

**MINUTES
BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Burke County Services Building, 110 N. Green Street, Entrance E, in Morganton, N.C. The agenda, in its entirety, was posted to the County's website, www.burkenc.org, several days prior to the meeting as usual. Both Burke County and the state of North Carolina had previously declared a state of emergency which was ongoing as of this date due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Those present were:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Wayne F. Abele, Sr.
Jeffrey C. Brittain
Maynard M. Taylor

STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Steen, County Manager
Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director
J.R. Simpson, II, County Attorney
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mulwee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Jeff Lovitt, Morganton Church of Christ, delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

J.R. Simpson, II, County Attorney, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda with the removal of Scheduled Public Hearing No. 1, ZMA 2022-04. The applicant withdrew the rezoning request.

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

Commissioner Taylor questioned a noted revision to Consent Item No. 3, BDI - Authorization Request - OneNC for Unix Packaging. County Manager Steen advised that the approval of a "form" is requested instead of a "letter".

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 4, 2022 (Regular, Budget / Planning Retreat - Day 2) and the February 15, 2022 (Regular) meetings as written.

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

PRESENTATIONS

BOC - PRESENTATION ON BRIGHTER HOUSE

Sherri and Eddie McGimsey, cofounders of the Brighter House, presented information on a new planned mental health clubhouse called "Brighter House" and responded to questions from the Board.

Co-Founders, Sherri and Eddie McGimsey became interested in creating a facility that would help people living with a serious mental illness when their son a USMC veteran was diagnosed with schizoaffective brain disease shortly after completing his service to his country.

The McGimsey's formed a volunteer Board of Directors, a 501(c)(3) corporation Burke Psychosocial Services, Inc. dba Brighter House (EIN 85-1071504) and began to advocate for a community-based peer support program that would dramatically change the lives of people living with a mental illness. They found just what they wanted in the Fountain Clubhouse Model, a place that provided hope, respect and dignity; a place where participants, called members, could practice work and then become employed in the community when they were ready.

Our Mission Statement: "Brighter House is a nonprofit created to improve health, increase opportunity, and end social and economic isolation of people with serious mental illness".

The Brighter House Clubhouse will be organized to support people living with mental illness. Brighter House will strive to become an accredited clubhouse meeting all the required standards. During the course of their participation, members gain access to opportunities to rejoin the worlds of friendships, family, employment and education, and to the services and support they may individually need. Like other Clubhouses across the world, Brighter House provides living proof that people with mental illness can lead productive and satisfying lives. It offers members:

- A working environment where the talents and abilities of members are recognized and encouraged
- Opportunities to obtain paid employment in mainstream industries and businesses
- Assistance in accessing educational resources and other community-support resources
- Assistance in securing and sustaining safe, decent and affordable housing
- Participation in consensus-based decision making for all matters related to the running of the Clubhouse
- Evening/weekend/holiday social and recreational events

Clubhouse "members" are people who want to:

- Join a community
- Make friends
- Work with others
- Stay active
- Get back to work
- Go back to school
- Receive support towards achieving their goals
- Learn how to access needed resources
- Increase their independence
- Have a "home base" in case of a relapse to get back on their feet

The model works!

Outcomes from Clubhouse participation include (data available):

- Employment, with longer on-the-job tenure for members engaging in Clubhouse transitional employment
- Cost effectiveness, compared to other mental healthcare approaches
- Decreased hospitalizations, as a result of membership in a Clubhouse program
- Reduced incarcerations, with criminal justice system involvement substantially diminished during and after Clubhouse program membership
- Improved well-being, with studies showing Clubhouse members significantly more likely to report that they have close and supportive friendships

It has taken nearly two years and endless hours of advocacy; meetings with service providers, visits to several Clubhouses from the original Fountain House in New York City to the Gateway Center in South Carolina, Sherri became an active member of NAMI serving on the policy board, board member of National Shattering Silence Coalition, contacted national state and local elected officials, to name a few. The McGimsey's seeing members' lives transform from one of isolation, hopelessness and despair to a life filled with love, friendship, happiness and employment makes their heart sing.

