

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, December 19, 2022

9:00 AM

Commission Meeting Room

County Commission

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

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

Chairman McNeill called the December 19th, 2022 meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 AM in the Ashe County Courthouse 3rd floor meeting room.

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

Vice Chairman Olive led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Powers offered the opening prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

[MIN 22-44](#) December 5th, 2022 Regular Session Minutes & Organizational Minutes

Attachments: [12-19-22 December 5th 2022 Regular Session Minutes & Organizational Meeting](#)

Vice Chairman Olive made the motion to approve the December 5th, 2022 Regular Session Minutes. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Powers made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

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

V. Public Comment

Chairman McNeill opened the floor for public comment at 9:01 AM. No comment was offered. Seeing no movement in the audience Chairman McNeill then closed the floor for public comment at 9:02 AM.

VI. Presentations

[PRES 22-231](#) 9:05 am - PUBLIC HEARING - Matthew Levi, Planning Director - Chapter 156: RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS and Chapter 151: FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION Ordinance Revision.

Attachments: [12-19-22 Chapter 156 Residential Subdivisions](#)
[12-19-2022 Chapter 151 Flood Damage Prevention](#)

At 9:05 am Chairman McNeill opened the Public Hearing on Chapter 156: RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS and Chapter 151: FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION Ordinance Revision. No comment was offered from those in attendance. Chairman McNeill then closed the floor for the Public Hearing.

The Planning Board for several months now has been working on updating the Residential Subdivision Ordinance. Some changes included were statute changes and other reference changes. The big change is adding a minor subdivision that can be approved by staff (7 lots or fewer), maintains the 1 acre minimum lot size, that removes a condition that required lots in the floodplain to have a ½ acre outside the floodplain, and made consistent what should appear on the plans that are recorded. Matthew Levi was present at the meeting to answer any questions, none were offered.

Vice Chairman Olive made the motion to approve the revisions in Chapter 156: RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS ordinance. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Powers made the motion to approve the revisions in Chapter 151: FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION Ordinance. Commissioner Eldreth seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES](#)
[22-232](#)

9:10 am - Tracie McMillan DSS Director - Monthly Statistic Update for October 2022

Attachments: [12-19-22 DSS Statistics October 2022](#)

Tracie McMillan DSS Director presented to the Board the DSS Monthly Statistic Update for October 2022. Some of the issues she spoke on were Foster Care & Adoption and the collection of child support.

[PRES](#)
[22-233](#)

9:15 am - Chris Lambert Tax Administrator - Monthly Tax Report for November 2022

Attachments: [12-19-22 November 2022 Tax Report](#)

Chris Lambert Tax Administrator presented to the Board the Monthly Tax Report for November 2022. Commissioners were given the report prior to review. Chris answered some questions on terminology for newly sworn commissioner Eldreth. Commissioner Eldreth made the motion to approve the Monthly Tax Report as presented for November 2022. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES](#)
[22-235](#)

9:20 am - Adam Stumb County Manager - Solid Waste Ordinance & Trash Decal/Cling Update

Attachments: [12-19-22 Title V Chapter 50 Solid Waste](#)

Adam Stumb County Manager gave an update on where things are currently with the Solid Waste Ordinance & Trash Decal/Clings. A discussion on the update & changes was held. These items will be brought back before the board for approval. No action needed today.

No Action Taken

PRES
22-234

9:25 am - Jennifer Richardson, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator -

1. Update on the Volunteer Advisory Board Events.
2. Approval for the 2023 Volunteer Appreciation.
3. Approval for a new Volunteer Advisory Board Application.
4. Approval for two new board members.
5. Approval to hold a cleaning supply drive in the Spring.

Attachments: [12-19-22 ACV Awards Ceremony Time Line-Nominations-2023 Recognition Nomination Form](#)

Jennifer Richardson, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator - presented to the Board multiple items today. She first updated the Board on the Volunteer Advisory Board Events in which the Ashe County Volunteer Advisory Board assisted with in 2022, such as the Blue Ridge Relay, the Ashe County Hometown Hero's event, the St. Jude's Fun Day which raised \$50,000 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. They also assisted with Christmas in July and will be involved with the 2023 Christmas in July. Volunteers worked with fundraiser efforts for Habitat for Humanity and assisted with the Buddy Walk. A canned food drives was also started in October of 2022. There were many events assisted by the Ashe County Volunteer Advisory Board.

Jennifer also sought approval for the 2023 Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony. She stated that the event was again going to be a "drive-thru" with meals and awards passed through car windows but that there would be live music. Commissioner Sands suggested that the Volunteer Advisory Board rethink the drive-thru idea for the event and return to holding the event at the Ashe County High School as before. Commissioner Sands spoke on the importance of fellowship and people seemed to enjoy it. Ms. Richardson stated that she and the Volunteer Advisory Board would meet and look into that idea.

Jennifer Richardson, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator also asked for approval to implement a new Volunteer Advisory Board Application which she created. Commissioner Powers made the motion to approve the ACVAB Application as presented. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Ms. Richardson also seeks approval for two new board members. Dorothy Ingram and Walt Peterson. Both have been volunteering at different county events throughout the year and have been approved by the advisory board. Commissioner Powers made the motion approving the two new members. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Ms. Richardson also sought for approval to hold a cleaning supply drive in the Spring. To help citizens who cannot afford proper cleaning supplies. This drive will be held sometime in the Spring of 2023 but the month is yet to be determined. Commissioner Powers made the motion to approve the cleaning supply drive. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

She also spoke on the Governor's Award for Volunteers state wide. She said that local

winners names will be submitted and winners are chosen by the governor.

Approved

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

[PRES](#)
[22-236](#)

9:30 am - Adam Stumb County Manager - Paddy Mountain Land Usage Agreement

Attachments: [12-19-22 Paddy Mountain Land Use Agreement](#)

Adam Stumb County Manager gave an update on the Paddy Mountain Land Usage Agreement. He stated that several things are lining up for Paddy Mountain so that maybe construction can start on parking and trails in 2023. He updated the board on the transferring of the property to West Jefferson or Ashe County. Stating that right now, we leaning towards the Town owning the property with a separate agreement on the back end to address joint ownership, construction cost, and maintenance. Adam stated any of the grants we are seeking request the property to be in single ownership which is why we are leaning towards West Jefferson owning the property. No action was needed on this day but an agreement will be drawn up and brought before the Board at a future meeting.

[PRES](#)
[22-237](#)

9:35 am - Adam Stumb County Manager - Acceptance of Donated Land - 163 River Access

Attachments: [12-19-22 Donated Land 163 River Access](#)

Adam Stumb County Manager spoke on the Acceptance of Donated Land for the 163 River Access. Adam stated that the New River Conservancy is ready to donate the property at 163 so that construction can get underway at the river access. He stated that before we can begin, the Board needs to accept the donation of the land so that we can schedule the property closing at the first of the year.

GENERAL SESSION

[APP 22-21](#)

Recreation Advisory Board Re-Appointments of Martin Little & Marty Peters.

Attachments: [12-19-22 Recreation Advisory Board Re-Appointments Marty Peters & Martin Little](#)

Recreation Advisory Board requested the Re-Appointments of Martin Little & Marty Peters. Both experienced members who have done exceptional work. Commissioner Powers made the motion to approve the reappointments as requested by Kevin Anderson. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Appointment(s) Approved

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

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements**IX. Executive Session****X. Adjournment**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to adjourn the December 19th, 2023 meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners at 10:51 am. Vice Chairman Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous approval.

Approved

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

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.