

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

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, Burke Services Building, 110 N. Green Street in Morganton, N.C. The meeting was streamed live on the County's YouTube channel, BurkeCountyNC, and it was broadcast on the local cable systems. The agenda, in its entirety, was posted to the County's website, www.burkenc.org, several days prior to the meeting as usual. Those present were:

COMMISSIONERS:

Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Jeffrey C. Brittain, Vice Chairman
Randy Burns
Johnnie W. Carswell
Phil Smith

STAFF:

Alan Glines, Interim County Manager/Planning Director
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

Dr. George Logan, Pastor, New Day Christian 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:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 27, 2022 (special), June 7, 2022 (pre-agenda), and June 16, 2022 (special) meetings as written.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

PRESENTATIONS

AS - PETS OF THE MONTH

Kaitlin Settlemyre, Animal Services Director, presented a dog (Archer) and a cat (Dana) in need of its "forever" home. She then relayed information on some upcoming events. Be My Doggone Valentine on February 14th allows someone to take a dog out as their Valentine's Day date with a \$1 discount off any drink at the Human Bean. Valentine's Day Doggy & Kitty Grams can be purchased from February 1st-11th to deliver a dog or cat for a cuddle session on the 14th. Love Stinks where a name can be written on a pee pad or litterbox which can be purchased from the 1st-13th to be delivered on the 14th. Ms. Settlemyre encouraged those who are interested and able to adopt or foster a pet.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments and then encouraged citizens to adopt or foster a pet.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN.

HEALTH DEPT. - PRESENTATION OF 2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Chae Moore, Health Education Supervisor, presented information on the Community Health Assessment (CHA) which is conducted every three (3) years. The purpose of the CHA is to inform, educate, and present information to both community members and shareholders on the current health status of the community in which they live, work, play, and learn. It is a requirement for both state and national accreditation to share the findings of the assessment with community shareholders and members. The CHA focuses on gathering data from surveys and then conducting focus groups.

Ms. Moore began working on the CHA in September of 2021 with the Burke Wellness Initiative. This was different than the prior CHAs due to the pandemic. The data revealed the trials and struggles that people faced over the last few years: food insecurity, job loss, children falling behind in school, mental health struggles, substance use struggles, and more. Many of these struggles were preexisting issues that became exacerbated by the pandemic. After analyzing primary and secondary data, Burke County remained stagnant or increased in childhood poverty, substance use disorder, adult obesity rates and healthy food access.

After voting on the top three to focus on as a priority, the results were as follows: (1) mental health, (2) substance use disorder, and (3) obesity with risk factors. The Burke Wellness initiative will need to create a Community Health Improvement Plan to address these priorities. Ms. Moore informed the Board that substance use disorder has been a top priority over the last seven (7) years, therefore a new approach must be tried to try and tackle this ongoing problem. The intention is to focus on the root causes of the issues then use that to enhance existing programs and create new programs in an equitable manner.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Commissioner Burns inquired if other agencies could use the data collected and Ms. Moore stated it could be used by the Council on Aging. Chairman Mulwee thanked Ms. Moore for the countless hours poured into this project.

Note: The CHA, as set forth in the agenda packet, is hereby incorporated into the meeting minutes by reference.

Motion: To accept the 2022 Community Health Assessment as presented.**RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]****MOVER:** Johnnie W. Carswell, Commissioner**AYES:** Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING****COMM. DEV. - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT ZMA 2022-05 & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 P.M.**

Alan Glines, Interim County Manager / Planning Director, presented the following information on Zoning Map Amendment ZMA 2022-05:

REQUEST

Staff has received a rezoning application from Steve and Jamie Gassner to rezone two parcels of land totaling 19.93-acres. The request is to rezone the property from its current zoning of Residential Two (R-2) to the General Business (G-B) zoning district.

BACKGROUND AND SITE ANALYSIS

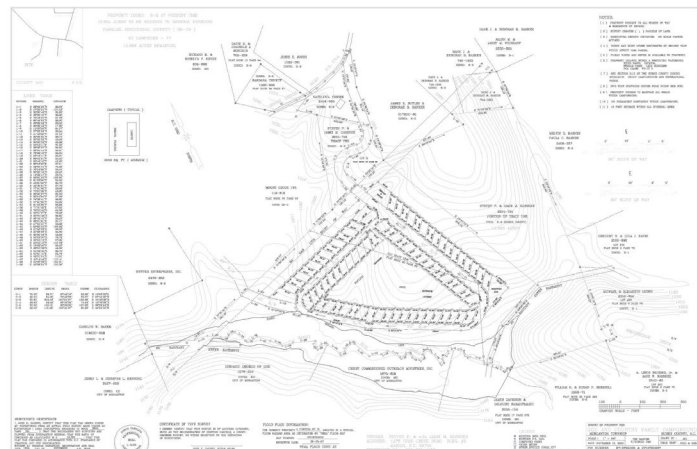
The applicant is requesting a rezoning in order to establish a Commercial Campground/RV Park. If the parcel were to be rezoned, the following Site Development Plan would be reviewed by multiple local and state departments and must meet all adopted ordinances.



Primary entrance where the access would be added.

The parcel is described as follows:

The information provided is for a 12.405-acre parcel of land. County records identify that parcel as (PIN# 2713722019 and REID# 65172). The property owners are adding another 7.5-acres to that parcel. That plat for the newly combined parcel has been recorded but is not mapped yet in GIS and does not have the new parcel ID. Once mapped, the total land area will be 19.93-acres. The parcel is vacant and does not have an actual physical address. The listed address is 0 Moose Lodge St., Morganton. The property is accessed via a 45' right-of-way off Moose Lodge St. (SR# 1714). (Plat Bk. 40/Pg. 37 and Plat Bk. 49/Pg. 65) for both parcels in the rezoning.



Site Development Plan

SURROUNDING AREA

The lower portion of the parcel is located adjacent to the City of Morganton's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). The property is also in proximity to the Ramble

Woods and Farmland Acres subdivisions. The primary access to the property is via Moose Lodge St. (SR# 1714) a state maintained secondary road.