The McGimsey's are wasting no time in putting in place the next steps when in May they secured a location at 214 Avery Ave Morganton, NC 28655. Brighter House has been in contact with Jack Yatsko of Clubhouse International and joined the North Carolina Coalition of Clubhouses receiving numerous offers of help and support. Local support of our efforts includes but are limited to; A Caring Alternative Melaina Rhoney, WorkSource West/Vocational Rehabilitation Sasha Prebor, Burke County Health Director Danny Scalise, NC Representative Hugh Blackwell, Rotary Clubs of Morganton, Dr Burnette and Dr. Martin at Broughton Hospital, The CARE Foundation of Western North Carolina formerly the Broughton Hospital Foundation, NAMI South Mountain, UNC Blue Ridge CEO Kathy Bailey, Kim James with BSAN (Burke Recovery) and many individuals. Presentations are planned to the Burke County Commissioners in July and the City of Morganton Town Council (TBA).

Community Foundation of Burke County has kept the wind in our sails while warning it would take time, we always received positive reinforcement and encouragement. We have funding established with them as well as donations directly through our website <https://brighterhouse.org> .

Current needs: develop a strategic/funding plan, hiring search for director and staff, accreditation training with (ICCD) International Center for Clubhouse Development, seed money to assist with startup cost notifying potential members and developing referral agencies and more.

From those humble beginnings, our goal is to help people living with a mental illness. Where members began to realize their potential and regain their self-confidence. Many will become employed while others return to school. All members will find a place where they are wanted, needed and valued.



214 Avery Avenue, Morganton

Chairman Mulwee highlighted several program statistics of the clubhouse model which has been in existence for about 70 years including a reduction in homelessness, a reduced recidivism rate among members with a history of incarceration and a reduction in crisis hospitalization and Medicaid costs associated with treatment. In closing, he thanked the McGimseys for their hard work and passion.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

GS - RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES RECEIVING CERTIFICATIONS

Mark Delehant, General Services Director, recognized Beryl Cook, Water & Sewer Supervisor and Brian Tart, Assistant Director of General Services, for becoming certified "Grade B Water Distribution Operators" which allows them to serve as ORC (Operator in Responsible Charge) for Burke County's water systems.



On behalf of the Board, Chairman Mulwee congratulated Mr. Cook and Mr. Tart.

A commemorative photo was taken.

Mr. Cook (left) and Mr. Tart (right).

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMM. DEV. - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT ZMA 2022-04 & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 P.M.

ZMA 2022-04 was removed from the agenda at the request of the applicant.

CM - ORD. AMENDING THE FY 22-23 BUDGET ORDINANCE & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 PM

County Manager Steen advised that greater flexibility in the budget ordinance is needed to reduce fees in order to adopt as many healthy pets as possible from the county animal shelter and prevent euthanasias. He asked that the proposed ordinance be adopted and responded to questions from the Board about the shelter's capacity and operation as a managed intake basis.

Information from the agenda packet:

In 2020, the Board adopted the following resolution authorizing the County Manager to reduce or waive fees as needed when the shelter is at or near capacity, for "clear the shelter" and other local and national adoption events, to prevent the spread of illness and/or disease to healthy animals at the shelter and for any other reason deemed reasonably necessary by the County Manager and the Animal Services Director. The flexibility granted by this resolution has been instrumental in clearing the shelter during peak breeding seasons, when capacity issues arise due to increased owner surrenders, when large numbers of abused or neglected pets are seized, when the shelter floors are re-epoxied and when an outbreak of disease occurs.

As requested by the County Manager, the proposed ordinance removes the following provision from Section VIII, Managerial Authority, of the budget ordinance adopted on June 21st: *"To approve requests from departments for temporary fee decreases during the budget year for not more than one 90-day period per fiscal year and notify the Deputy County Manager/Finance Director of said reductions"*.

A public hearing is recommended since one was held when the original budget ordinance was adopted.

At about 6:33 p.m., Chairman Mulwee opened the public hearing. The public hearing notice was published in The News Herald on July 7, 2022, and it was posted on the County's website, www.burkenc.org, on that same day. There was no one present to address the Board; therefore, Chairman Mulwee closed the public hearing.

Motion: To adopt Ord. No. 2022-04 as presented.

