

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

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 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: Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Wayne F. Abele, Sr.
Jeffrey C. Brittain
Maynard M. Taylor

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Scott Mulwee, Chairman (Out of town.)

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

Vice Chairman Carswell called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and expressed condolences to the families of Marvin Norman (Iredell County Commissioner) and Forrest Fleming (Morganton City Councilmember). He asked for prayers for Sheriff Whisenant's wife, Renee and for all law enforcement personnel.

INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Johnson, Sr., Shiloh AME Church, delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of April 5, 2022 (Pre-Agenda), April 19, 2022 (Regular) and April 26, 2022 (Special) meetings as written.

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

PRESENTATIONS

AS - PETS OF THE MONTH

Kaitlin Settlemeyre, Animal Services Director, presented a dog (Stanley) and a cat (Bruno) in need of its "forever" home. After commenting on upcoming events, she responded to questions from Commissioner Abele on transporting pets up north. Vice Chairman Carswell reiterated the importance to spay or neuter pets.

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN.
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COMM. DEV. - PRESENTATION FOR STAFF RECOGNITION FOR ZONING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Alan Glines, Deputy County Manager / Planning Director, presented the following information:

Bradley Kirkley, Zoning Administrator for Burke County, serves in many capacities in the Community Development Department. In addition to zoning related matters and Shoreline Permits, Bradley also spends time with Code Enforcement complaints and follows up on individual cases. As needed, Bradley also assists with text amendments to the County zoning ordinance. Code complaints result in an average of 280 Code Enforcement cases each year. Bradley and Peter Minter, Senior Planner, maintain their credentials as Certified Zoning Officials (CZO) with the North Carolina Association of Zoning Officials (NCAZO). At this year's conference Bradley was awarded the NCAZO Zoning Official of the Year for 2022. Staff are very proud to recognize Bradley's hard work and dedication to the citizens of Burke County. Bradley works under Shane Prisby, Operations Manager and was nominated for this award by our colleague Peter Minter.

Bradley Kirkley, Zoning Administrator for Burke County, at the request of Vice Chairman Carswell, gave an impromptu speech on earning this award. Mr. Kirkley emphasized that teamwork is the essential factor that ultimately led to this recognition. Commissioner Taylor then expressed appreciation for Mr. Kirkley's hard work and cited several reviews that specifically mention him by name. The Board took a commemorative photograph with Mr. Kirkley.



Pictured left to right: Maynard Taylor, Wayne Abele, Bradley Kirkley, Johnnie Carswell, and Jeff Brittain



Pictured left to right: Alan Glines and Bradley Kirkley

RESULT: NO ACITON TAKEN.

NCDVRS - NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH (OCT.) 2022

Janet Hannah, Vocation Rehab Services (VRS) staff, presented an assistive technology reading device to the Commissioners that assists those with dyslexia or those with declining eyesight.

Shelly Cash, VRS staff, promoted their Business Relations Representatives (BRR) which helps individuals seek employment and maintain their jobs. Last year the BRR program assisted 1,285 individuals attain employment, of which, 940 kept their job for at least three months.

Kay Smith, VRS staff, stated that VRS has been able to help ease staffing shortages from the pandemic by promoting diversity hiring and training citizens with the tools necessary to be successful in the workplace. 96 people from Burke County have currently maintained employment from this program.

Ms. Hannah then presented then reported the following information:

The month of October is National Disability Awareness Month and this year's theme, "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation," recognizes the vital role people with disabilities play in making the nation's workforce diverse and inclusive and requests approval of a proclamation declaring October as National Disability Awareness Month. October 2022 is the 77th anniversary of National Disability Awareness Month.

Commissioner Taylor commended the program and the work that Ms. Hannah and her staff do. In response, Ms. Hannah commented on hidden disabilities that people commonly have. Commissioner Brittain inquired about to the extent of counties Vocational Rehab Services does business with, and Ms. Hannah informed him it was every county in North Carolina.

Motion: To approve Proclamation No. 2022-07.

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

Proclamation No. 2022-07 reads as follows:

Proclamation
77th Anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month

WHEREAS, October 2022 marks the 77th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week;" and

WHEREAS, In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS, Activities during this month will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Burke County's commitment to an inclusive community that increases access and opportunities to all, including individuals with disabilities.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the Burke County Board of Commissioners recognize and commemorate the 77th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Commissioners call upon employers, schools, and other community organizations in Burke County, North Carolina to observe October with appropriate programs and activities, and to advance its important message that people with disabilities add value and talent to our workplaces and communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Burke County Board of Commissioners pledge to continue to take steps throughout the year to recruit, hire, retain, and advance individuals with disabilities and work to pursue the goals of opportunity, full participation, economic self-sufficiency, and independent living for people with disabilities.

Approved this 20th day of September 2022.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell

Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

REASON - INTRODUCTION OF NEW PRESIDENT & PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Erin Kiser, the new president of REASON (Reduce Euthanasia and Spay or Neuter), introduced herself to the Board to raise public awareness on the nonprofit's mission which is to eliminate the killing and abandonment of healthy, unwanted cats, dogs, puppies and kittens.

REASON Board Member Jeff Morse presented statistics and information on the resources the organization has available to assist low-income families with spay / neuter services.

Just the Facts! The numbers through the last 10 years 2012 – 6,617 Dogs and Cats received – 5,508 Killed (83%) 2013 – 5,378 Dogs and Cats received – 4,126 Killed (77%) 2014 – 4,115 Dogs and Cats received – 3,049 Killed (74%) 2015 – 4,358 Dogs and Cats received – 2,700 Killed (62%) 2016 – 3,546 Dogs and Cats received – 2,438 Killed (69%) 2017 – 3,465 Dogs and Cats received – 2,232 Killed (64%) 2018 – 3,285 Dogs and Cats received – 2,259 Killed (69%) 2019 – 2,031 Dogs and Cats received – 667 Killed (33%) 2020 – 1,454 Dogs and Cats received – 320 Killed (22%) 2021 – 1,736 Dogs and Cats received – 310 Killed (18%) 	WEBSITE www.reason-burkenc.org Calling all pet owners in Burke County, North Carolina  Features include: - Our 4 P's – Our Purpose, Our Partners, Our Program, and Our Process - Donation information - FAQs, contact information, resources, pictures of our volunteers - Volunteer information - Educational information including a "Know Your Limits" page
Accomplishments FY 2021-2022 - 405 spay/neuter surgeries serving 250 Burke County residents. - The 262 female dogs and cats, collectively, had already had a minimum of 109 litters which translates to approximately 518 puppies and kittens that were born before they were fixed. - If the 262 females had not been spayed, they potentially could have had an average of 2,489 puppies and kittens in a one-year period. Imagine the impact on our county if we were dealing with this additional number of animals in our already overburdened system! - 346 rabies vaccinations administered. Only 15% of the pets that were fixed were current on the North Carolina General Statute 130A-185 mandatory rabies vaccination. - Since inception, REASON has assisted with more than 4,600 spay/neuter surgeries.	REASON's Partnership with Burke County through the Animal Services Voucher Program 53 spay/neuter surgeries were completed 22 dogs (12 spays, 10 neuters) 31 cats (24 spays, 7 neuters) 83% increase from last year 47 of the 53 dogs and cats received rabies vaccinations (Only 11% were already current.)
Partnerships - Burke County along with the NC Spay/Neuter Reimbursement Program - Burke County Animal Services - Local vets and low-cost clinics - Amorem (formerly Hospice and Palliative Care of Burke County) - Local rescues and animal welfare organizations - Burke County Department of Social Services - Rabies/Education event coming in November	Funding REASON currently receives funding through: - NC Spay Neuter Reimbursement Program (pass through monies from the county) - Client Copayments - Burke County for the Animal Services Voucher Program - Grants - Donations - State Employees Combined Campaign

What's Next Our plans are to: - Further our mission by spaying/neutering more animals - Provide public awareness and education including a collaborative effort for an Educational and Rabies Vaccination Clinical event in November - Promote responsible pet ownership by educating on: - Humane treatment of animals - Basic health and wellness for pets - Required and recommended vaccinations - Available resources - Compliance with the Burke County Animal Ordinance <i>We know we have won this uphill battle when we are no longer needed.</i>	Thank you! 
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Devonna Ijames, a REASON board member responded to questions from Commissioner Taylor and Vice Chairman Carswell emphasized the importance of spaying and neutering pets. He also expressed appreciation for the nonprofit's work.

Motion: To accept the report as presented.

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

CM - GFOA'S CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Bryan Steen, County Manager presented the following:

The County has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The Board is asked to recognize and congratulate the Finance Department for this accomplishment.

Mr. Steen then presented the award to Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager / Finance Director and congratulated her as well as the entire Finance Department. Ms. Pierce, at the request of Vice Chairman Carswell, explained the process to get the award: submitting a letter, crafting a narrative of the history of the county, and submitting the financial and operational data. Ms. Pierce also responded to comments from Commissioner Taylor. On behalf of the Board, Vice Chairman Carswell congratulated Ms. Pierce and the Finance Department for receiving this award for the second time.

Note: See the September 6, 2022, pre-agenda meeting minutes for commemorative photos.

RESULT: NO ACITON TAKEN.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

TAX DEPT. - PRESENTATION OF 2023 SCHEDULE OF VALUE, PRESENT USE SCHEDULE OF VALUE, AND PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 P.M.

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented the following PowerPoint presentation:

BURKE COUNTY – 2023 SCHEDULE OF VALUES



**BURKE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
PRESENTED BY – JOHN BRIDGERS,
TAX ADMINISTRATOR**

We do it because

- The statutes say we have to,

But also, to be fair
And to remove
Inequities.



REVALUATION

Why do we do it?
and
What is it?

§ 105-286. Time for reappraisal

- (1) Every county in North Carolina must reappraise all real property at least once every eight years.
- (3) Optional Advancement – a county may, at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners, conduct an earlier reappraisal.

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The NC Department of Revenue

- Recommends that counties adopt, if at all possible, a four-year schedule.
- Burke County has opted to use the four-year schedule.
 - The last county-wide reappraisal was 2019.
 - The next scheduled reappraisal is 2023.

Ad Valorem Taxes

- A Latin phrase . . .
 - That means “According to Value.”
 - That is interchangeable with “Property Tax.”
- In North Carolina,
 - Property owners pay property taxes according to the value of their property.
- Revaluation is the process of setting those property values for the next cycle.

Property Values

- Change continuously.
- They also change at different rates.
 - Some go up,
 - Some go down,
 - While others remain static.

We do it to be just and equitable.

The North Carolina Constitution

- Article V: Finance
 - Section 2: State and local taxation
 - 1. Power of taxation.
 - The power of taxation shall be exercised in a just and equitable manner.

Revaluation -

- Is not about raising someone's taxes.
- It is about ensuring
- the tax burden is fair and balanced.

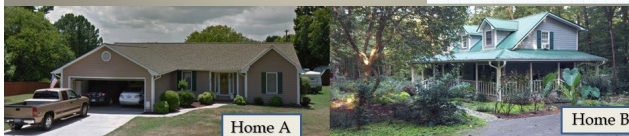


As properties values change

- It's not practical to try and match the tax values with the continuous change in the market values.
- Revaluation is the process of setting the tax values at a specific point in time.
- So that each property owner is paying taxes according to the value of their particular property, as of the date of revaluation.

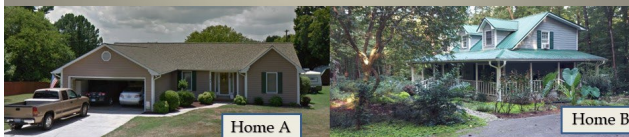
Since the 2019-Revaluation

- Properties in Burke County have changed value.
- Because of inflation and the overall economy just about every property in the county has increased in value.
- Just as the price of automobiles, groceries, clothing and everything else on the market has increased, so has real estate.



• 2019 value	\$206,000	\$203,000
• 2019 Taxes	\$1,432	\$1,411
• % of value	.00695%	.00695%

Both homeowners paid the same percentage of taxes on the value of their property.