CASE PHOTOS



Existing Zoning and Land Uses within the Surrounding Area		
	Current Zoning	Existing Land Uses
North	R-2, R-1	Scattered Residences / Subdivision / Vacant Land
South	MID – City of Morganton	Vacant Land / Scattered Residences / Church
East	R-2, R-1	Vacant Land / Subdivision
West	G-B, R-2, IND	Vacant Land / Moose Lodge / RV Park / Industrial

The Aerial Land Use Map shows the parent parcel (outlined in red), the Moose Lodge, campground, several industrial buildings to the west, the residential subdivisions to the north and east, and some scattered homes to the south.

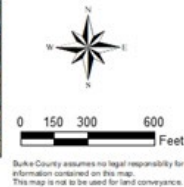
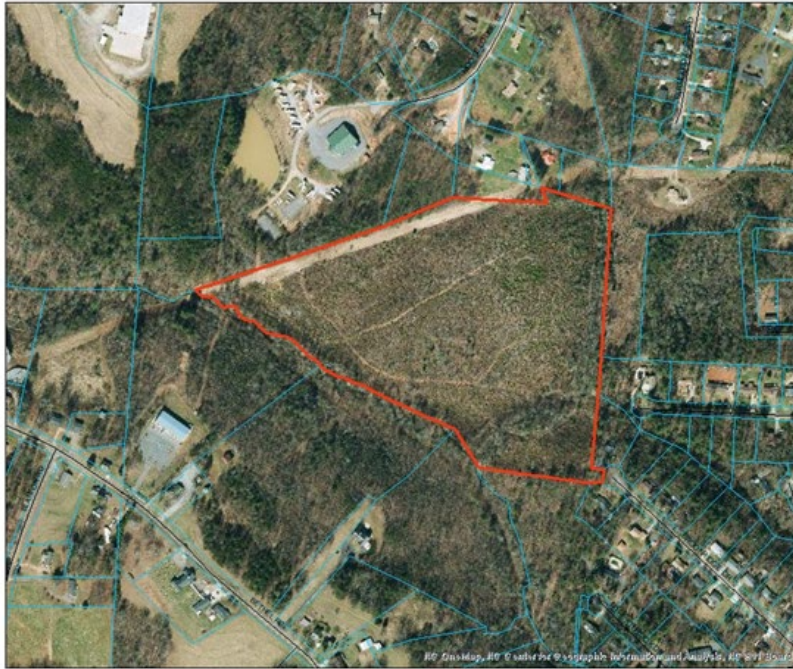


Burke County, NC Zoning Administration Aerial Land Use Map

ZMA 2022-05

Applicant(s):
Steven & Jamie
Gassner

PIN# 2713725006



CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The current land use plan for Burke County is the Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan. This plan was recently updated in October of 2022.

The subject parcel is currently located in the category "Residential Infill." Characteristics of this area include medium to high density development focused on rural or suburban neighborhood settings; sufficient access from a major road or road improved to County standards as well as connecting to major roads maintained by the NC DoT. Access to infrastructure is typical and preferred including public water and / or sewer services.

