

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, September 16, 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 Meeting of the Ashe County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. on September 16, 2019.

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 19-49](#) September 3, 2019 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [09-16-19 September 3, 2019 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the September 3, 2019 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

[MIN 19-48](#) September 3, 2019 Executive Session Minutes

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the September 3, 2019 Executive Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Rhodes 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 Rhodes made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

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

V. Public Comment

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

VI. Presentations

[PRES](#)
[19-160](#)

9:05 AM - DSS Director Tracie Downer - Monthly Departmental Update

Attachments: [09-16-19 DSS Statistics - July 2019](#)

Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Tracie Downer presented the monthly departmental update for DSS including statistics for July 2019. Ms. Downer made a request for the commissioners to approve a budget amendment for \$40,960 received in adoption incentives. The funds will be used to recruit foster parents and adoptive parents. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Next, DSS Director Downer told the Board that recipients of Food and Nutrition Services Funds received their September monthly benefits early due to Hurricane Dorian. Even though the hurricane did not affect this area, the early benefits are provided statewide. The benefits for October will be also be early and November benefits will be back on the normal schedule. She encouraged recipients to budget appropriately.

The Keep Ashe Warm non-profit that assists with heating costs for those qualifying for assistance will hold a fundraiser on September 27, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Shatley Springs Restaurant.

She updated the Board on the foster initiative held recently at Bald Mountain Church telling the Board that the meeting was a success.

BUDGET AMENDMENT
September 16, 2019

The following budget amendment was approved upon motion by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Sands, as provided for by GS 153-127; vote carried unanimously.

General Fund:

To increase the appropriation for the department of Social Services from \$8,125,074 to \$8,166,034; this increased appropriation of \$40,960 to be made with an appropriation of \$40,960 from Adoption Program Funds received from the State of North Carolina on 6-26-19.

Approved

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

[PRES](#)
[19-161](#)

9:20 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Appointment of Members for the Agricultural Center Steering Committee

Attachments: [09-16-19 Agricultural Center Steering Committee Members](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb made a request for the appointment of steering committee members to oversee the feasibility study for the proposed agricultural center and to assist with the process as it moves forward. Judy Bare told the Board that the

membership represents all aspects of agriculture. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to appoint the following members to the Agricultural Center Advisory Board: Judy Bare, Vickie Young, Amy Walker, Todd Young, Bill Little, Jackie Little, Gary Bare, Amber Scott, Avery Barr, Charles Sturgill, Tyler Rash, Johnny Walters, Tony Phillips, Todd McNeill, and Larry Dix with the addition of contingent members Sanford Fishel and Richard Calhoun. 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
19-162

9:30 AM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Resolution in Support of Funding to Meet the Mental Health Needs in Ashe County

Attachments: [09-16-19 Resolution in Support of Funding to Meet Mental Health Needs](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb told the Board that Vaya Health, our regional provider for mental health services, has experienced continued budget cuts and the proposed resolution on the agenda is in support of funding to meet the mental health needs in Ashe County. Brian Shuping with Vaya Health has offered to come before the commissioners at the first meeting in October to answer questions if needed. Commissioner Rhodes would like to hear comments from local mental health providers before voting on the resolution. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to table the resolution and to have local mental health officials and Brian Shuping with Vaya Health to be at an upcoming meeting to answer questions. Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Tabled

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

GENERAL SESSION

Ordinances for First Reading

FRAN 19-1 Franchise Renewal - Republic Services Inc.

Attachments: [09-16-19 Republic Services Franchise Renewal First Reading](#)

The next item was the first reading of a solid waste franchise renewal for Republic Services Inc., formerly Garbage Disposal Service. General Statute 153A-46 states "A grant, renewal, extension, or amendment of any franchise cannot be adopted until it has been passed at two regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners. No such grant, renewal, extension, or amendment may be made except by ordinance." Commissioner Dix made a motion to approve the solid waste franchise renewal for Republic Services Inc. at first reading. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. The Board requested that a representative from Republic Services be present during the second reading of the franchise to answer questions.

Approved at First Reading

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

Appointments

[APP 19-21](#) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Reappointment - Michael Vannoy

Attachments: [09-16-19 Parks & Rec Advisory Board Reappointment](#)

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to reappoint Michael Vannoy to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Sands 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 19-20](#) G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (5) Acquisition of Property

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss the acquisition of property as provided for under GS. 143-318.11 (a) (5). Commissioner Dix seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman McNeill declared the Board into Executive Session at 9:37 a.m. and out of Executive Session at 10:33 a.m. with no action taken.

Approved

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

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion for the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m. 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

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