

# **Ashe County**

*150 Government Circle  
Jefferson, NC 28640*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Monday, March 6, 2017**

**8:30 AM**

**Second Floor Conference Room**

### **County Commission**

*Chairman William Sands  
Vice Chair Paula Perry  
Commissioner Jeff Rose  
Commissioner Gary Roark  
Commissioner Larry Rhodes*

**WORK SESSION - 8:30 AM**

*Chairman Sands called the Work Session to order at 8:30 a.m.*

*Chairman Sands told the Board that Larry Nelson will be at the March 20, 2017 meeting to discuss a complaint regarding barking dogs. He provided a website address to view county ordinances that address this issue. County Manager Sam Yearick asked the Board to be cognitive of the Farmland Preservation Ordinance. He also told the Board that Animal Control Director Joe Testerman talked with an animal control officer in Burke County and was told that any violations in their county pertaining to barking dogs are thrown out of court.*

*Chairman Sands reminded Board members that a luncheon for the commissioners will be held at Ashe Services for Aging on March 20th.*

*Chairman Sands read a letter from Kim Barnes, director of Ashe Partnership for Children, regarding the decision by the commissioners to assume the USDA loan and management of the Family Central facility. County Manager Yearick told the Board that if the County assumes the USDA loan, that the Local Government Commission would have to approve the transaction. A better option would be for the commissioners to appropriate monies from the Fund Balance to pay off the loan and to remove any asbestos in the building. Commissioner Rhodes expressed concern for costs associated with asbestos removal.*

*Chairman Sands spoke to the Board regarding an email sent from Frank Packard concerning the Boone Water Intake project. An access road to the facility runs across property that is located in Ashe County. County Manager Yearick updated the Board on the status of the project and will have the county attorney respond to Mr. Packard's email.*

*Commissioner Rhodes asked for an update on the Fire Training Facility. County Manager Yearick told the Board that paperwork has been submitted from the County and from the Fire Association to the USDA.*

*County Manager Sam Yearick told the Board that local surveyors will be surveying any property that the County does not currently have a survey on.*

*County Manager Yearick also told the Board that County Attorney John Kilby will provide the Board with an update at an upcoming meeting on the agreement with the Miller family concerning the Combs property.*

*No further comments were made.*

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Jeff Rose, Commissioner Larry Rhodes, Commissioner William Sands, Commissioner Gary Roark and Commissioner Paula Perry

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

*Chairman Sands called the meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. in the second floor conference room at the Ashe County Courthouse.*

## II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

*Vice Chairman Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Rhodes offered the opening prayer.*

## III. Approval of Minutes

[MIN 17-10](#) February 20, 2017 Regular Session Minutes

**Attachments:** [03-06-17 February 20, 2017 Regular Session Minutes](#)

*Commissioner Roark made a motion to approve the February 20, 2017 Regular Session Minutes with the change requested by Commissioner Rhodes to amend his statement in the section on the Sheriff's salary. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

## IV. Adoption of Agenda

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

**Adopted**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

## V. Public Comment

*No comment was offered.*

## VI. Presentations

[PRES 17-13](#) County Manager Sam Yearick - Presentation of an Offer to Purchase Property at Beaver Creek Industrial Park

**Attachments:** [03-06-17 Beaver Creek Property Offer to Purchase](#)

*County Manager Sam Yearick told the Board that Mt. Jefferson Properties, LLC has made an offer to purchase two parcels of property in the Beaver Creek Industrial Park. He indicated the properties on the survey and the GIS map included in the commissioners' agenda packet. County Manager Yearick explained the three methods available to dispose of the properties. Those include the sealed bid process, the negotiated offer and upset bid process, and the public auction process. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to dispose of the two parcels in the Beaver Creek Industrial Park by utilizing the negotiated offer and upset bid process. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

**PRES 17-14** Personnel Policy Committee - Proposed Changes to Personnel Policy**Attachments:** [03-06-17 Personnel Policy Proposed Changes](#)

*Personnel Policy Committee member Grier Hurley told the Board that the Personnel Policy Committee recently met to discuss changes proposed by the commissioners to the Personnel Policy. The proposed changes were reviewed with the Board. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the changes as presented. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

**PRES 17-15** Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill - Request for Approval of Budget Amendments Pertaining to Grant Awards**Attachments:** [03-06-17 Emergency Mgmt Grant Awards Budget Amendments](#)

*Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill provided an explanation of grant awards and the required budget amendments. Commissioner Rose made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented. Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**BUDGET AMENDMENT**  
March 6, 2017

**General Fund:**

*To increase the appropriation for the department of Emergency Management from \$169,272 to \$175,522; this increased appropriation of \$6,250 to be made with increased revenues of \$1,000 and \$5,250 from two State Emergency Management Grants.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

**GENERAL SESSION****Other Items for Consideration****MISC 17-11** Announcement of Loan Payoff for Ashe County High School & Transfer of Deed to Board of Education

*County Manager Sam Yearick announced that the loan for Ashe County High School has been paid off. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to transfer the property deed for Ashe County High School to the Board of Education. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

**VII. Commissioner Comments****VIII. Announcements****IX. Executive Session**[ES 17-3](#)**Executive Session - G.S. 143.318-11 (a) (6) - Personnel Issues**

*Commissioner Rose made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues as provided for under G.S. 143.318-11 (a) (6). Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman Sands declared the Board into Executive Session at 10:25 a.m. and out of Executive Session at 12:08 p.m. Commissioner Rose made a motion to set the pay grade and step for the sheriff at grade 78 step 4. Commissioner Roark seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Commissioner Roark made a motion to set the pay grade and step for the sergeant detective general crimes position at grade 66 step 3. Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

**X. Presentations**[PRES 17-16](#)**Finance Officer Sandra Long - Mid-year Budget Review**

*Finance Officer Sandra Long presented the Mid-year Budget Review.*

**XI. Adjournment**

*Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Roark and Commissioner Perry

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**William Sands, Chairman**

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