

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

The Burke County Board of Commissioners held a pre-agenda meeting on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Burke County Services Building, 110 N. Green Street, Entrance E, in Morganton, North Carolina. 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. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2024-17, adopted and effective on August 20, 2024, the Burke County Board of Commissioners conferred upon itself all the power, duties, and responsibilities of the Board of Health and the Social Services Board. Those present were:

COMMISSIONERS:

Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Phil Smith, Vice Chairman
Brian Barrier
Randy Burns (Left at 3:51 p.m. due to illness.)
Mike Stroud

STAFF:

Brian Epley, County Manager
Margaret Pierce, Finance Director/Deputy County Manager
Destin Hall, Wilson, Lackey, Rohr & Hall P.C. (Late – arrived at 3:12 p.m.)
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda as amended, moving Consent No. 4, Proclamation Declaring April 18, 2025, as Linemen Appreciation Day, to Presentation No. 4.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Phil Smith, Vice Chairman

AYES: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier, Randy Burns and Mike Stroud

PRESENTATIONS**LJAWNS - LAKE JAMES LITTER CLEAN-UP REPORT (PLACE HOLDER)**

Chairman Brittain relayed that at the regular meeting, Mr. Howard Morgan, Lake James Area Wildlife and Nature Society, will present a report on the annual Lake James litter clean-up effort held on March 15, 2025. He then opened the floor for questions or comments. There were no questions.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

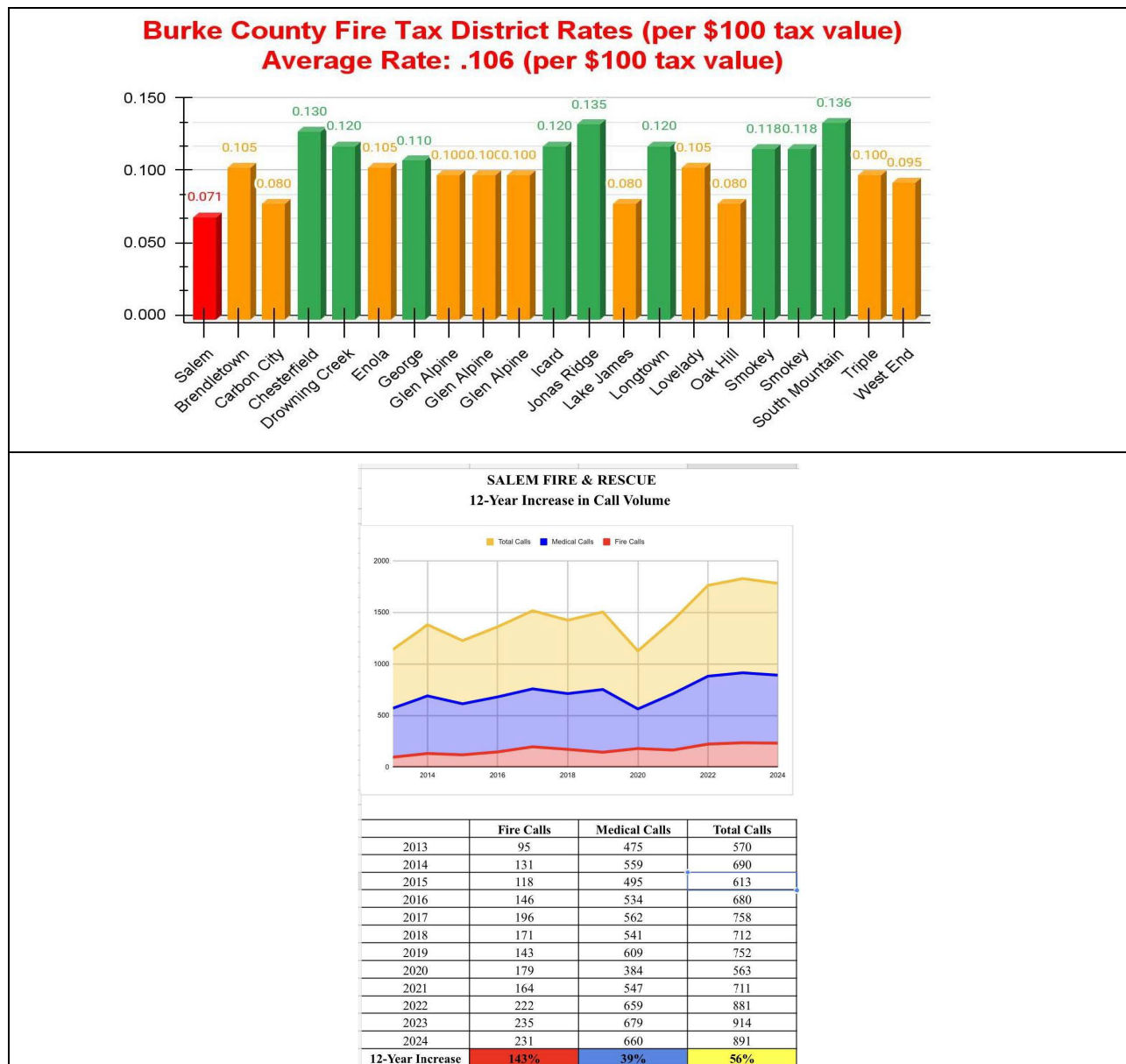
BOC - PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING BETTY CHANDLER ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

Chairman Brittain relayed that the approval of a proclamation commemorating the 100th birthday of Burke County resident Laura Elizabeth "Betty" Poore Chandler on April 21, 2025, was requested, along with the presentation of a Burke County walking stick at the regular meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

SF&R - REPORT ON BUILDING EXPANSION & PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK

Chief Autrey of Salem Fire & Rescue (SF&R) requested an increase in the department's fire tax rate from \$0.0716 to \$0.10 per \$100 of property valuation. The additional funding would support a fire station expansion and the purchase of a new fire truck. He provided the Board with a handout that included the following information:



BURKE COUNTY FIRE TAX FOR SALEM FIRE DISTRICT

Total Property Value in the Salem Fire District:	\$629,079,153
Total Revenue for Salem at the current rate of .0716 :	\$450,421
Total Revenue for Salem at the proposed rate of .1 :	\$629,079
Total Proposed Revenue Increase for Salem F.D.:	\$178,658
Burke County estimates a 95% actual collection rate, so the actual increase for Salem F.D. would be:	\$169,725

IMPACT ON PROPERTY OWNERS:

Valuation	Rate of 0.0716	Rate of 0.1	Increase
\$100,000	\$72	\$100	\$18
\$200,000	\$143	\$200	\$57
\$300,000	\$215	\$300	\$85
\$400,000	\$286	\$400	\$114
\$500,000	\$358	\$500	\$142

Mr. Autrey noted that Salem Fire & Rescue has historically maintained the lowest fire tax rate in Burke County. While the board had previously approved an increase to \$0.10, the department voluntarily reduced its rate following a county-wide property revaluation to remain revenue neutral. Chief Autrey emphasized that Salem was the only fire district in the county to take this step.

Despite this history of conservative budgeting, Chief Autrey explained that the department is now facing significant financial pressures. Construction of a new fire station, initially estimated at \$3 million, ultimately cost \$4 million due to inflation and increasing construction costs. Salem contributed over \$1 million in cash toward the project. The department currently holds a \$545,000 certificate of deposit, with \$351,000 designated for closing out the fire station mortgage through Civic Federal Credit Union. Monthly mortgage payments are expected to exceed \$16,000. The remaining funds will be applied to a down payment on a newly ordered fire engine, scheduled for delivery in August 2026. The total cost of the engine is approximately \$943,000, and financing must be secured before the end of 2025. Monthly payments for the engine are estimated at \$12,000.

Operational challenges were also outlined. Since 2013, SF&R has experienced a 143% increase in fire calls and a 56% increase in total emergency call volume. Vehicle maintenance expenses have nearly tripled over the past year, rising from \$12,000 to \$35,000, and fuel costs continue to climb. Chief Autrey stated that the department is exploring the implementation of 24/7 duty officer coverage, which could quadruple personnel costs but reduce response time. Additionally, the department is engaged in several community outreach initiatives, including partnerships with schools, a summer day camp, and hosting regional training events. He noted that SF&R provides mutual aid support to nearby unprotected areas, such as Burkemont Mountain, which do not generate tax revenue for the department.

The requested tax increase would generate approximately \$170,000 in additional annual revenue. For a homeowner with a \$500,000 property, this would result in an annual increase of around \$142. Chief Autrey stressed that the department is not seeking to become the highest-funded district, but rather to keep pace with increasing demands and maintain the quality of service the community expects.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments. Chief Autrey informed the Board that the old building had been demolished in response to a question from Vice Chairman Smith. Commissioner Stroud acknowledged the fire department's prudent financial management and dedication to community service and raised questions regarding the potential to wait for the next property revaluation or to seek a used fire engine. Chief Autrey responded that the department had already signed a contract for the engine and that national standards advise against using front-line apparatus older than 30 years, which is one of the reasons the engine needs to be replaced. He then responded to a question regarding the availability of a reserve engine. There was discussion around the availability of reserve engines and the contract. Chief Autrey noted that no public objections were raised during the March public hearing on this matter. Discussion occurred on the model of the engine, leading to Commissioner Barrier requesting a copy of the new engine's specifications, which Chief Autrey agreed to provide. Commissioner Stroud expressed interest in exploring cost-sharing opportunities through regional collaboration or bulk purchasing agreements, which Chief Autrey confirmed could be beneficial and are already used by some municipalities for a bulk purchase. After a brief discussion among the Board members, they decided more time was needed to mull the matter over. Chairman Brittain opened the floor for a motion.

