MINUTES
BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RECESSED MEETING

Both Burke County and the State of North Carolina had previously declared a state of emergency which was ongoing as of May 25, 2021 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Following the N.C. Governor's Executive Order limiting mass gatherings and to protect the health of all meeting participants, attendance in the County Board Room, Burke Services Building, 110 N. Green Street in Morganton, was limited on a first come first served basis, social distancing measures were imposed inside the meeting room and face coverings were recommended. The 2:00 p.m. meeting was streamed live on the County's YouTube channel, BurkeCountyNC, and it was broadcast later on the local cable systems. The agenda, in its entirety, was posted to the County's website, www.burkenc.org, several days prior to the meeting as usual. Those present were:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman (Left at 2:57 p.m.)
Scott Mulwee, Vice Chairman
Wayne F. Abele, Sr.
Johnnie W. Carswell
Maynard M. Taylor

STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Steen, County Manager
Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director
Scott Cook, Deputy Finance Director
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Brittain called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion: To approve the agenda.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Maynard M. Taylor, Commissioner
AYES:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Scott Mulwee, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Johnnie W. Carswell and Maynard M. Taylor

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

FINANCE - VFD REQUEST FOR TAX RATE CHANGE
Information from the agenda packet:

> For FY 21-22, one (1) fire department has requested a fire tax rate increase: Chesterfield (.09 to .13).
>
> Representatives from the fire department will be present at the May 25th recessed meeting to address the need for the rate increase and respond to questions from

the Board.

District	Current Tax Rate	Requested Tax Rate	Recommended Tax Rate
Brendletown	$0.105	$ 0.105	$0.105
Carbon City	$0.080	$ 0.080	$0.080
Chesterfield	$0.090	$ 0.130	$0.130
Drowning Creek	$0.120	$ 0.120	$0.120
Enola	$0.105	$ 0.105	$0.105
George Hildebran	$0.110	$ 0.110	$0.110
Glen Alpine	$0.100	$ 0.100	$0.100
Icard	$0.100	$ 0.100	$0.100
Jonas Ridge	$0.135	$ 0.135	$0.135
Lake James	$0.080	$ 0.080	$0.080
Longtown	$0.120	$ 0.120	$0.120
Lovelady	$0.105	$ 0.105	$0.105
Oak Hill	$0.090	$ 0.090	$0.090
Salem	$0.070	$ 0.070	$0.070
Smokey Creek	$0.118	$ 0.118	$0.118
South Mountain	$0.136	$ 0.136	$0.136
Triple Community	$0.078	$ 0.078	$0.078
West End	$0.110	$0.110	$0.110
* Requested Rate Increase			

Chesterfield Chief James Robinson said the rate increase will help pay for their new fire apparatus and go towards a roof replacement. After a period of five (5) years, he said the fire department intends to request a reduction to 11 cents. Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. He said he could not find where the fire department asked for public comment at the annual meeting and when looking at the meeting notes, he sees where a rate increase was discussed, but not to the requested level. Chief Robinson said their annual meeting was held in August and the rate increase was discussed and voted on by the board of directors and approved by all members of the community present at the meeting. Chairman Brittain questioned the meeting notes further and Chief Robinson stated they were worded incorrectly, but the requested increase was approved.

Chairman Brittain asked the pleasure of the Board. No opposition to the rate increase was verbalized.

RESULT: INCLUDED THE TAX RATE INCREASE IN THE FY 21-22 BUDGET.

FC - PRESENTATION OF MASTER PLAN & FUNDING REQUEST FOR OAK HILL COMMUNITY PARK & FOREST

Andrew Kota, Executive Director of the Foothills Conservancy of NC, presented the master plan and a $10,000 funding request for the Oak Hill Community Park in Morganton. (Note: The $10,000 was not included in the FY 21-22 recommended budget.) He said the master planning process and the final plan was completed by Destination by Design. Highlights of Mr. Kota's presentation are shown below. The full presentation can be found in the agenda packet.

Groups / individuals who assisted with the park project are as follows:

FOOTHILLS CONSERVANCY OF NORTH CAROLINA
- Andrew Kota - Executive Director
- Rachael Dial - Office & Finance Administrator Tom Kenney - Land Protection Director
- Sophie Elliott - Development Coordinator Ryan Sparks - Stewardship Director
- Brittany Watkins - Special Projects Coordinator

PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
- William Brown III - Community Member
- Ann Costello - Community Member and FCNC Board Member
- William Hamilton - NC Farmlink Co-Director, Western Region
- Beth Heile - Community Member and Executive Director of Friends of Fonta Flora State Trail
- Phillip Lookadoo - Development and Design Director, City of Morganton
- Nikki Malatin - Teacher and Burke Bearcats Mountain Bike Team Coach, Freedom High School
- Dr. David Moore - Professor of Anthropology, Warren Wilson College Meg Nealon - FCNC Board Member
- Shane Prisby - Operations Manager, Burke County Community Development
- Andrew Tait - Director of Ecoforestry, EcoForesters Armin Weise - Forestry Associate, EcoForesters
- Maire Williamson and William Lyons - Agricultural Consultants and Local Farmers, Bluebird Farms

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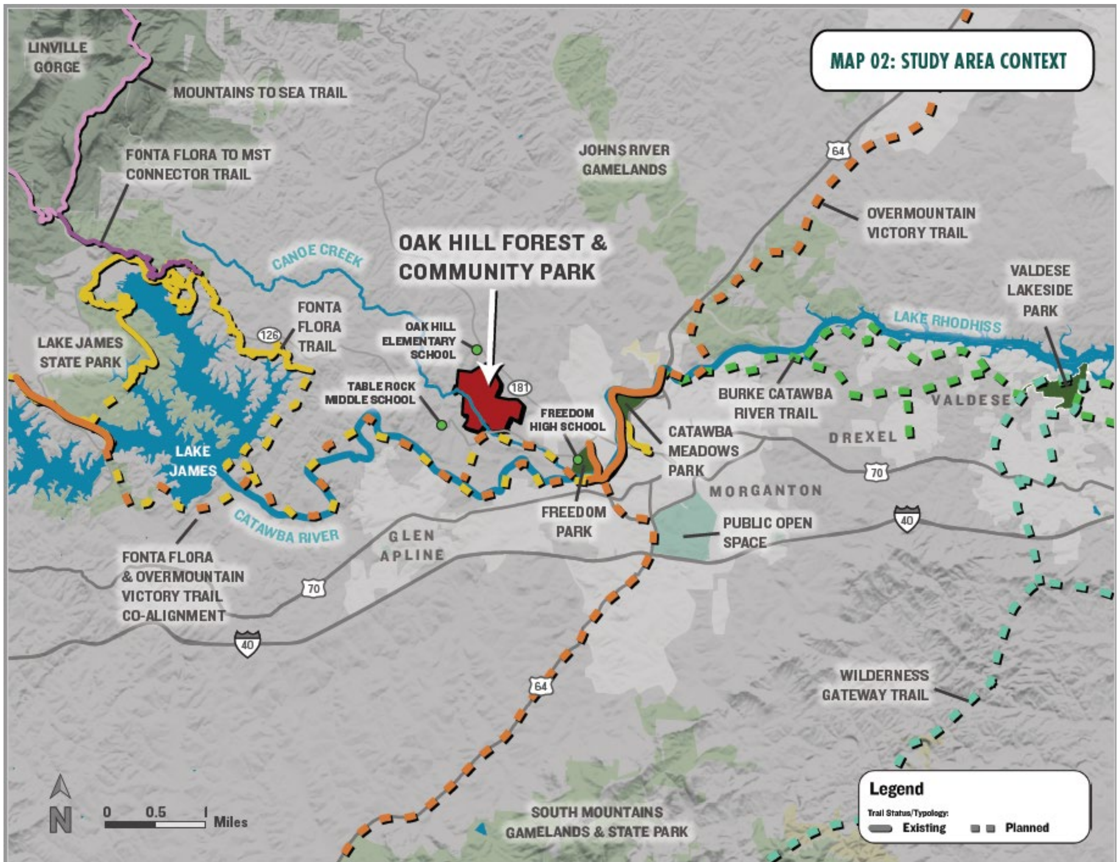
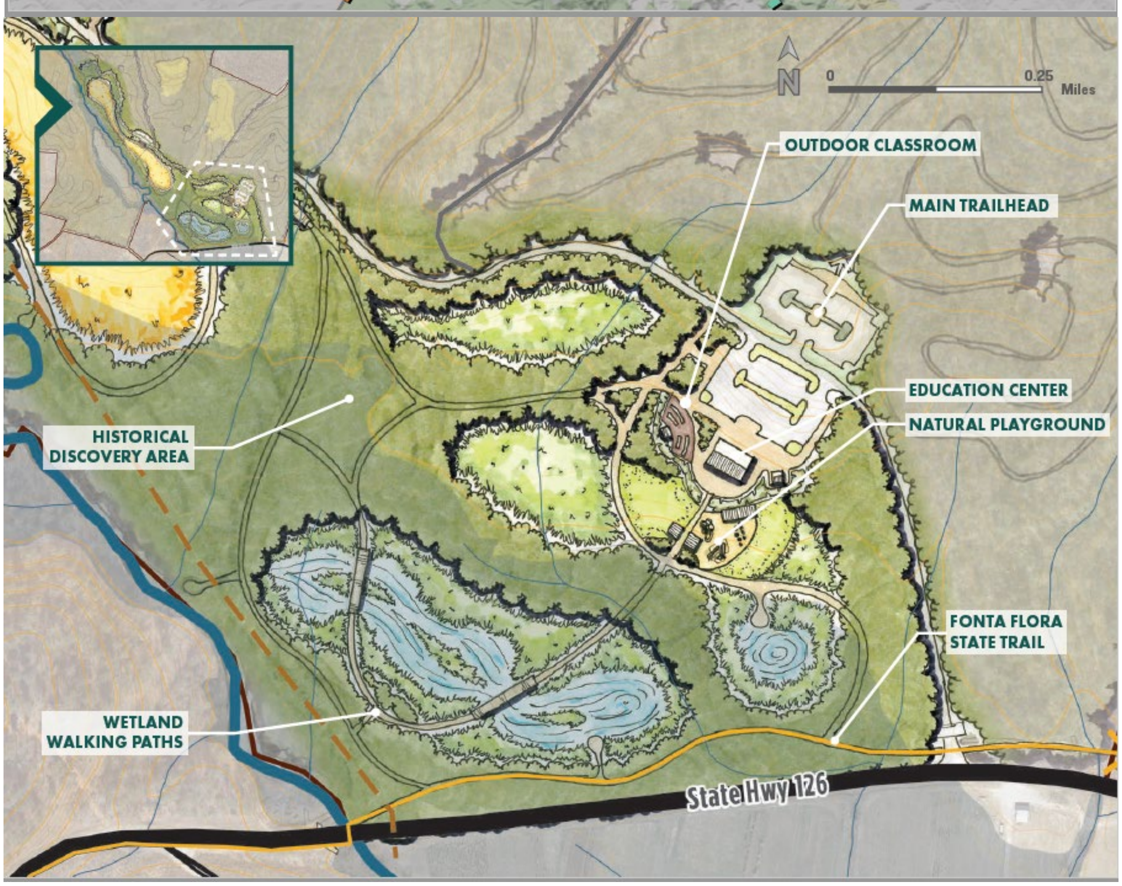

MAP 02: STUDY AREA CONTEXT
LINVILLE GORGE
MOUNTAINS TO SEA TRAIL
FONTA FLORA TO MST CONNECTOR TRAIL
JOHNS RIVER GAMELANDS
OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY TRAIL
CANOE CREEK
OAK HILL FOREST & COMMUNITY PARK
VALDESE LAKESIDE PARK
LAKE RHODHISS
FONTA FLORA TRAIL
LAKE JAMES STATE PARK
OAK HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TABLE ROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL
FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL
BURKE CATAWBA RIVER TRAIL
VALDESE
DREXEL
CATAWBA MEADOWS PARK
LAKE JAMES
MORGANTON
CATAWBA RIVER
FREEDOM PARK
PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
GLEN APLINE
FONTA FLORA & OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY TRAIL CO-ALIGNMENT
WILDERNESS GATEWAY TRAIL
SOUTH MOUNTAINS GAMELANDS & STATE PARK
0 0.5 1 Miles
Legend
Existing
Planned


0 0.25 Miles
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM
MAIN TRAILHEAD
EDUCATION CENTER
NATURAL PLAYGROUND
HISTORICAL DISCOVERY AREA
FONTA FLORA STATE TRAIL
WETLAND WALKING PATHS
State Hwy 126

Oak Hill Community Park & Forest, Burke County - Foothills Conservancy		
Access Road, Parking & Trailhead Item	**Unit price**	**Total Price**
Comprehensive Grading (clearing, grubbing, stump grinding, grading, erosion control, installation). NOTE: No undercut of sub grade included. @ 80 hrs w/Excavator, Dozer, Motograder	30 hours	$12,000.00
Remove/Replace existing 36" pipe w/ 40' of 36" pipe	$66 / foot	$2,640.00
Install 2 additional drainage pipes after grading - total 60 feet	$60 / foot	$3,600.00
Class B stone for erosion control @75 tons	$32 / ton	$2,400.00
Filter stone for erosion control @ 50 tons	$32 / ton	$1,600.00
#57 stone for erosion control @ 40 tons	$32 / ton	$1,280.00
Seeding and Mulching @ 1 acre	$2,500 / acre	$2,500.00
Stone for roadway@20ft wide x 6 inches deep,hauled,graded & compacted @1500 ton	$24 / ton	$36,000.00
Stone for 1 parking areas @ 150' wide x 50' wide x 6" deep, hauled, graded & compacted @ 180 tons	$24 / ton	$4,320.00
GRAND TOTAL Expenses		$66,340.00
Project Income		
Foothills Conservancy of NC (secured)		$40,340.00
Burke County (requested)		$10,000.00
Vulcan Materials / Other (planned)		$16,000.00

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. Mr. Kota responded to a question from Vice Chairman Mulwee regarding the proposed entrance to the park. Regarding the $66,340 road expense, Commissioner Taylor asked how many miles are included in the cost. Mr. Kota said approximately 1,000 feet of road improvements and roughing in the parking area, discussion ensued on the cost for the first five (5) miles of trails. Mr. Kota responded to additional questions from Commissioner Taylor on the amount of available funding the project has and future maintenance costs of the anticipated 20-miles of trails.

Mr. Kota then responded to questions from Commissioner Carswell on grants they are able or unable to apply for. After further comments, Chairman Brittain asked for direction on this matter from the Board. Vice Chairman Mulwee said this project fits into Burke County's vision and the Conservancy has always been a good steward of their land / money. He recommended that the Board support this request at some level. Mr. Kota responded to a question from Commissioner Taylor concerning agriculture fields on the property. Commissioners Abele and Taylor then expressed their support for funding this item. Commissioner Taylor noted that this is a one (1) time payment and does not commit the County to extend this funding in the future. He also said in the future, the County should look and see if there is a need for additional parks. Commissioner Abele said it says a lot if Burke County steps up to the plate in the beginning for their future fundraising efforts.

RESULT:	**ADDED $10,000 FOR THE OAK HILL COMMUNITY PARK & FOREST TO THE FY 21-22 BUDGET.**

F3ST - FRIENDS OF THE FONTA FLORA STATE TRAIL, INC. FUNDING REQUEST - $30,000

In February, the Board received an update on the creation of the Friends of the Fonta Flora State Trail, Inc. (F3ST) which included a funding request from F3ST President, Judge Hunter, for a part-time F3ST Executive Director. The Board tabled its consideration of the $30,000 funding request until May 25th and funding for the project was not included in the Manager's recommended budget.

Beth Heile, F3ST Executive Director, said there are four and a half things she can do for Burke County: offer volunteers for trail maintenance, work with private donors to support grants / work on projects, work to get the Fonta Flora State Trail to go through the Oak Hill Park, make sure the project does not just stay in Burke County, and promote the trail.

Judge Hunter commended Ms. Heile and said since she came on board in February, they have made amazing progress. He then reported on the progress of the Fonta Flora trail and other outdoor amenities in McDowell County and Old Fort. Judge Hunter said they have enough funding to employ Ms. Heile through July on a part-time basis. He said he, Ms. Heile, and Mr. Kota belong to an organization that has grown tremendously, The Great State Trails Organization, that is involved with getting funds from the state for trails and noted they are in the governor's budget in addition to receiving legislative support from NC Rep Hugh Blackwell. He said the McDowell County economic development director told him people ages 25-50 who are moving into the area are looking for outdoor recreation opportunities. Judge Hunter said F3ST is in a position to really help Burke County and they believe they can raise money for projects, and he noted they raised $100,000 for Old Fort to assist them with a PARTF grant. He said he believes that the requested $30,000 is an investment and Burke County will get more from that investment than what the County puts into F3ST.

Municipality Funding Request

Municipality	**Population**	**Request**	**Status**
Glen Alpine	<2,000	$1,000	Committed
Old Fort	<2,000	$1,000	Committed
Black Mountain	2,001-10,000	$5,000	Committed
Marion	2,001-10,000	$5,000	Committed
Morganton	10,001-25,000	$10,000	
McDowell Co	25,001-50,000	$20,000	Committed
Asheville	50,001-100,000	$0	2023
Burke Co	50,001-100,000	$30,000	
Buncombe Co	100,001+	$0	2023
		$72,000	

F3ST Budget

Projected Income		Budget
Municipality Support	$	72,000.00
Membership	$	7,000.00
Total Projected Income	**$**	**79,000.00**
Projected Expenses		
Salary: 1 Part Time Executive Director	$	30,000.00
Salary 2: Part Time Admin Asst	$	9,000.00
Payroll Taxes	$	4,900.00
Outreach, Development, Promotion	$	10,000.00
Contract Services	$	10,000.00
Insurance	$	3,000.00
Office Supplies & Equipment	$	4,000.00
Membership Dues	$	1,500.00
Travel & Meetings	$	2,000.00
Surplus	$	4,000.00
Misc	$	600.00
Total Projected Expenses	**$**	**79,000.00**

At 2:57 p.m., Chairman Brittain turned the meeting over the Vice Chairman Mulwee because he had another engagement to attend. Chairman Brittain was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

Vice Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. Commissioner Abele expressed his support for funding the request and said he believes the Board can help create a niche for the future of Burke and other counties in outdoor recreation / tourism. Commissioner Taylor said he believes this is a good investment for the County at this point. Commissioner Carswell expressed his disappointment with Buncombe County and others who decided not to fund F3ST and said he hates to see Burke County take on most of the financial burden. He said he has reservations about being asked to give the most money since the County has done the most work. However, Commissioner Carswell said, if the Board decided to support this item, so will he, discussion ensued. Judge Hunter said they have been pursuing state funding for friends groups for the state trails and if they receive the funding, they will return the $30,000 to Burke County. He noted that that if the County does not believe they have benefitted from this investment, then they will not ask for additional funding, discussion ensued. Vice Chairman Mulwee echoed Commissioner Carswell's comments and said the success of F3ST is also Burke County's success while noting they have to be responsible to the taxpayers. He said for clarity's sake, this is a one-time ask and if their pursuit of state funds is successful, they will not have to come before the Board again, but at least the Board can kick-start F3ST at this point. Discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the Board to fully fund the request.

RESULT:	**ADDED $30,000 FOR THE F3ST TO THE FY 21-22 BUDGET.**

FINANCE - FY 21-22 BUDGET EXPLANATION OF CHANGE AND ITEMS OF NOTE
Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director reviewed the significant changes and items of note for the recommended FY 21-22 budget and responded to questions from the Board.

Fiscal Year 2021-2022 – Summary Notes by Department

Aids and Donations	Increase of $2,055. No new agencies funded. Increase relates to Conflict Resolution adding 7 hours per week of services in Court Mediation and Worthless Check Program in Burke County.
Animal Services	Increase of $48,490. Two new positions requested and one recommended for animal care.
Building Inspections	Increase of $3,545. Technology replacements in current year.
Burke County Schools	No change. Requested and recommended at current level.
Communications	Decrease of $41,880. 3 radio replacements are included.
Community Dev/Planning	Decrease of $28,205. One position requested and not recommended. $30,000 removal of abandoned mobile homes one time in current year.
Cooperative Extension	Increase of $5,165. Furniture replacement, tractor and vehicle not recommended. Request to fund a position that was previously grant funded not recommended. Increase due to increase in salary/benefits from NCSU.
County Manager's Office	Increase of $127,290. Position requested by County Manager included.
Courts	Increase of $100.
Debt Service	Decrease of $271,080.
DSS	Increase of $749,863. Seven new positions requested; none recommended. Economic Services portion of department in the pay study cycle. Two new vehicles recommended. Increase in beneficiary program funds of $477,840. Will be evaluating any possible options with new funding sources for positions or programs.
Economic Development	Decrease of $225,844. Tax incentives included with decrease related to initial grants in current year. VEDIC funding not recommended by County Manager.
Elections	Increase of $59,665. Pay increase requested for Board of Elections not recommended.

	Two election cycles in the fiscal year.
EMS	Increase of $425,290. Four EMT Paramedics requested and recommended. Eight part-time EMT positions to be RIF. Two ambulances (one full and one remount) recommended. Department in pay study cycle.
Finance	Increase of $17,535. Increase relates to shift of bank charges to Finance from Tax with transfer of lockbox to First Citizens. Reclassification of Accounting Clerk to Accounting Specialist and additional 8 hours per week recommended.
Fire Marshal/ES	Decrease of $7,580. Parking lot expansion at storage building and forklift not recommended.
Garage	Increase of $4,535. Increase due to fuel cost estimates.
General Services	Increase of $18,380. One position requested and not recommended. Four vehicles requested and one recommended. Two additional mowers requested and not recommended.
General Services-Buildings	Increase of $53,122. Recommended $321,800 in roof repairs. New camera and AV system included for courthouse for $206,000. $150,000 for phase 2 of the HRC Building temperature control system renovations included.
Governing Board	Increase of $3,005. One position requested and not recommended. New computers for Board included.
Health Dept	Decrease of $39,790. One reclassification requested and recommended. A portion of the department is in the pay study cycle. Additional funds for pandemic issues will be used for testing, vaccines and other needs in communicable disease programs.
Human Resources	Increase of $86,305. New position approved in March 2021 included along with requested increase in 5 hours per week for Human Services Specialist. Small increase in clinic contract due to higher member numbers.
Information Technology	Decrease of $26,465. One position requested and recommended. Decrease from one time capital in current budget.
Legal	Same as current year.

	Based on historic spending and projected legal matters.
Library	Decrease of $2,760. One reclassification and seven seasonal positions recommended. One additional part time position not recommended. One vehicle recommended.
Mental Health	Decrease of $54,305. Funds held in reserve by Partners from Burke County will be used for continuation of services at current level.
Non-Departmental	Increase of $2,885. Recommended 2% COLA budgeted here. Decrease in retiree insurance estimate and estimated worker's comp claims.
Other Public Safety	Increase of $17,510. Small increase in NC Forestry contract and separation allowance payments.
Recreation	Increase $10,565. One vehicle included and crossing flashers for trail crossings at FFT. Not included: equipment and building for trail work.
Register of Deeds	Increase of $14,863. One position requested and recommended.
Senior Services	Decrease of $68,600. Current year Morganton Center includes funds to address drainage issues, replacement of carpet in several areas and repainting water damaged interior areas.
Sheriff	Decrease of $730,114. Five new positions requested and not recommended. Major requests recommended include VIPER radio replacements, and 8 requested patrol vehicle replacements. Requests not recommended include 24/7 outside legal service, 2 vehicles for Narcotic officers, 2 vehicles for other LEO, and body cameras for all officers. Decrease ties primarily to one-time new software in current year and reduction in vehicle replacements.
Sheriff-Jail	Increase of $430,075. Continuation of position approved temporarily in March 2021 requested and not recommended. Primary reasons for increase tie to salary increases approved in March 2021 and building/equipment service agreements. Requests not recommended include whole body scanner, metal detector and infrared camera/scanner, additional dual band radios, additional parking lot, fencing for staff parking, electronic medical records, and increased funds for outside bed rentals.

Soil and Water	Decrease of $20,915. Vehicle replacement in current year.
Tax – all areas	Increase of $458,270 overall. One position requested and recommended. Two vehicles requested and one included in recommendation. $720,000 requested for contracted appraisals and $350,000 recommended.
Transfers to other funds	Increase of $66,500.
Transportation	Increase of $15.
Veterans Services	Increase of $415.
WPCC	Increase of $946,875. Capital request of $1 million for new building included.
Sales Tax Funds for Schools	Increases of $1,351,000. Sales taxes estimated with increase.
911 Fund	Decrease of $221,479. One-time new software in current year.
Trail Projects Fund	Decrease of $13,500. No new County funding is requested or recommended next year due to multiple projects still in process of completion.
Water/Sewer Fund	Decrease of $164,210. One position requested and not recommended. Funding for one vehicle replacement, general maintenance and repairs along with necessary debt service included.
Solid Waste Fund	Increase of $139,744. One full-time position requested and recommendation to reclassify a part-time to full-time included. One roll off truck requested and recommended.

Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director, regarding revenues, said the estimates are up in property taxes which somewhat relates to all the additional building and permits in the past year. She said sales taxes are budgeted with approximately three (3) percent growth while being conservative because in the past year people have been spending their stimulus funds / additional unemployment benefits. Ms. Pierce said the other revenues will be level with some increases such as DSS revenues coming back from the state. The DSS beneficiary program funds were also discussed. Ms. Pierce responded to a question from Commissioner Carswell regard the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds noting that they need to wait until the final rules / regulations are released. She noted that if something is budgeted and it is later discovered it can technically be funded with ARP funds, it will not be eligible because that is considered supplanting. She said some requests like the automatic pulse takers /

additional ventilators for EMS, are allowable under the interim guidance, so they will be purchased, just not with County funds. Commissioner Carswell asked when do the ARP funds have to be spent. Ms. Pierce said by December 31, 2026, and it has to be planned and committed by December 31, 2024, discussion continued on the ARP funding. Commissioner Carswell requested a list of the potential ARP items omitted from the budget, which included DSS positions and EMS's automatic pulse takers / ventilators. Ms. Pierce responded to a question from Vice Chairman Mulwee regarding fuel. Regarding the Health Department, Ms. Pierce said the Health Director informed her that they were awarded $915 for the breastfeeding program, and she requested it be included in the budget; however, the recommended budget was already published, so it will be reflected in the final budget. Regarding the Sheriff's Office, Vice Chairman Mulwee asked how much do the body cameras cost. Ms. Pierce said approximately $954,000 and that does not include the annual storage fee which can run between $60,000 - $70,000 a year. Commissioner Carswell asked how many body cameras can be purchased for $954,000. Ms. Pierce said that would pay for body cameras for 100 officers. Ms. Pierce said the budget includes the use of $1,540,190 of General Fund, Fund Balance for the tax appraisal contract ($350,000), the trades building for WPCC ($1,000,000) and other projects / programs ($190,000). The tax contract and the new building are one-time expenses. However, the Fund Balance number, Ms. Pierce said, will increase because of the additional $40,000 that was added during today's meeting. Vice Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. Regarding the Parks and Recreation budget, Commissioner Carswell asked what the caution lights are for. Ms. Pierce said they are rapid flashing beacons for three (3) trail highway crossings, discussion ensued. Vice Chairman Mulwee said he would have liked to have seen the building and fence included in the budget and noted they cost the same as the caution lights which were a lower priority request that was funded. He expressed support for both requests. Commissioner Taylor asked what is the average daily membership (ADM) of the schools and what is the budget given to BCPS by the state. Ms. Pierce said they will not know their ADM until the third month of school, and they have been told to project the same budget as the current year at this time. Commissioner Taylor asked why the salaries in the County Manager's Department has increased. County Manager Steen said that will be for an Assistant County Manager position, noting the recent change with the Deputy County Manager/Planning Director position and the likely difficulty in filling the position. He said in 17-19 months, he will be retiring, and this person will need to assist with ARP funds / major projects and potentially act as interim County Manager until a replacement is found. Staff responded to additional questions from Commissioner Taylor concerning banking fees / banking services, and the new position requested for the Governing Board. Ms. Pierce said they believe significant water / sewer projects can be done using ARP funds and she responded to questions from Commissioner Carswell regarding sales taxes.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

FINANCE - FY 21-22 PROPOSED FEE CHANGES

Ms. Pierce reviewed the following fee changes that are recommended in the FY 21-22 budget:

- Animal Services:

	Current	Proposed
General Board Fee	$10 / day	$10 / night
Isolation Cell Board	$15 / day	$15 / night
Capture Fee	$10	$0
Animal Bite Pick Up	$20	Bite Quarantine Pick Up Fee - $20/pet

Owner Surrender (Single Pet)	$10	Owner Surrender Fee Per Pet - $10/pet
Owner Surrender (Multiple Pets)	$25	Owner Surrender Fee Per Pet - $10/pet
Chemical Capture Fee	$75	$0
Working Cat Adoption Fee	n/a	$10

- Building Inspection:

	Current	Proposed
Plan Review Fee	$65-$650	$100

- Planning/Zoning:

	Current	Proposed
Conditional Rezoning Application	$650	$0
Special Use Permit Application (formerly "Conditional Use")	$425	$450
Zoning Variance Request	$425	$450
Interpretation of Use District Map	$425	$450
Zoning Appeal	$425	$450
Minor Subdivision Review	$75	$100
Subdivision Appeal	$425	$450
Subdivision Variance Request	$425	$450
Floodplain Development Permit	$50	$100
Floodplain Ordinance Appeal	$425	$450
Short Term Rental Permit	n/a	$100

- Solid Waste:

	Current	Proposed
Residential Dwelling Fee - Reg. Rate	$72 per year	$76 per year
Residential Dwelling Fee - Qualified Reduced Rate	$36 per year	$38 per year
Boiler Fuel	$10.95 per ton	$11.75 per ton
Brush	31.70 per ton	$34.00 per ton
Commercial/Industrial	$68.80 per ton	$73.00 per ton
Construction/Demolition	$37.15 per ton	$40.00 per ton
Pallets	$40.40 per ton	$43.00 per ton
Roofing Material	$37.15 per ton	$40.00 per ton
Single Wide Mobile Homes	$546.00 each	$575.00 each
Double Wide Mobile Homes	$655.00 each	$700.00 each
Triple Wide Mobile Homes	$764.00 each	$825.00 each
Rims with Tires (up to 20")	$3.25 per rim	$3.50 per rim
Rims with Tires (Greater than 20")	$4.35 per rim	$5.00 per rim
Sale of Wooden Pallets	$1.10 each	$1.25 each
Weigh Truck Only	$8.75 each	$10.00 each
Wood Compost - Small Pickup	$10.00 per load	$0
Wood Compost - Standard Pickup	$15.00 per load	$0
Wood Compost - Trailers & Large Trucks	$25.00 per scoop	$0

- Water:

	Current	Proposed
Basic Monthly Service	$24.00	$25.00
Consumption Rate - 1 to 4,000 gallons	$4.40/ 1,000 gals	$4.65/1,000 gallons
Consumption Rate - Greater than 4,000 gallons	$5.50/ 1,000 gals	$5.80/1,000 gallons
Account Deposit (formerly "Residential Deposit")	$75.00	$150.00
Confirm Reading	$50	$0
Late Fee	$10.00	$10.00 or 10% of the outstanding balance, whichever is greater

- Sewer:

	Current	Proposed
Basic Monthly Service	$24.00	$25.00
Consumption Rate	$5.50/ 1,000 gals	$5.85/1,000 gallons
Account Deposit (formerly "Residential Deposit")	$75.00	$150.00
Late Fee	$10.00 or 5%	$10.00 or 10% of the outstanding balance, whichever is greater

- EMS:

Proposed: All rates will be 135% of Medicare rates.

Vice Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. Commissioner Taylor questioned the proposed EMS rate change and said he gets more complaints of the high cost of ambulance trips than anything else in his part of the County. Ms. Pierce said when looking at the fees, they realized some of the fees were lower/higher than Medicare rates, so this is an effort to bring the fees in line, discussion ensued. Vice Chairman Mulwee asked if the new budgeted ambulances have the lift stretchers. Ms. Pierce said yes, and noted they are transferable and can be taken from an old ambulance and installed in the new vehicles.

RESULT:	**NO ACTION TAKEN.**

HR - PAY AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY - CYCLE 2 YEAR 2

Rhonda Lee, HR Director, reported for the annual Pay and Classification Study (Cycle 2, Year 2) they contracted with the same firm as last time, Piedmont Triad Regional Council, and cost was $6,500. The following occupational job classifications for 285 employees were reviewed for the FY 2021-2022 budget:

Administrative Support Occupations (Includes Register of Deeds & Cooperative Ext.)
DSS - Economic Program Occupations / Legal
Health Program Occupations
Emergency Medical Services Occupations
Deputy Fire Marshal and Fire Inspector Occupations

Budgetary Effect: Approximately $507,000 in salaries. Funds are included in the FY 21-22 recommended budget.

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Burke County FY 2021-2022 Recommended Pay Plan Adjustments			
Position Title	**Current Grade**	**Proposed Grade**	**Proposed % Increase**
EMT Basic	A	A	10%
EMT Intermediate	B	B	10%
EMT Paramedic	C	C	10%
Sergeant/Shift Trainer	D	D	10%
Lieutenant/Assistant Shift Supervisor	E	E	10%
Captain/Shift Supervisor	F	F	15%
Major/Training Officer	G	G	15%
911 Senior Administrative Assistant	20	20	0%
Administrative Assistant I	17	17	0%
Administrative Assistant II	19	19	0%
Administrative Assistant III	21	21	0%
Administrative Officer II	24	24	0%
Administrative Specialist	15	15	0%
Administrative Specialist Supervisor	16	17	5%
Administrative Technician	18	19	5%
Assistant Register of Deeds	18	19	5%
Attorney I	32	32	0%
Community Employment Case Manager	19	20	5%
Deputy Fire Marshal	20	23	15%
Deputy Register of Deeds	15	15	0%
Environmental Health Program Coordinator	24	24	0%
Environmental Health Specialist	22	22	0%
Environmental Health Supervisor II	28	28	0%
Environmental Health Supervisor III	30	30	0%
Fire Inspector	19	22	15%
Foreign Language Interpreter II	16	17	5%
Income Maintenance Administrator I	26	27	5%
Income Maintenance Caseworker I	15	16	5%
Income Maintenance Caseworker II	17	18	5%
Income Maintenance Caseworker III	19	20	5%
Income Maintenance Investigator II	19	20	5%
Income Maintenance Supervisor II	21	22	5%
Income Maintenance Supervisor III	23	24	5%
Medical Lab Technician II	18	19	5%
Medical Lab Technologist I	22	23	5%
Nutritionist I	18	19	5%
Nutritionist II	21	22	5%
Nutritionist III	23	24	5%
Office Assistant	13	13	0%
Office Assistant IV	15	15	0%
Paralegal I	23	23	0%
Processing Assistant III	12	13	5%
Processing Assistant IV	14	15	5%
Processing Assistant V	16	17	5%
Program Assistant IV	14	15	5%
Program Assistant V	16	17	5%
Public Health Education Specialist	20	21	5%
Public Health Educator I	18	19	5%
Public Health Educator II	22	23	5%
Public Health Educator III	26	27	5%
Senior Administrative Assistant	20	20	0%
Senior Administrative Specialist	16	16	0%
Vehicle Operator/Transport	13	13	0%

Vice Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions and comments from the Board. Vice Chairman Mulwee asked, regarding the DSS positions, if the County is reimbursed approximately 80 percent of some of the salary costs by the state, would that mean that while the pay plan recommends a five (5) percent increase, the County is only actually paying approximately one (1) percent from non-reimbursable County dollars. Ms. Pierce responded in the affirmative, discussion ensued. In response to a question from Commissioner Taylor, Ms. Lee said the each pay grade increase represents a five (5) percent pay increase.

RESULT:	**NO ACTION TAKEN.**

RECESSED AT 4:24 P.M.
Motion: To recess until May 27, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Johnnie W. Carswell and Maynard M. Taylor
ABSENT:	Jeffrey C. Brittain

Approved this 15th day of June 2021.

Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board