

Ashe County

150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, December 2, 2024

9:00 AM

Museum of Ashe County History

County Commission

Chairperson Todd McNeill
Vice Chair Chuck Olive
Commissioner William Sands
Commissioner Jerry D. Powers
Commissioner Mike Eldreth

OLD BUSINESS SESSION

Present: 5 - Vice Chairman Chuck Olive, Chairperson Todd McNeill, Commissioner William Sands, Commissioner Jerry D. Powers and Commissioner Mike Eldreth

I. Meeting Called to Order at The Museum of Ashe County History

Present: 5 - Vice Chairman Chuck Olive, Chairperson Todd McNeill, Commissioner William Sands, Commissioner Jerry D. Powers and Commissioner Mike Eldreth

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

Museum of Ashe County History Board President, Lonnie Jones offered the opening Prayer. Retired Clerk of Courts Pam Barlow led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pam Barlow also conducted the swearing in for the following newly elected county officials: Sherman Lee, Clerk of Courts, Teresa Calhoun, School Board and Josh Roten, School Board.

III. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Sands made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Vice Chairman Olive, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

[MIN 24-30](#) November 18, 2024 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [November 18, 2024 Regular Session Minutes](#)

[APP 24-14](#) Airport Advisory Board ReAppointments

[PRES](#) Monthly Tax Report for October 2024

[24-201](#)

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Monthly Tax Report for October 2024](#)

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chairman Olive made the motion to adopt the December 2nd, 2024 Agenda. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Vice Chairman Olive, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

V. Public Comment

Pat Mitchell and Ben Massey both spoke in high regard about William Sands and Chuck Olive.

VI. Presentations

[PRES](#)
[24-202](#)

9:05 AM - Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

In recognition of outgoing Commissioners each remaining commissioner spoke in high regard and extreme appreciation for the service of William Sands and Chuck Olive. They spoke of all their accomplishments during their service to Ashe County and how their presence will be missed. Each were presented with a plaque in recognition of their service.

[PRES](#)
[24-190](#)

9:20 AM - Retirement Recognition of Cathy Barr, Director of Economic Development

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Cathy Barr](#)

Postponed until the December 16th, 2024 meeting.

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner William Sands made the motion to adjourn the December 2nd, 2024 Old Business Session at 9:45 am. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Vice Chairman Olive, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

NEW BUSINESS

New Board Swearing

Retired Clerk of Courts Pam Barlow conducted the swearing in of newly elected Commissioners Wes Greene and Russell Killen. Pam also conducted the swearing in of re-elected Commissioner Jerry Powers.

I. Convene for Organizational Business

[PRES](#)
[24-200](#)

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Attachments: [12-2-2024 State Statute 153A-39. Selection of Chairman and Vice-Chairman; Powers and Duties](#)

Commissioner Eldreth made the motion nominating Commissioner Todd McNeill as Chairman of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Killen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Commissioner Eldreth made the motion nominating Commissioner Jerry Powers as Vice Chairman of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

[PRES](#) Setting of Bonds for Sheriff, Register of Deeds, Tax Administrator and
[24-193](#) Finance Officer

Attachments: [12-2-2024 State Statute 159-29. Fidelity Bonds.](#)

Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to set the bond for Sheriff at \$100,000.00, the bond Register of Deeds at \$100,000.00, the bond for the Tax Administrator at \$100,000.00 and the bond for the Finance Officer at \$1,000,000.00. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

[PRES](#) Appointing of County Attorney and County Clerk
[24-194](#)

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Appointing of County Attorney & County Clerk](#)

Commissioner Eldreth made the motion to reappoint Attorney John Kilby as the County Attorney and Missy Seivers as the County Clerk to the Board. Vice Chairman Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

[PRES](#) Adoption of Rules of Procedure
[24-195](#)

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Rules of Procedure 2024-26](#)

Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to adopt the of Rules of Procedure. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

[PRES](#) Adoption of Code of Ethics
[24-196](#)

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Code of Ethics 25-27](#)

Commissioner Greene made the motion to adopt the Code of Ethics as amended. Vice Chairman Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

[PRES](#)
[24-197](#)

Selection of Committee Appointments for Board of Commissioners

Attachments: [12-2-2024 Commissioners Boards & Committees](#)

All were in agreement to serve on the following Boards & Committees:

Commissioner Todd McNeill:

HIGH COUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

VAYA HEALTH

Commissioner Wes Greene:

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD & FINANCE COMMITTEE

HIGH COUNTRY RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORG

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Russell Killen:

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

Commissioner Mike Eldreth:

BLUE RIDGE OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Jerry Powers:

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM

AGRICULTURAL CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

Conclusion of Organizational Business

II. Presentations

[PRES](#)
[24-198](#)

Tracie McMillan, DSS Director - CCPT Appointments

Attachments: [12-2-2024 CFPT Appointments](#)

Tracie McMillan, DSS Director presented to the Board for their approval three appointment to the Ashe County Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT): Robin Neithery, Megan Hudson and Ashley Powers. Commissioner Eldreth made the motion to approve the appointments. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Powers

III. Commissioner Comments

IV. Announcements

V. Executive Session**VI. Adjournment**

At 10:27 am Vice Chairman Powers made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Powers and Commissioner Eldreth

Abstain: 2 - Vice Chairman Olive and Commissioner Sands

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