Motion: To move this item to the "Items for Decision" section of the agenda for the regular meeting scheduled for April 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Phil Smith, Vice Chairman

AYES: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier, Randy Burns and Mike Stroud

BOC - PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 18, 2025, AS LINEMEN APPRECIATION DAY

Chairman Brittain noted that this item was moved from Consent to Presentations during the approval of the agenda. The proclamation will declare April 18, 2025, as Linemen Appreciation Day in Burke County.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

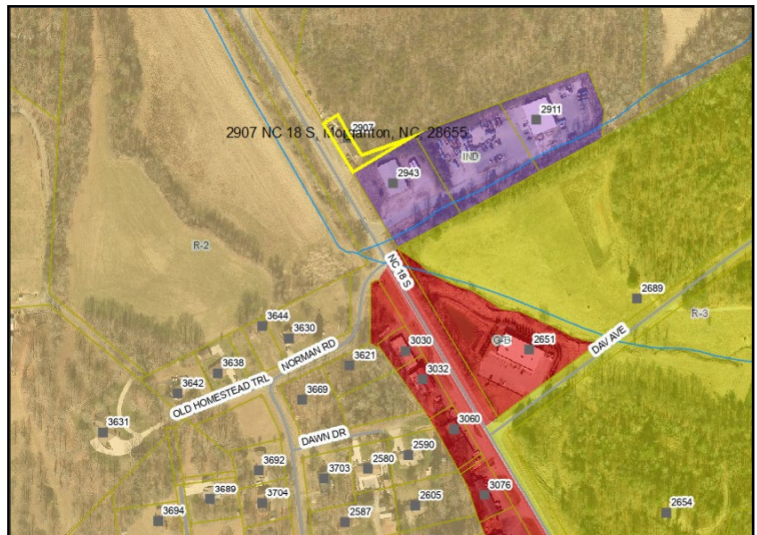
SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMM. DEV. - ZMA 2025-01 - 2907 NC 18 S REZONING & PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:00 PM

Alan Glines, Planning Director / Deputy County Manager, presented highlights of the following rezoning request:

Rezoning Request: ZMA-2025-01

Request: Rezone a parcel of approximately .27-acre in size from Residential-Two (R-2) to General Business (G-B).

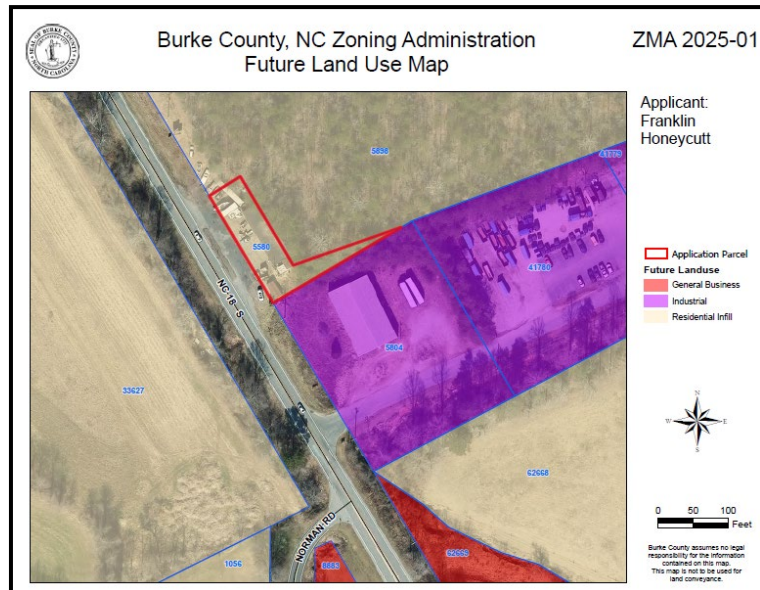


The parcel is currently zoned Residential-Two (R-2), though the surrounding areas feature a mix of residential and non-residential zones. Nearby businesses include a recently opened Dollar General and older industrial and storage facilities to the south. This area is a mixed-use zone.

CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The current land use plan for Burke County is the 2022 - 2030 Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan. The Future Land Use Map puts the subject parcel in the residential infill land use category. As in many cases, the future land use map closely resembles the current zoning map. If the zoning is approved, the future land use map would be adjusted to General Business accordingly.

The Blueprint Burke Land Use shows residential infill, which anticipates allowing a wide variety of future residential uses. This specific area down on NC 18 S is a mixed-use area with residential, commercial, and other business activities. The subject property has never been used residentially and has had a commercial structure on it since the 1950s.



STAFF COMMENTS

Staff work diligently to ensure zoning aligns with a property's specific use. This property was likely overlooked when zoning was established in Burke County approximately 27 years ago.

- The Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan recognizes and promotes residential infill while also supporting the growth of local businesses.
- The building was originally constructed for commercial use, possibly as a small restaurant, and was most recently used as a retail and second-hand shop.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board reviewed the request on February 27, 2025, and opened public comment. No one spoke on this matter except for the applicant, Ryan Honeycutt. The Planning Board voted unanimously (7-0) to recommend approval of the request.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

COMM. DEV. - ZMA 2025-02 - ASHTON DRIVE REZONING & PUBLIC HEARING - 6:00 PM

Alan Glines, Planning Director / Deputy County Manager, presented highlights of the following rezoning request:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

REQUEST

The Community Development Department received a rezoning request from Mickey and Debbie Evans to rezone a 1.15-acre parcel from Residential-Two (R-2) to General Business (G-B). The applicants, who own and operate Evans Construction Company on an adjacent property, intend to use the rezoned parcel for equipment storage and business-related operations.



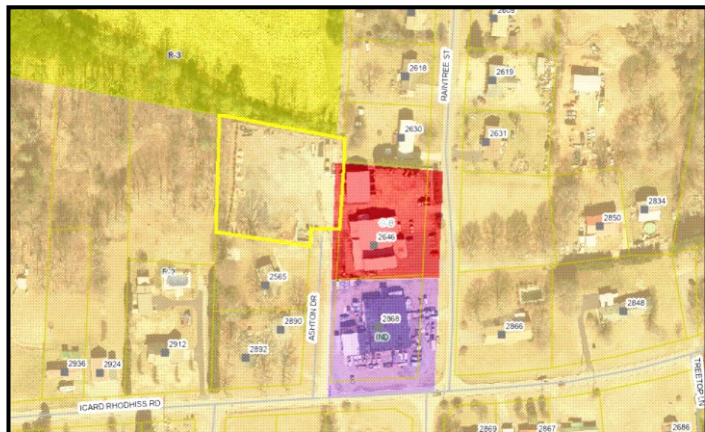
SITE ANALYSIS AND SURROUNDING AREA

The vacant parcel (PIN 2773-13-5760) is located in the Icard Township, within the Icard Fire District of Burke County, and falls within the Lake Hickory Watershed. It is located along Ashton Drive, a private road, and is situated three (3) parcels in from Icard Rhodhiss Road. The parcel is directly behind Evans Construction Company, which has been in operation since 1970 and is owned by the applicants. The construction company's property is currently zoned General Business (G-B), and the owners wish to expand operations by utilizing the adjacent parcel. To the south, the parcel is adjacent to an Industrial-zoned area, which houses KidsBaron (currently vacant). The surrounding area is predominantly residential, with small clusters of commercial activity.

Existing Zoning and Land Uses within the Surrounding Area		
	Current Zoning	Existing Land Uses
North	Residential Three R-3	Vacant
South	Residential Two R-2	Residential home
East	General Business / Industrial	Construction company; commercial business
West	Residential Two R-2	Residential home

CURRENT ZONING

The subject parcel and surrounding area are currently zoned as Residential-Two (R-2) and Residential-Three (R-3). Evans Construction Company has operated at its current location since approximately 1970. When zoning was first established in Burke County, the business parcel was designated as General Business (G-B). Mr. Evans now seeks to expand his operations and intends to use the adjacent parcel to support his existing business.

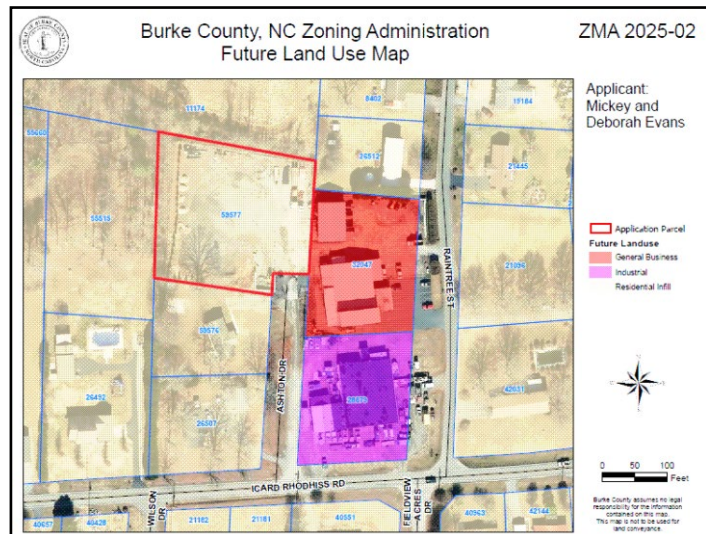


Many of the surrounding parcels were originally owned by Evans Construction Company, which developed the neighborhood and built homes on them. New commercial uses are required to have a perimeter landscape buffer when they are established, between their property and residentially zoned parcels. Some plantings are in place now, and additional plant material in a 10-foot-wide buffer, predominantly made up of evergreen plantings, would be required if the rezoning is approved.

CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The current land use plan for Burke County is the 2022 - 2030 Blueprint Burke Strategic Land Use Plan. The Future Land Use Map puts the subject parcel in the *residential infill* land use category. As in many cases, the future land use map closely resembles the current zoning map. The adjacent tract is placed in the *general business* land use category. If the zoning is approved, the future land use map would be adjusted accordingly.

