

## MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

Present were: Chairman William Lapsley, Vice-Chair J. Michael Edney, Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Commissioner Sheila Franklin, County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Chris Todd, Financial Services Director Samantha Reynolds, Emergency Services Director Jimmy Brissie, County Attorney Russ Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

Absent was: Commissioner Jay Egolf

Also present were County Engineer Marcus Jones, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Public Information Officer Kathryn Finotti, A/V Technician Oscar Guerrero, Finance Director Randy Cox, Tax Administrator Harry Rising, Public Health Director David Jenkins, Library Director Trina Rushing, Strategic Behavioral Health Director Jodi Grabowski, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Planner I Carlos Martinez, Local Public Health Administrator Stacy Nash, Register of Deeds Lee King, Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift, Parks and Recreation Director Bruce Gilliam, Human Resources Director Karen Ensley, Lead for North Carolina Fellow Nora Sjue, Soil Conservationist/Educator Coordinator April Hoyt, Capital Projects Manager Bryan Rhodes, Deputy DSS Director Debbie Dunn, and Local Public Health Administrator Camden Stewart, Deputies Many Ladd and Kayla Brezillac provided security.

### CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Lapsley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

### INVOCATION

John Mitchell provided the invocation.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

### RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

#### **2025.056 Resolution of Mental Health Awareness Month in Henderson County**

The Board of Commissioners was requested to adopt the attached Resolution of National Mental Health Awareness Month in Henderson County in May 2025.

#### **RESOLUTION OF NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN HENDERSON COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the month of May is designated as National Mental Health Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is an essential component of overall health and well-being for individuals, families, and our community; and

Approved: May 21, 2025

**WHEREAS**, Henderson County residents have endured significant stressors over the past year, including the profound emotional and psychological impacts of Tropical Storm Helene and the recent wildfires, which have disrupted lives, displaced residents, and strained community resources; and

**WHEREAS**, these events underscore the urgent need for mental health awareness, timely access to care, and a coordinated system of support, especially in the wake of trauma, loss, and uncertainty; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Department of Public Health is committed to strengthening the mental and emotional wellness of our residents and has initiated the formation of a countywide Behavioral Health Coalition to address needs, identify gaps, and drive collaborative solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, community partners including schools, healthcare providers, first responders, nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups, and residents are actively engaged in spreading the message that mental health matters and that help is available; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Partnership for Health is spearheading Mental Health Awareness Month activities across the county, encouraging open conversations, reducing stigma, and promoting community engagement and healing; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to recognize that prevention, early intervention, postvention, and long-term mental health supports are key to a thriving and resilient Henderson County;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize **National Mental Health Awareness Month** in Henderson County and calls upon individuals, families, organizations, and government agencies to recommit to promoting mental wellness, supporting those affected by mental health challenges, and building a compassionate, connected, and resilient community.

Adopted this 5th day of May 2025.

*Motion: Commissioner Franklin made the motion to adopt the Resolution as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

#### **Eco Heroes Junior Award – Kayla Christensen**

The Eco Heroes Award Program exists to honor individuals who serve as an example and inspire others to preserve the environmental well-being of Henderson County. It also brings environmental awareness to new people and demonstrates that a healthy environment improves the quality of life for all people. The 2024 Eco Hero Junior nominee serves as an environmental steward, focusing on protecting and improving our shared outdoor space. Kyla Christensen was nominated by a community member and was recommended to the Board by the Environmental Advisory Committee.

*Motion: Chairman Lapsley made the motion that the Board approve the nomination for the Eco Heroes Junior Award. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

**Recognition of Eagle Scouts Steven Thompson, Henry David Osiecki, and Orlando Carl Erkel – Troop 628**

Commissioner McCall recognized Steven Thompson, Henry David Osiecki, and Orlando Carl Erkel, members of Troop 628, for achieving the honorable rank of Eagle Scout.

**INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Sam Massa spoke regarding debris that has not been collected from his community. He expressed concern that the debris remains on the property beyond the deadline to place debris in the right-of-way. (Dogwood Drive)
2. Robert Cannon spoke regarding the proposed budget and the need for Henderson County Public Schools to receive adequate funding. He expressed concerns about rumored cuts to school staff and urged the Board to fund the school's full budget request.
3. Michael Egan, a member of the Rail Trail Advisory Committee (RTAC), reported that the committee did not consider residential areas along the trail to be suitable locations for parking.
4. Meg Lebeck, Executive Director, shared that the Housing Authority would soon break ground on its affordable housing community, Apple Ridge.

**DISCUSSION / ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA**

*Motion: Chairman Lapsley moved to add the (2025.057) Public Hearing for "Project Sweet Tater," as noticed, to the consent agenda;*

*He further moved to open the public hearing and to continue the hearing until the Board's May 21, 2025, meeting. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

*Motion: Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes**

Draft minutes were presented for Board review and approval for the following meetings:

April 7, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting

April 16, 2025 - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

April 21, 2025 – Special Called Meeting

*Motion: I move the Board approve the minutes from April 7, 2025, April 16, 2025, and April 21, 2025.*

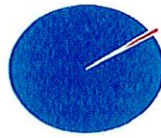
## Tax Collector's Report

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

Please find outlined below collections information through April 23, 2025 for 2024 real and personal property bills mailed on July 31, 2024. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

### Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

<b>2024 Beginning Charge:</b>	<b>\$101,666,078.08</b>	
Discoveries & Imm.	\$135,170.17	
Releases & Refunds:	<b>(\$108,019.79)</b>	
<b>Net Charge:</b>	<b>\$101,693,228.46</b>	
Unpaid Taxes:	\$1,160,038.44	
<b>Amount Collected:</b>	<b>\$100,533,190.02</b>	<b>Paid 98.86%</b>

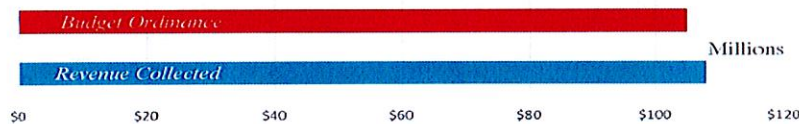


### Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$6,489,841.51	
Unpaid Taxes:	\$128,747.72	<b>98.02%</b>
<b>Amount Collected:</b>	<b>\$6,361,093.79</b>	

### Henderson County FY25 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>		<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$103,559,409.00	Ad Valorem:	\$106,894,283.81
Prior Years:	\$1,041,250.00	Prior Years:	\$865,906.79
<b>Budget Total:</b>	<b>\$104,600,659.00</b>	<b>YTD Revenue:</b>	<b>\$107,760,190.60</b>



## County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report – March 2025

The March 2025 County Financial and Cash Balance Reports were provided for the Board's review and approval.

The following are explanations for departments/programs with higher budgets to actual percentages for the month of March:

- Dues/Non-Profit Contributions – timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Administrative Services – timing of paying board-approved expenditures.
- Tax Collector – timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Legal – timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Emergency Management - timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Building Services – timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Rescue Squad – timing of billing reimbursement of expenditures.
- Planning - timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Site Development – timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Heritage Museum - timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Mental Health Services - timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Juvenile Justice Programs - timing of payment of board-approved expenditures.
- Public Education – payment of 9 of 10 annual appropriations to the public school system.

Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Emergency Telephone System (911) Fund are due to utilizing fund balance appropriations for FY25.

Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Public Transit Fund are due to the timing of disbursements in FY25.



Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Misc. Other Governmental Activities Fund were due to the timing of fines and forfeitures disbursements in FY25.

Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Opioid Fund are due to the timing of disbursements in FY25.

Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Solid Waste Fund are due to the timing of collection receipts, the suspension of tipping fees related to Helene, construction project expenditures, and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY25.

Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Etowah Community Sewer Fund are due to the timing of collection receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY25.

## MARCH 2025

GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
General Fund	213,883,047.00	12,769,477.72	162,178,788.52	75.8%	-	162,178,788.52
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
Governing Body	671,803.00	29,858.03	483,789.45	69.04%	-	483,789.45
Dues/Non Profit Contributions	1,055,544.00	224,037.12	891,937.18	84.50%	97,675.13	989,612.31
County Manager	468,644.00	92,233.17	304,700.40	65.30%	-	304,700.40
Administrative Services	829,103.00	117,389.02	634,802.95	76.57%	-	634,802.95
Human Resources	1,527,884.00	102,556.66	1,123,608.90	73.55%	-	1,123,608.90
Elections	1,241,838.00	38,514.63	919,628.85	74.05%	15,646.77	935,275.62
Finance	1,421,108.00	98,403.18	1,036,904.04	72.96%	-	1,036,904.04
County Assessor	2,184,868.00	146,366.72	1,480,989.11	67.78%	25,951.03	1,506,940.14
Tax Collector	593,939.00	35,183.59	434,376.64	73.13%	-	434,376.64
Legal	1,107,787.00	75,879.32	845,878.45	76.36%	-	845,878.45
Register of Deeds	788,480.00	57,498.68	540,955.66	68.61%	3,600.07	544,555.73
Facility Services	6,325,028.00	519,092.96	3,802,515.21	60.12%	249,978.75	4,052,493.96
Garage	461,539.00	12,193.68	264,214.90	57.25%	-	264,214.90
Court Facilities	153,000.00	9,794.06	89,443.34	58.46%	-	89,443.34
Information Technology	6,311,272.00	415,841.15	4,348,185.37	68.90%	184,882.03	4,533,067.40
Sheriff Department	25,964,133.00	1,776,778.01	18,320,592.62	70.56%	384,428.91	18,705,021.53
Detention Facility	7,251,349.00	507,708.38	4,978,326.21	68.65%	204,154.55	5,182,480.76
Emergency Management	1,032,255.00	137,133.04	855,546.05	82.88%	3,213.50	858,759.55
Fire Services	1,097,642.00	60,291.11	586,444.06	53.43%	32,369.73	618,813.79
Building Services	1,863,208.00	135,962.03	1,414,054.59	75.89%	-	1,414,054.59
Wellness Clinic	1,533,962.00	109,214.42	1,130,662.96	73.71%	31,679.93	1,162,342.89
Emergency Medical Services	13,667,178.00	896,627.51	9,428,775.98	68.99%	52,105.81	9,480,881.79
Animal Services	984,647.00	59,283.19	620,477.58	63.02%	56,581.09	677,058.67
Rescue Squad	782,750.00	196,230.06	784,964.27	100.28%	-	784,964.27
Forestry Services	133,168.00	7,699.98	47,186.07	35.43%	-	47,186.07
Soil & Water	863,724.00	34,565.16	434,012.77	50.25%	49,130.00	483,142.77
Planning	1,123,598.00	93,596.13	929,040.01	82.68%	-	929,040.01
Code Enforcement	353,444.00	25,277.41	248,407.26	69.72%	20,000.00	268,407.26
Site Development	234,739.00	23,126.16	176,657.43	75.26%	-	176,657.43
Heritage Museum	100,000.00	8,333.33	83,333.30	83.33%	-	83,333.30
Cooperative Extension	843,323.00	52,772.88	531,724.54	63.05%	-	531,724.54
Project Management	323,173.00	24,723.15	222,154.14	68.74%	-	222,154.14
Economic Development	2,097,190.00	108,500.00	434,000.00	20.69%	-	434,000.00
Public Health	14,400,338.00	808,120.48	8,187,956.65	56.86%	1,643,743.63	9,831,700.28
Environmental Health	1,889,599.00	131,953.00	1,392,929.04	73.72%	-	1,392,929.04
H&CC Block Grant	863,502.00	84,109.50	589,928.75	68.32%	-	589,928.75
Medical Services - Autopsies	95,000.00	12,000.00	45,300.00	47.68%	-	45,300.00
Strategic Behavioral Health	473,611.00	22,399.93	213,039.88	44.98%	-	213,039.88
Mental Health Services	528,612.00	132,153.00	528,612.00	100.00%	-	528,612.00
Rural Transportation Assist Program	201,384.00	16,968.75	115,266.08	57.24%	-	115,266.08
Social Services	24,479,236.00	1,741,527.20	17,105,542.31	69.88%	25,466.05	17,131,008.36
Juvenile Justice Programs	306,020.00	28,310.62	287,672.21	94.00%	-	287,672.21
Veterans Services	241,124.00	18,592.37	170,462.28	70.69%	-	170,462.28
Library	4,338,586.00	274,677.06	3,117,667.62	71.86%	171,225.94	3,288,893.56
Recreation	3,185,348.00	238,094.91	2,324,196.69	72.97%	88,229.48	2,412,426.17
Public Education	42,378,000.00	4,116,966.67	37,719,366.70	89.01%	-	37,719,366.70
Debt Service	22,712,206.00	1,573,579.02	9,942,388.02	43.78%	-	9,942,388.02
Non-Departmental	4,655,510.00	256,416.01	2,546,301.26	54.69%	-	2,546,301.26
Interfund Transfers	7,745,851.00	645,487.59	5,809,388.31	75.00%	-	5,809,388.31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>213,883,047.00</b>	<b>16,334,019.99</b>	<b>148,502,308.09</b>		<b>3,340,062.40</b>	<b>151,842,370.49</b>
Net Revenues over (under) Exp.	-	(3,564,542.27)	13,676,480.43			10,336,418.03