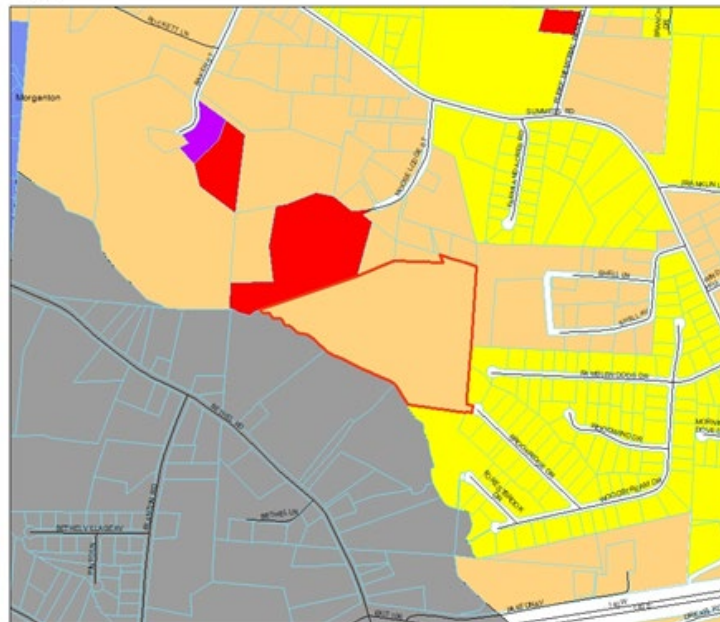


Burke County, NC Zoning Administration Future Land Use Map

ZMA 2022-05

Applicants:
Steven & Jamie
Gassner

PIN# 2713725006

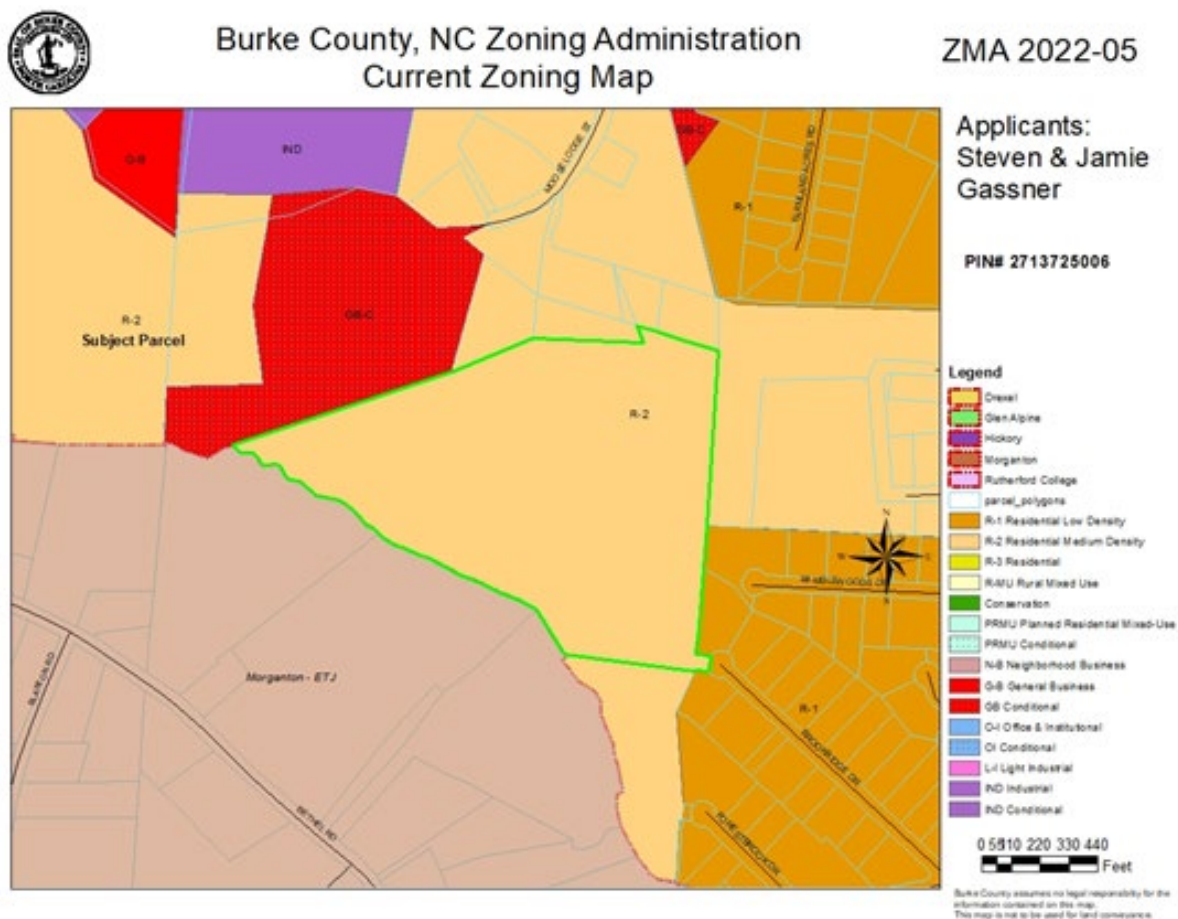


The request is to change the zoning to General Business (G-B). The usual characteristics for this district include major road access under NC DOT maintenance; access to properties from improved driveways; buffers provided to residential areas from commercial uses; access to necessary infrastructure including water and sewer. Potential uses may include a wide range of residential and commercial uses, some of which would be impractical due to this specific out-of-the-way location.

The Blueprint Burke Plan provides a framework for growth and needs to be flexible enough to be adapted for reasonable requests that can be made to blend into the character of the neighborhood. If approved, the rezoning would be similar to the adjoining Moose Lodge property and will still provide a buffer for the nearby community. Approval of the request will also adjust the Future Land Use Map which will show this area for general business.

CONFORMITY WITH THE BURKE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE

The current zoning district for this parcel is Residential Two (R-2). The area has not changed very much over the past thirty plus years. The Moose Lodge and other non-residential uses have existed in the area since at least 1993.





STAFF COMMENTS

In staff's opinion, rezoning the parcel from the Residential-Two (R-2) zoning district to the General Business District could be appropriate for this area for the following reasons:

- There is both Industrial and General Business zoning and uses in the surrounding area.
- The subject parcel is adjacent to an existing General Business zoning district. Although the list of potential land uses is broad, this location will only support a specialty destination use; one that does not rely on drive-by access.
- There is an existing commercial campground adjacent to the subject parcel.
- The owner also owns the property to the north and east of the subject parcel which provides a large buffer for the residential subdivisions and homes within the surrounding area.
- The stream to the south will provide a buffer from the church and residences on the other side of the creek.
- The county is in need of more commercial uses to create jobs and the Blueprint Burke Plan recommends growth for recreational-based uses to serve visitors and residents of the County.
- If the parcel were to be rezoned, the following Site Development Plan will be reviewed by multiple local and state departments for compliance with local and state requirements.

For these reasons, staff supports the rezoning request.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board met on December 1, 2022, to hear this rezoning request. Planning staff provided their report, and the applicant stated their request and shared the vision for the property to be used for a campground. Although the rezoning has not been approved, the applicant had a professional Site Development Plan prepared for the campground and shared that with the Planning Board. After opening the floor for public comment, and no one came forward, the Board discussed the rezoning request. A motion was made to support the request and it passed 4-0.

At 6:18 p.m., Chairman Mulwee opened the public hearing. The Public Hearing Notice was published in the News Herald on January 5 and 12, 2023, and the notice was posted on the County's website (www.burkenc.org) on January 5, 2023. There was no one present to address the Board; therefore, Chairman Mulwee closed the public hearing.

Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 2023-01 approving ZMA 2022-05 for a parcel totaling 19.93 acres (consisting of a 12.405-acre parcel (PIN# 2713722019) and a 7.52-acre portion of parcel (PIN# 2713820004) as shown on Plat Bk. 60 / Pg. 96 from the Residential Two (R-2) District to the General Business (G-B) District.

Consistency Statement: The rezoning request to General Business District is not in keeping with the Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan because the area is shown as Residential Infill, but considerations have changed to now support the request. The property bounds another area of general business, and the owner is seeking to develop a business appropriate to that specific location. The rezoning to General Business is reasonable and in the public interest because:

- 1. The site is adjacent to property with similar zoning and sufficient area is remaining around the zoning parcel to protect residential areas.**
- 2. The Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan encourages innovative recreation tourism-focused land uses that are supported by necessary infrastructure to complement and enhance the character of the county.**
- 3. By action of the Board of Commissioners the Future Land Use Map is amended to General Business without need for separate action.**

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Vice Chairman

AYES: Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Ordinance No. 2022-05 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

An Ordinance Amending the Official Burke County Zoning Map
ZMA 2022-05

Be it ordained that the Official Burke County Zoning Map is hereby amended as follows:

Two parcels shown as "Lots A and B" in Plat Book 60/Pg. 96 (shown previously as a 12.405-acre parcel of land corresponding to PIN# 2713722019 and a 7.529-acre portion of PIN# 2713820004) is hereby re-zoned from the Residential Two (R-2) Zoning District to the General Business (G-B) Zoning District. The total land area to be rezoned is 19.93-acres.

