

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, May 6, 2019

9:00 AM

Commission Meeting Room

County Commission

Chairperson Todd McNeill

Vice Chair William Sands

Commissioner Larry Rhodes

Commissioner Paula Perry

Commissioner Larry Dix

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

Chairman McNeill called the Regular Session of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present.

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

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

III. Approval of Minutes**[MIN 19-20](#)** April 1, 2019 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [05-06-19 April 1, 2019 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the April 1, 2019 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[MIN 19-21](#) April 1, 2019 Executive Session Minutes

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the April 1, 2019 Executive Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[MIN 19-22](#) April 15, 2019 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [05-06-19 April 15, 2019 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the April 15, 2019 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[MIN 19-23](#) April 15, 2019 Executive Session Minutes

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the April 15, 2019 Executive Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with

unanimous approval.

Approved

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

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Dix made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of a request for approval to raise rates charged for housing inmates and a request to replace the two computers in the tower at the Detention Center. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

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

V. Public Comment

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

VI. Presentations

[PRES 19-88](#) 9:05 AM - DSS Director Tracie Downer - Monthly Departmental Report

Attachments: [05-06-19 DSS Departmental Statistics](#)

Department of Social Services Director Tracie Downer passed out copies of the DSS Statistical Report for March 2019. She then introduced Tommy McClure who is the supervisor of Adult Services. Mr. McClure told the Board that May has been designated as Mental Health Awareness Month and the period of time between Mother's Day and Father's Day is designated as Elder Abuse Prevention Month. Currently, one in five adults experience mental health issues and that number is increasing. At the same time that the number of people being diagnosed with mental health issues is increasing, state funding for mental health continues to dramatically decrease. Mr. McClure provided statistics of clients needing help with Adult Protective Services through DSS which is also increasing. He told the Board that the average age of clients is continually decreasing. Mr. McClure spoke of the great relationship DSS has with other agencies in the County that work hard to assist and to care for the people they serve.

[PRES 19-89](#) 9:20 AM - County Librarian Suzanne Moore - Opportunity Fair Update & Ten-Year Endowment Update

Attachments: [05-06-19 Opportunity Fair Update & Ten Year Endowment Update](#)

County Librarian Suzanne Moore provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the recently held Opportunity Fair and the Ten-Year Endowment Fund. She explained that the Endowment Fund was created with funds that were left over from monies for the Library renovation project in 2009. A history of the Library was provided along with information on the Library renovation project. The current balance in the Endowment Fund is \$269,264.44. Ms. Moore outlined purchases made with endowment distribution funds. She also provided information on the usage of funds from the Ida Marsh Trust Fund gift to the Library.

[PRES 19-90](#) 9:35 AM - Elder Abuse Awareness Team - Elder Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation

Attachments: [05-06-19 Elder Abuse Proclamation](#)

Members of the Elder Abuse Prevention Team presented information on elder abuse in Ashe County. DSS Social Worker Jamie Shepherd updated the Board about work the Elder Abuse Prevention Team does stating that the team originated in 2005. A forum on the prevention of elder abuse will be held at Ashe Services for Aging on May 21st beginning at 8:30 a.m. The forum is being held between local agencies in an effort to prevent elder abuse in our community. The proclamation recognizing May as Elder Abuse Prevention Month was read to the Board. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to adopt the proclamation as presented. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

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

[PRES 19-91](#) 9:45 AM - Chief Deputy Danny Houck - Ashe County Sheriff's Office K-9 Use & Handling Policy Manual Approval

Attachments: [05-06-19 Sheriff's Office K-9 Use & Policy Manual Approval](#)

Chief Deputy Danny Houck presented the K-9 Use and Handling Policy for approval by the Board. He told the Board that currently the Sheriff's Office has one K-9 and plans are to add an additional dog in the future. Due to problems experienced in the past, Commissioner Rhodes stated concern for the K-9 handler keeping accurate compensatory time records. Mr. Houck stated that accurate records of time are being kept for the handler and the K-9. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the K-9 Use and Handling Policy for the Ashe County Sheriff's Office as presented. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