The future land use map shows *residential infill*, which anticipates allowing a wide variety of residential uses. Although the community is experiencing a housing shortage, the change for this acre tract will allow a local construction business to expand at its existing location.



STAFF COMMENTS

There has been interest from the owner to rezone this parcel before. The Planning Board voted 4-2 to recommend approval of the rezoning request on June 24, 2021; however, the Board of Commissioners voted 2-1 to deny the rezoning, with two (2) commissioners absent, during their August 17, 2021, regular meeting.

- The Blueprint Burke Future Land Use Map acknowledges and supports residential infill and also supports the reasonable expansion of local businesses.
- The business, Evans Construction, has been a neighbor here since about 1970. If the rezoning is approved, a landscape buffer will be required on the parcel between the residentially zoned parcels.
- A perimeter landscape buffer is required to be a minimum of 10' in width with a single staggered row of trees, at least 75% evergreens, and the other 25% may consist of ornamental trees and bushes, not to exceed six (6) feet apart.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board reviewed the presentation from staff. During public comment, Mr. Evans spoke in favor of the request and noted the hours of operation to be weekdays only, and truck traffic is limited. A neighbor, Terri Swanson, spoke against the request and said the current impact on her parcel makes living there difficult. The Board closed public comment, and a motion was made to approve the request, which was not seconded. Another motion was made to recommend denial of the request, and the vote was 6-1 to deny.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments and then inquired whether the property under consideration was the same one previously associated with complaints about mounded asphalt debris. Mr. Glines confirmed that this was an early complaint but stated that during multiple site visits, he had not observed any large piles of debris. He explained that Evans Construction, a road construction company, typically hauls materials directly to project sites rather than storing them, reducing the likelihood of debris accumulation. Only small amounts of material have been observed on-site.

Chairman Brittain asked about the nature of the neighbor's complaint. Mr. Glines stated that the primary concern from the neighbor was dust caused by truck movement in and out of the site. He noted that vehicles access the site via a loop from Aston Road and that such use is not addressed in the current zoning ordinance. He added that zoning regulations require buffering between residential and commercial properties, such as planting shrubs. Some buffer plantings are currently in place, but a complete buffer would be required if the request is approved.

Commissioner Stroud asked why the Planning Board had voted 6–1 to deny the request. Mr. Glines explained that the primary concern was buffering. There being no further discussion, this item was moved without objection to the regular meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA

911 - NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

Heather Joyner, 911 Director, gave a brief overview of the requirements to become a telecommunicator and to maintain certification in the State of North Carolina. In 2024, Burke County telecommunicators answered over 178,000 calls for service. She then read directly from the proclamation as follows:

**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING APRIL 13 – 19, 2025
AS NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK**

WHEREAS, Congress and the President of the United States have established the second full week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week to honor the vital contributions of emergency telecommunicators across the country; and

WHEREAS, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week was first established in 1981 and has been nationally recognized since 1994, serving as an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the essential role of emergency communication professionals; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs, the prompt response of police officers, firefighters, and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and the preservation of property, and public safety telecommunicators serve as the single vital link between first responders and persons seeking immediate assistance during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated professionals handle millions of emergency calls each year, ensuring that the appropriate emergency response services are dispatched swiftly and accurately; and

WHEREAS, public safety telecommunicators are the unseen first responders, providing life-saving assistance and vital information to those in distress, often making the difference between life and death; and

WHEREAS, each dispatcher exhibits compassion, understanding, and professionalism in their duties, working tirelessly to ensure public safety, protect communities, and support first responders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the week of April 13 – 19, 2025, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and encourage all residents to express their appreciation for the dedication, diligence, and professionalism of our public safety telecommunicators who work tirelessly to keep our community safe.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments and then thanked the 911 staff for their hard work.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

ASFI - PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 2025 AS CRUELTY TO ANIMALS PREVENTION MONTH

Kay Draughn, President, Animal Services Foundation, Inc., requested the approval of a proclamation declaring April 2025 as “Animal Cruelty Prevention Month” and urged all citizens to work together to promote the humane treatment of animals and prevent cruelty in all forms.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

BOC - LITTER SWEEP PROCLAMATION

Chairman Brittain requested the approval of a proclamation to encourage residents, businesses, civic organizations, and government agencies to participate in roadside litter cleanup efforts.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

BOC - 2025 RULES OF PROCEDURE - REVISIONS

Chairman Brittain explained that it is the Board’s practice to review, amend as needed, and adopt its Rules of Procedure (ROP). The 2025 ROP is largely based on the 4th Edition, 2017,

Suggested Rules of Procedure for the Board of County Commissioners, which was published by the SOG (School of Government) and authored by Trey Allen. Several housekeeping revisions are needed:

Part V. Types of Meetings

Rule 10. Pre-Agenda Meetings

In accordance with its local practice, the board shall hold a pre-agenda on the first (1st) ~~Tuesday~~ **Monday** of each month, except that if a pre-agenda meeting day is on a holiday on which county offices are closed or held in conjunction with an organizational meeting on the first (1) Monday in December in even numbered years, the meeting shall be held on the next business day. The meeting shall be held at the County Board Room and begin at 3:00 p.m. The board shall adopt a resolution establishing the meeting schedule each year consistent with this rule. The purpose of a pre-agenda meeting is to set the agenda for the board's next regular meeting by reviewing and discussing each item on the agenda and determining its specific location or placement on the agenda (ex.: presentation, consent agenda, scheduled public hearing, items for decision or reports). Historically, the board does not take action at pre-agenda meetings except for approving the agenda and adjourning the meeting. However, the acceptance of the monthly update from the Department of Social Services and the quarterly report from the Health Department is permitted. Additionally, ~~However,~~ at the discretion of the chair, any decision item set forth in the agenda packet may be acted upon during the pre-agenda meeting if the matter is considered to be time sensitive or waiting until the regular meeting may be detrimental to the county.

Rule 11. Regular Meetings

(a) Regular Meeting Schedule. The board shall hold a regular meeting on the third (3rd) ~~Tuesday~~ **Monday** of each month, except that if a regular meeting day is on a holiday on which county offices are closed, the meeting shall be held on the next business day. The meeting shall be held at the County Board Room and begin at 6:00 p.m. The board shall adopt a resolution establishing the meeting schedule each year consistent with this rule. For purposes of these rules, a work session of the board constitutes a regular meeting if it appears on the board's duly adopted schedule of regular meetings. In all other cases, a work session is a special meeting to which the provisions of Rule 12 apply.

Part IV. Organization of the Board

Rule 8. Organizational Meeting; Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

(c) Order of Business

(2) *Odd-Numbered Years*. As the first order of business, the board will elect the chair and vice chair. As the second order of business, the board will vote on the appointment of the clerk to the board and the county attorney **as needed**.

Part X. Public Hearings and Comment Periods

Rule 38. Public Comment Periods

(b) Rules for Public Comment Periods. The board may adopt reasonable rules for public comment periods that, among other things,

- fixes the maximum time allotted to each speaker at 3 minutes,

- provide for the designation of spokespersons for groups supporting or opposing the same positions,
- provide for the selection of delegates from groups supporting or opposing the same positions when the number of persons wishing to attend the public comment period exceeds the capacity of the meeting room (so long as arrangements are made for those excluded from the meeting room to listen to the public comment period),
- provide for the maintenance of order and decorum in the conduct of the public comment period,
- requires each speaker to pre-registered with the clerk in advance or complete a "speaker's card" and submit it to the clerk before the meeting convenes,
- the order in which speakers are called to the podium is at the chairman's discretion,
- provides the chairman latitude to allow a speaker to address the board without having completed a "speaker's card",
- prohibits the extension of a speaker's time without a majority vote by the Board; and
- prohibits the transfer of a speaker's time to another speaker; and
- prohibits the use of videos, pictures, or other illustrative items from being displayed by those making public comments.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CLERK - REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE AMERICA 250 NC COMMITTEE (PLACE HOLDER)

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, reported that the terms of appointment for the following members of the America 250 NC Committee ended on April 15th: Commissioner Smith, Dr. Linda Lindsey, Ed Phillips, Dr. Patricia Wells, and Dr. Joel Welch. With the exception of Dr. Wells, all members wish to be reappointed. The new terms will be for three (3) years, except for Commissioner Smith's, which will be a one-year term ending on December 15, 2025. An application is expected from Dr. Sylvia Medford, a native of Burke County and the 2025 - 2027 Regent, Quaker Meadows Chapter, NSDAR.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CLERK - APPOINTMENTS TO JCPC SEATS NO. 4 & 19

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, stated that the appointment of Kaylee Wohlenhaus to replace Ally Mashburn (District Attorney or Designee) on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Court (JCPC) was requested to complete the remainder of a term ending June 30, 2026.

