

# **Ashe County**

*150 Government Circle  
Jefferson, NC 28640*



## **Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**Monday, August 2, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

**The Venue at the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce**

### **County Commission**

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

**BUSINESS SESSION****I. 9:00 AM - Meeting Called to Order at The Venue at the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce**

*Chairman McNeill called the Regular Session of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. at The Venue at the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce.*

**II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer**

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

**III. Approval of Minutes**

[MIN 21-29](#) July 19, 2021 Regular Session Minutes

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 July 19, 2021 Regular Session Minutes.pdf](#)

*Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the July 19, 2021 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

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

**IV. Adoption of Agenda**

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

**Adopted**

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

**V. Public Comment**

*Chairman McNeill opened the floor for public comment. No comment was offered.*

**VI. Presentations**

[PRES 21-111](#) 9:00 AM - Public Hearing - New Middle School Project Financing

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Middle School Financing Approving Resolution.pdf](#)

*Chairman McNeill opened the floor at 9:03 a.m. for comments from the public regarding adoption of the proposed resolution approving an installment financing contract for the new middle school project. No comment was offered, and the chairman closed the public hearing at 9:04 a.m. Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Commissioner Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

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

[PRES](#)  
[21-112](#)

9:05 AM - Public Hearing - Chapter 154 RV Parks Ordinance Amendments

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Chp. 154 RV Parks Ordinance Amendments.pdf](#)

*Chairman McNeill opened the floor at 9:28 a.m. for comments from the public regarding adoption of proposed amendments to the Chapter 154 RV Parks Ordinance. No comment was offered, and the chairman closed the public hearing at 9:28 a.m. After discussion, Commissioner Powers made a motion that the amendments go back to the Planning Board for further revisions. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

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

[PRES](#)  
[21-113](#)

9:10 AM - Cooperative Extension Director Travis Birdsell and EYFP/4-H Program Assistant Alex Kissinger - Empowering Youth & Families Program (EYFP) Overview

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 EYFP Overview.pdf](#)

*Cooperative Extension Director Travis Birdsell and EYFP/4-H Program Assistant Alex Kissinger shared with the Board an overview of the Empowering Youth & Families Program. Mr. Kissinger shared that the program is designed to offer primary prevention to help families with middle school-aged children make healthy lifestyle choices regarding drug use and more. Mr. Birdsell noted that the program is offered at no cost to County taxpayers. He also shared that the next running of the program will start in September and meet for ten weeks. The program is open to three to five families, each with at least one child aged 10-14.*

[PRES](#)  
[21-114](#)

9:25 AM - Ashe County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kitty Honeycutt - 2022 Ashe Bash Facility Use Request

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Ashe Bash Facility Use Request.pdf](#)

*Ashe County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kitty Honeycutt presented to the Board a request to use County property for the 2022 Ashe Bash free concert on Friday, July 8, 2022. She added that the concert would be free and family-friendly, like the 2021 event. Commissioner Powers made a motion to approve the facility use request as presented. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

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

[PRES](#)  
[21-115](#)

9:40 AM - County Manager Adam Stumb - Revised Facility Use Agreement

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Revised Facility Use Agreement.pdf](#)

County Manager Adam Stumb presented for the Board's approval revisions to the County's facility use agreement. He noted that the purpose of the changes was to add clarity and to broaden the usable spaces beyond indoor meeting spaces to more accurately reflect available properties. Vice Chairman Sands raised a question about which members of law enforcement would be allowed to carry weapons on these properties, and the Board requested that Rule 14 be amended to read, "Weapons of any and all types are prohibited with the exception of sworn law enforcement officers with jurisdiction in North Carolina." Commissioner Olive made a motion to approve the revisions as amended. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

**Approved as Amended**

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

[PRES  
21-116](#)

9:45 AM - County Manager Adam Stumb - CARES Act Update

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 CARES Update.pdf](#)

County Manager Adam Stumb provided the Board with a final update on how funds received from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act were spent by Ashe County. He noted that 46% of the \$1.2 million received went to support COVID-19 response efforts, followed by remote work needs and allocations to local municipalities, as required by the act. Remote learning, food distribution, and small business grants were other projects that benefited from these funds.

[PRES  
21-117](#)

9:55 AM - County Manager Adam Stumb - New Middle School Access Update

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Middle School Entrance Access.pdf](#)

County Manager Adam Stumb shared with the Board an update on efforts to improve access to the new middle school site and surrounding areas. He said that NCDOT had suggested a roundabout, but given that its footprint would eliminate a business along the route, an alternate plan including widened lanes with new striping and a traffic light was being pursued. County Manager Stumb added that the project might be funded by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission due to the project's impact on local industry, particularly considering the recent relocation of American Emergency Vehicles to the neighborhood in question.

## GENERAL SESSION

### **Appointments**

[APP 21-4](#)

Local Library Board Reappointment

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 Local Library Board Reappointment.pdf](#)

Commissioner Powers made a motion to reappoint Dr. Doug Butler to the Ashe County Library Board. Commissioner Jordan 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 Jordan

[APP 21-5](#) Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Reappointment

**Attachments:** [8-2-21 P&R Advisory Board Reappointment.pdf](#)

*Commissioner Olive made a motion to reappoint Michael Lea to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Sands 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 Jordan

**VII. Commissioner Comments****VIII. Announcements****IX. Executive Session****X. Adjournment**

*Commissioner Powers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 a.m.  
Commissioner Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*  
**Approved**

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

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.