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

Ord. No. 2022-04 reads as follows:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 22-23 BUDGET ORDINANCE
ADOPTED JUNE 21, 2022**

WHEREAS, the Burke County Board of Commissioners adopted its annual budget ordinance on June 21, 2022 after holding a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Section VIII, Managerial Authority, of Ordinance No. 2022-03 contains a provision which permits the County Manager to approve requests from departments for temporary fee decreases during the budget year for not more than one 90-day period per fiscal year and to notify the Deputy County Manager/Finance Director of said reductions; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2020 the Burke County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 2020-04 authorizing the County Manager to waive or reduce certain fees for the Animal Services Department when the county animal shelter is at or near capacity, for "clear the shelter" and other local or national adoption events, to prevent the spread of illness and/or disease to healthy animals at the shelter or for any other reason deemed necessary by the County Manager and the Animal Services Director; and

WHEREAS, the restrictive nature of the language contained in the adopted budget ordinance negatively impacts Animal Services' ability to reduce fees quickly, when needed, for local or national adoption events, to empty the shelter for building maintenance or to prevent the spread of illness and/or disease to healthy shelter pets; and

WHEREAS, unlike other county departments, the shelter's intake numbers fluctuate drastically from day to day depending on the breeding season, the number of active bite cases, the

number of animals seized as evidence for abuse or neglect cases, the number of stray animals confiscated and the number of owner-surrendered pets accepted, greater flexibility and expediency in reducing/waiving the adoption fees is vital to maintaining the County's low euthanasia rate and complying with state regulations; and

WHEREAS, only one (1) fee reduction per fiscal year for a period of 90 days is allowed according to the existing language in the adopted budget ordinance and while the intent of the provision may be beneficial for other county departments, it is simply too rigid to be any benefit to Animal Services; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager and the Animal Services Director have utilized the fee reduction authority set forth in Resolution No. 2020-04 on several occasions during the past two (2) years to clear the shelter and the process has worked well.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Burke County Board of Commissioners do hereby remove the following provision from Section VIII, Managerial Authority, from the FY 22-23 Budget Ordinance (No. 2022-03): ~~To approve requests from departments for temporary fee decreases during the budget year for not more than one 90-day period per fiscal year and notify the Deputy County Manager / Finance Director of said reductions.~~

The balance of the adopted budget ordinance remains in full force and effect.

Adopted the 19th day of July 2022.

/s/: Scott Mulwee
Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:

/s/: Kay Honeycutt Draughn
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

At about 6:34 p.m., Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for Informal Public Comments and asked speakers to keep their comments to about three minutes.

Carla Kincaid of Oak Hill spoke about the number of Confederate Monuments located in front of civic buildings in North Carolina as well as the oversized Confederate flags flying near Interstate 40 on either ends of the county line. She advocated for more unity in the county and for the Commissioners to take other people's feelings into consideration.

Clerk Draughn announced that there were no other speakers that had preregistered to speak. A member of the audience announced that he had registered, but the Clerk did not have any record of it. The Chairman invited him to speak after registering with the Clerk. Commissioner Taylor asked for a point of order and advised that citizens are required to register before the meeting begins. Chairman Mulwee ruled that Commissioner Taylor's point of order was not well taken. For clarity, County Attorney Simpson advised that the Chairman could let unregistered citizens speak.

Charles Gruggs, a resident of Burke County, asked the Board to have sympathy, empathy and compassion for how other people feel about the Confederate Monument. Now that Morganton's renovation of the historic courthouse square is complete, the statue is more visible, and its presence conveys support for oppression along with the Confederate flags flying on the eastern and western ends of the county. Those symbols convey unwelcomeness and supports oppression. He said people of color want the statute removed so they can feel welcome in their hometown and asked to have the statute moved to a more appropriate location like a museum.

Bruce Hawkins, Sr., a former County Commissioner and resident of Burke County, addressed the removal or relocation of the Confederate Monument. He said it is racist, intimidating and a constant reminder of the brutality, hardships and suffering that his ancestors endured. Because citizens are the County's greatest asset, he encouraged the Board to take a stand and do all that can be done to project Burke County as a progressive county, to remove all racist symbols and create a welcoming community for all.

Rev. Chad Connelly, a resident of Burke County, stated regarding the Confederate Monument on the historic courthouse square, that it is hard to please everyone and as a soldier, he fought for freedom and understands sacrifice. However, it is time to figure out a compromise that will appease both sides of the issue. He also addressed the Confederate flags flying at both ends of the county and stated that these flags are not flown anywhere else in the region. He also provided each elected official with a complimentary book.

There was no one else present to address the Board; therefore, Chairman Mulwee closed this portion of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the request of Chairman Mulwee, County Manager Steen reviewed the items on the consent agenda.

