

# **Ashe County**

*150 Government Circle  
Jefferson, NC 28640*



## **Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**Monday, June 8, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

**SPECIAL MEETING / Public Hearing**

**Commission Meeting Room**

### **County Commission**

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

## SPECIAL BUSINESS SESSION

### I. 9:00 AM - Special Meeting Called to Order at the Ashe County Courthouse

*Meeting was called to order at 9:00am Vice Chair Powers*

**Present:** 4 - Vice Chairman Jerry D. Powers, Commissioner Mike Eldreth, Commissioner Russell Killen and Commissioner Wes Greene

**Absent:** 1 - Chairperson Todd McNeill

### II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

*Commissioner Killen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Greene offered the opening Prayer.*

### III. Adoption of Agenda

### IV. Presentations

[PRES 26-72](#) 9:05 AM - PUBLIC HEARING - Findings Report on the Request to Include the Towns of Jefferson and West Jefferson in the Ashe County EMS/Rescue District

**Attachments:** [06-08-2026 Findings Report on the Request to Include the Towns of Jefferson & West Jefferson in the Ashe County EMS-Rescue District](#)

*Vice Chairman Powers opened the Public Hearing at 9:05 am.*

*Amy Baxter, Lansing shared a personal experience regarding a father-in-law who suffered a low blood sugar attack and had to wait over an hour for an EMS arrival due to the rural location. Amy expressed strong support for the proposed substation in Warrensville, noting that the rural roads in that part of the county often limit travel speeds to 20-35 miles per hour, making timely emergency access difficult.*

*Leslie Colvard, Crumpler highlighted that residents in the western and northern areas of the county face drive times of up to 45 minutes each way to reach Ashe Hospital. She pointed out that many residents use private vehicles for emergencies because of these delays, which skews 911 call data and creates dangerous situations for the public. A suggestion was made to reduce response times by stationing EMS units at existing fire stations in Creston and Lansing, which would require minimal infrastructure costs. Leslie also stated that even though population density is currently lower in these areas, it is expected to grow as people seek remote living and lower property costs.*

*No other comments were offered by those in attendance. Vice Chairman Powers then closed the Public Hearing.*

[RES 26-8](#) 9:08 AM - Resolution Amending the Ashe County EMS-Rescue Service District to Include the Towns of Jefferson and West Jefferson

**Attachments:** [06-08-2026 Resolution Amending the Ashe County EMS-Rescue Service District to Include the Towns of Jefferson and West Jefferson](#)

*Motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Killian. All were in agreement.*

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**Adopted**

**For:** 4 - Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

**PRES  
26-100**

9:12 AM - Scott Hurley, Director of Environmental Services - Landfill  
Timber Clearing

*Commissioners along with Scott and Adam discussed the urgent need to clear timber at the Landfill, noting that a previous contractor failed to complete the work in time due to market fluctuations. Scott recommended moving forward with a company called Woodgrain to remove the timber, noting they are prepared to start work this week. Scott & Adam expressed concern that if the timber is not cleared promptly, the county could face costs of approximately \$22,000 per day once other work begins and is potentially shut down by the blockage.*

*Scott advised that it is in the best interest of the county to let Woodgrain have the timber just to ensure its immediate removal, even if the county isn't receiving a direct payment for the material. Adam agreed with the recommendation, emphasizing that the potential daily delay costs add up quickly. A motion was made by Commissioner Killen to award the timber clearing work to Woodgrain, contingent on the company providing proof of insurance. The motion to proceed with Woodgrain for the Landfill timber removal was seconded by Commissioner Greene. All were in agreement.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

**V. Adjournment**

*Commissioner Greene made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. All were in agreement.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Vice Chairman Powers, Commissioner Eldreth, Commissioner Killen and Commissioner Greene

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**Todd McNeill, Chairman**

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**Missy Seivers  
Clerk to the Board**