APPROPRIATIONS DETAIL						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>						
Staff Operations	19,855,443.00	1,357,949.28	14,457,810.28	72.8%	25,466.05	14,483,276.31
Federal & State Programs	4,523,793.00	381,667.48	2,618,323.87	57.9%	-	2,618,323.87
General Assistance	100,000.00	1,910.48	29,408.18	29.4%	-	29,408.18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,479,236.00</b>	<b>1,741,527.20</b>	<b>17,105,542.31</b>		<b>25,466.05</b>	<b>17,131,008.36</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>						
Schools Current/Capital Expense	36,628,000.00	3,637,800.00	32,927,700.00	89.9%	-	32,927,700.00
Blue Ridge Community College	5,750,000.00	479,166.67	4,791,666.70	83.3%	-	4,791,666.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,378,000.00</b>	<b>4,116,966.67</b>	<b>37,719,366.70</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>37,719,366.70</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>						
Public Schools	11,506,933.00	1,194,424.64	5,513,861.28	47.9%	-	5,513,861.28
Blue Ridge Community College	3,218,681.00	128,539.67	1,820,679.31	58.6%	-	1,820,679.31
Henderson County	7,986,592.00	250,614.71	2,607,847.43	32.7%	-	2,607,847.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,712,206.00</b>	<b>1,573,579.02</b>	<b>9,942,388.02</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>9,942,388.02</b>
<b>INTERFUND TRANSFERS</b>						
Capital Projects Fund	200,000.00	16,666.67	150,000.03	75.0%	-	150,000.03
Capital Reserve Fund	1,254,919.00	104,576.58	941,189.22	75.0%	-	941,189.22
Fire Districts Fund	60,000.00	5,000.00	45,000.00	75.0%	-	45,000.00
HCPS MRTS	3,603,500.00	300,291.67	2,702,625.03	75.0%	-	2,702,625.03
BRCC MRTS	2,301,750.00	191,812.50	1,726,312.50	75.0%	-	1,726,312.50
Solid Waste	325,682.00	27,140.17	244,261.53	75.0%	-	244,261.53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,745,851.00</b>	<b>645,487.59</b>	<b>5,809,388.31</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>5,809,388.31</b>
<b>SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>FIRE DISTRICTS FUND</b>						
Revenues:	16,876,915.00	254,329.10	16,847,691.34	99.8%	-	16,847,691.34
Expenditures:	16,876,915.00	481,158.35	16,596,620.54	98.3%	-	16,596,620.54
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(206,829.25)</b>	<b>251,070.80</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>251,070.80</b>
<b>REVALUATION RESERVE FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,413,172.00	127,157.60	1,173,076.67	83.0%	-	1,173,076.67
Expenditures:	1,413,172.00	69,528.44	987,684.26	69.9%	2,753.88	990,438.14
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>57,629.16</b>	<b>185,392.41</b>		<b>(2,753.88)</b>	<b>182,638.53</b>
<b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM (911) FUND</b>						
Revenues:	360,945.00	26,690.58	219,705.10	60.9%	-	219,705.10
Expenditures:	360,945.00	2,317.92	220,467.22	61.1%	-	220,467.22
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,372.66</b>	<b>(762.12)</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(762.12)</b>
<b>PUBLIC TRANSIT FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,549,212.00	2,217.64	246,458.89	15.9%	-	246,458.89
Expenditures:	1,549,212.00	69,173.18	632,532.62	40.8%	-	632,532.62
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(66,955.54)</b>	<b>(386,073.73)</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(386,073.73)</b>
<b>MISC. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>						
Revenues:	1,074,000.00	53,823.98	363,899.47	33.9%	-	363,899.47
Expenditures:	1,074,000.00	38,539.41	393,667.23	36.7%	-	393,667.23
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,284.57</b>	<b>(30,067.76)</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(30,067.76)</b>
<b>ARPA FUND</b>						
Revenues:	4,532,278.00	55,931.28	730,792.43	16.1%	-	730,792.43
Expenditures:	4,532,278.00	-	654,815.61	14.4%	-	654,815.61
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,931.28</b>	<b>75,976.82</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>75,976.82</b>
<b>OPIOID FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,069,553.00	15,150.22	300,800.99	28.1%	-	300,800.99
Expenditures:	1,069,553.00	26,736.56	360,434.31	33.7%	6,895.50	367,329.81
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(11,586.34)</b>	<b>(59,633.32)</b>		<b>(6,895.50)</b>	<b>(66,528.82)</b>
<b>HURRICANE HELENE</b>						
Revenues:	50,284,349.00	29,075.13	15,775,368.59	31.4%	-	15,775,368.59
Expenditures:	50,284,349.00	2,481,334.72	11,467,145.34	22.9%	37,899,557.09	49,396,702.43
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,452,259.59)</b>	<b>4,278,223.25</b>		<b>(37,899,557.09)</b>	<b>(33,621,333.84)</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	PROJECT TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>EDNEYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT (1702)</b>						
Revenues:	26,854,136.00	828.21	27,961,302.63	104.1%	-	27,961,302.63
Expenditures:	26,854,136.00	-	26,959,829.78	100.4%	-	26,959,829.78
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>828.21</b>	<b>1,001,472.87</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>1,001,472.87</b>

ENTERPRISE FUNDS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>SOLID WASTE LANDFILL FUND</b>						
Revenues:	17,741,959.00	947,511.48	7,968,253.48	44.9%	-	7,968,253.48
Expenditures:	17,741,959.00	1,870,087.80	12,940,602.50	72.9%	2,842,922.15	15,783,524.65
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(922,576.32)	(4,972,349.02)		(2,842,922.15)	(7,815,271.17)
<b>JUSTICE ACADEMY SEWER FUND</b>						
Revenues:	88,038.00	24,343.02	83,327.09	94.6%	-	83,327.09
Expenditures:	88,038.00	9,009.04	79,420.38	90.2%	-	79,420.38
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	15,333.98	3,906.71		-	3,906.71
<b>ETOWAH COMMUNITY SEWER FUND</b>						
Revenues:	182,602.00	20,938.19	120,768.97	68.1%	-	120,768.97
Expenditures:	182,602.00	17,192.97	147,104.34	80.6%	32,800.00	179,904.34
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	3,745.22	(26,337.37)		(32,800.00)	(59,137.37)

**HENDERSON COUNTY  
CASH BALANCE REPORT  
MARCH 2025**

<u>Fund(s)</u>	<u>02/28/25 Beg. Cash Balance</u>	<u>Debits Revenues</u>	<u>(Credits) Expenditures</u>	<u>03/31/25 Ending Cash Balance</u>
General	\$ 118,664,336.27	\$ 13,087,259.13	\$ (16,145,740.59)	\$ 115,605,854.81
Special Revenue	50,472,414.46	758,529.92	(2,750,282.42)	\$ 48,480,661.96
Capital Projects	14,074,465.72	672,883.04	(1,165,326.78)	\$ 13,582,021.98
Enterprise	2,019,498.16	1,717,973.44	(1,864,304.88)	\$ 1,873,166.72
HCPS - Maint. and Repair	8,866,187.07	300,291.67	-	\$ 9,166,478.74
BRCC - Maint. and Repair	3,796,181.22	191,812.50	-	\$ 3,987,993.72
Custodial	801,523.04	353,511.77	(479,031.87)	\$ 676,002.94
Total	<u>\$ 198,694,605.94</u>	<u>\$ 17,082,261.47</u>	<u>\$ (22,404,686.54)</u>	
Total cash available as of	3/31/2025			<u>\$ 193,372,180.87</u>

*Motion: I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the March 2025 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented*

**Henderson County Public Schools Financial Reports – March 2025**

The Henderson County Public Schools March 2025 Local Current Expense Fund / Other Restricted Funds Report was provided for the Board's information.

**HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE/OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS  
as of March 31, 2025**

	LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND		OTHER RESTRICTED FUND			
REVENUES:	Budget	YTD Activity	Budget	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
3200 State Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 58,244	\$ 58,244	\$ 8,263
3700 Federal Sources-Restricted	-	-	1,321,587	667,667	667,667	432,693
3800 Other Federal-ROTC	-	-	162,000	108,479	108,479	99,386
4100 County Appropriation	35,378,000	31,840,200	-	-	31,840,200	29,560,200
4200 Local-Tuition/Fees	-	-	55,000	55,568	55,568	47,500
4400 Local-Unrestricted	650,000	378,415	126,941	180,940	559,356	592,099
4800 Local-Restricted	-	-	1,114,325	938,057	938,057	1,100,269
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfer From school	3,573,928	-	401,585	26,106	26,106	35,168
<b>TOTAL FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 39,601,928</b>	<b>\$ 32,218,615</b>	<b>\$ 3,189,438</b>	<b>\$ 2,033,062</b>	<b>\$ 34,251,677</b>	<b>\$ 31,904,178</b>

Approved: May 21, 2025



**EXPENDITURES:**

	Budget	YTD Activity	Budget	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
<b>Instructional Services:</b>						
5100 Regular Instructional Services	\$ 10,588,438	\$ 6,610,378	\$ 993,144	\$ 561,466	\$ 7,171,844	\$ 6,027,505
5200 Special Populations Services	1,334,746	710,210	794,537	486,108	1,106,319	1,024,970
5300 Alternative Programs and Services	472,566	278,643	366,194	333,058	611,700	303,814
5400 School Leadership Services	3,413,720	2,533,778	11,191	10,570	2,544,347	2,314,652
5500 Co-Curricular Services	923,657	789,624	60,500	30,083	816,707	1,029,131
5800 School-Based Support Services	2,125,995	1,461,860	15,501	1,361	1,483,221	1,378,297
<b>Total Instructional Services</b>	<b>\$ 18,657,420</b>	<b>\$ 12,381,492</b>	<b>\$ 2,241,068</b>	<b>\$ 1,422,646</b>	<b>\$ 13,904,138</b>	<b>\$ 12,078,368</b>
<b>System-Wide Support Services:</b>						
6100 Support and Development Services	\$ 476,045	\$ 346,922	\$ 6,500	\$ 13,707	\$ 360,630	\$ 229,847
6200 Special Population Support	83,079	61,554	21,090	19,580	81,133	237,889
6300 Alternative Programs	133,792	97,185	431	431	97,616	78,969
6400 Technology Support Services	1,320,441	920,847	44,139	57,873	978,720	1,048,264
6500 Operational Support Services	11,683,217	6,247,083	458,782	324,122	6,571,205	6,395,948
6600 Financial and Human Resource Services	2,567,894	2,264,433	110,252	63,810	2,328,243	1,976,486
6700 Accountability Services	214,261	150,243	1,200	1,200	151,443	97,671
6800 System-Wide Pupil Support Services	405,903	299,846	538	538	300,385	312,968
6900 Policy, Leadership and Public Relations	757,913	549,407	14,420	4,059	553,466	547,223
<b>Total System-Wide Support Services</b>	<b>\$ 17,842,545</b>	<b>\$ 10,937,521</b>	<b>\$ 665,351</b>	<b>\$ 485,320</b>	<b>\$ 11,422,841</b>	<b>\$ 10,925,266</b>
<b>Ancillary Services:</b>						
7100 Community Services	\$ 388	\$ 275,952	\$ 177,881	\$ 126,292	\$ 402,245	\$ 120,044
7200 Nutrition Services	269,327	97,799	6,323	6,323	104,122	121,472
<b>Total Ancillary Services</b>	<b>\$ 269,714</b>	<b>\$ 373,751</b>	<b>\$ 184,204</b>	<b>\$ 132,616</b>	<b>\$ 506,366</b>	<b>\$ 241,516</b>
<b>Non-Programmed Charges:</b>						
8100 Payments to Other Governments	\$ 2,632,250	\$ 1,920,296	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,920,296	\$ 1,871,988
8400 Interfund Transfers	-	-	39,552	37,456	37,456	55,034
8500 Contingency	-	-	33,727	-	-	-
8600 Educational Foundations	-	-	335,535.00	326,651.97	26,652	976
<b>Total Non-Programmed Charges</b>	<b>\$ 2,632,250</b>	<b>\$ 1,920,296</b>	<b>\$ 108,814</b>	<b>\$ 64,108</b>	<b>\$ 1,984,404</b>	<b>\$ 1,928,598</b>
<b>TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 39,601,928</b>	<b>\$ 25,613,060</b>	<b>\$ 3,189,438</b>	<b>\$ 2,104,689</b>	<b>\$ 27,717,749</b>	<b>\$ 25,173,748</b>

*Motion: I move the Board approve the Henderson County Public Schools March 2025 Financial Reports as presented.*

### Notification of Vacancies

The Notification of Vacancies was provided for the Board's information. They will appear on the next agenda under "Nominations."

1. Home and Community Block Grant Committee – 1 vac.  
Position #2
2. Mountain Area Workforce Development Board – 1 vac.  
Position #1 – Chamber Nominee

### 2025.058 Surplus and Donation of King Vision Video Laryngoscopes and King Vision Adapters

A resolution was presented to the Board declaring nine (9) King Vision video laryngoscope kits and (10) King Vision Pediatric Eblade Adapters no longer used by Henderson County Emergency Medical Services as surplus property and the donation of the laryngoscope kits and pediatric adapters to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS department as allowed by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 to be used for training purposes.

### RESOLUTION DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY BY DONATION

**WHEREAS,** Henderson County owns the video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters itemized on the attached Exhibit B, hereinafter referred to as "surplus property", that are either obsolete or no longer needed for any governmental use by the County; and

Approved: May 21, 2025

**WHEREAS,** the Henderson County Board of Commissioners is desirous of declaring the video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters as surplus and transferring to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS program via donation as authorized by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 (Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS,** it is the intent of the County to donate said surplus property.

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

1. The video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters itemized on the attached Exhibit B is hereby declared to be surplus property.
2. Henderson County Emergency Medical Services is hereby authorized to transfer by donation, the surplus property described above to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS program.
3. Henderson County makes no express or implied warranties of merchantability of any surplus property, or part thereof, or its fitness for any particular purpose regardless of any oral statements that may be made concerning the surplus property or any part thereof.

**THIS** the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

*Motion: I move that the Board approve the resolution declaring the video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters presented as surplus and authorizes the donation to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS program as allowed by N.C.G.S. 160A-280.*

#### **2025.059 Surplus and Donation of Ambulances**

A resolution was presented to the Board declaring two (2) Ambulances no longer used by Henderson County Emergency Medical Services as surplus property and the donation of the Ambulances to Henderson County Rescue Squad as allowed by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 to be used for patient care and ambulance transportation.

#### **RESOLUTION DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY BY DONATION**

**WHEREAS,** Henderson County owns the ambulances itemized on the attached Exhibit B, hereinafter referred to as "surplus property", that is either obsolete or no longer needed for any governmental use by the County; and

**WHEREAS,** the Henderson County Board of Commissioners is desirous of declaring the ambulances as surplus and transferring to the Henderson County Rescue Squad via donation as authorized by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 (Exhibit A); and

Approved: May 21, 2025

**WHEREAS,** it is the intent of the County to donate said surplus property.

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

1. The ambulance itemized on the attached Exhibit B is hereby declared to be surplus property.
2. Henderson County Emergency Medical Services is hereby authorized to transfer by donation the surplus property described above to the Henderson County Rescue Squad.
3. Henderson County makes no express or implied warranties of merchantability of any surplus property, or part thereof, or its fitness for any particular purpose, regardless of any oral statements that may be made concerning the surplus property or any part thereof.

**THIS** the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

*Motion: I move that the Board approve the resolution declaring the Ambulance(s) presented as surplus and authorizes the donation to the Henderson County Rescue Squad as allowed by N.C.G.S. 160A-280.*

#### **2025.060 Budget Amendment – Capital Reserve Fund**

On January 15, 2024, the Board approved the State Budget allocation of \$120,000 directed by the NC General Assembly pursuant to Session Law 2023-134 for capital improvements at the Dana Park Community Center, along with a subsequent approval of a \$2,500 allocation from Henderson County's Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board was requested to approve a budget amendment to return funding to the Capital Reserve fund for the Dana Park Community Center renovation project. The project was completed with budget remaining, and a portion of the original allocation from the Capital Reserve Fund is no longer needed.

*Motion: I move the Board approve the Budget Amendment as presented.*

#### **2025.061 Hickory Nut Gorge Recovery Plan – Proposal Acceptance**

On February 18th, the Board directed staff to release a Request for Proposals for a consultant to assist staff in creating a recovery plan for the Hickory Nut Gorge (HNG).

The Planning Department released the RFP in compliance with county and state procurement policies. On Friday, April 4th, staff received three proposals. These proposals were scored based on the matrix provided to potential submitters. Cost is considered in scoring, but it is not the determining factor. The scoring committee comprised various planning, floodplain administration, code enforcement, emergency services, and engineering staff.

Equinox submitted the highest-scored proposal, and all evaluators agreed the firm was the most qualified for this critical task. The scoring matrix is attached. All proposals were submitted to the Board for additional review.

Approved: May 21, 2025



County staff will facilitate this plan's significant components and continue fostering established community relationships and leading a Community Partners Group. Equinox will assist county staff in technical proficiencies related to recovery work and expand available resources.

*Motion: I move that the Board approve the Budget Amendment and contract Equinox for the Hickory Nut Gorge Recovery Plan; and*

*I further move that the Board establish the Community Partners Group and begin appointments at the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.*

#### **2025.062 Amendments to Agriculture Advisory Board Bylaws**

The Board of Commissioners approved amendments to Chapter 45, Farmland Preservation. These amendments included expanding the membership and roles of the Agricultural Advisory Board. The Board will now consist of nine (9) members, and there are specific criteria that the members must meet to serve on the Board per the ordinance and State requirements. To reflect the Chapter 45 amendments, the bylaws for the Agricultural Advisory Board must be amended. This will also allow the Board of Commissioners to reappoint and add new position appointments to the expanded Agricultural Advisory Board.

The Agricultural Advisory Board reviewed the draft amendments to the bylaws at its meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, and voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the new proposed bylaws as discussed.

*Motion: I move the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Agricultural Advisory Board Bylaws with any changes as discussed.*

#### **Opioid Settlement Fund – Authorized Expenditures Update**

The Opioid Settlement Fund's authorized expenditures update as of March 31, 2025, was presented for Board review and approval. Amounts received and expended will be reported annually to the Community Opioid Resources Engine for NC (CORE-NC) in compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

*Motion: I move the Board approve the March 31, 2025, Authorized Expenditure Update as presented.*

#### **2025.063 Budget Amendment – Appropriation of Fund Balance for HCPS MRTS Funding**

The Board was requested to approve a Budget Amendment appropriating fund balance from Maintenance, Repair, Technology, and Security (MRTS) for the Henderson County Public Schools. This budget amendment will appropriate funds sufficient to add additional HVAC controls projects that are reaching a critical "End of Life" status.

*Motion: I move the Board approve the Budget Amendment as presented, appropriating fund balance to complete Maintenance, Repair, Technology, and Security (MRTS) projects.*

#### **2025.064 Loan Agreement and Promissory Note – State Cashflow Loan for Disaster Response Activities**

The North Carolina State Treasurer is authorized via the North Carolina Disaster Recovery Act of 2024 – Part II (Session Law 2024-53, Session Law 2024-57) to administer a State Cashflow Loan Program for Disaster Response Activities. State Cashflow Loans are issued to local governments

located in the counties included in any Hurricane Helene federal major disaster declaration.

Henderson County is eligible for a \$4,197,972.83 State cash Flow Loan. Session Law 2024-53 Section 4E.5(a) provides that loan proceeds shall be used for disaster response activities only.

The Board was requested to approve the resolution and budget amendment provided for the loan agreement and authorize staff to execute the promissory note to accept the State Cashflow Loan in the amount of \$4,197,972.83.

*Motion: I move the Board approve the Resolution and Budget Amendment as presented.*

#### **2025.065 Budget Amendment – Capital Projects Fund**

On April 14, 2025, Henderson County received bids for the Etowah Park Concrete Project with a low bid of \$94,833. This project, funded by North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant funds (PARTF) and a Henderson County match, has remaining unencumbered available funds of \$73,107. The low bid exceeds available project funding by \$21,726.

The Board was requested to approve a budget amendment to transfer funds from the Recreation Department budget in the General Fund to the Capital Projects fund in the amount of \$21,726 so staff may proceed with awarding the low bid.