Consistency Statement

The Commissioners find that Ordinance No. 2023-01 related to rezoning application ZMA 2022-05 to be reasonable and in the public interest because:

1. The Blueprint Burke Plan encourages innovative recreation tourism-focused land uses that are supported by necessary infrastructure to complement and enhance the character of the county.
2. The site is adjacent to property with similar zoning and sufficient area is remaining around the zoning parcel to protect residential areas.
3. By action of the Board of Commissioners the Future Land Use Map is amended to General Business without need for separate action.

Adopted this 17th day of January 2023.

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

Attest:

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

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 6:20 p.m., Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for Informal Public Comments and asked speakers to limit their comments to three minutes.

Jane Cantwell, 501 Riverside Drive, a resident of Burke County for 15 years who grew up in the former Soviet Union, expressed concerns over comments made by a Commissioner during the January pre-agenda meeting about the Community Health Assessment containing references to tenants of Communism and Marxism.

Dr. Leslie McKesson, 202 La Foret Drive, thanked Chairman Mulwee and Commissioner Carswell for attending the MLK banquet and connecting with their constituents. Concerning the removal of the Confederate monument and in response to an offer of assistance made at the MLK banquet, Dr. McKesson reported monthly, since January 2021, 250 citizens have appeared before the Commissioners, requesting a facilitated discussion or visible action on the statue and that they await a response or action from this Board. With regard to the Community Health Assessment, she encouraged the Commission to defer to the expertise of trained professionals in the Health Department and place importance on validated findings and reject political misuse of words like diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice and critical race theory.

Minister Alicia Connelly, President of the NAACP and Morganton resident, was encouraged about the detailed analysis of the Community Health Assessment and the expressed intention to improve the wellbeing of all of the Burke County residents; however, she was discouraged by Commissioner Smith's divisive comments about the study at the pre-agenda meeting. She asked that the other members of the Commission publicly call out his narrow reading of the study.

Sam Avery, 115 Riverside Court, after doing research, expressed disagreement with the comments made by Commissioner Smith at the January pre-agenda meeting concerning a fragment of the data contained in the Community Health Assessment. He said these comments had nothing to do with bettering the physical and mental health of citizens in Burke County.

Carla Kincaid of Morganton expressed agreement with all the prior speakers' comments concerning the Community Health Assessment.

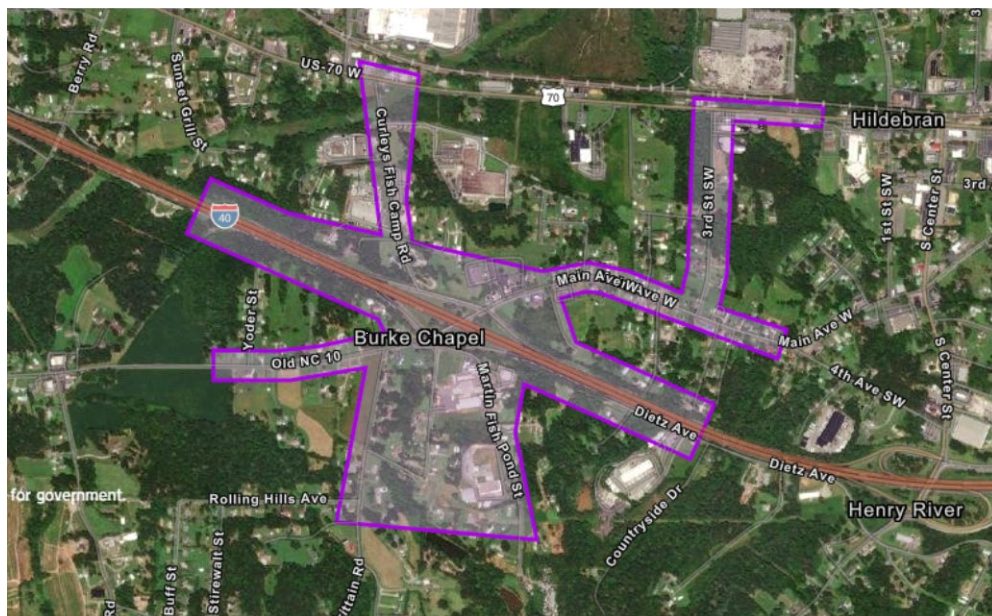
There was no one else present to address the Board; therefore, this portion of the meeting was closed at 6:35 p.m. Chairman Mulwee issued a reminder that the Board does not respond to public comments but took a Point of Privilege to state the Commissioners are elected officials and each has a right to voice their opinion. However, the views of one commissioner do not reflect the views of other commissioners.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the request of the Board, Alan Glines, Interim County Manager/Planning Director, reviewed the ten items on the consent agenda which were approved in one motion.

BOC - RESOLUTION CONCERNING PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

The following resolution opposes the closure of Curley's Fish Camp Road in Hildebran and encourages the Department of Transportation to explore other viable options.



Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2023-02.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Resolution No. 2023-02 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Resolution Opposing the Closure of Curley's Fish Camp Road in Hildebran
NCDOT, 1-40 Exit 118 – SR 1761 (Old NC 10) Construct Interchange Improvements
Project I-5990

WHEREAS, The N.C. Department of Transportation proposes to improve the I-40 Interchange with Old N.C. Highway 10 (S.R. 1761) (Exit 118) and replace the existing bridge on Old N.C. Highway 10 over I-40 within and adjacent to the Town of Hildebran in Burke County; and

WHEREAS, This project proposes to modify existing access by constructing service roads and realigning existing ramps and approaching roadways. Surrounding roadways and intersections will also be improved: Curleys Fish Camp Road, U.S. 70, Third Street S.W., Martin Fish Pond Street, Dietz Avenue, Old Brittain Road, Dowell Street and Old N.C. Highway 10; and

WHEREAS, NCDOT held a public meeting on November 17, 2022, to receive citizen input on the proposed interchange improvements, including the possible closure of Curleys Fish Camp Road; and

