

April 6, 2026

MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary of the Bat Cave Baptist Church located at 5095 Chimney Rock Road in Hendersonville, NC.

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

Also present were: Chief Communications Officer Mike Morgan,, Director of Public Health David Jenkins, Code A/V Technician Oscar Guerrero, County Engineer Marcus Jones, Finance Director Randal Cox, Recovery Director Natalia Pollard-Santana, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, Tax Assessor Luke Small, and NC Lead Fellow Abby Buxton. Deputies Mandy Ladd and Seth Summey provided security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

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

INVOCATION

Pastor Nathan Sundt with Bat Cave Baptist Church provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

2006.027 Resolution – National Public Health Week

The Board was requested to adopt a Resolution designating April 6 – 12, 2026, as National Public Health Week in Henderson County.

Commissioner McCall made the motion the Board adopt the Resolution, designating April 6-12, 2026, as National Public Health Week in Henderson County. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT *(Comments are the views and opinions of the speaker)*

1. Tom Applby addressed the board regarding post-Hurricane Helene conditions, citing ongoing debris and expressing concern over the county's lack of support for cleanup efforts. He also voiced opposition to cluster housing zoning.
2. Frances Purdey spoke in opposition to increased housing development along Highway 64 and expressed general concerns about overdevelopment. She inquired about potential tax relief for Bat Cave residents. Additionally, she noted the number of vacant storefronts on Main Street, a perceived lack of support for local businesses, and concerns regarding parking.
3. Miriam Benavides raised safety concerns along Highway 9, specifically noting the absence of signage indicating that the road remains closed. She requested continued law enforcement presence in the area.

Approved:

4. Lynette Staton spoke about business losses resulting from Hurricane Helene and stated that she believed Highway 64 should remain closed. She was frustrated about disaster tourism and requested the installation of speed limit signs, pedestrian signage, and speed bumps.
5. Jackey Morgan expressed his appreciation for the cleanup that had been completed so far. He noted that several secondary roads remain in need of repairs and that debris is still present.
6. Brett Werner questioned the funding that had been allocated to the Berkeley Sports Complex. He expressed concern regarding county debt due to several large projects.
7. Gerton Fire Chief Jay Alley thanked the Board, the Sheriff's Office, EMS, and the DOT for their efforts across the county following Hurricane Helene. Reopening Highway 64 was a significant accomplishment; however, much work remains. Henderson County's EMS 71 is currently housed at Gerton Fire Department, and he urged the Board to find a way to support keeping Unit 71 there as long as possible. Ideally, it could become a permanent part of the EMS system serving the gorge.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Commissioner Lapsley moved to approve the agenda as presented. 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:

March 16 and March 18, 2026

Motion: I move the Board approve the minutes from March 16 and March 18, 2026.

2026.028 Pending Releases & Refunds

The pending releases and refunds were provided and reviewed by the Assessor. As a result of that review, it was the opinion of the Assessor that these findings are in order. Supporting documentation was 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.

Type:

Total Taxes Released from the Charge

Amount:

\$ 16,714.79

Total Refunds as a Result of the Above Releases

\$ 14,301.95

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

Approved:

2026.029 Pending Vehicle Releases & Refunds

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

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

Type:	Amount:
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Total Vehicle Taxes Released from the Charge	\$ 892.68
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Total Vehicle Refunds as a Result of the Above Releases	\$ 892.68
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Motion: I move the Board approve the Combined Vehicle Release/Refund Report as presented.

Tax Collector's Report

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

Please find outlined below collections information through March 29, 2026 for 2025 real and personal property bills mailed on July 31, 2025. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

2025 Beginning Charge: \$103,844,885.28 Discoveries & Imm. \$261,381.42 Releases & Refunds: (\$148,793.89) <u>Net Charge:</u> \$103,957,472.81 Unpaid Taxes: \$1,580,183.22 Amount Collected: \$102,377,289.59	 Paid 98.48% Unpaid 1.52%
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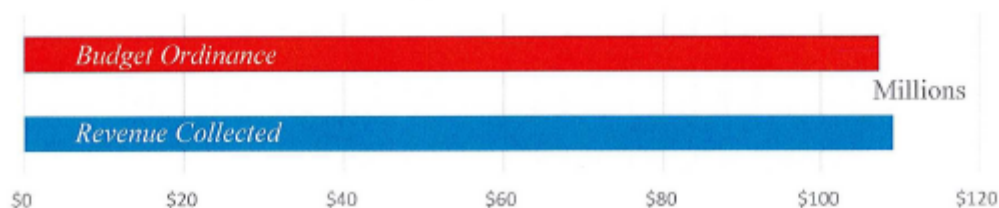
Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$6,060,734.39
Unpaid Taxes:	\$18,310.85
Amount Collected:	\$6,042,423.54

99.70%

Henderson County FY26 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$106,227,288.00	\$108,419,713.13
Prior Years:	\$1,030,500.00	\$698,640.14
Budget Total:	\$107,257,788.00	YTD Revenue: \$109,118,353.27



Approved:

County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report – February 2026

The Henderson County Public Schools February 2026 County Financial and Cash Balance Reports were presented for the Board's review and approval.