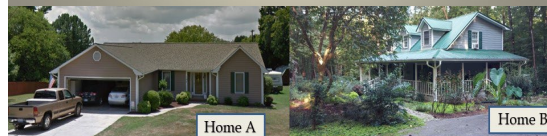


• 2019 value	\$206,000	\$203,000
• 2019 Taxes	\$1,432	\$1,411
• % of value	.00695%	.00695%
• 2022 value	\$278,000	\$419,000
• 2022 taxes (Based on 2019 value)	\$1,432	\$1,411
• % of value	.00515%	.00336%

Homeowner A is paying a much higher % of value than Homeowner B.

While some properties

- Have had a significant increase in value,
- Others may have had a more moderate increase.



• 2019 value	\$206,000	\$203,000
• 2019 Taxes	\$1,432	\$1,411
• % of value	.00695%	.00695%
• 2022 value	\$278,000	\$419,000
• 2022 taxes based on 2019 value	\$1,432	\$1,411

§ 105-283. Uniform appraisal standards.

- All property, real and personal, shall as far as practicable be appraised or valued at its true value in money.
- When used in this Subchapter, the words "true value" shall be interpreted as meaning market value,

What this means is, that by state law, the county is required to appraise all real and personal property at 100% of its market value.

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Market Value is

- The price estimated in terms of money
- At which the property would change hands
- Between a willing buyer
- And a willing seller.

Also known as an “arm’s-length transaction.”

Fee Appraisal vs Mass Appraisal

Fee Appraisal

- Very in-depth appraisal
- Appraisers have complete access to the property
- Compares one property to several specific comparable properties
- Usually done for an individual property when obtaining a loan

Mass Appraisal

- Very general appraisal
- Appraisers only have limited – if any – access to the property
- Uses “Market areas” or “neighborhoods” to compare similar homes
- Done by the county to realign the tax values on all the properties in the county

Two more identical homes



- Adjoins livestock facility
- Next to Interstate 40
- No streetlights
- No curbs or sidewalks
- No water or sewer



- Adjoins National Forest
- Country lane or SR Road
- No streetlights
- No curbs or sidewalks
- No water or sewer

Just because one property may have “nicer” amenities, does not guarantee a higher market value.
It just depends on the market.

Estimates of Market Value

- Are established by an appraisal
- There are:
 - “Fee Appraisals”
 - “Mass Appraisals”

Determining Value

Two identical homes



- Paved streets
- Streetlights
- Curbs and sidewalks
- Water & Sewer



- Dirt or gravel road
- No streetlights
- No curbs or sidewalks
- No water or sewer

Which home would sell for more money?



Generally, if there is a neighborhood of similar homes – all about the same age, same size, same quality- and a number of the homes sell, it’s fairly easy to determine that the homes that have not sold would be about the same value as the homes that have sold.

The difficulty comes in

- When there is a great diversity of homes And
- Few sales.
- Fortunately, over the whole of Burke County, there have been many real estate sales, in the past two years.
- Having many sales allows the tax office to set the new tax values of homes with a greater assurance of being accurate.

Year	SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING			CONDO - TOWNHOME			ALL PROPERTY TYPES		
	MEDIAN SALES PRICE	MONTH'S SUPPLY	AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET	MEDIAN SALES PRICE	MONTH'S SUPPLY	AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET	MEDIAN SALES PRICE	MONTH'S SUPPLY	AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET
2022 July 31	\$ 220,000	1.30	31	\$ 185,000	0.70	25	\$ 190,000	5.40	56
2022 June 30	\$ 225,000	1.40	27	\$ 175,000	0.50	34	\$ 175,000	5.30	64
2022 Jan 1	\$ 210,000	1.30	27	\$ 165,000	0.80	32	\$ 165,000	7.10	88
2021 June 30	\$ 195,000	2.30	45	\$ 148,950	2.10	37	\$ 155,000	8.30	94
2021 Jan 1	\$ 184,950	2.30	51	\$ 148,750	2.90	51	\$ 151,450	10.30	82
2020 June 30	\$ 166,750	3.40	56	\$ 179,000	2.10	38	\$ 145,000	11.30	78
2020 Jan 1	\$ 155,000	4.60	58	\$ 142,750	1.80	44	\$ 137,750	13.20	80
2019 June 30	\$ 150,000	4.90	52	\$ 96,950	1.20	37	\$ 132,950	13.20	71
2019 Jan 1	\$ 142,750	5.20	93	\$ 60,000	0.40	71	\$ 130,000	13.40	115
2018 June 30	\$ 138,750	6.60	132	\$ 88,000	0.70	188	\$ 129,800	16.20	154
2018 Jan 1	\$ 124,600	9.20	138	\$ 111,300	2.80	113	\$ 112,500	20.90	141
2017 June 30	\$ 104,000	11.80	149	\$ 63,000	6.80	141	\$ 99,000	23.20	163
2017 Jan 1	\$ 97,000	18.80	154	\$ 99,000	5.10	189	\$ 92,500	30.20	162
2016 June 30	\$ 102,000	19.00	149	\$ 132,250	No Data	130	\$ 95,000	29.80	153
2016 Jan 1	\$ 90,000	18.50	168	\$ 135,000	5.80	143	\$ 82,500	29.00	178
2015 June 30	\$ 86,650	16.10	146	\$ 96,950	5.60	173	\$ 79,500	26.40	155
2015 Jan 1	\$ 95,000	18.40	151	\$ 136,500	6.60	159	\$ 89,450	20.20	160
2014 June 30	\$ 87,550	14.20	124	\$ 94,100	6.70	200	\$ 86,200	22.20	131
2014 Jan 1	\$ 94,200	11.60	116	\$ 105,950	No Data	227	\$ 89,900	17.70	124
2009 Jan 1	\$ 101,600	6.90	108	No Data	No Data	No Data	\$ 99,900	9.80	130

NOTES:

Information above for Burke County is taken from Charlotte Regional MLS Statistical Analysis Module (SAM). Data Parameters include: all price ranges, traditional sales type (no foreclosures or short sales), all bedrooms, all properties, all square footages, all waterfront type and all acreage sizes. Charlotte.mls.com/research/notes/market

Just how does a county determine the property tax rate?

