MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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, North Carolina.

Those present were Chairman Rebecca McCall, Vice-Chair J. Michael Edney, Commissioner William "Bill" 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 Chris Todd, Finance Director Samantha Reynolds, Budget Manager/Internal Auditor Sonya Flynn, Budget Analyst Jennifer Miranda, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Senior Planner Janna Bianculli, Facility Services Director Andrew Griffin, Capital Projects Manager Bryan Rhodes, Register of Deeds Lee King, Human Resources Director Karen Ensley, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Detention Captain Todd McCrain, Chief Communications Officer Mike Morgan and PIO Kathy Finotti videotaping. Deputy Chris Stepp provided security.

Absent was Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

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

INVOCATION

Cantor Ted Lebow with the Agudas Israel Congregation provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

2023. 146 Service Badge and Sidearm Request – Chief Deputy Vanesa Gilbert

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office requests that the service badge and sidearm of Chief Deputy Vanesa Gilbert be given to her in recognition of her retirement from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Chief Deputy Vanesa Gilbert began her career with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office December 19, 1994 and held the ranks of Deputy, Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain-Detention and Chief Deputy for over 29 years in the Sheriff's Office. To honor her and show our gratitude, the Sheriff's Office intends to present her with service badge and service sidearm to her.

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 CHIEF DEPUTY VANESA GILBERT

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Gilbert joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy on December 19, 1994, and held the ranks of Deputy, Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain-Detention, and Chief Deputy.

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Gilbert's service and dedication to the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and service, dedication, and accomplishments in the field of law enforcement during her 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, Chief Deputy Gilbert has served as a member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office for a period of more than 29 years and is retiring from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office on October 1, 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 Gilbert the badge worn by her during her 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 Chief Deputy Gilbert her service sidearm at no cost to the officer and upon her 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 Chief Deputy Gilbert for her dedicated service to Henderson County and its citizens.

Adopted this the 15th day of November 2023.

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

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman McCall added an update from Representative Jennifer Balkcom. Representative Balkcom thanked the Board for the open communication with the Board, Sheriff Griffin and County Manager Mitchell. She noted that the long session had been concluded and was very pleased with the budgetary impact for Henderson County projects. The short session is scheduled to begin in April. She stated she was pleased to be home and was here for anything we needed.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1. Chris Walters Mr. Walters spoke in favor of following the norms of politics, and defending the constitutional order.
- 2. Joel Welsh Mr. Welsh spoke about environmental issues, the positive offsetting impact of the trees in the County, and in favor of electric rail.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Edney requested the addition of a Closed Session item for Attorney Client Privilege. *Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to adopt the Agenda as amended. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

Chairman McCall made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

Minutes

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

November 6, 2023 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Motion:

I move the Board approve the minutes of November 6, 2023.

Tax Collector's Report

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



American Rescue Plan – Approved Projects Update

The American Rescue Plan approved projects update as of September 30, 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 a State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance Report for Quarter 3 2023.

Motion:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the September 30, 2023, American Rescue Plan approved projects as presented.

