

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF HENDERSON

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, JUNE 2, 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, and Commissioner Jay Egolf. County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Chris Todd, Financial Services Director Samantha Reynolds, County Attorney Russ Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

Also present were County Engineer Marcus Jones, Budget Manager/Internal Auditor Sonya Flynn, Budget Analyst Jennifer Miranda, Social Media Coordinator Tiffany Lucey, Veterans Services Officer Brent Embry, Public Information Officer Kathryn Finotti, A/V Technician Oscar Guerrero, Finance Director Randy Cox, Tax Administrator Harry Rising, Public Health Director David Jenkins, Strategic Behavioral Health Director Jodi Grabowski, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Planner I Carlos Martinez, Register of Deeds Lee King, Environmental Health Supervisor Seth Swift, Park Maintenance Supervisor Jason Kilgore, Human Resources Director Karen Ensley, EMS Manager Mike Barnett, Fire Marshal Kevin Waldrup, Emergency management Rescue Manager Tim McFalls Soil Conservation District Director/Conservationist Jonathan Wallin, Capital Projects Manager Bryan Rhodes, Deputy DSS Director Debbie Dunn, and Local Public Health Administrator Camden Stewart, Deputies Tracy Davis and Jessie Blankenship provided security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Lapsley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION

Captain Phillip Stokes with the Salvation Army provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Molly Cowan with the Barnyard Bandits 4-H Club led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Commissioner McCall recognized Captain Stokes of the Salvation Army for his unwavering dedication, compassionate leadership, and exceptional service to the citizens of Henderson County, especially during the hardships brought on by Hurricane Helene. Captain Stokes coordinated and delivered meals and was always ready to assist in any way needed. He and his wife, Captain Sherrie Stokes, served as beacons of hope before, during, and after the storm. They have since been reassigned to serve in Buncombe County, and they will be deeply missed.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Clifford Meek spoke about the importance of transportation and infrastructure and urged the Board to speak to state leaders to preserve the railway in Saluda.

Approved:

2. Molly Cowan spoke in support of the county's proposed Agriculture Building and explained the importance of local 4-H programs.

DISCUSSION / ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Motion: Chairman Lapsley made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Collector's Report

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

Please find outlined below collections information through May 21, 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):

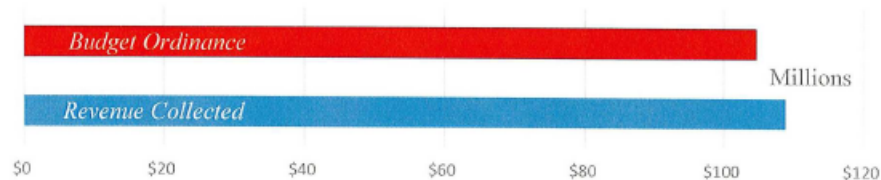
2024 Beginning Charge:	\$101,666,078.08		Unpaid 0.82%
Discoveries & Imm.	\$135,170.17		
Releases & Refunds:	(\$108,022.35)		
<u>Net Charge:</u>	<u>\$101,693,225.90</u>		
Unpaid Taxes:	\$837,605.83		
Amount Collected:	\$100,855,620.07	Paid 99.18%	

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

Net Charge:	\$7,138,588.09	98.18%
Unpaid Taxes:	\$130,094.07	
Amount Collected:	\$7,008,494.02	

Henderson County FY25 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>		<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$103,559,409.00	Ad Valorem:	\$107,864,114.09
Prior Years:	\$1,041,250.00	Prior Years:	\$943,887.05
Budget Total:	\$104,600,659.00	YTD Revenue:	\$108,808,001.14



2025.075 Pending Releases & Refunds

The Assessor reviewed the pending releases and refunds. As a result of that review, it is the opinion of the Assessor that these findings are in order. Supporting documentation is on file in the County Assessor's Office.

These pending release and refund requests were submitted for approval by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners.

Motion: I move the Board approve the Combined Release/Refund Report as presented.

Approved:

County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report – April 2025

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

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

- Dues/Non Profit Contributions – 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.
- Mental Health Services - timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Juvenile Justice Programs - timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Public Education – payment of 10 of 10 annual appropriations made to public school system.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Public Transit Fund is due to timing of disbursements in FY25.

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

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Solid Waste Fund is due to 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 is due to timing of collection receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY25.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE WAS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

Approved:

HENDERSON COUNTY
FINANCIAL REPORT
APRIL 2025

GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
General Fund	213,965,522.00	8,065,361.73	170,244,150.25	79.6%	-	170,244,150.25
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
Governing Body	671,803.00	32,950.09	496,739.54	73.94%	-	496,739.54
Dues/Non Profit Contributions	1,055,544.00	46,478.95	938,416.13	88.90%	84,810.49	1,023,226.62
County Manager	466,644.00	25,178.66	329,879.06	70.69%	-	329,879.06
Administrative Services	829,103.00	54,432.72	689,235.67	83.13%	-	689,235.67
Human Resources	1,527,684.00	121,735.59	1,245,344.49	81.52%	6,338.57	1,251,683.06
Elections	1,241,838.00	35,987.40	955,616.25	76.95%	15,646.77	971,263.02
Finance	1,421,108.00	81,990.70	1,118,894.74	78.73%	-	1,118,894.74
County Assessor	2,184,868.00	150,436.05	1,631,425.16	74.67%	25,951.03	1,657,376.19
Tax Collector	593,939.00	42,167.65	476,544.29	80.23%	-	476,544.29
Legal	1,107,787.00	72,206.35	918,084.80	82.88%	-	918,084.80
Register of Deeds	788,480.00	47,737.51	588,693.17	74.66%	-	588,693.17
Facility Services	6,325,028.00	463,242.82	4,265,758.03	67.44%	338,912.30	4,604,670.33
Garage	461,539.00	35,581.78	299,796.68	64.96%	-	299,796.68
Court Facilities	153,000.00	10,619.56	100,062.90	65.40%	-	100,062.90
Information Technology	6,321,223.00	381,560.41	4,729,745.78	74.82%	277,540.01	5,007,285.79
Sheriff Department	25,964,133.00	2,059,097.21	20,379,689.83	78.49%	379,974.78	20,759,664.61
Detention Facility	7,251,349.00	691,587.85	5,669,914.06	78.19%	138,153.59	5,808,067.65
Emergency Management	1,028,045.00	168,354.88	1,023,900.93	99.60%	21,929.89	1,045,830.82
Fire Services	1,097,642.00	113,060.62	699,504.68	63.73%	32,369.73	731,874.41
Building Services	1,863,208.00	216,089.12	1,630,143.71	87.49%	-	1,630,143.71
Wellness Clinic	1,533,962.00	113,123.99	1,243,786.95	81.08%	21,929.18	1,265,716.13
Emergency Medical Services	13,727,556.00	1,693,741.03	11,122,517.01	81.02%	45,664.02	11,168,181.03
Animal Services	984,647.00	98,435.74	718,913.32	73.01%	50,160.67	769,073.99
Rescue Squad	782,750.00	1,010.24	785,974.51	100.41%	-	785,974.51
Forestry Services	133,168.00	7,485.71	54,671.78	41.05%	-	54,671.78
Soil & Water	864,198.00	58,524.58	492,537.35	56.99%	26,000.00	518,537.35
Planning	1,123,598.00	83,040.42	1,012,080.43	90.07%	45,820.00	1,057,900.43
Code Enforcement	353,444.00	44,803.95	291,211.21	82.39%	25,000.00	316,211.21
Site Development	234,739.00	15,989.64	192,647.07	82.07%	-	192,647.07
Heritage Museum	100,000.00	-	83,333.30	83.33%	-	83,333.30
Cooperative Extension	843,323.00	109,017.10	640,741.64	75.98%	-	640,741.64
Project Management	323,173.00	30,282.45	252,436.59	78.11%	-	252,436.59
Economic Development	2,097,190.00	-	434,000.00	20.69%	-	434,000.00
Public Health	14,400,338.00	951,793.35	9,139,750.00	63.47%	1,620,056.84	10,759,806.84
Environmental Health	1,889,599.00	126,448.32	1,519,377.36	80.41%	8.63	1,519,385.99
H&CC Block Grant	863,502.00	89,530.25	679,459.00	78.69%	-	679,459.00
Medical Services - Autopsies	95,000.00	20,925.00	66,225.00	69.71%	-	66,225.00
Strategic Behavioral Health	473,611.00	18,289.77	231,329.65	48.84%	-	231,329.65
Mental Health Services	528,612.00	-	528,612.00	100.00%	-	528,612.00
Rural Transportation Assist Program	201,384.00	14,394.61	129,660.69	64.38%	-	129,660.69
Social Services	24,479,236.00	1,793,433.50	18,898,975.81	77.20%	30,124.35	18,929,100.16
Juvenile Justice Programs	306,020.00	25,467.00	313,139.21	102.33%	-	313,139.21
Veterans Services	241,124.00	15,386.91	185,849.19	77.08%	-	185,849.19
Library	4,354,468.00	325,853.49	3,443,521.11	79.08%	123,494.90	3,567,016.01
Recreation	3,185,348.00	216,705.24	2,540,901.93	79.77%	84,683.17	2,625,585.10
Public Education	42,378,000.00	3,700,300.00	41,419,666.70	97.74%	-	41,419,666.70
Debt Service	22,712,206.00	1,368,414.50	11,310,802.52	49.80%	-	11,310,802.52
Non-Departmental	4,655,510.00	281,697.62	2,827,998.88	60.75%	-	2,827,998.88
Interfund Transfers	7,745,851.00	645,487.59	6,454,875.90	83.33%	-	6,454,875.90
TOTAL	213,965,522.00	16,700,077.92	165,202,386.01	77.21%	3,394,568.92	168,596,954.93
Net Revenues over (under) Exp.	-	(8,634,716.19)	5,041,764.24		3,394,568.92	1,647,195.32

