



**Rutherford County Schools
Administration Office
382 W. Main Street
Forest City, NC 28043**

Rutherford County

Board of Commissioners

Minutes of Special Meeting of April 23, 2018

**Monday, April 23, 2018
12:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Chairman King called the April 23, 2018 special meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order.

Present: Chairman Bryan King, Vice Chairman Alan Toney, Commissioner Eddie Holland, and Commissioner Greg Lovelace.

Absent: Commissioner Michael Benfield

Rutherford County Board of Education Chairman Carolyn Keever called the Board of Education to order.

A. Agenda Approval

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

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Holland and Commissioner Lovelace.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Benfield

II. New Business

A. ID 18-1624 Budget Meeting with Rutherford County Board of Education

Rutherford County Board of Education Chairman Carolyn Keever welcomed County Commissioners to the annual joint meeting with the Board of Education. She introduced Superintendent Janet Mason.

Superintendent Mason presented the Rutherford County Schools requested budget for fiscal year

2018-2019 which included a local current expense budget request of \$15,119,974. This is an increase of \$1,267,543 over the current year's local current expense appropriation. According to Superintendent Mason even if fully funded at the requested level, this will still require the district to appropriate existing fund balance to avoid staffing reductions and further cuts to instructional programs and student services.

Superintendent Mason said two state allotments reduced the anticipated funding shortfall and the local budget request. An increase of 72 students in Average Daily Membership for 2018-2019 generated \$576,542 in additional state funds and an adjustment in the Rutherford County personal property portion of the tax base used in the low wealth supplemental funding formula generated an unexpected increase in projected low wealth funding of \$634,479.

Increases in the requested budget included an estimated increase to the State's employer retirement contribution rate from 17.13% to 18.44% and a projected increase of \$235 per employee for the State's employer health insurance contribution amount.

The funding for Exceptional Children continues to have a negative impact on the budget for the schools as Exceptional Children represent 17.1% of the allotted Average Daily Membership while the state caps funding at 12.75%.

Chief Operating Officer Brad Teague told those present that the proposed capital outlay budget of \$2,108,403 includes the annual capital appropriation of \$155,133 and a supplemental request of \$1,953,270 which includes prioritized capital needs totaling \$1,462,367 and technology and infrastructure needs totaling \$490,903. He reviewed the priority capital projects for 2018-2019 and the completed capital projects for 2017-2018.

Finance Officer Heidi Kearns advised that the charter school membership in Rutherford County is approximately 1,100 students. Therefore, ADM funding of approximately \$530,000 is awarded to the charter schools for these students.

Finance Officer Kearns also said that 60 of the 115 school districts or 52% now exceed the Exceptional Children Funding Cap.

Superintendent Mason said the schools will be opting out of the vehicle and equipment replacement plan administered by the County as these needs have been met for the foreseeable future and funds could be used in other areas.

Additional items of discussion regarding the Board of Education budget included lottery funds and the distributions of these funds, the fund balance which is being used to fund shortfalls, and the school nutrition program.

III. Adjournment

At 2:02 P.M. Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Holland and Commissioner Lovelace.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Benfield

Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners