

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, June 20, 2016

9:00 AM

Commission Meeting Room

County Commission

*Chairperson Jeff Rose
Vice Chairman Gary Roark
Commissioner Brien Richardson
Commissioner Larry Rhodes
Commissioner William Sands*

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

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Ashe County Courthouse.

Present: 5 - Chairperson Jeff Rose, Commissioner Larry Rhodes, Commissioner William Sands, Vice Chairman Gary Roark and Commissioner Brien Richardson

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

Vice Chairman Roark led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Sands offered the opening prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

[MIN 16-017](#) June 6, 2016 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [06-20-16 June 6, 2016 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Commissioner Sands made a motion to approve the June 6, 2016 Regular Session minutes as written. Vice Chairman Roark seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

IV. Adoption of Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda: Presentation of budget amendments by Finance Officer Sandra Long - Deleted from the agenda; Public Hearing for adoption of the FY2016/17 budget - A new requirement to include public comment regarding the Economic Development budget; Jim Troy with Toby Outdoor Advertising - rescheduled to later during the meeting. Vice Chairman Roark made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

V. Presentations

PRES
16-057

Tax Administrator Keith Little - Monthly Tax Report

Attachments: [06-20-16 Monthly Tax Report - May 2016](#)

Tax Administrator Keith Little submitted the monthly tax releases and refunds for May 2016 at \$260.00. Also presented were the Regular Billing Collection Report and the Motor Vehicles Collection Report through May 2016. Chairman Rose made a motion to approve the May 2016 Release/Refund reports. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Mr. Little provided an update regarding foreclosure proceedings scheduled for this Friday.
Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

PRES
16-058

Grier Hurley, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Chair - Revised FY2015/16 County Funding Plan Approval, FY2016/17 County Funding Plan Approval & FY2016/17 JCPC Council Membership Approval

Attachments: [06-20-16 JCPC County Funding Plan FY2016-17](#)
[06-20-16 JCPC County Funding Plan Revision FY2015-16](#)
[06-20-16 JCPC Membership FY2016-17](#)

Grier Hurley, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) chair, presented the FY2016/17 County Funding Plan for approval by the Board. The total appropriation for Ashe County is \$87,518 and the local matching funds requirement is \$7,078. Commissioner Sands made a motion to approve the FY2016/17 Funding Plan as presented. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Next, Grier Hurley presented the JCPC County Funding Plan revision for FY2015/16. The revision is being made because residential care for juvenile funds was not utilized. Commissioner Sands made a motion to approve the FY2015/16 Funding Plan revision as presented. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

The final presentation by Ms. Hurley was a request for approval of JCPC membership for FY2016/17. Commissioner Sands made a motion to approve JCPC membership for FY2016/17. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

PRES
16-059

Finance Officer Sandra Long - Approval of Budget Amendments

This item was deleted from the agenda.

PRES
16-060

Patricia Calloway & Mary Owen with Ashe Services for Aging - FY2016/17 Home & Community Block Grant (H&CCBG) Budget Approval

Attachments: [06-20-16 H&CCBG Budget Appv FY2016-17](#)

Ashe Services for Aging Finance Officer Mary Owen presented the FY2016/17 Home and Community Care Block Grant (H&CCBG) Budget for approval by the Board. The total budget amount is \$253,359 and an explanation of budget specifics was provided. Vice Chairman Gary Roark made a motion to approve the FY2016/17 H&CCBG Budget as presented. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

PRES
16-062

Jim Troy with Toby Outdoor Advertising - Discussion regarding Sign Ordinance

Attachments: [06-20-16 Toby Outdoor Advertising - Sign Ordinance Discussion](#)

County Attorney John Kilby told the Board that the State regulates placement of outdoor advertising under G.S. 136-129.2 with a limitation on placement of billboards adjacent to any highway designated as a scenic highway or byway. Regarding Highway 221, in 2012 the Ashe County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting the State to designate Hwy 221 as a scenic corridor. Prior to that, Ashe County had a sign ordinance in place banning signs on a scenic corridor. If the commissioners actually have jurisdiction over the highway, and it is doubtful, the sign ordinance would need to be amended to allow new billboards and a public hearing to gain citizen input would be required. An article from the newspaper in 2012 indicated that the commissioners had to pass a resolution to comply with federal and state highway funding requirements. Vice Chairman Roark requested that the county manager and county attorney research the matter further. Jim Troy with Toby Outdoor Advertising told the Board that the resolution the commissioners passed in 2012 was for consideration of designation, not designation of a scenic corridor. He explained issues with the State regarding moving a catch basin. One of his billboards sits in the area and would have to be moved. Mr. Troy's request for the commissioners is to help him not lose any existing signs on the road. Attorney Kilby stated that since the highway has been designated scenic, it is his opinion that the State will have jurisdiction over the billboards.

PRES
16-061

10:00 AM - Public Hearing - Adoption of FY2016/17 Budget

A public hearing was held regarding adoption of the County's FY2016/17 budget. Also included is a new requirement this year to hold a separate public hearing to adopt the Economic Development budget as part of adoption of the County budget.

Chairman Rose opened the public hearing for the FY2016/17 County of Ashe budget at 10:02 a.m. No comment was offered and the public hearing was closed at 10:03 a.m. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to adopt the FY2016/17 County Budget and to:

Set ad valorem tax rate at - 43.3 cents (per \$100 of assessed value) (Ad Valorem tax rate remaining the same)

Set fire tax rates (per \$100 of assessed value) as follows:

Lansing - \$.040

Warrensville - \$.068

Jefferson - \$.029

New River - \$.040

West Jefferson - \$.017

Laurel Springs - \$.040

Pond Mountain - \$.080

Todd - \$.080

Deep Gap - \$.040

SWDF (Solid Waste Disposal Fees)

Household - \$130.00 (Remaining the same)

Commercial - \$ 62.00

Industrial - \$ 52.00

LCID - \$ 42.00

Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Next, Chairman Rose opened the public hearing for the FY2016/17 Economic Development budget at 10:04 a.m. No comment was offered and the public hearing was closed at 10:05 p.m. Chairman Rose made a motion to adopt the Economic Development budget as presented. Vice Chairman Roark seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

PRES
16-064

Mount Jefferson Child Development Center Request for Monthly Rent to be Forgiven

Don Church, board chair of Mount Jefferson Child Development Center (MJCDC), and Director Becky Goss, made a request that the County forgive the monthly rent amount that is charged for the daycare building that is County-owned. Mr. Church explained to the commissioners that MJCDC is planning to move into their new facility in 2019 when Northwest Regional Housing Authority takes over the old hospital which adjoins the daycare facility. When they do, there will not be enough parking for the daycare center. Commissioner Rhodes referred to action taken by the commissioners in 2012 to reduce the monthly rent for MJCDC from \$450 per month to \$400 per month and to loan MJCDC \$30,000 which has not been repaid. The commissioners decided to not be in the daycare business any longer in an effort to be fair to all daycare centers in the County. After discussion by the Board, Chairman Rose made a motion to grant the county manager the authority to renegotiate the contract between the County of Ashe and MJCDC. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-2, with Commissioners Rhodes and Sands voting in opposition.

Approved

For: 3 - Chairperson Rose, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

Against: 2 - Commissioner Rhodes and Commissioner Sands

VI. Public Comment

No comment was offered.

GENERAL SESSION**Appointments**

APP 16-008

Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees Reappointment - Katrina Miller

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to reappoint Katrina Miller to the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Appointment(s) Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

Other Items for Consideration

PRES
16-063

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) Monthly Video Update

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session

X. Adjournment

*Commissioner Sands made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 a.m.
Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*
Approved

For: 5 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

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.

Jeff Rose, Chairman

Ann J. Clark, MMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board