 2021 \$2654
 The same gear now costs \$3400 (30% increase)*

*Source: Edneyville FD Budget Summary



Emerging Issues – Facilities

- 50% of departments reported this as a need
- Repairs, renovations and construction are needed at several departments which were constructed during the 1960s - 1980s. These will increase access and availability and allow the agencies to continue to grow for increasing service demands. Examples include:
 - Etowah Horse-Shoe FD
 - Mountain Home FD
 - Green River FD
 - Blue Ridge FD
- One new substation is proposed in the Mountain Home fire district



FRAC Recommended Tax Rates

Fire District	Current Rate	Revenue Neutral Rate	Requested Rate	FRAC Recommendation
Bat Cave	\$0.120	\$0.087	\$0.120	\$0.120
Blue Ridge	\$0.130	\$0.102	\$0.130	\$0.130
Dana	\$0.140	\$0.105	\$0.140	\$0.140
Edneyville	\$0.115	\$0.089	\$0.115	\$0.115
Etowah-Horse Shoe	\$0.115	\$0.084	\$0.115	\$0.115
Fletcher	\$0.115	\$0.087	\$0.105	\$0.105
Gerton	\$0.135	\$0.101	\$0.135	\$0.135
Green River	\$0.100	\$0.080	\$0.100	\$0.100
Mills River	\$0.110	\$0.085	\$0.100	\$0.100
Mountain Home	\$0.120	\$0.093	\$0.115	\$0.115
Saluda	\$0.120	\$0.089	\$0.120	\$0.120
Valley Hill	\$0.100	\$0.074	\$0.090	\$0.090

Overall Revenue Summary

FY23 FD Revenue	FY24 FD Revenue	Change	
\$11,800,297	\$15,576,653	\$3,776,356 (+32%)	County
\$5,134,777	\$6,674,400	\$1,539,623 (+30%)	Municipalities

Tax Revenue (County Only)

Department	FY23 County Revenue	FY24 County Revenue	FY Comparison	
Bat Cave	\$ 108,743	\$ 185,830	\$ 77,087	71%
Blue Ridge	\$ 1,609,918	\$ 2,066,745	\$ 456,827	28%
Dana	\$ 876,771	\$ 1,230,549	\$ 353,778	40%
Edneyville	\$ 1,135,789	\$ 1,530,538	\$ 394,749	35%
Etowah-HS	\$ 1,651,839	\$ 2,340,463	\$ 688,624	42%
Fletcher	\$ 1,266,109	\$ 1,574,470	\$ 308,361	24%
Gerton	\$ 192,791	\$ 281,313	\$ 88,522	46%
Green River	\$ 717,610	\$ 911,418	\$ 193,808	27%
Mills River	\$ 176,122	\$ 297,210	\$ 121,088	69%
Mountain Home	\$ 1,915,295	\$ 2,439,621	\$ 524,326	27%
Saluda	\$ 283,650	\$ 389,577	\$ 105,927	37%
Valley Hill	\$ 1,865,660	\$ 2,328,919	\$ 463,259	25%
Total	\$ 11,800,297	\$ 15,576,653	\$ 3,776,356	

Source: FD Revenue Worksheets

Department	FY23	FY24	Change \$	Change %
	All Tax Revenue	All Tax Revenue		
Bat Cave	\$ 108,743	\$ 185,830	\$ 77,087	71%
Blue Ridge	\$ 2,415,603	\$ 3,119,757	\$ 704,154	29%
Dana	\$ 876,771	\$ 1,230,549	\$ 353,778	40%
Edneyville	\$ 1,135,789	\$ 1,530,538	\$ 394,749	35%
Etowah-HS	\$ 1,651,839	\$ 2,340,463	\$ 688,624	42%
Fletcher	\$ 2,772,084	\$ 3,407,645	\$ 635,561	23%
Gerton	\$ 192,791	\$ 281,313	\$ 88,522	46%
Green River	\$ 840,580	\$ 1,070,090	\$ 229,510	27%
Mills River	\$ 1,744,580	\$ 2,575,810	\$ 831,230	48%
Mountain Home	\$ 1,915,295	\$ 2,439,621	\$ 524,326	27%
Saluda	\$ 670,579	\$ 805,467	\$ 134,888	20%
Valley Hill	\$ 2,610,420	\$ 3,263,970	\$ 653,550	25%
Total	\$ 16,935,074	\$ 22,251,053	\$ 5,315,979	31%

Source: FD Revenue Worksheets

FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS & RECOMMENDATION

Fire Department	FY 23 Rate	Revenue Neutral	FY 24 Request	FRAC Recommendation
Bat Cave	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.086	\$0.120	\$0.120
Blue Ridge	\$ 0.130	\$ 0.103	\$0.130	\$0.130
Dana	\$ 0.140	\$ 0.106	\$0.140	\$0.140
Edneyville	\$ 0.115	\$ 0.090	\$0.115	\$0.115
Etowah	\$ 0.115	\$ 0.085	\$0.115	\$0.115
Fletcher	\$ 0.115	\$ 0.089	\$0.105	\$0.105
Gerton	\$ 0.135	\$ 0.101	\$0.135	\$0.135
Green River	\$ 0.100	\$ 0.081	\$0.100	\$0.100
Mills River	\$ 0.110	\$ 0.087	\$0.100	\$0.100
Mountain Home	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.094	\$0.115	\$0.115
Saluda	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.090	\$0.120	\$0.120
Valley Hill	\$ 0.100	\$ 0.074	\$0.090	\$0.090

PROPERTY TAX RATE SCENARIOS

Property Value	Tax Rate	Ad Valorem Taxes
\$100,000	\$0.561	\$561.00
\$200,000	\$0.561	\$1,122.00
\$100,000	\$0.431	\$431.00
\$130,162	\$0.431	\$561.00
\$148,000	\$0.431	\$637.88
\$200,000	\$0.431	\$862.00
\$100,000	\$0.461	\$461.00
\$130,162	\$0.461	\$600.05
\$148,000	\$0.461	\$682.28
\$200,000	\$0.461	\$922.00

* Ad Valorem Taxes equate to 1 Cent per \$100 value, or \$1.00 for every \$10,000 in value.

Commissioner Hill serves as the Commissioner liaison on the FRAC and shared that there are other pressures on volunteer fire departments. One is the loss of district and not just from the city annexation policies. The conservation lands are also impacting some of our districts as call volumes have increased on conservation lands. This affects Mills River, Gerton, Bat Cave, Green River, Blue Ridge, and Valley Hill. (Which has some state lands in its district). He said the most significant pressure they are facing is wages and trying to recruit new employees and retain existing staff.

Mr. Brissie said Bat Cave and Gerton were the two fire departments with the most significant portion of conservation land within their districts. However, those departments still provide services to those areas and, in some cases, a higher level of service.

Chairman McCall asked how much land was in the conservation easements. Mr. Brissie said there are 669 acres in Gerton and 492 acres in Bat Cave.

Chairman McCall asked which departments were affected by state lands. Mr. Brissie said that Valley Hill, Green River, Blue Ridge, and Mills River has federal lands.

Chairman McCall asked for information that includes the amount of funds that are earmarked for staff, how much for gear, and how much for facilities. Mr. Brissie will provide the information. Chairman McCall said for her that the rating is staffing, gear, and facilities.

There was a lengthy discussion about the requests and recommendations that the fire departments submitted, and additional information was requested as described above. The Board agreed to continue the discussion after the requested information was received and reviewed.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Daniel Andreotta shared that the ribbon cutting for the new all-inclusive playground was held the previous Saturday, and there was a fantastic turnout. The playground is impressive, and the children were thrilled.

No other Board members had updates to share.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

The county manager did not have any updates.

Chairman McCall made the motion to adjourn at 4:06 p.m. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

Rebecca McCall, Chairman

DRAFT