The Board determines how much money they want to spend to get **Needed Expenses**:

- Schools
- Administration
- Public works, Social Serv.
- Health Dpt, Sheriff's Dpt
- Parks & Rec.
- Rainy Day Fund, etc.

The Board looks at **Estimated Income** from all sources:

- Sales Tax/ Occupancy Tax
- Reg of Deeds
- Fees & Permits / Grants
- All other anticipated income.

Then they look at the **Sum Value** of all taxable property:

- Land
- Personal Property
- Business Personal Property

Needed Expenses - Estimated Income = "The Pot"
 ("The Pot" is what needs to be filled by property taxes.)
The Pot / Sum Value = The Tax Rate.

In preparation for the 2023 Revaluation . . .

- We have found:
- The overall increase in property values is 38%.
- Land values have increased 19%.
- Building values have increased 46%.

Year	MEDIAN SALES PRICE	MONTH'S SUPPLY	AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET
2022 July 31	\$ 220,000	1.30	31
2022 June 30	\$ 225,000	1.40	27
2022 Jan 1	\$ 210,000	1.30	27
2021 June 30	\$ 195,000	1.90	36
2021 Jan 1	\$ 184,950	2.30	45
2020 June 30	\$ 166,750	2.90	51
2020 Jan 1	\$ 164,750	3.40	56
2019 June 30	\$ 155,000	4.60	58
2019 Jan 1	\$ 150,000	4.90	52
2018 June 30	\$ 142,750	5.20	93
2018 Jan 1	\$ 138,750	6.60	132
2017 June 30	\$ 124,600	9.20	138
2017 Jan 1	\$ 124,600	9.20	128
2016 Jan 1	\$ 104,000	11.80	149
2015 Jan 1	\$ 97,000	18.80	154
2014 Jan 1	\$ 102,000	19.00	149
2013 Jan 1	\$ 90,000	18.50	168
2012 Jan 1	\$ 86,650	16.10	146
2011 Jan 1	\$ 95,000	18.40	151
2010 Jan 1	\$ 87,550	14.20	124
2009 Jan 1	\$ 94,200	11.60	116

Using 2022-23 budget figures

County needed \$52,200,000*
tax revenue to operate

Total value of Taxable
Property is \$7,500,000,000*

* Rounded

$$\text{Budget needed} / \text{Current value} = \text{Tax rate}$$

$$\text{Current value} \times \% \text{ Increase} = \text{Potential increase}$$

$$\text{Current value} + \text{Potential increase} = \text{Total Potential value}$$

$$\text{Budget needed} / \text{Total Potential value} = \text{Potential tax rate}$$

What everybody

- Wants to know is . . .
- “Are my property taxes going up?”



	Home A	Home B
• 2019 value	\$206,000	\$203,000
• 2019 taxes	\$1,432	\$1,411
• 38% increase	\$284,280	\$280,140
• Potential tax rate .00504	\$1,433	\$1,411

Bottom line, if someone's value goes up more than the average increase, their taxes are going up. If the increase in value is less than the overall average, their taxes will probably go down.



Any
Questions?

Background information:

NCGS 105-286 requires that each county in North Carolina conduct a general revaluation at least every eight (8) years. The primary purpose of a reappraisal is to equalize the tax base between the different classes of property (Real, Personal, and Public Utility). During the period between reappraisals, Real Property Values remain basically untouched regardless of what the real estate market or economy is doing. This means in a typical economy market values increase but tax values remain the same. In accordance with NCGS 105-287, tax values can only change between reappraisals when improvements have been added to or deleted from the property or to correct a data error. Increases or decreases in tax value cannot be made for economic reasons.

NCGS 105-286(a) (2) allows the Board of County Commissioners to advance the Reappraisal Cycle. By advancing the cycle, tax values can more closely follow market trends. Burke County's last reappraisal became effective January 1, 2019. The next reappraisal is scheduled for January 1, 2023, which advances the maximum cycle four (4) years from the required date of January 1, 2027.

As part of a Reappraisal Project, a *Schedule of Values (SOV)* and a *Present Use Schedule of Values* must be developed for the Real Property and property in the Present Use Value Program, approved by the Board of Commissioners, and

applied to the tax data. These schedules are comprised of cost tables for various types of structures, land, soil, and other features, along with tables for quality of construction, size, and depreciation. Values in the schedule of values were derived using various cost schedules, fee appraisals, and real estate sales in Burke County. Values for the Present Use Schedule of Values have been adopted from the recommendations of the North Carolina Use-Value Advisory Board. Schedules will be applied using the standards and rules of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) Standard 6 and the North Carolina Machinery Act (NCGS 105). When these schedules are applied to the tax data, the results will be tax values that represent Market Values and Use Values.

NCGS 105-317 requires the following steps for the approval of both the *Schedule of Values* and the *Present Use Schedule of Values*:

1. September 6th - The Tax Assessor presents both schedules to the Board.
2. September 7th - Publish a notice informing the public that the schedules are available for public inspection and publish the public hearing notice. (Both schedules will be open for public review in the Tax Assessor's Office and on the County's website.)
3. September 20th - Conduct a public hearing on both schedules.
4. October 4th - (Conduct Special Meeting) - Request the Board to approve both schedules. Once approved, the Board will issue an order adopting each schedule and publish a notice of this order.
5. October 6th - Publish a notice saying the Board has approved the schedules.
6. October 9th - Publish a notice that the Board has approved the schedules.
7. October 16th - Publish a notice that the Board has approved the schedules.
8. October 23rd - Publish a final notice saying the Board has approved the schedules.
9. November 5th - The last day for any taxpayer to appeal either schedule to the Property Tax Commission.

Vice Chairman Carswell opened the floor for comments or questions from the Board. Mr. Bridgers responded to questions from Commissioner Taylor on how citizens can challenge the reevaluation. Mr. Bridgers stated letters will go out with that information on how to appeal in February.

At 7:06 p.m., Vice Chairman Carswell opened the public hearing. The Public Hearing Notice was published in the News Herald on September 8, 2022, and the notice was posted on the County's website (www.burkenc.org) on that same day. There was no one present to address the Board; therefore, Vice Chairman Carswell closed the public hearing.

