

**MINUTES
BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PRE-AGENDA MEETING**

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a pre-agenda meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 3:00 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:

Brian Epley, County Manager
Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director
J.R. Simpson, II, County Attorney
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mulwee called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda.

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 - PET OF THE MONTH**

Kaitlin Settlemyre, Animal Services Director, introduced a dog, Bethany, to the Board and informed that she was rescued with 38 other dogs as part of a hoarder case, then invited anyone interested in adopting these dogs to drop by the shelter. She then reported that she will present a dog and cat in need of its "forever" home at the regular meeting, as usual.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

BOC - PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH AS NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

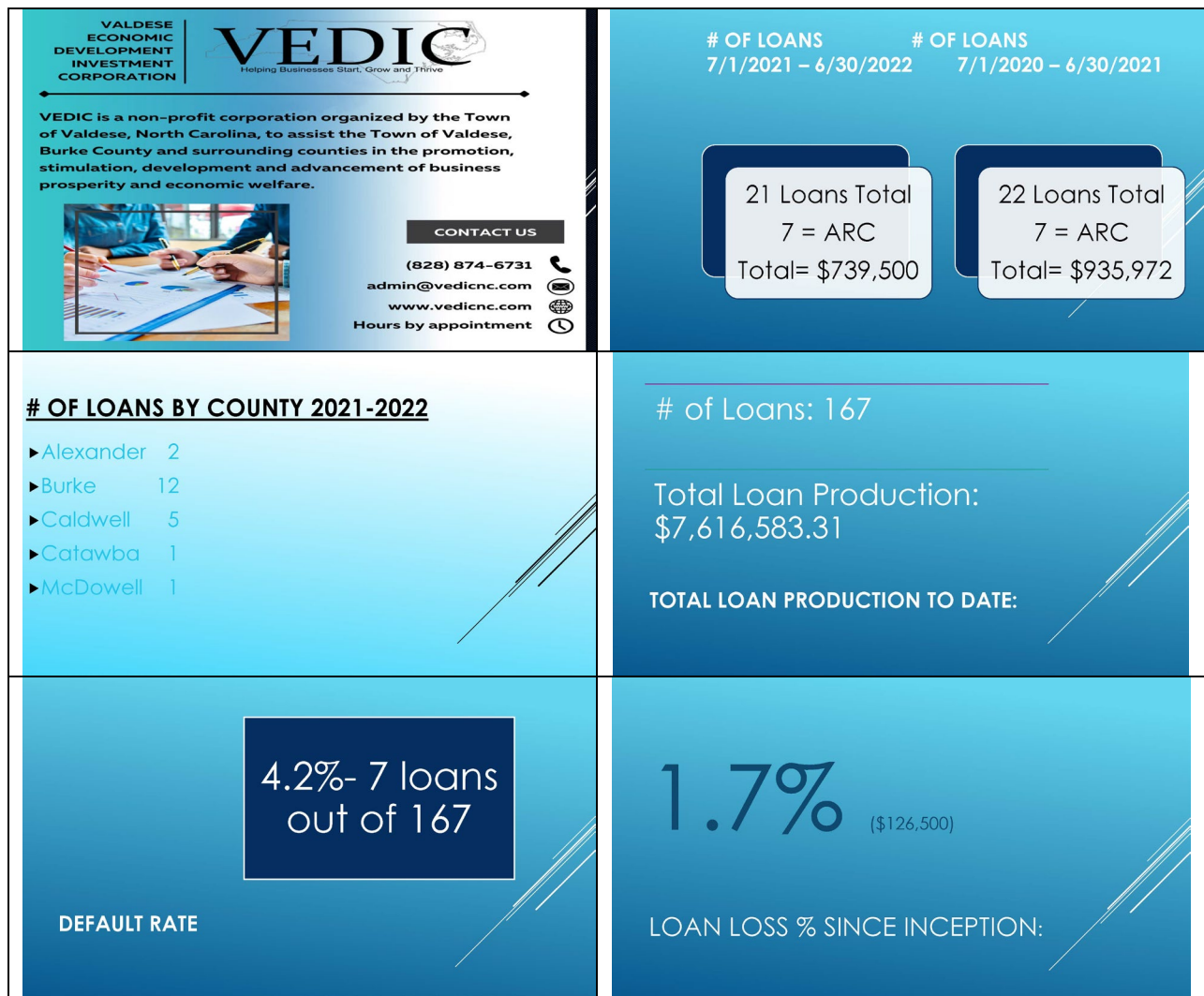
Chairman Mulwee reported that Korey Fisher-Wellman, Department of Social Service Director, will request approval of a proclamation that declares the month of March as National Social Work Month to recognize all the good those in the social work field do for our community.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

VEDIC - UPDATE ON FY 21-22 ACTIVITIES

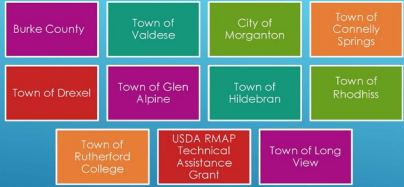
Eddie McGimsey, Business Developer, VEDIC, informed the Board that the Town of Valdese established the Valdese Economic Development Investment Corporation as part of an NC Rural Center stemming from an NC Step Program in 2009. The mission was to provide a comprehensive set of services to new and existing businesses in Valdese. Since their foundation, VEDIC has approximately \$8 million in a loan portfolio and has helped over 100 businesses.

