

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

1:00 PM

Special Meeting - AEV Tour with NC Labor Commissioner

American Emergency Vehicles

County Commission

*Chairperson Todd McNeill
Vice Chair William Sands
Commissioner Chuck Olive
Commissioner Jerry D. Powers
Commissioner Jonathan Jordan*

BUSINESS SESSION**I. 1:00 PM - Meeting Called to Order at American Emergency Vehicles**

Chairman McNeill called the meeting to order at 1:19 p.m. at American Emergency Vehicles (AEV). The purpose of this meeting was to tour the AEV facility alongside NC Labor Commissioner Josh Dobson and his staff.

Commission Board Members present: Chairman McNeill, Commissioner Olive, and Commissioner Powers. Commission Board Members absent: Vice Chairman Sands and Commissioner Jordan. Ashe County staff present: County Manager Adam Stumb and Clerk to the Board Ashley Honeycutt.

Others present: AEV Controller Greg Warmuth, Ashe Post & Times Reporter Chanda Richardson, NC Labor Commissioner Josh Dobson, Valerie Dobson, and Commissioner Dobson's staff members Jennifer Haigwood, Erin Wilson, and Susan Mullins.

Mr. Warmuth provided an overview of AEV, sharing that it is part of REV Group and is publicly traded. He said that AEV has approximately 500 employees, making it the largest employer in Ashe County, and that one of every four ambulances in the United States is built by AEV in Ashe. He noted that although the facility is set up to build 1,300 vehicles per year, their facility is in a time of transition after having recently relocated to the building on Gates Lane in Jefferson. Commissioner Dobson asked about the average lifespan of an AEV-built ambulance, and Mr. Warmuth responded that the average is six years or 300,000 miles, which can fluctuate between three to ten years depending on the frequency of use.

Mr. Warmuth led all participants on a tour of the new facility. He noted that due to an issue with microchip supplies, Ford is currently unable to provide new chassis in quantities needed, which is limiting the production of new AEV vehicles. He also discussed AEV's refurbishment service and highlighted where in the facility different parts of production are completed. Mr. Warmuth and Commissioner Dobson discussed AEV being an NC Star company since 2007, making it one of 150 such companies in North Carolina. Lastly, Mr. Warmuth noted that employment had become a challenge and that AEV is looking to hire 25 additional employees.

Present: 3 - Commissioner Chuck Olive, Chairperson Todd McNeill and Commissioner Jerry D. Powers

Absent: 2 - Vice Chairman William Sands and Commissioner Jonathan Jordan

II. Adjournment

Commissioner Olive made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:32 p.m. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

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