

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

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 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. 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

Pastor David Bridges, First Apostolic Church, delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda as amended with the addition of draft minutes for the March 16, 2022 (Recessed) meeting for approval.

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 1, 2022 (Pre-Agenda), March 15, 2022 (Regular) and the March 16, 2022 (Recessed) meetings as written.

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

PRESENTATIONS

AS - PET OF THE MONTH

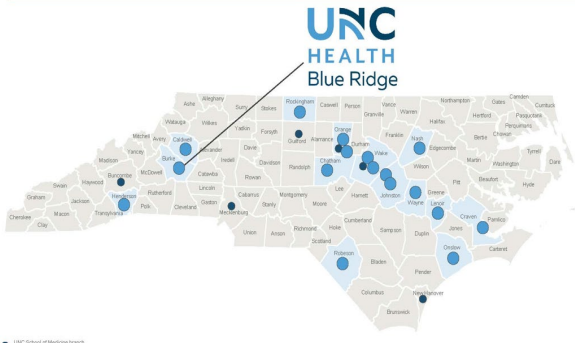
Kaitlin Settlemyre, Animal Services Director, presented Fiji (dog) who needs a “forever” home. Lynard, the cat of the month, was adopted prior to the meeting. She further reported the Department is operating in “triage mode”, closed for nonemergency owner surrenders, until August 23, 2022, due to the overwhelming number of animals at the shelter and to comply with state laws. In closing, she reported adoption prices are currently reduced to alleviate overcrowding. She also responded to questions from the Board.

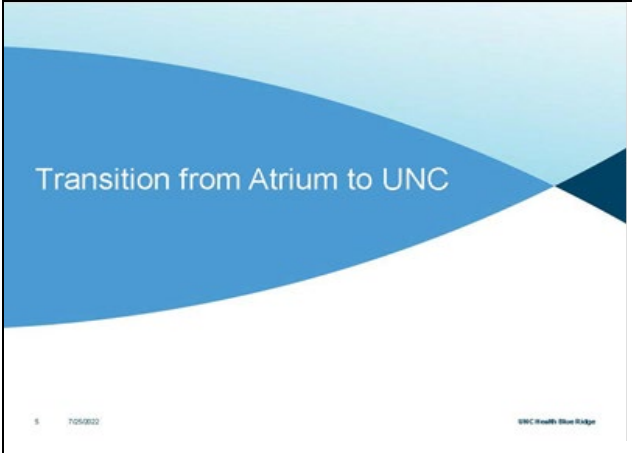
Chairman Mulwee encouraged citizens to adopt Fiji or any pet from Animal Services.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

UNC HBR - PRESENTATION ON PROJECT FORWARD

Kathy Bailey, President & CEO of UNC Health Blue Ridge, presented the following information on Project Forward:

UNC Health Blue Ridge Project Forward 	We serve North Carolina. Every day. 
Who is UNC Health Blue Ridge: Blue Ridge Healthcare Hospitals (2 campuses) *Grace Heights Health and Rehabilitation Center *College Pines Health and Rehabilitation Center Grace Ridge Retirement Center Phifer Wellness Center Blue Ridge Radiology ASC – Carolina Digestive Care 45+ Physician Practice Locations in 3 counties *operated by SanStone	UNC Health Blue Ridge – by the numbers • Two Hospitals Licensed for 315 beds • Long Term Care licensed for 285 beds (100, 120, 65) • Continuing Care Retirement Community with more than 225 residents • Employees of 2,000 • Medical Staff of 250+ Providers

 Transition from Atrium to UNC 5 7/25/2022 UNC Health Blue Ridge	Transition to UNC Health - Back Story Atrium relationship since 1999 • Management Agreement • Strong affiliation • Change in direction 6 7/25/2022 UNC Health Blue Ridge
Transition to UNC Health – Future Story UNC Health relationship since October 2021 • Management Agreement • Focus on NC • Focus on Community / Rural Healthcare • Mountain Region Hub 7 7/25/2022 UNC Health Blue Ridge	Beginnings of the Mountain Region Hub • Identification of current specialties and needed specialties • Implementation of Epic@UNC • Application to become a Level III Trauma Center - Helipad on roof - Recruitment of a Trauma Surgeon • Expansion of Graduate Medical Education - Affiliation with Campbell University School of Medicine (in process) - Expansion of residency / fellowships 8 7/25/2022 UNC Health Blue Ridge
Valdese New Construction Project \$38.3M new Cancer Center • 2 new Linear Accelerators, • 18 Infusion Chairs • 6 Private Infusion Rooms • Multiple Exam Pods • Therapy and Group Space  Groundbreaking held May 18, 2022  UNC Health Blue Ridge	Morganton New Construction Projects  \$118M Capital Project New 6 story Patient Tower • 30 Bed ICU and PCU • Roof top helipad • 3 shell floors for future New Expanded Emergency Department  Groundbreaking held June 28, 2022 UNC Health Blue Ridge

Ms. Bailey also responded to questions from the Board. Several Board members expressed appreciation for all the hospital does for the community.

Motion: To accept the report 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

BURKE RECOVERY - PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPT. AS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH IN BURKE COUNTY

Kim James, Executive Director of Burke Recovery, presented substance abuse statistics in addition to requesting approval of a proclamation proclaiming September as National Recovery Month in Burke County. She also responded to questions or comments from the Board.

Motion: To approve Proclamation No. 2022-04.

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

Proclamation No. 2022-04 reads as follows:

BURKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2022 AS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH IN BURKE COUNTY

WHEREAS, behavioral health is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness, and

WHEREAS, according to PRIDE survey results, the average first age of use in Burke County is 12.5 - therefore prevention of mental and/or substance use disorder as well as treatment is effective and people recover in our area and around the nation, and

WHEREAS, overdose rates in Burke County, according to the BSAN Data Dashboard, increased by 18% from 2020 to 2021, and

WHEREAS, Fentanyl overdoses in Burke County, according to the BSAN Data Dashboard, increased by 313% from 2020 to 2021, and

WHEREAS, 911 calls regarding overdoses in Burke County, according to the BSAN Data Dashboard, increased by 34.5% from 2020 to 2021, and

WHEREAS, Heroin overdoses in Burke County, according to the BSAN Data Dashboard, increased by 23% from 2020 to 2021, and

WHEREAS, preventing and overcoming substance use disorder is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles both physically and emotionally, and

WHEREAS, we must educate relatives and friends of people with substance use disorders so they will be able to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate treatment and recovery support services, and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder is a major public health problem that impacts society on multiple levels, and

WHEREAS, the use of Fentanyl and other dangerous opioids (which are also being laced with other substances) is rising in the community leading to overdose and death, and

WHEREAS, underage drinking and a failure to properly store alcohol in the home continues to lead to teenagers having a poor perception of risk, and

WHEREAS, to help more people achieve and sustain long term recovery, Burke Wellness Initiative and Burke Substance Abuse Network invites Burke County residents to participate in activities held to recognize National Recovery Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Burke County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim September 2022 as National Recovery Month in Burke County, North Carolina and call upon citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Burke County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of substance use disorder and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with substance use disorder and the complications and struggles for daily living in wellness.

Approved this 16th day of August 2022.

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

BCCOC - PROCLAMATION FOR INAUGURAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S LITTER SWEEP WEEK

Tonia Stephenson, Chamber President, presented the following proclamation from the Chamber of Commerce declaring September 19-24, 2022, as "Inaugural Litter Sweep Week in Burke County" and encourages all citizens to participate in this event to maintain the great beauty of the county. All citizens, as well as civic clubs and groups, were invited to participate in the clean-up event and she announced that three (3) cash prizes will be awarded to the groups that collect the most trash.

Motion: To approve Proclamation No. 2022-05.

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

Proclamation No. 2022-05 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

A Proclamation Declaring September 19-24, 2022 as
Burke County Chamber of Commerce Inaugural Litter Sweep Week

WHEREAS, The Burke County Chamber of Commerce has proclaimed September 19 – September 24, 2022, as the "INAUGURAL LITTER SWEEP WEEK" in Burke County, North

Carolina; and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and staff encourages citizens from across the county to take an active role in making their community cleaner; and

WHEREAS, the Burke County Chamber of Commerce will be supported by the North Carolina Department of Transportation to organize this Inaugural Litter Sweep Week county wide roadside clean up to ensure clean and beautiful roads in Burke County; and

WHEREAS, Chamber members' Board and staff, community service workers, local government agencies, community leaders, civic and community organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and environmental concerned citizens conduct local cleanups during this "INAUGURAL LITTER SWEEP WEEK"; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Inaugural cleanup will be the first for the Burke County Chamber of Commerce and its more than 600 members, it is the hope that this will be the first for years to come; and

WHEREAS, the "INAUGURAL LITTER SWEEP WEEK" cleanup will be a part of educating the children of this great county regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in Burke County, North Carolina.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the Commissioners for Burke County, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 19 - 24, 2022, as the Burke County Chamber of Commerce "INAUGURAL LITTER SWEEP WEEK." We urge all our citizens to participate in this event to maintain the great beauty of our county. The cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid waste.

Approved this 16th day of August 2022.

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

EMS - RECOGNITION OF RECEIVING THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION MISSION LIFELINE EMS GOLD PLUS AWARD

Major Nicole Hudson and Sergeant Buchanan with Burke County EMS reported the Department was awarded the American Heart Association (AHA) Mission Lifeline EMS GOLD PLUS Award for the fifth time. This award is earned by providing state-of-the-art cardiac care over a 24-month period by meeting and exceeding the AHA's strict guidelines.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Mulwee congratulated Major Hudson, Sgt. Buchanan and the whole EMS team. County Manager Steen expressed appreciation for the Board's investment in employee training and development.