4		D. Attorney or Designee		Ally Mashburn		A	6/21/2022
						R	6/18/2024
						TE	6/30/2026

19	Parks and Recreation	Vacant	A	
			TE	6/30/2026

The appointment of Burke Co. Parks & Recreation team member, Wesley Hasson, was requested to fill vacant JCPC Seat No. 19, representing parks and recreation, to complete an unexpired term ending June 30, 2026.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 11 - \$13,329

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested the approval of Budget Amendment No. 11, in the amount of \$13,329. This amendment recognizes revenues and anticipated expenditures for Library State Aid Funding being distributed to counties in North Carolina.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 11			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-55500-01-433493	LIBRARY STATE AID GRANT	\$13,329	
EXPENSES			
100-55500-25-559001	STATE AIDE EXP- NONRECURRING	\$13,329	

Budgetary Effect: \$13,329 budget increase for State funds. The funding will be used toward program support.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

DUKE - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 12 - \$10,928

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested the approval of Budget Amendment No. 12, in the amount of \$10,928. This amendment recognizes the Senior Center grant funding for meals from disaster recovery funds being distributed to counties in North Carolina. The amendment also covers Senior Center donations received to be used for the 40th anniversary of the Senior Center event.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 12			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			

ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-54502-06-436500	CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	\$5,000	
100-54500-06-436500	CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	\$5,928	
EXPENSES			
100-54502-20-562600	GRANT FUNDS	\$5,000	
100-54501-20-562600	FOOD	\$1,000	
100-54501-20-561500	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	\$1,000	
100-54500-20-562600	FOOD	\$2,000	
100-54500-20-561500	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	\$1,928	

Budgetary Effect: \$10,928 budget increase for meals for Seniors and funds to be used for an anniversary event.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 13 - \$25,407

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of the following budget amendment (No. 13), which recognizes funds received from ZRO DELTA to be passed through to the Department of Commerce as a refund for a building reuse grant due to unmet performance outcomes.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 13			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-65044-00-438000	ZRO DELTA REIMBURSEMENT	\$25,407	
EXPENSES			
100-65044-40-554001	NC DEPT OF COMMERCE REPAYMENT	\$25,407	

Budgetary Effect: \$25,407 increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 14 - \$162,800

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested the approval of Budget Amendment No. 14, in the amount of \$162,800. This amendment recognizes the Stream Bank Restoration Grant from

NCDEQ for work along Silver Creek.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 14			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-61000-01-433491	GRANT FUNDS	\$162,800	
EXPENSES			
100-61000-35-533404	DEBRIS REMOVAL	\$162,800	

Budgetary Effect: \$162,800 budget increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 15 - \$1,321,926

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of Budget Amendment No. 15 in the amount of \$1,321,926, which recognizes a transfer of ARPA expended funds and closure of a special revenue fund.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 15			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-00000-11-439181	TRANSFER FROM ARP FUND	\$1,000,000	
181-18100-01-439999	AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN REVENUE	\$321,926	
410-00000-11-439100	TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND 410	\$1,000,000	
EXPENSES			
100-59000-55-595410	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL RESERVE	\$1,000,000	
181-18101-00-569100	ARP HEALTH CATEGORY	\$321,926	
410-00000-05-599999	PROJECT RESERVE SET ASIDES	\$1,000,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$1,321,926 to transfer funds already appropriated and to close out a special revenue fund.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 16 - \$850,000

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested the approval of Budget Amendment No. 16 in the amount of \$850,000, which recognizes transferring earmarked funds for Western Piedmont Community College for the purpose of future capital needs. This amendment will also establish a separate capital fund dedicated to WPCC.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 16			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
221-58500-11-439100	WPCC CAPITAL FUND	\$850,000	
EXPENSES			
100-58500-30-590050	WPCC CAPITAL		\$850,000
100-59000-55-595221	TRANSFER TO WPCC FUND	\$850,000	
221-58500-30-599999	BUDGET SET ASIDE	\$850,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$850,000 to transfer funds already appropriated and to create a capital project fund.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 17 - \$9,041,700

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of the following budget amendment (No. 17) for \$9,041,700, to recognize FEMA funding awarded to impacted counties in North Carolina from Hurricane Helene damage and relief efforts.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 17			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
214-21401-01-433100	FEMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$8,000,000	
214-21402-01-433100	FEMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$600,000	
214-21403-01-433100	FEMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$6,000	
214-21403-00-438045	INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT	\$15,700	
214-21403-00-438045	FEMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$6,000	
214-21404-00-438045	INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT	\$14,000	
214-21404-01-433100	FEMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$400,000	

EXPENSES			
214-21401-05-532050	STORM DEBRIS REMOVAL	\$6,500,000	
214-21401-05-559000	REMOVAL MONITORING	\$1,500,000	
214-21402-05-510100	SALARIES/BENEFITS	\$575,000	
214-21402-05-561500	OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE	\$25,000	
214-21403-10-543000	TOWER REPAIR	\$21,700	
214-21404-25-542500	PARK REPAIR	\$20,000	
214-21499-05-559000	ADMIN EXPENSE	\$400,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$9,041,700 increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

Note: Due to illness, Commissioner Burns left at 3:51 p.m. and was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18 - \$550,000

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of the following budget amendment (No. 18), which recognizes occupancy tax received over the original budgeted amount. These funds will be passed through to the TDA.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>
REVENUES			
100-65018-07-431401	OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUE	\$550,000	
EXPENSES			
100-65018-40-559000	BCTDA PAYMENT	\$550,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$550,000 to pass through funds to Burke County TDA.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments. Mr. Epley responded to a few clarifying questions from Chairman Brittain.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 19 - \$25,000

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested the approval of Budget Amendment No. 19 for \$25,000, recognizing grant funds received from NCDOT to be passed through to Salem Fire & Rescue as reimbursement for a paving project.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 19			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-00000-01-433101	NCDOT GRANT	\$25,000	
EXPENSES			
100-47500-10-586000	SALEM FIRE	\$25,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$25,000 increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 20 - \$60,000

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of the following budget amendment (No. 20) for \$60,000, which recognizes grant funds received from ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) to be used to facilitate Hurricane Helene recovery efforts.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 20			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-46200-06-436500	ANIMAL SERVICES DONATIONS	\$60,000	
EXPENSES			
100-46200-10-532030	MEDICAL SERVICES	\$23,500	
100-46200-10-543020	M/R VEHICLES	\$3,500	
100-46200-10-562001	DRUGS	\$17,000	
100-46200-10-561500	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	\$16,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$60,000 increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 21 - \$30,000

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of Budget Amendment No. 21 for \$30,000, recognizing grant funds received from the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural

Resources to support the 250th anniversary celebration of America.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 21			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
100-00000-01-433300	AMERICA 250 GRANT	\$30,000	
EXPENSES			
100-59500-05-586002	AMERICA 250 GRANT	\$30,000	

Budgetary Effect: \$30,000 increase.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 22 - \$283,542

Brian Epley, County Manager, requested approval of the following budget amendment (No. 22) for \$283,542, which recognizes the release of State Capital Infrastructure Funds during the 2022-23 fiscal year.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 22			
REVENUES AND EXPENSES			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES			
215-21511-00-436100	INTEREST INCOME	\$283,542	
EXPENSES			
215-21511-00-572100	BCDCF RENOVATIONS		\$3,220,000
215-21511-00-590100	STATE REPAYMENT	\$3,503,542	

Budgetary Effect: \$283,542 increase to the overall budget for interest income recognized. This budgetary effect will also allow funds to be moved to appropriate accounts for the closing of the capital project.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

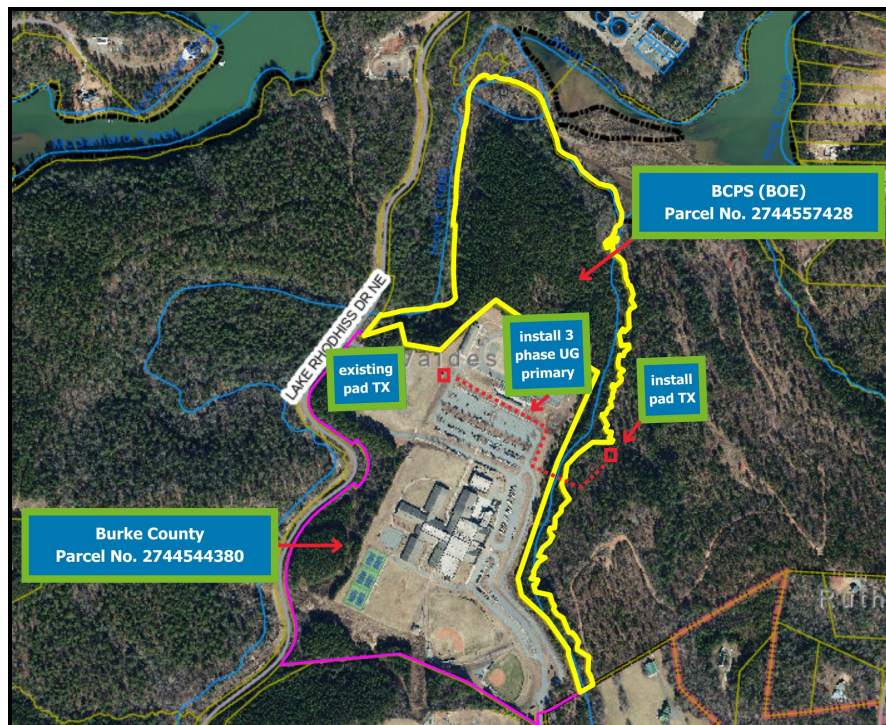
RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

CM - APPROVAL OF UTILITY EASEMENT AT DRAUGHN HIGH SCHOOL

Wendy McCrain, Senior Real Estate Representative, Duke Energy, requested approval of a permanent easement to be installed for an underground three-phase power line across Draughn

High School, which is owned by Burke County. The line will run from the student parking lot toward the football stadium and connect to a transformer near the field house, providing power to a new development adjacent to the school.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions and comments, then asked whether the Board of Education had reviewed the easement. County Manager Epley confirmed that both the Board of Education and its legal counsel had reviewed the matter. During the discussion, Ms. McCrain noted that a second parcel, recently identified along the easement route, is owned by the Board of Education, prompting questions about whether action by the Board of Commissioners would be required. In light of this recent discovery, the Board agreed to remove the item from the Consent Agenda and move it to the Items for Decision portion of the agenda at the regular meeting to allow the County Attorney time to determine if any action is necessary by the BOC.

