

**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 22, 2025**

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Special Session for the 2nd Budget Public Hearing in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2025.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chair Mark Jerrell, and Commissioners  
Arthur Griffin, Vilma D. Leake, Laura J. Meier,  
Susan Rodriguez-McDowell, Yvette Townsend-Ingram  
County Manager Dena R. Diorio  
County Attorney Tyrone C. Wade  
Clerk to the Board Kristine M. Smith  
Deputy Clerk to the Board Arlissa Eason

**Absent:** Vice-Chair Leigh Altman  
Commissioner George Dunlap  
Commissioner Elaine Powell

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**-INFORMAL SESSION-**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Jerrell, followed by introductions and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**25-0333 PUBLIC HEARING: RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FY2025-2026**

*Background: Annually, the Board holds a public hearing to receive public comment on the County Manager's Recommended Budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget is scheduled for adoption on June 3, 2025.*

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection on-line at <https://budget.mecknc.gov/>

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, to open the Public Hearing to receive public comment on the County Manager's Recommended Budget for FY2025-2026.

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GROUP	First Name	Last Name	Notes
No	Shamaiye	Haynes	Advocated for Affordable housing
No	CT	Anderson	Solid waste and recycling. Funding a feasibility study
Yes	Nancy	Collins	Advocated for parks and recs for safe walkways, programs well-staffed and suitable for people with disabilities
	Damien	Collins	
	Barbara	Lee	
	Michael	Lee	
No	Tchernavia	Montgomery	Thanked for ongoing support of CareRing’s mission, vision and programming
No	Gregory	Collier	Undercapitalization, asked for support for launch of the BayHaven Culinary (culinary hub) for \$2M
No	Subrina	Collier	Utilized city programs, funding for daytime café called Uptown Yolk and creating an AMP Up style classroom
No	Terri	White	President and CEO of Charlotte Museum of History. Keep 300K in budget for the Revolutionary War Exhibit.
Yes	Carol	Hardison	Crisis Assistance Ministry. Asked for continued support of funding budget items that support lower-income families in the community.  Program and assistance needed and important
	Kimberly	Timmons-Hampton	
	Angelia	Buford-Hayes	
	James	Lee	
No	Felicia	Barnes	CareRing. Impacts of strengthen maternal child health programs in the county. Want for other mothers to have the same opportunity. Thanked for considering in budget.
No	Shara	Clark	Crisis Assistance Ministry. Asked for continued support of funding budget items that support lower-income families in the community.
No	Steve	Cole	Veteran’s Bridge Home. Thanked Board for ongoing support and partnership. NC serves. Support budget recommendation
Yes	Beverly	Knox Davis	A Brighter Day Outreach. Thanked Board for considering organization in budget for community HUB and food pantry. Serving nearly 200 people per week in Hoskins community.
	Michele	Juliana	Community volunteer in support of A Brighter Day Outreach
	Mark	Talbot	Freedom Communities – work side by side with A brighter Day Outreach.
	Ron	Williams	Partnership with A Brighter Day Outreach