Motion: To recognize and congratulate the EMS Department on this prestigious accomplishment.

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

COMM. DEV. - PRESENTATION ON THE NC FOOTHILLS EXPERIENCE WEBSITE

Alan Glines, Deputy Co. Manager / Planning Director, presented information related to the new NC Foothills Experience website and introduced Alison Adams, WPCOG Community & Regional Planning Director, who demonstrated significant features of the new website.

The Western Piedmont Council of Governments has completed a new interactive website highlighting the many attractions found within the four-county area including Burke, Catawba, Caldwell and Alexander Counties. The website uses maps, photos, descriptions and drone footage of many activities, outdoor adventures, small businesses and places to eat and drink in the region. The tool is geared to help with workforce recruitment and retention since some job seekers may have limited exposure to our area. Local governments and businesses are encouraged to link the NC Foothills Experience site to their websites to share the information. The website is: www.expncfoothills.com.

Motion: To accept the report as presented.

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

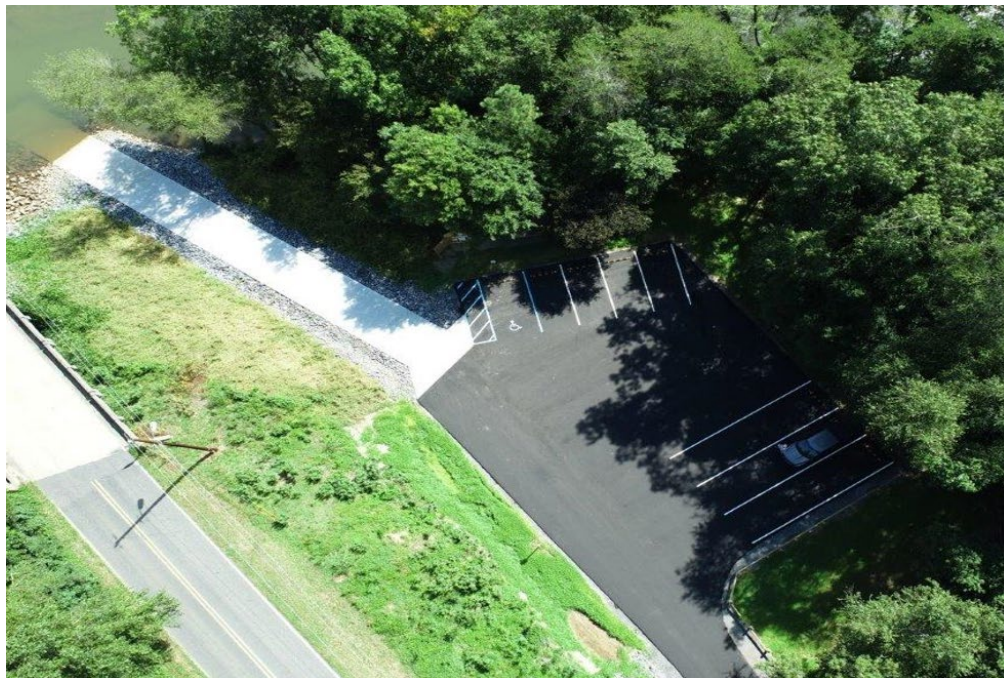
COMM. DEV. - WATERMILL ACCESS AREA - PROJECT UPDATE

Shane Prisby, Operations Manager for the Community Development Department, reported the Department has been working with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) to complete the upgrades to the boat launch at Watermill Access Area. The project was initially funded through funding from Duke Energy as part of the Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement for the Catawba-Wateree Hydro Electric System. The project was further supplemented with funding from Burke County and WRC. He reviewed a variety of before and after photos and reviewed the permits and easements obtained to make this small, but complex project a reality.

This space is intentionally left blank.

Project Background

- **Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement** –The CRA is the agreement between Duke and Stakeholders for recreation projects and management along the Catawba-Wateree Hydro Project
- **CRA §10.27.4.3 Watermill Road Access Area** –In 2017, the County agreed to take on the responsibility of the CRA project and received \$70,200 in funding to complete the project
- **County Funding**– In 2018, The County partnered with Resource Institute to pursue a DEQ grant for the project. After an unsuccessful grant application, the County added additional funding to increase the match percentage. This brought the project funding total to \$84,200. The second application was ultimately unsuccessful.
- **Partnership with Wildlife Resources Commission** – In 2020, the County partnered with WRC for the engineering and construction of the project.



Watermill Access Area After Improvements

Motion: To accept the report as presented.

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

Note: A ribbon cutting event for the Watermill Public Access Point, 744 Watermill Glen Alpine Road, was held on October 20, 2022.



Pictured left to right: Alan Glines, Dep. Co. Manager/Planning Director; Mark Delehant, General Services Director; Ed Phillips, Tourism Development Authority; Squeak Smith, Trout Unlimited; Shane Prisby, Foothills Conservancy; Jeff Brittain, Commissioner; Scott Mulwee, Chairman; Treg McGee, Parks & Recreation Director; Johnnie Carswell, Vice Chairman; Jeff Ferguson, NC Wildlife Resources Commission; Bryan Steen, County Manager; and Dean Barbee, WRC Construction Projects Manager.



WPCOG - PRESENTATION ON RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR NEW COUNTY MANAGER

Anthony Starr, Executive Director of the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, presented how WPCOG administrative personnel could be of assistance in the recruitment process for hiring a new county manager in preparation for County Manager Steen's upcoming retirement at the end of the year. He reviewed key services they provide and gave a general overview of the process. He also responded to questions from the Board.

Note: The cost for an executive search is not included in the annual dues.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

At 7:23 p.m., Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for informal public comments and asked speakers to limit their comments to three minutes or less.

Reverend Tommy Carpenter of Morganton commented that the Confederate Monument has become an idol and is being worshiped by some people and he asked would those that love the Monument stand up for Jesus Christ in the same way. Further, he asked would they fly flags for Jesus. He recommended the Monument be relocated to a more appropriate location.

Eloise Berry of Morganton shared a memory of hers from the 1970s when the Ku Klux Klan marched in downtown Morganton. After work, she said she came downtown to shop and while standing on the sidewalk, a police officer asked to search her handbag at the request of a white man wearing a white suit who said he saw a gun, and after she and others marched behind the Klan, she was struck by a high-ranking member of the Klan. However, the local magistrates, claiming a mistake was made, refused to issue a warrant for his arrest. She went on to tell that the Klan leader's speech was given at the foot of the Confederate Monument located on the Courthouse square which is racist. While she is 80 years old now, she said the fact that the Klan was allowed to march in Burke County still sticks with her today and Burke County has a lot of work to do. In closing, she said the Monument needs to come down.

Carla Kincaid of Oak Hill spoke on several issues: protecting innocent people from potential harm caused by the Confederate Monument, the presence of the Confederate flags on I-40 and the Confederate Monument on the Courthouse square attracts confederated-minded visitors to the county, and standing up for others requires more strength than merely standing up for yourself.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

County Manager Steen reviewed the consent agenda at the request of Chairman Mulwee.

FINANCE - HRC ROOF MEMBRANE REPLACEMENT

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the County website on June 29, 2022, soliciting sealed bids from qualified vendors for the installation of insulation and TPO membrane on the existing metal roof of the Burke County Human Resources Center. The County received nine bids from vendors and after review, Barger-Ashe Roofing Company has been selected as the most responsive responsible bidder. The cost of the project is \$98,375.00. Funds are available for the project from a budget allocation in FY 21-22. \$99,000 was allocated and those funds will be rolled over into FY 22-23.

Bid tabulation:

PROJECT:
Burke County Human Resources Center Metal Roof Membrane

Vendor:	Total Quote	Note
Barger-Ashe	\$ 98,375.00	
Johnson Roofing	\$ 101,651.00	
WNC Roofing	\$ 113,750.00	
ATD	\$ 118,000.00	
SCB	\$ 127,739.00	
CJ Deans	\$ 130,000.00	
DLT Roofing	\$ 130,100.00	
BM Roofing	\$ 133,168.00	Option 1
AAR	\$ 133,500.00	
BM Roofing	\$ 145,870.00	Option 2

Motion: Authorize the County Manager to execute a contract with Barger-Ashe Roofing Company in the amount of \$98,375.00 for the roofing project at the Burke County Human Resources 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

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR JULY 2022

The Board of Commissioners is presented with the Tax Collection Report for the period between July 1, 2022, and July 31, 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	\$45,800,000.00	\$24,275,772.77	53.00%	\$21,524,227.23
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$6,000,000.00	\$568,688.19	9.48%	\$5,431,311.81
Current Year Taxes	\$51,800,000.00	\$24,844,460.96	47.96%	\$26,955,539.04
Delinquent Taxes	\$700,000.00	\$177,206.87	16.74%	\$582,796.13
Late List Penalty	\$315,000.00	\$34,319.57	10.19%	\$280,680.43

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	%	Balance to Collect
----------	----------	------------------	---	--------------------

		YTD	Collected	
Property Tax	\$47,412,371.13	\$24,275,772.77	51.20%	\$23,136,598.36

Motion: To accept the Tax Collection Report for July 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 JULY 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)	\$30,200.18	\$214,218.96	\$30,200.18	0.00