*Motion: I move the Board approve the Budget Amendment as presented.*

*Motion: Vice-Chair Edney moved to adopt the consent agenda as amended. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

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

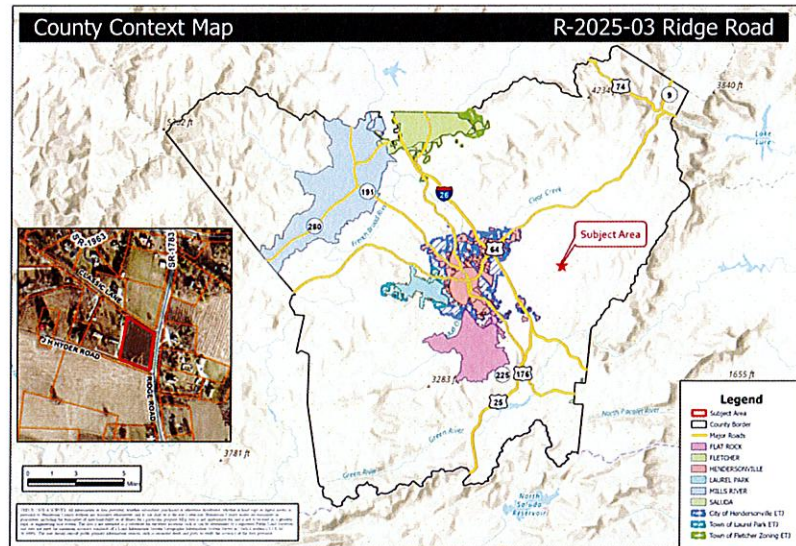
#### **2025.066 Public Hearing – Rezoning Application #R-2025-03, Rolling Ridge, Inc.**

Staff received rezoning application #R-2025-03, for PIN: 9599-32-1880, owned by Rolling Ridge, Inc (hereafter the subject area). The subject area is located on Ridge Road and J H Hyder Road. The owner has requested the 1.28-acre property be rezoned from Industrial (I) to Residential Two Rural (R2R). The application was submitted on February 12, 2025, and Chris Stepp is the agent for the application.

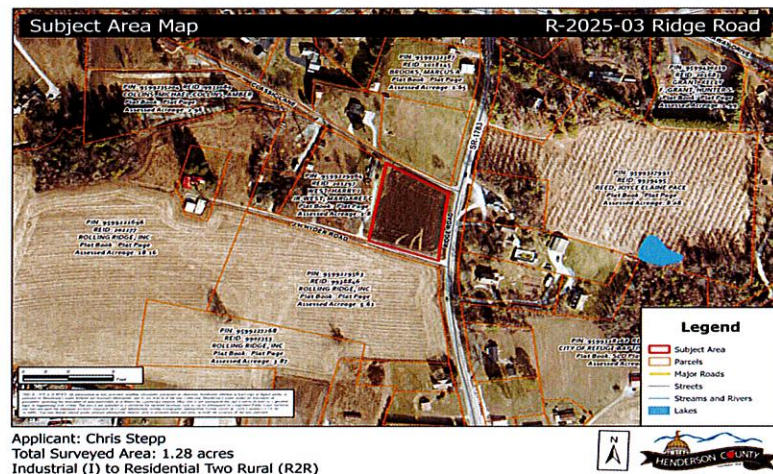
#### **PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Before taking action on the application, the Board of Commissioners must hold a public hearing. Per the Henderson County Land Development Code and State Law, notices of the May 5, 2025 public hearing were published in the Hendersonville Lightning on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, and April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Notices were also sent via first-class mail to the property owners within 400' of the Subject Area on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, and staff posted signs advertising the hearing on the Subject Area on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

- This zoning map amendment is for a portion of PIN: 9599-32-1880 with access from Ridge Road (SR 1783).
- The parcel is 1.28 acres.
- Zoned Industrial.

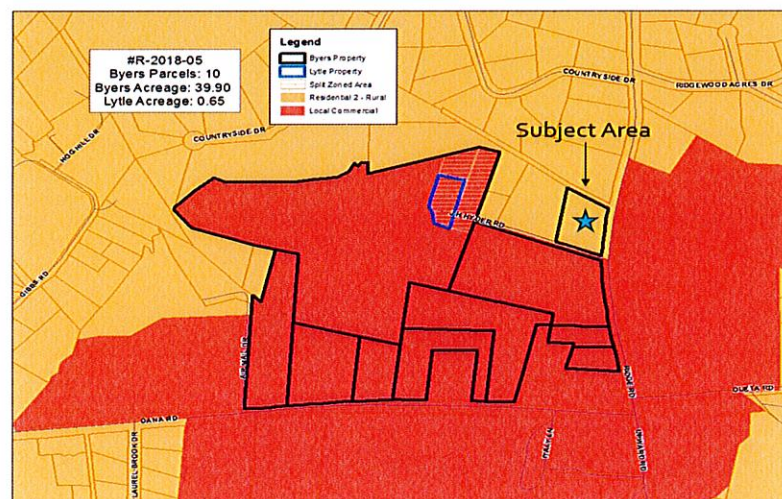


- Rezoning Application R-2025-03, submitted on February 12, 2025, requests that the County rezone 1.28 acres of land from Industrial (I) to Residential District Two Rural (R2R).
- The property owner and applicant is Rolling Ridge, Inc.
- On April 15, 2025, the Technical Review Committee motioned to forward the application to the Planning Board for its review and recommendation.



#### Historical Rezoning: #R-2018-05

- Rezoning was approved at the BOC meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- Subject area was rezoned from Residential Two Rural (R2R) to Industrial (I)
- Split-zoned area was rezoned from Local Commercial (LC) to Residential Two Rural (R2R)
- Remainder was rezoned from Local Commercial (LC) to Industrial (I)
- 40.55 Acres / 11 Parcels





No Residential Uses

Warehousing and Storage

Treatment Plants

Manufacturing and Production Operations

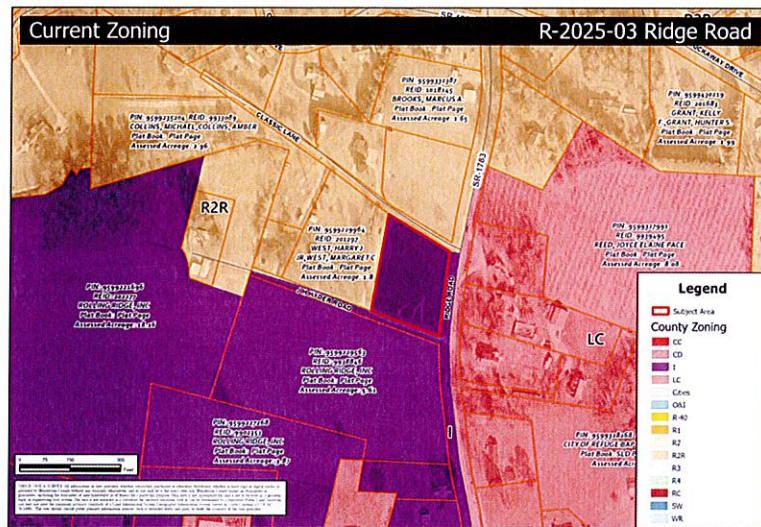
### **R2R Standard density: 1 unit per acre**

Residential Uses (Single-family, two-family, and accessory dwellings by right. Multifamily and Adult Care Homes with special use)

Accessory structures (Garage, Greenhouse, Carport, Storage Shed, etc.)

Accessory Uses (Home occupation, home school, dumpster, solar panels)

Educational Uses (Religious institutions, schools, childcare)



Applicant: Chris Stepp  
Total Surveyed Area: 1.28 acres  
Industrial (I) to Residential Two Rural (R2R)



### **Neighborhood Anchor (NA)**

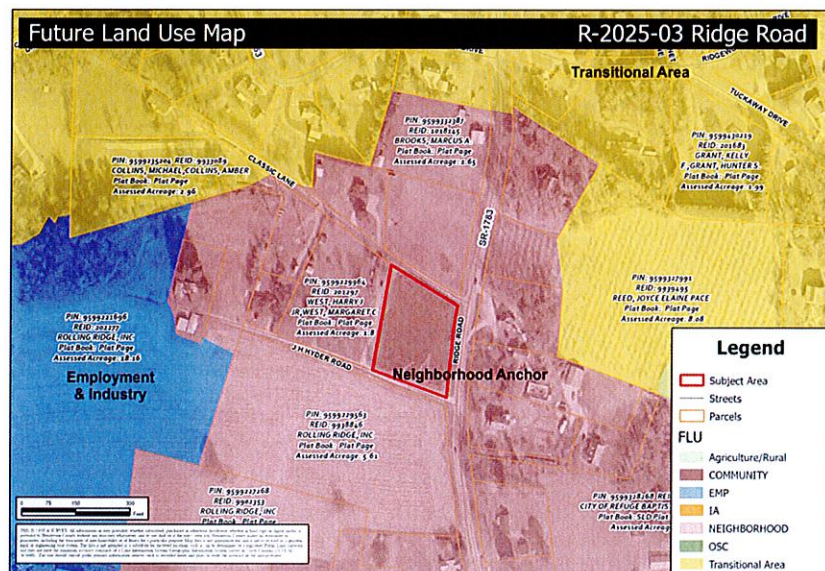
"Neighborhood Anchors are small concentrations of commercial, residential, and civic uses in more rural areas centered around structural anchors like schools, churches, and/or crossroads. (Part 2, page 45).

Where: Typically found at intersections of State Roads or thoroughfares

- Near the intersection of Dana Road and Ridge Road

Uses: Small services and retail, churches, fuel stations, light industry, mix of residential types including smallscale multi-family

- R2R allows residential uses



Applicant: Chris Stepp  
Total Surveyed Area: 1.28 acres  
Industrial (I) to Residential Two Rural (R2R)



**Utilities Map**

**R-2025-03 Ridge Road**

PIN: 959929296 REID: 991085  
COLLINS, MICHAEL, COLLINS, AMBER  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 2.6

PIN: 959933187 REID: 991845  
BROOKS, MARCUS A  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 1.65

PIN: 959942019 REID: 991683  
T. GRANT, KELLY  
T. GRANT, HUNTERS  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 9.99

PIN: 959937954 REID: 991297  
WEST, HARRY  
J.B. WEST, MARGARET C  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 1.8

PIN: 959937991 REID: 991915  
REID, JOYCE LANEY PACE  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 8.8

PIN: 959921696 REID: 991377  
ROLLING RIDGE, INC  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 18.16

PIN: 959939151 REID: 991884  
ROLLING RIDGE, INC  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 5.84

PIN: 959929168 REID: 991151  
ROLLING RIDGE, INC  
Plat Book: Plat Page  
Assessed Acreage: 3.87

PIN: 959931878 REID: 991134  
CITY OF REFUGE BAPTIST CHURCH  
Plat Book: SLD Plat Page 8317  
Assessed Acreage: 6.28

**Legend**

- Subject Area
- Hydrants
- City of Hendersonville
- Sewer Gravity Mains
- Parcels
- MSD Sewer Gravity Mains
  - Public, Public
  - Private, Private
  - Private, PS&MS

0 100 200 Feet

THIS IS A PLAT MAP AND NOT A SURVEY. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE OF ANY KIND. THE USER OF THIS INFORMATION SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING THE NECESSARY SURVEY AND TITLE INFORMATION FOR ANY TRANSACTION. THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE DOES NOT WARRANT THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN.