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No	Angel	Truesdale	Charlotte pride festival and parade economic impact.
No	Riley	Murray	Advocated for Charlotte pride festival and parade funding. Asking for the 125,000 in the budget
Yes	Debra	Brewer	Crisis Assistance Ministry. Asked to keep them in the budget
	Elizabeth	Escobar	Crisis Assistance Ministry. Asked to keep them in the budget
	Yogi	Hari	On the board of Crisis Assistance Ministry. Cutting funding would put pressure on the other budgets
	Ed	Holland	Serve as vice chair of the board. Agency helps with rent and utilities.
	Stuart	Proffit	
No	John	Magnuson	Pastor, speaking against some of proposed cuts to community agencies i.e. Crisis Assistance Ministry
No	Karen	Ngo	Continue to include Mecklenburg County Library in the budget
Yes	Anna	Kennington	CIS (Communities in Schools) Support of funding
	Maria	Duran	Was a CIS student. Now an employee.
	Eric	Carr Jr.	CIS alumni. College student
	Manchias	Ari	Over 500 graduating students. Thanked the Board for continuous support of their work
No	Jessica	Lefkowitz	Hearts for the Invisible Charlotte Coalition. Homes population. Thanked the Board for the support and asked for continued support
No	Shannon	Klug	Advocated for funding for the Office of Violence Prevention. Asked to increase investment by 5%
No	Justin	Taylor	Goodwill Industry of Southern Piedmont. Workforce development.
No	Laura	Cooper	League of Women Voters. Fully supports increase in property taxes. Supporting schools.
No	Sara	Baysinger	League of Women voters. Thanked the Board for making education a priority
No	Kevan	Woodson	Board member of League of Women Voters. Stand with them in news conference to find a better way as inadequate funding from the State. Consider quest to form a partnership. Find a pathway for all the organizations
No	Charles	Thomas	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Trustees 36% increase in circulation from previous year. Thanked Board for including in budget
No	Michelle	Vaughn	CMS Public School teacher. Asked for double in teachers’ supplement.
No	Kyle	Queen	Funding for public schools
No	Mike	Blackwelder	Smart Start CEO. Pre-K education

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No	Mary-Margaret	Kantor	Smart Start, Pre-K Education thanked Board for continuing funding
No	Tenille	Alexander-Banner	Chief advancement officer Smart-Start. Thanked Board for continuing funding
No	Gina	Esquivel	Crisis assistance ministry. Advocated for funding.
No	Psalms	White	Artist and teacher. Concerned about increases in property taxes. Land use and funding for schools. Allocate \$29M to fix deficit
Yes	Jose	Alvarez	Prospera North Carolina, minority businesses. Supports entrepreneurship. Concerned about contract not being recommended for next budget. 6% of their statewide budget
	Reyna	Marina-Rodezno	Thanked Board for past funding
	Cecilia	Carrion	Accountant and insurance agent, CCP Business Essentials. Supports Prospera USA
	Emiliano	Gonzalez	Prospera helped with funding
Yes	Carlos	Calzadilla	Advocated for continued funding for Prospera
	Ekaterina	Gorlatova	Advocated for continued funding for Prospera
	Yvonne	Farfan	Advocated for continued funding for Prospera
No	Dr. Devonya	Govan-Hunt	Black Child Development Institute-Carolinas. Support for \$3.4M to expand Meck PreK.
No	Jennifer	De La Jara	Support for pride parade.
No	Dyrrle	Osborne	Advocate for a Statue for Charles Sifford on the Charlies Sifford Golf Course
Yes	Robert	Krumbine	Advocated for funding for the Charlotte SHOUT!
	Matt	Alvis	Advocated for funding for the Charlotte SHOUT!
	Tim	Minor	Advocated for funding for the Charlotte SHOUT!
	Tray	Klingensmith	Support for Charlotte Pride.
	Kaya	Allen	Against funding for CPCC training facility
	Liz	Clasen-Kelly	Advocate for funding for Roof Above
	Kaedon	Grinnell	Lucile Giles Emergency Center. Overflow beds. Only able to provide beds with public and private funding.
	Vianey	Lopez	Against funding for CPCC training facility. Advocate for funding for Crisis Assistance Ministry
	Kate	Murphy	Against cutting support of non-profits.
	Jeremy	Golden	Advocated for Charlotte Pride funding
	Xavier	Torres DeJanon	Against funding for CPCC training facility.
	Yahir	Jimenez	Against funding for CPCC training facility.

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	Alexandria	Biggers	Against funding for CPCC training facility.
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Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, to close Public Hearing on the County Manager's Recommended Budget for FY2025-2026.

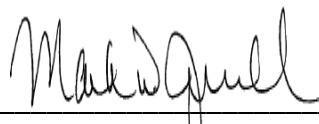
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 9:13 p.m.



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Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board



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Mark Jerrell, Chair