					Plan - Approved \$22,806,876 TEMBER 30, 20							
ARP Project #	Project Description	ARP Eligibility (Ependiture Category) 1.6 - Medical Expenses	State Eligibility § 153A-449	PLAN		the second second				ACTUAL		
				Standard Allowance 10,000,000.00	ARP Eligible 12,806,876.00	Encumbered (Contract in Place)	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	Expenses	Remaining Encumbrance 22,806,876.00	Status
9031	Infusion Therapy - Pardee (8.18.21)			20,000,000.00	33,391.17	33,391.17	33,391.17			33,391.17	-	COMPLETE
9032	Infusion Therapy - Advent Health (9.15.21)	1.6 - Medical Expenses	§ 153A-449		18,247.69	18,247.69		18,247.69		18,247.69		COMPLETE
9070	Broadband GREAT Grant Funding (3.22.22)	5.17 - Broadband, Other Projects	§ 153A-459		1,000,000.00			•				NOT STARTE
2059	Edneyville Sewer - Collection System (5.2.2022)	5.2 - Clean Water: Centralized Wasewater Collection	§ 153A-274(2) 9,300,000.00								IN PROGRES	
9050	Self Insurance Reimbursement (5.2.2022)	1.6 - Medical Expenses	§ 153A-92(a)(d)		607,237.14	559,822.00	-	559,822.00		559,822.00		IN PROGRES
9040	VFW Renovation and Repair (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-169	4,200,000.00		4,200,000.00	44,319.24	88,042.64	500,955.78	633,317.66	3,566,682.34	IN PROGRES
9027	Fletcher EMS (5.22.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§143-514, §153A- 149(c)(5)	3,100,000.00		2,078,103.80	16.64	72,500.00	9,037.16	81,553.80	1,996,550.00	IN PROGRES
9052	Mills River Tower Upgrade (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-149(c)(11)(17)	150,000.00		20,000.00		-	-		20,000.00	IN PROGRES
9043	Stryker Power Load Systems (5.2.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§143-514, §153A- 149(c)(5)	115,138.25		115,138.25		115,138.25		115,138.25	-	COMPLETE
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		348,000.00	ж.	COMPLETE
2056	All Inclusive Playground (9.21.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 160A-353(4)	400,000.00		400,000.00		400,000.00		400,000.00	-	COMPLETE
2067	Recreation Sports Complex (10.3.2022)	6.1 - Revenue Replacement	§ 153A-149(c)(11)(17)	2,034,861.75			•					NOT STARTE
9069	Apple Ridge Housing Complex (11.7.2022)	5.2 - Clean Water: Centralized Wasewater Collection	§ 153A-274(2)		1,500,000.00					-		IN PROGRES
			TOTAL	10,000,000.00	12,806,876.00	7,772,702.91	77,727.05	1,601,750.58	509,992.94		5,583,232.34	
		RI	MAINING BALANCE	-					1	Unspent/Une	15,034,173.09	

2023.147 Budget Amendment – Third Transfer Station Bay Project

As authorized by the Board within the FY24 Solid Waste budget, staff is proceeding with the construction of the third transfer station bay project. The financing plan for the project is to borrow the funds for the project at the time the construction contract is awarded. However, the project will incur expenses prior to the major construction contract of \$275,000. To allocate these funds to the project, staff submits the attached budget amendment for the Board's consideration. The expenses are as follows: tree removal, power line relocation, office trailer, preconstruction agreement with Vannoy, and some additional contingency.

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the budget amendment totaling \$275,000 for the third transfer station project for expenses incurred prior to executing the guaranteed maximum price agreement.

Vaya Health – Quarterly Fiscal Monitoring Report (FMR) for the quarter ended September 30, 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 attached FMR for Vaya Health was received by the County Finance Officer on October 31, 2023.

Motion:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the Vaya Health Fiscal Monitoring Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2023.

2023.148 Additional Funding for Lewis Creek Restoration project at Edneyville Community Center

The Board was requested to approve additional funding which was transferred by the grant recipient to the Soil & Water Conservation District to continue the Lewis Creek Restoration project at the Edneyville Community Center. This funding allows for the scope of the original project to increase and encompass additional streambank restoration to include an extra 400 linear feet.

Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners approve the funding for the Lewis Creek Restoration project at the Edneyville Community Center and the associated budget amendment.

Bid Award for Lewis Creek Restoration at Edneyville Community Center

The Board was requested to approve the low bid and authorize the Department of Soil and Water to proceed with the Lewis Creek restoration at the Edneyville Community Center. Bidding was conducted between August 30, 2023 and October 2, 2023. Baker Grading & Landscaping Inc was the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$239,688.50.

This purchase is funded with state grant funds via the NC Attorney General's Environmental Enhancement Grant and NC DEQ Water Resource Development Grant and the federal funds via the EPA 319 NPS Pollution Control Grant, and NRCA EQIP.

Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners to accept the low bid from Baker Grading & Landscaping Inc for \$239,688.50 and authorize Soil and Water to proceed with the Lewis Creek restoration at the Edneyville Community Center.

