



# Rutherford County

Rutherford County Office Building  
289 N. Main Street  
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

## Meeting Minutes - Outline Board of Commissioners

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Monday, June 3, 2019

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

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### I. Call to Order

*Chairman King called the June 3, 2019 meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order.*

**Present:** 5 - Chairperson Bryan King, Vice Chairperson Alan Toney, Commissioner Michael Benfield, Commissioner Greg Lovelace and Commissioner Eddie Holland

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

*Rutherford County Board of Education Vice Chairman Phillip Morrow led in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

#### B. Agenda Approval

**Commissioner Lovelace 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 Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

### II. Public Hearings

#### A. [ID 19-2069](#) Public Hearing - Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

**Attachments:** [Public Hearing Notice \(4\)](#)  
[Budget Presentation Fiscal Year 2019 2020](#)

*At 6:01 P.M. Chairman King opened the public hearing to listen to comments regarding the proposed Rutherford County Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. He advised that two budget workshops had been held by the Board of Commissioners, and he reviewed the highlights of the County Manager's recommended budget.*

*The total general fund budget was proposed at \$69,522,828 with the total budget for all funds coming in at \$83,448,091. The recommended tax rate was a reduction to 59.70¢ per \$100 valuation. The proposed budget included an overall percentage increase of approximately 9.33% for the county, the Rutherford County School System, and Isothermal Community College. There was no appropriation of fund balance in the proposed budget.*

*Board of Education Vice Chairman Phillip Morrow thanked the Board for their consideration during the budget process of the needs of the Rutherford County schools as they educate the children of Rutherford County.*

*Ms. Pamela Padgett from Ellenboro advocated for the revenue neutral tax rate or an amount close to this. She stated that her valuation had increased approximately 45% to 50%. Her salary had not increased by this percentage since the last revaluation. Many people in the County do not see the brighter picture in the job situation, according to Ms. Padgett. She was concerned about escalating salaries of county and state employees.*

*No one else wished to speak.*

*At 6:10 P.M. Chairman King closed the public hearing. He advised that a meeting has been scheduled on June 6, 2019 at 4:00 PM for adoption for the budget.*

### III. Public Comments

*There were no public comments.*

### IV. Consent Agenda

**Commissioner Lovelace moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

- A. [ID 19-2087](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 6, 2019

**Attachments:** [20160506 Special Meeting Minutes](#)

- B. [ID 19-2083](#) Minutes of May 6, 2019

**Attachments:** [20190506Minutes](#)

- C. [ID 19-2082](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 21, 2019

**Attachments:** [20190521 Special Meeting Minutes](#)

- D. [ID 19-2086](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 23, 2019

**Attachments:** [20190523 Special Meeting Minutes](#)

- E. [ID 19-2075](#) Tax Refunds and Releases - June, 2019

**Attachments:** [Tax Refunds Releases June 2019](#)

### V. Commissioners/Appointments

- A. [ID 19-2078](#) Announcement of Vacancy on Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority

*A letter of resignation was received from Mr. Charles Martell, a member of the Tourism Development Authority. The Board agreed to advertise the vacancy, accept applications,*

*and approve an appointment at a future meeting.*

**B. [ID 19-2077](#) Appointments to Rutherford County Boards and Commissions**

**Attachments:** [Terms Expiring June 30 2019](#)

*A list of terms which would expire on June 30, 2019 on several Rutherford County boards/commissions was included in the meeting agenda. These positions were advertised, and applications were accepted.*

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Danny Searcy to the Broad River Water Authority. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Chairman Bryan King to the Economic Development Commission (c)(6). Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Steve Garrison to the Economic Development Commission (c)(6). Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Terry Hines to the Economic Development Commission (c)(6). Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Jim Edwards to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Mr. Dave Hunt to the Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Ron Chapman to the Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Hazel Haynes to the Jury Commission. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Judy Toney to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Alex Bentley to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Ms. Suzanne Porter to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Judge Randy Pool to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Pat Keeter to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Sarah Horne to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Ms. Debra Conner to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Steve Collins to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Phillip Cole to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Dana Bradley to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Mr. Ted Bell to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Tara Conrad to the Juvenile Crime Protection Committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Chairman King made a motion to appoint Mr. Eric Wells to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Phil Rogers to the Planning Commission. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Mike Parton to the Planning Commission. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Mr. Jason Toney to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Commissioner Benfield to the Rural Transportation Planning Organization. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Chairman King to the Social Services' Board. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Jeffrey Geisler to the Tourism Development Authority. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Clark Poole to the Transit Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Karyl Fuller to the Transit Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0



Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Tammy Aldridge to the Transit Advisory Board. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

## VI. Commissioner Reports

### A. [ID 19-2073](#) Tourism Development Authority Report

**Attachments:** [TDA Quarterly May 19](#)

*Tourism Development Director Don Cason provided a quarterly update to the Board on the activities of the TDA. Information included a financial review, marketing highlights, the Tourism Master Plan Update, a Wayfinding Update, Agri-Tourism, community programs, and a Keep Rutherford County Beautiful Update.*

## VII. New Business

### A. [ID 19-2085](#) Budget Amendments - June, 2019

**Attachments:** [Budget Amendments 6-3-19](#)

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

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve the budget amendments.**

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

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

### B. [ID 19-2081](#) Maintenance of Effort Funds Recommendation

**Attachments:** [Partners Rutherford Budget Request 5-2019](#)

*Ms. Tara Conrad, Regional Director of Community Operations of Partners Behavioral Health Management (Partners BHM), presented a request to the Board that the \$102,168 in Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds in the Rutherford County recommended budget be utilized on services recommended by the local committee that had met on May 8, 2019. The services recommended were:*

- *Jail Support Services- \$30,000 - A licensed clinician would be assigned to work with inmates in the local jail/detention facility. The clinician would conduct assessments, therapeutic groups and/or other behavioral health interventions relevant to the needs of the population.*
- *Grant Writing and other support services- \$32,700 - Funds would be contracted to United Way for research into appropriate grant opportunities for the county. The position would complete necessary requirements related to submission of grants, collaborate with community partners for grant implementation and provide other support services as indicated/needed.*

- *Adult/Child Collaboratives-\$2500 - Formulation or expansion of current communal groups would develop a collective body of stakeholders, treatment providers and other service agencies to address systemic issues among service agencies/providers to meet identified needs within the county (eg., training, referrals, etc.).*
- *Mobile Outreach, Response, Engagement and Stabilization (MORES)- \$30,000 – This is a treatment approach designed to meet the needs of a family system. It stabilizes children in crisis situations and works with the family to address behavioral health needs, as well as, any social determinants of health needs. The eight- week service would be delivered in a tiered approach. It would include counseling, intensive coordination of care, skill development and reinforcement, and family partner support.*
- *Consumer Reserves- \$6968 -This category would cover two distinct needs. One need would be reserved for housing support of individuals living with a behavioral health issue. The goal is to help stabilize the individual in a safe, secure living environment. Funds within the consumer reserve category would also support emergency needs that may arise (eg.,funding of a specific assessment not covered by another funding stream).*

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to approve the funding recommendations for the Maintenance of Efforts funds. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**C. [ID 19-2070](#)** Assistance Policy and Procurement and Disbursement Policy for Urgent Repair Program for 2019

**Attachments:** [Housing Program Presentations](#)  
[Assistance Policy URP19 Corrected](#)  
[Procurement Disbursement Policy URP19](#)

*Rutherford Housing Partnership Director Nell Bovender told the Board that Rutherford County received \$100,000 from the NC Housing Finance Agency under the 2019 cycle of its Urgent Repair Program. These funds will be used for urgent housing repairs to assist very-low and low-income homeowners with special needs. She presented the Assistance Policy and the Procurement and Disbursement Policy for the Urgent Repair Program for 2019 for the Board's consideration.*

**Commissioner Lovelace moved to approve the Assistance Policy for the Urgent Repair Program for 2019. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Vice Chairman Toney moved to approve the Procurement and Disbursement Policy for the Urgent Repair Program for 2019. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

**D. [ID 19-2071](#)** 2019 Essential Single Family Rehabilitation Program Assistance Policy and Procurement and Disbursement Policy

**Attachments:** [ESFRLP'19 Assistance Policy](#)  
[Procurement Disbursement Policy ESFRLP19](#)

*Director Bovender also told the Board that Rutherford County was allocated an initial set-aside of \$190,000 which will be used to rehabilitate five houses in Rutherford County. She presented the Assistance Policy and the Procurement and Disbursement Policy for the Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Program for 2019.*

**Commissioner Benfield made a motion to approve the Assistance Policy for the Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Program for 2019. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to approve the Procurement and Disbursement Policy for the Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Program for 2019. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**E. [ID 19-2072](#)** Textile Recycling Contract

**Attachments:** [Planet Aid Information](#)

*Solid Waste Director James Kilgo told the Board that the existing textile recycling service agreement expires on June 30, 2019. The Solid Waste Staff has reached out to several vendors to determine what options are available. The existing vendor (Better World Recycling, Inc.) did not submit a price quote. Based on the quote/quotes received, it was recommended that the County enter into a contract with Planet Aid.*

*Planet Aid is a nationally recognized leader in clothes and shoes recycling. The company is registered as a nonprofit charitable organization under IRS code 501(c)(3). Net proceeds from their operations are donated to support projects that help reduce poverty. Planet Aid owns and services all their bins which are covered under liability insurance.*

**Commissioner Benfield moved to approve a contract with Planet Aid negotiated by the County Manager and the County Attorney and authorize the Chairman of the County Commissioners or the County Manager, Finance Officer, Clerk to the Board, and other County officials to sign and execute all documents in support of this action. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

**F.** [ID 19-2076](#) Interlocal Agreement with Town of Spindale for Henson Road Sewer

**Attachments:** [Interlocal Agreement with Town of Spindale Henson Road Property](#)

*An interlocal agreement between Rutherford County and the Town of Spindale for sewer service for the Henson Road property was presented for the Board's consideration. Rutherford County received a grant of \$675,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce to provide sewer improvements to serve the Henson Road property. There was a County match of 25%, or \$225,000. The Town of Spindale by resolution on August 20, 2018 agreed to allow the County to connect the newly-constructed sewer force main onto the Town's current sewer systems.*

**Commissioner Lovelace moved to approve the interlocal agreement.**

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

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

## VIII. Closed Session

**A.** [ID 19-2084](#) Closed Session - ATTORNEY CLIENT NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

**Commissioner Benfield moved to go into Closed Session for discussion with the County Attorney. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:** 0

*7:11 P.M. - The Board went into Closed Session.*

*7:26 P.M. - The Board returned to regular session.*

## IX. Information

**A.** [ID 19-2080](#) Tax Collector's Report - April 2019

**Attachments:** [Tax Net Collections Report 043019.pdf](#)

**B.** [ID 19-2074](#) Vaya Update

**Attachments:**     [Vaya CntyComm\\_QtrlyRpt\\_2019-03-31\\_CoverLetter\\_Signed](#)  
[Vaya CntyComm\\_QtrlyRpt\\_2019-03-31\\_CommentsAndExplanations](#)  
[Vaya CntyComm\\_QtrlyRpt\\_2019-03-31\\_FiscalMonitoringReport](#)  
[Vaya CntyComm\\_QtrlyRpt\\_2019-03-31\\_SpendableCash](#)

## **X. Adjournment**

**At 7:27 P.M. Commissioner Benfield made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:**

**Aye:**                    5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,  
                                 Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

**Nay:**                    0