



# Rutherford County

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Board of Commissioners

Monday, August 4, 2025

6:00 PM 289 N. Main St. Rutherfordton NC 28139 Commission  
Chambers

#### I. Call to Order

*Chairman King called the August 4, 2025 meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order.*

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Bryan King, Commissioner Alan Toney, Commissioner Michael Benfield, Commissioner Hunter Haynes and Commissioner Donnie Haulk

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

*Isothermal Community College Staff Members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

#### B. Agenda Approval

**Vice Chairman Toney moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

#### II. Public Comments

*Ms. Annie Dance, a resident of Green Hill, said a copy of the Southern Software Contract which the Board would be considering in the meeting was not included in the agenda. She asked that the Board consider the cost as they make a decision.*

*Mr. Nick Jongebloed, founder of Animal Rescue Food Solutions, asked for the Board's influence as he attempts to make contacts to get food for animals at the Rutherford County Animal Shelter.*

#### III. Consent Agenda

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

A. [ID 25-4221](#) Minutes of Rutherford County Commissioners' Meeting of July 7, 2025

**Attachments:** [20250707 Minutes.pdf](#)

B. [ID 25-4222](#) Tax Refunds and Releases - August, 2025

Attachments: [Tax Refunds Releases August 2025.pdf](#)

IV. Old Business

A. [ID 25-4220](#) Road Naming, Addressing, and Display Ordinance

Attachments: [AMENDMENT RUTHERFORD COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 3 ARTICLE VI - STREET NAME ADDRESSING AND DISPLAY.pdf](#)  
[ORDINANCE REPEAL SECTION 12-2.pdf](#)

*GIS/E911 Addressing Director Katie Doherty advised that a public hearing was held by the Board at the July 8, 2025 meeting regarding amendments to Chapter 3 of the Rutherford County Code of Ordinances, being Article VI presently entitled "Road Naming, Addressing, and Display." The proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Article VI of the Rutherford County Code, is designed to do four things:*

1. *Updates and modernizes the old ordinance and includes a lot of requested corrections by the Addressing staff.*
2. *Incorporates the strangely misaligned Section 12-2 under Chapter 12 of the Code. This is an existing ordinance for changing road names within the County, which for some reason is not included in the old "Road Name, Addressing and Display" ordinance where it should belong. Among the proposed changes is a new Section 3-118(f) which includes the same procedure for amending street names previously found in Section 12-2.*
3. *Puts a full procedure in place for changing street addresses, which is required under GS 153A-239.1.4.*
4. *Modernizes the criminal penalty reference to remove the "post your house number or go to jail" misdemeanor since GS 14-4 only authorizes fines now. It is still a misdemeanor and \$50 per day of civil penalties adds up.*

*It was requested that the Board approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Article VI, of the Rutherford County Code of Ordinances, Street Name, Addressing and Display and An Ordinance Repealing Section 12-2 of the Rutherford County Code of Ordinances, Procedure for Changing or Amending Road Names.*

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Article VI, of the Rutherford County Code of Ordinances, Street Name, Addressing and Display. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

Enactment No: ORD 25-001

**Commissioner Haynes moved to approve An Ordinance Repealing Section 12-2 of the Rutherford County Code of Ordinances, Procedure for Changing or Amending Road Names. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

*Enactment No: ORD 25-002*

**B.** [ID 25-4219](#) Update on the New RCS Transportation and Operations Centers Project

*County Manager Steve Garrison reminded the Board that they had voted in early 2022 to proceed with financing a new transportation and operations facility for the school system. The new facility and renovation of the prior R-S Middle School 8th grade building was financed by the County using 2023 Private Placement debt service at \$15 million. However, the low bid came in higher than anticipated so the County Commissioners approved an additional \$1,132,938 from the School Capital Reserve Debt Service Fund, bringing the whole project in at \$16,132,938. The only expenditure line amended was a reduction of the Contingency line to cover an increase in the costs of fixtures, furnishings, equipment and technology. While the Certificate of Occupancy has been issued for the property and RCS staff have been using the facility for several months, Finance Director Roach continues the tasks of paying the final invoices so the project can be closed.*

*The old bus garage was constructed in 1959 with the warehouse buildings added to the campus beginning around 1970 with the last addition constructed around 1991. The school system has had the construction of a new transportation service center on their facility plan as a priority capital outlay project for a while. The 1959 garage only has four bays of which only two are drive through and none of the bays were large enough to house a modern school bus and to be able to close the garage doors. This created a very uncomfortable working environment for the mechanics in the hot summers and cold winters. The County is repurposing the property and facilities for emergency services and public safety storage.*

*The new transportation services center was constructed with 12 bays and new modern, state-of-the-art equipment and includes plenty of office and training room spaces.*

*The old R-S Middle School 8th grade building where the gymnasium is located is now the Rutherford County Schools Operations Center. The original plan was to use the facility as their centralized purchasing and storage, maintenance facility, centralized refrigeration units, and to house IT, school nurses and school nutrition.*

## **V. New Business**

**A.** [ID 25-4224](#) Budget Amendments - August 2025

**Attachments:** [Budget Amendments 8-4-25.pdf](#)  
[ICC Budget Amendment Summary - Health Sciences Bldg.pdf](#)  
[A - ICC Health Sciences Building Preliminary Furniture Budget 11.12.24.pdf](#)  
[Copy of B - OE - ICCHS Consolidated FFE List - Final 1.17.25.pdf](#)  
[C - Simulator Solutions Ad \(One Sheeter\) with rollover Sep 2020.pdf](#)  
[D - Q-102963-20250624-1423.pdf](#)  
[E - Isothermal Health Sciences Project Audio Visual Systems BID Letter 4.24.25.pdf](#)

*Finance Director Paula Roach presented budget amendments for the Board's consideration.*

**Commissioner Haulk moved to approve the budget amendments. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

**B.** [ID 25-4228](#) Sheriff's Office and 911 Communication CADD, MDIS, RMS and JMS Software and Management Contract with Southern Software, Inc.

*Mr. Scott Schiefelbein, E911 Director, made a presentation for the Sheriff's Office and 911 Communication CADD, MDIS, RMS and JMS Software and Management Contract with Southern Software, Inc. for the Board's consideration.*

**Vice Chairman Toney moved to approve the contract with Southern Software, Inc. negotiated by the County Manager and the County Attorney and authorize the County Manager, the Finance Officer, the Clerk to the Board and other County officials to sign and execute all documents in support of this action.**

**Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

**C.** [ID 25-4226](#) GOVDEAL Auction for Rutherford County Properties - 0 Shotwell Lane, Rutherfordton, NC

**Attachments:** [Shotwell Ln. Resolution .pdf](#)

*Public Works and Planning Director Danny Searcy presented a resolution for the Board's consideration that would authorize the electronic auction of Parcel Number 1204078, 0 Shotwell Lane, Rutherfordton, NC, as described more fully in Plat recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 24, ("the Plat"), Rutherford County Registry, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more full and accurate description. It is the same and identical property conveyed to Rutherford County by Commissioner's Deed recorded in Book 2076 at Page 903, Rutherford County Registry.*

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve the resolution authorizing a new electronic auction of Parcel Number 1617637, 0 Shotwell Lane, Rutherfordton, NC. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 25-021

- D. [ID 25-4225](#) GOVDEAL Auction for Rutherford County Properties - 0 Yates Lane, Lake Lure, NC

**Attachments:** [GOVDEALS.Resolution Authorizing Auctionof Yates Ln-Lake Lure July 2025.pdf](#)

*Director Searcy also presented a resolution for the Board's consideration that would authorize the electronic auction of Parcel Number 1617637, 0 Yates Lane, Lake Lure, NC, as described more fully in Plat recorded in Plat Book 15, Page 51, ("the Plat"), Rutherford County Registry, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more full and accurate description.*

*Being the same and identical property conveyed to Rutherford County by Commissioner's Deed recorded in Book 702 at Pages 190-191, Rutherford County Registry.*

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Haynes seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

Enactment No: RES 25-022

## VI. Closed Session

- A. [ID 25-4227](#) ATTORNEY CLIENT NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

**At 6:54 P.M. Vice Chairman Toney moved to go into Closed Session for a discussion with the County Attorney. The County Manager and the Clerk to the Board would be included in the session. Commissioner Haynes seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0

6:59 P.M. - The Board went into Closed Session.

7:18 P.M. - The Board returned to Regular Session.

## VII. Information

- A. [ID 25-4223](#) Tax Collector's Report - August, 2025

**Attachments:** [Tax Collector Report August 2025.pdf](#)

## VIII. Adjournment

**At 7:19 P.M. Commissioner Benfield made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Haulk

**Nay:** 0