Sherry Long, Chairman, VEDIC, provided an update on the organization's activities for FY 21 - 22. Highlights of her presentation were as follows:

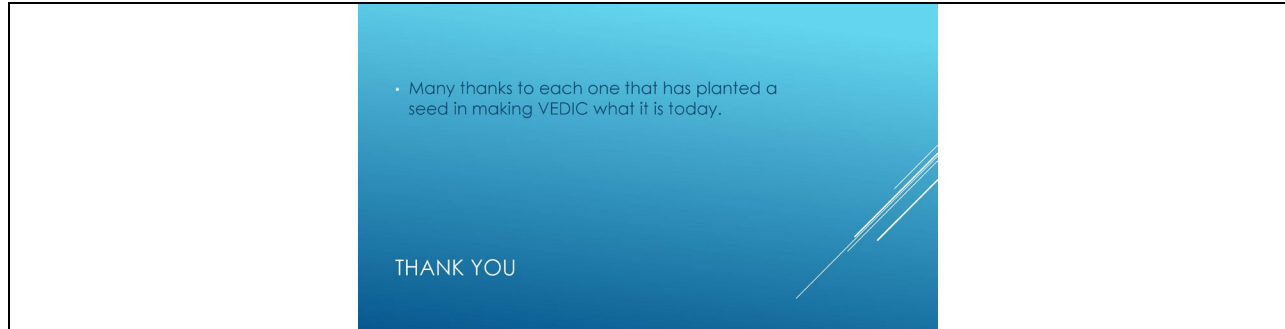




At this point during the presentation, Ms. Long yielded the floor to Karri Poteat, Executive Director, VEDIC. Highlights of Ms. Poteat's presentation were as follows:

Technical Assistance ▶ Keeping our clients informed of all the offerings for help ▶ Providing deferrals (41+) ▶ Implementing online requests to accommodate all needs ▶ TA Today ▶ The key to success Emergency Loans (for existing clients) ▶ Bridge the gap until PPP funds were received ▶ To assist with cash flow issues ▶ In-house closing ▶ Save on costs SURVIVING THE PANDEMIC	PAYOFFS RECEIVED FROM APRIL 1, 2020, TO PRESENT Payoffs received due to refinance with a traditional bank, low interest government loans or normal loan payout: • 53 Loans • \$2,422,555.34																		
Your NC Secretary of State • Business Starts Here!  <i>Clare E. Marshall</i> SECRETARY OF STATE PARTNERSHIP	Board Members <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Jessica Bargsley</td> <td>Butch McSwain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Timothy Barus</td> <td>Scott Mulwee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robert Benfield</td> <td>Nancy Page</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Branstrom</td> <td>Karen Robinson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seth Eckard</td> <td>T. R. Robinson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kylie Gera</td> <td>Marla Thompson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sharon Jablonski</td> <td>Suzanne Wallace</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rick Justice</td> <td>Donna Zamora</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lily Laramie</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> Executive Board Members Sherry Long- Chairman Tonia Stephenson- Vice Chairman Johnny Berry- Treasurer Sherri Bradshaw- Secretary VEDIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023	Jessica Bargsley	Butch McSwain	Timothy Barus	Scott Mulwee	Robert Benfield	Nancy Page	John Branstrom	Karen Robinson	Seth Eckard	T. R. Robinson	Kylie Gera	Marla Thompson	Sharon Jablonski	Suzanne Wallace	Rick Justice	Donna Zamora	Lily Laramie	
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 VEDIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023	LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Charles Conley Office Manager, Burke County United Way</td> <td>Nancy Page Refined- Personal Banker, Wells Fargo Bank</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lisa Crump Financial Services Manager, First Citizens Bank</td> <td>Tonia Stephenson President & CEO, Burke County Chamber of Commerce</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sharon Jablonski Director of the Department of Cultural and Creative Development, City of Morganton</td> <td>Marla Thompson Mayor, Town of Long View</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lily Laramie Director, Small Business Center Western Piedmont Community College</td> <td>Suzanne Wallace Director, Small Business Center Catawba Valley Community College</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sherry Long Assistant Executive Director, Western Piedmont Council of Governments</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Charles Conley Office Manager, Burke County United Way	Nancy Page Refined- Personal Banker, Wells Fargo Bank	Lisa Crump Financial Services Manager, First Citizens Bank	Tonia Stephenson President & CEO, Burke County Chamber of Commerce	Sharon Jablonski Director of the Department of Cultural and Creative Development, City of Morganton	Marla Thompson Mayor, Town of Long View	Lily Laramie Director, Small Business Center Western Piedmont Community College	Suzanne Wallace Director, Small Business Center Catawba Valley Community College	Sherry Long Assistant Executive Director, Western Piedmont Council of Governments									
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STAFF Kerri Poteat Executive Director Eddie McGimsey Business Development Chuck Moseley On-Call Help	 2022-2023 CONTRIBUTORS																		

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Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Chairman Mulwee, Commissioner Burns and Commissioner Smith all expressed their gratitude towards the program.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMM. DEV. - ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT ZTA 2023-01 & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 PM

On October 18, 2022, Ordinance No. 2022-06 was adopted, which enacted a 180-day moratorium on short-term rentals to give the Community Development Department time to analyze the County's zoning ordinance to ensure compliance with the latest judicial ruling from *Schroeder v. City of Wilmington*, which was decided by the Court of Appeals of North Carolina on April 5, 2022.

Alan Glines, Planning Director / Deputy County Manager, generally reviewed Zoning Text Amendment ZTA 2023-01 as set forth in the agenda packet:

STAFF INITIATED REPORT ON RETRACTION OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE SECTION 5.4 OF THE BURKE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE

The staff of the community Development Department have reviewed and considered changes and amendments for Section 5.4, Short-Term Rental Ordinance. After careful consideration of the ordinance, review of the *Schroeder v. City of Wilmington* case and after a community meeting on the topic, staff are proposing an amendment which would remove this section from the Burke County Zoning Code. This retraction and removal would include all references to the term "Short-Term Rental", its definition, allowances, and inclusions within the prescribed ordinance. This would include Article 2.0 (Definitions, Article 3 (Table of Uses, Page 72), Section 5.1 (Accessory Dwelling Unit (j), and the entire redaction of Section 5.4 (Short-Term Rentals).

Staff have considered the following factors:

- The court case sided in favor of the Schroeder Family in the lawsuit against the regulations for short-term rentals by the City of Wilmington.

- The Court agreed that the use is more akin to a residential use than a commercial use.
- The Court upheld provisions and relevance of the residential building code.
- Registrations of short-term rentals are not allowed because rental registries are not permitted for residential properties in North Carolina.
- Additional inspections of a home, after a Certificate of Occupancy is issued during the original construction of the home, are not permitted for residential uses.
- There is no real enforcement action which would prohibit the use from continuing without a permit.
- Enforcement of a few outstanding provisions of the ordinance may be taken up in other ways if problems with noise or crowding of streets arise.
- If a neighborhood is against the use, a Homeowners Association of the neighbors may be able to address this issue more effectively.
- In the year and a half that our ordinance has been in place, there have been a very limited number of valid concerns or complaints about the use.
- There is a substantial amount of support for short-term rentals among residents and property owners in Burke County and this has been captured in community comments over various forums and petitions provided in support of the use.

With these noted factors, staff recommends that the provision for Short-term Rentals be removed from the Burke County zoning code.

Planning Board Recommendation:

The Burke County Planning Board held a public meeting to hear this text amendment request on February 23, 2023. After hearing Alan Glines' staff's presentation, the meeting was open to public comment. There were several members of the public present, however, no one chose to speak. Staff provided the Board with two written letters which were emailed to the Community Development Department. Each Board member read the letters silently and they were entered into the public record. The public comment session was then closed. The Chairperson asked the Board members if there were any comments or discussion about the letters or the text amendment in general. No comments or discussion were brought forth. The Chairperson asked for a motion on the text amendment. A motion to approve was given and it was seconded. The Chairperson then asked for a vote of the full Board. The motion to approve ZTA 2023-01 passed by a vote of 4/1. No specific reason was given for the one dissention vote.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Mr. Glines responded to a question from Commissioner Carswell about the ruling.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

COMM. DEV. - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT ZMA 2023-01 & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 P.M.

Alan Glines, Planning Director / Deputy County Manager, relayed the following rezoning request:

Rezoning Application ZMA 2023-01 (IND to R-3)

Applicant: Dean Evans

Owners: Dean Evans, Larry Lingle

PIN: Parcel 1- PIN# 2763381840), Parcel -2 (PIN# 2763296170), and Parcel 3, a 0.17-ac. portion of (PIN: 2763287961).

Request: Change the zoning district from Industrial (IND) to Residential Three (R-3).

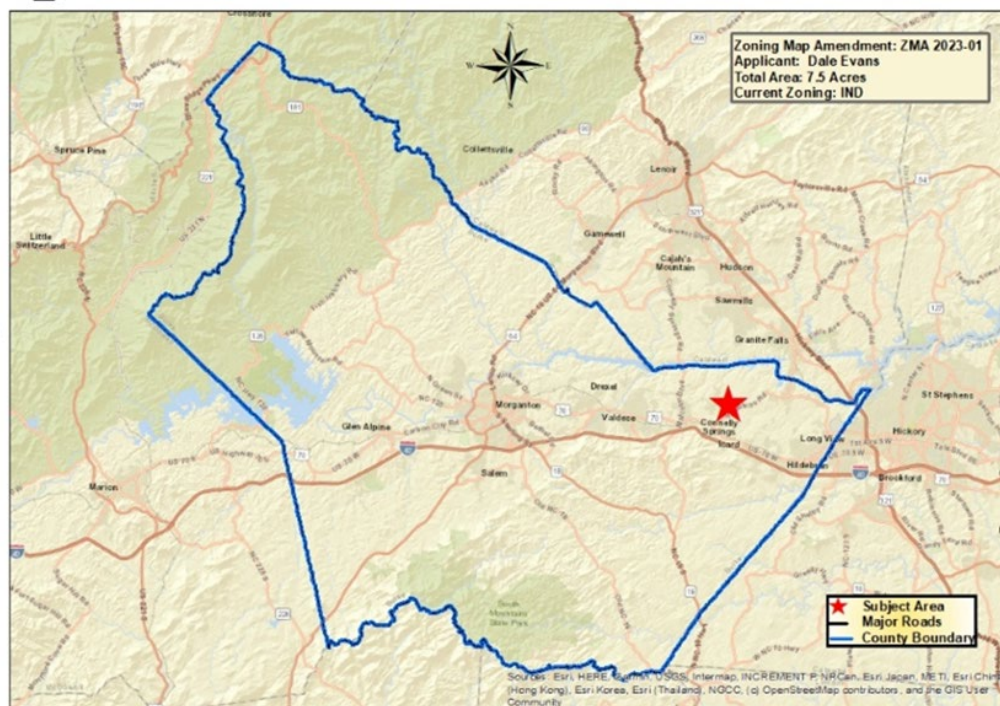
Size: Total area of all subject parcels is approximately 7.85 acres.

Location: The subject parcels are located off Oak Ridge Church Road (SR #1614).



County Context Map

ZMA 2023-01

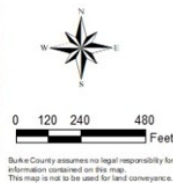


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Map B: Aerial Land Use Map

Burke County, NC Zoning Administration
Aerial Land Use Map

ZMA 2023-01

Applicant(s):
Dean EvansPIN# 2763381840
2763296170
2763287961Current Uses of Subject Area and Adjacent Properties

Subject Properties Uses: All the subject properties are currently used for residential uses. The applicant's property was formerly used for business and as a residence. The applicant has now retired and uses the former commercial buildings as personal storage and a personal woodworking shop. The Larry Lingle property was formerly owned by Mr. Evans and the northern portion of that property was zoned Industrial when Mr. Evans operated the business.

Adjacent Area Uses: The surrounding properties are primarily vacant or residential in nature. Adjacent land uses include a variety of residential uses and the Oak Ridge Baptist Church.

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Map C – Current Zoning

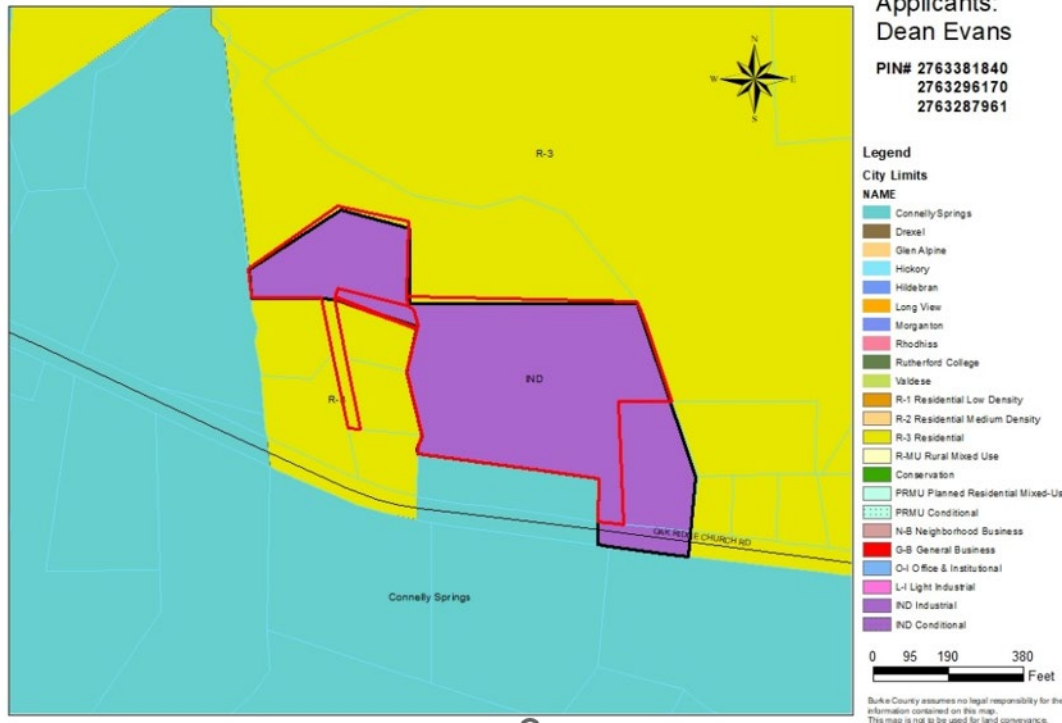


Burke County, NC Zoning Administration
Current Zoning Map

ZMA 2023-01

Applicants:
Dean Evans

PIN# 2763381840
2763296170
2763287961

Current Zoning

Application of Current Zoning: The subject area is currently zoned Industrial (IND). Property to the north, east, and west of the subject parcels are zoned Residential Three (R-3). Property to the south and further west in the Planning / Zoning jurisdiction of the Town of Connelly Springs.

District Comparison

Industrial: "The Industrial District (IND) is intended for large manufacturing uses and its placement here is because the owner had a commercial business on the site.

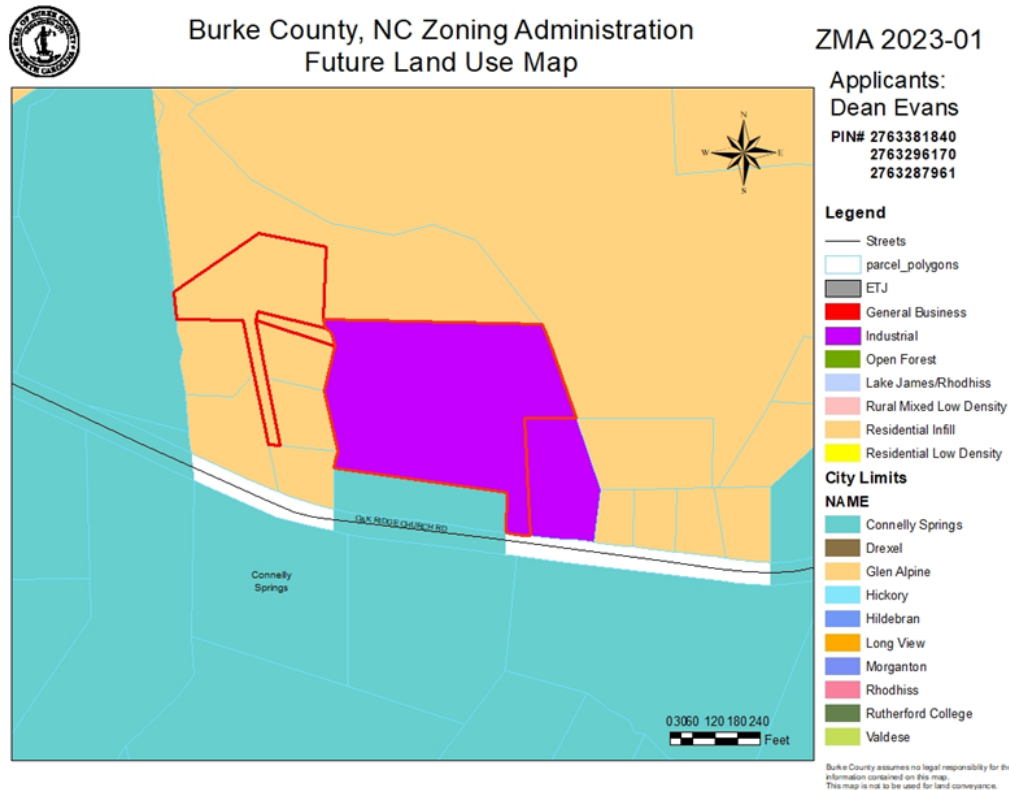
Residential Three: The R-3 Residential District is a residential district, primarily for single-family and manufactured homes.

The Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use 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 categories "Residential Infill" and "Industrial". Characteristics of the Residential Infill 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 and connecting to major roads maintained by the NC DOT. Access to infrastructure is typical and preferred including public water and / or sewer services, although some areas may still utilize private onsite wastewater disposal systems. Industrial land uses can be found in rural remote areas of the county but are most likely to be found along the I-40 Corridor.

The request is to change the zoning to Residential Three (R-3). As mentioned above, the usual characteristics of this district allow for a broader range of residential uses including Class A and Class B manufactured homes. 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 will be similar to the adjoining properties and be in harmony with the surrounding community. Approval of the request will update the Future Land Use Map which will show this area for Residential Infill.

Map E: Future Land Use Map for Subject Area



Staff Comments

In staff's opinion, rezoning the parcel from the Industrial (IND) zoning district to the Residential Three (R-3) District would be appropriate for this area for the following reasons:

- Changing the zoning to residential would remove the industrial outlier parcel which in turn would make this area more consistent with the Residential Infill portion of the Burke County Land Use Plan.
- The current use of the properties is residential. Rezoning to residential would bring the properties into compliance with the zoning ordinance.
- The subject parcels are surrounded by residential uses and residential zoning in both planning jurisdictions. Changing the industrial zoning to residential zoning would make the allowed uses more compatible with the surrounding properties.
- Rezoning to residential zoning will allow the property owners to expand existing and / or construct new residential structures. The current

industrial zoning would not allow that without obtaining approval from the Board of Adjustment.

For these reasons, staff supports the rezoning request.

Planning Board Recommendation

The Planning Board met on January 26, 2023, to hear the proposed rezoning request. Staff presented the same report as submitted above. The applicant presented their request, and the floor was opened to public comment. There was no one from the public present to speak, therefore the public comment period was closed, and the Chairperson asked the Board if there were any final questions. There were no more questions and the Chairperson asked for a motion. A motion was made to approve the rezoning request. The motion received a second and the vote was put to the full Board. The Board voted 5/0 to recommend approval of rezoning request.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Mr. Glines responded to a question concerning the location of a cemetery.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.
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CONSENT AGENDA

BOC - RESOLUTION JOINING OPIOID "WAVE TWO" LITIGATION

Chairman Mulwee thanked Commissioner Carswell for his effort to stay on top of this matter and reported the proposed resolution states that the Burke County Board of Commissioners are joining the second wave of national litigation and settlement specific to opioid distribution points of Walgreens, CVS, Allergan, Teva, and Walmart, for the benefit of Burke County and its residents and citizens.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Commissioner Carswell stated that this litigation could bring an additional settlement of \$11 - \$13 million to be used to benefit the citizens of the County.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.
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CLERK - APPOINTMENT TO THE FOOTHILLS REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, reported that the County appoints two (2) members to the Foothills Regional Airport Authority for 2-year terms. Seat No. 1 is occupied by Commissioner Burns. Seat No. 2, an at-large seat, is occupied by Dennis Pearson who has served on this board since 2013. His term expired in January, and he is not seeking reappointment. An application was received from Thomas Fraley.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor to questions or comments. Ms. Draughn received a comment from Commissioner Burns about the applicant, Mr. Fraley, being a pilot for many years.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENTS & MODIFICATIONS TO BURKE SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, reported that the Burke Senior Center Advisory Council is a 9-member board that makes recommendations about the programs offered at the Senior Center in Morganton. Members serve a 3-year term. The removal of Dave Lammers, Seat No. 2, from the Burke Senior Center Advisory Council is requested as his term expired in 2022. The reappointment of Barbara Huffman (Seat No. 3), Susan Janey (Seat No. 5) and Guinn Huffman (Seat No. 8) are also requested. All three (3) members are in good standing and desire to be reappointed. Several seats on the Council are vacant and have been for quite some time. In consultation with the Senior Center Director, reducing the membership of this advisory board from nine (9) to seven (7) members is requested by eliminating vacant Seats No. 6 and 7.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - AMENDMENT OF THE COUNTY TRAVEL POLICY (PLACE HOLDER)

Brian Epley, County Manager, announced that there has been an effort to update the Travel Policy focusing on streamlining, simplification, and modernization. The new policy will be completed and presented at the regular meeting.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor to questions or comments. Vice Chairman Brittain requested this item be moved to Decision Items for the regular meeting since it was not ready in time for review at the pre-agenda meeting. Clerk Draughn stated she would get that moved accordingly.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M. AS A DECISION ITEM

HEALTH - APPROVAL OF DOGWOOD TRUST GRANT OPIOID PLANNING GRANT

Brian Epley, County Manager, announced he would give a status update on the Dogwood Grant process at the regular meeting and that staff is continuing to work through outcomes and performance measures which may be ready for consideration in two weeks. If the update is not ready, then he would request the item be moved to the April docket. The Health Department was awarded a \$275,000 Opioid Planning Grant from the Dogwood Health Trust for the creation of a regional residential treatment facility. Funding is for staff, travel, meeting space rental, advertising, technology-related expenses as well as paper and copy supplies.

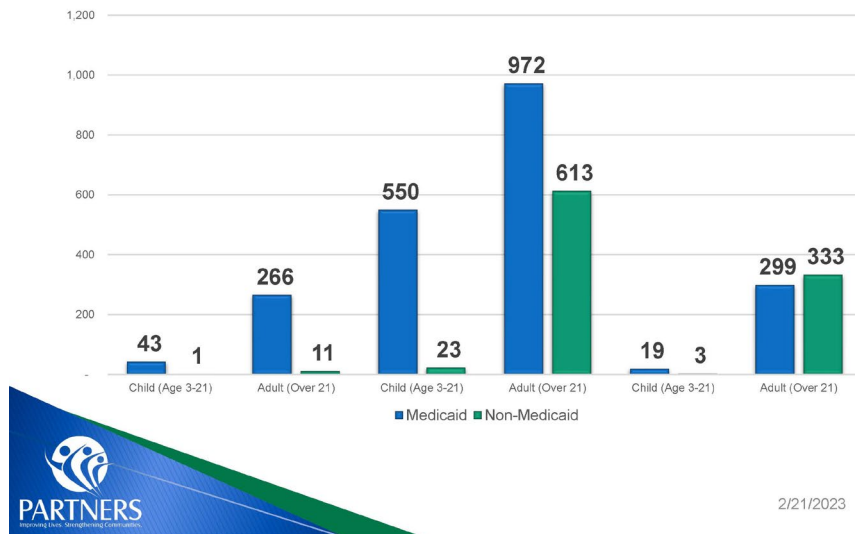
Chairman Mulwee opened the floor to questions or comments. Vice Chairman Brittain requested this item be moved to Decision Items for the regular meeting since it was not ready in time for review at the pre-agenda meeting. Vice Chairman Brittain inquired of the County Attorney if he had time to review the grant for claw back provisions due to any unforeseen funding usage changes if the current plan is not feasible. JR Simpson, County Attorney, stated he would have the answer for him later. Mr. Epley added that the allowed usage is broad so if the rehabilitation center does not pan out, there is leeway in alternative options.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M. AS A DECISION ITEM

PHM - PARTNERS HEALTH MANAGEMENT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JAN. - DEC. 2022

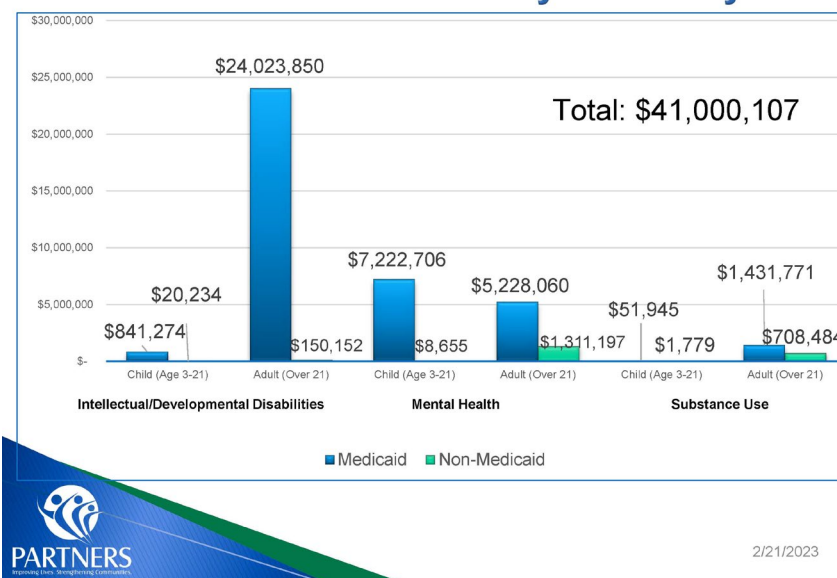
The Board received a financial update from Tara Conrad, Community Engagement Director, Partners Health Management, for the period ending Jan. - Dec. 2022. Highlights of her presentation were as follows:

Number of Persons Served by Disability

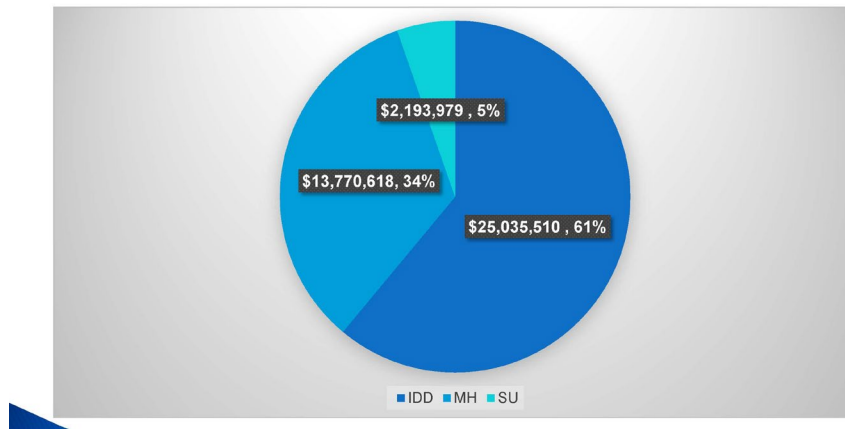


Blue = Mental Health Diagnosis Green = Substance Use Diagnosis

Cost of Persons Served by Disability



Expenditures by Disability



County Funded Programs FY23

Service Category	Provider of Service	Impact
System of Care Collaborative	Partners Local Community Collaborative	Comprised of 15 different agencies. Supported Burke Recovery Rally-600 in attendance; other initiatives being developed by the community collaborative group.
Consumer Reserves/IDD	Partners	Emergency reserve funding for individuals with intellectual differences.
Consumer Reserves MH/SU	Partners	Emergency reserve funding for individuals with mental health or substance use needs.
Whole Person Transitional Care	Partners	Care Management Services in collaboration with DSS, Juvenile Justice, and Hospital (63 individuals).



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County Funded Programs FY23

Service Category	Provider of Service	Impact
MH Jail Services	Correctional Behavioral Health	Mental health assessments, case consultation, suicide assessments for individuals in Burke County detention center- 46 assessments.
SU services in jail Peer Support jail services	Catawba Valley Healthcare	Substance use resources for individuals in Burke County detention center- 68 inmates received services.
Psychiatric support	Catawba Valley Healthcare	Psychiatric services for uninsured individuals in Burke County- 1135 contacts.
MORES Program	Catawba Valley Healthcare	Family partner support for individuals experiencing mental health crises- 22 families.
Embedded therapist @ DSS	Support Incorporated	Assessment and therapy for individuals with DSS involvement-35 individuals.



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County Funded Programs FY23

Service Category	Provider of Service	Impact
Support Groups	National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)	Local support groups for individuals and families with behavioral health concerns, occurring bi-weekly.
Behavioral Health Medication	Good Samaritan Clinic	Behavioral health medication assistance for individuals that otherwise do not have access to medications - 86 prescriptions.
Housing Reserves	Partners	Emergency housing support for individuals experiencing homelessness or imminent homelessness- 4 families.
Housing Case Management	Partners	Case management services to promote stability by connecting individuals to benefits and helping them address social determinants of health needs-8 families.



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Thank you Commissioners and County Leadership

Questions?



Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Ms. Conrad answered a question from Commissioner Burns on Medicaid versus state funding. Vice Chairman Brittain inquired as to whether the County funded programs were included in the presentation. Since it was not, Ms. Conrad broke down the funding as follows:

- System of Care Collaborative: \$8,000
- Consumer Reserve / IDD: \$3,000
- Consumer Reserve MH / SU: \$3,000
- Whole Person Transitional Care: \$10,000
- MH Jail Services: \$30,052
- Peer Support Jail Services: \$58,308
- Psychiatric Support: \$72,140
- MORES Program: \$20,000
- Embedded Therapists at DSS: \$35,000
- Support Groups: \$3,000
- Behavioral Health Medication: \$10,000
- Housing Reserves: \$5,000
- Housing Case Management: \$7,500

Ms. Conrad further explained the process of determining the amount of funding to budget for each program prompted by another question from Vice Chairman Brittain. She also gave her thoughts about the Medicaid expansion and how it would impact Partners Health Management and the citizenry in response to an inquiry from Commissioner Burns.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

RECREATION - COUNTY SPORTS TEAMS REPORT FOR 2022 & 2023

Athletic Director, Wes Hasson, presented a report on county youth sports teams for 2022 and 2023.

Outdoor Soccer (Fall)

Total Teams: 25 in 2021, 39 in 2022. This is the most soccer teams the county has ever had.

Football (Fall)

Total Teams: 24 in 2021, 28 in 2022.

Basketball (Winter)

Total Teams: 140 in 2021 - 2022, 155 in 2022 - 2023.

Indoor Soccer (Mid-Winter / Early Spring)

Total Teams: 119 in 2022, 136 in 2023.

Tee Ball, Girls Softball, Baseball (Spring)

Total Teams: 51 in 2022, Anticipating 50+ teams in 2023.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments and then Mr. Hasson responded to several questions from the Chairman.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - ORDER TO ADVERTISE 2022 DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, reported that pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-369, the Tax Collector shall report to the governing board the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year that are liens on real property.

Under this statute, the Board orders the Tax Collector to advertise these tax liens on all unpaid real property. Also, a notice must be sent to the owner of record. This notice shall be sent at least 30 days before the advertisement is to be published, to the last known address. These notices state that the owner's name will be advertised if taxes are not paid in full by Friday, March 31, 2023. The Tax Office mailed these notices during February 2023.

Notices warning of the upcoming lien advertisement are scheduled to be published in the *News Herald* on Sunday, March 12, and March 26, 2023. Those who have not paid real estate property taxes in full by Friday, March 31, 2023, will be advertised. The lien advertisement will then be published in the *News Herald* on Sunday, April 16, 2023.

BURKE COUNTY**2022 UNPAID REAL PROPERTY TAXES**

Notice is hereby given that the Burke County Tax Collector will publish the annual Tax Lien Advertisement of Real Property for 2022 County Taxes, during the month of April. To avoid advertisement of your real property and avoid additional cost, you are requested to pay the 2022 taxes and interest no later than Friday, March 31, 2023.

This Delinquent Tax Notice, that is required to be sent before advertising in the newspaper, also serves as the Debt Setoff (DSO) Notice for Burke County. The Debt Setoff Notice is noted on the delinquency notice. This notice gives taxpayers 30 days to pay their delinquent taxes and avoid Burke County intercepting their North Carolina Income Tax refund.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented with the Tax Collection Report for February 28, 2023, as follows:

Category	Annual Budget	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$45,800,000.00	\$45,762,382.77	99.92%	\$37,617.23
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$6,000,000.00	\$3,914,705.90	65.25%	\$2,085,294.10
Current Year Taxes	\$51,800,000.00	\$49,677,088.67	95.90%	\$2,122,911.33
Delinquent Taxes	\$700,000.00	\$521,175.10	74.45%	\$178,824.90
Late List Penalty	\$315,000.00	\$238,519.59	75.72%	\$76,480.41

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	\$47,905,057.47	45,762,382.77	95.53%	\$2,142,674.70

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - RELEASE REFUND REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented the Tax Release report for February 28, 2023, as follows:

Tax System Refunds and Releases				
	Report Amount	Rebilled Amount	Net Release	Refund Amount
Releases (TR-304)	\$4,275.27	\$0.00	\$4,275.27	\$0.00

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	\$139.32

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

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments and then inquired how many appeals have been received. Mr. Bridgers stated there were approximately 360 thus far, which is less than anticipated.