Mr. Bridgers offered to give a similar presentation on the Schedule of Values / Present Use Values to any civic club or group.

Motion: To acknowledge receipt of the Schedule of Values (SOV) and a Present Use Schedule of Values.

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

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Carswell opened the floor for Informal Public Comments and asked speakers to limit their comments to three minutes.

Tonia Stephenson, President, Burke County Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Board for their support of their ongoing Inaugural Litter Sweep event. A celebration event is scheduled for Octobers 3rd at which time three cash prizes will be awarded.

In response, Vice Chairman Carswell reiterated his request for citizens to spay or neuter their pets and to pick up a piece of trash.

Mary Safford, a Morganton resident representing St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, spoke out about how the confederate flags and confederate monument impacts potential future residents and current residents in the community. She cited a specific example of racial discrimination.

Ed Konarski, Deacon at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and in union with Burke Coalition for Reconciliation, expressed his support to have the confederate monument removed from the courthouse square.

Leslie McKesson, Ed. D., a Burke County resident, quoted from a historical document preserved at the archives of the North Carolina Department of Justice and recorded shortly after the end of the Civil War. The document was a petition to restore American citizenship for Jacob Harshaw, a wealthy slave owner in Burke County, after he sided with the Confederacy. He was Ms. McKesson's great, great, great grandfather. Ms. McKesson, citing the historical document, asserted that slavery was the core of the confederate rebellion.

Rachel Lacy, a Morganton resident, articulated that even though Morganton is a very welcoming place, the confederate statue and flags evoke a sense of fear and reminds her of a very dark part of American history. Ms. Lacy asserted the only way to heal from this history is to move the statue to a museum where it can serve as a historical reference.

With their being no one else present to address the Board, Vice Chairman Carswell closed this portion of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the request of the Board, Bryan Steen, County Manager, reviewed the 12 items on the consent agenda.

Motion: To approve Consent Agenda.

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

BOC - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) organization is a partnership of national public service organizations, professional medical associations and government agencies working together to promote breast cancer awareness, share information on the disease, and provide greater access to screening services. This is an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities every October. Since its inception more than two decades ago, NBCAM has been at the forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues, education, and empowerment for women to increase their knowledge of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-12.

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

Resolution No. 2022-12 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Resolution In Support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM)

WHEREAS, The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) organization is a partnership of national public service organizations, professional medical associations, and government agencies working together to promote breast cancer awareness, share information on the disease, and provide greater access to screening services.

WHEREAS, The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) is an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities every October to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.

WHEREAS, The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) for more than two decades has been at the forefront of promoting awareness, education, and empowerment for women to take charge of their own breast health by practicing regular self-breast exams to identify any changes, scheduling regular visits and annual mammograms with their healthcare provider, adhering to prescribed treatment, and knowing the facts about recurrence.

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BURKE COUNTY RESOLVES THAT the Burke County Board of Commissioners hereby supports National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in an

effort to save more lives and improve the quality of life for all of us touched by breast cancer.

Adopted this 20th day of September 2022.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell

Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:

/s/: Kay Honeycutt Draughn

Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENT TO WPRTA

The County appoints a regular member and an alternate member to the Western Piedmont Regional Transportation Authority. County Manager Steen is the regular member and Alan Glines is the alternate. The reappointment of both Mr. Steen and Mr. Glines for the remainder of 3-year terms ending June 30, 2025, are requested.

Western Piedmont Regional Transportation Authority					
7-Members					
Burke Co. Appoints 1 Member and 1 Alternate					
3-Year Terms					
General Statute					
Seat No.	Position	Name-Address	Term		
1	Alexander Co.				
2	Burke Co. (Regular)	Bryan Steen P.O. Box 219 Morganton NC 28680	A R R TE	7/16/2013 7/19/2016 7/16/2019 6/30/2022	
3	Burke Co. (Alternate)	Alan Glines P.O. Box 219 Morganton NC 28680	A-UT R R TE	12/21/2021 6/30/2022	

Motion: To appoint Bryan Steen (member) and Alan Glines (alternate) to the Western Piedmont Regional Transportation Authority to complete the remainder of 3-year terms ending June 30, 2025.

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

CLERK - APPOINTMENT OF REVIEW OFFICER FOR MORGANTON & RHODHISS

Alison Adams, WPCOG Director of Community & Regional Planning, requests the designation of Teresa Kinney as the review officer for the Burke County portion of the Town of Rhodhiss. In

accordance with a resolution (No. 22-19) adopted by the City of Morganton, the Board is asked to appoint Wade Griffin as a review officer for the City in the place and stead of Jesse James.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-11.

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

Resolution No. 2022-11 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, the Town of Rhodhiss, via a request from Alison Adams, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Director of Community Planning, requests that Teresa Kinney, a planner for the WPCOG, be designated as the plat review officer for the portion of the Town of Rhodhiss that is located in Burke County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morganton, via Resolution No. 22-19, adopted on the 1st day of August 2022, requests the designation of Wade Griffin as a plat review officer for the City of Morganton in the place and stead of Jesse James; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke County Board of Commissioners appoints Teresa Kinney as a plat review officer for the portion of the Town of Rhodhiss that is located in Burke County and appoints Wade Griffin as the plat review officer for the City of Morganton; and

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 20th day of September 2022.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell
Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:
/s/: Kay Honeycutt Draughn
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC

Clerk to the Board

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENTS TO BURKE CO. PLANNING BOARD

The terms of Michael Cultrera (East) and Dorian Palmer (At-large) on the Burke Co. Planning Board end September 30th. Both members desire reappointment and are eligible. The terms are for three (3) years ending September 30, 2025.

Motion: To reappoint Michael Cultrera (Seat No. 2, East) and Dorian Palmer (Seat No. 5, At-large) to the Burke Co. Planning Board for 3-year terms ending September 30, 2025.

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

COMM. DEV. / GS - FUNDING FOR SEWER REPAIRS AT INDIAN HILLS

The General Services Department will be applying for a grant and / or a loan for sewer pump station repairs at Indian Hills. The State has grant and loan money available for this type of work on a competitive basis. This resolution of support is a required step in the application process. Board action will be required later if the County receives a grant or a loan.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-14.

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

Resolution No. 2022-14 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Resolution By Governing Body of Applicant

WHEREAS, Burke County has need for and intends to construct and rehabilitate a wastewater collection system project described as the Indian Hills Pump Station Rehabilitation Project, and

WHEREAS, Burke County intends to request state loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BURKE COUNTY:
That Burke County, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the Applicant agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of Burke County to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from Burke County any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That Kenneth B. Steen, the County Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Applicant with the State of North Carolina for a loan or grant to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That the County Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the Applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 20th day of September 2022, Morganton, North Carolina.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell
Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

COMM. DEV. / GS - FUNDING FOR SEWER REPAIRS FOR ISLAND CREEK

The General Services Department will be applying for a grant and / or a loan for sewer pump station and infrastructure repairs at Island Creek. The State has grant and loan money available for this type of work on a competitive basis. This resolution of support is a required step in the application process. Board action will be required later if the County receives a grant or a loan.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-13.

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

Resolution No. 2022-13 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Resolution By Governing Body of Applicant

WHEREAS, Burke County has need for and intends to construct and rehabilitate a wastewater collection system project described as the Island Creek Sewer Infrastructure and Pump Station Rehabilitation Project and

WHEREAS, Burke County intends to request state loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BURKE COUNTY: That Burke County, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the Applicant agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of Burke County to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from Burke County any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That Kenneth B. Steen, the County Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Applicant with the State of North Carolina for a loan or grant to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That the County Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the Applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 20th day of September 2022, Morganton, North Carolina.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell
Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

FIRE MARSHAL - PROCLAMATION OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, OCTOBER 9 - 15, 2022

The National Fire Protection Association has sponsored Fire Prevention week since 1922. In

1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance. Fire Prevention Week is observed annually during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This proclamation supports fire prevention efforts of our citizens and local fire departments. This year celebrates the 100th anniversary of national Fire Prevention Week with the theme "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape".

Motion: To adopt Proclamation No. 2022-06.

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

Proclamation No. 2022-06 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Proclamation of Fire Prevention Week
October 9 – 15, 2022

WHEREAS, the County of Burke is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our County; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires caused 2,580 civilian deaths in the United States in 2020, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 356,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as 2 minutes to escape safely; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, Burke County residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke alarms and knows how to respond; and

WHEREAS, Burke County residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Burke County residents will make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Burke County first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Burke County residents that are responsive to public education measures are better able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™," effectively serves to remind Burke County citizens it is important to have a home fire escape plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Burke County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2022, as Fire Prevention Week throughout the County, and urge all the people of Burke County to plan and practice a home fire escape for Fire Prevention Week 2022 and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Burke County's fire and emergency services.

Approved this 20th day of September 2022.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell

Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

FM - RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DREXEL ROAD BRIDGE BE NAMED IN HONOR OF FALLEN FIREFIGHTER JASON KEITH HENSLEY

The Triple Community Fire Department wishes to honor Firefighter Jason Keith Hensley who died in the line of duty while performing his duties as a volunteer firefighter by naming the Drexel Road bridge over Interstate 40 the Jason Keith Hensley Bridge. Following severe storms that caused damage across Burke County on October 8, 2017, Jason Keith Hensley and one other Triple Community Firefighter responded to the call of downed trees along Hwy 70 in the Drexel area. Shortly after midnight on October 9, 2017, Firefighter Hensley was reaching for a chainsaw at the rear of the fire apparatus when an impaired driver struck Hensley and the fire apparatus killing him instantly. This resolution is the final requirement for the honoree packet to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The Triple Community Fire Department will bear all expenses associated with the application request. Jason's widow Lydia is in full support of the naming request.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2022-10.

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

Resolution No.2022-10 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Burke County
Resolution Supporting Naming Drexel Road Bridge at I 40

WHEREAS, Jason Keith Hensley was born in Burke County, attended public schools, and graduated from East Burke High School; and

WHEREAS, a citizen of Burke County, Jason Keith Hensley, resided in the Triple Community with his wife and two sons, and served his community as a volunteer firefighter with Triple Community Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, on the evening of Sunday, October 8, 2017, a severe thunderstorm swept across Burke County causing multiple trees to fall blocking roadways across the county, Jason Keith Hensley responded with Triple Community Fire Department to remove a fallen tree on Highway 70; and

WHEREAS, while wearing proper personal protective clothing, with emergency lights activated on the fire apparatus, Jason Keith Hensley was struck by another vehicle and passed away as a result of the collision on Monday, October 9, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Jason Keith Hensley performed his duties as a Triple Community Firefighter with courage, honor and dignity and gave his life in the execution of those duties; and

WHEREAS, the Triple Community Fire Department and the family of Jason Keith Hensley wish to honor his community service by naming the Drexel Road bridge over interstate 40.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burke County Board of Commissioners hereby request the North Carolina Department of Transportation to name the bridge on Drexel Road over Interstate 40 as the Jason Keith Hensley Bridge.

Adopted this the 20th day of September 2022.

/s/: Johnnie W. Carswell
Johnnie W. Carswell, Vice Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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

LIBRARY - ACCEPTANCE OF NONRECURRING STATE AID & NON-STATE ENTITY AWARD AGREEMENT

In the 2021 state budget, the N.C. General Assembly approved \$10,000,000 in additional, nonrecurring state aid to public libraries. This was made possible by federal funds provided to the State of North Carolina through a State Fiscal Recovery Fund Grant as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The State Library of North Carolina under the direction of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is to administer and distribute these funds to public libraries in North Carolina. The amount of funds for each library will be based on the same formula used by the State Library to determine the regular annual allocation of state aid to public libraries. The Burke County Public Library will receive \$81,803 of this nonrecurring state aid.

Based on the award agreement these funds may be used for "materials, salaries, equipment,

and operating costs, which are consistent with allowable uses outlined in 07 NCAC 021 .0202 State Aid Grants to Public Library Fund. This has been reviewed by the NC Pandemic Recovery Office and conforms to their interpretation of the federal guidelines and regulations for these funds. Once the award agreement is accepted, the State Library will disburse the full amount of the award to the Burke County Public Library.