Purchase and Installation of Cosmetology Cabinetry

The Board was requested to approve the proposal provided and authorize staff to proceed with the procurement and installation of salon cabinetry for the BRCC Cosmetology Department (phase 5) as detailed in the BRCC MRTS Sink Building Esthetics Upgrade Planned Project via the sole source exception as allowed under NC G.S 143-129 (e)(6). As a sole source contract with County government, approval of this agreement by the Board of Commissioners is required.

The sole proposal was received from Collins Manufacturing Company for a total price of \$34,595.65. The BRCC Cosmetology Department has had three previous renovation projects all using Collins Manufacturing Company Salon Cabinetry and would prefer to have the identical salon

cabinetry provided for this phase, to match the existing salon cabinetry for an esthetically pleasing environment. The salon cabinetry stations, and cabinetry were custom designed and built to fit the needs of the students, the layout for the department, and to allow for a proper learning setting for the future.

Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners award the contract for the purchase and installation of Cosmetology Cabinetry to the sole bidder, Collins Manufacturing Company for \$34,595.65 and authorize staff to proceed with the purchase using the sole source exception to formal bidding, as allowed under NC G.S. 143-129 (e)(6).

Award of Formal Bod for Purchase of 42 Computer Workstations & Accessories

The Board was requested to approve the bid and authorize staff to proceed with the procurement of forty-two computer workstations and accessories. Bidding was conducted between September 13, 2023, and September 27, 2023. The bidder with the lowest responsive, responsible bid was Y&S Technologies for a total price pre-tax of \$113,694. Tech365, LLC was the lowest bid at \$79,388.18 pre-tax; however, they did not meet RAM requirements for the computers as specified in the bid. Brooks Network Services was the second lowest bid at \$91,759.54 pre-tax; however, they did not provide a build sheet with their bid submittal.

These 42 computer replacements with accessories were approved for the Department of Social Services as part of the FY2024 Information Technology listing. \$122,250 was budgeted in the FY2024 Budget for the purchase of these computer workstations & accessories.

Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners to accept the lowest responsive, responsible bid from Y&S Technologies and authorize Henderson County staff to proceed with the purchase of forty-two computer workstations in the amount of \$113,694.

GREAT Grant Agreement

The North Carolina Budget has appropriated \$350 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the GREAT Grant program. Awards can be made within eligible economicallydistressed counties in areas unserved with broadband at speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Project deployments must provide minimum speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload, scalable to 100 Mbps symmetrical. The program encourages partnerships with counties, nonprofits or other internet service providers. Grants require matching investments from private broadband provider grantees, leveraging funding to deploy infrastructure to N.C. households, businesses and farms in the most rural and remote areas of the state.

Henderson County has had one internet service provider, Charter/Spectrum, successfully receive GREAT Grant funding. The contract outlines Henderson County's responsibility as supporting the application with \$100,000 in ARP funds as matching dollars towards the project.

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the GREAT Grant Agreement as presented.

Bat Fork Creek and French Broad River Subgrant Amendments

Henderson County has received funding through the State of North Carolina for stream restoration projects on Bat Fork Creek and the French Broad River. Conserving Carolina has acted as the subgrant recipient overseeing the restoration projects. The grant funding was set to expire on June 30, 2023, with the expiration of the state budget. The North Carolina state budget for fiscal year 2023-24 included Section 5.6(c) extending the reversion date for unused funds from June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2026. The subgrant agreement amendments would modify Paragraph 11 of the existing agreements to state: "The term and expiry of this Agreement shall coincide with that of the DPS Agreement and any subsequent amendments to the DPS Agreement." This would formally align the agreements with the funding source timeline.

Motion:

I move the Board approve the purchase and installation of the Cosmetology Salon Cabinetry is a part of the BRCC FY23/24 MRTS Planned Projects budget.

DISCUSSION

Pardee Hospital Budget Presentation

Jay Kirby, President and CEO of Pardee UNC Health Care (Henderson County Hospital Corporation) provided the organization's FY23 Audit results and FY24 Budget as approved by the Pardee Board.