Approved:

APPROPRIATIONS DETAIL						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
SOCIAL SERVICES						
Staff Operations	19,855,443.00	1,429,456.38	15,887,266.64	80.0%	25,245.55	15,912,512.19
Federal & State Programs	4,523,793.00	362,527.55	2,980,851.42	65.9%	4,879	2,985,730.22
General Assistance	100,000.00	1,449.57	30,857.75	30.9%	-	30,857.75
TOTAL	24,479,236.00	1,793,433.50	18,898,975.81		30,124.35	18,929,100.16
EDUCATION						
Schools Current/Capital Expense	36,628,000.00	3,700,300.00	36,628,000.00	100.0%	-	36,628,000.00
Blue Ridge Community College	5,750,000.00	-	4,791,666.70	83.3%	-	4,791,666.70
TOTAL	42,378,000.00	3,700,300.00	41,419,666.70		-	41,419,666.70
DEBT SERVICE						
Public Schools	11,506,933.00	656,838.96	6,170,700.24	53.6%	-	6,170,700.24
Blue Ridge Community College	3,218,681.00	-	1,820,679.31	56.6%	-	1,820,679.31
Henderson County	7,986,592.00	711,575.54	3,319,422.97	41.6%	-	3,319,422.97
TOTAL	22,712,206.00	1,368,414.50	11,310,802.52		-	11,310,802.52
INTERFUND TRANSFERS						
Capital Projects Fund	200,000.00	16,666.67	166,666.70	83.3%	-	166,666.70
Capital Reserve Fund	1,254,919.00	104,576.58	1,045,765.80	83.3%	-	1,045,765.80
Fire Districts Fund	60,000.00	5,000.00	50,000.00	83.3%	-	50,000.00
HCPS MRTS	3,603,500.00	300,291.67	3,002,916.70	83.3%	-	3,002,916.70
BRCC MRTS	2,301,750.00	191,812.50	1,918,125.00	83.3%	-	1,918,125.00
Solid Waste	325,682.00	27,140.17	271,401.70	83.3%	-	271,401.70
TOTAL	7,745,851.00	645,487.59	6,454,875.90		-	6,454,875.90
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
FIRE DISTRICTS FUND						
Revenues:	16,876,915.00	218,480.11	17,066,171.45	101.1%	-	17,066,171.45
Expenditures:	16,876,915.00	254,639.71	16,851,260.25	99.8%	-	16,851,260.25
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(36,159.60)	214,911.20		-	214,911.20
REVALUATION RESERVE FUND						
Revenues:	1,413,172.00	126,231.02	1,299,307.69	91.9%	-	1,299,307.69
Expenditures:	1,413,172.00	77,109.24	1,064,793.50	75.3%	2,753.88	1,067,547.38
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	49,121.78	234,514.19		2,753.88	231,760.31
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM (911) FUND						
Revenues:	360,945.00	26,560.22	246,265.32	68.2%	-	246,265.32
Expenditures:	360,945.00	9,964.49	230,431.71	63.8%	27,029.88	257,461.59
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	16,595.73	15,833.61		27,029.88	(11,196.27)
PUBLIC TRANSIT FUND						
Revenues:	1,549,212.00	3,450.54	249,909.43	16.1%	-	249,909.43
Expenditures:	1,549,212.00	72,393.99	704,926.61	45.5%	9,750.00	714,676.61
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(68,943.45)	(455,017.18)		9,750.00	(464,767.18)
MISC. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES						
Revenues:	1,074,000.00	48,824.26	412,723.73	38.4%	-	412,723.73
Expenditures:	1,074,000.00	57,901.10	451,868.33	42.1%	-	451,868.33
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(9,076.84)	(39,144.60)		-	(39,144.60)
ARPA FUND						
Revenues:	4,532,278.00	49,578.08	780,370.51	17.2%	-	780,370.51
Expenditures:	4,532,278.00	-	654,815.61	14.4%	-	654,815.61
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	49,578.08	125,554.90		-	125,554.90
OPIOID FUND						
Revenues:	1,069,553.00	114,925.14	415,726.13	38.9%	-	415,726.13
Expenditures:	1,069,553.00	25,326.10	385,760.41	36.1%	8,851.78	394,612.19
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	89,599.04	29,965.72		8,851.78	21,113.94
HURRICANE HELENE						
Revenues:	54,482,322.00	154,156.53	15,929,525.12	29.2%	-	15,929,525.12
Expenditures:	54,482,322.00	4,329,628.69	15,826,774.03	29.0%	33,643,165.23	49,469,939.26
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(4,175,472.16)	102,751.09		33,643,165.23	(33,540,414.14)
CAPITAL PROJECTS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	PROJECT TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
EDNEYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT (1702)						
Revenues:	26,854,136.00	(29.90)	27,961,272.73	104.1%	-	27,961,272.73
Expenditures:	26,854,136.00	-	26,959,829.76	100.4%	-	26,959,829.76
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(29.90)	1,001,442.97		-	1,001,442.97
MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT - SPARTANBURG HWY (2074)						
Revenues:	1,535,432.00	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Expenditures:	1,535,432.00	412,026.70	809,905.68	52.7%	725,525.86	1,535,431.54
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(412,026.70)	(809,905.68)		725,525.86	(1,535,431.54)

Approved:

ENTERPRISE FUNDS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
SOLID WASTE LANDFILL FUND						
Revenues:	17,741,959.00	968,212.71	8,936,466.19	50.4%	-	8,936,466.19
Expenditures:	17,741,959.00	1,459,094.68	14,399,697.18	81.2%	1,679,117.86	16,078,815.04
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(490,881.97)	(5,463,230.99)		1,679,117.86	(7,142,348.85)
JUSTICE ACADEMY SEWER FUND						
Revenues:	88,038.00	6,063.19	89,390.28	101.5%	-	89,390.28
Expenditures:	88,038.00	588.30	80,008.68	90.9%	-	80,008.68
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	5,474.89	9,381.60		-	9,381.60
ETOWAH COMMUNITY SEWER FUND						
Revenues:	187,084.00	16,338.39	137,105.36	73.3%		137,105.36
Expenditures:	187,084.00	19,311.93	166,416.27	89.0%	20,550.00	186,966.27
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(2,973.54)	(29,310.91)		20,550.00	(49,860.91)