WHEREAS, There are several large-scale businesses that could be potentially negatively affected by the closure of Curleys Fish Camp Road and members of the business community have contacted the Burke County Commissioners for assistance in this matter; and

WHEREAS, These businesses include a community daycare, a textile manufacturing facility, a major truck repair and sales facility; a large warehousing business and several other small businesses, including Curleys Fish Camp and Timber Block USA, Inc. These businesses currently benefit from and rely upon the easy access to I-40; and

WHEREAS, Curleys Fish Camp Road offers a direct route to the northwest in Burke County from the current configuration of this intersection; and

WHEREAS, NCDOT's current proposal has Curleys Fish Camp Road commercial truck traffic heading east on I-40 rerouted to S Center Street which is contradictory with the Town of Hildebran's existing land use plans which shows S Center Street as a pedestrian friendly downtown area with high levels of walkability; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hildebran is working with NCDOT officials and NC Representative Blackwell's office in hopes of having Project I-5990 modified to address their concerns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Burke County Board of Commissioners that the Board, on behalf of local businesses that rely and have relied upon this highway to conveniently bring customers and products to their doorsteps for years and to prevent the destruction of the Town of Hildebran's vision for a walkable pedestrian friendly downtown area, hereby states its opposition to the closing of Curleys Fish Camp Road as proposed at the NCDOT public meeting for the design of NCDOT Project I-5990.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages NCDOT to continue collaborating with community stakeholders to modify the design options to find a solution that will minimize and mitigate adverse impacts to surrounding businesses, neighborhoods, and the Town of Hildebran.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Burke County Commissioners requests that this resolution be transmitted to the Burke County Legislative Delegation.

Adopted this 17th day of January 2023.

/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

CLERK - APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF HINCEMAN TO CERTAIN COUNTY BOARDS

The appointment of Sheriff Hinceman to the JCPC Seat No. 3 (Sheriff) and the Child Protection Child Fatality Prevention Team Seat No. 1 (Law Enforcement) was requested. Former Sheriff, Steve Whisenant, occupied these seats.

Motion: To appoint Sheriff Hinceman to Seat No 3, Sheriff, on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council to complete the remainder of an unexpired term ending June 30, 2023, and to appoint him to the Child Protection Child Fatality Prevention Team, Seat No. 1, law enforcement, to complete the remainder of the unexpired term ending April 30, 2023.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jennie Cook occupies Seat No. 8 (Hildebran - City) on the Library Board of Trustees. Her term ended December 31st and she is willing to serve another 3-year term ending Dec. 31, 2025.

Motion: To reappoint Jennie Cook to the Library Board of Trustees, Seat No. 8 (Hildebran – City), to complete the remainder of an unexpired term ending December 31, 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE LEPC

Burke County is required to organize and maintain the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) as a requirement of the federal law known as Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). EPCRA requires facilities with more than the threshold planning quantities of hazardous materials to report to the LEPC, Fire Departments, and the State Emergency Response Commission. This reporting is done through Tier II reporting on a program called E-Plan. E-Plan can be viewed by the LEPC, Fire Departments, and Emergency Services personnel. The LEPC was formed to work on the planned response and general safety measures in dealing with hazardous materials at fixed facilities and transportation routes. This committee is designed to work hand-in-hand with emergency response agencies, business and industry organizations and the general public.

The terms of appointment for the following members of the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) ends January 31, 2023: Israel Gibson (Seat 3, Fire Service), Mike Willis (Seat 4, Emergency Mgmt.) Brooke Jarlson (Seat 6, Environmental Health), April Pope (Seat 9, Citizen), Joshua Mashburn (Seat 12, Transportation) and Steve Jenkins (Seat 16, SAFT). All members are willing to serve another 3-year term.

Motion: To reappoint Israel Gibson (Seat 3, Fire Service), Mike Willis (Seat 4, Emergency Mgmt.), Brooke Jarlson (Seat 6, Environmental Health), April Pope (Seat 9, Citizen), Joshua Mashburn (Seat 12, Transportation) and Steve Jenkins (Seat 16, SAFT) to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for 3-year terms ending January 31, 2026.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

FINANCE - ACCEPTANCE OF SCIF FUNDS

The County received an allocation of \$1,000,000 in the State budget approved in the fall. The State agreement for these funds is anticipated to be received by the January 17, 2023, meeting. Board approval is required to execute the contracts and proceed with expenditures. Per Board directions, the following list of sub recipient agencies would receive the funds for programs ranging from responsible pet owner education and care, transitional housing needs, counseling and mental health services, and health services to other community programs for Burke County citizens.

Budgetary Effect: Increase revenue and expenditures \$1,000,000 to fund subrecipient agencies for various public purpose programs as outlined in the following list.

Note: Burke County contributed \$100,000 of local funds to the Christ Centered Recovery Program, Inc. for facility improvements.