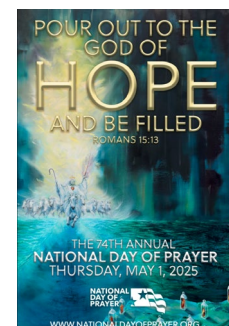


RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M., AS AN ITEM FOR DECISION.

CM - PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 1, 2025, AS NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Brian Epley, County Manager, stated that the National Day of Prayer tradition predates the founding of the United States of America, evidenced by the Continental Congress' proclamation in 1775 setting aside a day of prayer. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer, and in 1968, that law was amended, designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

Though the National Day of Prayer focuses most of its efforts on promoting the annual day of prayer, we realize that true life-altering, world-changing prayer cannot happen in a single day. It must become a discipline. The



theme for the 2025 National Day of Prayer is "Pour out to the God of hope and be filled." The Board was requested to approve a proclamation declaring Monday, May 1, 2025, as the National Day of Prayer.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

FINANCE - LEASE FOR ADULT CORRECTIONS

Margaret Pierce, Finance Director / Deputy County Manager, reported that the lease for the NC Department of Adult Corrections' Office for District 25 expired on March 31, 2025. This request was to renew the lease at the same location in the Courthouse Annex for an additional 12-month term, to expire on March 31, 2026. This lease extension is exempt from the 30-day notice requirements of N.C.G.S. § 160A-272.

Budgetary Effect: The cost of the lease is \$1.00.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

FM - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A WRITTEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN HOME TRUST BANK AND LONGTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert Bishop, Fire Marshal, explained that Longtown Volunteer Fire Department is entering into an agreement with Home Trust Bank for the construction of an addition to its building located at 7765 South Mountain Institute Road in Nebo. The Board of Directors of the fire department believes the department is fiscally responsible and financially able to construct the addition to their building and respectfully requested that the Burke County Board of Commissioners endorse the verification documents from Home Trust Bank pertaining to the loan agreement. The endorsement would not in any way constitute a financial obligation to the County of Burke.

Budgetary Effect: None.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments. Mr. Bishop responded to a question from Chairman Brittain. There being nothing further, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

GA - PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 2025 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Amy Kincaid, Guardian Ad Litem, requested the approval of a proclamation designating April

2025 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Burke County, North Carolina. This proclamation highlights the county's commitment to ensuring the well-being of all children and recognizing the critical role that families, schools, and communities play in fostering safe, stable, and nurturing environments.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

HEALTH - NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK PROCLAMATION

Miranda Smith, Public Health Educator, requested the approval of a proclamation declaring April 7 - 13, 2025, as National Public Health Week. The theme for 2025 is "It Starts Here."

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - RELEASE REFUND REPORT - MARCH 2025

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented the Release Refund Report for the period ending March 31, 2025, as follows:

Tax System Refunds and Releases			
Report Amount	Rebilled Amount	Net Release	Refund Amount
\$6,223.51	\$3,042.65	\$3,180.86	\$0.00

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							
0024070673-2023-2023-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/3/2023	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	17.09	14.01	3.08
0024070673-2023-2023-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/3/2023	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	0.00	3.08	-3.08
0024070673-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	17.09	14.01	3.08
0024070673-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	0.00	3.08	-3.08
Subtotal					34.18	34.18	0.00
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Adjustment Release							
0024070673-2023-2023-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/3/2023	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	3.08	3.08	0.00
0024070673-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	CARSWELL, ODIS TED	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/14/2025	3.08	3.08	0.00
Subtotal					6.16	6.16	0.00
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY RELEASE REASON: Duplicate Billing							
0024021049-2024-2024-0000-01-REG	HUFFMAN, CHRISTOPHER JUDD	7/15/2024	LINDA WILBUR	3/20/2025	175.16	175.16	0.00
0024045902-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	TONEY, JOHN ROBERT JR	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	2/28/2025	152.34	4.62	147.72
0024064681-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	PITTMAN, EARL R	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/20/2025	108.98	103.38	5.60
0024077197-2024-2023-0000-00-REG	KENNEDY, JEFFREY L	6/11/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/4/2025	10.08	10.08	0.00
0024077197-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	KENNEDY, JEFFREY L	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/4/2025	9.24	9.24	0.00
0024077499-2024-2024-0000-01-REG	DAVIS, GREG A	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/3/2025	150.61	150.61	0.00
Subtotal					606.41	453.09	153.32

TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Exempt Property							
0000024786-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	DROWNING CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.	7/15/2024	AMANDA CONLEY	3/25/2025	902.26	902.26	0.00		
Subtotal					902.26	902.26	0.00		
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Not in Burke County							
0024059609-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	MERRILL, ROBERT B	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/13/2025	175.56	175.56	0.00		
0024077687-2024-2024-0000-01-REG	EDWARDS, DAVID WAYNE	7/15/2024	LINDA WILBUR	3/4/2025	109.19	109.19	0.00		
Subtotal					284.75	284.75	0.00		
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Process Correction							
0000053885-2023-2023-0001-00-REG	MILLER, ALVIN R	9/6/2023	LINDA WILBUR	3/24/2025	164.57	164.57	0.00		
Subtotal					164.57	164.57	0.00		
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Release LFUF							
0000026340-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	RUTHERFORD, CLARA B	7/15/2024	JOHN BRIDGERS	3/21/2025	257.12	88.00	169.12		
0000028430-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	GANTT, VICKI WHITENER	7/15/2024	AMANDA CONLEY	3/28/2025	726.85	88.00	638.85		
0000036205-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	PRAISE ASSEMBLY OF GOD	7/15/2024	AMANDA CONLEY	3/24/2025	88.00	88.00	0.00		
0000073206-2019-2019-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/1/2019	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	105.29	72.00	33.29		
0000073206-2020-2020-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/1/2020	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	97.48	72.00	25.48		
0000073206-2021-2021-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/1/2021	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	101.48	76.00	25.48		
0000073206-2022-2022-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/1/2022	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	107.48	82.00	25.48		
0000073206-2023-2023-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/3/2023	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	99.52	88.00	11.52		
0000073206-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	REIMERS, DEAN	7/15/2024	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	99.52	88.00	11.52		
Subtotal					1,682.74	742.00	940.74		
TAX DISTRICT: BURKE COUNTY		RELEASE REASON: Sold/Traded							
0000001804-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	WALKER, ROBERT D JR	7/15/2024	KAYLA BURGESS	3/6/2025	1,458.58	9.24	1,449.34		
0000054010-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	GOSNELL, WAYNE A	7/15/2024	LINDA WILBUR	3/7/2025	6.16	6.16	0.00		
0024052272-2024-2024-0000-00-REG	ABERNATHY, BRITTANY NICOLE	7/15/2024	LOENDORF JOSEPH	3/12/2025	72.13	72.13	0.00		
Subtotal					1,536.87	87.53	1,449.34		
Total					6,223.51	3,180.86	3,042.65		

VTS Refunds Over \$100	
	Refund Amount
VTS Adjustments	\$540.60

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Address 3	Transaction #	Refund Reason	Create Date	Tax Juris.	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
COOK, WILLIAM SHAWN	COOK, WILLIAM SHAWN	CONNELLY SPG, NC 28612	223848690	SLVG or RBLT TTL	3/26/2025	01	TAX	(\$81.93)	\$0.00	(\$81.93)
						36	TAX	(\$19.89)	\$0.00	(\$19.89)
									Refund	\$101.82
CROTTS, MICHAEL DAVID	CROTTS, MICHAEL DAVID	VALDESE, NC 28690	446638592	Situs error	3/17/2025	01	TAX	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
						57	TAX	(\$342.76)	\$0.00	(\$342.76)
						57	VEHICLE FEE	(\$20.00)	\$0.00	(\$20.00)
						27	TAX	\$68.55	\$0.00	\$68.55
									Refund	\$294.21
VELAZQUEZ, ARIEL	VELAZQUEZ, ARIEL	MORGANTON, NC 28655	223489732	Over Assessment	3/20/2025	01	TAX	(\$121.74)	\$0.00	(\$121.74)
						32	TAX	(\$22.83)	\$0.00	(\$22.83)
									Refund	\$144.57
									Refund Total	\$540.60

*Note: The net release amount results from the reported amount minus the rebilled amount.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - TAX COLLECTION REPORT - MARCH 2025

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, presented the Tax Collection Report for the period ending March 31, 2025, as follows:

Category	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$53,548,941.77	97.43%	\$1,244,237.23
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$4,296,572.26	86.64%	\$779,671.74
Current Year Taxes	\$57,845,514.03	96.62%	\$2,023,908.97
Delinquent Taxes	\$500,201.73	71.46%	\$199,798.27
Penalty & Interest	\$318,931.22	96.94%	\$10,068.78

Category	Tax Levy	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$55,264,117.08	\$53,548,941.77	96.60%	\$1,715,175.31

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

TAX DEPT. - ORDER TO ADVERTISE 2024 DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES

John Bridgers, Tax Administrator, noted 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 Monday, March 31, 2025. The Tax Office mailed these notices in February 2025.

Category	Tax Levy	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$55,264,117.08	\$53,548,941.77	96.60%	\$1,715,175.31

Category	Amount Collected YTD	% Collected	Balance to Collect
Property Tax	\$53,548,941.77	97.43%	\$1,244,237.23
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$4,296,572.26	86.64%	\$779,671.74
Current Year Taxes	\$57,845,514.03	96.62%	\$2,023,908.97

Delinquent Taxes	\$500,201.73	71.46%	\$199,798.27
Penalty & Interest	\$318,931.22	96.94%	\$10,068.78

This Delinquent Tax Notice, which 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 featured on the front page and is further explained on the reverse side of the document. This notice gives taxpayers 30 days to pay their delinquent taxes and avoids Burke County intercepting their North Carolina Income Tax refund. Mr. Bridgers requested authorization to advertise the order to collect.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

CLERK - APPOINTMENT TO THE BC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kay Draughn, Clerk to the Board, reported that Seat No. 4 (At-Large) on the Library Board of Trustees was previously held by Mark Patrick until his recent resignation. According to his letter, he plans to move out of the state. Applications from Janice Gravely and Loch Hoffman are currently on file. The term for this seat runs through December 31, 2027.