# 2045 Comprehensive Plan Statement

- **Rec 1.1:** Grow where infrastructure and services exist, in and around municipalities, community investments, and anchors.

- Rec 7.2: Encourage development of housing.

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

*Vice-Chair Edney made the motion that the Board approve rezoning application #R-2025-03 to rezone the Subject Area to the Residential Two Rural (R2R) zoning district based on the recommendations of the 2045 Comprehensive Plan and the attached Comprehensive Plan Statement. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

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



The Land Development Code (LDC) provides for a police station use that is typically related to municipalities but does include county sheriffs or local law enforcement establishments found in the county's jurisdiction. The proposed amendment will replace police station use with law enforcement establishments and include those associated uses. To be consistent with other governmental uses, these establishments would be permitted in all zoning districts with supplemental requirements.

The Planning Board reviewed the proposed text amendment on April 17, 2025, and voted unanimously to send forward a favorable recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE:**

A public notice for this hearing was submitted to be advertised in the Hendersonville Lightning on Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, and Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to meet the requirements of NCGS §160D-601 (see attached certification of public notice).

Public Input: There was none.

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

*Commissioner Franklin made the motion that the Board approve the proposed text amendment #TX-2025-03 with any changes as discussed and find that these changes are reasonable and consistent with the 2045 Comprehensive Plan. All voted in favor, and the motion carried*

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **Hurricane Helene Update**

Staff provided the Board with the most current information about Hurricane Helene in Henderson County.

##### **Financial Impacts**

FY2025 Impacts	
Revenues	Expenses
⊕ Waived Fees Total: \$856,129.45	⊕ Personnel Costs: \$3,189,040.52
⊕ Sales Tax Deficit: \$0	⊕ Debris Management/Monitoring: \$9,499,981.20
⊕ Property Tax Collection Rate: 98.780%	⊕ Other Disaster Response: \$2,180,312.05

Municipality Impacts			
Municipality	Incurred to Date	Estimates for Future Expenses	Notes
Village of Flat Rock	\$137,110	Not yet estimated	Flat Rock Park
Town of Fletcher	\$297,200	\$1,000,000 - \$1,200,000	Various park projects
City of Hendersonville	\$2,984,000	\$163,000,000	Roads and bridges, buildings and equipment, utilities, and park projects
Town of Laurel Park	\$250,000	\$10,000,000 - \$15,000,000	Roads and drainage infrastructure repairs
Town of Mills River	\$32,131	\$305,000	Mills River Park

Approved: May 21, 2025



## FEMA Projects Summary

Title	Process Step	Total Cost
Expedited Funding	Obligated	\$15,224,300
Emergency Debris Removal		\$1,139,019
Leases -- DRC and Warehouse	Pending Application Completion	\$930,000
Private Property Debris Removal		\$1,461,114
Personnel Costs thru Dec. 2024		\$3,442,560
Jackson Park Field and Lights	Pending Initial Project Development	\$200,000
Radio Tower Access Roads		\$20,000
Mill Pond Creek Drainage Project		\$400,000
Vehicles and Equipment	Pending Formulation Completion	\$76,661
Etowah Sewer		\$46,200
Dana, Etowah, Edneyville and Flat Rock Parks		\$35,500
Bearwallow Mountain Tower		\$15,000
Libraries, Activities and Community Centers		\$40,500

## FEMA Applications

### Completed:

- ◆ Expedited Funding Application - \$15,224,300
- ◆ Emergency Debris Removal - \$1,139,018.50

### Submitted, pending PDMG Application Review:

- ◆ United Way - \$90,240.35
- ◆ Leases (DRC and Distribution Warehouse) - \$930,000
- ◆ Personnel Costs (thru December 2024) - \$3,442,560

## FEMA Applications – In process

### Pending Application Completion:

- ◆ PPDR - Debris Removal - \$1,461,114

### Pending Initial Project Development:

- ◆ Radio Tower Access Roads - \$20,000
- ◆ Mill Pond Creek Educational Drainage Project - \$400,000
- ◆ Jackson Park Field and Light Damage - \$200,000

## Expedited Payment

### Revenues:

FEMA Funding Received	15,224,300.00
-----------------------	---------------

### Expenditures:

Debris Removal	10,042,382.64
Debris Monitoring	2,552,015.50
Debris Site Leases	195,346.77
	12,789,744.91

Unspent	\$2,434,555.09
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## Summary to Date

### Revenues:

FEMA Funding Received	15,224,300.00
Donations, Unassigned	104,628.30
Insurance Proceeds	530,610.85
Interest Earned	22,630.13
Grants	25,000.00
Reimbursements	5,384.00
	<u>15,912,553.28</u>

### Expenditures:

Personnel	3,245,036.26
Debris Management/Monitoring	13,733,416.64
Other Disaster Response	2,222,612.88
	<u>19,201,065.78</u>

Net **-3,288,512.50**

## Anticipated Exposure

◇ Revenue Loss	\$ 3,184,014
◇ Expenditures	<u>\$ 58,332,391</u>
◇ Total Exposure	\$ 61,516,405

➤ Exposure includes identified waterway debris removal projects. Estimates for private property and additional waterway debris removal are pending and not included in the totals.

### Debris Update

### Helene Debris Removal Update

- Roadway Debris: 520,000 cy
- Tree Cuts (leaners & hangers): 17,900 cuts
- Private Property Debris: 14,600 cy
- Waterway Debris: 4,800 cy
- Total: 502,974 cy

### LDC Text Amendment (TX-2025-02), Ecusta Trail Parking

On April 7, 2025, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing to consider commercial parking options along the Ecusta Trail in the unincorporated areas. The Planning Board and the Rail Trail Advisory Committee (RTAC) discussed options to accomplish this and recommended adding a new use for Ecusta Trail Parking that would be permitted in specific zoning districts with SR (Supplemental Requirements) for parcels that were adjacent to the trail.

Approved: May 21, 2025

The Planning Board noted that an Ecusta Overlay District could be incorporated in the LDC rewrite that could expand parking options and other related trail-oriented developments, but the draft amendment could address the parking concern initially for the first six (6) miles of the trail that will be completed in the summer of 2025.

The public hearing was closed and additional changes to the proposed amendment were suggested. Following Board discussion, the item was tabled until the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow the Board members time to review the recommended changes. The Planning Board and RTAC recommended changes are attached, as well as additional changes discussed at the April meeting.

Following discussion, *Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to table this item pending review of a revised proposal. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

### **Henderson County Public Schools – Math and Reading Scores Update**

Henderson County Public Schools Superintendent Mark Garrett provided the Board with an update on the latest math and reading test scores for county schools.

## **Henderson County Public Schools Accountability Results Update**

Presentation to the Henderson County Board  
of Commissioners  
May 5, 2025

### **Grades 3rd - 8th GLP/CCR Proficiency Scores**

	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>HCPS</u>	<u>State</u>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>3-8 GLP</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>50.1</b>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>3-8 CCR</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>30.5</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>3-8 GLP</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>54.6</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>3-8 CCR</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>36.5</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>5 and 8 GLP</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>5 and 8 CCR</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>57.9</b>



## Grades 9th - 12th GLP/CCR Proficiency Scores

<u>Subject</u>	<u>HCPS</u>	<u>State</u>
English II GLP	62.9	59.5
English II CCR	38.9	35.9
Math 1 GLP	52.4	37
Math 1 CCR	21.6	12.9
Math 3 GLP	63.9	57.6
Math 3 CCR	39.5	34.1
Biology GLP	53.4	53.4
Biology CCR	44	44.7

## HCPS READING EVAAS DATA

**6 out of 7  
Grade Levels  
Met or Exceeded Growth**

## HCPS MATH EVAAS DATA

**5 out of 7  
Grade Levels  
Met or Exceeded Growth**

## **Career & Workforce Readiness**

**42% of students earned industry credentials in 2023-24, up from 27% the year before.**

**2,155 credentials earned – a 56% increase.**

## **Dropout & Graduation Rates**

**Dropout Rate improved from 1.93% in 2021-22 to 1.43% in 2023-24 – a 26% reduction.**

**Graduation Rate reached 92.8% in 2023-24 – the second highest in HCPS history.**

### **County Manager's FY2025- 2026 Recommended Budget**

The County Manager presented his FY 2025-2026 recommended budget to the Board of Commissioners.

## **FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

### **Priorities:**

- General Fund recovery post Hurricane Helene
- Non-expansion budget
- Recommended tax rate - \$0.431

## **BUDGET WORKSHOP – COMMISSIONER PRIORITIES**



No tax increase	ROD digitization progress
Farmland preservation	Wellness expansion
Recreation Department funding	Baker Barber Collection progress
Land development code update	Clear Creek Sewer system
School safety	Helene recovery
Agricultural Services building progress	Bus garage project
County employee focus	Broadband services
Etowah Sewer system	Volunteer Fire Department support

## FY 2025-2026 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

# \$ 213,862,320

## FY 2025-2026 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

	FY25 REVISED	FY26 RECOMMENDED	\$ VARIANCE	% VARIANCE
County Government	\$ 150,950,443	\$ 152,000,566	\$ 1,050,123	0.7%
HC Public Schools				
Current/Capital	\$ 36,628,000	\$ 36,628,000	\$ -	0.0%
Debt Service	\$ 11,506,933	\$ 9,440,800	\$ (2,066,133)	-18.0%
MRTS	\$ 3,603,500	\$ 4,603,500	\$ 1,000,000	27.8%
BRCC				
Current	\$ 5,750,000	\$ 5,750,000	\$ -	0.0%
Debt Service	\$ 3,218,681	\$ 3,137,704	\$ (80,977)	-2.5%
BRCC - MRTS	\$ 2,301,750	\$ 2,301,750	\$ -	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 213,959,307</b>	<b>\$ 213,862,320</b>	<b>\$ (96,987)</b>	<b>-0.05%</b>

## FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

FY26 Proposed Expenditures - \$ 213,862,320

FY25 Revised Budget - \$ 213,959,307

\$ Variance = (\$ 96,987)

% Variance = (0.05%)

Approved: May 21, 2025



## FY 2025-2026 FUNDING PRIORITIES

Education	\$ 61,861,754	29%
Public Safety	\$ 56,124,488	26%
Human Services	\$ 41,120,350	19%
	<hr/>	
	\$ 159,106,592	74%

## FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED REVENUES

	FY 24 Actuals	FY 25 Revised	FY 26 Recommended
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 105,376,734	\$ 104,600,659	\$ 107,105,845
Local Option Sales Taxes	\$ 41,768,049	\$ 40,443,719	\$ 41,768,049
Medicaid Hold Harmless	\$ 4,011,900	\$ 3,295,891	\$ 1,500,000
Other Taxes and Licenses	\$ 5,706,140	\$ 5,316,000	\$ 1,732,000
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 68,846	\$ 61,000	\$ 61,000
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 19,342,018	\$ 21,500,512	\$ 16,777,933
Permits and Fees	\$ 3,543,796	\$ 2,278,750	\$ 2,257,113
Sales and Services	\$ 11,857,147	\$ 8,456,984	\$ 8,967,835
Investments Earnings	\$ 5,944,817	\$ 2,010,000	\$ 3,010,000
Other Revenues	\$ 2,959,378	\$ 1,502,173	\$ 1,471,254
Transfers from Other Funds	\$ 1,839,791	\$ 976,087	\$ 8,091,943
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ -	\$ 23,517,532	\$ 21,116,848
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 202,418,616</b>	<b>\$ 213,959,307</b>	<b>\$ 213,859,820</b>