HENDERSON COUNTY
CASH BALANCE REPORT
APRIL 2025

<u>Fund(s)</u>	<u>03/31/25 Beg. Cash Balance</u>	<u>Debits Revenues</u>	<u>(Credits) Expenditures</u>	<u>04/30/25 Ending Cash Balance</u>
General	\$ 115,605,854.81	\$ 7,986,824.83	\$ (18,672,314.62)	\$ 104,920,365.02
Special Revenue	48,480,661.96	874,873.18	(1,022,677.19)	\$ 48,332,857.95
Capital Projects	13,582,021.98	5,986,231.86	(2,269,519.71)	\$ 17,298,734.13
Enterprise	1,873,166.72	1,524,823.88	(1,456,393.78)	\$ 1,941,596.82
HCPS - Maint. and Repair	9,166,478.74	300,291.67	(3,262,151.03)	\$ 6,204,619.38
BRCC - Maint. and Repair	3,987,993.72	191,812.50	(456,263.51)	\$ 3,723,542.71
Custodial	676,002.94	327,175.32	(362,162.12)	\$ 641,016.14
Total	<u>\$ 193,372,180.87</u>	<u>\$ 17,192,033.24</u>	<u>\$ (27,501,481.96)</u>	
Total cash available as of	4/30/2025			<u>\$ 183,062,732.15</u>

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

Approved:

Henderson County Public Schools Financial Reports – April 2025

The Henderson County Public Schools April 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 April 30, 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	\$ 6,263
3700 Federal Sources-Restricted	-	-	1,321,587	721,647	721,647	641,602
3800 Other Federal-ROTC	-	-	162,000	123,976	123,976	114,883
4100 County Appropriation	35,378,000	35,378,000	-	-	35,378,000	32,878,000
4200 Local -Tuition/Fees	-	-	63,450	60,848	60,848	51,750
4400 Local-Unrestricted	650,000	479,698	131,980	199,281	678,979	667,452
4800 Local-Restricted	-	-	1,133,040	1,093,773	1,093,773	1,175,835
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfer From school	3,573,928	-	401,585	31,878	31,878	35,666
TOTAL FUND REVENUES	\$ 39,601,928	\$ 35,857,698	\$ 3,221,642	\$ 2,289,646	\$ 38,147,344	\$ 35,571,451

EXPENDITURES:

	Budget	YTD Activity	Budget	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
Instructional Services:						
5100 Regular Instructional Services	\$ 10,586,436	\$ 7,066,141	\$ 995,339	\$ 639,785	\$ 7,705,926	\$ 6,520,134
5200 Special Populations Services	1,334,746	733,059	807,526	534,603	1,267,662	1,073,027
5300 Alternative Programs and Services	472,566	299,452	366,194	360,774	660,226	332,177
5400 School Leadership Services	3,413,720	2,805,054	11,191	9,974	2,815,027	2,534,453
5500 Co-Curricular Services	923,957	796,473	60,500	29,324	825,797	1,040,008
5800 School-Based Support Services	2,125,995	1,630,600	15,501	6,025	1,636,625	1,465,492
Total Instructional Services	\$ 18,857,420	\$ 13,330,779	\$ 2,256,252	\$ 1,580,484	\$ 14,911,263	\$ 12,965,291
System-Wide Support Services:						
6100 Support and Development Services	\$ 476,045	\$ 385,608	\$ 6,500	\$ 16,895	\$ 402,503	\$ 253,777
6200 Special Population Support	83,079	66,806	21,090	19,685	86,491	252,701
6300 Alternative Programs	133,792	106,693	431	431	107,123	85,986
6400 Technology Support Services	1,320,441	1,009,524	44,139	65,157	1,074,681	1,132,508
6500 Operational Support Services	11,883,217	7,099,151	473,302	375,106	7,474,257	7,410,660
6600 Financial and Human Resource Services	2,567,894	2,346,391	110,252	66,718	2,413,109	2,037,057
6700 Accountability Services	214,261	167,430	1,200	1,200	168,630	101,494
6800 System-Wide Pupil Support Services	405,903	328,680	538	538	329,218	351,112
6900 Policy, Leadership and Public Relations	757,913	585,806	14,420	4,059	589,866	593,779
Total System-Wide Support Services	\$ 17,842,545	\$ 12,096,088	\$ 671,872	\$ 549,789	\$ 12,645,877	\$ 12,219,074
Ancillary Services:						
7100 Community Services	\$ 388	\$ 275,952	\$ 177,881	\$ 139,976	\$ 415,929	\$ 133,259
7200 Nutrition Services	269,327	98,485	6,323	6,323	104,809	121,472
Total Ancillary Services	\$ 269,714	\$ 374,438	\$ 184,204	\$ 146,300	\$ 520,737	\$ 254,731
Non-Programmed Charges:						
8100 Payments to Other Governments	\$ 2,632,250	\$ 2,191,508	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,191,508	\$ 1,871,988
8400 Interfund Transfers	-	-	40,052	37,456	37,456	90,782
8500 Contingency	-	-	33,727	-	-	-
8600 Educational Foundations	-	-	\$35,535.00	\$26,651.97	26,652	9,601
Total Non-Programmed Charges	\$ 2,632,250	\$ 2,191,508	\$ 109,314	\$ 64,108	\$ 2,255,616	\$ 1,972,371
TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 39,601,928	\$ 27,992,813	\$ 3,221,642	\$ 2,340,681	\$ 30,333,494	\$ 27,411,467

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CAPITAL OUTLAY as of March 31, 2025

REVENUES:

	Budget	YTD Activity	Balance	Prior Year
3400 State Allocations	\$ 204,309	\$ -	\$ 204,309	\$ -
4100 County Appropriation	1,000,000	900,000	100,000	900,000
4400 Windsor-Aughtry Donations	-	2,250	(2,250)	750
4800 Lease Purchases/Insurance Settlement	1,234,679	870,598	364,081	257,907
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfers In	832,819	-	832,819	-
Total Fund Revenues	\$ 3,271,807	\$ 1,772,848	\$ 1,498,959	\$ 1,158,657

Approved:

EXPENDITURES:

5100 Regular Instructional Services-Equipment
 6400 Technology Support Services
 6500 Operational Support Services
 7200 Nutrition Services
 8100 Payments to Other Governments
 8300 Debt Service
 9000 Capital Outlay-Land/Buildings
Total Fund Expenditures

Budget	YTD	
	Activity	Balance
\$ 20,100	\$ 2,927	\$ 17,173
1,011,921	73,192	938,729
204,309		204,309
2,035,477	1,349,359	686,118
\$ 3,271,807	\$ 1,425,479	\$ 1,846,328

Prior Year
\$ 85,201
101,276
2,226
631,246
\$ 819,949

Motion: I move the Board approve the Henderson County Public Schools April 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. Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees – 2 vacs.
Positions #1 & 3
2. Child Protection and Fatality Prevention Team – 1 vac.
Position #8 – At Large
3. Environmental Advisory Committee – 5 vacs.
Positions # 3, 4, 6, 8, & 9
4. Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee – 2 vacs.
Positions #3 & 4
5. Henderson County Board of Health – 3 vacs.
Positions #2, 9, & 11
6. Henderson County Historic Courthouse Corporation dba/Heritage Museum – 6 vacs.
Positions #1, 2, 3, 7, 8, & 9
7. Henderson County Rail – Trail Advisory Committee – 1 vac.
Position #7
8. Henderson Tourism Development Authority – 1 vac.
Position #3
9. Hendersonville Business Advisory Committee – 1 vac.
Position #1
10. Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment – 2 vacs.
Positions #1 & 2
11. Historic Resources Commission – 3 vacs.
Positions #2, 6, & 8
12. Library Board of Trustees – 5 vacs.
Positions #2, 5, 6, 7, # 9

Approved:

13. Social Services Board – 1 vac.
Position #1

2025.076 Veterans Services – North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Grant

Henderson County's Department of Veterans Services was awarded \$18,288.98 from the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA) Grant Program for County Veterans Offices (GPCVO). This award was made possible by non-recurring funding by the NC General Assembly. Funds must be used for allowable costs that provide services to veterans.

