

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

9:00 AM

Second Floor Conference 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 9:00 a.m. in the second floor conference room 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

Commissioner Sands led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Rhodes offered the opening prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. 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
16-065

Ned Fowler, President of Northwestern Housing Enterprises -
Consideration of Mount Jefferson Child Development Center (MJCDC)
Job Development Grant

Attachments: [07-05-16 Northwestern Housing Enterprises MJCDC Job Development Grant](#)

Ned Fowler, president of Northwestern Housing Enterprises, provided a brief history of the historic Ashe Hospital that was built in 1941 and closed in 1971. Plans are to construct 46 units of affordable senior housing in the hospital through primarily private funding with a total investment of \$7 million. Mr. Fowler explained that the Mount Jefferson Child Development Center which is County-owned property, located adjacent to the hospital, does not have adequate parking space and people have been parking at the old hospital. If the construction project is approved, overflow parking from the daycare center will not be allowed. Ashe Hospital has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building the daycare is located in used to be nurses quarters, but has lost its historic significance due to the many changes made for use as a daycare center. Mount Jefferson Child Development Center was awarded a job creation grant in the amount of \$800,000. Northwestern Housing Enterprises is assisting MJCDC in raising funds for a new facility. Two acres of property was donated for the purpose of building a new daycare facility. Mr. Fowler asked for the commissioners to approve a request for the County to serve as a conduit applicant for grant funding that will be used to provide infrastructure for the daycare facility. He updated the Board on future plans for the current daycare property. If the senior housing project is approved and moves forward, the commissioners will be asked to demolish the daycare building so the property can be utilized for the senior housing project. An announcement regarding funding for the senior housing project will be made in August and plans are to begin construction on the senior housing project before the end of the year. Initial occupancy of senior housing will begin by the end of 2017. Mount Jefferson Child Development Center will need to be in their new building by mid-2017. Chairman Rose made a motion to allow Northwestern Housing Enterprises to work with the County regarding grant funds. 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

PRES
16-066

Sheriff James Williams - Request to Reclassify a Detective Position to a
Sgt. Detective Position

Sheriff James Williams made a request to reclassify a Detective position to a Sgt. Detective position at a Grade-Step of 66-1. The position is for a new hire to fill a vacancy in Narcotics. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the reclassification as requested. Commissioner Sands 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
16-067

Sheriff James Williams - Request for Approval of Budget Amendment

Sheriff James Williams made a request to use narcotics funds to replace a vehicle. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

To increase the appropriation for the department of Law Enforcement from \$2,451,018 to \$2,482,398; this increased appropriation to be made with an appropriation of \$31,380 from the Sheriff's Federal Drug Fund (Unencumbered Cash Fund Balance) in the General Fund.

Approved

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

VI. Public Comment

No comment was offered.

GENERAL SESSION**Appointments**APP 16-009 Reappointment to the Ashe County Joint Community Advisory Committee - Angela Taylor

Attachments: 07-05-16 Joint Community Advisory Committee Reappointment - Angela Taylor

Vice Chairman Roark made a motion to reappoint Angela Taylor to the Ashe County Joint Community Advisory Committee. Commissioner Rhodes 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

APP 16-010 Appointment to the Social Services Board - Rebecca Cox

Attachments: 07-05-06 Social Services Board Appointment - Rebecca Cox

Vice Chairman Roark made a motion to appoint Rebecca Cox to the Social Services Board. Commissioner Richardson 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**MISC 16-014** Selection of Voting Delegate for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) 2016 Annual Conference

Attachments: [07-05-16 NCACC Annual Conference Voting Delegate](#)

Chairman Rose made a motion to nominate Vice Chairman Roark as voting delegate for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners 2016 Annual Conference. Commissioner Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

MISC 16-015 Consideration of Request for Appropriation from Pond Mountain Fire Department

County Manager Sam Yearick told the Board that Blue Ridge Electric Membership Company (BREMCO) is moving a utility pole located at the newly built Pond Mountain Volunteer Fire Department substation. BREMCO has agreed to relocate the utility pole at their cost, which is \$2200. Representatives of Pond Mountain Fire Department have asked the County to fund the \$2200 expense. The grant that the fire department received to build the new substation paid for all materials. Volunteers from the fire department are doing the work and the land was donated at no cost. Because the substation is being built, all residents in the Pond Mountain community will receive a lower fire rating. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to appropriate \$2200 to pay for relocation of the utility pole at the Pond Mountain Volunteer Fire Department substation. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

To increase the appropriation for the department of Fire from \$203,072 to \$205,272; this increased appropriation to be made with an appropriation of \$2200 from the Contingency Fund.

Approved

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

MISC 16-016 Consideration of Funding Request for Lansing Park Horse Creek Restoration Project

County Manager Sam Yearick provided an update regarding the \$50,000 funding request for stream restoration at Lansing Park made by the Greater Lansing Area Development (GLAD) group at the commissioners' meeting held on June 6, 2016. Since the original request, the Town of Lansing has agreed to fund \$10,000 of the project and the contractor doing the restoration work has agreed to reduce their fee by \$5,000. This leaves a balance of \$35,000 of which the county manager suggested that \$15,000 be appropriated from Economic Development funds set aside for tourism, and \$20,000 appropriated from funds set aside for a firework's display. Vice Chairman Roark made a motion to appropriate \$15,000 from Economic Development funds and \$20,000 from Occupancy Tax funds for the Lansing Park Horse Creek Stream Restoration Project. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 - 1, with Commissioners Rose, Roark, Rhodes and Richardson voting in favor. Commissioner Sands was opposed stating concern for trying to be fair to all organizations in the County while trying to maintain the current tax rate.

Approved

For: 4 - Chairperson Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Vice Chairman Roark and Commissioner Richardson

Against: 1 - Commissioner Sands

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session

X. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Roark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m. Commissioner Richardson 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