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

- Governing Body – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Dues/Non Profit Contributions – timing of 3rd quarter board approved appropriations.
- Administrative Services – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Tax Collector – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Animal Services – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Rescue Squad – timing of 3rd quarter board approved appropriations.
- Code Enforcement – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Heritage Museum – timing of 3rd quarter board approved appropriations.
- Medical Services – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Mental Health Services – timing of 3rd quarter board approved appropriations.
- Juvenile Justice Programs – timing of payment of board approved expenditures.
- Public Education – payment of 8 of 10 annual appropriations made to public school system.
- Interfund Transfers - timing of board approved transfers.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Emergency Telephone System Fund is due to timing of receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY26.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Public Transit Fund is due to timing of receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY26.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Opioid Fund is due to timing of receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY26.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Hurricane Helene Fund is due to timing of expenditures and receipt of FEMA reimbursements in FY26.

Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Etowah Community Sewer Fund is due to timing of receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY26.

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Approved:

HENDERSON COUNTY
FINANCIAL REPORT
FEBRUARY 2026

GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
General Fund	226,383,751.00	9,773,693.31	158,704,957.24	70.10%	-	158,704,957.24
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
Governing Body	713,432.00	31,070.53	509,322.81	71.39%	-	509,322.81
Dues/Non Profit Contributions	1,408,431.00	12,000.00	1,025,441.02	72.81%	342,054.85	1,367,495.87
County Manager	412,944.00	25,363.99	226,011.07	54.73%	-	226,011.07
Administrative Services	1,042,667.00	87,142.69	706,701.37	67.78%	-	706,701.37
Human Resources	1,602,266.00	97,202.81	994,517.98	62.07%	-	994,517.98
Elections	1,502,192.00	133,253.61	513,354.48	34.17%	94,907.31	608,261.79
Finance	1,459,519.00	103,301.60	864,287.18	59.22%	-	864,287.18
County Assessor	2,389,025.00	131,998.86	1,271,989.53	53.24%	12,439.46	1,284,428.99
Tax Collector	625,023.00	53,610.98	456,070.69	72.97%	-	456,070.69
Legal	1,153,432.00	81,041.16	763,157.84	66.16%	-	763,157.84
Register of Deeds	804,235.00	42,649.94	524,561.83	65.22%	2,416.80	526,978.63
Facility Services	6,938,247.00	489,705.15	3,716,694.66	53.57%	267,855.84	3,984,550.50
Garage	465,069.00	51,037.92	279,300.14	60.06%	-	279,300.14
Court Facilities	153,000.00	12,417.82	87,959.09	57.49%	-	87,959.09
Information Technology	6,730,676.00	230,491.44	3,676,765.79	54.63%	636,487.50	4,313,253.29
Sheriff Department	26,970,171.00	1,800,382.41	16,707,296.34	61.95%	413,918.68	17,121,215.02
Detention Facility	7,255,267.00	454,948.79	4,469,703.62	61.61%	205,878.46	4,675,582.08
Emergency Management	2,189,579.00	107,231.01	1,315,986.73	60.10%	8,354.24	1,324,340.97
Fire Services	1,274,999.00	67,736.91	646,822.50	50.73%	54,601.85	701,424.35
Building Services	1,933,820.00	133,940.97	1,252,836.83	64.79%	8,061.82	1,260,898.65
Wellness Clinic	1,551,790.00	96,072.70	971,613.12	62.61%	54,884.84	1,026,497.96
Emergency Medical Services	14,917,175.00	1,007,707.97	9,433,948.03	63.24%	72,565.60	9,506,513.63
Animal Services	1,006,894.00	89,866.01	678,870.48	67.42%	25,590.15	704,460.63
Rescue Squad	821,888.00	53.11	616,416.00	75.00%	205,472.00	821,888.00
Forestry Services	131,219.00	10,782.75	36,818.16	28.06%	-	36,818.16
Soil & Water	907,576.00	41,442.23	358,521.06	39.50%	12,850.00	371,371.06
Planning	1,418,811.00	115,975.72	929,533.75	65.51%	44,544.00	974,077.75
Code Enforcement	368,640.00	20,807.09	246,160.63	66.78%	2,004.20	248,164.83
Site Development	247,581.00	17,021.57	152,008.27	61.40%	-	152,008.27
Heritage Museum	100,000.00	-	75,000.00	75.00%	25,000.00	100,000.00
Cooperative Extension	794,654.00	65,192.70	483,626.06	60.86%	1,750.00	485,376.06
Project Management	412,211.00	31,006.47	248,729.05	60.34%	-	248,729.05
Economic Development	2,152,642.00	-	325,500.00	15.12%	108,500.00	434,000.00
Public Health	14,320,548.00	915,628.82	7,843,818.53	54.77%	1,325,930.41	9,169,748.94
Environmental Health	2,051,804.00	127,624.05	1,262,448.53	61.53%	106.51	1,262,555.04
H&CC Block Grant	863,502.00	64,010.50	497,467.00	57.61%	-	497,467.00
Medical Services - Autopsies	95,000.00	5,425.00	61,300.00	64.53%	-	61,300.00
Strategic Behavioral Health	611,929.00	31,132.93	296,001.91	48.37%	45,509.93	341,511.84
Mental Health Services	528,612.00	-	396,459.00	75.00%	-	396,459.00
Rural Transportation Assist Program	201,384.00	-	109,178.25	54.21%	-	109,178.25
Social Services	24,881,619.00	1,725,773.65	15,327,862.83	61.60%	417,257.13	15,745,119.96
Juvenile Justice Programs	346,020.00	54,713.00	233,110.80	67.37%	-	233,110.80
Veterans Services	343,766.00	21,683.28	215,752.76	62.76%	5,110.96	220,863.72
Library	4,578,514.00	345,848.90	3,042,991.42	66.46%	180,876.42	3,223,867.84
Recreation	3,776,930.00	256,598.62	2,343,887.17	62.06%	119,180.06	2,463,067.23
Public Education	43,641,463.00	4,243,312.97	34,134,003.76	78.21%	-	34,134,003.76
Debt Service	17,594,644.00	7,000.00	8,111,749.01	46.10%	-	8,111,749.01
Non-Departmental	5,155,445.00	212,562.56	2,394,946.79	46.45%	-	2,394,946.79
Interfund Transfers	15,537,496.00	597,104.17	11,489,255.36	73.95%	-	11,489,255.36
TOTAL	226,383,751.00	14,250,875.36	142,325,759.23	62.87%	4,694,109.02	147,019,868.25
Net Revenues over (under) Exp.	-	(4,477,182.05)	16,379,198.01			11,685,088.99