Agency	Amount	Funding Details	Agency	Amount	Funding Details
Animal Services Foundation	\$ 25,000	Contracting to hold educational events and produce educational materials on best practices in pet care. Assist County Animal Services with costs for spay/neuter services. Funds will be spent over next 12-15 months.	Mimosa Christian Counseling Center	\$ 100,000	To provide funds for building repairs/renovations, electronic records system install, transition, and software, and other computer/IT needs to support programs for counseling for depression, anxiety, and other issues for clients unable to access other services due to income or other economic factors. Funds will be used by April 2024.
Brighter House	\$ 100,000	To assist with renovations for a facility to serve as a club house for citizens with mental health challenges. The project is modeled after program with proven success. Funds will be spent over next 12-15 months.	NC School of Science and Math	\$ 25,000	To build a sidewalk from the school for safety of the students and staff from one section of campus to another. Funds will be used by December 2023 pending supplies.
Burke County Arts Council	\$ 100,000	To assist with renovations for a facility to house the Arts Council for programming and educational opportunities in the community. Funds will be used in next 12 months.	Pregnancy Care Center of Burke County	\$ 100,000	To provide funds for procurement of more physical space, increase medical services, and transfer of financial recordkeeping to an outside firm for best stewardship practices. The program supports maternal health and provide education in parenting. Funds will be used by April 2024.
Burke County History Museum	\$ 100,000	To assist with renovations for a facility for programming museum displays, and educational opportunities in the community. Funds will be used in next 12 months.	Waldensian Trail of Faith	\$ 50,000	To be used for improvement and repairs to the parking lot, access road and park facilities at a publicly accessible park. Funds will be used by December 2023.
Burke County Rescue Squad	\$ 50,000	To purchase Viper compatible radios for public safety. Funds will be used in next 12 months based on supply.			
Burke Substance Abuse Network	\$ 50,000	To provide Narcan and other substance abuse overdose treatments for public safety agencies. The funding will also provide for materials and programs for substance abuse treatments in the community. Funds will be used over the next 12-15 months.			
Burke County	\$ 100,000	To provide services to Citizens. Funds will be used by April 2024.			
Foothills Service Project	\$ 50,000	To provide funds for programs to assist disabled in remaining in a home setting with ramps, handrails and the tools and materials needed for these programs. Funds will be used by April 2024.			
Good Samaritan Clinic	\$ 50,000	To provide funds for building repairs and maintenance for clinic that provides medical services to citizens with no insurance or limited resources that typically do not meet the income levels to qualify for County Health Department services. Funds will be used by April 2024.			
Hildebran-Icard Community Development Council	\$ 50,000	To rebuild a community recreation program and reopen a facility in an underserved area of the County. Funds will be used by April 2024.			
The Meeting Place Mission	\$ 50,000	To provide funds for transitional housing expenses such as rent, utility deposits, and other requirements for homeless population in the County. Funds will be used by April 2024.			

Motion: To approve the agreement with the State of North Carolina to accept funds from the State of \$1,000,000 to fund subrecipient agencies to provide services as outlined to citizens and to authorize the County Manager or his successor to execute any required agreement documents with the State of North Carolina and the subrecipient agencies pending County Attorney review.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES: Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

HEALTH - RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

Per Section E.6.b of the NC Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on the use of opioid settlement funds, the Board is required to adopt a resolution stating the specific strategy or strategies the county intends to fund pursuant to Option A of the MOA. After a local government passes a budget or resolution authorizing the expenditure of opioid settlement funds, the local government has 90 days to report this information to the Community Opioid Resources Engine for North Carolina (CORE-NC) pursuant to section F.6.c.i of the MOA.

Budgetary Effect: Increase revenues and expenditures by \$300,000 with funding from outside

sources.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2023-01 as presented and approve the budget amendments included for the expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds received or expected during the current fiscal year. Further, authorize the creation of a project manager position and add it to the County's pay plan. (Pay grade TBD.)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Resolution No. 2023-01 reads as follows:

BURKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF BURKE
TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS Burke County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids, including settlements with drug distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen, and the drug maker Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals;

WHEREAS the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and certain bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA");

WHEREAS Burke County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA;

WHEREAS section E.6 of the MOA states:

E.6. Process for drawing from special revenue funds.

- a. Budget item or resolution required. Opioid Settlement Funds can be used for a purpose when the Governing Body includes in its budget or passes a separate resolution authorizing the expenditure of a stated amount of Opioid Settlement Funds for that purpose or those purposes during a specified period of time.
- b. Budget item or resolution details. The budget or resolution should (i) indicate that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; (ii) state the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each

funded strategy, and (iii) state the amount dedicated to each strategy for a stated period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA, Burke County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Collaborative strategic planning
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: 1
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$300,000
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date January 19, 2023, through End date June 30, 2025
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Hire a full-time staff member as project manager to oversee programs and funding for the Opioid Settlement Funds. This employee would work for either the Health Department or DSS as determined during the job description creation process. Funds would cover salary, benefits, equipment, supplies and travel for the position.
- g. Provider: Burke County

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$300,000.

Adopted this 17th day of January 2023.

/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

Note: Resolution No. 2021-09, Approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation, was adopted on May 4, 2021.

Exhibit A of the MOA as referenced above reads as follows:

HIGH-IMPACT OPIOID ABATEMENT STRATEGIES ("OPTION A" List)

In keeping with the National Settlement Agreement, opioid settlement funds may support programs or services listed below that serve persons with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) or any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or mental health condition.

As used in this list, the words "fund" and "support" are used interchangeably and mean to create, expand, or sustain a program, service, or activity.

1. Collaborative strategic planning. Support collaborative strategic planning to address opioid misuse, addiction, overdose, or related issues, including staff support, facilitation services, or any activity or combination of activities listed in Exhibit C to the MOA (collaborative strategic planning).
2. Evidence-based addiction treatment. Support evidence-based addiction treatment consistent with the American Society of Addiction Medicine's national practice guidelines for the treatment of opioid use disorder – including Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) with any medication approved for this purpose by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration – through Opioid Treatment Programs, qualified providers of Office-Based Opioid Treatment, Federally Qualified Health Centers, treatment offered in conjunction with justice system programs, or other community-based programs offering evidence-based addiction treatment. This may include capital expenditures for facilities that offer evidence-based treatment for OUD. (If only a portion of a facility offers such treatment, then only that portion qualifies for funding, on a pro rata basis.)
3. Recovery support services. Fund evidence-based recovery support services, including peer support specialists or care navigators based in local health departments, social service offices, detention facilities, community-based organizations, or other settings that support people in treatment or recovery, or people who use drugs, in accessing addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being.
4. Recovery housing support. Fund programs offering recovery housing support to people in treatment or recovery, or people who use drugs, such as assistance with rent, move-in deposits, or utilities; or fund recovery housing programs that provide housing to individuals receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder.
5. Employment-related services. Fund programs offering employment support services to people in treatment or recovery, or people who use drugs, such as job training, job skills, job placement, interview coaching, resume review, professional attire, relevant courses at community colleges or vocational schools, transportation services or transportation vouchers to facilitate any of these activities, or similar services or supports.
6. Early intervention. Fund programs, services, or training to encourage early identification and intervention for children or adolescents who may be struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions, including Youth Mental Health First Aid, peer-based programs, or similar approaches. Training programs may target parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health or human services professionals, or others in contact with children or adolescents.
7. Naloxone distribution. Support programs or organizations that distribute naloxone to persons at risk of overdose or their social networks, such as Syringe Service Programs, post-overdose response teams, programs that provide naloxone to persons upon release from jail or prison, emergency medical service

providers or hospital emergency departments that provide naloxone to persons at risk of overdose, or community-based organizations that provide services to people who use drugs. Programs or organizations involved in community distribution of naloxone may, in addition, provide naloxone to first responders.

