

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, July 2, 2018

9:00 AM

Second Floor Conference Room

County Commission

*Chairman William Sands
Vice Chair Larry Rhodes
Commissioner Jeff Rose
Commissioner Paula Perry
Commissioner Todd McNeill*

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

Chairman Sands called the Regular Meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashe County Courthouse.

Present: 5 - Commissioner Jeff Rose, Commissioner Larry Rhodes, Commissioner William Sands, Commissioner Paula Perry and Commissioner Todd McNeill

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

Commissioner Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner McNeill offered the opening prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes**[MIN 18-77](#) June 4, 2018 Regular Session Minutes**

Attachments: [07-02-18 June 4, 2018 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Commissioner Rose made a motion to adopt the June 4, 2018 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[MIN 18-78](#) June 4, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner Rose made a motion to adopt the June 4, 2018 Executive Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[MIN 18-79](#) June 18, 2018 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [07-02-18 June 18, 2018 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Commissioner Rose made a motion to adopt the June 18, 2018 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to adopt the agenda with the following changes: 1) addition of Acting County Manager Adam Stumb to update the the Board on the Eller

property; and 2) removal of Executive Session. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

V. Public Comment

No comment was offered.

VI. Presentations

[PRES](#)
[18-236](#)

9:05 AM - Animal Control Director Joe Testerman - Animal Shelter Hours of Operation

Attachments: [07-02-18 Animal Shelter Hours of Operation](#)

Animal Control Director Joe Testerman recommended to the Board that the Shelter be open from 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. He also recommended that the Shelter be closed on Saturday or open only for adoptions. If the Shelter is open for animals to be dropped off, it is hard for one person to handle phone calls, animal intake, and other duties required at the Shelter. He told the Board that most animals are adopted by rescue groups and the adoptions normally occur on weekdays. Vice Chairman Rhodes asked that a record be kept of calls received on Saturdays. He also suggested that Saturdays be "by appointment" only. Commissioner McNeill stated that a lot of people have told him that they would like to have an option to come to the Shelter on Saturday. He was in favor of the "appointment only" option for Saturdays suggesting a time of being open to the public from 8:00 a.m. - noon. Commissioner Rose made a motion to change the Animal Shelter hours for the public to 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and to be open to the public on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. - noon by appointment only, effective July 9, 2018. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[PRES](#)
[18-237](#)

9:10 AM - Animal Control Director Joe Testerman - Use of Firearms by Animal Control Officers

Attachments: [07-02-18 Animal Shelter Officers Use of Firearms](#)

Animal Control Director Joe Testerman told the Board that animal control officers currently carry shotguns in their vehicles. He explained the need for rifles especially with the high number of rabies calls they answer. Mr. Testerman stated that several years ago a policy for firearms was developed and that he will bring the policy before the Board for review. He passed out information on a rifle that he has researched that would fit the needs of the animal control officers. The cost would be approximately \$2500 for three rifles. Commissioner Rose made a motion to place discussion of firearms for Animal Control Officers on the next agenda. Vice Chairman Rhodes questioned if there would be an issue regarding insurance if the officers carry rifles. Chairman Sands stated that he talked with the insurance company regarding this and was told the rifles would not pose an issue, however use of handguns would not be approved by the insurance company. With no further discussion, Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion

passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

PRES
18-248

9:20 AM - Acting County Manager Adam Stumb - Discussion Regarding Disposition of Eller House

Acting County Manager Adam Stumb spoke to the Board regarding disposition of the Eller House since the Health Department Environmental Division vacated the facility and moved to Family Central. He contacted Habitat for Humanity regarding possible interest in items in the house before it is demolished, but has not heard back from them. The Board was in agreement to demolish the house. Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to authorize Acting Manager Adam Stumb to contact Habitat for Humanity again and to then take bids for demolishing the house. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

GENERAL SESSION

Appointments

APP 18-31

Reappointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee

Attachments: [07-02-18 LEPC Reappointments](#)

Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to reappoint Robert Poe, William Sands, and Tiawana Ramsey for a term length of four years to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Appointment(s) Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session

ES 18-26

Executive Session - G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) - Legal Issues

The Executive Session was removed from the meeting agenda.

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Rose made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 a.m. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 5 - Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

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.

William Sands, Chairman

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