

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, July 21, 2025

9:00 AM

Commission Meeting Room

County Commission

*Chairperson Todd McNeill
Vice Chair Jerry D. Powers
Commissioner Russell Killen
Commissioner Wes Greene
Commissioner Mike Eldreth*

BUSINESS SESSION**I. 9:00 AM - Meeting Called to Order at the Ashe County Courthouse**

Present: 5 - Chairperson Todd McNeill, Vice Chairman Jerry D. Powers, Commissioner Mike Eldreth, Commissioner Russell Killen and Commissioner Wes Greene

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

Commissioner Eldreth led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chairman McNeill offered the opening Prayer.

III. Consent Agenda

Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson McNeill, Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

[MIN 25-23](#) July 7th, 2025 Regular Session Minutes

[Attachments:](#) [7-21-2025 July 7, 2025 Regular Session Minutes](#)

[PRES 25-98](#) Monthly Tax Report for June 2025

[Attachments:](#) [7-21-2025 Monthly Tax Report June 2025](#)

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chairman Powers made a motion to adopt the July 21st, 2025 agenda. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Chairperson McNeill, Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

V. Public Comment

Chairman McNeill opened the Public Comment portion of today's meeting at 9:02 am. Sally Kinka from Todd took the podium. She stated that the Commissioner had an opportunity to be heroes. She spoke on the hazard mitigation project which is intended to protect infrastructure from future flood, wind, and other atmospheric or man-made events. She said if the commissioners wanted to be heroes they would submit their mitigation plan by the one year anniversary of Hurricane Helene. She said if they did so they would receive a super hero cape. She then took a homemade cape from her bag to show them.

No further comments were offered from those in attendance. Chairman McNeill closed the Public Comment portion of today's meeting at 9:05 am.

VI. Presentations

[PRES 25-97](#) 9:04 AM - Tracie McMillan, DSS Director - DSS Statistics for April 2025, DSS Statistics for May 2025, Foster Parent Recruitment, Protective & Emergency Services for Disabled Adults, Energy Programs Outreach Plan and Final Audit Findings

[Attachments:](#) [7-21-2025 DSS Statistics April 2025](#)
[7-21-2025 DSS Statistics May 2025](#)
[7-21-2025 Recruitment & Retainment Action Plan](#)
[7-21-2025 UNC School of Gov Publication](#)
[7-21-2025 Energy Programs Outreach Plan](#)
[7-21-2025 Notice of Auditor's Report](#)

Tracie McMillan, DSS Director presented to the Board the DSS Statistics for April 2025, DSS Statistics for May 2025, Foster Parent Recruitment, Protective & Emergency Services for Disabled Adults, Energy Programs Outreach Plan and Final Audit Findings. Tracie and Commissioners praised all DSS Staff for all their hard work as their audit report for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2024 disclosed no instances of non-compliance. Tracie also stated that she needed action on the Energy Programs Outreach Plan. After some discussion Commissioner Green made the motion to approve the Energy Programs Outreach Plan. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson McNeill, Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

GENERAL SESSION

[MISC 25-27](#) Discussion on the Proposed Ashe Recovery Event (September 27th, 2025)

Adam, Tracie McMillan and Commissioners had a discussion on the proposed Ashe Recovery Event scheduled for September 27th, 2025. This being the same day Lansing is hosting it's own reopening event "Lansing Days". Chairman McNeill voiced concern of the scheduling saying that Lansing had worked hard for several months putting this event together and didn't want to do anything to take away from their event. Tracie assured Commissioners that she had been in contact with Lansing and the two events are scheduled at different times making it possible for citizens to attend both functions.

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session

Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to enter in to Executive Session at 9:45 am. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to return from Executive Session at 11:03 am. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Commissioner Greene made the motion to exercise an option on a property in the Creston Township for a 6 month period with an option price not to exceed \$15,000 and a

property purchase price not to exceed \$789,000 and to direct attorney John Kilby to create the contract between buyer and seller. Commissioner Eldreth seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson McNeill, Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

[ES 25-8](#)

G.S. 143-318.11(5) Property

[ES 25-9](#)

G.S. 143-318.11 (4) Economic Development

X. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to adjourn the July 21st, 2025 Regular session meeting at 11:05 am. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Citizens with disabilities requiring special needs to access the services or public meetings of Ashe County Government should contact the County Manager's Office three days prior to the meeting by calling (336) 846-5501.