

# **Ashe County**

*150 Government Circle  
Jefferson, NC 28640*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Monday, November 19, 2018**

**9:00 AM**

**Commission Meeting 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 meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashe County Courthouse.*

**Present:** 4 - Commissioner Larry Rhodes, Commissioner William Sands, Commissioner Paula Perry and Commissioner Todd McNeill

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Jeff Rose

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

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

**III. Approval of Minutes****[MIN 18-102](#)**    October 15, 2018 Regular Session Minutes

**Attachments:**    [11-19-18 October 15, 2018 Regular Session Minutes](#)

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the October 15, 2018 Regular Session Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**[MIN 18-103](#)**    October 15, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the October 15, 2018 Executive Session Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**[MIN 18-106](#)**    October 30, 2018 Special Meeting with School Board

**Attachments:**    [11-19-18 October 30, 2018 Joint Meeting with School Board](#)

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the October 30, 2018 Special Meeting with School Board Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**[MIN 18-107](#)**    October 30, 2018 Special Meeting with WCC Representatives

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 October 30, 2018 Joint Meeting with WCC Representatives](#)

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the October 30, 2018 Special Meeting with Wilkes Community College Representatives Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[MIN 18-104](#) November 5, 2018 Regular Session Minutes

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 November 5, 2018 Regular Session Minutes](#)

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the November 5, 2018 Regular Session Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[MIN 18-105](#) November 5, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

*Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the November 5, 2018 Executive Session Minutes as written. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

#### IV. Adoption of Agenda

*Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to add an Executive Session to the agenda to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Adopted**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

#### V. Public Comment

*Chairman Sands opened the floor for comments from the public.*

*Tax Administrator Chris Lambert told the Board that with the upcoming 2019 property revaluation, a section with frequently asked questions has been added to the Ashe County website that will answer a lot of questions that citizens have about the property revaluation process.*

*Rose Price asked the Board to explain the reasoning behind their vote when a motion is made or action is taken by the Board. By doing so, the public would have a better understanding of what is taking place. Ms. Price also thanked Vice Chairman Rhodes for asking pertinent questions on different issues before he votes.*

*No further comment was offered.*

## VI. Presentations

[PRES](#)  
[18-332](#)

9:05 AM - Economic Development Director Cathy Barr - Resolution for Project Conductor Building Reuse Grant

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Project Conductor Building Reuse Grant Resolution](#)

*Economic Development Director Cathy Barr read a resolution for the commissioners to approve the Project Conductor Building Reuse Grant. She explained that Project Conductor, which is funded through the North Carolina Department of Commerce, will provide a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to renovate a building in Lansing for economic development purposes and will include the creation of 10 new jobs. The County will be required to provide matching funds in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. Chairman Sands opened the floor for comments from the Board. Vice Chairman Rhodes stated concern for voting to spend \$5000 of taxpayer's money when the Board cannot be told the name of the company in executive session. He stated that the Department of Commerce needs to be made aware of his concern and that the commissioners should be given the courtesy of being told the name of the company they are voting to spend money on. With no further comments from the Board, Chairman Sands called for a vote to the motion on the floor. The motion passed with Commissioners Sands, Perry and McNeill voting in favor; Commissioner Rhodes abstained from voting resulting in a vote in the affirmative.*

**Adopted**

**For:** 3 - Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**Abstain:** 1 - Commissioner Rhodes

[PRES](#)  
[18-333](#)

9:10 AM - Tax Administrator Chris Lambert - Monthly Tax Report

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Monthly Tax Report](#)

*Tax Administrator Chris Lambert presented the Monthly Tax Report for October 2018. Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to approve the report as presented. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[PRES](#)  
[18-334](#)

9:15 AM - Tax Administrator Chris Lambert - Request to Hire a Present-Use Value Specialist

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Present Use Value Specialist Position Request](#)

*Tax Administrator Chris Lambert made a request to hire a Present-Use Value Specialist. He explained that the position has already been approved but was not to be filled before early 2019. Due to the 2019 property revaluation, a request is being made to begin the hiring process immediately. Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to approve the request to begin the process to fill the Present-Use Value Specialist position in the Tax*

*Office. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[PRES](#)  
[18-335](#)

9:20 AM - Acting County Manager Adam Stumb - Request for Approval to Waive Fees for Fire Training Facility

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Fire Training Facility Waiving Fees Request](#)

*Acting County Manager Adam Stumb made a request for the Board to approve waiving fees associated with construction of the fire training facility. He explained that permit inspection fees need to be waived because the County is financing the project and in essence the County would be paying the County. Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to waive the \$7000 inspection fee for the fire training facility. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

[PRES](#)  
[18-336](#)

9:25 AM - Comments from Sheriff Elect Phil Howell

*Sheriff-elect Phil Howell told the Board that this item has already been addressed.*

[PRES](#)  
[18-337](#)

9:30 AM - Sheriff Hartley - Statement of Appreciation

*Sheriff Hartley thanked the Board of Commissioners for their support since he took over the office of sheriff in February of this year. He also thanked each office that has worked with him during this time.*

## GENERAL SESSION

### **Resolutions**

[RES 18-18](#)

Resolution Awarding Badge & Service Sidearm to Retiring Sheriff Jim Hartley

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Resolution Awarding Badge & Sidearm to Sheriff Hartley](#)

*Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to approve the resolution awarding the badge and service sidearm to retiring Sheriff Jim Hartley. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Adopted**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

### **Appointments**

**[APP 18-37](#)** Airport Advisory Board Appointments

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 Airport Advisory Board Appointments](#)

*Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to appoint Thomas Bregger and Tom Cecchetti to the Airport Advisory Board. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Appointment(s) Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**[APP 18-38](#)** Appointment to the West Jefferson Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) Board

**Attachments:** [11-19-18 WJETJ Appointments](#)

*Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion to appoint Zeb Gambill to the West Jefferson Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) Board. Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Appointment(s) Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**VII. Commissioner Comments****VIII. Announcements****IX. Executive Session****[ES 18-33](#)** G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6) - Personnel Issues

*Vice Chairman Rhodes made a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues as provided for under G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6). Commissioner McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman Sands declared the Board into Executive Session at 9:40 a.m. and out of Executive Session at 10:37 a.m. with no action taken.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - Commissioner Rhodes, Commissioner Sands, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner McNeill

**X. Adjournment**

*Commissioner McNeill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 a.m. Vice Chairman Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.*

**Approved**

**For:** 4 - 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.

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**William Sands, Chairman**

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