Grant funds would be used for informational pamphlets and other community outreach materials, record-keeping and filing infrastructure, open house community events, and targeted outreach and informational briefings to specific populations (providing Veterans Administration Veterans and Survivor's Pension information, for example).

Staff requested the Board approve and accept the NCDMVA Grant funds and approve the related budget amendment.

Motion: I move the Board approve the NCDMVA Grant funds and approve the associated budget amendment.

2025.077 Resolution – Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditure Authorization

At the Board's June 19, 2024 meeting, the Board was presented with the Resolution requesting Authorization of spending for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. The request for authorization covered thirteen "Strategies" to address the County's Strategic Plan accepted at the Board's August 16, 2023, meeting. This resolution represents a continuation of those Strategies. The Department of Strategic Behavioral Health will address the County's Strategic Plan while minimizing the need to request additional authorizations through the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

The Board must adopt a Resolution per the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation, which dictates the process for drawing from the Special Revenue Fund.

Motion: I move the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the expenditures and revenues associated with the Opioid Settlement Fund [Fund 51] and Strategic Behavioral Health for the funding of Strategies to be addressed in FY 25-26.

2025.078 South Mountain Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval

The South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed in cooperation with Henderson, Polk, Rutherford, and Transylvania Counties, along with the municipalities within the region. The current plan, adopted in 2020, expires July 19th, 2025.

In 2024, staff began collaborating with the State's consultant and our surrounding counties to update the plan. The planning team conducted surveys and held sessions to solicit input for the

Approved:

proposed plan. The draft plan has been reviewed and approved by North Carolina Emergency Management and submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for compliance with the North Carolina Emergency Management Act and the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

An approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is required to receive state and federal disaster assistance for mitigation efforts.

Motion: I move the Board approve the resolution to adopt the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

2025.079 Set Public Hearing to close Unopened Right-of-Way

Planning and Property Addressing staff have received the attached petition to close a 30-foot unopened right-of-way. Under North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) 153A-241, counties have the power to close any public road or easement not within a city, except public roads or easements for public roads under control of the Department of Transportation.

To close any road, the Board must:

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

Motion: I move that the Board approve the proposed resolution and set the public hearing for June 18, 2025, at 9:30 am.

Approved:

FY2025 Home & Community Care Block Grant County Funding Plan Reallocation

At the June 19, 2024, meeting, the Board of Commissioners approved the FY25 County funding plan for the Home & Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG). Following a year-to-date review of program expenditures, the Department of Social Services (DSS) is requesting Board approval to reallocate a total of \$17,405 in HCCBG funds from the In-Home Aide Level 1 care program to support their Consumer Directed Services programs. The proposed reallocation is as follows:

- \$15,869 to the Personal Assistant program
- \$1,536 to the Financial Management program

Motion: I move that the Board approve the requested reallocation and authorize the Chairman to execute the revised HCCBG County Funding Plan County Services Summary and Provider Services Summary, as presented.

Etowah Sewer System – Vendor Selection for AIA Grant Award

During the Board's September 19, 2024, meeting, staff were directed to apply for an NCDEQ grant for asset inventory and analysis (AIA grant). The grant scope is to inventory, map, and assess the sewer system, and to perform a rate analysis based on the assessment and operating expenses. Staff was successful in securing the grant for \$150,000. Following the awarding of the grant, staff initiated the procurement of engineering services to map, access, develop a capital improvement plan, and perform a rate analysis for the Etowah Sewer System.

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-64.31 (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services), staff developed an RFQ and on March 26, 2025, posted it on the County's website. The responses were received on April 25, 2025.

The following firms submitted Statements of Qualifications: Kimley-Horne, RVE, and WithersRavenel. The responses are available at the Historic Courthouse in the office of the County Engineer or online on the County's RFP page.

The selection committee consisted of Andrew Griffin (Facility Services Director) and Marcus Jones, PE (County Engineer). A detailed review of the firms was conducted based on the criteria established within the RFQ. Based on their responses and further investigations, staff recommend WithersRavenel as the most qualified firm.

Pending Board approval, staff will negotiate an agreement with the selected firm and return to the Board for approval.

Motion: I move the Board approve the selection of WithersRavenel as the most qualified responding firm to perform services utilizing the Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant for the Etowah Sewer System.

2025.080 Etowah Sewer System – Agreement Authorization

During the Board's March 12, 2025, meeting, WithersRavenel (WR) was selected as the most qualified responsive engineering firm for the subject project. Staff have since negotiated a

Approved:

proposed agreement with WR for \$163,000. The scope of the agreement is for engineering services to provide necessary planning and funding options for the replacement of the Etowah Sewer Treatment Plant.

The funding for this agreement is included in the system's FY2025-2026 budget. In addition, staff are pursuing a State Revolving Fund bridge loan to fund the agreement. With the Board's approval, and once the FY2025-2026 budget is adopted, staff will proceed with the procurement process.

Motion: I move the Board authorize the County Engineer to execute the proposed agreement with WithersRavenel for \$163,000 once the FY2025- 2026 budget is adopted.

Public Library Facility Use Policy Exemption – Camera Club of Hendersonville

The County received a request from the Camera Club of Hendersonville to display members' prints from their annual print competition at the Main Branch of the Library in Hendersonville during October.

To allow for this use on County grounds, the Board was requested to grant an annual exemption to the Public Library Facility Use Policy. This exemption, if granted, will allow for the Camera Club to display members' prints on the Kaplan Auditorium walls for a two-week period each October.

Motion: I move that the Board grant an exemption to the Public Library Facility Use Policy, allowing the Camera Club of Hendersonville to utilize the Kaplan Auditorium at the Main Library to display members' prints for a two-week period each October.

2025.081 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Plan FY2025- 2026

The Henderson County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) approved funding for local juvenile crime prevention programs. These funds for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$266,020 are available for this purpose through the State of North Carolina. Each Program is required to provide a 30% match.

The programs approved by the JCPC are as follows:

1. JCPC Administrative Expenses	\$ 5,400
2. Aspire – Kids at Work	\$ 61,620
3. Aspire – Vocational Direction	\$ 65,000
4. Hendersonville Boys & Girls Club	\$ 50,000
5. Hope Rising	\$ 64,000
6. Henderson County Youth Mediation	\$ 20,000

Total \$266,020

Approved:

Grant applications for these programs have been recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners by Henderson County JCPC.

The Henderson County JCPC has approved the 2025-2026 County Plan for Henderson County. This County Plan has been recommended for approval by the JCPC to the Board of Commissioners.

Motion: I move that the Board approves the JCPC recommendations for both the FY25-26 Annual Plan, and the distribution of the FY25-26 Juvenile Crime Prevention Program funds.

2025.082 Henderson County Hospital Corporation Promissory Note

Henderson County has received the proceeds of the first tranche of lending under the “State Cashflow Loans for Disaster Response Activities to Local Governments” program. This item proposes to further loan those proceeds to Henderson County Hospital Corporation, on substantially the same terms as the funds were loaned to the County.