8. Post-overdose response team. Support post-overdose response teams that connect persons who have experienced non-fatal drug overdoses to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being.
9. Syringe Service Program. Support Syringe Service Programs operated by any governmental or nongovernmental organization authorized by section 90-113.27 of the North Carolina General Statutes that provide syringes, naloxone, or other harm reduction supplies; that dispose of used syringes; that connect clients to prevention, treatment, recovery support, behavioral healthcare, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need; or that provide any of these services or supports.
10. Criminal justice diversion programs. Support pre-arrest or post-arrest diversion programs, or pre-trial service programs, that connect individuals involved or at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, prevention, or other services or supports they need, or that provide any of these services or supports.
11. Addiction treatment for incarcerated persons. Support evidence-based addiction treatment, including Medication-Assisted Treatment with at least one FDA-approved opioid agonist, to persons who are incarcerated in jail or prison.
12. Reentry Programs. Support programs that connect incarcerated persons to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need upon release from jail or prison, or that provide any of these services or supports.

JCPC - RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPRESSION SALARIES INCREASES OF DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FACILITY STAFF

As indicated in the agenda packet, the local JCPC requests the adoption of a resolution supporting compression salaries increases for the Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention facility staff. Budgetary Effect: N.A.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2023-03.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Resolution No. 2023-03 reads as follows:

Burke County
North Carolina

Resolution Supporting Compression Salaries Increases of
Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Facility Staff

WHEREAS, the Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention provides short term secure confinement in Juvenile Detention Centers and long term commitment services in the State's Youth Development Centers; and

WHEREAS, the overarching mission of the Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the local Juvenile Crime Prevention Council is to provide services and programming to ensure the protection of the community and rehabilitation of youth offenders; and

WHEREAS, Burke County is dependent upon the Youth Development Centers in Cabarrus and Chatham Counties, and the staff of these facilities along with other State juvenile facility staff have not received pay increases that would recognize and reward the experienced staff, and make compensation more competitive as well as ensure qualified staff recruitment and retention; and

WHEREAS, Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention facilities are contending with an average 38% vacancy rate, largely due to impact of the pandemic which has driven salaries and wages higher across the board; and

WHEREAS, Compression Salary Increases for Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention facility staff were removed from the state's budget prior to final approval; and

WHEREAS, similar salary adjustments or increases WERE approved for Department of Public Safety staff in adult facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Burke County Commissioners support the adequate and timely increase of the salaries of juvenile facility staff across the State of North Carolina to make those positions competitive and to ensure qualified staff are compensated adequately for years of experience for the purposes of retention, as well as lay the groundwork for recruitment of qualified staff for youth facilities which will ensure the immediate and ongoing protection of the community and strengthen rehabilitative services for those juveniles most in need.

Adopted the 17th day of January 2023.

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

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

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022

The Board of Commissioners was presented with the Tax Collection Report for the period between July 1, 2022, and December 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	\$38,533,968.68	84.14%	\$7,266,031.32
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$6,000,000.00	\$2,934,422.48	48.91%	\$3,065,577.52
Current Year Taxes	\$51,800,000.00	\$37,503,691.15	72.40%	\$14,296,308.85
Delinquent Taxes	\$700,000.00	\$423,576.97	60.51%	\$276,423.03
Late List Penalty	\$315,000.00	\$126,882.19	40.28%	\$188,117.81

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	\$47,816,100.71	\$38,533,968.68	80.44%	\$9,370,599.91

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

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

TAX DEPT. - RELEASE REFUND REPORT FOR DECEMBER 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 was 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)	\$8,294.06	\$4,041.93	\$4,252.13	\$0.00

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	\$1,105.91

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Address 1	Address 3	Refund Type	Bill #	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
BARTHOLOMEW, RYAN ALFRED	BARTHOLOMEW, RYAN ALFRED	302 INGLEWOOD DR	MORGANTON, NC 28655	Proration	0054782682	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0054782682-2021-2021-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	01	Tax	(\$82.24)	(\$4.11)	(\$86.35)
								57	Tax	(\$67.45)	(\$3.37)	(\$70.82)
								57	Vehicle Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								Refund			\$157.17	
BROWN, DOUGLAS STEVEN	BROWN, DOUGLAS STEVEN	332 MISS MAUDE PATTON LANE	CONNELLY SPRINGS, NC 28612	Proration	0067494822	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0067494822-2022-2022-0000-00	Reg. Out of state	01	Tax	(\$168.75)	\$0.00	(\$168.75)
								28	Tax	(\$25.50)	\$0.00	(\$25.50)
								Refund			\$194.25	
HELMS, CANDACE BUFF	HELMS, CANDACE BUFF	PO BOX 1747	DREXEL, NC 28619	Proration	0052708197	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0052708197-2021-2021-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	01	Tax	(\$73.26)	\$0.00	(\$73.26)
								55	Tax	(\$40.06)	\$0.00	(\$40.06)
								Refund			\$113.32	
HILL, LOUISE WILLIS	HILL, LOUISE WILLIS	616 E CONCORD ST	MORGANTON, NC 28655	Proration	0065800734	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0065800734-2021-2021-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	01	Tax	(\$70.94)	\$0.00	(\$70.94)
								57	Tax	(\$58.18)	\$0.00	(\$58.18)
								57	Vehicle Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								Refund			\$129.12	
JOYCE, ROBERT RAY	JOYCE, ROBERT RAY	213 CONLEY RD	MORGANTON, NC 28655	Proration	0058397160	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0058397160-2021-2021-0000-00	Vehicle Totalled	01	Tax	(\$94.30)	\$0.00	(\$94.30)
								25	Tax	(\$9.49)	\$0.00	(\$9.49)
								Refund			\$103.79	
KROPELNIC KI, JANNA MARIE	KROPELNIC KI, JANNA MARIE	107 TERRACE PL	MORGANTON, NC 28655	Proration	0061543508	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0061543508-2021-2021-0000-00	Tag Surrender	01	Tax	(\$155.61)	\$0.00	(\$155.61)
								57	Tax	(\$127.62)	\$0.00	(\$127.62)
								57	Vehicle Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								Refund			\$283.23	
WICKER, KEVIN ADAM	WICKER, KEVIN ADAM	7203 CORN HILL RD	CONNELLY SPRINGS, NC 28612	Proration	0067759038	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0067759038-2022-2022-0000-00	Reg. Out of state	01	Tax	(\$107.94)	\$0.00	(\$107.94)
								24	Tax	(\$17.09)	\$0.00	(\$17.09)
								Refund			\$125.03	
Refund Total											\$1,105.91	