The agreement requires that funds be obligated by December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026, to avoid any reversion of funds. Unless directed otherwise, the Burke County Public Library plans to expend these funds within FY 22/23.

The library has identified the following as possible uses for these funds:

1. Additional materials shelving for the C.B. Hildebrand Public Library. Estimated cost is \$14,000.
2. Additional ebooks and print books for all Burke County Public Library locations. Estimated cost is \$40,000-\$50,000.
3. Sidewalk addition/replacement at the Morganton Public Library. Estimated cost is \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Budgetary Effect: An additional \$81,803 in state aid funds would be available to the Burke County Public Library.

Motion: To accept the \$81,803 in state aid and authorize the Chairman of the Burke County Board of Commissioners to execute the Non-State Entity Award Agreement - State Aid to Public Libraries on behalf of the Board.

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

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 2022

The Board of Commissioners is presented with the Tax Collection Report for the period between July 1, 2022, and August 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	\$30,839,401.87	67.33 %	\$14,960,598.13
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$6,000,000.00	\$ 1,083,253.16	18.05 %	\$4,916,746.84
Current Year Taxes	\$51,800,000.00	\$31,922,655.03	61.63 %	\$19,877,344.97
Delinquent Taxes	\$700,000.00	\$206,099.84	29.44 %	\$493,900.16
Late List Penalty	\$315,000.00	\$61,553.35	19.54 %	\$253,446.64

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	\$47,412,371.13	\$30,839,401.87	65.05 %	\$16,572,969.26

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

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

TAX DEPT. - RELEASE REFUND REPORT FOR AUGUST 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)	\$45,467.50	\$0.00	\$45,467.50	\$0.00

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	\$286.84

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

The tax reports read as follows:

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Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)	Notes and Rebilled Amount
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Adjustment								
0000021057-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	HOLLAND, JANICE ECKARD	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/11/2022	1,455.73	1,455.73	0.00	0.00
0000042447-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	BURKETT, KEITH	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/4/2022	294.36	294.36	0.00	0.00
0024060288-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	PRESNELL, KENNETH LEE	7/21/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/3/2022	21.71	21.71	0.00	0.00
0024062264-2022-2021-0000-00-REG	DEVINNEY, WILLIAM TRENT	8/18/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/22/2022	90.77	90.77	0.00	0.00
0024064794-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	GUFFEY, JERRY	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/29/2022	382.25	197.63	184.62	0.00
Subtotal						2,060.20	184.62	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Amended Listing								
0000029668-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	BRYANT, MARVIN EUGENE	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/15/2022	533.83	533.83	0.00	0.00
0000075634-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WISE, JAYNE	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/24/2022	16.06	16.06	0.00	0.00
0000079089-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WESTPHALL, GEOFF	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/22/2022	109.40	109.40	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						659.29	0.00	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Duplicate Billing								
0000018105-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	ROBERTS, WILLIAM STEVE	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/29/2022	584.82	5.56	579.26	0.00
0024025678-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	SMITH, CHARLES EDWARD	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/4/2022	33.05	9.04	24.01	0.00
0024047576-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	DIXON, DANIEL KEITH JR	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/15/2022	73.24	28.90	44.34	0.00
0024058967-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	RESENDIZ, IVONNE ROJO	7/1/2022	PEGGY SEATON	8/1/2022	276.35	276.35	0.00	0.00
0024062986-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	KELLERMAYER BERGENSONS SERVICES LLC	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	8/16/2022	21.90	21.90	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						341.75	647.61	
Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)	Notes and Rebilled Amount
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Business Closed								
0000084713-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	BETTER HOUSING CENTER INC	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	135.33	135.33	0.00	0.00
0024059001-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	HAMMER DOWN EXPRESS	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	8/3/2022	38.23	38.23	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						173.56	0.00	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Exempt Property								
0000026126-2017-2017-0000-00-REG	HOME LIVING OPPORTUNITIES INC	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	763.55	763.55	0.00	0.00
0000026126-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	HOME LIVING OPPORTUNITIES INC	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	765.55	765.55	0.00	0.00
0000026126-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	HOME LIVING OPPORTUNITIES INC	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	830.68	830.68	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2017-2017-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,602.59	1,602.59	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,604.59	1,604.59	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,508.35	1,508.35	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,508.35	1,508.35	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	3/9/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,512.35	1,512.35	0.00	0.00
0000046710-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WILLIAM M HEMPHILL FOUNDATION	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/19/2022	1,518.35	1,518.35	0.00	0.00
0000085384-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	GRIFFIN GORDON RECYCLING LLC	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/30/2022	1,478.71	628.94	849.77	0.00
Subtotal						12,243.30	849.77	
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Listed In Error								
0000044466-2022-2022-0000-01-REG	JETT, JERRY LAMAR JR	7/14/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/9/2022	268.57	268.57	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						268.57	0.00	
Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)	Notes and Rebilled Amount
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Mapping Correction								

000007932-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	BRENDE, AVA ABERNATHY	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/3/2022	165.50	36.49	129.01	0.00
0000049843-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	ROBINSON, DEBORAH	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	8/3/2022	1,218.07	1,218.07	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						1,254.56	129.01	

TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Not in Burke County

0024060192-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	FULTON, GAY L	7/22/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/2/2022	88.30	88.30	0.00	0.00
0024061023-2022-2021-0000-00-REG	HOOD, JAMES THURMAN	8/18/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/30/2022	1,635.73	1,635.73	0.00	0.00
0024064658-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/18/2022	52.80	52.80	0.00	0.00
0024065322-2022-2021-0000-00-REG	LUCKE, MICHAEL DAVID	8/18/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	8/26/2022	380.44	380.44	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						2,157.27	0.00	

TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Penalty Correction

0000001505-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	MCFALLS, JERRY DEAN	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	198.43	9.98	188.45	0.00
0000002204-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	CARICO, GARY MICHAEL	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	567.53	50.59	516.94	0.00
0000011214-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	NEWTON, CYNTHIA L	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	2,256.78	195.97	2,060.81	0.00
0000011582-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	DEAL, BRYAN KEITH	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	333.24	22.31	310.93	0.00
0000029431-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WEAVER, PAUL EARL	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	955.20	79.01	876.19	0.00
0000051696-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	MOORE, THOMAS LEROY	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	54.49	4.45	50.04	0.00
0000052408-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	BIELITZ, ROBERT	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/3/2022	9,264.67	826.89	8,437.78	0.00
Subtotal						1,189.20	12,441.14	

Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)	Notes and Rebilled Amount
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TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Release LFUF

0000075634-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WISE, JAYNE	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/24/2022	98.06	82.00	16.06	0.00
0000082566-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	JOHNSON, JOHNNY LEE	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	8/9/2022	82.00	82.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal						164.00	16.06	

TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Sold/Traded

0000007467-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	WOODY, STACEY LYNN	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/10/2022	618.45	20.87	597.58	0.00
0000007657-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	JONES, EDDIE GALE	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/22/2022	280.52	280.52	0.00	0.00
0000023694-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	MILLER, JUANITA	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/22/2022	381.38	381.38	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2014-2014-0000-00-REG	ESCUDEO, BEVERLY L HINES	7/1/2014	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	87.68	87.68	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2015-2015-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2015	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	89.08	89.08	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2016-2016-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2016	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	94.79	94.79	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2017-2017-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2017	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	100.45	100.45	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2018	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	102.45	102.45	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2019	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	92.83	92.83	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2020	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	92.83	92.83	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2021	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	96.83	96.83	0.00	0.00
0000037139-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	MANUS, RICHARD DEAN	7/1/2022	PEGGY SEATON	8/29/2022	102.83	102.83	0.00	0.00
0000044760-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	HICKS, DALE JUNIOR	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/22/2022	553.43	553.43	0.00	0.00
Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)	Notes and Rebilled Amount
0000056989-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	KURTZ, EDWARD G	7/1/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	8/22/2022	493.17	493.17	0.00	0.00

TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Assessed In Error

0000073401-2013-2013-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2013	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	214.64	213.01	1.63	0.00
0000073401-2014-2014-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2014	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	211.14	211.14	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2015-2015-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2015	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	211.19	211.19	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2016-2016-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2016	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	201.88	201.88	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2017-2017-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2017	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	209.91	209.91	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2018	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	211.91	211.91	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2019	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	198.25	198.25	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2020	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	156.77	156.77	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2021	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	160.77	160.77	0.00	0.00
0000073401-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	STREET, HERMAN D	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/10/2022	166.77	166.77	0.00	0.00
0024063096-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	4D MOTION LLC	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	8/12/2022	19,112.50	19,112.50	0.00	0.00
Subtotal					21,054.10		1.63	
Total					45,467.50			

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Secondary Owner	Address 1	Address 3	Refund Type	Bill #	Refund Description	Tax Jurisd	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
CONLEY, BETTY RICHELLE	CONLEY, BETTY RICHELLE	CONLEY, ROBERT LUROY	PO BOX 42	LINVILLE FALLS, NC 28647	Adjustment >= \$100	0067853072	Refund Generated due to adjustment on Bill #0067853072-2022-2022-0000	01	Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								57	Tax	(\$199.39)	\$0.00	(\$199.39)
								57	Vehicle Fee	(\$20.00)	\$0.00	(\$20.00)
								35	Tax	\$47.22	\$0.00	\$47.22
								Refund			\$172.17	
ICARD, STEVEN RANDAL	ICARD, STEVEN RANDAL		PO BOX 129	RUTHERFORD COLLEGE, NC 28671	Adjustment >= \$100	0067845121	Refund Generated due to adjustment on Bill #0067845121-2022-2022-0000	01	Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								54	Tax	\$32.93	\$0.00	\$32.93
								57	Tax	(\$156.41)	\$0.00	(\$156.41)
								57	Vehicle Fee	(\$20.00)	\$0.00	(\$20.00)
								28	Tax	\$28.81	\$0.00	\$28.81
Refund Refund Total											\$286.84	

Motion: To approve the Tax Releases and Refunds for August 2022 as presented.**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**MOVER:** Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner**AYES:** Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Jeffrey C. Brittain, and Maynard M. Taylor**ABSENT:** Scott Mulwee**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL**

According to the County's approved travel policy, out of state travel must be approved by the Board of Commissioners. Approval of the following travel request for Social Services personnel is requested.

Date: 10/11-10/14

Personnel: DSS Director

Location: San Diego, CA

Amount: \$647.95 (air fare expenses of \$513.70 will be reimbursed to the county as a result of the award of a NACHSA Scholarship covering the cost of air fare, accommodations, and conference registration fees)

Budgetary Effect: N.A. Funding is available in the FY 22-23 budget.

Motion: To approve the out-of-state travel request for the DSS Director as presented.

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

ITEMS FOR DECISION

CLERK - APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT TO THE BURKE CO. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, stated that Seat No. 4 (West) on the Burke County Board of Adjustment is occupied by Tony Yount. His term expires at the end of September, and he is willing to serve another 3-year term. The Planning Department respectfully requests the reappointment of Mr. Yount. He's been a good member and has three (3) years of experience on the Board of Adjustment. An application was also received from Chad Barrow who is a resident of Morganton.

Vice Chairman Carswell opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Brittain nominated Tony Yount. There were no other nominations; therefore, Vice Chairman Carswell closed the floor.

Motion: To reappoint Tony Yount to the Burke County Board of Adjustment for a 3-year term ending September 30, 2025.

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

REPORTS & COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Carswell opened the floor for reports and comments from Board members and professional staff.

County Attorney Simpson reported on the items he has worked on since the last Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Taylor shared information on an upcoming water quality conference. Vice Chairman Carswell announced upcoming meeting dates, issued friendly reminders to not litter, to pick up trash, to cover your loads when transporting trash to the landfill or a convenience site, to spay and neuter your pets and to adopt or foster a pet from Animal Services.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS**CLERK- BOARDS AND COMMITTEES VACANCY REPORT**

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, announced the following vacancies on county boards or committees as follows:

- 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)

Vice Chairman Carswell encouraged citizens to consider serving on a board or 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:	Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Jeffrey C. Brittain, and Maynard M. Taylor
ABSENT:	Scott Mulwee

Motion: To come out of closed session.

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

No action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

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

Approved this 16th day of May 2023.



Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board