Approved:

APPROPRIATIONS DETAIL						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
SOCIAL SERVICES						
Staff Operations	20,868,566.00	1,417,588.62	13,157,061.47	63.05%	417,257.13	13,574,318.60
Federal & State Programs	3,913,053.00	293,344.48	2,123,589.49	54.27%	-	2,123,589.49
General Assistance	100,000.00	14,840.55	47,211.87	47.21%	-	47,211.87
TOTAL	24,881,619.00	1,725,773.65	15,327,862.83		417,257.13	15,745,119.96
EDUCATION						
Schools Current/Capital Expense	37,891,463.00	3,764,146.30	30,300,670.40	79.97%	-	30,300,670.40
Blue Ridge Community College	5,750,000.00	479,166.67	3,833,333.36	66.67%	-	3,833,333.36
TOTAL	43,641,463.00	4,243,312.97	34,134,003.76		-	34,134,003.76
DEBT SERVICE						
Public Schools	9,440,800.00	-	4,151,201.78	43.97%	-	4,151,201.78
Blue Ridge Community College	3,141,195.00	-	1,651,539.83	52.58%	-	1,651,539.83
Henderson County	5,012,649.00	7,000.00	2,309,007.40	46.06%	-	2,309,007.40
TOTAL	17,594,644.00	7,000.00	8,111,749.01		-	8,111,749.01
INTERFUND TRANSFERS						
Capital Projects Fund	1,439,038.00	16,666.67	133,333.36	9.27%	-	133,333.36
Capital Reserve Fund	6,712,422.00	-	6,712,422.00	100.00%	-	6,712,422.00
Fire Districts Fund	60,000.00	5,000.00	40,000.00	66.67%	-	40,000.00
HCCPS MRTS	4,603,500.00	383,625.00	3,069,000.00	66.67%	-	3,069,000.00
BRCC MRTS	2,301,750.00	191,812.50	1,534,500.00	66.67%	-	1,534,500.00
Solid Waste	420,786.00	-	-	0.00%	-	-
TOTAL	15,537,496.00	597,104.17	11,489,255.36		-	11,489,255.36
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
FIRE DISTRICTS FUND						
Revenues:	17,285,114.00	404,811.07	16,965,115.71	98.15%	-	16,965,115.71
Expenditures:	17,285,114.00	1,922,654.38	16,563,434.85	95.82%	-	16,563,434.85
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(1,517,843.31)	401,680.86		-	401,680.86
REVALUATION RESERVE FUND						
Revenues:	1,309,290.00	100,103.67	1,046,070.51	79.90%	-	1,046,070.51
Expenditures:	1,309,290.00	77,661.49	948,710.03	72.46%	36,736.78	985,446.81
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	22,442.18	97,360.48		36,736.78	60,623.70
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM (911) FUND						
Revenues:	302,500.00	25,362.83	180,779.04	59.76%	-	180,779.04
Expenditures:	302,500.00	2,614.67	204,517.61	67.61%	9,849.00	214,366.61
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	22,748.16	(23,738.57)		9,849.00	(33,587.57)
PUBLIC TRANSIT FUND						
Revenues:	1,758,861.00	3,105.02	246,977.38	14.04%	-	246,977.38
Expenditures:	1,758,861.00	3,492.87	506,029.05	28.77%	6,308.90	512,337.95
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(387.85)	(259,051.67)		6,308.90	(265,360.57)
MISC. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES						
Revenues:	954,000.00	48,047.98	388,611.86	40.73%	-	388,611.86
Expenditures:	954,000.00	48,920.96	360,632.20	37.80%	-	360,632.20
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(872.98)	27,979.66		-	27,979.66
ARPA FUND						
Revenues:	536,051.00	51,259.09	474,449.21	88.51%	-	474,449.21
Expenditures:	536,051.00	-	-	0.00%	50,000.00	50,000.00
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	51,259.09	474,449.21		50,000.00	424,449.21
OPIOID FUND						
Revenues:	1,339,390.00	19,526.05	180,341.99	13.46%	-	180,341.99
Expenditures:	1,339,390.00	44,049.83	414,295.84	30.93%	223,323.57	637,619.41
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(24,523.78)	(233,953.85)		223,323.57	(457,277.42)
HURRICANE HELENE						
Revenues:	\$ 78,048,550.00	\$ 6,913,858.73	\$ 39,517,691.92	50.63%	\$ -	\$ 39,517,691.92
Expenditures:	\$ 78,048,550.00	\$ 51,884.65	\$ 52,873,334.58	67.74%	\$ 4,467,544.35	\$ 57,340,878.93
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	\$ -	\$ 6,861,974.08	\$ (13,355,642.66)		\$ 4,467,544.35	\$ (17,823,187.01)
CAPITAL PROJECTS						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	PROJECT TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
JUDICIAL CENTER PROJECT - DETENTION (2064)						
Revenues:	78,625,813.00	224,118.31	79,535,549.43	101.16%	-	79,535,549.43
Expenditures:	78,625,813.00	42,437.72	7,083,831.12	9.01%	64,724,721.76	71,808,552.88
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	181,680.59	72,451,718.31		64,724,721.76	7,726,996.55
JUDICIAL CENTER PROJECT - COURTHOUSE (2086)						
Revenues:	6,738,241.00	-	-	0.00%	-	-
Expenditures:	6,738,241.00	109,356.80	4,717,252.53	70.01%	1,961,557.30	6,678,809.83
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(109,356.80)	(4,717,252.53)		1,961,557.30	(6,678,809.83)
MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT - SPARTANBURG HWY (2074)						
Revenues:	27,607,087.00	27,615,209.42	27,615,209.42	100.03%	-	27,615,209.42
Expenditures:	27,607,087.00	2,051,640.23	3,661,177.98	13.26%	22,313,900.08	25,975,078.06
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	25,563,569.19	23,954,031.44		22,313,900.08	1,640,131.36