4	At-Large	Mark Patrick	A	12/21/2021
		102 Mimosa Hills Drive	R	12/16/2024
		Morganton NC 28655	TE	12/31/2027

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

GS - AWARD CONTRACT FOR WATER METER PURCHASE & INSTALLATION

Mark Delehant, General Services Director, explained that Burke County is undertaking a comprehensive Water Meter Replacement Project to install approximately 2,241 cold-water metering devices in the county's water distribution system. The project is divided into two (2) phases: the procurement of over 2,000 water meters and the subsequent installation of these meters. The RFP to purchase the water meter units was posted on February 18, 2025, with a deadline of March 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. The County received four (4) proposals, of which, Core & Main is the recommended firm. The installation RFP was advertised for bids on February 21, 2025, with a deadline of April 4, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. The County received eight (8) bids, and they are still under review. The project is well below the budget amount approved. A recommended firm for both phases and a project update will be presented at the regular meeting.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

FINANCE - POLICY UPDATES FOR ARPA COMPLIANCE (PLACE HOLDER)

Margaret Pierce, Finance Director / Deputy County Manager, noted that a recent desk audit identified certain policies that may require further review and possible amendments to fully align with ARPA guidelines. Draft revisions are not yet available, as staff are still consulting with a Department of Water Quality employee to ensure accurate updates. Any proposed changes will be shared with the Board prior to the meeting for review, if amendments are deemed necessary.

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, this item was moved without objection to the following meeting.

RESULT: MOVED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

DSS - MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT

Korey Fisher-Wellman, DSS Director, and Amanda Grady, Assistant DSS Director, jointly presented the monthly operational report, the highlights of which were as follows:



Burke County Department of Social Services
2024 Annual Report

SOCIAL SERVICES

Message from the Director

As we reflect on the past year, it is with immense pride and gratitude that I present the Burke County Department of Social Services' annual report. The past year has been one of resilience, adaptability, and unwavering dedication from our staff, especially in the face of unforeseen challenges, most notably the impact of Hurricane Helene.

The hurricane brought significant disruption to our community, with many residents experiencing loss, displacement, and hardship. However, the response from our team at Burke County DSS was nothing short of extraordinary. Our staff worked tirelessly to provide immediate relief and support to those affected, ensuring that families and individuals had access to shelter, food, and critical services in the aftermath of the storm. From coordinating emergency shelters to offering mental health support for those experiencing trauma, our team was there every step of the way. The outpouring of compassion and commitment during this crisis is a testament to the strength of our staff and the deep sense of responsibility they feel toward our community.

In addition to our emergency response, the past year has seen continued growth and progress across all areas of our services. Some key accomplishments include:

- Compassionate Support Services:** Our dedicated team remained steadfast in providing essential services to individuals and families in need. Whether through nutrition assistance, housing programs, or healthcare support, we've worked hard to meet the ever-evolving needs of our community.
- Child Welfare Advocacy:** Protecting vulnerable children is central to our mission. Despite the challenges presented by the hurricane, we have maintained our focus on child safety and well-being. We continued to advocate for at-risk children, ensuring their needs were met, especially during a time when many families were displaced.
- Economic Empowerment Initiatives:** Empowering families to regain financial independence and stability remains at the heart of our work. This year, our department expanded programs aimed at providing financial assistance, employment training, and job placement resources. These initiatives have proven vital as many in our community worked toward rebuilding their lives after the storm.
- Community Engagement and Collaboration:** One of the greatest strengths of Burke County DSS is the collaboration with community partners. In the wake of Hurricane Helene, we strengthened our relationships with local organizations, nonprofits, and state agencies to ensure that our response was coordinated and efficient. Through teamwork, we were able to meet the needs of the community more effectively and offer long-term support to those affected by the hurricane.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to our staff, volunteers, community partners, and the Board of Commissioners. Your continued support has allowed us to serve with compassion and commitment, and your dedication has made a significant difference in the lives of many. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and look forward to another year of working to strengthen and support the families of Burke County.




2

SOCIAL SERVICES





Burke County DSS has **199** full time employees, and **10** part time employee and **10** PRN staff.



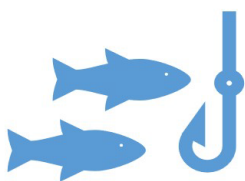
There were **446** Fishing License waivers issued by DSS in 2024.



Burke County DSS generated approximately **11,242** Medicaid transportation trip referrals in 2024.



There were **252** voter registration applications submitted to the County Board of Elections from DSS in year 2024.



SOCIAL SERVICES

Making Health Care Available to Our Community

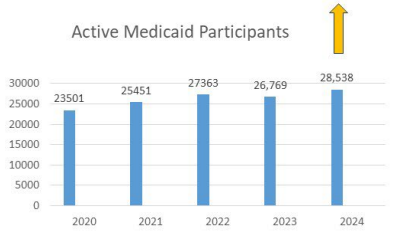


Medicaid provides health care coverage for people with low incomes. There are programs for children, pregnant women, adults and people who are blind or with disabilities. Through Medicaid Expansion people ages 19 through 64 may receive health care coverage.

Updates in 2024

- Approximately 565 Medicaid applications are taken each month.
- Over 2,000 Medicaid re-certifications are normally completed monthly. However, due to COVID, the agency was allowed to extend the recertification as needed.
- County Department of Social Services receive 75% federal reimbursement for the administration of Medicaid eligibility functions.
- A Medicaid Caseworker continues to be outposted in the community offering services at Blue Ridge Health Care.
- The County is subject to numerous audits including the PERM- Payment error rate measurement, MEQC- Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control, County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CPA conducts the case audits), Statewide Single Audit, and Recipient Eligibility Determination Audit (REDA). Errors can result in paybacks to the county.
- Recertification extensions and waivers are in place through June 2025.

Active Medicaid Participants



% Enrolled in Medicaid	Paid Claims Amount
35.09%	\$228,948,214

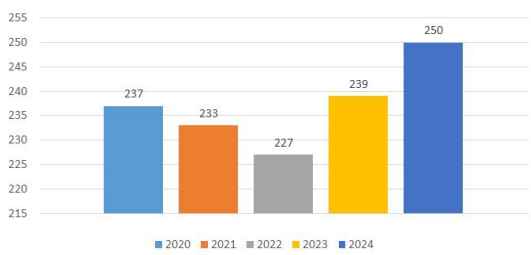


Special Assistance

State/County Special Assistance (SA) is a state supplement that pays cash benefits to eligible recipients who reside in licensed facilities authorized to receive SA payments.

The Special Assistance In-Home (SA/IH) program provides low income, North Carolina residents who are eligible for Medicaid with a monthly cash benefit to help them remain living in their homes. The SA payment is funded by 50% county dollars and 50% state dollars.

SA Recipients Per Year






Work First Cash Assistance and Employment Services

North Carolina's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; called **Work First**, is based on the premise that parents have a responsibility to support themselves and their children. Through Work First, parents can get short-term training and other services to help them become employed and self-sufficient, but the responsibility is theirs. Most families have two years to move off Work First assistance. Work First provides a monthly check and Medicaid. Applicants must have a related child under the age of 18 living in the home and be a U.S. citizen or legal alien. The resource limit is \$3,000.

Work First Recipients are required to participate in work activities such as employment, job search and volunteering to obtain work experience.

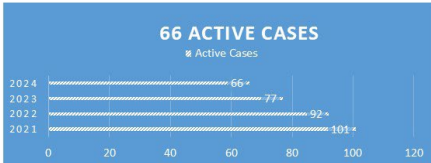
The Employment Services case-workers have constant contact with the participants to assist in eliminating barriers to finding employment. They arrange transportation, day care services, and enroll the participants in classes such as GED or Human Resource Development.

This unit averaged 75 contacts with recipients monthly, which includes phone calls and office visits. Policy requires case-managers have contact with Employment Services recipients every 4 weeks to complete an updated Mutual Responsibility Agreement (MRA).

The state allowed telephonic signatures as part of the permanent policy.



66 ACTIVE CASES



(#)



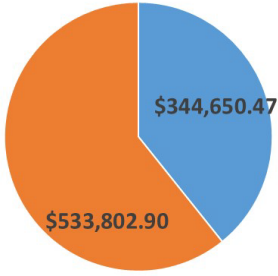

SOCIAL SERVICES

Energy Programs

The **Crisis Intervention Program**, also known as CIP is designed to assist families with heating or cooling emergencies by paying utility bills or deposits and buying oil or wood. Funds can also be used to pay for temporary shelter, home repairs, and purchases of air conditioners, up to \$600 a fiscal year. Eligibility is based on income, citizenship and an existence of a heating and cooling crisis. Total Number of CIP Applications processed 01/1/2024 - 12/31/2024 was 1,109.

The **Low-Income Energy Assistance Program**, also known as LIEAP, provides a one-time vendor payment to help eligible families pay their heating costs. This program is 100% funded by the Federal Government. Applications are taken from December through March, or until funds are exhausted. Applicants must meet vulnerability, income, resource, and citizenship requirements. Payments are made directly to the vendor. Total Number of LIEAP Applications processed 01/1/2024 - 12/31/2024 was 1,803.