FY23 Audit



 BDO is an international network of public accounting, tax, consulting and business advisory firms that provide professional services

Key Findings

- There were no changes in significant accounting policies and practices during 2023
- Management did not make any significant changes to the processes or significant assumptions used to develop significant accounting estimates in 2023
- There were no corrected misstatements, other than those that were clearly trivial, related to accounts and/or disclosures that we brought to the attention of management
- There was one uncorrected misstatement for Foundation to write-off an \$8,501 pledge receivable and related revenue

	Financial Statements	
	Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP	Unmodified
	Internal control over financial reporting:	
	Material weakness(es) identified?	yesXno
	Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	yes X none reported
	Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	yesXno
	Federal Awards	
	Internal control over major federal programs:	
<u>Eeni</u>	Material weakness(es) identified?	yesXno
	 Significant deficiency(ies) identified? 	yes X none reported

FY23 Key Revenue and Expense Stats











Expand infrastructure

necessary to support

regional development

Broaden regional

footprint

Broaden and deepen

specialty clinical

services across the

continuum

Approved:

UNC Health

Leverage existing and

new relationships (for

clinical, payor, capital) to

build regional health

system

Vaya Health Update

Angie Garner, Community Relations Regional Director with Vaya Health, provided the Board with an update on Vaya and NC DHHS.



Our Mission: Who We Are

- Vaya Health manages publiclyfunded mental health, substance use disorder, intellectual/ developmentaldisability, and traumatic brain injury services.
- Our goal is to successfully evolve in the health care system by embracing innovation, adapting to a changing environment and maximizing resources for the long-term benefit of the people and communities we serve.



Approved:

Who We Are Today

- Vaya is a local political subdivision of the state of North Carolina and a Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) governed by Chapter 122C of the North Carolina General Statutes
- NCGS § 122C-115.4(a): "Local management entities are responsible for the management and oversight of the public system of mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services at the community level. An LME shall plan, develop, implement, and monitor services within a specified geographic area to ensure expected outcomes for consumers within available resources."
- Vaya is also a Medicaid Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) as set forth in 42 CFR Part 438, the federal Medicaid Managed Care rules, and currently operates the 1915(b)/(c) combined Medicaid waiver in Vaya's 31-county region.

3

What We Are Becoming

- In December 2022, Vaya launched Tailored Care Management (TCM) integrated care that addresses the whole person: physical health, behavioral health, I/DD, TBI, pharmacy, long-term services and supports (LTSS) and unmet health-related resource needs.
- Starting no later than July 2024, Vaya will become a Prepaid Health Plan (PHP) responsible for managing a Behavioral Health I/DD Tailored Plan, an integrated health plan designed for individuals with significant behavioral health and I/DD needs
- As a Tailored Plan, Vaya will also serve other special populations, including Innovations and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) waiver enrollees, and waitlist members, and be responsible for managing the state's non-Medicaid behavioral health, I/DD, and TBI services for uninsured and underinsured North Carolinians.

4

NCDHHS UPDATE

- 2023-2025 General Assembly Budget directed NCDHHS to reduce LME/MCOs to no more than 5 and no fewer than 4. Currently there are 6 LME/MCOs.
- Secretary Kody Kinsley directed the dissolution of SandhillsLME/MCO with Rockingham County being assigned to Vaya Health. Partners and Alliance will each be assigned a County.
- Secretary Kinsley assigned remaining Counties to Eastpointeand directed a consolidation of Eastpoint with Trillium LME/MCO.
- As the Secretary provides more information, Vaya Health will update partners on timing of this process.

NCDHHS UPDATE

- ConsolidatedInnovationsWaiver waitlistdashboardreleased based on county of residence not eligibility
 - https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/reports/dashboards/innovationsaitlist-dashboard
- Medicaid Expansion meetings have started- "Go Live" on December 1, 2023
- Medicaid ExpansionToolkit: <u>North Carolina Expands Medicaid</u> | <u>NC Medicaid</u> (ncdhhs.gov)
- 191 Anticipated Tailored Plan enrolled members from Henderson
- The Healthy Opportunities "Go Live" is February 1, 2024
- Tailored Plan "Go Live" no later than July 1, 2024

I/DD & TBI Budget Provisions

Provision	FY24	FY25
350 new Innovations slots	\$29.33M	\$29.33M
Innovations Direct Support Professional Wage increases	\$176M	\$176M
Competitive Integrated Employment	\$5M	\$5M
Personal Care Service (PCS) Rate Increases	\$176M	\$176M
Authority to expand TBI waiver statewide		

Behavioral Health Budget P		
Provision	FY24	FY25
Crisis System (mobile & respite)	\$30M	\$50M
Crisis Stabilization (short-term shelter)	~\$3M	~\$7M
Non-Law Enforcement Transportation Pilot Program	\$10M	\$10M
BH SCAN	\$10M	\$10M
Justice-Involved Programs (re-entry, diversion, and capacity restoration)	\$29M	\$70M
Behavioral Health Workforce Training	~\$8M	\$10M
NC Psychiatry Access Line (NC PAL)	~\$4M	~\$4M
Behavioral Health Rate Increases	\$165M	\$220M
State Facility Workforce Investment	\$20M	\$20M
Electronic Health Records for State Facilities		\$25M
Child Welfare and Family Well-Being	\$20M	\$60M

County Manager Mitchell questioned where the Behavioral Health Budget provisions were designated. Angie Garner answered that at this point the General Assembly had discretion regarding how these funds will be allocated.



Pathways to Permanency Training Series

	DSS	Vaya	Foster Parents	BH Providers (Non TFC)	Child Placing Agency (CPA)	Months	Learning Lab (Y/N)	Department to House	Dissemination Plan		
Child Treatment Continuum	x			x	x	2022- ongoing		Provider Network	Ongoing: Include as an option on the P2P resource pag		
Child Welfare 101		×	x	x	×	September 2023	Y	System of Care	Initial: Offered virtually 2x per year in each of the 4 Var regions. Ongoing: Recording available on website.		
Health Plan 101	x		x	x	x	October 2023	Y	Community Relations	Initial: Offered virtually once per year in each of the 4 regions. Ongoing: Recording available on Vaya's website.		
Behavioral Expectations	×	×	X-w/ abridged notes	x	x	January 2024	N	Provider Network	Initial: Offered virtually in each of the 4 Vaya regions. Ongoing: Offered quarterly in each region.		
Prudent Parenting	x	x		×	×	February 2024	N	Provider Network	Initial: Offered virtually in each of the 4 Vaya Ongoing: Offered 2x a year in each region.		
Foster Parent Bill of Rights		×		x	×	August 2023	Y	Provider Network to manage and send reminders etc.	Initial: Two live virtual training sessions. Ongoing: Recording available on Vaya's website. Annu reminder of recording.		
Train DSS on the CCA Pathway and Protocol	x	×		YV		August- January		Care Management	Initial: Each DSS will receive this training individually d their counties specified rollout month. Ongoing: County specific by Care management.		
TTLG (Treat Them Like Gold) Licensing Staff	x				x	March-June	TBD	N/A	Initial: Virtual one-time learning collaborative. Ongoing: none		
TTLG All Staff	x				x	August 2023	Y	Provider Network to manage and send reminders etc.	Initial: Offered virtually three times. Ongoing: Recording available on website. Annual remi of recording.		
Roles & Responsibilities of Securing Placements	х	x		x	x	September 2023	Y	Care Management	Initial: Offered virtually or face-to-face for each of the DSS regions. Ongoing: Recording available on Vaya's website. Annu reminder of recording, FAQ, & reference guide.		
FosteringNC Developmental Trauma Training Guide			x			November 2023	Y	Provider Network to manage and send reminders etc.	Initial: Email release Ongoing: Training guide available on P2P resource pag Annual reminder of training resource via email and DS Quarterly meetings.		



Commissioner Lapsley noted that he represents Henderson County on the Vaya Board of Directors. With the size of Vaya – 31 counties in the State – their budget is over \$1B, and they have a staff of over 800 employees. Henderson County puts \$528,612 into that budget annually. Vaya serves about 4,800 Henderson County citizens.

Chairman McCall asked about the future of facilities across the State for people, so they don't end up in detention centers or staying in emergency rooms. Ms. Garner stated that they do help with housing specific populations as required by statute, but that they don't have funds to create new beds. Vaya does participate in work groups and task forces regarding housing through projects like Healthy Opportunities. They look locally first for providing beds, focusing on children. Therapeutic foster care systems are difficult to find, but Vaya does work to hold beds for children. They are working on the campaign discussed earlier, Adventure Awaits, to create more local beds. She noted that Vaya no longer provides services directly, but coordinates provision of services.

With regard to foster care, there are less foster care providers than there were three years ago, which is a national trend. There was also discussion of the collaboration with DSS, and that Vaya works closely with them not only on foster care, but to assist folks in receiving insurance through Medicare/Medicaid where possible.

Construction Projects Update

Bryan Rhodes and Chris Todd provided the Board an update on construction projects around Henderson County.

This monthly report was a review of the scope and statuses of assigned construction management responsibilities and includes specific updates in regard to County funded construction activities.

Henderson County Capital Projects

VFW



Etowah Library Outdoor Venue

A request for proposals was posted to the Henderson County website with a Pre-Bid scheduled on 11/20/2023 and the Bid opening scheduled for 11/30/2023.

Jackson Park Lower Tennis Courts

WGLA has been contracted to provide civil engineering for the project. Staff will continue to work on this with a targeted start date of Spring 2024.

Approved:

BRCC MRTS Projects FY 22-23

Patton Building Roof Replacement – AAR will install the roof ladders on 11/09/2023 with the final walk to follow on 11/14/2023. The TEDC Chiller #2 Project is now complete.

FY23-24 MRTS Projects

We have 41 BRCC projects that are under contract with 21 of those completed to date, out of the 55 BOC approved project list. In the very near future four to five more projects will be under contract and several more completed, as they lack final invoicing only.

Henderson County Public Schools MRTS Projects

West Henderson High Renovation and Addition – The 100% construction documents have been delivered to Carolina Specialties so they may begin the bidding process.

FY23-24 HCPS MRTS

West High Air Handler Replacement – the mandatory pre-bid meeting has been held and bids will be opened 11/16/2023.

Elementary Schools HVAC Controls Upgrade – There were only two bids at the pre-bid so the project has been relisted.

Gutters and Downspouts Project and Various Roofing Projects – Bonitz Company of Carolina and TN was awarded the contracts. They should be under contract this week.

Atkinson HVAC Upgrade – Staff us working with Sims Group Engineering to finalize the project's scope. The RFP will be posted soon.

JCAR Project



Approved:

Mr. Todd noted that Staff have been working on decoupling the Detention Facility from the Courthouse per the Board's direction. The architects have provided a new schedule that has been vetted by County Staff and provided to Haskell/Cooper for review. The estimate is to be able to reduce the time-line on Detention by five month. Inflation does appear to be leveling out nationwide, but being able to procure items earlier should result in cost savings.

The architects are also beginning their work on strategies to reduce the scope of the Courthouse. Mr. Todd will work with the architects as well as Vice-Chair Edney and Commissioner Lapsley – who were previously tasked with this project - in the coming weeks as that work is being done.

Vice-Chair Edney questioned the HVAC systems that are being installed at the schools, and whether the bids include air purification systems such as have been installed at the Human Services Building and 95 Courthouse. Staff noted that we have generally followed the specifications from HCPS and BRCC, but can certainly accommodate the Board's wishes. *Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to include such systems, as an alternate, in future bids.* Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to get more information and have additional discussion at the next meeting, and Vice-Chair Edney withdrew his motion.