## FY 2025-2026 RECOMMEND REVENUES

### HURRICANE HELENE IMPACTS

- Property Tax
  - Damages to homes and buildings, resulting in reduction in ad valorem property tax valuation
  - Decline in overall growth rate in ad valorem property tax base
- Sales Tax
  - Decline in growth in sales tax revenues over last few years
  - Little to no growth in sales tax over prior year's collected taxes

FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Proposed Expenditures	\$ 213,862,320
Proposed Revenues*	\$ 192,742,972
Variance	\$ 21,119,348

\* - Excluding appropriated fund balance

FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

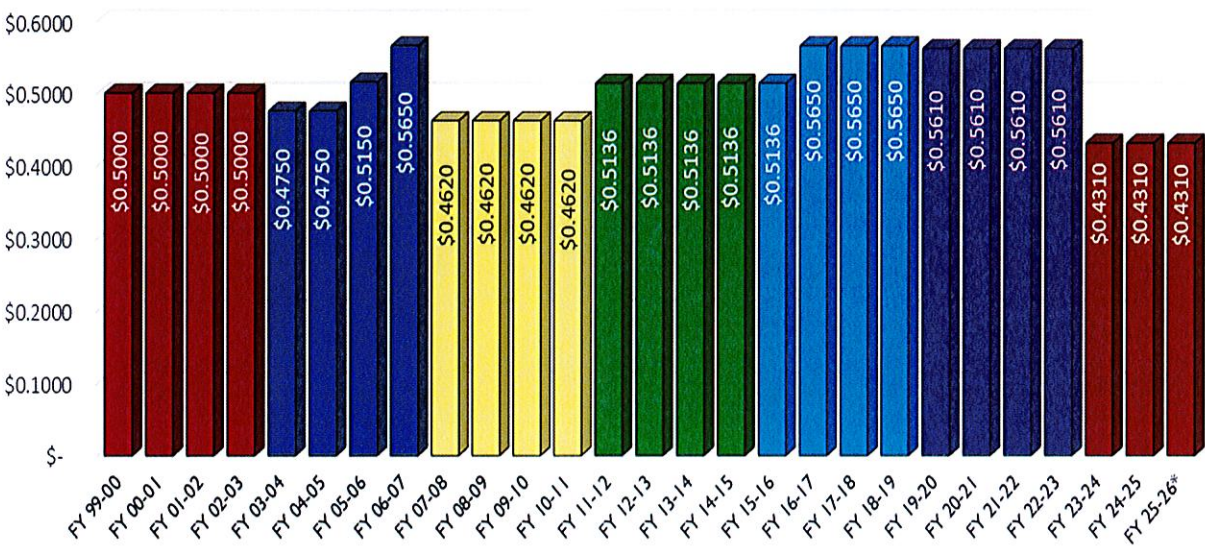
FY26 Recommended Budget	\$ 213,862,320
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Tax Rate	\$ 0.431
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Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ 21,119,348
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TAX RATE  
FY25-26 RECOMMENDED RATE = \$0.431

Historic Tax Rates vs FY26 Recommended



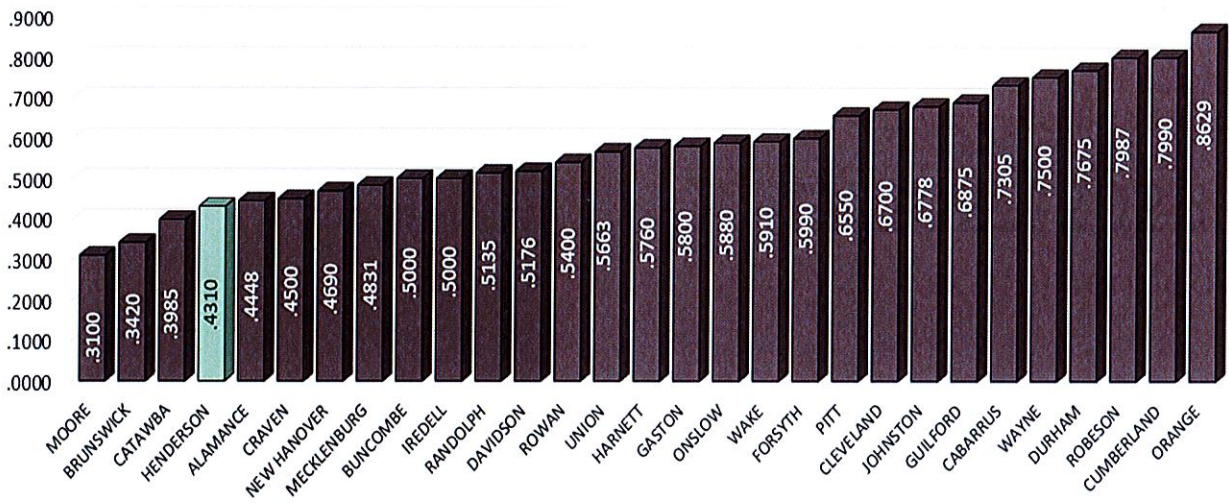
\* FY 25-26 Recommended Tax Rate



# TAX RATE

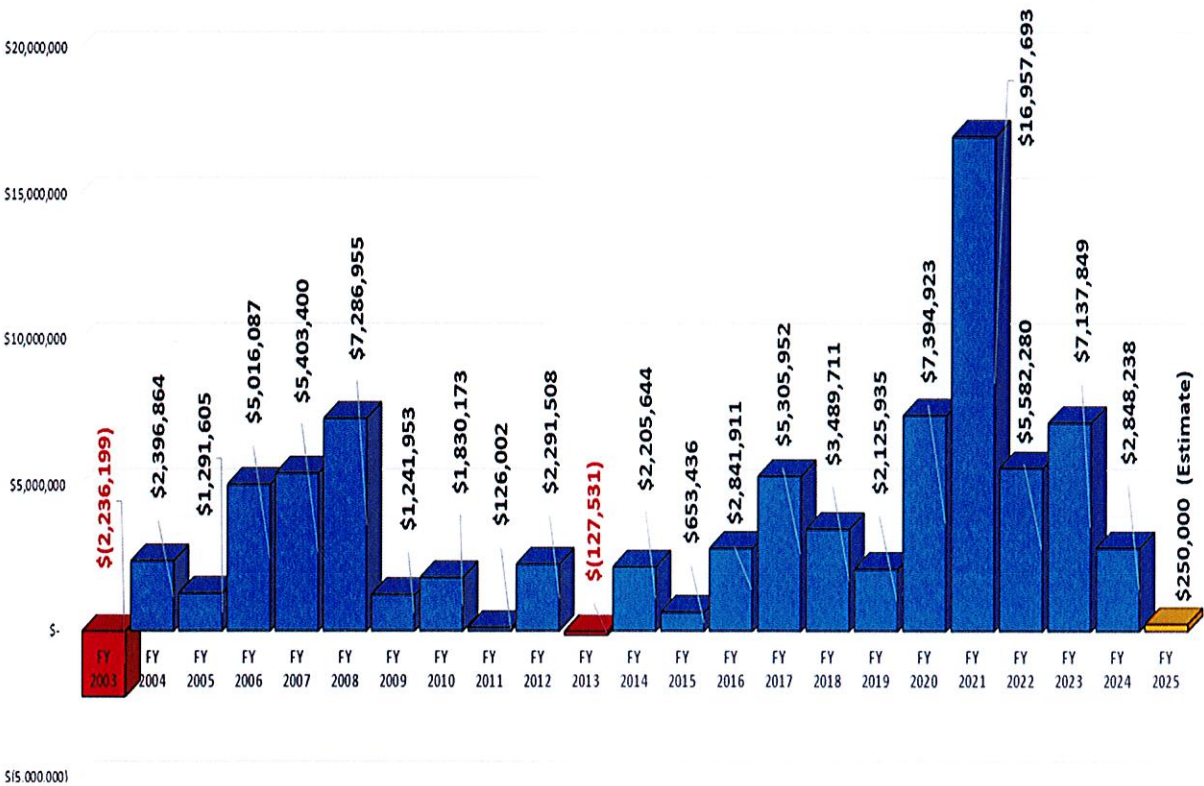
## FY25-26 RECOMMENDED RATE = \$0.431

FY26 Henderson County Proposed vs FY25 Adopted Rates for 29 Urban Counties



# GENERAL FUND BALANCE

## HISTORY OF NET CHANGE



## NEXT STEPS

# FY 2026 BUDGET PROCESS

- **May 5, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting**
  - Present County Manager’s Recommended Budget to Board of Commissioners
  - Schedule the Public Hearing for Monday, June 2, 2025
- **May 7, 2025 – Advertisement and Publication**
  - Advertise the presentation and publication of the County Manager’s Recommended Budget
  - June 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing
    - Advertisement in Hendersonville Lightening
    - Publication on Henderson County website
- **May 21, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting**
  - FY2026 Budget workshop
- **June 2, 2025 – Regularly Schedule Meeting**
  - Public Hearing on the County Manager’s Recommended Budget

The Board was requested to schedule the Public Hearing on the FY 2025-2026 Budget for Monday, June 2, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

### NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Farmland Preservation Task Force – 1 vac.

*Commissioner McCall made the motion to nominate Justin Patwin for reappointment to position #10. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

2. Henderson County Historic Courthouse dba/Heritage Museum – 1 vac.

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

3. Henderson County Planning Board – 1 vac.

*Commissioner Franklin made the motion to nominate Harvey Nix for appointment to position #1. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

4. Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment - 1 vac.

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

5. Historic Resources Commission – 1 vac.

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

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

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

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

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

### COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Vice-Chair Edney: No updates

Commissioner Franklin: No updates.


Commissioner McCall recognized Michael Absher for his volunteer efforts and leadership in organizing and helping with the distribution of over 1,200 containers of donated clothing following Hurricane Helene. Donations were provided to individuals in need, as well as to churches and non-profits across the region.

Chairman Lapsley acknowledged the recent passing of Reichard J. Herman, owner of Leisure Craft on Upward Road, noting the community's loss of a significant employer. He also shared a personal experience with an attempted email phishing scam, in which he was nearly defrauded through a scheme involving a fake billing error and unauthorized access to his computer and banking information. He urged citizens to be vigilant of suspicious emails.


### COUNTY MANAGER UPDATES

County Manager John Mitchell provided updates on recent developments, including the long-anticipated installation of a cell tower in Mills River. He also noted that the dome of the Historic Courthouse is scheduled to be repainted this week.

*Motion: Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3),(4). All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*



Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board



William G. Lapsley, Chairman

# **Enactments**

## **Monday, May 5, 2025 – Board of Commissioners Meeting**

**2025.056 Resolution – Mental Health Awareness Month in Henderson County**

**2025.057 Public Hearing – “Project Sweet Tater”**

**2025.058 Surplus and Donation of King Vision Video Laryngoscopes and King Vision Adaptors**

**2025.059 Surplus and Donation of Ambulances**

**2025.060 Budget Amendment – Capital Reserve Fund**

**2025.061 Hickory Nut Gorge Recovery Plan – Proposal Acceptance**

**2025.062 Amendments to Agriculture Advisory Board Bylaws**

**2025.063 Budget Amendment – Appropriation of Fund Balance for HCPS MRTS Funding**

**2025.064 Loan Agreement and Promissory Note – State Cashflow Loan for Disaster Response Activities**

**2025.065 Budget Amendment – Capital Projects Fund**

**2025.066 Public Hearing – Rezoning Application #R-2025.03, Rolling Ridge, Inc.**

**2025.067 Public Hearing – LDC Text Amendment (TX-2025.03), Law Enforcement Establishment**



# Henderson County Board of Commissioners

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

William Lapsley  
Chairman  
J. Michael Edney  
Vice-Chairman



Rebecca McCall  
Jay Egolf  
Sheila Franklin

## RESOLUTION OF NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN HENDERSON COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, the month of May is designated as National Mental Health Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is an essential component of overall health and well-being for individuals, families, and our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Henderson County residents have endured significant stressors over the past year, including the profound emotional and psychological impacts of Tropical Storm Helene and the recent wildfires, which have disrupted lives, displaced residents, and strained community resources; and

**WHEREAS**, these events underscore the urgent need for mental health awareness, timely access to care, and a coordinated system of support, especially in the wake of trauma, loss, and uncertainty; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Department of Public Health is committed to strengthening the mental and emotional wellness of our residents and has initiated the formation of a countywide Behavioral Health Coalition to address needs, identify gaps, and drive collaborative solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, community partners including schools, healthcare providers, first responders, nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups, and residents are actively engaged in spreading the message that mental health matters and that help is available; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Partnership for Health is spearheading Mental Health Awareness Month activities across the county, encouraging open conversations, reducing stigma, and promoting community engagement and healing; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to recognize that prevention, early intervention, postvention, and long-term mental health supports are key to a thriving and resilient Henderson County.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize **National Mental Health Awareness Month** in Henderson County and calls upon individuals, families, organizations, and government agencies to recommit to promoting mental wellness, supporting those affected by mental health challenges, and building a compassionate, connected, and resilient community.

Adopted this 5th day of May 2025.

ATTEST:

  
WILLIAM LAPSLEY, CHAIRMAN  
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
DENISA LAUFFER, CLERK TO THE BOARD

## **REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing on "Project Sweet Tater"

**PRESENTER:** Charles Russell Burrell, County Attorney  
Brent Coston, Agribusiness Henderson County Executive Director

**ATTACHMENTS:** Notice of Public Hearing

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Board has before it "*Project Sweet Tater*", an agricultural economic development proposal involving an existing Henderson County business.

As this project was described in the advertisement for public hearing (April 16 in the *Hendersonville Lightning*), the project involves a total taxable capital investment by the company of at least \$4,775,000.00 over two years in real property improvements and business personal property (equipment). The project would result in the retention of thirty-five (35) jobs, and the creation of thirty-four (34) new jobs, with the new jobs paying an average wage of \$59,147 per year (which is in excess of the average wage in Henderson County for full-time employment) plus other benefits. The contemplated incentives would last for a period of seven years. Under the Board's guidelines, the first year's contemplated incentive, if granted, would be not more than \$5,732.30., based on the new investment, the number of retained employees, and the Board's incentives guidelines for job retention projects. The maximum amount of incentives to be considered in this grant over the seven years (for each of the two annual investments) would be \$48,809.40.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

Before taking action on the rezoning request, the Board of Commissioners must hold a public hearing. A suggested motion is provided in the event the Board is inclined to offer incentives.

##### **Suggested Motion:**

I move that the Board offer incentives under the Board's guidelines to the "Project Sweet Tater" company.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §158-7.1 that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing at a regular meeting on May 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the Board can consider the matter, to consider the request of the "Project Sweet Tater" company (the "company"), for economic development incentives.

Project Sweet Tater is an agricultural research business concern located inside the United States (including Henderson County) contemplating new investment at its site in Henderson County.

Under the project as proposed, the public benefit to be derived from the capital project is a total taxable capital investment by the company of at least \$4,775,000.00 over two years in real property improvements and business personal property (equipment). The project would result in the retention of thirty-five (35) jobs, and the creation of thirty-four (34) new jobs, with the new jobs paying an average wage of \$59,147 per year (which is in excess of the average wage in Henderson County for full-time employment) plus other benefits. The contemplated incentives would last for a period of seven years. The first year's contemplated incentive, if granted, would be not more than \$5,732.30., based on the new investment, the number of retained employees, and the Board's incentives guidelines for job retention projects. The maximum amount of incentives to be considered in this grant over the seven years (for each of the two annual investments) would be \$48,809.40.

Henderson County will consider granting assistance toward the investment of Project Sweet Tater.

If approved, the request would be funded through the general property tax revenue. The hearing will be held in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse, located at 1 Historic Courthouse Square, Hendersonville, NC. The public is invited to attend and comment.

Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the  
Henderson County Board of Commissioners



**RESOLUTION DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS  
AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY  
BY DONATION**

**WHEREAS**, Henderson County owns the video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters itemized on the attached Exhibit B, hereinafter referred to as “surplus property”, that is either obsolete or no longer needed for any governmental use by the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners is desirous of declaring the video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters as surplus and transferring to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS program via donation as authorized by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 (Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the County to donate said surplus property.

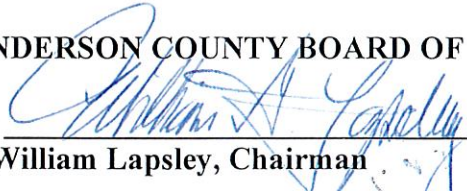
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. The video laryngoscopes and pediatric adapters itemized on the attached Exhibit B is hereby declared to be surplus property.
2. Henderson County Emergency Medical Services is hereby authorized to transfer by donation, the surplus property described above to the Blue Ridge Community College EMS program.
3. Henderson County makes no express or implied warranties of merchantability of any surplus property, or part thereof, or its fitness for any particular purpose regardless of any oral statements that may be made concerning the surplus property or any part thereof.

**THIS** the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

**HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**William Lapsley, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board**

[OFFICIAL SEAL]



**RESOLUTION DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS  
AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY  
BY DONATION**

**WHEREAS**, Henderson County owns the ambulances itemized on the attached Exhibit B, hereinafter referred to as "surplus property", that is either obsolete or no longer needed for any governmental use by the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners is desirous of declaring the ambulances as surplus and transferring to the Henderson County Rescue Squad via donation as authorized by N.C.G.S. 160A-280 (Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the County to donate said surplus property.

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

1. The ambulance itemized on the attached Exhibit B is hereby declared to be surplus property.
2. Henderson County Emergency Medical Services is hereby authorized to transfer by donation, the surplus property described above to the Henderson County Rescue Squad.
3. Henderson County makes no express or implied warranties of merchantability of any surplus property, or part thereof, or its fitness for any particular purpose regardless of any oral statements that may be made concerning the surplus property or any part thereof.

**THIS** the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

**HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**William Lapsley, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board**

[OFFICIAL SEAL]

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment – Capital Reserve Fund

**PRESENTER:** Randall Cox, Finance Director

**ATTACHMENT:** Yes  
1. Budget Amendment

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

On January 15, 2024 the Board approved the State Budget allocation of \$120,000, directed by the NC General Assembly pursuant to Session Law 2023-134 for capital improvements at the Dana Park Community Center, along with a subsequent approval of \$2,500 allocation from Henderson County's Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board is requested to approve a budget amendment to return funding to the Capital Reserve fund for the Dana Park Community Center renovation project. The project was completed with budget remaining and with a portion of the original allocation from the Capital Reserve Fund no longer needed.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve the attached Budget Amendment as presented.

#### ***Suggested Motion:***

*I move the Board approve the attached Budget Amendment as presented.*



**LINE-ITEM TRANSFER REQUEST  
HENDERSON COUNTY**



Department: FINANCE

*Please make the following line-item transfers:*

**What expense line-item is to be increased?**

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
405400-598021-9075	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$1,090
215400-555000	CAPITAL OUTLAY-BLDG & IMPROVMNT	\$1,090
		\$2,180

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

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
405400-526020-9075	NON-EXPENDABLE SUPPLIES	\$1,090
214400-402400	TRANSFER FROM CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	\$1,090
		\$2,180

**Justification:** *Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.*

TO RETURN UNSPENT FUNDING FROM DANA PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECT TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. BOC  
APPROVED 5.5.2025

	5.5.2025	<div>For Budget Use Only</div> <div>Batch # _____</div> <div>BA # _____</div> <div>Batch Date _____</div>
Authorized by Department Head	Date	
Authorized by Budget Office	Date	
Authorized by County Manager	Date	

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Hickory Nut Gorge Recovery Plan – Proposal Acceptance

**PRESENTER:** Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director  
Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Budget Amendment  
2. Scoring Matrix  
3. Scope of Services  
4. Recommended Community Partners Group  
5. Study Area Map

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

On February 18th, the Board directed staff to release a Request for Proposals for a consultant to assist staff in creating a recovery plan for the Hickory Nut Gorge (HNG).

The Planning Department released the RFP in compliance with county and state procurement policies. On Friday, April 4th, staff received a total of three proposals. These proposals were scored based on the matrix provided to potential submitters. Cost is considered in scoring, but it is not the determining factor. The scoring committee was comprised of various planning, floodplain administration, code enforcement, emergency services, and engineering staff.

Equinox submitted the highest-scored proposal, and all evaluators agreed the firm was the most qualified for this critical task. The scoring matrix is attached. All proposals were submitted to the Board for additional review.

County staff will facilitate this plan's significant components and continue fostering established community relationships in addition to leading a Community Partners Group. Equinox will assist county staff in technical proficiencies related to recovery work and expand available resources.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

Staff requests that the Board approve the selection of Equinox, their attached scope of services, the budget amendment, and the creation of a Community Partners Group.

#### **Suggested Motion:**

*I move that the Board approve the attached budget amendment and contract Equinox for the Hickory Nut Gorge Recovery Plan; and*

*I further move that the Board establish the Community Partners Group and begin appointments at the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.*

Department: FINANCE

Please make the following line-item transfers:

**What expense line-item is to be increased?**

[illegible]

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

[illegible]

**Justification:** Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.

TO BUDGET FOR HICKORY NUT GORGE HELENE RECOVERY PLAN AND ANTICIPATED FEMA FUNDING. BOC APPROVED 5.5.2025.

Authorized by Department Head \_\_\_\_\_ Date 5.5.2025

Authorized by Budget Office \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized by County Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*For Budget Use Only*

Batch # \_\_\_\_\_

BA # \_\_\_\_\_

Batch Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Henderson County, North Carolina**

**Agricultural Advisory Board**

**Article I. Governing Authority**

The Henderson County Agricultural Advisory Board (hereinafter "Advisory Board") shall be governed by the terms of Sections 106-735 through 106-744 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and by the terms of the Henderson County, North Carolina, Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program Ordinance (now referred to as "Chapter 45 - Farmland Preservation" in the Henderson County Code) enacted by the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County (hereinafter "Board of Commissioners") on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 1991, and any amendments thereto. All Advisory Board members shall thoroughly familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Statute and Code.

**Article II. Membership**

- A) **Composition of Board.** The Advisory Board shall consist of nine (9) members. Each member must be appointed by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners. Each member must be a resident of Henderson County and shall be selected to provide the broadest possible representation of the geographical regions and to represent, to the extent possible, all segments of agricultural production in the county.
- B) **Active Participation in Agriculture.** The membership shall consist of five (5) members actively engaged in agriculture (as defined by NC §106-581.1), two (2) at-large members with some form of agricultural knowledge, and two (2) at large members from one of the following related professions or fields: real estate, engineering, surveying, environmental consulting, or finance. Preference shall be given to applicants who have experience with conservation easements.
- C) **Term of Service.** The Advisory Board shall consist of nine (9) members, each with a numbered seat. No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms. The terms of less than two (2) years for seats 4-9, and any partial terms filling vacancies which may occur, do not count toward the two (2) consecutive three (3) year term limit.
  - For seats 1-3, the members shall serve a term of 3 years, with the first such term beginning July 1, 2025.
  - For seats 4-6, the members shall serve one term of 1 year, beginning July 1, 2025, and thereafter terms of 3 years, with the first such term beginning July 1, 2026.
  - For seats 7-9, the members shall serve one term of 2 years, beginning July 1, 2025, and thereafter terms of 3 years, with the first such term beginning July 1, 2027.
- D) **Vacancy.** Any vacancy on the Advisory Board is to be filled by the Board of Commissioners for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Advisory Board may submit a recommendation for appointment.
- E) **Removal.** Any member may be removed by the Board of Commissioners with or without cause.
- F) **Ethics Training.** Each member of the Advisory Board shall receive ethics training annually through Henderson County, the School of Government, the Henderson County Soil and Water Conservation

District, or the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

### **Article III. Officers**

The officers of the Advisory Board shall consist of a Chair and a Vice-Chair.

- A) Election of Officers. The Advisory Board shall organize and elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually at the first meeting of the calendar year. The meeting year shall be the calendar year. The election shall follow immediately thereafter as the first item of business following approval of the minutes. These officers shall be eligible for re-election.
- B) Chair. The Chair shall preside at all meetings and public hearings of the Advisory Board, shall decide on all matters of order and procedure, and shall appoint any committees found necessary to investigate those matters before the Advisory Board or to perform any of its duties.
- C) Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence.
- D) Administrative Assistance. The Advisory Board shall contract with the Soil and Water Conservation District Office to serve the Advisory Board for record keeping, correspondence, application procedures, under Chapter 45, and whatever other services the Advisory Board needs to complete its duties.
- E) Vacancies. Vacancy in an officers position of the Advisory Board shall be filled immediately by regular election procedure at the next regular meeting.
- F) Absence of Chair or Vice Chair. In the event that neither the Chair nor Vice-Chair are present, the Advisory Board may appoint by majority vote a member from the Board to serve as acting Chair for that meeting.

### **Article IV. Meetings**

- A) Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the offices of the Henderson County Soil and Water Conservation District. The regular meeting time or place may be changed in accordance with Paragraph I, below. The Chair shall have the authority to change the meeting time or place for a particular meeting, where necessary. All meetings shall be publicized in accordance with the North Carolina Open Meetings Law. All meetings shall be open to the public.
- B) Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Advisory Board may be called at any time by the Chair, provided that at least a forty-eight (48) hour notice is given to each member, and all stipulations set forth in NCGS Open Meetings Law.
- C) Quorum. A quorum shall consist of five (5) members.
- D) Minutes of Meetings. Written minutes shall be kept for each meeting. The minutes shall reflect the vote of each member upon each question or if absent or failing to vote, indicating such fact.
- E) Vote. The vote of a majority of those members present shall be sufficient to decide matters before the Advisory Board, provided a quorum is reached.
- F) Conflict of Interest. Each member shall state if there is a conflict of interest with any Agricultural Conservation Easement application the Advisory Board reviews. If an Advisory Board member applies and requests federal, state, or local funding, that member shall not participate in reviewing or approving any application for the same review cycle as the Advisory Board is considering their application.
- G) Change of By-Laws. The regular meeting date or place may be changed by an affirmative vote of a

- H) majority of the Advisory Board members present, assuming a quorum is present. Any other changes or amendments to the Bylaws must be approved by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners.
- I) Cancellation of Meetings. Whenever there is no business for the Advisory Board, the Chair may dispense with a regular meeting by giving notice to all members not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to that time set for the meetings.
- J) Attendance. Faithful attendance at meetings is considered desirable for maintenance of membership of the Advisory Board. Failure of a member to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings without satisfactory reasons will result in a recommendation by the Chair of the Advisory Board to the Henderson County Board of Commissioners for replacement of such member.

## **Article V. Duties of the Advisory Board**

Duties of the Advisory Board shall be carried out in accordance with the policies and procedures as set forth in Chapter 45-Farmland Preservation and the N.C. Gen. Stat. §106-735 through 106-744.

- A) Annual Report. The Advisory Board shall prepare an annual written report for the Board of Commissioners indicating the status, progress, and activities of the County's farmland preservation program, including voluntary agricultural districting information regarding:
  - a. Numbers of landowners, acres, and farms enrolled
  - b. Number of acres applied
  - c. Number of acres certified
  - d. Number of acres denied
  - e. Date each agricultural district was certified

The purpose of this annual report will be to assist the County in the preparation of the annual report for the Commissioner of Agriculture Office as indicated in Article VII, Section 45-22 of Chapter 45 - Farmland Preservation.

- B) Other Duties. Pursuant to Article II, Section 45-6 of Chapter 45 - Farmland Preservation, the Advisory Board shall:
  - a. Review and approve applications for qualifying farmland and Voluntary Agricultural Districts, Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts, and Agricultural Conservation Easements, and make recommendations concerning the establishment and modification of agricultural districts, subject to the appeal of such decisions to the Board of Commissioners pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §106-739(a)(1).
  - b. Hold public hearings pursuant to Article IV of Chapter 45 - Farmland Preservation.
  - c. Advise the Board of Commissioners on projects, programs or issues affecting the agricultural economy or activities within the County that will affect agricultural districts.
  - d. Execute agreements with landowners necessary for enrollment of land in a voluntary agricultural district.
  - e. Perform other related tasks or duties assigned by the Board of Commissioners.
  - f. Each district shall be assigned to a member of the Advisory Board who shall monitor and represent that district in all business conducted by the Advisory Board. Individual members will represent those districts closest to them geographically. No member will represent more than



thirty percent (30%) of the total number of districts in the County or thirty percent (30%) of the total land area.

**Article VI. Records**

- A) The Advisory Board shall keep records of its examinations and other official actions, all of which shall be immediately filed in the office of the Advisory Board.
- B) The Advisory Board shall keep and maintain minutes of its meetings in the office of the Advisory Board. Such minutes shall contain every meeting or public hearing conducted by the Advisory Board.
- C) All records and minutes of the Advisory Board shall be public record.

The By-Laws, originally adopted on October 28, 1992, amended on December 15, 2021 are updated by the Henderson County, North Carolina Agricultural Advisory Board this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenny Barnwell, Chair

APPROVED BY THE HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE

5th day of May, 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Lapsley, Commission Chair

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment – Appropriation of Fund Balance for HCPS  
MRTS Funding

**PRESENTER:** Bryan Rhodes, Capital Projects Director  
Randall Cox, Finance Director

**ATTACHMENT:** Yes  
1. Budget Amendment

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Board is requested to approve a Budget Amendment appropriating fund balance from Maintenance, Repair, Technology, and Security (MRTS) for the Henderson County Public Schools. This budget amendment will appropriate funds sufficient to add additional HVAC controls projects that are reaching a critical “End of Life” status.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve the Budget Amendment as presented, appropriating fund balance to complete Maintenance, Repair, Technology and Security (MRTS) projects.

#### ***Suggested Motion:***

*I move the Board approve the Budget Amendment as presented.*

**LINE-ITEM TRANSFER REQUEST  
HENDERSON COUNTY**



Department: FINANCE

Please make the following line-item transfers:

What expense line-item is to be increased?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
435691-535103-5691	PLANNED PROJECTS - HCPS MRTS	\$871,500
445691-598043	TRANSFER TO SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$871,500
		\$1,743,000

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

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
434691-404400-5691	TRANSFER FROM HCPS MRTS	\$871,500
444691-401000	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$871,500
		\$1,743,000

**Justification:** Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.

TO APPROPRIATE FUND BALANCE FOR REVISED LIST OF HCPS HVAC CONTROLS UPGRADES. BOC APPROVED 5.5.2025.

	5.5.2025
_____ Authorized by Department Head	_____ Date
_____ Authorized by Budget Office	_____ Date
_____ Authorized by County Manager	_____ Date

*For Budget Use Only*

Batch # \_\_\_\_\_

BA # \_\_\_\_\_

Batch Date \_\_\_\_\_



## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Loan Agreement and Promissory Note – State Cashflow Loan for Disaster Response Activities

**PRESENTER:** Randall Cox, Finance Director

**ATTACHMENT:** Yes

1. Budget Amendment
2. Resolution – Loan Agreement and Promissory Note

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The North Carolina State Treasurer is authorized via the North Carolina Disaster Recovery Act of 2024 – Part II (Session Law 2024-53, Session Law 2024-57) to administer a State Cashflow Loan Program for Disaster Response Activities. State Cashflow Loans are issues to local governments located in the counties included in any Hurricane Helene federal major disaster declaration.

Henderson County is eligible for a State Cashflow Loan for \$4,197,972.83. Session Law 2024-53 Section 4E.5(a) provides that loan proceeds shall be used for disaster response activities only.

The Board is requested to approve the attached resolution and budget amendment for the loan agreement and authorize staff to execute the promissory note to accept the State Cashflow Loan in the amount of \$4,197,972.83.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve the attached Resolution and Budget Amendment as presented.

#### ***Suggested Motion:***

*I move the Board approve the attached Resolution and Budget Amendment as presented.*

Please make the following line-item transfers:

**What expense line-item is to be increased?**

[illegible]

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

[illegible]

**Justification:** Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.

BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE STATE CASHFLOW LOAN PROCEEDS TO FUND TROPICAL STORM HELENE  
DISASTER RESPONSE ACTIVITIES. BOC APPROVED 5.5.2025.

Authorized by Department Head	5.5.2025
Authorized by Budget Office	Date
Authorized by County Manager	Date

*For Budget Use Only*

Batch #

BA #

Batch Date

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment – Capital Projects Fund

**PRESENTER:** Bruce Gilliam, Recreation Director  
Randall Cox, Finance Director

**ATTACHMENT:** Yes  
1. Budget Amendment

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

On April 14, 2025, Henderson County received bids for the Etowah Park Concrete Project with a low bid of \$94,833. This project, funded by North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant funds (PARTF) and a Henderson County match, has remaining unencumbered available funds of \$73,107. The low bid exceeds available project funding by \$21,726.

The Board is requested to approve a budget amendment to transfer funds from the Recreation Department budget in the General Fund to the Capital Projects fund in the amount of \$21,726 so staff may proceed with awarding to the low bid.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve the attached Budget Amendment as presented.

#### ***Suggested Motion:***

*I move the Board approve the attached Budget Amendment as presented.*