AAA (WPCOG AREA AGENCY ON AGING) - HOME & COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT FY 22-23

Each year Burke County receives funds through the Home and Community Care Block Grant ("HCCBG") program for the provision of services to the County's older adults. The Burke County Council on Aging, working with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners as to the use of these funds. The recommendations of the Burke County Council on Aging, serving as the HCCBG advisory committee, are listed below. There are no changes in services or providers for FY 22-23.

HCCBG ALLOCATIONS - SFY 2023

BURKE COUNTY

SERVICE	PROVIDER	STATE/FEDERAL FUNDS	LOCAL MATCH	TOTAL BUDGET	INCREASE
Adult Day Care	Blue Ridge Community Action	\$95,400	\$10,600	\$106,000	\$7,000
Med. Transportation	Handi-Care, Inc.	\$49,729	\$5,525	\$55,254	\$3,723
Congregate Meals	Burke County Senior Services	\$7,957	\$884	\$8,841	
Home Del. Meals	Burke County Senior Services	\$124,453	\$13,828	\$138,281	
Sr. Center Operations	Burke County Senior Services	\$49,037	\$5,449	\$54,486	
Housing & Home Imp.	Foothills Service Project, Inc.	\$117,000	\$13,000	\$130,000	\$5,000
In-Home Aide, Level II	Catawba Valley Medical Services	\$41,400	\$4,600	\$46,000	\$400
In-Home Aide, Level III	Catawba Valley Medical Services	\$164,700	\$18,300	\$183,000	\$600
General Transportation	Greenway	\$10,800	\$1,200	\$12,000	\$2,000
TOTAL		FY23 \$660,476	\$73,386	\$733,862	\$18,723

Budget approved by Burke Council on Aging 4/20/2022 with \$18723 increase

Budgetary Effect: Grant requires 10% local match which is the responsibility of the provider organization. The \$660,476 allocation includes an increase of \$56,977 in State/Federal funds from the initial SFY 21-22 allocation.

Motion: To approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) funding allocations as recommended by the Burke County Council on Aging and approve the HCCBG agreement between Burke County and the Western Piedmont Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging for FY 22-23, subject to review and/or revision by the County Attorney. Further, authorize the Chairman to execute the aforementioned documents.

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

ARP - FOOTHILLS HIGHER EDUCATION HVAC REPLACEMENTS

On October 19, 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved several projects using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. One of the projects is the replacement of 11 rooftop units (RTU) at the Foothills Higher Education Center. The replacement of several older units will improve the air quality at the Higher Education Center.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued on May 20, 2022, and was posted on the County and North Carolina Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) websites. Bids were received from two vendors with Triangle Contractors of Morganton being the most responsive and responsible bidder.

The initial estimate for the cost of the project, based on information provided by Burke County General Services was \$250,000. However, due to changing market conditions and ongoing inflation, the project is estimated at \$382,500. While this is significantly over the initial cost estimate, there are funds available within the approved ARP HVAC projects to cover the additional costs. There are two ARP HVAC approved projects, replacement of the Sheriff's Office boiler and the Courthouse chiller replacement, that may be covered by alternative funding sources.

Budgetary Effect: Funding is available using already approved American Rescue Plan funds, no funds from the General Fund will be used.

Motion: Authorize the County Manager to execute a contract with Triangle Contractors in the amount of \$382,500 for the replacement of 11 rooftop units (RTU) at the Foothills Higher Education Center.

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

BDI - AUTHORIZATION REQUEST - ONENC FOR UNIX PACKAGING

BDI seeks support on behalf of Unix Packaging. Authorization is requested for the County Manager to execute the North Carolina Department of Commerce One NC Later Match form (exhibit A) for the release of funds on behalf of the company. Unix Packaging has increased

their tax base in Burke County meeting eligibility for the One NC funds.

Motion: To authorize the County Manager to execute the NC Department of Commerce One NC Later Match form requesting release of funds to Unix Packaging.

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

BDI - IDF SEWER PROJECT - BURKE BUSINESS PARK

Burke County would like to submit an application for a North Carolina Department of Commerce Industrial Development Fund (IDF) grant with a request of \$503,330. The county would be the applicant with BDI serving as a partner to administer the grant. This request would require a 25% match or \$125,833.

This funding would extend sewer to the graded pads throughout the business park. This would include pads for Project It's About Time and future development on any remaining pads. A pre-application was submitted in May, and we were chosen to submit a full application.

Budgetary Effect: The IDF Grant request is for \$503,330. This request would require a 25% match or \$125,833. This grant would be handled in the same manner as the water tank. The match would be recovered when a new project starts paying property taxes before any other partners distribution.

Motion: To approve the submission of the NC Department of Commerce Industrial Development Fund (IDF) Grant application for sewer expansion at the Burke Business Park.

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

CLERK - APPOINTMENT TO THE CPCFPT

Seat No. 5 (at-large, No. 2) on the Child Protection Child Fatality Prevention Team is vacant. The appointment of Chris Norman for the remainder of a 3-year term ending April 30, 2025, is requested.

Motion: To appoint Chris Norman to Seat No. 5 (At-large No. 2) to the Child Protection Child Fatality Prevention Team to complete the remainder of a 3-year term ending April 30, 2025.

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

CLERK - APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

This is a request to reappoint Mo Beam to Seat No. 10, (Oak Hill) on the Parks and Recreation Commission to complete the remainder of a term ending March 31, 2025.

Motion: To reappoint Maurice (Mo) Beam to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Seat No. 10, Oak Hill, to complete the remainder of a 3-year term ending March 31, 2025.

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

CLERK - REMOVAL FROM AND APPOINTMENT TO THE REGIONAL AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Jerry Propst has served the maximum number of terms allowed on the Regional Aging Advisory Committee and although his six (6) consecutive years of service is very commendable, his removal is requested for compliance.

Rosie O'Hearn has applied to fill the vacancy created with Mr. Propst's removal from Seat No. 3. The term is for two (2) years ending June 30, 2024. The County appoints four (4) members to this committee.

3		Jerry Propst	A		10/18/2016
			R		9/18/2018
			R		8/18/2020
			TE		6/30/2022

Motion: To remove Jerry Propst's name from the roster for the Regional Aging Advisory Committee and thank him for his service to the community. To appoint Rosie O'Hearn to the Regional Aging Advisory Committee, Seat No. 3, to complete the remainder of the 2-year term ending June 30, 2024.

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

CLERK - RESOLUTION UPDATING PLAT REVIEW OFFICER FOR TOWN OF HILDEBRAN

The resolution shown below updates the plat review officer for the Town of Hildebran.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-09.

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

Res. No. 2022-09 was recorded at the Reg. of Deeds and reads as follows:

**BURKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

RESOLUTION UPDATING PLAT REVIEW OFFICERS

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Statutes (GS 47-30.2) requires the board of commissioners in each county, by resolution, to appoint persons to serve as Plat Review Officers to review each plat before it is presented to the register of deeds for recording and certify that it meets the statutory requirements for recording; and

WHEREAS, Todd Justice is listed as the current plat review officer for the Town of Hildebran; and

WHEREAS, the Town has formally requested that Mr. Justice be removed from the list of Plat Review Officers and that the Town Administrator, Logan Shook, be added to the list of plat review officers for the Town of Hildebran.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke County Board of Commissioners appoint Logan Shook, Hildebran Town Administrator, as the Plat Review Officer for the Town of Hildebran.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution designating the Plat Review Officer be recorded in the Burke County Register of Deeds Office and indexed in the name of the Review Officers.

Adopted this 19th day of July 2022.

/s/ Scott Mulwee
Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:

/s/ Kay Honeycutt Draughn
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR JUNE 2022

The Board of Commissioners is presented with the Tax Collection Report for the period between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022. This reflects the status of collections by the Burke County Tax Collection's Staff. This information is a supplement to the Annual Settlement Report.

Category	Annual Budget	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$45,000,000.00	\$45,547,027.25	101.22%	(\$547,027.25)
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$5,200,000.00	\$5,169,170.21	99.41%	\$30,829.79
Current Year Taxes	\$50,200,000.00	\$50,716,197.46	101.03%	(\$516,197.46)
Delinquent Taxes	\$700,000.00	\$740,966.33	105.85%	(\$40,965.33)
Late List Penalty	\$315,000.00	\$393,025.63	124.77%	(\$78,025.63)

The Tax Levy is the total property tax value not including motor vehicles times the tax rate. This amount changes monthly with the addition of discoveries, other changes, or corrections, and when Public Utility Values are added, typically during September.

Category	Tax Levy	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$46,298,001.00	\$45,547,027.25	98.38%	\$750,973.41

Motion: To accept the Tax Collection Report for June 2022 as presented.

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

TAX DEPT. - RELEASE REFUND REPORT FOR JUNE 2022

Releases in value and/or refunds of taxes typically occur when:

- ☐ Taxpayers submit information that creates a reduction in value.
- ☐ Situs is corrected between counties and/or municipalities.
- ☐ Valuation appeals reduce the value for real or personal property.
- ☐ The postmark reveals a payment was timely sent.

The Board of Commissioners is presented with the following list of releases and refunds for consideration. The Net Release is a result of the Report Amount minus the Rebilled Amount.

Tax System Refunds and Releases				
	Report Amount	Rebilled Amount	Net Release	Refund Amount
Releases (TR-304)	\$308.27	0.00	\$308.27	0.00

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	228.86

*Note: The net loss amount is a result of the report amount minus the rebilled amount.

Motion: To approve the Tax Releases and Refunds for June 2022 as presented

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

The Tax reports reads as follows:

Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Amended Listing							
0024008057-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	MINYARD, JAMES A	7/1/2020	LINDA WILBUR	6/27/2022	78.89	78.89	0.00
Subtotal						78.89	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Business Closed							
0000124599-2011-2011-0000-01-REG	JAVA PLANET	7/1/2011	LINDA WILBUR	6/17/2022	86.09	86.09	0.00
0000141275-2012-2012-0000-01-REG	JAVA PLANET	7/1/2012	LINDA WILBUR	6/17/2022	143.29	143.29	0.00
Subtotal						229.38	
Total						308.27	

Payee Name	Address 1	Address 3	Refund Type	Transaction #	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change			
SOUTHMOUNTAIN CHILDREN FAMILY SERVICES INC	PO BOX 3387	MORGANTON, NC 28680	Adjustment >= \$100	166933920	Refund Generated due to adjustment on Bill #0064996374-2021-2021-0000-00	Exempt Property	01	Tax	(\$195.16)	\$0.00	(\$195.16)			
							41	Tax	(\$33.70)	\$0.00	(\$33.70)			
													Refund	\$228.86
													Refund Total	\$228.86

ITEMS FOR DECISION

CM - RFQ FOR ARCHITECTURAL / ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR EMS BASE 1

County Manager Steen reported qualifications for architectural / engineering design services for EMS Base 1 were due on July 18, 2022. Five submittals were received and reviewed by a group of five county personnel including himself. Mosely Architects received the highest score.

Burke County RFQ: Burke County EMS Station Replacement

		Qualifications of the Firm/Team	Relevant Project Experience	Project Understanding and Proposed Approach	Turnkey Service		
		Preference shall be given to those firms/teams and personnel with experience with similar projects	Preference shall be given to project team personnel (especially the Project Manager) who demonstrate prior experience managing projects of similar scope.	Preference shall be given to those firms which in the opinion of Burke County will be most able to effectively and efficiently complete all requirements as specified in the RFQ and through their proposal show an understanding of the Scope of Work.	Firm's ability to provide turnkey, comprehensive solutions		
		RATING	(0-150)	(0-150)	(0-100)	(0-100)	(0-500)
	FIRM NAME	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	OVERALL RATING	RANK
A	Mosely Architects	139.00	137.00	92.00	88.00	456.00	1
B	adw architects	136.00	130.00	89.00	90.00	445.00	2
C	Adams & Associates	90.00	79.00	73.00	72.00	314.00	4
D	CBSA Architects	92.00	84.00	62.00	51.00	289.00	5
E	Stewart, Cooper, Newell	136.00	134.00	88.00	86.00	444.00	3

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for comments or questions from the Board. Mr. Steen responded to questions from Commissioner Taylor concerning the number of ambulances the county has and said the proposed facility should have one bay available for future expansion thereby meeting the current and future needs of the County.

Motion: To select Mosely Architects as the preferred architectural / engineering firm for the EMS Base 1 project and authorize the County Manager to negotiate a contract on behalf of the Board. Further, authorize the County Manager to negotiate a contract with the 2nd or 3rd recommended firm, if needed.

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

CLERK - APPOINTMENTS TO THE ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD

Clerk Draughn reported this is a request to reappoint the following members to the Animal Advisory Board for 2-year terms ending July 31, 2024:

Seat No. 1 (501-c-3 Rescue or Foster): Gwen Hood, A Better Life Animal Rescue

Seat No. 3 (Board of Health Member): Gwen Stephens
(Unanimously approved by the BOH at their June meeting.)