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	\$187.17

*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 July 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 read 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: Adjustment					
0000014909-2022-2022-0000-01-REG	CHAPMAN, TRISTAN DANIEL	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	7/8/2022	824.47	67.50	756.97
0000051054-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	COFFEY, THOMAS S	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	7/11/2022	6,590.58	589.41	6,001.17
0000059720-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	DEYTON, VIRGIL RAY	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	7/11/2022	117.34	117.34	0.00
Subtotal						774.25	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Exempt Property					
0000018033-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	STRAWBERRY, CARL WILLIAM JR	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	7/11/2022	7,085.62	7,085.62	0.00
0000020522-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	COUNTY OF BURKE	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	7/11/2022	28.15	28.15	0.00
0000026666-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	COUNTY OF BURKE	7/1/2022	JOHN BRIDGERS	7/11/2022	293.12	293.12	0.00
Subtotal						7,406.89	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Mapping Correction					
0000044215-2017-2017-0000-00-REG	SETZER, JAMES W	7/1/2017	AMANDA CONLEY	7/6/2022	18.07	18.07	0.00
0000044215-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	SETZER, JAMES W	7/1/2018	AMANDA CONLEY	7/6/2022	18.07	18.07	0.00
0000044215-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	SETZER, JAMES W	7/1/2019	AMANDA CONLEY	7/6/2022	18.07	18.07	0.00
0000044215-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	SETZER, JAMES W	7/1/2020	AMANDA CONLEY	7/6/2022	18.07	18.07	0.00
0000044215-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	SETZER, JAMES W	7/1/2021	AMANDA CONLEY	7/6/2022	18.07	18.07	0.00
Subtotal						90.35	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Not in Burke County					
0024052945-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	FUSA MARKETING	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	7/8/2022	8.67	8.67	0.00
0024063822-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	HOLLAR D WAYNE	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	7/11/2022	1,093.24	1,093.24	0.00
Subtotal						1,101.91	0.00
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Penalty Correction					
0000073491-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	SGL CARBON LLC	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	7/6/2022	228,192.63	20,744.78	207,447.85
Subtotal						228,192.63	207,447.85
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Release LFUF					
0000034998-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	ROSS, ROBIN RENEE	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	7/11/2022	160.97	82.00	78.97
Subtotal						160.97	78.97
Total						\$244,485.47	214,285.29

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Address 1	Address 3	Refund Type	Bill #	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
BARRIER, MARJORIE HEIDI	BARRIER, MARJORIE HEIDI	7363 NC HIGHWAY 183	NEWLAND, NC 28657	Adjustment >= \$100	0067145064	Refund Generated due to adjustment on Bill #0067145064-2021-2021-0000	Situs error	01	Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								57	Tax	(\$219.05)	\$0.00	(\$219.05)
								57	Vehicle Fee	(\$20.00)	\$0.00	(\$20.00)
								35	Tax	\$51.88	\$0.00	\$51.88
											Refund Refund Total	\$187.17

TAX DEPT. - ORDER TO COLLECT 2022 TAXES

General Statute 105-321 requires the Governing Body to order the Tax Collector to collect the taxes charged in the tax records. This includes current taxes and any delinquent taxes and associated charges for the previous 10 years. The amounts charged back from prior years are:

- County Taxes and other charges \$1,828,304.74

· All other jurisdictions taxes and other charges	\$ <u>186,944.14</u>
· Total amount	\$2,015,248.88

A breakdown of these amounts is contained in the 2022/2023 Tax Collectors Settlement. The Tax Administrator requests the Board to adopt this order for the current tax year ending June 30, 2023.

Motion: Order the Tax Administrator to collect the current and prior years' delinquent taxes on real and personal property. Further, authorize the Chairman to execute the Order on behalf of the Board.

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 Order reads as follows:

State of North Carolina
County of Burke

Order of the Board of County Commissioners
In Accordance with GS 105-373, GS 105-321, and GS 105-330.3

To: Tax Collector of Burke County, Town of Connelly Springs, Town of Glen Alpine,
Town of Hildebran, Town of Long View, and Town of Rhodhiss

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes remaining unpaid as set forth in the 2012 through 2021 tax records filed in the office of the Tax Collector, and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. You are further authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2022 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes, and additions to the tax records and tax receipts delivered to you which are made in accordance with law. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on all real property of the respective taxpayers in Burke County. Town of Connelly Springs, Town of Glen Alpine, Town of Hildebran, Town of Long View, Town of Rhodhiss and fire districts of Brendletown, Carbon City, Chesterfield, Drowning Creek, Enola, George Hildebran, Glen Alpine, Icard, Jonas Ridge, Lake James, Longtown, Lovelady, Oak Hill, Salem, Smokey Creek, South Mountain, Triple Community, and West End. This order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property, and attach wages and/or other funds, of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Within available funds in the budget ordinance and personnel positions established, the Tax Collector may appoint employees and they have authority to perform those functions authorized by the Machinery Act of Chapter 105 of North Carolina General Statutes and other applicable laws for current and previous year's taxes. County personnel presently in the Tax Collector's office continue to serve in their respective positions.

Taxes on Classified Motor Vehicles for 2016 and prior years are deemed uncollectible;

therefore, the County Commissioners, pursuant to GS 105-373(h) do hereby relieve the Tax Collector of the charge of collecting taxes on Classified Motor Vehicles listed pursuant to GS 105-330.3(a)(1) for 2016 and prior years.

WITNESS my hand and official seal, this 16th day of August 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

ITEMS FOR DECISION

CM - AMENDMENT TO JANITORIAL CONTRACT

Bryan Steen, County Manager, requested approval of an amendment to the janitorial contract with Patton Cleaning Company, Inc. for office cleaning services at Animal Services for two (2) days per week (Tuesday and Thursday) in the mornings at a monthly cost of \$560. The Board approved the original contract in June; however, this department was inadvertently omitted from the contract.

Budgetary Effect: None. Funding is available within the FY 22-23 budget.

Margaret Pierce, Deputy Co. Manager/Finance Director, responded to questions from Commissioner Taylor.

Motion: To approve the amendment to the janitorial contract with Patton Cleaning Co., Inc. as presented and authorize the County Manager to execute the amendment on behalf of the Board.

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. - COLLECTIONS ANNUAL SETTLEMENT REPORT FOR 2021/2022

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented the following report.

In compliance with NCGS 105-373 (a) (1) & (3), included are the amounts collected using the Property Tax System (PTS) and the Vehicle Tax System (VTS) for the county and fire districts. These amounts include current taxes, delinquent taxes, current and delinquent tax related charges, and vehicle taxes. Amounts collected for municipalities where the county tax collector also serves as the municipal tax collector.

- Connelly Springs
- Glen Alpine
- Hildebran
- Long View

- Rhodhiss

This settlement also includes the amounts charged back to the collector and the write-off of 2010 taxes and charges. The charge back allows the collector to use enforced collection remedies on taxes for current and the prior ten years. The write-off removes the collector's responsibility to collect taxes 2010 and prior where the collector cannot use enforced collection remedies.

This settlement is arranged by the following sections:

- Section 1 -Taxes and charges for Burke County only.
- Section 2 – Vehicle Tax for Burke County only.
- Section 3 –Property Taxes and charges for all other jurisdictions.
- Section 4 – Vehicle Tax for all other jurisdictions.
- Section 5 - Delinquent taxes and related charges to be charged back.
- Section 6 – Amount not charged back.
- Section 7 – Additional Revenues Collected
- Sections 8 thru 11 – Delinquent Taxpayers List
- Section 12 – Enforced Collection Activity

The following represents a summary of tax system reports:

SECTION 1 – Property Tax

(From NCPTS Report TR-401E)

Total Tax Collections (County Only)

(July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)

• Tax - Future	(2022)	\$	2,827.88	(prepayments)
• Tax - Current	(2021)	\$	45,631,064.44	
• Delinquent Tax	(1996-2020)	\$	760,034.25	
Total		\$	<u>46,393,926.57</u>	

Total of Taxes and Tax Related Collections (County Only)

(July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) (All Years)

• Advertisement Fee	\$	22,501.58
• Garnishment	\$	29,150.64
• Interest	\$	248,225.14
• Land Fill User Fee	\$	2,808,409.03
• Land Fill User Fee Sr.	\$	69,937.54
• Late List penalty	\$	57,922.15
• Migrated LFUF	\$	2,428.58
• Migrated Cost	\$	25.00
• Miscellaneous Cost	\$	0.00
• NSF penalty	\$	3,481.10
• Tax All Years	\$	<u>46,393,926.57</u>
Total	\$	<u>49,636,007.33</u>

SECTION 2 – Vehicle Tax – County Only

(From NCVTS Distribution Report)

• VTS Tax	\$ 5,766,130.36
• VTS Interest	\$ 32,000.96
Total	<u>\$ 5,798,131.32</u>

SECTION 3 – Property Taxes and Charges for all Other Jurisdictions

(From NCPTS Report TR-401E)

Total of Tax and Tax Related Collections (All years, all other jurisdictions)

(July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)

Total Tax Collections \$5,054,473.71

SECTION 4 – Tag & Taxes and Charges for all Other Jurisdictions

(From NCVTS Distribution Report)

• VTS Tax	\$ 1,865,889.61	
• VTS Interest	\$ 10,781.47	
• Vehicle Fee	\$ 645.00	\$ 5.00 - Hickory
• Vehicle Fee	\$ 277,160.00	\$20.00 – Morg.
Total	<u>\$ 2,154,476.08</u>	

SECTION 5 – Property Tax Charge Back of Delinquent Taxes and Related Charges
(From NCPTS Report TR-401E)

• County Only	\$ 1,828,304.74
• All other Jurisdictions	\$ 185,924.39
Total	<u>\$ 2,014,229.13</u>