Total Payments for 2024



■ CIP ■ LIEAP




FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES (FNS)

Food and Nutrition Services is a federal food assistance program that provides low-income families the ability to purchase food they need for a nutritionally adequate diet. Benefits are issued via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT cards).

Food and Nutrition Services are an important public-private partnership that helps families afford a basic diet, generates business for retailers, and boosts local economies. Participants purchase groceries with FNS benefits from superstores to farmers markets. Because most households redeem their monthly benefits quickly and because the program helps struggling households purchase adequate food, FNS is one of the most effective forms of local economic support for our community.



All staff help with the BSNAP program and distribution center in October of 2024. FNS did however manage the BSNAP card re-orders after the period ended.

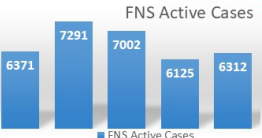
Drug Assessment waiver ended.

FNS reviews were extended due to Helene.

The intake of applications and active caseload saw an increase after Helene.

Households with school age children that received free or reduced lunch were given additional supplements. Sun-bucks were sent out in the summer months of 2024. Although the applications are taken through the schools, DSS manages the card distribution.

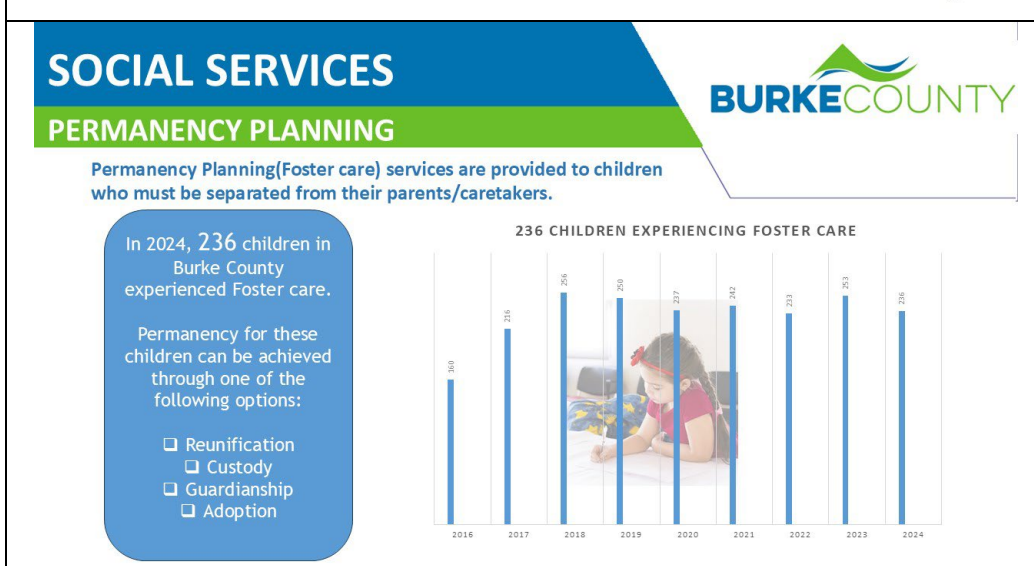
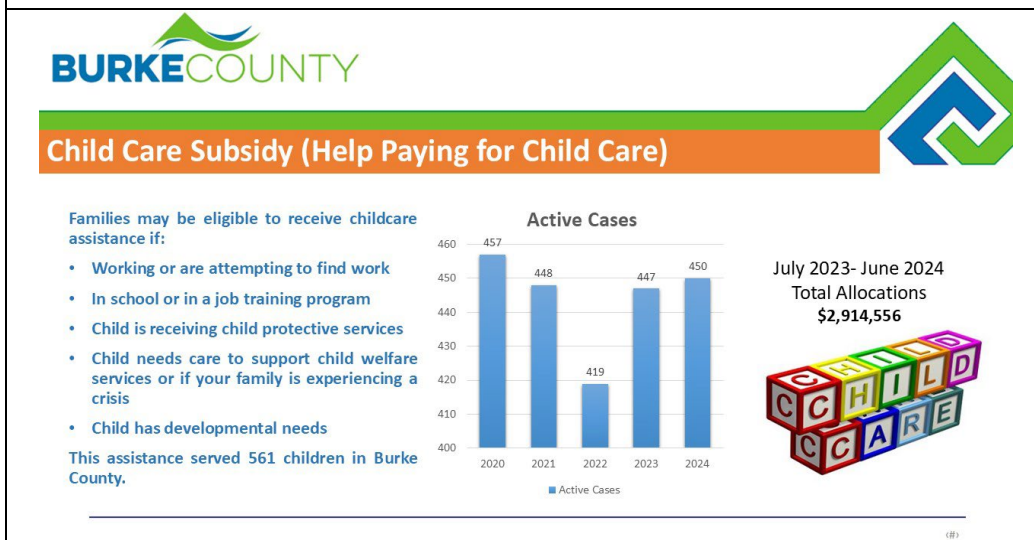
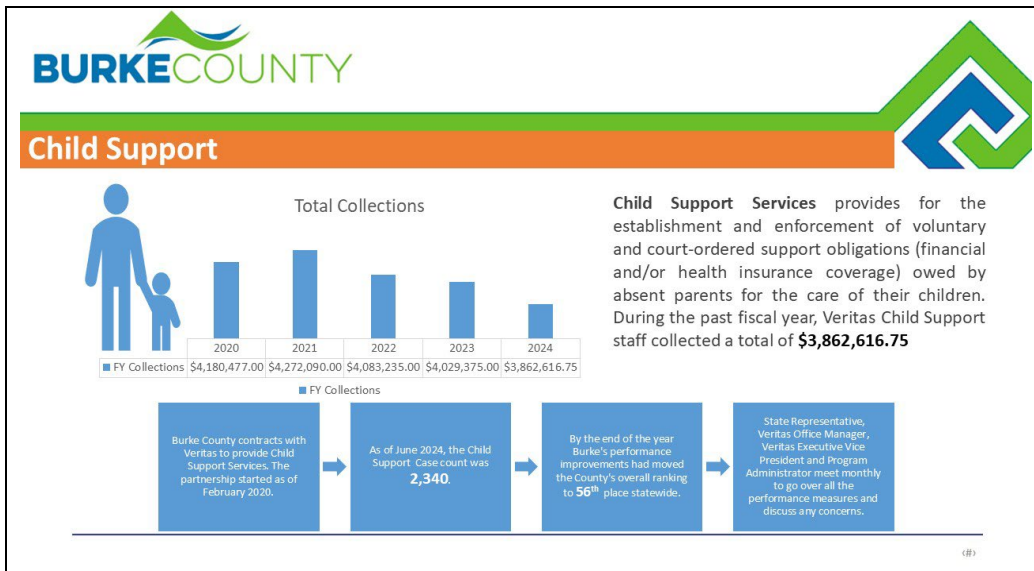
FNS Active Cases



■ FNS Active Cases

YEAR	BENEFITS	PARTICIPANTS
2017	\$16,278,539	12,192
2018	\$15,257,818	12,467
2019	\$12,979,179	10,397
2020	\$28,071,332	12,456
2021	\$37,394,876	14,146
2022	\$39,812,325	13,403
2023	\$27,732,339	11,863
2024	\$24,640,383	12,193

(B)



SOCIAL SERVICES

Entering v. Exiting Custody

FOSTER CARE

■ Entering Foster Care ■ Exiting Foster Care

Year	Entering Foster Care	Exiting Foster Care
2016	122	63
2017	122	63
2018	51	96
2019	75	104
2020	99	112
2021	108	96
2022	66	101
2023	35	79
2024	38	58

Entering Custody v. Exiting Custody

In 2024, **38** children **entered** the Department's custody while **58** children **exited** the Departments custody and achieved some level of permanency.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Adoptions

"Adoption is the method provided by law to establish the legal relationship of parent and child **between persons who are not so related by birth, with the same mutual rights and obligations** that exist between children and their birth parent.

In 2024, Burke County assisted **34** children in reaching their goal of adoption.

Adoptions Year Over Year

Year	Adoptions
2017	26
2018	24
2019	33
2020	60
2021	32
2022	55
2023	28
2024	34

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Child Protective Services



Child Protective Services (CPS)

Mandated Services to Protect Children and Support Families

Purpose of CPS:

- Legally mandated, non-voluntary services for families.
- Specializes in maltreated children (abused, neglected, dependent) and those at imminent risk of harm.
- Aims to protect children and improve the abilities of parents/caregivers.

Key Responsibilities of CPS:

- 1. Receiving & Documenting Reports:**
 - Screen and assess reports of child abuse, neglect, and dependency.
 - Two-level decision-making process for allegations.
- 2. Investigations & Family Assessments:**
 - Conduct thorough investigations and assess family dynamics.
- 3. In-home Case Management & Support:**
 - Provide intensive services to remedy safety issues and support children in their home or temporary placement.
- 4. Coordinating Community & Agency Services:**
 - Monitor and coordinate services from community partners and agencies.
- 5. Court Involvement:**
 - Petition the court for child removal or continued intervention if safety concerns persist.

Purpose?

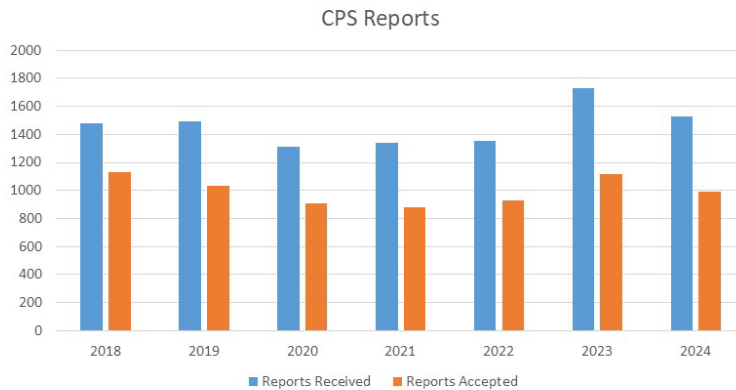
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SOCIAL SERVICES

CPS Report Data



In 2024, Burke County DSS received **1,526** reports of alleged child abuse, neglect and dependency as shown below. The agency accepted **994** of these reports for investigations and assessments as the information provided to the agency met the statutory definitions of child abuse, neglect, or dependency.