Seat No. 5 (Law Enforcement): Jeff Robinson

An appointment is needed for vacant Seat No. 7 (At-large Pet Owner). Applications and pet ownership documentation are on file for: Denise Smith, Morgan Bollinger, Jamie Allman and Jennifer Terry.

Further, she said at the pre-agenda meeting, Chairman Mulwee requested an appointment recommendation from the Animal Advisory Board for Seat No. 7 and Morgan Bollinger is the preferred candidate. She also responded to questions from Commissioner Taylor concerning the geographic representation of the advisory board members.

Motion: To reappoint Gwen Hood (Seat 1), Gwen Stephens (Seat 3) and Jeff Robinson (Seat 5) to the Animal Advisory Board for 2-year terms ending July 31, 2024.

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

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Taylor nominated Denise Smith and Vice Chairman Carswell nominated Morgan Bollinger. With there being no other nominations, the floor was closed.

Motion: To appoint Denise Smith to Seat No. 7, at-large pet owner, on the Animal Advisory Board for a 2-year term ending July 31, 2024.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Maynard M. Taylor, Commissioner
AYES:	Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Jeffrey C. Brittain and Maynard M. Taylor
NAYS:	Scott Mulwee and Johnnie W. Carswell

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

BOC - REPORTS & COMMENTS

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for reports and comments from Board members and staff. County Attorney Simpson reviewed the items he has worked on since the last meeting. Clerk Draughn and Vice President of the Animal Services Foundation, Inc., reported the transport van

was purchased yesterday and she expressed appreciation to the Commissioners, the Mull Foundation and private donors for working collaboratively to make the purchase a reality. She also announced the date, time and location of REASON's (Reduce Euthanasia and Spay or Neuter) annual meeting. County Manager Steen showed a recruitment video for the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Taylor reported on events and meetings that he had attended since the last meeting. Vice Chairman Carswell reminded Board members to contact the Clerk to register for the N.C. Association of County Commissioners' annual conference in August. He also stated his plans to make a presentation on behalf of the NCACC on the opioid litigation settlement in Denver, Colorado, and he thanked the DSS Director for his assistance in compiling the data. Chairman Mulwee provided several upcoming meeting dates, encouraged citizens to not litter and to cover their loads when hauling trash in addition to encouraging citizens to spay or neuter their pets and to adopt or foster a pet from Animal Services. He also extended birthday wishes to Commissioner Brittain and Vice Chairman Carswell.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLERK- BOARDS AND COMMITTEES VACANCY REPORT

Clerk Draughn announced the following opportunities for citizens to serve on county boards and committees. Chairman Mulwee encouraged citizen participation.

- Adult Care & Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee
- City of Morganton - Board of Adjustment (ETJ)
- City of Morganton - Planning Board (ETJ)
- Burke Senior Center Advisory Council
- Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team
- East Burke Senior Center Advisory Board
- Burke County Board of Adjustment
- Council on Aging
- Burke County Board of Health
- Partner's CFAC (Consumer and Family Advisory Committee)

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion: To go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential, to discuss threatened or pending litigation to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to discuss economic development matters, to discuss contractual matters (land acquisition) and to discuss personnel matters as authorized by NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3),(4),(5) and (6).

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner

AYES: Scott Mulwee, Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Jeffrey C. Brittain and Maynard M. Taylor

Motion: To come out of closed session.

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

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

CONDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT OFFER FOR A 911 DIRECTOR

Motion: To authorize the County Manager to make a conditional employment offer for the position of 911 director to a prospective candidate at 88% of the salary range.

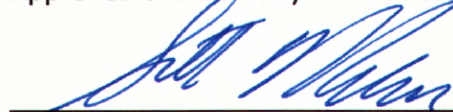
RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., and Jeffrey C. Brittain
NAYS:	Maynard M. Taylor

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 7:51 p.m.

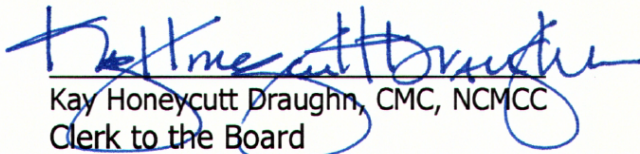
RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Jeffrey C. Brittain and Maynard M. Taylor

Approved this 20th day March 2023.



Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board