Henderson County Hospital Corporation was the only public hospital that remained open throughout the Hurricane Helene disaster event. As a result, due to flooding and damage to and the shutdown of the Hospital’s primary intravenous fluid supplier, the Hospital suffered significant financial losses as it could not perform nearly the normal quantity of surgeries. Those surgeries, primarily non-emergent, typically provide the necessary revenues to enable the Hospital to function fiscally.

Motion: I move that the Board use the County's proceeds from the State Cashflow Loans for Disaster Response Activities to make a further loan to Henderson County Hospital Corporation.

Agreement for Services for Drug Treatment Court

Each year, Henderson County must approve a contract for prosecutorial services for the Drug Treatment Court program. The proposed agreement from the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts, along with an Addendum providing services tailored to Henderson County’s program, was provided for the Board’s review and approval.

Motion: I move that the Board approve the Agreement and Addendum to the Agreement and authorize their execution on behalf of the County.

Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. 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.

2025.083 Name Two Unnamed Rights-of-Way

Staff received confirmation from all owners, and they have agreed with the new proposed road names and locations. The ROWs are required to be named under the Property Addressing Ordinance for E911

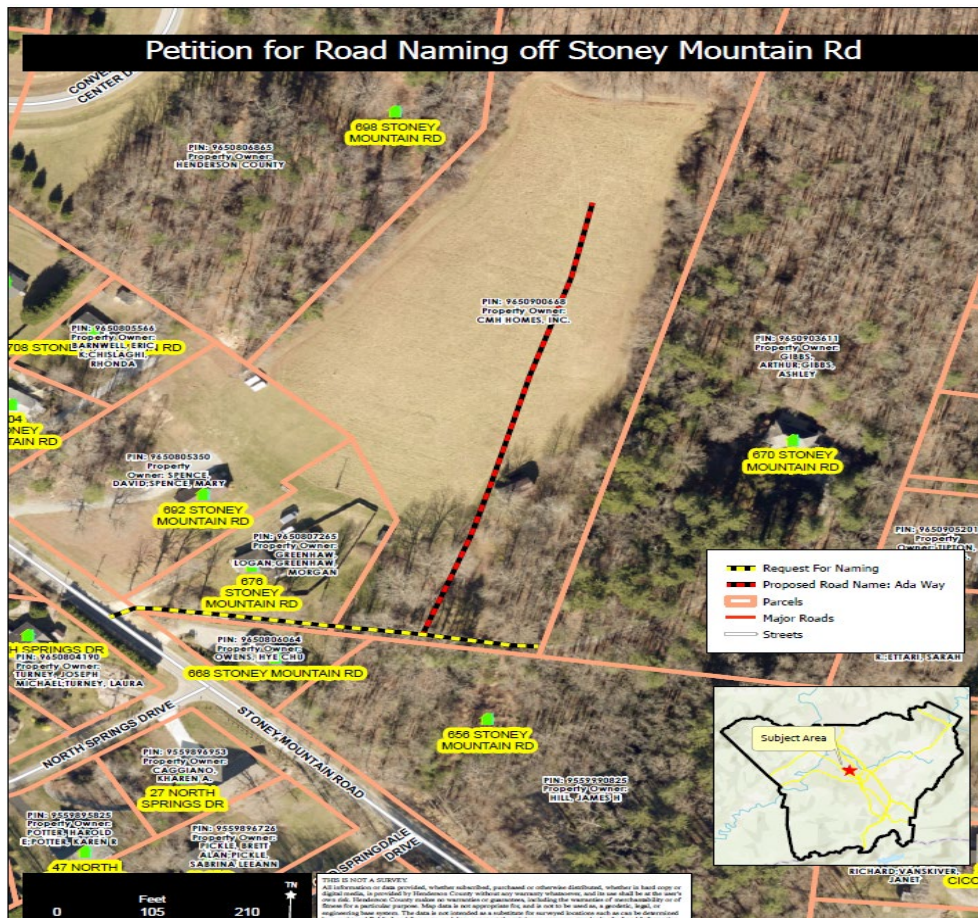
Approved:

purposes.

Staff sent letters to all property owners notifying them of the date and time of the public hearing and the proposed road names, and the hearing was advertised in the Hendersonville Lightning.

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.



After discussion, *Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to table the discussion until the Board's June 18, 2025, meeting. 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.

2025.084 Public Hearing – FY2025- 2026 Budget

The Board of Commissioners was requested to hold a public hearing on the FY 2025-2026 Budget at this meeting. Following the public hearing, the Board was requested to continue discussing the FY 2025-2026 budget.

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

Approved:

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 23rd, 2025, and Wednesday, April 30th, 2025, to meet the requirements of NCGS §160D-601 (see attached certification of public notice).

Public Input:

1. Robert Cannon expressed his strong support for the Henderson County Public Schools (HCPS) budget request and urged the Board to approve the full amount as originally submitted.
2. Paul Weichselbeun spoke in favor of the HCPS budget, specifically endorsing the proposed salary increases for school staff.
3. Beth Pensiero discussed concerns about the school voucher program and emphasized the need for education to remain a central focus in the county's budget priorities.
4. Elizabeth Ritchie encouraged the Board to support and fully fund the HCPS budget proposal.
5. Judy Bonner requested that the \$500,000 removed from the budget be reinstated, stating that funding education should be the county's top priority.
6. Chris Berg voiced his agreement with Robert Cannon's petition and echoed the sentiments of earlier speakers. He also expressed support for the Pathfinders program.
7. Sheila Clendenning called on the Board to demonstrate strong, consistent support for public education and referenced House Bill 10 in her comments.
8. Mary Hardvall highlighted that retiring teachers are not being replaced and stressed that students perform better when they are not hungry. She expressed concern about the limited availability of the free lunch program and urged the Board to advocate with state representatives in Raleigh. She also criticized the voucher program and asked the Board to fully fund the school budget.
9. Alex Ramirez, a teacher at Upward Elementary, urged the Board to approve the full budget request. He described how insufficient funding directly affects students' daily experiences and learning environments.
10. Suzanne Hall emphasized the critical importance of fully funding the school system's budget request.

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

Approved:

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

FY2025 – 2026 Budget Ordinance

The Board was requested to continue discussions with regard to the FY2025- 2026 Budget.

FY 2026 BUDGET PROCESS

- ✓ **May 5, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting**
 - County Manager's Recommended Budget Presented to the Board of Commissioners
 - Schedule the Public Hearing for Monday, June 2, 2025
- ✓ **Advertise the Presentation and Publication of the Recommended Budget and June 2nd Public Hearing**
 - The Budget Publication, Workshop, and Public Hearing was advertised in the Hendersonville Lightning on May 7th
- ✓ **May 21, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting**
 - FY26 Budget Workshop
- ✓ **June 2, 2025 – Regularly Scheduled Meeting**
 - FY26 Budget Public Hearing
 - FY26 Budget Discussion and Adoption, as appropriate

FY26 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Henderson County Public Schools

- Funding in recommended budget consistent with FY25 amounts
- Unfunded Requests:
 - \$500,000 Capital Outlay
 - \$763,463 Local Current Expense

Blue Ridge Community College

- Unfunded Requests:
 - \$1,831,779 Operating
 - \$3,100,000 Water and Sewer Lines
 - \$7,652,469 Facilities Building
 - \$1,000,000 Post Helene Updates

Not-For-Profit Organizations

- Unfunded requests = \$371,290

Solid Waste

- Recommended Budget includes \$300,000 transfer from General Fund
- Unfunded requests:
 - \$564,321 Additional Transfer from General Fund
 - \$654,321 Operating Expenses

County Departments

- Unfunded requests = \$1,062,517
- Assistant Fire Marshal Position - \$196,923

Reval Reserve Fund

- Unfunded requests = \$7,860

Approved:

**Henderson County
FY 2025-2026 Budget Tally**

						Total Budget	Fund Balance Appropriation
FY 2025-2026 Manager's Proposed Budget as presented at BOC meeting 5.5.25						\$ 213,855,974	\$ 21,015,084
Proposed Budget Revisions following Budget Workshop on 5.21.25							
		REVENUE		EXPENDITURE			
		Reductions	Additions	Reductions	Additions		
1	Additional Ad Valorem Revenue per updated valuation 5.15.25		\$ 151,943			\$ 213,855,974	\$ 21,015,084
2	Non-Profit Funding - Rescue Squad funding [McCall]				\$ 39,138	\$ 213,855,974	\$ 20,863,141
3	Non-Profit Funding - Back on Track Addiction Ministries Expansion Project [Edney]				\$ 100,000	\$ 213,895,112	\$ 20,902,279
4	Non-Profit Funding - Fletcher Hospital Inc. dba Advent Health Hendersonville [McCall]				\$ 25,000	\$ 213,995,112	\$ 21,002,279
5	Non-Profit Funding - Henderson County Education Foundation [McCall]				\$ 25,000	\$ 214,020,112	\$ 21,027,279
6	Non-Profit Funding - Hope Coalition [Franklin]				\$ 80,000	\$ 214,045,112	\$ 21,052,279
7	Non-Profit Funding - Only Hope WNC [McCall]				\$ 3,000	\$ 214,125,112	\$ 21,132,279
8	Non-Profit Funding - The Free Clinics [Lapsley]				\$ 20,000	\$ 214,128,112	\$ 21,135,279
9	Non-Profit Funding - Heritage Museum [Lapsley]			\$ 50,000		\$ 214,148,112	\$ 21,155,279
As of 5.21.25		\$ -	\$ 151,943	\$ 50,000	\$ 292,138	\$ 214,098,112	\$ 21,105,279

Fund Balance Appropriation
\$ 21,105,279

1¢ TRE = \$ 2,549,947

Fund Balance Remaining = \$ 421,387

Fund Balance over 12% \$ 21,526,666

Tax Rate Equivalent \$ 0.002

Heritage Museum

Chairman Lapsley referenced the \$50,000 reduction he had previously requested for line item 9 on the tally sheet. He stated that he would like to amend that decision, recommending that the Heritage Museum be funded at its full request of \$100,000. Commissioner McCall had reviewed the Heritage Museum's budget and shared her findings with the Board, and Lapsley expressed satisfaction with how the funds were being managed.

Vice-Chair Edney requested clarification on the additions made to the revenue side of the chart. In response, Mr. Mitchell explained that if the Board wished to propose additional expenditures, they would keep a running tally of those items and allow the budget staff time to identify potential revenue adjustments. Mitchell emphasized that Henderson County is required to adopt a balanced budget. The process moving forward would involve matching any new expenditures with actual revenue sources, and staff would walk the Board through those revenue adjustments accordingly.

Recreation

Commissioner McCall supported the Recreation Department's request for an additional mowing technician, noting the department is responsible for maintaining 400 acres across 14 parks. She asked Recreation Supervisor Jason Kilgore about mowing requirements, and he explained that there are currently two full-time technicians, and not all acreage is actively mowed. She urged the Board to consider funding both the position and the necessary equipment.

Commissioner Franklin asked Kilgore to identify the two most critical items from the department's list of unfunded requests. Kilgore named the UTV and the ballfield drag, emphasizing the ballfield drag as likely the greatest need due to the maintenance demands of 13 fields. Commissioner Franklin then requested that both items be included in the budget.

Approved:

Henderson County Public Schools

Commissioner Franklin addressed the capital funding requests for Henderson County Public Schools (HCPS). The Capital Funding Request was \$500,000, and the Local Current Expense Request was \$763,463. John Mitchell deferred to School Superintendent Mark Garrett to respond to the Board's questions regarding the school system's funding requests.

Commissioner Egolf expressed support for fully funding both requests. Commissioner Franklin also supported both funding amounts, while Commissioner McCall supported funding the \$500,000 capital request. Commissioner Edney requested a discussion about using MRTS funds to help cover debt service, potentially in connection with the bus garage project.

John Mitchell noted that the County would work to develop a funding plan for the bus garage that does not require a tax increase. There was a general consensus among the Board to move forward with the bus garage project.

Assistant Fire Marshal Position

Another item staff was asked to review was the potential addition of an Assistant Fire Marshal position. Mr. Mitchell said, in short, as with other mandated inspections, the county has reached a point where an additional Fire Marshal is necessary. The total cost associated with this position is \$196,923. However, we anticipate being able to offset this cost through revenue from municipalities that do not currently perform their own fire marshal duties.

Commissioner McCall noted the importance of clarifying that the Fire Marshal's salary is not \$196,000—that amount includes the cost of a vehicle, necessary equipment, and other associated expenses. Much of that cost reflects a one-time expenditure for outfitting the position. A consensus was reached to include this item in the budget.

ASPR Funds

Vice-Chair Edney and Mike Barnett discussed the anticipated federal funding cuts for the Mountain Area Healthcare Coalition, which is funded by the federal ASPR (Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response) through the NC Healthcare Preparedness Program, "HPP". The Mountain Area Healthcare Coalition is one of seven coalitions in NC that provide preparedness equipment and resources to healthcare entities during a disaster. This program is currently a hub with equipment ready to serve Western North Carolina, housed in a warehouse off South Allen Road in Henderson County. Mission Hospital "HCA" manages the western region program through contracts with the NC Office of EMS's Hospital Preparedness Program.

Mr. Edney stated that one of the Board's highest priorities is public safety and questioned whether there would be a danger at the local level if funding for the program is cut.

The program includes a mobile pharmacy, emergency room, and various portable medical equipment. When a hospital is impacted by a disaster, such as a hurricane, the local program can deploy tents, a tractor-trailer-sized ER, and other critical resources to serve the affected community temporarily. This type of deployment is often seen in eastern North Carolina following hurricanes.

Mr. Barnett further noted that the program has been utilized locally. During Hurricane Helene, equipment from the program was set up at Mission Hospital. Additionally, some of the equipment currently used to staff the ambulance in Gerton is on loan from this program. He emphasized that it has been a highly beneficial resource for the region.

Approved:

Mr. Mitchell said he would add the issue to the Board's upcoming Advocacy Day agenda. He noted that several Board members would be traveling to Raleigh and committed to raising the concern at the state level.

School Resource Officers

Chairman Lapsley added, as a point of clarification, that the budget once again includes funding for School Resource Officers (SROs) assigned to schools located within the City of Hendersonville, and that this funding remains at the same level as previously provided. Staff confirmed that this was correct.

Library

Vice-Chair Edney raised the possibility of adding a library position dedicated to indexing the Baker-Barber photograph collection. He was informed that the estimated cost to fund the position would be \$73,447. Vice-Chair Edney expressed support for moving the project forward and stated that action is needed. While he was uncertain if the full amount should be allocated, he emphasized the importance of providing some level of funding to initiate progress on the indexing effort.

NACO Membership

Vice-Chair Edney initiated a discussion regarding whether the County should consider rejoining the National Association of Counties (NACO). The annual membership cost is \$2,200. He noted that the County had previously been a member and appeared to receive some benefit from participation at that time. Chairman Lapsley expressed reservations about the organization and indicated that he does not support rejoining. Board members agreed that the cost could be accommodated if warranted, but no decision or formal action was taken.

STARS and Camp Glow

Vice-Chair Edney inquired about the current funding status for the STARS and Camp GLOW programs under the Sheriff's Office budget. He recalled that funding had previously been split between the two programs and asked whether that arrangement was still in place.

Samantha Reynolds responded that a portion of the funding for both STARS and Camp GLOW is currently allocated through the opioid resolution. In addition, the Sheriff's Department continues to receive and manage donations specifically for the STARS program.

Vice-Chair Edney asked for confirmation that both programs are still being supported. Jodi Grabowski confirmed that both camps continue to be funded.