Burke County Only										
Tax Year	Advertisement Fee	Garnishment Fee	LFUF	LFUF Sr.	Late List	M_LFUF	M_Cost	NSF Penalty	Taxes	Totals
2021	\$11,766.33	\$5,100.39	\$106,583.39	\$2,278.23	\$5,363.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48.80	\$666,743.17	\$797,883.72
2020	\$2,650.00	\$1,830.00	\$40,502.56	\$540.00	\$2,752.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48.80	\$159,124.98	\$207,449.14
2019	\$6,345.00	\$1,522.32	\$28,092.83	\$396.00	\$3,422.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62.50	\$129,220.69	\$169,062.10
2018	\$5,870.00	\$621.19	\$23,264.22	\$396.00	\$3,362.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$91,727.76	\$125,241.83
2017	\$5,665.00	\$60.00	\$20,120.43	\$175.00	\$3,157.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$69,857.60	\$99,035.29
2016	\$5,565.00	\$90.00	\$18,079.13	\$363.00	\$2,834.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,116.32	\$89,048.37
2015	\$5,460.00	\$166.43	\$14,476.33	\$248.00	\$2,109.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,715.01	\$73,175.24
2014	\$5,375.00	\$66.65	\$13,594.62	\$242.40	\$2,803.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,746.46	\$77,828.75
2013	\$5,246.16	\$1,436.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,850.11	\$11,205.40	\$420.00	\$0.00	\$80,500.37	\$101,658.76
2012	\$5,210.00	\$1,432.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,738.57	\$10,597.96	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$68,042.41	\$87,921.54
Amount Charged Back	\$59,152.49	\$12,326.30	\$264,713.51	\$4,638.63	\$30,395.58	\$21,803.36	\$1,320.00	\$160.10	\$1,433,794.77	\$1,828,304.74

All Other Jurisdictions										
Tax Year	Advertisement Fee	Garnishment Fee	LFUF	LFUF Sr.	Late List	M_LFUF	M_Cost	NSF Penalty	Taxes	Totals
2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$638.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$85,885.96	\$86,524.43
2020	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$332.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,788.09	\$20,120.24
2019	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325.07	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,285.65	\$15,610.72
2018	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$347.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,628.29	\$11,975.37
2017	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$278.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,508.36	\$8,787.05
2016	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$296.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,330.55	\$8,627.03
2015	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$272.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,237.94	\$7,510.30
2014	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$252.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,357.35	\$7,609.89
2013	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,973.50	\$10,024.70
2012	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,131.48	\$9,134.66
Amount Charged Back	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,797.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$183,127.17	\$185,924.39

SECTION 6 – Property Tax Amount not charged Back to Collector

(From NCPTS Report TR-401E)

By NCGS 105-378, the tax office cannot use enforced collection methods on delinquent bills and charges over 10 years old unless the action was instituted prior. Therefore, the amount of uncollected taxes and other charges for 2011 that are not charged back to the Tax Collector for enforced collection are:

- County \$ 74,566.76
- All Other Jurisdictions \$ 6,761.18
- Total \$ 81,327.94

County Only										
	Advertisement Fee	Garnishment Fee	LFUF	LFUF Sr.	Late List	M_LFUF	M_Cost	NSF Penalty	Taxes	Total
Amount not charged back to the collector (2011)	\$4,425.00	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,161.78	\$10,501.30	\$1,468.75	\$0.00	\$55,229.93	\$74,566.76

All other jurisdictions										
	Advertisement Fee	Garnishment Fee	LFUF	LFUF Sr.	Late List	M_LFUF	M_Cost	NSF Penalty	Taxes	Total
Amount not charged back to the collector (2011)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,757.98	\$6,761.18

Total - County and all other jurisdictions										
	Advertisement Fee	Garnishment Fee	LFUF	LFUF Sr.	Late List	M_LFUF	M_Cost	NSF Penalty	Taxes	Total
Totals	\$4,425.00	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,164.98	\$10,501.30	\$1,468.75	\$0.00	\$61,987.91	\$81,327.94

SECTION 7 – Additional Revenues Collected
(From NCPTS TR-426 & TR-430 Reports)

• Rental Vehicle (County)	\$ 60,868.36
• Rental Vehicle (Hickory)	\$ 24,747.71
• Occupancy Tax	\$ 867,264.66
• Occupancy Additional Tax	\$ 72.27
• Occupancy Tax (Late Penalty)	\$ 343.24
• Occupancy Filing (Penalty)	\$ 1,243.09
• Beer/Wine Late Fee	\$ 15.00
• Beer (Off Premises)	\$ 435.00
• Beer On/Off Premises	\$ 1,500.00
• Wine (Off Premises)	\$ 1,675.00
• Wine (On Premises)	\$ 1,250.00
Total	<u>\$ 956,414.33</u>

SECTIONS 8 thru 11 – 2021 Delinquent Taxpayers
(From NCPTS Report TR-452)

In accordance with N.C.G.S. 105-373 (a)(1), a list of all persons owning real and personal property for 2021, whose taxes remain unpaid, as of 8/6/2022, is included in this report (see sections 8,8-G,9-G,10, & 11). These lists are broken down by property types. The chart below locates, identifies, and totals these different property types. These totals include Taxes, Late List Penalty, Land Fill User Fee, Land Fill User Fee, and GAP bills.

	Source Type	Property Type	# Bills	Totals
Section 8	BUS	Business Personal Property	131	\$ 33,804.79
Section 8 G	BUS GAP	Business Per. Property GAP	23	\$ 545.13
Section 9	IND	Personal Property	982	\$ 80,706.02
Section 9 G	IND GAP	Personal Property GAP	1077	\$ 30,371.20
Section 10	REI	Real Property	2,532	\$ 581,713.12
Section 11	PUB	Public Utilities	0	\$ 0.00
	Total		4745	\$ 727,140.26

All reports are unaudited and are compiled using the Burke County Tax System (NCPTS) & NCVTS.

SECTION 12 – Summary of Enforced Collection Activity

Enforced collections of delinquent tax bills can use several different remedies as allowed by NCGS 105-367, 368, 374, and 375.

- Debt Setoff
- Bank Attachment/garnishment
- Wage Garnishment
- Foreclosure

I certify that the collections staff has made diligent efforts using the collection remedies available by statute (notices, second notices, wage garnishment, bank attachment, debt set-off, foreclosure, and delinquent collection service) to collect all delinquent debts. These delinquent debts are for tax years 2011 through 2020 including those 2021 taxes that became delinquent after January 5, 2022.

I respectfully request the Burke County Board of Commissioners to accept this report as the Annual Settlement for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.

/s/ John B. Bridgers

John B. Bridgers, Burke County Tax Administrator

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for comments or questions from the Board. Mr. Bridgers responded to questions from the Board.

Motion: To accept the Tax Collection Settlement Report for 2021/2022 as presented.

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

HEALTH - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF OUT- OF-STATE TRAVEL

Danny Scalise, Local Public Health Director, presented three (3) out-of-state travel requests for approval. According to the County's approved travel policy, out-of-state travel must be approved by the Board of Commissioners. He advised that as the guest speaker for the conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, most of his expenses for this trip were paid for by an outside group.

Date	Personnel	Location	Amount	
10-12-22	Health Director	San Juan, Puerto Rico*	\$494.38	Guest Speaker
10-12-22	Public Health Nurse II	San Juan, Puerto Rico*	\$3,538.50	
11-05-22	Health Director	Boston, MA	\$2,850.00	

*Puerto Rico is an unincorporated territory of the United States. Budgetary Effect: N.A. Funding is available in the FY 22-23 budget.

Chairman Mulwee commented on what an honor it is for Mr. Scalise and other county personnel to represent the County at these conferences and that the existing travel policy is antiquated at best.

Motion: To approve the out-of-state travel requests for the Health Director and the Public Health Nurse II as presented.

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

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

BOC - REPORTS & COMMENTS

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for reports and comments. Margaret Pierce, Deputy Co. Manager/Finance Director advised that the auditors will begin their work in early September and present the results in early December. J.R. Simpson, County Attorney, identified the items he has worked on since the last meeting. Clerk Draughn reminded citizens not to litter, to cover

their loads when going to the landfill and to spay or neuter their pets. County Manager Steen reported that Bradley Kirkley in the Community Development Department received the Zoning Official of the Year award by the NC Association of Zoning Officials and was nominated by Pete Minter, his colleague. Commissioner Taylor reported on the events he attended since the last meeting. He also reported on "Operation Green Light for Veterans", discussed the legal requirements for special meetings, and provided an attorney's opinion on the Chairman allowing other citizens to speak during the "informal public comments" period at a prior meeting that did not register with the Clerk. He also reported on having to replace the clutch in his farm tractor himself because he could not find a mechanic to do it. He asked what work is getting done in America. Chairman Mulwee reported on the meetings he has attend since the last meeting and commented on the upcoming County Commissioners' annual conference. He congratulated Commissioner Carswell on becoming the "President Elect" of the NC Association of County Commissioners.

Note: A declaration terminating the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 global pandemic was issued by Chairman Mulwee on August 15, 2022, at 8 a.m.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLERK- BOARDS AND COMMITTEES VACANCY REPORT

Clerk Draughn presented the following vacancy report:

- 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).

Chairman Mulwee encouraged citizen participation.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

CLOSED SESSION

A closed session is needed 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). The Local Public Health Director and the Human Resources Director were invited to join the Board in 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:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, 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

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIRECTOR I

Motion: To approve the starting salary of a Public Health Nursing Director I position at 60% of the pay range for Grade 30.

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

RECRUITMENT ASSISTANCE

Motion: To approve using the services of the NC Association of County Commissioners to assist the Board in the hiring process for the next county manager.

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

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

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

Approved this 18th day of April 2023.



 Scott Mulwee, Chairman
 Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board