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SOCIAL SERVICES

CPS In-Home Services



CPS In-Home Services
Supporting Families and Child Safety

Primary Goal:

- Support families in maintaining children in their home.
- Eliminate safety concerns and reduce the risk of future maltreatment.
- Achieved through family engagement, support systems, and service providers.

Key Objectives:

- Address Child Safety & Protection
- Preserve Families & Maintain Children Safety at Home
- Prevent Further Abuse by Strengthening Family Capacity

CPS In-Home Services Characteristics:

1. **Intensive Services**
 - Provided to families with greater needs; less intensive for families with fewer needs.
2. **Culturally Sensitive Services**
 - Delivered within the family's community context.
3. **Enhanced Worker Identification of Safety & Risks**
 - Helps county child welfare workers assess safety and risks.
4. **Family Engagement**
 - Involves children, youth, and families in planning, improving outcomes of safety and well-being.
5. **Encouraging Support Networks**
 - Promotes the development of support networks to help families cope with future challenges.

In-Home Services Cases



Year	Total Cases Yearly
2017	75
2018	85
2019	65
2020	60
2021	35
2022	40
2023	80
2024	55

55 Cases

SOCIAL SERVICES

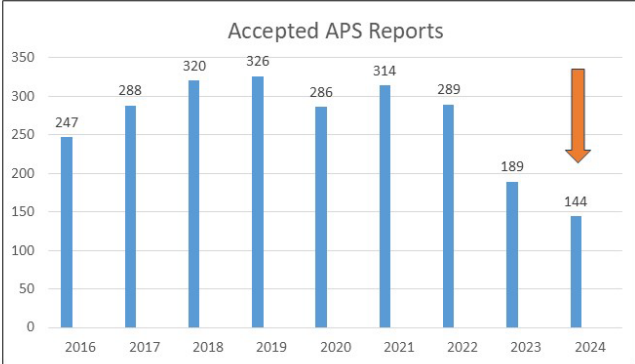
Adult Protective Services



Adults with disabilities may be vulnerable to abuse, neglect and exploitation. **Adult Protective Services (APS)** is a unit within DSS which receives and evaluates reports to determine whether disabled adults are in need of protective services. Disabled adults reported to be abused, neglected or exploited and in need of protective services are eligible to receive this service regardless of income.

144 Accepted Reports

Accepted APS Reports



Year	Accepted APS Reports
2016	247
2017	288
2018	320
2019	326
2020	286
2021	314
2022	289
2023	189
2024	144

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Guardianship



There are times (due to mental health issues, developmental disabilities, medical issues, etc.) when an adult is declared incompetent to make their own decisions by the court. These incompetent adults are appointed a Guardian of the Person to assist them with their decision making and to ensure that all of their needs are met. In 2024, Burke County DSS served **66** individuals as **Guardian of the Person**. The Department gained 12 new adult wards through court involvement in 2024. The Department established a contract in late 2023 with Hope for the Future for 17 slots to assist in the overall case management of wards. In 2024, **17** wards went to Hope for the Future.



18

SOCIAL SERVICES

Adult Home Specialists



- This service is a mandated service inspecting and monitoring the operations of local adult care homes and family care homes.

- The **Adult Home Specialists** assess the facilities' compliance with rules and regulations set forth by DHSR. Areas inspected and monitored include: resident rights, administration of medication, staff qualifications, and housekeeping. Further, they are responsible for ensuring safe and sanitary living conditions.

- The **Adult Home Specialists** are also responsible for conducting formal investigations into complaints received by the agency about concerns related to one or more of the licensing rules and regulations.

- Burke County DSS has two (2) full-time Adult Services Social Workers who serve as Adult Home Specialists for the County. In 2024, there were six (6) adult care homes, and 12 adult family care homes located in Burke County. There is also one local Adult Day Care Program that is monitored by the Adult Home Specialists.

- In 2024, the Adult Home Specialists conducted **95** investigations and **80** routine visits.

Mandated Service

2 FTE's

18 Facilities

1 Local Program

95 investigations

80 routine visits

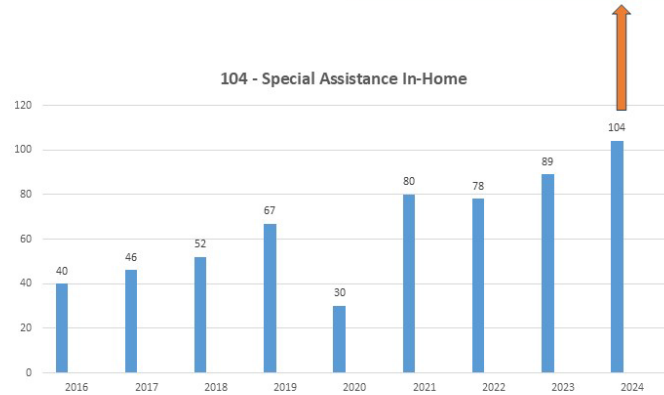
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SOCIAL SERVICES

Special Assistance In-Home



The **Special Assistance In-Home Program (SA/IH)** is a mandated service that provides an alternative to placement in an Adult Care Home (ACH) for individuals who desire and are able to live at home safely with additional support. In 2024, DSS served **104** adult individuals with the SA In-Home Service. This number has increased over the past several years, with the exception of 2020, as the Department continues to work with local mental health providers in fulfilling the NC Department of Health and Human Services' Action Plan and with the Federal Department of Justice in limiting the number of adults with mental illness residing in adult care homes. SA In Home is now an entitlement program, and as a result these number are growing monthly.



20

SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Alternative Programs (CAP)



CAP (Community Alternatives Program) is a Medicaid covered program that allows an individual to receive assistance with activities of daily living in their home. This enables the individual to remain in their home safely as opposed to residing in a Nursing Home.

Burke County is allotted **188** secured slots to serve individuals through the CAP Program. The state of North Carolina also has **320** additional slots, shared across the state, to serve individuals with an Alzheimer's diagnosis. These slots are distributed to counties as they become available. Burke County currently has **2** Alzheimer's slots filled.



188

Secure Slots in
Burke County

320

Additional Shared Slots in NC
Alzheimer's Diagnosis

2

Utilized
Additional Shared Slots in NC
Alzheimer's Diagnosis

21

Questions?

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, he opened the floor for a motion.

Motion: To accept the report as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
AYES:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier, Mike Stroud
ABSENT:	Randy Burns

HD - QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Danny Scalise, Health Director, presented the quarterly operational report as follows:

 BURKE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH FY 2024-2025 Quarter 3 QUARTERLY REPORT	QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS • Progress on 2025 Community Health Assessment • Over 1,160 clinic visits completed • WIC participation above 100% of assigned caseload • PHAB reaccreditation documentation submitted • Strong presence in state and national public health networks
HEALTH EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  • Submitted State of the County Health Report • Participated in community events and outreach • Monthly blog series on key health topics • NCCARE 360 presentation to Valdese Rotary • Launched Staff Relations Committee	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  • 75 septic & 12 well permits issued • 50% reduction in on-site wait times • Food & lodging compliance at 55% • 10 new restaurants permitted • Intern Lakin Riddle fully authorized
CLINIC & LAB SERVICES  • 1,160+ clinical encounters across 5 service lines • Lab performed 1,657 tests • Key services: Primary Care, Women's Health, CD control • Strong patient engagement and service delivery	CARE MANAGEMENT & WIC  • CMHRP and CMARC caseloads continue to grow • Graduations show positive outcomes • WIC participation exceeded 100% through February • Over \$418,000 WIC redemptions at local vendors

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LEADERSHIP & STAFF DEVELOPMENT  - State & national representation (NCIOM, APHA) - Presented at National Addiction Summit - Academic partnerships with UNC, WVU - Staff involved in leadership and training programs	ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE - Submitted the reaccreditation documents to PHAB - Participated in Budget Retreat - Vital Records team reviewed 283 death certificates - Maintained strong financial stewardship 
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QUESTIONS?



2024 Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Department of the Year

Chairman Brittain opened the floor for questions or comments; there being none, he opened the floor for a motion.

Motion: To accept the report as presented.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Phil Smith, Vice Chairman
AYES: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier, and Mike Stroud
ABSENT: Randy Burns

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chairman Brittain issued reminders for the upcoming holiday-related office closures.

ACTION ITEMS – NONE

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: Phil Smith, Vice Chairman
AYES: Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier and Mike Stroud
ABSENT: Randy Burns

Motion: To come out of closed session.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brian Barrier, Commissioner
AYES:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier and Mike Stroud
ABSENT:	Randy Burns

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Chairman Brittain announced that a proper motion was made to come out of closed session and that no action was taken.

ADJOURN

Motion: To adjourn at 5:26 p.m.

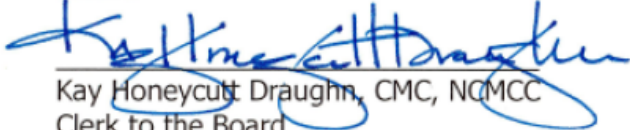
RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brian Barrier, Commissioner
AYES:	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Phil Smith, Brian Barrier and Mike Stroud
ABSENT:	Randy Burns

Approved this 21st day of July 2025.



Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board