1 [PRES 19-92](#) 9:55 AM - Brian Shuping with VAYA Health - Medicaid Transformation

Attachments: [05-06-19 Medicaid Transformation](#)

Brian Shuping, senior director of Community Relations with VAYA Health, provided a PowerPoint presentation on Medicaid Transformation Standard Plans and Tailored Plans. The Medicaid Transformation Standard Plans are for people with mild to moderate behavioral health conditions. Individuals with more severe behavioral health conditions will be handled under the Tailored Plans. Approximately three months prior to November 2019, letters with information regarding the move to Medicaid managed care will be sent to individuals who will need to select one of four managed care plans. Tailored Plans will be managed by VAYA Health and will address both mental and physical health issues. Information regarding how these changes will affect citizens in Ashe County and a timeline for implementation of the program was included in the presentation. The Board stated interest in attending a work session offered by VAYA Health to assist with understanding upcoming changes and how those will affect the citizens of Ashe County.

[PRES 19-93](#) 10:10 AM - Doug Goss & Paige Stephens - JCPC 2019/2020 Funding

Plan Approval

Attachments: [05-06-19 JCPC 2019-2020 Funding Plan Approval](#)

Doug Goss and Paige Stephens were present to submit the FY2019-20 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Annual Funding Plan. Mr. Goss provided a breakdown of services offered and funding for the programs. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to adopt the FY2019-20 JCPC Annual Funding Plan. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

PRES 19-94 10:20 AM - Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill - Pre-Disaster Debris Removal Contract

Attachments: [05-06-19 Debris Removal Contract](#)

Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill and Environmental Services Director Scott Hurley presented the Pre-Disaster Debris Removal Contract for approval by the Board. Ms. Gambill explained that by having this contract approved prior to a disaster, debris removal will be expedited during a large scale disaster. She told the Board that no funding is involved with approving the contract and that funds would need to be appropriated only if the contracts are activated. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the Pre-Disaster Debris Removal Contract as presented. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

PRES 19-95 10:25 AM - Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill - Pre-Disaster Debris Monitoring Contract Approval

Attachments: [05-06-19 Debris Monitoring Contract](#)

Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill and Environmental Services Director Scott Hurley presented the Pre-Disaster Debris Monitoring Contract for approval by the Board. Ms. Gambill explained that by having this contract approved prior to a disaster, debris removal will be expedited during a large scale disaster. She told the Board that no funding is involved with approving the contract and that funds would need to be appropriated only if the contracts are activated. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the Pre-disaster Debris Monitoring Contract as presented. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

PRES 19-97 10:30 AM - Sheriff Howell - Request for Reinstatement of Sick Leave for Sheriff's Department Employee

Attachments: [05-06-19 Request for Reinstatement of Sick Leave](#)

Sheriff Phil Howell made a request for reinstatement of 1271.04 hours of sick leave for

Joe Francis which will be consistent with County policy. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to grant the reinstatement of sick leave hours in the amount of 1271.04 for Joe Francis. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES
19-102](#)

10:33 AM - Sheriff Howell - Approval of Rate Increase to House Inmates at the Ashe County Jail

Sheriff Howell presented the Board with a request to increase the rates to house jail inmates from the current rate of \$40 per day to \$45 per day. Also, item #7 in the Davidson County contract regarding copays needs to be changed from \$15 to \$20. Sheriff Howell suggested that the rate changes take effect on July 1, 2019 at the beginning of the fiscal year. Discussion was held regarding what other counties charge for housing out-of-county inmates and the number of inmates being held in the jail. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to change the rates for housing inmates from \$40 per day to \$45 per day effective July 1, 2019 and to increase the copay from \$15 to \$20 in #7 of the Davidson County contract to house inmates at the Ashe County jail. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES
19-103](#)

10:36 AM - Sheriff Howell - Request to Replace the Computers in the Jail Tower

Attachments: [05-06-19 Detention Center Control Room Computers Replacement](#)

Lt. Blanco with the Ashe County Sheriff's Department made a request to replace the two computers in the jail tower that run the jail. He explained problems that they are experiencing with the computers not functioning properly and resulting safety issues. The computers are ten years old and the quote received is basically the same amount as ten years ago when the computers were purchased. The cost to replace the two computers would be \$18,903, \$694 tax, and \$595 to increase the size of the monitors for a total of \$20,194. Interim County Manager Adam Stumb told the Board that funding for the computers could be appropriated from the Contingency Fund. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve an appropriation from the Contingency Fund in the amount of \$20,194 to replace two computers in the jail tower. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

May 6, 2019

General Fund:

To increase the appropriation for Corrections from \$2,132,138 to \$2,152,332; this increased appropriation of \$20,194 to be made by reducing the contingency fund by \$20,194.

Approved

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

[PRES 19-98](#) 10:40 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Moving Mountains (formerly Restoration Church) Lease Renewal

Attachments: [05-06-19 Moving Mountains Lease Renewal](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb presented the Board with a lease renewal for Moving Mountains, formerly Restoration Church, at Family Central. The lease rate is \$9.50 per square foot. He explained one change that has been made to the lease regarding technology that will encourage lessees to have their own internet service. A change has also been made regarding servers. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the lease with Moving Mountains including the changes as stated by the interim county manager. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES 19-99](#) 10:45 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Vaya Health Lease Renewal

Attachments: [05-06-19 Vaya Health Lease Renewal](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb presented the Board with a lease renewal for VAYA Health at Family Central. The lease rate is \$9.50 per square foot. He explained one change that has been made to the lease regarding technology that will encourage lessees to have their own internet service. A change has also been made regarding servers. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the lease with VAYA Health including the changes as stated by the interim county manager. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES 19-100](#) 10:50 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Jodi Province Counseling Lease Renewal

Attachments: [05-06-19 Jodi Province Lease Renewal](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb presented the Board with a lease renewal for Jodi Province at Family Central. The lease rate is \$9.50 per square foot. He explained one change that has been made to the lease regarding technology that will encourage lessees to have their own internet service. A change has also been made regarding servers. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the lease with Jodi Province including the changes as stated by the interim county manager. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[PRES 19-101](#) 10:55 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - NC Works Lease Renewal

Attachments: [05-06-19 NC Works Lease Renewal](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb presented the Board with a lease renewal for NC Works at Family Central. The lease rate is \$9.50 per square foot. He explained one change that has been made to the lease regarding technology that will encourage lessees to have their own internet service. A change has also been made regarding servers. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the lease with NC Works including the changes as stated by the interim county manager. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

GENERAL SESSION

Appointments

[APP 19-15](#) Ashe County Community Advisory Committee for Long Term Care Board Appointment

Attachments: [05-06-19 Long Term Care Appointment](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to appoint Mary Sexton to the Ashe County Long Term Care Advisory Board for a one year term. Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Appointment(s) Approved

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

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session

[ES 19-9](#) Executive Session - G.S. 143.318.11 (a)(3) - Legal Issues & G.S. 143.318.11 (a)(5) Acquisition of Real Property

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to enter into Executive Session as provided for under G.S. 143.318.11 (a) (3) to discuss legal issues and G.S. 143.318.11 (a) (5) to discuss acquisition of property. Chairman McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman McNeill declared the Board into Executive Session at 10:52 a.m. and out of Executive Session at 11:49 a.m. with Commissioner Rhodes making a motion for the County to consent to the pending mediated settlement between Ashe County and Tommy Combs. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Dix made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

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.

Todd McNeill, Chairman

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