*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 December 2022 as presented.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Randy Burns, Commissioner

AYES: Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

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The Tax Release Report reads as follows:

Bill #	Taxpayer Name	Bill Date	Operator ID (Name)	Release Date	Orig Bill Amount(\$)	Release Amount(\$)	Bill Amount after Release(\$)
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Adjustment					
0000009699-2018-2018-0000-00-REG	CONLEY, ROBERT C	7/1/2018	JOHN BRIDGERS	12/22/2022	507.99	44.18	463.81
0000009699-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	CONLEY, ROBERT C	7/1/2019	JOHN BRIDGERS	12/22/2022	524.42	60.61	463.81
0000009699-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	CONLEY, ROBERT C	7/1/2020	JOHN BRIDGERS	12/22/2022	524.42	60.61	463.81
0000009699-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	CONLEY, ROBERT C	7/1/2021	JOHN BRIDGERS	12/22/2022	528.42	60.61	467.81
0000031951-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	NORMAN, CODY WAYNE	7/1/2022	JOHN BRIDGERS	12/30/2022	497.69	295.37	202.32
0024062438-2022-2021-0000-00-REG	DULA, DEBRA KIRBY	8/18/2022	LOIS WHITESIDE	12/6/2022	70.06	70.06	0.00
Subtotal					2,653.00	591.44	2,061.56
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Duplicate Billing					
0000059440-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	SMART, BILLY SCOTT	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	12/9/2022	193.69	193.69	0.00
0000071231-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	MARTIN, BRIAN NEEL	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	12/19/2022	46.10	5.51	40.59
0000078870-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	FRANKLIN, RONALD EUGENE	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	12/29/2022	6.12	6.12	0.00
0024058968-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	COOK, CHRISTOPHER SHANE	7/1/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	12/30/2022	380.75	380.75	0.00
0024064579-2022-2021-0000-00-REG	CONLEY, AMANDA PARKER	8/18/2022	CONNIE HOLDER	12/28/2022	8.27	8.27	0.00
Subtotal					634.93	594.34	40.59
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: Listed In Error					
0000016104-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	RDL PROPERTIES, LLC	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	12/28/2022	2,533.11	2,340.35	192.76
Subtotal					2,533.11	2,340.35	192.76
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Release LFUF					
0000016104-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	RDL PROPERTIES, LLC	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	12/28/2022	192.76	82.00	110.76
0000022057-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	SILVERS, TIMOTHY RAY	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	12/22/2022	119.53	82.00	37.53
0000033426-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	CRUMP, PATRICK DAKOTA	7/1/2021	PEGGY SEATON	12/6/2022	759.08	152.00	607.08
0000033426-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	CRUMP, PATRICK DAKOTA	7/1/2022	PEGGY SEATON	12/6/2022	771.08	164.00	607.08
0000047107-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	HOUSTON, MARY ANN	7/1/2022	PEGGY SEATON	12/7/2022	159.50	82.00	77.50
0000048032-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	PUETT, CLIFFORD DALE JR	7/1/2022	AMANDA CONLEY	12/29/2022	318.18	82.00	236.18
0000075657-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	YODER, COLIN	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	12/28/2022	152.89	82.00	70.89
Subtotal					2,473.02	726.00	1,747.02
Grand Total					8,294.06	4,252.13	4,041.93

TAX DEPT. - APPROVAL OF COLLECTION AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF VALDESE

The Town of Valdese approached the County to collect their property taxes. The following agreement allows the County Tax Office to collect property taxes for the Town of Valdese, beginning in July 2023. Other towns in the county for which the county collects taxes include: Connelly Springs, Glen Alpine, Hildebran, Long View and Rhodhiss.

Motion: Approve the agreement between Town of Valdese and Burke County as presented and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board, subject to review and / or revision by the County Attorney.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

ITEMS FOR DECISION-NONE**REPORTS AND COMMENTS****BOC - REPORTS & COMMENTS**

Chairman Mulwee 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. Alan Glines, Interim County Manager/Planning Director, welcomed the new County Manager, Brian Epley, whose first day of employment is Feb. 1, 2023. Commissioner Burns reiterated that he was happy to be of service to the citizens and that his phone lines are open if anyone wishes to talk. Commissioner Carswell expressed his excitement over the opening of a bottling company, Unix, which will bring in more jobs to the community and occupy a big part of the Burke Business Park. Chairman Mulwee reported that he and Commissioner Carswell attended the MLK Banquet. Further, he announced a schedule change for the next regular meeting due to a scheduling conflict and then 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
- Council on Aging
- Burke County Board of Health

- Partner's CFAC (Consumer and Family Advisory Committee)
- Hickory Regional Planning Commission

Chairman Mulwee encouraged citizen participation.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion: To go into closed session 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, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Motion: To come out of closed session.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

After returning to open session, Chairman Mulwee announced that a proper motion was made to come out of closed session.

PERSONNEL – NUTRITIONIST II POSITION

Motion: To approve the starting salary of a Nutritionist II position at 96.26% of pay range (\$62,000) for pay grade 22. This position serves as director of the WIC program at the Burke County Health Department.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Burns, Commissioner
AYES:	Scott Mulwee, Jeffrey C. Brittain, Randy Burns, Johnnie W. Carswell, and Phil Smith

Approved this 19th day of September 2023.



Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board