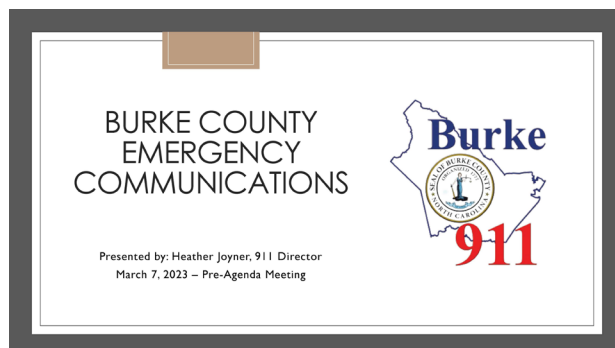
RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

ITEMS FOR DECISION – NONE

REPORTS

BCECC - OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Heather Joyner, 911 Director, presented an operational update on her three (3) primary focus goal areas since onboarding with the County: people, processes, and technology. Highlights of her presentation were as follows:



First 90-Days People, Processes & Technology

Meeting the County
and Department
Management Team

Getting to know the
911 Team by
completing Stay
Interviews

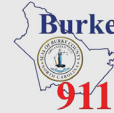
Meetings with
partnered agencies
(law, fire, and
emergency medical
services)

Training & Certification
Review

Telecommunications
Workflow, Policies &
Procedures Review

Budget, Technology &
Systems Overview

Backup Operations &
Support



Accomplishments

- Conducting weekly Executive Team meetings to work towards aligned goals and support for each division. (Admin, Ops, GIS, and IT)
- Created an Employee Engagement Team to support personnel with a platform for providing feedback for increasing morale and identifying workflow issues to increase efficiencies
- Supervisor's provided with ATAC assignments and responsibilities to support online testing and overseeing DCI/Omnixx transactions for local and national databases, increasing efficiencies for certification
- Supervisor's provided the opportunity to complete the NC PSAP Manager's Certification Course, which is currently underway, as well as participate in national training, hosted locally, and FEMA courses with Emergency Mgmt
- Partnered with WPCC for approval of a 911 curriculum for continuing education and in-service training for Telecommunicator's – previously all were done via online with Richmond Community College



Accomplishments

- Provided agency admin and frontline supervisors access to the NENA Enhanced PSAP Registry and Census database (EPRC), developed in conjunction with GeoCom, which is a secure database, web portal, and map that contains information about Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) throughout the United States for redirecting misrouted emergency/non-emergency calls.
- Adding/Updating GIS data to support dispatch functions, adding hydrants, utilities, sub-stations, and EAP with Duke Energy
- Created a unified dispatch email account (dispatcher@burkenc.org) for CJIS compliance with sharing data with serviced agencies and public records requests in a secured cloud environment, eliminating the exchange of personal email/text messages for conducting county business
- Public Education with local media partners





	Burke 911 The Next 180-Days People, Processes & Technology <table border="1"> <tr> <td>High School to 911 Career Program</td> <td>WPCC 2-Yr Public Safety Telecommunicators Associate Degree</td> <td>Burke County E-911 Telecommunicator Academy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Continued Training & Hosted Certification Courses</td> <td>Revision of BCEC Policies & Procedures</td> <td>Tier Level Positions for Growth within the Agency</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Backup Operations & Support</td> </tr> </table>	High School to 911 Career Program	WPCC 2-Yr Public Safety Telecommunicators Associate Degree	Burke County E-911 Telecommunicator Academy	Continued Training & Hosted Certification Courses	Revision of BCEC Policies & Procedures	Tier Level Positions for Growth within the Agency			Backup Operations & Support
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Continued Training & Hosted Certification Courses	Revision of BCEC Policies & Procedures	Tier Level Positions for Growth within the Agency								
		Backup Operations & Support								
NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK PROCLAMATION Presented by: Heather Joyner, 911 Director March 7, 2023 – Pre-Agenda Meeting	911 Life Saver Awards April 1st, 2022 – March 3rd, 2023 <table border="1"> <tr> <td> - Doris Hoffman - Jeremy Carswell - Audrey Thomas - Amarda Moses - Brittany Milligan - Tyler Nelson - Alyssa Perrotta - Jesse Cooper - Crystal McCurry - Brittany Epley - Christina Bates - Heather Carrell - Kimberly Ledford </td> <td> - Jenny Sacosky - Ashlynn Hensley - Zachary Carlton - Tamera Tipton - Christine Buchanan - Jeremy Hensley - Cynthia McCurry - Jennifer Coffey - Robert Chapman - Jason VanHorn - Andrea Miller - Passion Grimes - Kaitlin Franklin - Evey Helton </td> </tr> </table>	- Doris Hoffman - Jeremy Carswell - Audrey Thomas - Amarda Moses - Brittany Milligan - Tyler Nelson - Alyssa Perrotta - Jesse Cooper - Crystal McCurry - Brittany Epley - Christina Bates - Heather Carrell - Kimberly Ledford	- Jenny Sacosky - Ashlynn Hensley - Zachary Carlton - Tamera Tipton - Christine Buchanan - Jeremy Hensley - Cynthia McCurry - Jennifer Coffey - Robert Chapman - Jason VanHorn - Andrea Miller - Passion Grimes - Kaitlin Franklin - Evey Helton							
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During the presentation, she acknowledged Brian Christie with WPCC, a member of the audience, for his role in getting the 911 curriculum approved for continuing education and in-service training at WPCC. She stated her intent to request approval of a proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week at the regular meeting. Further, she recognized Jesse Cooper, a member of the audience, for being a 911 Life Saver Award recipient.

Chairman Mulwee opened the floor for questions or comments. Ms. Joyner received comments from Commissioner Smith. Ms. Joyner responded to a question from Commissioner Carswell about the PSAP equipment and he commended Ms. Joyner for her work. Clerk Draughn recommended this item be moved to presentations at the regular meeting. Chairman Mulwee agreed.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M. AS A PRESENTATION ITEM

REPORTS

Chairman Mulwee issued reminders for the upcoming BOC meeting. He also encouraged citizens to spay or neuter pets and to adopt or foster a pet from Animal Services. Further, he encouraged citizens to not litter, to pick up trash and to cover their loads during transit to the landfill or convenience centers.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS - NONE

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 4:24 p.m.

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

Approved this 21st day of November 2023.



Scott Mulwee, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board