



Rutherford County

Meeting Minutes - Draft - Outline Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman King called the September 7, 2021 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 David Hunt

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Hunt 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 Hunt

Nay: 0

II. Public Comments

Rev. Robert Hamilton reminded the Board that he had appeared before them at the August meeting regarding the African American Museum which is housed at the old Dunbar School. He asked if Commissioners had reviewed the material he had submitted and if a decision had been made on the matter. Chairman King advised that the material had been received but there had not been an opportunity to address the issue at this point. The Chairman expressed his appreciation of the value of the museum.

III. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

A. [ID 21-2932](#) Minutes of August 2, 2021 County Commissioners' Meeting

Attachments: [20210802Minutes](#)

B. [ID 21-2934](#) Tax Refunds and Releases - September, 2021

Attachments: [Tax Refunds Releases Sept 2021](#)

IV. Commissioners/Appointments

A. [ID 21-2933](#) Appointment to Historic Preservation Commission

Due to a resignation, a vacancy occurred on the Historic Preservation Commission. The vacancy had been advertised, and applications had been accepted. An application was received from Ms. Jody Wall to serve on the Commission.

Commissioner Benfield moved to appoint Ms. Jody Wall to the Historic Preservation Commission to a term ending June 30, 2024. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

V. New Business

A. [ID 21-2939](#) Budget Amendments September, 2021

Attachments: [Budget Amendments 9-7-21](#)

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

Commissioner Hunt 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 Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

B. [ID 21-2937](#) Annual EMS Reconciliation of Debt

Attachments: [FY 20-21 Annual EMS Debt Write Off Request packet](#)

Transportation Director Kerry Giles told the Board that pursuant to Rutherford County EMS' SOP 134, EMS is requesting that the Board approve the EMS Reconciliation of Debt totaling \$12,799.41. This adjustment reflects implementation of the policy as adopted June 8, 2018 by County Commissioners and includes only accounts that are uncollectible due to the patient not having an estate, bankruptcy, or timely filing issues with insurance. Earlier this year the policy was changed from the Medicare's 7-year retention timeframe to NCGS Chapter 44, Article 9B and NCGS 105-378(a) which has a debt retention of 10 years.

Director Giles said a complete copy with patient names and contact information will be retained in the EMS Business Office for privacy purposes.

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to approve the annual EMS reconciliation of debt. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

C. [ID 21-2938](#) Name Change Request for Region C Workforce Development Board

Attachments: [Region C Workforce Development Consortium Agreement](#)
[Resolution Name Change Workforce Development Board](#)

County Manager Steve Garrison advised the Board that a request was received from Foothills Regional Commission asking that the Board of Commissioners approve a joint resolution along with the County of Cleveland, the County of McDowell, and the County of Polk changing the current name of the Region C Workforce Development Board to the Foothills Workforce Development Board. A resolution was included for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Hunt made a motion to approve a joint resolution authorizing the name change of the Region C Workforce Development Board to Foothills Workforce Development Board. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 21-022

D. [ID 21-2935](#) Golden LEAF Community Based Grant Initiative

Attachments: [Golden LEAF Application from Kids Senses](#)
[Golden LEAF Application from Mary B Mullen Bible Camp](#)

County Manager Steve Garrison told the Board that through its Community Based Grants Initiative (CBGI) programming, the Golden LEAF Foundation seeks to provide assistance for projects in the Western Prosperity Zone of North Carolina. To be eligible, a project must have the endorsement of the County Manager. Eligible interested organizations and local governments were invited to complete a pre-Letter of Intent. Three pre-Letters of Intent were received, which were reviewed, evaluated, scored and ranked by a locally appointed Rutherford County Golden LEAF CBGI application review committee. The committee met on August 31 and reached a consensus to recommend the endorsement of two of the projects that were submitted, which were:

- *KidSenses, Inc The Factory project in the amount of \$1,500,000*
- *The Mary B. Mullen Bible Camp, Inc. Small Computer Lab project in the amount of \$20,025*

Manager Garrison asked that the Board authorize the County Manager to endorse the KidSenses project and the Mary B. Mullen Bible Camp project and to invite these two organizations to submit their formal Letters of Intent to Golden LEAF for their consideration.

Commissioner Hunt asked that the Board vote to excuse him from voting on the Kids Senses project as his family had worked with Kids Senses for years and he currently is in

the process of putting together a fund raiser for the project.

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to excuse Commissioner Hunt from voting on the Kids Senses Project. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

6:22 P.M. - Commissioner Hunt left the meeting.

D. [ID 21-2935](#) Golden LEAF Community Based Grant Initiative

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Commissioner Benfield moved to authorize the County Manager to endorse the KidSenses Project as recommended by the Rutherford County Golden LEAF CBGI committee. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield and Commissioner Lovelace

Nay: 0

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Hunt

6:29 P.M. - Commissioner Hunt returned to the meeting.

D. [ID 21-2935](#) Golden LEAF Community Based Grant Initiative

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Commissioner Hunt moved to authorize the County Manager to endorse the Mary B. Mullen Bible Camp Project as recommended by the Rutherford County Golden LEAF CBGI committee. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

VI. Closed Session

A. [ID 21-2936](#) Closed Session - ATTORNEY CLIENT NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0

6:28 P.M. - The Board went into Closed Session.
6:56 P.M. - The Board returned to Regular Session.

VII. Information

A. [ID 21-2922](#) Tax Collector’s Report

Attachments: [Tax Collectors Report Sept 2021](#)

VIII. Adjournment

At 6:56 P.M. Commissioner Benfield made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Hunt

Nay: 0