Selection for Engineering Services Clear Creek (Edneyville) Sewer Design

As directed by the Board with the allocation of funding, staff released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering services to survey, design, acquire right of way, permit, bid, and administer construction for the collection system and possibly a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Services for the WWTP are contingent on NC Division of Environmental Quality approving the discharge permit. NCDEQ's decision on the permit should occur during the first quarter of CY2024.

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-64.31 (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services), staff developed a RFQ and on October 20, 2023, posted it on the County's website, and advertised on local newspapers. The responses were received by 1:00pm on November 2, 2023. The RFQ was compliant with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Staff received a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from WGLA Engineering. Based on the SOQ and extensive experience with the firm, staff recommend the Board select WGLA Engineering for engineering services for the Clear Creek sewer collection system and WWTP. The SOQ for WGLA Engineering is available at the County's RFP/RFQ webpage and at the Office of the County Engineer.

Upon Board approval of selection, staff will negotiate an agreement with the firm and bring the agreement back to the Board for approval. Initially, an agreement for the collection system only will be presented to the Board for approval. With an approved discharge permit, staff will bring a supplementary agreement to the Board for the WWTP. The Board has allocated \$22,000,000 of ARPA funding to the project. The ARPA funding deadline is December 31, 2026 and will require an aggressive schedule; the firm has proposed a schedule to meet this deadline.



Vice-Chair Edney made the motion that the Board approve the selection of WGLA Engineering, PLLC as the most qualified responding firm to provide engineering services for the Clear Creek sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant, and direct Staff to negotiate a lean contract with them. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

County Comprehensive Plan Update

After receipt of the draft 2045 Comprehensive Plan from the Planning Board, on December 5th 2022, the Board of Commissioners has been conducting a thorough review of the draft plan. As part of that process the Board of Commissioners wish to review the Future Land Use Map.

The Board directed staff to breakdown the current draft map into smaller geographic areas for review. The Board of Commissioners will discuss each region of the county specifically as part of their review.





Following discussion by the Board, the consensus was to leave all five areas on the map as originally presented.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

- Cemetery Advisory Committee 1 vac.
 There were no nominations, and this item was carried to the next meeting.
- Henderson County Board of Health 1 vac.
 There were no nominations, and this item was carried to the next meeting.
- Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment 1 vac.
 There were no nominations, and this item was carried to the next meeting.
- Home & Community Care Block Grant Advisory 1 vac.
 There were no nominations, and this item was carried to the next meeting.
- 5. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council 3 vacs.

Commissioner Andreotta made the motion to move Richard Simpson from position # 3 (Sheriff's Office Rep) to position #21 (At Large). All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Chairman McCall made the motion to appoint Stephanie Cantwell to position #3. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Laurel Park Planning Board – 1 vac.
 There were no nominations, and this item was carried to the next meeting.

Approved:

7. Laurel Park Zoning Board of Adjustment – 1 vac.

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

8. Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 11 vacs.

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

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioner Andreotta thanked our local fire fighters, as well as fire fighters from across the state, who had helped during the Poplar Drive fire. The other commissioners echoed this comment. Chairman McCall also noted that the North Carolina Forest Service is still on site and thanked them for their service.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATES

Representative Balkcom provided this update at the beginning of the meeting.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Mitchell stated that as of now, the fire is now at 95% containment. The State of Emergency will be lifted at noon, but he urged the public to remain cautious and vigilant as substantial rain is still needed to relieve the current drought and decrease fire danger.

He noted that he is working to partner with the City on the matter of homelessness issues. Staff and their expertise will be called upon in the coming weeks.

The Ag HC Board will convene this week to discuss their future plans, and will be present at the next meeting.

The County has received a draft of the FY23 audit, and our auditors will present the audit at the December 4th meeting. He also noted that sales tax continues to trend in a positive manner.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice-Chair Edney made the motion that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. \$143-318.11(a)(3) and (4), for the reasons set out in the Board's agenda packet. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Chairman McCall made the motion to go out of closed session and adjourn at 12:30 p.m. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Amy Brantley, Assistant County Manager