Employee Prescription Costs

Vice-Chair Edney inquired about the local expenditure on employee prescriptions and requested that this information be provided at a future meeting. Mr. Mitchell confirmed that staff would gather the data and report back.

Update on County Mapping System

Vice-Chair Edney noted that the County's website indicates a transition is underway from the current GoMaps system and inquired if there may be implications for the budget. Chris Todd stated that he would work with the IT Director to determine the associated costs. He added that, based on preliminary information, no significant cost difference was expected.

Housing Assistance

Commissioner Franklin inquired about the \$10,000 allocation listed for Housing Assistance. A representative from Housing Assistance was present in the audience; however, she stated that she was not involved in preparing the budget request and was unable to clarify how the funds would be utilized.

Next Step

Mr. Mitchell stated that the budget team would incorporate the items added by the Board and develop a framework to present later in the meeting. He noted that the updated document would be brought back as the final item on the agenda.

Chairman Lapsley clarified that it was the Board's intent to table further discussion on the budget for approximately one hour to allow staff time to finalize the updated version. He indicated that the Board would review the revised document and take formal action at that time.

Mr. Mitchell then suggested taking a brief recess. The Board agreed to take a five-minute break before resuming the discussion agenda.

Hurricane Helene Update

Samantha Reynolds and Marcus Jones provided updates on financial impacts and debris removal.

FEMA Projects Summary - Obligated		
Title	Process Step	Total Cost
Expedited Funding	Obligated, Payment Received	\$15,224,300
Emergency Debris Removal		\$1,139,019
Total		\$16,363,319

FEMA Projects Summary – In Process		
Title	Process Step	Total Cost
United Way	Pending PDMG Application Review	\$91,277.36
Leases – DRC and Warehouse	Pending Application Completion	\$930,000.00
Private Property Debris Removal		\$22,813,212.65
Personnel Costs thru Dec. 2024		\$3,442,559.68
Jackson Park Field and Lights	Pending Initial Project Development	\$200,000.00
Radio Tower Access Roads		\$20,000.00
Mill Pond Creek Drainage Project		\$400,000.00
Vehicles and Equipment	Pending Formulation Completion	\$76,661.35
Etowah Sewer		\$46,200.00
Dana, Etowah, Edneyville and Flat Rock Parks		\$35,500.00
<u>Bearwallow</u> Mountain Tower		\$15,000.00
Libraries, Activities and Community Centers		\$40,500.00
Total		\$28,110,911.04

Approved:

Expedited Payment

Revenues:

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

Expenditures:

Debris Removal	13,538,729.19
Debris Monitoring	2,243,591.10
Debris Site Leases	256,596.77
	<hr/>
	16,038,917.06

Net	-814,617.06
-----	-------------

Helene Debris Removal Update

- Roadway Debris: 558,784 cy
- Tree Cuts (leaners & hangers): 19,715 cuts
- Private Property Debris: 24,386 cy
- Waterway Debris: 11,457 cy
- Total (includes final haul): 812,448 cy

DOT Update

Wesley Grindstaff, Division 14 Engineer for the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), provided an update on road projects in Henderson County. He was joined by Josh Deaton, Division Construction Engineer, and Troy Wilson, District Engineer for Polk, Transylvania, and Henderson Counties.

Mr. Grindstaff reported on the status of bridge projects at Big Hungry and Mills Gap Road. He also reviewed the condition of multiple roadways affected by Hurricane Helene, noting that some had been rendered impassable by storm damage. Roads discussed included U.S. 64 East, U.S. 74A, NC 9, Middle Fork Road, Bald Rock Road, Finley Cove/Hebron Road, Pot Shoals Road, Cascade Lake Road, Grant Mountain Road, and the Henderson County portion of U.S. 176 in Saluda.

Henderson County Agriculture Services Building

Bryan Rhodes and Ethan Ward provided the Board with an update on the Henderson County Agricultural Services Building Project. The presentation provided information on the programming phase of the project.

Approved:

Agricultural Services Building

Henderson County, NC



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Room	Quantity	Size	Total SF	Comments
Waiting/Check-In	1	750	750	
Office - Director	1	180	180	
Office - Agent	7	150	1050	
Office - Prog Asst	4	130	520	
Office - Admin Staff	2	100	200	1 adjacent to director office, 1 in waiting area
Office - Master Gardner	1	130	130	
Office - Agent (Future)	4	150	600	
Conference (10)	1	350	350	
Break Room	1	300	300	
Diagnostics Lab	1	180	180	
Teaching Kitchen	1	450	450	
Storage	1	160	160	
Subtotal			4870	
Core/Utilities/Circulation		20%	974	
Total Square Footage			5844	

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room	Quantity	Size	Total SF	Comments
Reception	1	150	150	Shared with HC Soil & Water
Mail/Copy	1	150	150	
Office - FSA	3	120	360	
Office - NRCS	1	120	120	
Office - OCIO	1	120	120	
Office - Open	1	480	480	
ADP/IT	1	100	100	
Consult/Huddle	1	80	80	
Conference (10)	1	300	300	Shared with HC Soil & Water
Break	1	150	150	
File	1	300	300	
Lactation	1	100	100	
Additional Secured Storage	1	250	250	
Historic File Room	1	250	250	
Subtotal			2910	
Core/Utilities/Circulation		20%	582	
Total Square Footage			3492	

Approved:

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Room	Quantity	Size	Total SF	Comments
Reception	1	150	-	Shared with USDA
Office - Staff	3	150	450	
Office - Admin Staff	1	120	120	
Office - Staff (Future)	3	150	450	
Conference (10)	1	300	-	Shared with USDA
Storage	1	240	240	
Subtotal			1260	
Core/Utilities/Circulation		20%	252	
Total Sqaure Footage			1512	

AGRIBUSINESS

Room	Quantity	Size	Total SF	Comments
Waiting/Check-In	1	250	250	In waiting/lobby area
Office - Director	1	200	200	
Office - Staff	2	130	260	
Office - Admin Staff	1	100	-	
Conference (10)	1	350	350	
Conference (20)	1	450	450	
Break Room	1	300	300	
Storage	1	200	200	
Subtotal			2010	
Core/Utilities/Circulation		20%	402	
Total Sqaure Footage			2412	

SHARED SPACES

Room	Quantity	Size	Total SF	Comments
Multipurpose	1	6000	6000	Cooperative Extension, HC Soil and Water, AGHC
Storage - Chairs/Tables	1	250	250	
Storage - Tenants	3	200	600	
Commercial Kitchen	1	600	600	
Subtotal			7450	
Core/Utilities/Circulation		20%	1490	
Total Sqaure Footage			8940	

Agricultural Services Building
 Henderson County, NC

CO-OP	5,844
USDA	3,492
HCSW	1,512
AGHC	2,412
Shared	8,940

Total SF **22,200**

Approved:



- COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
- SHARED SPACES
- SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



mcmillan
pazdan
smith
ARCHITECTURE

HENDERSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICES
HENDERSONVILLE,
NC

LOWER LEVEL



- USDA
- SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
- USDA + SOIL WATER
- AGHC
- SHARED SPACES



mcmillan
pazdan
smith
ARCHITECTURE

HENDERSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICES
HENDERSONVILLE,
NC

UPPER LEVEL

Approved:

2025.086 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 unincorporated areas. The Planning Board and the Rail Trail Advisory Committee (RTAC) discussed options to accomplish this. They recommended adding a new use for Ecusta Trail Parking that would be permitted in specific zoning districts with Supplemental Requirements (SR) for parcels adjacent to the trail.

The Board continued its discussion to the May 5th meeting. Following the Board's discussion, the item was tabled to incorporate changes.

The latest draft was presented by Vice-Chair Edney.