Approved:

ENTERPRISE FUNDS						
	REVISED BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
SOLID WASTE LANDFILL FUND						
Revenues:	11,543,825.00	1,062,838.80	7,564,175.27	65.53%	-	7,564,175.27
Expenditures:	11,543,825.00	671,951.49	6,732,841.81	58.32%	2,796,735.73	9,529,577.54
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	390,887.31	831,333.46		2,796,735.73	(1,965,402.27)
JUSTICE ACADEMY SEWER FUND						
Revenues:	72,091.00	6,545.81	55,233.38	76.62%	-	55,233.38
Expenditures:	72,091.00	2,633.76	38,909.54	53.97%	2,565	41,474.54
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	3,912.05	16,323.84		(2,565.00)	13,758.84
ETOWAH COMMUNITY SEWER FUND						
Revenues:	553,480.00	36,370.36	175,739.52	31.75%	-	175,739.52
Expenditures:	553,480.00	48,171.83	177,658.06	32.10%	286,302.50	463,960.56
Net Revenues over (under) Exp	-	(11,801.47)	(1,918.54)		(286,302.50)	(288,221.04)

**HENDERSON COUNTY
CASH BALANCE REPORT
FEBRUARY 2026**

Fund(s)	01/31/25 Beg. Cash Balance	Debits Revenues	(Credits) Expenditures	02/28/26 Ending Cash Balance
General	\$ 124,854,074.52	\$ 11,100,397.23	\$ (16,338,746.23)	\$ 119,615,725.52
Special Revenue	43,869,211.86	7,563,311.93	(2,784,225.41)	48,648,298.38
Capital Projects	10,449,745.41	3,161,399.18	(4,410,031.64)	9,201,112.95
Enterprise	1,635,546.42	1,099,223.21	(733,318.46)	2,001,451.17
HCPS - Maint. and Repair	5,917,499.68	383,625.00	-	6,301,124.68
BRCC - Maint. and Repair	5,339,917.31	191,812.50	-	5,531,729.81
Custodial	2,947,135.93	596,823.19	(2,720,543.57)	823,415.55
Total	\$ 195,013,131.13	\$ 24,096,592.24	\$ (26,986,865.31)	
Total cash available as of	2/28/2026			\$ 192,122,858.06

Motion: I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the February 2026 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented.

Henderson County Public Schools Financial Report – February 2026

The Henderson County Public Schools February 2026 Local Current Expense Fund / Other Restricted Funds Report was presented for the Board's review and approval.

**HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE/OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS
as of February 28, 2026**

REVENUES:	LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND		OTHER RESTRICTED FUND		Combined Total	Prior YTD
	Budget	YTD Activity	Budget	YTD Activity		
3200 State Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103,523	\$ 103,696	\$ 103,696	\$ 3,244
3700 Federal Sources-Restricted	-	-	2,240,718	500,264	500,264	623,127
3800 Other Federal-ROTC	-	-	150,000	55,842	55,842	77,485
4100 County Appropriation	36,141,463	28,913,170	-	-	28,913,170	28,302,400
4200 Local -Tuition/Fees	-	-	69,494	61,834	61,834	41,178
4400 Local-Unrestricted	658,000	387,950	157,869	205,989	593,939	511,198
4800 Local-Restricted	-	-	450,395	312,502	312,502	908,640
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfer From school	759,025	-	621,014	21,398	21,398	23,623
TOTAL FUND REVENUES	\$ 37,558,488	\$ 29,301,120	\$ 3,793,013	\$ 1,261,724	\$ 30,562,844	\$ 30,490,894

Approved:

EXPENDITURES:						
	Budget	YTD Activity	Budget	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
Instructional Services:						
5100 Regular Instructional Services	\$ 10,123,361	\$ 5,617,377	\$ 691,215	\$ 452,215	\$ 6,069,592	\$ 6,617,427
5200 Special Populations Services	1,349,257	682,681	842,069	479,644	1,162,325	1,061,878
5300 Alternative Programs and Services	351,791	171,822	843,850	502,743	674,565	557,685
5400 School Leadership Services	3,662,927	2,409,975	12,130	18,569	2,429,544	2,290,547
5500 Co-Curricular Services	1,131,818	491,516	57,000	16,313	507,829	576,480
5800 School-Based Support Services	2,248,164	1,391,243	435,238	90,509	1,481,752	1,291,217
Total Instructional Services	\$ 18,887,318	\$ 10,764,614	\$ 2,882,102	\$ 1,559,993	\$ 12,324,607	\$ 12,395,233
System-Wide Support Services:						
6100 Support and Development Services	\$ 554,563	\$ 349,980	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,572	\$ 354,553	\$ 315,748
6200 Special Population Support	88,215	54,818	12,200	1,721	56,539	75,463
6300 Alternative Programs	146,574	88,893	431	431	89,323	88,145
6400 Technology Support Services	1,407,498	885,514	44,139	20,568	915,082	884,022
6500 Operational Support Services	9,503,843	5,619,965	516,728	278,994	5,898,959	5,808,445
6600 Financial and Human Resource Services	2,600,753	2,307,257	73,289	93,676	2,400,933	2,258,485
6700 Accountability Services	222,130	141,977	1,400	1,400	143,377	135,584
6800 System-Wide Pupil Support Services	428,507	276,335	538	538	276,873	265,047
6900 Policy, Leadership and Public Relations	735,363	501,505	13,220	13,220	514,725	515,551
Total System-Wide Support Services	\$ 15,687,476	\$ 10,226,244	\$ 667,194	\$ 424,120	\$ 10,850,364	\$ 10,346,489
Ancillary Services:						
7100 Community Services	\$ 388	\$ 388	\$ 181,685	\$ 119,974	\$ 120,362	\$ 388,726
7200 Nutrition Services	267,557	101,845	-	-	101,845	104,027
Total Ancillary Services	\$ 267,944	\$ 102,333	\$ 181,685	\$ 119,974	\$ 222,307	\$ 492,754

Motion: I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the February 2026 Henderson County Public Schools Financial Report 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. EMS Peer Review Committee – 5 vacs.
Seats 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16
2. Environmental Advisory Committee – 2 vacs.
Seat #7 – Regular – At Large
Seat #8 – Regular – At Large
3. Henderson County Board of Health – 1 vac.
Seat #4 – Optometrist
4. Henderson County Planning Board – 3 vacs.
Seats #5, 6, and 8
5. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 2 vacs.
Seat #12 & 26 – Person under 18

Emergency Medical Services - Public Record Disposal Request

Emergency Medical Services requested to dispose of EMS Billing Remittance and write-off authorization records created prior to April 1st, 2016. The three-year retention period required by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and the ten-year retention period required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have expired. EMS also wishes to dispose of the DEA Controlled Medication records created prior to April 1st, 2024. The two-year retention period required by the US Department of Justice has expired.

Approved:

Motion: I move the Board approve the disposal of EMS Billing Remittances and DEA Controlled Medication documents.

**2026.030 Adoption of Financing Resolution for JCAR – Courthouse Addition Project
Grant Award Acceptance – North Carolina Community Foundation**

The required initial resolution prepared by the County's Bond Counsel, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, authorizes the negotiation of an installment financing contract and provides for certain other related matters for the financing of the expansion of the County's existing courthouse facility as part of a County judicial center.

The maximum amount of this borrowing would be \$102,000,000. The County's obligation would be secured by the pledge of the judicial center property.

Note: The "maximum amount" figure in the resolution is not intended to accurately state the project costs or amount to be financed, but rather acts as a safe harbor number for the purpose of these resolutions only.

A reimbursement resolution was adopted by the Board on February 7, 2022, and an amended reimbursement resolution was adopted on July 17, 2024.

The resolution makes the necessary findings for the project and the financing, authorizes the Financial Services Director to make an application to the Local Government Commission (LCG) for approval of the financing, and directs staff to retain the assistance of its bond counsel, financial advisor, and the underwriter for the financing.

The resolution also sets a public hearing on the proposed financing for April 15, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. and directs the Financial Services Director to cause a notice of public hearing to be published once and no fewer than 14 days prior to the public hearing.

Motion: I move that the Board of Commissioners adopt the financing resolution authorizing the negotiation of an installment financing contract which provides for certain other related matters for the financing.

I further move that the Board schedule the public hearing on the proposed financing for April 15, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

2026.031 Resolution – Amended Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditure Authorization

At the Board's August 8, 2025, meeting, the Board was presented with a request for funds to support the Post Overdose Response Team (PORT), wherein staff respond to overdoses and substance-related calls. The request included funds for the purchase of a vehicle assigned to this position and for relevant training for the PORT Peer and staff from the Community Paramedicine Program. It has been determined that the funds for the vehicle should be authorized under the more general strategy of Recovery Support Services.

To facilitate this change, the Board was requested to adopt an Amendment to the Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditure Authorization 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.

Approved:

Motion: I move the Board adopt an Amendment authorizing the previously authorized funds for a vehicle to be moved from the PORT Strategy to the Recovery Support Services Strategy.

Chronic Nuisance Property – 591 McMinn Road

This item was back before the Board on the matter of a chronic nuisance property, as that term is used in N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-104.2.

- The Board is reminded of its previous finding, on December 1, 2025, that the property located at 591 McMinn was on that date a chronic nuisance property, in that it had three times within the last year been cited as a nuisance property under the County's nuisance ordinance, found in Chapter 52 of the Henderson County Code.
- Since the Board's previous finding, the owner of the property was notified by certified mail and by posting on the property of the Board's finding.
- After the notification of the owner, County staff again visited the property, and found no improvement, such that the property still constitutes a nuisance under Chapter 52 of the County Code.
- Staff have obtained estimates on the cost of removing the items which make up the nuisance on the property. The lowest estimate obtained is for a cost of \$4,200.
- The tax value of the property is \$89,700.

Motion: I move that the Board authorize staff to contract for the remediation of the nuisance on this property, obtain a lien on the property and repayment for the cost of the remediation pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-104.2.

2025.032 Budget Amendment – Transfer from Hurricane Helene Fund

On January 6, 2025, the Board accepted a \$25,000 grant from the John Henry Eldred Jr. Foundation to support the library's recovery efforts following Hurricane Helene. In partnership with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL), the Foundation seeks to help libraries remain essential centers for education and community engagement by strengthening their capacity to rebuild and expand programming during challenging times.

Staff requested Board approval of a budget amendment to transfer the \$25,000 from the Hurricane Helene Fund—where the funds were initially recorded—to the General Fund. These funds will be used to purchase a holds locker and programming supplies for the Green River Library. No County funds are required for this project.

Motion: I move the Board approve the budget amendment as presented.

2026.033 Resolution for Project Blaze – Building Reuse Grant

As a part of the "Project Blaze" economic development matter, the company proposes the (re)use of an existing building located in Fletcher, North Carolina. In doing so, the company may qualify for a North Carolina Department of Commerce "building reuse grant". This grant program requires endorsement by the local government(s) in which the building is located, and a five percent (5%) match of the grant by the local government.

Proposed was a resolution supporting the state grant and confirming that the County would commit to the local match (from the incentives grant that the County has previously confirmed), so long

Approved:

as the company meets the requirements of the incentives.

Motion: I move the Board approve the proposed resolution.

Pre – Construction Fee Proposal – Henderson County Public School Bus Garage Project

Staff received a Pre-Construction Fee Proposal from Edifice Construction for Pre-Construction Services for the Henderson County Public Schools Bus Garage Project.

The Pre-Construction Proposal received from Edifice Construction was for a fee of \$78,800.

This proposal, if accepted, will be funded by cost savings realized from current Henderson County Public Schools Maintenance, Repairs, Technology and Security (MRTS) projects.

Motion: I move the Board approve the Pre-Construction Proposal for Edifice Construction in the amount of \$78,800 and approve funding reallocation to the Bus Garage project.

Architect Fee Approval – Health and Human Services Building Renovation

On September 3, 2024, the Board approved the selection of Clark Nexsen for the Henderson County Health and Human Services Building Renovation Project. Staff was in receipt of an Architectural Design Services Fee Proposal from Clark Nexsen for Architectural Design Services for the project.

The Architectural Design Services Proposal received from Clark Nexsen was for a fee of \$270,000. Staff requested the use of \$270,000 of AA 122 Hurricane Helene Essential Functions Support Funds for these services.

Motion: I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners approve proposal from Clark Nexsen in the amount of \$270,000 for the Henderson County Health and Human Services Building Renovation and authorize the use of AA 122 Hurricane Helene Essential Functions Support Funds.

Vice Chair Edney made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION

Hurricane Helene Update

Jimmy Brissie and Natalia Pollard-Santana provided the Board with an update on recovery efforts.

Key Updates

- ▶ The County staff continue to work with FEMA on amending debris projects to ensure the county receives the funding its due for work already completed.
- ▶ In January, FEMA changed its policy regarding debris reviews. This required a resubmission of private property and waterway debris sites that are currently with the NC SMART program.
- ▶ All hazard mitigation grant projects for homeowner acquisitions and stabilization projects have been submitted for review and 24 have been approved.
- ▶ Recovery efforts continue county wide and includes – but is not limited to – nonprofit partnership collaborations, and state rebuilding programs like Renew NC.

Approved:

Financial Summary to Date

Revenues	
FEMA Funding Received	\$29,934,571.34
Cash Flow Loans Net Proceeds	\$8,046,192.57
Donations, Unassigned	\$104,628.30
Insurance Proceeds	\$561,778.75
Interest Earned	\$55,690.13
Grants	\$25,000.00
Reimbursements	\$238,915.74
TOTAL	\$38,966,776.83
Expenditures	
Personnel	\$4,175,203.81
Debris Management/Monitoring	\$32,497,931.04
Debris Mgt/Monitoring (Open Invoices)	\$22,120,206.36
Other Disaster Response	\$7,061,977.18
TOTAL	\$65,855,318.39
NET	\$(26,888,541.56)

FEMA Projects Summary – Obligated

Project Title	Process Step	Amount
PPDR 100% Cost Share	Obligated, pending cost amendment	\$78,048.30
PPDR 90% Cost Share	Obligated, pending cost amendment	\$1,608,725.25
Waterway Debris 90% Cost Share	Obligated, pending cost amendment	\$13,215,843.08
Expedited Cat A	Obligated, pending cost amendment	\$15,224,300.00
Streamlined Project Application	Obligated, closed out	\$1,139,018.50
Bat Cave FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$61,581.95
Edneyville FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$111,195.73
Gerton FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$33,743.28
Green River FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$34,906.27
Mills River FD	Obligated, in process	\$45,595.41
Project Title	Process Step	Amount
Mountain Home FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$42,171.25
Valley Hill FD	Obligated, passed to FD	\$94,178.88
United Way	Obligated, passed to PNP	\$91,277.36
Bat Cave FD 90% Cost Share	Obligated, passed to FD	\$24,803.47
Radio Tower Access Roads	Obligated, pending reimbursement	\$137,485.06
Mill Pond Creek Educational Drainage Project	Obligated, pending reimbursement	\$429,124.24
SUBTOTAL		\$32,371,998.03
LESS: PASS THROUGH FUNDING		\$(539,453.60)
NET		\$31,832,544.43

Approved:

In-Process FEMA Projects

Project Title		
Waterway Debris 100% Cost Share	Saluda FD	Fletcher FD – Station 3
Right of Way Debris 90% Cost Share	Henderson County Rescue Squad	Etowah Horseshoe FD – Station 3
PPDR 90% Cost Share	Henderson County External Labor	HC Libraries, Activity, and Community Ctrs
Waterway Debris 90% (Ineligible Costs)	Temp Leases 90% Cost Share	Bat Cave FD Headquarters
Expedited Cat A (180 days)	Gerton Ambulance Support 90% Cost Share	Jackson Park Field, Trails, and Lights Damage
Temp Leases 100% Cost Share	Henderson County EM Response 100%	Dana, Etowah, Edneyville and Flat Rock Parks
Force Account Labor	Henderson County EM Response 90%	Fletcher FD – Station 3
Gerton Ambulance Support 100% Cost Share	Edneyville Station Culverts	Etowah Horseshoe FD – Station 3
Dana FD	Vehicles and equipment	HC Libraries, Activity, and Community Ctrs
Etowah FD	Gerton Headquarters	
Fletcher FD	Etowah Horseshoe FD	

- The Department of Homeland Security – and thus FEMA – has shut down from twice in 2026
 - January 31 to February 3
 - February 14 to Present
- This impacts ability to work on all projects shaded in **gray** and slows down other work as FEMA staff have received inconsistent direction on what they can work on.

Hazard Mitigation Updates

- ▶ A total of **95 properties** have been submitted to FEMA for consideration for buyouts. These projects are divided across four groups and consist of both floodplain and landslide acquisitions.
- ▶ There are 15 properties still in review by North Carolina.
- ▶ A portion of Group 1 of the acquisitions has been approved (24 properties). The draft RFP for a contractor is under review by NC DPS, once bid we expect the first work to begin within three months.
- ▶ 10 are elevation related.
- The County has submitted two advanced assistance applications for landslide evaluation and engineering under the hazard mitigation program. If awarded these funds would help conduct mitigation studies and repairs of landslides on eligible HOA or private properties.
 - There are also 40 landslide stabilization projects currently being drafted. Multiple iterations have been made to ensure compliance with FEMA policy.
- The County has submitted seven infrastructure projects for FEMA consideration totaling over \$8 million dollars, these include a floodplain mitigation master plan, warning sirens, building hardening and critical facility generator projects.



Recovery – External Grants

• Grants Awarded

- Helene Capital Infrastructure
 - Ecusta Trail Phase 2 \$363,151.74
 - Clear Creek WWTP \$2,124,348.26
- NC Community Foundation- Helene Relief
 - Solid Waste Excavator \$500,000.00

Application in Progress

- Economic Development Agency - Disaster Relief FY 2024

• Submitted to Funder

- Helene Recovery Recycling Infrastructure (DEQ)
 - Improvements in accessibility at Convenience Center
 - Requested \$4,038,343.00
- State Revolving Fund Helene (DEQ)
 - Clear Creek WWTP
 - Requested the max of \$5 million as principal forgiveness.

- Etowah Sewer Design and Build
- Match secured from Dogwood Heath Trust
- After Preliminary Engineering Report is delivered, we will submit.

Approved:

Recovery - Debris

- ▶ In January 2026, FEMA changed its policies regarding the review of PPDR, demolition, and waterway debris. This required NC SMART to resubmit all debris packages for formal FEMA review.
- ▶ 1,137 PPDR sites were submitted to FEMA for review on March 6, 2026.
- ▶ 977 Waterway debris sites were submitted March 4, 2026.
- ▶ 35 demolition packets are being reviewed and are pending submission to the Field Coordinating Officer for approval.
- ▶ As of March 25, 2026, a total of 1,025,143.4 cubic yards of debris has been removed county wide.

Recovery - Buildings and Housing

- ▶ The Building Services Department has issued 839 building permits for repair or construction related to Helene.
- ▶ In the County, 23 properties are enrolled in the Renew NC Single Family Housing program.
 - ▶ Reconstruction – 12
 - ▶ Rehabilitation – 10
 - ▶ Replacement - 1
- ▶ Due to the advocacy of many, FEMA approved a six-month extension of direct temporary housing and rental assistance for survivors ensuring survivors receive help through September 30, 2026.



Staff reported on Hazard Mitigation efforts involving 97 properties countywide, noting that damage extended beyond the HNG community to roads, businesses, and homes across the county. Ms. Pollard reviewed financials, stating the county is currently at a \$26 million deficit, with approximately \$32 million received from FEMA, though some funds may not be accessible due to North Carolina regulations. Mitchell clarified that FEMA allocations do not mean funds are immediately available. It was also reported that the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA are currently shut down, causing work to stall until operations resume. Commissioner McCall noted that damaged homes have been reevaluated by the tax office. Of the initial group, 24 properties have been approved by FEMA for Hazard Mitigation, with 15 still under review. Two Landslide Mitigation applications have been submitted, one covering 40 individual property owners and another for a large HOA. The county has been awarded two grants and is pursuing additional funding opportunities. Over one million cubic yards of debris have been removed countywide, and FEMA has granted a six-month extension for temporary housing. SMART Program Director Bob Barker estimated statewide debris removal costs at approximately \$1 billion and identified FEMA approval as the primary bottleneck. Several submitted packets required reevaluation due to errors, and regulation changes were not clearly communicated to SDR contractors. The target timeline for completion of debris removal is July.

Solid Waste Convenience Center

The Board requested information on additional convenience centers within Henderson County. Currently, one convenience center exists, located at the Solid Waste facility on Stoney Mountain Road. The following presentation highlighted the main considerations for adding one or more centers: location(s), regulations, and rough estimation of cost.

Approved:

Presentation Purpose

To investigate to options to provide additional convenience centers to Henderson County Solid Waste operations:

- General location(s),
- Regulation
- Rough estimation of cost.

General Locations

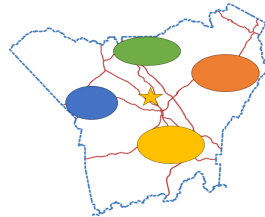
With the current Center approximately located in the middle of the County off Stoney Mountain Road, four additional centers could be added to the northern, southern, eastern, western portions of the County.

Possibly with the following order of priority:

1. Southern and Eastern
2. Western
3. Northern

General Locations

- ★ - Current Center
- - Southern
- - Eastern
- - Western
- - Northern



Regulations

- Land Acquisition
- Zoning Permit
- Building Permit
- NCDEQ Solid Waste
- Stormwater
- Erosion Control
- Wetland / Stream
- Others

Rough Cost Estimates

Description	Capital Cost	Annual Operational Cost	Total Annual Cost Year 1 – 15 (USD / Availability Fee)	Total Annual Cost Year 16 + (USD / Availability Fee)
1 Center	\$7,000,000	\$1,500,000		
4 Centers	\$28,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$8,500,000 / \$120	\$6,000,000 / \$82

Notes

- Loan to fund capital costs for 15 years at 5%.
- Estimates are scalable based on number of centers.
- Sources:
 - Capital costs, recently bid center in Wake County
 - Operational costs, 2026 Cost of Service analysis for our Center by SCS Engineers

Marcus Jones noted that he recently met with haulers and that the meeting was well attended. He stated that approximately 70% of revenue is generated from haulers and their customers. Commissioner McCall shared that at least one hauler declined to service the HNG area due to poor road conditions and advised that residents may contact the county engineer for assistance in locating a hauler. Commissioner Franklin added that establishing a solid waste center on the opposite side of the county could be beneficial.

Mud Creek Watershed Grant Match

Carey O’Cain presented a request for \$16,000 to serve as the required 10% local match for a state-

Approved:

approved grant project. The project was approved by the State in October 2025. The requested match was necessary to access approximately \$90,000 in grant funding.

Chairman Lapsley inquired whether the City of Hendersonville was contributing to the project. Mr. O’Cain stated that, to date, no funding has been allocated by the City.

Rebecca Robinson with Conserving Carolina noted that securing the 10% match was required in order to draw down the state funds.

It was noted during discussion that Conserving Carolina would receive approximately \$10,000 in administrative funds associated with the project.

Commissioner McCall asked whether additional funding sources had been pursued, specifically the Community Foundation and the Tourism Development Authority. Mr. O’Cain stated that a meeting with the Community Foundation was scheduled for the following week.

Commissioner Egolf stated he would support contributing one-half of the requested match contingent upon the City of Hendersonville committing to fund the remaining portion.

Vice-Chair Edney asked several questions and provided additional comments regarding the proposal.

Upon request of Chairman Lapsley, and by consensus of the Board, this item was tabled to the Board’s next meeting.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Environmental Advisory Committee – 2 vacs.

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

2. Henderson Board of Equalization and Review – Appointment of Chair

Commissioner McCall nominated existing member Stephen Wilkie for appointment as Chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

3. Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment – 2 vacs.

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

4. Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority – 1 vac.

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

5. Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 13 vacs.

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

COMMISSIONER UPDATES:

There were none.

Approved:

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Mitchell noted that a representative from NCDOT, Wesley, was in attendance.

Mr. Mitchell also expressed appreciation to the Fire Chiefs from Gerton and Bat Cave for their attendance.

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.

ADJOURN

Denisa A. Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

William G. Lapsley, Chairman

Approved: