

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, November 4, 2019

6:00 PM

Commission Meeting Room

County Commission

*Chairperson Todd McNeill
Vice Chair Larry Rhodes
Commissioner William Sands
Commissioner Paula Perry
Commissioner Chuck Olive*

BUSINESS SESSION**I. 6:00 PM - Meeting Called to Order at the Ashe County Courthouse**

Chairman McNeill called the Regular Meeting of the Ashe County Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. on November 4, 2019 at the Ashe County Courthouse.

Present: 6 - Commissioner Todd McNeill, Chairperson Todd McNeill, Commissioner William Sands, Vice Chairman Larry Rhodes, Commissioner Paula Perry and Commissioner Larry Dix

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Opening Prayer

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

III. Approval of Minutes

[MIN 19-53](#) October 7, 2019 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [11-04-19 October 7, 2019 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the October 7, 2019 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

[MIN 19-54](#) October 7, 2019 Executive Session Minutes

The October 7, 2019 Executive Session Minutes will be tabled to the November 18, 2019 meeting.

Tabled

[MIN 19-55](#) October 21, 2019 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments: [11-04-19 October 21, 2019 Regular Session Minutes](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to approve the October 21, 2019 Regular Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Dix made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of discussion regarding the Highway 16 Convenience Center site and the addition of a request to approve changes to the Personnel Policy. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Adopted

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

V. Public Comment

Chairman McNeill opened the floor for comments from the public.

Ann Rose, executive director of the Lost Province for Cultural Arts in the historic Lansing School, told the Board that she just returned from Raleigh from a meeting with our senator and representative regarding restoration of the school. She is requesting letters of support for the project be sent to Senator Ballard, Representative Russell, Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, and Senator Alexander.

No further comment was offered.

VI. Presentations

[PRES](#)
[19-193](#)

6:05 PM - DSS Director Tracie Downer - Departmental Update

Department of Social Services Director Tracie Downer presented the monthly departmental update. She reviewed the program requirements and dates that applications will be taken for the Crisis Intervention Program and Low Income Energy Assistance Program. Ms. Downer reported that delayed approval of the state budget may also delay implementation of the Medicaid Transformation project.

Next, a request was made for the Board to consider adopting a proclamation designating November as Adoption Month in Ashe County. Commissioner Dix made a motion to adopt the proclamation as presented. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Ed Hurst and Nicolette Gilbert with DSS presented information to the Board regarding the adoption and foster care program in Ashe County.

Adopted

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

[PRES](#)
[19-194](#)

6:15 PM - Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill -
Emergency Operations Plan Annual Approval

Attachments: [11-04-19 Emergency Operations Plan Approval](#)

Emergency Management Coordinator Patty Gambill presented a change to the notification plan of the Emergency Operations Plan being submitted for annual approval. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the Emergency Operations Plan change for 2019. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman McNeill noted an additional change that needs to be made to state that Brad Jordan is police chief instead of interim police chief. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to include the title change for Police Chief Brad Jordan. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

[PRES](#)
[19-195](#)

6:20 PM - Parks & Recreation Director Kevin Anderson - Proposed Family Central Cafeteria Use Application

Attachments: [11-04-19 Cafeteria Use Policy at Family Central](#)

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Anderson reviewed revisions made to the application that will be used for use of the Family Central Cafeteria. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Facility Use Application and Rules and Regulations as presented. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Chairman McNeill opened the floor for comments from the Board. Commissioner Dix suggested a revision to the Rules and Regulations to change the wording from "approval by county staff" to "approval by the Parks & Recreation Director or designee". Chairman McNeill also requested an addition to include "vaping and e-cigarettes" with "smoking and tobacco products". Commissioner Rhodes amended his motion on the floor to include the revisions. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

[PRES](#)
[19-196](#)

6:30 PM - Interim Manager Adam Stumb - Gabe Miller Settlement Update

Attachments: [11-04-19 Gabe Miller Settlement](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb reviewed a Memorandum of Agreement between Ashe County and Gabe Miller regarding a parcel of property on Old Wilkesboro Road. The County has a lien against the property that stipulates the property will be cleaned up within 24 months of the date of the agreement. That part of the agreement has been kept. The property must then remain cleaned up for two years and all back taxes paid up to date and kept current. This portion of the agreement will begin on November 4, 2019 and end on November 4, 2021. No action is required from the Board.

[PRES](#)
[19-197](#)

6:35 PM - Environmental Services Director Scott Hurley - Update on Highway 16 Convenience Center Site

Attachments: [11-04-19 Highway 16 Convenience Center Site](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb and Environmental Services Director Scott Hurley updated the Board on the lease and proposed improvements to the Highway 16 Convenience Center site. The property survey has been completed and the county attorney is writing a new 15-year lease for the property. The lease will include an increase in the lease amount at five year intervals and the County will have first right-of-refusal on the property. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the lease for the Highway 16 Convenience Center site. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Environmental Services Director Scott Hurley updated the Board on repairs that will be made to the site.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

**PRES
19-198**

6:45 PM - Interim County Manager Adam Stumb - Proposed Change to the Personnel Policy

Attachments: [11-04-19 Personnel Policy-FMLA Change](#)

Interim County Manager Adam Stumb presented a change that is proposed for the Personnel Policy regarding the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Wording will be added to include "and actively performed at least 1250 hours of service" and is consistent with Department of Labor standards. Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to approve the change as proposed to the Personnel Policy. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

GENERAL SESSION

Appointments

APP 19-22

Reappointment of Chairman McNeill to the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Attachments: [11-04-19 RTAC Reappointment](#)

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to reappoint Chairman McNeill to the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC). Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Appointment(s) Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

Resolutions

RES 19-6

Resolution to Change Commissioner Meeting Times

Attachments: [11-04-19 Resolution Changing Commissioner Meeting Times](#)

Commissioner Sands made a motion to adopt a resolution changing the commissioner meeting schedule to "meetings to be held on the first and third Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m." Commissioner Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-2, with Commissioners McNeill and Dix voting in opposition.

Adopted

For: 3 - Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes and Commissioner Perry

Against: 3 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill and Commissioner Dix

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Announcements

IX. Executive Session[ES 19-22](#)**G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6) Personnel**

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues as provided for under G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6). Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Chairman McNeill declared the Board into Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. and out of Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. with no action taken.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman Rhodes, Commissioner Perry and Commissioner Dix

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Dix made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Vice Chairman Sands seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approved

For: 6 - Commissioner McNeill, Chairperson McNeill, Commissioner Sands, Vice Chairman 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