**BOC Meeting June 2, 2025****Proposed Draft Text Amendment – Ecusta Trail Parking****SR. XX. Ecusta Trail Parking Lot**

1. Site Plan. Major *Site Plan* required in accordance with §42-330 (Major Site Plan Review).
2. Location. Parking areas shall only be located along parcels that are adjacent to the Ecusta Rails2Trail, LLC real property described in Deed Book 3764, Page 590 as recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Henderson County, NC and as shown in Plat Book 2021, Pages 13363 – 13475, HCR.
3. Parking areas shall be no larger than 1.00 acres in size.
4. Dedicated parking areas shall be separated from each other by a minimum distance of 1,000.00 feet.
5. Lighting. *Lighting mitigation* is required when lighting is proposed.
6. Structure. Enclosed parking garages are not permitted.
7. Perimeter Setback. Fifteen (15) feet from the parcel boundary is required.
8. Parking Lot Landscaping. A planting strip of ten (10) feet in width is required along the perimeter of the parking area/lot per §42-172, Planting Strip.
9. Parking Area Surface. The parking areas must be designed and maintained in such a manner as to prevent excessive puddling of water or muddy areas. They may be constructed using permeable pavement, gravel and/ or asphalt.
10. NCDOT Driveway Permit. A driveway permit from NCDOT is required if the parking area is accessed from a NCDOT state-maintained road.
11. Trail Access. Ecusta Trail Parking shall provide an approved encroachment per the Ecusta Trail Encroachment Policy or shall provide a plan to access the Ecusta Trail via sidewalks, greenway, or public street access from the parking area to a public trail access location.
12. The parking area owner/manager is allowed to require payment for use of the parking lot.

Motion: Vice-Chair Edney made the motion the Board approve the proposed text amendment #TX- 2025-02 with any changes as discussed and find that these changes are reasonable and consistent with the 2045 Comprehensive Plan, and further moved that the County Attorney be directed to recodify the approved provisions appropriately in the Henderson County Code. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Approved:

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Agriculture Advisory Board – 4 vacs.

Vice-Chair Edney nominated Jason Edney, Commissioner Egolf nominated Linda Pryor, and Commissioner Franklin nominated Jason Davis for appointment to seats 7, 8, & 9. Commissioner McCall nominated David Hill for appointment to seat 6. All nominations were approved by unanimous vote, and the motion carried.

County Attorney Russ Burrell provided clarification regarding term lengths for seats on the Agriculture Advisory Board. As recently amended to the bylaws, Seats 1 through 3 are designated for three-year terms ending July 1; Seats 4 through 6 are designated for one-year terms; and Seats 7 through 9 are designated for two-year terms.

Mr. Burrell recommended assigning the terms accordingly so the appointment schedule can begin a regular rotation over the intended three-year cycle.

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

Commissioner McCall nominated Robert Johnson for appointment to seat 8. The nomination was approved by unanimous vote, and the motion carried.

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

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

4. Hickory Nut Gorge Community Partners Group – 9 vacs.

Commissioner Franklin nominated Anne Albright, John Anderson, Patrick Barnes, Jeffrey Boudreaux, Erin Gore, Mary Jaeger-Gale, Harvey Nix, Michael Sherrill, and Collin Stanford. All nominations were approved by unanimous vote, and the motion carried.

5. Historic Resources Commission – 1 vac.

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

6. Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee- 1 vac.

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

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

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

8. Mountain Area Workforce Development Board – 1 vac.

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

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

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

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Chairman Lapsley, Vice-Chair Edney, and Commissioner Egolf had no updates.

Commissioner McCall reported that she attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Housing Assistance Corporation's Apple Ridge Project, Phase 1. Susan Frady of Housing Assistance provided a brief overview of the development. The whole project will include 20 single-family dwellings, as well as 60 multi-family apartment units. Ms. McCall noted that the county had committed \$1 million to assist with the sewer system. In closing, she said, this was truly affordable housing.

Commissioner Franklin mentioned that she had recently attended the Top Scholars event. She expressed how impressed she was by the students being recognized and encouraged students to apply for the various scholarships that are available.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE WAS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

Approved:

2025.085 FY2025 – 2026 Budget Ordinance – Continued Discussion and Motion

Mr. Mitchell announced that Samantha Reynolds would outline the items included in the budget, and with the Board's approval, staff would distribute the budget ordinance. A tally sheet was shown (image below) depicting the items on which the Board had reached consensus during tonight's meeting.

**Henderson County
FY 2025-2026 Budget Tally**

					Total Budget	Fund Balance Appropriation
Proposed Budget Revisions following Budget Workshop 5.21.25					\$ 214,098,112	\$ 21,105,279
Proposed Budget Revisions following BOC meeting on 6.2.25						
		REVENUE		EXPENDITURE		
		Reductions	Additions	Reductions	Additions	
1	Non-Profit Funding - Heritage Museum [Lapsley]				\$ 50,000	\$ 214,148,112
2	HCPS Capital Funding Request [McCall]				\$ 500,000	\$ 215,648,112
3	HCPS Local Current Expense Funding Request [McCall]				\$ 763,463	\$ 216,411,575
4	Fire Services - Fire Marshall [Lapsley/McCall]				\$ 196,923	\$ 216,608,498
5	Recreation - Mowing Tech Position [McCall]				\$ 67,489	\$ 216,675,987
6	Recreation - Kubota UTV for Jackson Park [Franklin]				\$ 19,600	\$ 216,695,587
7	Recreation - Ballfield Drag ABI [Franklin]				\$ 38,349	\$ 216,733,936
8	Library - Librarian I - Baker Barber Collection [Edney]				\$ 73,447	\$ 216,807,383
9						\$ 216,807,383
10	Fire Services - Fire Inspection Fees		\$ 85,500			\$ 216,807,383
11	Transfers - Transfer In from Capital Project Fund		\$ 500,000			\$ 217,307,383
12	Sales and Tax - Additional (Article 44) Sales & Use Tax Replacement Revenue		\$ 702,384			\$ 218,010,383
13						\$ 218,010,383
14						\$ 218,010,383
15						\$ 218,010,383
16						\$ 218,010,383
17						\$ 218,010,383
18						\$ 218,010,383
19						\$ 218,010,383
20						\$ 218,010,383
As of 6.2.25		\$ -	\$ 1,287,884	\$ -	\$ 1,709,271	\$ 219,719,654
					1¢ TRE = \$ 2,549,947	Fund Balance Remaining = \$ -
					Fund Balance over 12% \$ 21,526,666	Tax Rate Equivalent \$ -

Additions included:

- Additional \$50,000 – Heritage Museum – to fully fund their request of \$100,000
- Fully fund the school's capital and local expense request
- Fire Services - Fully fund an Assistant Fire Marshal position
- Recreation – Fully fund the Mowing Tech position and two pieces of equipment (a UTV and Ballfield Drag)
- Library – Fully fund a Library I position for the Baker-Barber Collection

To fund the added positions, Ms. Reynolds stated that staff would ask the Board to approve implementation of municipal fire inspection fees, generating approximately \$85,500 for the fiscal year. Also requested was permission to utilize \$500,000 of cost-saving reserves built up over the past five years, since the COVID-19 pandemic, from the revolving vehicle fund, and to increase the budget for sales and use tax. This is a replacement tax revenue that's budgeted conservatively because it's a volatile and unpredictable amount. This would still be a conservative number even

Approved:

with an increase of \$702,000. With the addition of those revenues, the budget was balanced at a total of \$215,807.383.

Vice-Chair Edney made the motion that the Board approve the adoption of the FY2025-2026 Budget and further moved that the Chairman be authorized to execute the Budget Ordinance to be effective July 1, 2025. All voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER UPDATES

County Manager John Mitchell expressed his appreciation to staff for all the hard work put into creating a balanced budget. In closing, he mentioned that the mid-month meeting would include a discussion about parking along the Ecusta Trail.

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

Denisa Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

William G. Lapsley, Chairman

Approved: