

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Special Session- Straw Vote Workshop, in the Valerie Woodard Conference Center located at 3205 Freedom Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208, at 9:06 a.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2025.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chair Mark Jerrell, Vice-Chair Leigh Altman
and Commissioners George Dunlap, Arthur Griffin,
Vilma D. Leake, Laura J. Meier, Elaine Powell,
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: None

-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.

Chair Jerrell discussed how the straw votes would be conducted.

County Manager Dena Diorio gave a statement regarding her recommended budget.

25-0349 BUDGET STRAW VOTE WORKSHOP

The Board reviewed the County Manager’s Recommended Budget for FY 2025-2026.

Background: During this meeting, the Board will take straw votes and direct staff to prepare a Budget Ordinance for FY2025- 2026, which is scheduled for adoption on June 3, 2025.

Adrian Cox, Budget Director, gave the presentation.

FISCAL YEAR 2026
Recommended
Budget



Straw-Vote
May 29, 2025



Straw Voting Process

- 1. **Motion to seek a change**
 - If the motion includes an increase in ongoing cost, then a corresponding decrease should also be identified if the goal is to avoid an increase in the tax rate.
- 2. **Discussion**
 - Following the motion, the Board can discuss and can ask clarifying questions.
- 3. **Take the straw vote**
 - Straw votes are non-binding and do not require a second.
 - If a majority approves, staff will update the budget to reflect the change.
- 4. **Final action**
 - Direct staff to develop the FY2026 Operating Budget Ordinance for the Board’s adoption on June 3rd.

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook					FY2026 Adopted		
Summary Page							
Categories	Adopted (Total)	Adopted (County)	Recommended (Total)	Recommended (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	Final BOCC (Total)	Final BOCC (County)
Education							
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Funding							
CMS - OPERATIONAL FUNDING	641,865,849	637,865,849	666,129,849	666,129,849		666,129,849	666,129,849
CMS - CAPITAL MAINTENANCE	32,960,000	22,960,000	32,960,000	25,200,000		32,960,000	25,200,000
CMS Operating Total:	674,825,849	660,825,849	699,089,849	691,329,849		699,089,849	691,329,849
Central Piedmont Community College							
CPCC - OPERATIONAL FUNDING	47,320,867	47,320,867	49,042,490	49,042,490		49,042,490	49,042,490
CPCC - CAPITAL MAINTENANCE	6,825,000	3,752,000	3,575,000	3,575,000		3,575,000	3,575,000
CPCC Operating Total:	54,145,867	51,072,867	52,617,490	52,617,490		52,617,490	52,617,490
Education Total	728,971,716	711,898,716	751,707,339	743,947,339		751,707,339	743,947,339
Debt Service Total	505,405,205	315,932,747	458,035,581	321,695,088		458,035,581	321,695,088
County Services Total	1,265,996,552	793,023,415	1,332,074,192	834,948,396		1,332,074,192	834,948,396
Grand Total	2,502,386,533	1,822,867,938	2,541,817,112	1,900,590,823		2,541,817,112	1,900,590,823

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
Debt Service, Capital Maintenance, Enterprise Reserves

Debt Service Fund			FY2026 Recommended			FY2026 Adopted		
Service			Recommended (Total)		Recommended (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	Final (Total)	Final (County)
Ref. # Debt Service Fund								
11	CMS - Debt Service Payments		193,931,876		86,730,367		193,931,876	86,730,367
12	CPCC - Debt Service Payments		18,481,074		17,911,090		18,481,074	17,911,090
13	Dept Service - General County Debt		39,080,612		22,796,612		39,080,612	22,796,612
14	Debt Service - PayGo Projects		144,483,910		144,483,910		144,483,910	144,483,910
15	Debt Service - Land Acquisition		30,000,000		30,000,000		30,000,000	30,000,000
Debt Service Subtotal			425,977,472		301,921,979		425,977,472	301,921,979
Capital Maintenance								
16	CMS - Capital Maintenance (see Page 2)		32,960,000		25,200,000		32,960,000	25,200,000
17	CPCC - Capital Maintenance (see Page 2)		3,575,000		3,575,000		3,575,000	3,575,000
18	Park & Recreation - Capital Maintenance		4,000,000		4,000,000		4,000,000	4,000,000
Capital Maintenance Subtotal			40,535,000		32,775,000		40,535,000	32,775,000
Enterprise Reserves								
19	Capital Reserve		12,872,080		8,872,080		12,872,080	8,872,080
20	Technology Reserve		7,641,319		6,356,319		7,641,319	6,356,319
21	Fleet Reserve		7,544,710		544,710		7,544,710	544,710
Enterprise Reserves Subtotal			28,058,109		15,773,109		28,058,109	15,773,109
Debt Service Total:			494,570,581		350,470,088		494,570,581	350,470,088

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
County Services

County Services			FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted		
Ref. #	Department & Service		FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Affordable Housing Services							
22	Critical Home Repair		2,575,000			2,575,000	
23	Home for All		13,649,840	999,840		13,649,840	999,840
24	NOAH Agreements		1,218,014	1,218,014		1,218,014	1,218,014
25	Housing Subsidy & Support Services		5,648,796	5,648,796		5,648,796	5,648,796
26	Housing Development Projects		2,500,000			2,500,000	
Total			25,591,650	7,866,650		25,591,650	7,866,650
Ref. # Asset and Facility Management							
29	Corporate Fleet Management		920,719	920,719		920,719	920,719
30	Courier Services		402,900	402,900		402,900	402,900
31	Design And Construction Project Management		1,701,287	1,701,287		1,701,287	1,701,287
32	Facility Management		31,128,260	30,205,757		31,128,260	30,205,757
33	Facility Security		16,946,560	16,946,560		16,946,560	16,946,560
34	Real Estate Management		348,059	348,059		348,059	348,059
Total			51,447,785	50,525,282		51,447,785	50,525,282
Ref. # Audit							
37	Audit		2,666,138	2,666,138		2,666,138	2,666,138
Total			2,666,138	2,666,138		2,666,138	2,666,138

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
County Services

County Services			FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted		
Ref. #	Department & Service		FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Child, Family, & Adult Services							
40	Administrative Support		5,732,152	3,649,966		5,732,152	3,649,966
41	Adult Services		7,829,339	5,829,872		7,829,339	5,829,872
42	Behavior Health		13,925,714	13,415,574		13,925,714	13,415,574
43	Childcare Services		16,502,161	14,124,222		16,502,161	14,124,222
44	Children's Services		65,210,222	42,464,473		65,210,222	42,464,473
45	Community Social Work		3,970,782	1,995,646		3,970,782	1,995,646
46	Facilities Management		2,054,770	1,427,582		2,054,770	1,427,582
47	Fraud		1,202,980	111,911		1,202,980	111,911
48	Legal Services		2,256,886	2,042,100		2,256,886	2,042,100
49	Maintaining Independence Services		10,373,907	6,589,451		10,373,907	6,589,451
50	Mecklenburg Transport		8,726,964	4,928,231		8,726,964	4,928,231
51	Meck Pre-K		29,196,772	29,196,772		29,196,772	29,196,772
52	Medicaid Transportation		210,000			210,000	
53	Mental Health America Of Central Carolinas		165,000	165,000		165,000	165,000
54	Quality Improvement		3,482,346	2,261,778		3,482,346	2,261,778
55	Retiree Medical Insurance		3,596,655	2,378,794		3,596,655	2,378,794
56	Senior Citizens Nutrition Program		5,787,441	4,205,789		5,787,441	4,205,789
Total			180,224,091	134,787,161		180,224,091	134,787,161
Ref. # Commissioners							
59	Commissioners		838,057	838,057		838,057	838,057
Total			838,057	838,057		838,057	838,057

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services				FY2026 Adopted		
County Services				FY2026 Recommended		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Community Resources					
62	100 Black Men Of Charlotte - Mentoring	20,000	20,000		20,000	20,000
63	Ada Jenkins Families And Career Development	25,000	25,000		25,000	25,000
64	Big Brothers Big Sisters	50,000	50,000		50,000	50,000
65	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor 2.0	25,000	25,000		25,000	25,000
66	Child Support Court Services	1,171,110	374,755		1,171,110	374,755
67	Child Support Enforcement Administration	684,992	233,012		684,992	233,012
68	Child Sprt Enforcement Customer Support And Case Mgt	11,865,425	1,259,354		11,865,425	1,259,354
69	Community Culinary School					
70	Communities In Schools	450,000	450,000		450,000	450,000
71	CRC Operations	4,986,975	3,295,625		4,986,975	3,295,625
72	General Assistance	6,045,518	4,386,632		6,045,518	4,386,632
73	HOMES Program	1,238,338	1,238,338		1,238,338	1,238,338
74	Latin American Coalition	50,000	50,000		50,000	50,000
75	MeckSuccess	966,686	827,181		966,686	827,181
76	State & Count Special Assistance Payments	3,646,544	3,646,544		3,646,544	3,646,544
77	Public Assistance	61,230,819	16,223,333		61,230,819	16,223,333
78	Record And Mail Services	1,328,334	815,820		1,328,334	815,820
79	Senior Administration	1,569,996	911,049		1,569,996	911,049
80	Time Out Youth	30,000	30,000		30,000	30,000
81	Unified Workforce	2,344,805	2,132,480		2,344,805	2,132,480
82	Urban League Of Central Carolinas - Job Training	50,000	50,000		50,000	50,000
83	Work First	3,606,849	3,455,573		3,606,849	3,455,573
84	Young Black Leadership Alliance	150,000	150,000		150,000	150,000
Total		101,536,391	39,649,696		101,536,391	39,649,696

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services				FY2026 Adopted		
County Services				FY2026 Recommended		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Community Support Services					
87	Adult Substance Abuse Treatment Continuum	2,768,459	2,628,459		2,768,459	2,628,459
88	Charlotte Bridge Home	200,000	200,000		200,000	200,000
89	CSS Administration	1,430,903	1,430,903		1,430,903	1,430,903
90	Domestic Violence Adult Victim Services	4,098,014	4,091,614		4,098,014	4,091,614
91	Domestic Violence Children Services	1,118,428	1,118,428		1,118,428	1,118,428
92	Homeless Resource Services	4,418,082	4,418,082		4,418,082	4,418,082
93	Homeless Housing Services Moore Place	1,472,131	1,472,131		1,472,131	1,472,131
94	New Options for Violent Offenders (NOVA)	870,288	790,288		870,288	790,288
95	Shelter Plus Care Services	170,043	170,043		170,043	170,043
96	Shelter Support	1,795,809	1,795,809		1,795,809	1,795,809
97	Supportive Housing	4,779,661	4,719,661		4,779,661	4,719,661
98	Veterans Services	2,135,853	1,808,353		2,135,853	1,808,353
Total		25,257,671	24,643,771		25,257,671	24,643,771
Ref. #	County Assessor's Office					
101	Administrative Support	2,531,105	2,531,105		2,531,105	2,531,105
102	Business Personal Property Audit	1,605,278	1,605,278		1,605,278	1,605,278
103	Information System	2,112,013	2,112,013		2,112,013	2,112,013
104	Property Assessment Services	3,786,511	3,786,511		3,786,511	3,786,511
105	Real Property Valuation	7,712,947	6,712,947		7,712,947	6,712,947
106	Senior Administration	783,066	783,066		783,066	783,066
Total		18,530,920	17,530,920		18,530,920	17,530,920
Ref. #	County Attorney's Office					
109	Attorney	3,953,911	3,906,603		3,953,911	3,906,603
Total		3,953,911	3,906,603		3,953,911	3,906,603

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services				FY2026 Adopted		
County Services				FY2026 Recommended		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Criminal Justice Services					
112	Clerk Of Superior Court	603,120	543,120		603,120	543,120
113	Court Child Care	280,000	280,000		280,000	280,000
114	Criminal Justice Services Administration	937,481	937,481		937,481	937,481
115	District Attorney's Office	4,301,012	4,301,012		4,301,012	4,301,012
116	Drug Treatment Court	2,695,936	2,695,936		2,695,936	2,695,936
117	Forensic Evaluations	1,516,893	1,481,893		1,516,893	1,481,893
118	Pretrial Release Service	2,532,111	2,532,111		2,532,111	2,532,111
119	Public Defender's Office	2,014,036	1,867,778		2,014,036	1,867,778
120	Reentry Services	1,013,973	1,013,973		1,013,973	1,013,973
121	Court System Planning	544,145	544,145		544,145	544,145
122	The Center For Community Transitions - Lifeworks!					
123	Trial Court Administrators Office	1,421,334	1,390,819		1,421,334	1,390,819
124	Youth Advocate Program	397,000	397,000		397,000	397,000
Total		18,257,041	17,985,268		18,257,041	17,985,268

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services				FY2026 Adopted		
County Services				FY2026 Recommended		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Economic Development						
127	Business Investment Grants	2,199,730	2,199,730		2,199,730	2,199,730
128	Charlotte Regional Partnership	168,342	168,342		168,342	168,342
129	Development Agreements	3,587,905	3,587,905		3,587,905	3,587,905
130	Economic Development	1,623,823	1,623,823		1,623,823	1,623,823
131	MWSBE	1,165,256	1,165,256		1,165,256	1,165,256
132	Prospera North Carolina LLC					
133	Siloam School	15,000	15,000		15,000	15,000
Economic Development - Investments in the Arts						
134	ASC - Artist Support Grants	1,080,000	1,080,000		1,080,000	1,080,000
135	ASC - Education Grants for Large Organizations	3,000,000	3,000,000		3,000,000	3,000,000
136	ASC - Operating Grants to Non-City Organizations	1,000,000	1,000,000		1,000,000	1,000,000
137	ASC - Operational Support	862,500	862,500		862,500	862,500
138	ASC - Venue Assistance	1,500,000	1,500,000		1,500,000	1,500,000
139	Studio 345 - Arts Plus	430,000	430,000		430,000	430,000
Investments in the Arts Subtotal		7,872,500	7,872,500		7,872,500	7,872,500
Economic Development - Tourism & Event Investments: Funded partially with \$2,365,765 of restricted tourism revenues.						
141	ACC Football Championship	275,000			275,000	
142	ASC - Culture Blocks	1,592,500	276,735		1,592,500	276,735
143	Charlotte Pride	125,000	125,000		125,000	125,000
144	Charlotte Shout	500,000			500,000	
145	Duke's Mayo Bowl	275,000			275,000	
146	Duke's Mayo Classic					
Tourism & Events Subtotal		2,767,500	401,735		2,767,500	401,735
Total		19,400,056	17,034,291		19,400,056	17,034,291

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services				FY2026 Adopted		
County Services				FY2026 Recommended		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Elections						
150	District & Precinct Mgmt.	654,240	336,115		654,240	336,115
151	Early & Absentee Voting	1,412,598	715,595		1,412,598	715,595
152	Primary & General Elections	8,082,571	4,873,167		8,082,571	4,873,167
153	Voter Education Outreach	1,428,472	176,595		1,428,472	176,595
154	Voter Reg & Maint	1,775,552	772,968		1,775,552	772,968
Total		13,353,433	6,874,440		13,353,433	6,874,440
Ref. # Emergency Medical Services - Medic						
157	Emergency Medical Services	22,450,687	22,450,687		22,450,687	22,450,687
Total		22,450,687	22,450,687		22,450,687	22,450,687
Ref. # Financial Services						
160	Charlotte Area Transit System	88,323,324			88,323,324	
161	Human Services Finance Division	7,243,312	7,243,312		7,243,312	7,243,312
162	Central Financial Services	8,729,509	8,609,509		8,729,509	8,609,509
163	Procurement	2,736,739	2,736,739		2,736,739	2,736,739
Total		107,032,884	18,589,560		107,032,884	18,589,560
Ref. # Historic Landmarks Commission						
166	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Preservation	739,233	483,233		739,233	483,233
Total		739,233	483,233		739,233	483,233

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services						
County Services			FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted	
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Health Department					
169	Administrative Support	2,184,472	981,228		2,184,472	981,228
170	Adult Mental Health Continuum	467,708	445,868		467,708	445,868
171	Camino Health Center	360,000	360,000		360,000	360,000
172	Care Ring Nurse Family Partnership	410,000	250,000		410,000	250,000
173	Charlotte Community Health Clinic-Homeless	425,000	425,000		425,000	425,000
174	Child Development - Community Policing	2,924,617	2,914,617		2,924,617	2,914,617
175	Children's Developmental Services	11,896,285	7,320,609		11,896,285	7,320,609
176	Communicable Disease	8,608,298	5,944,765		8,608,298	5,944,765
177	Cook Community Health Clinic	325,000	325,000		325,000	325,000
178	CW Williams Community Health Center	390,000	390,000		390,000	390,000
179	Food & Facilities Sanitation	8,253,547	7,770,408		8,253,547	7,770,408
180	Ground Water Quality	1,896,072	1,595,921		1,896,072	1,595,921
181	Health Case Management	9,160,353	1,886,679		9,160,353	1,886,679
182	Health Planning	6,481,997	5,322,447		6,481,997	5,322,447
183	Health Promotion	3,879,770	3,745,019		3,879,770	3,745,019
184	Medassist	600,000	600,000		600,000	600,000
185	Patient Services	4,201,205	4,126,105		4,201,205	4,126,105
186	Pest Management & Environmental Services	1,591,102	889,269		1,591,102	889,269
187	Physician's Reach Out	250,000	250,000		250,000	250,000
188	Public Health Clinics	17,322,607	8,800,475		17,322,607	8,800,475
189	Rain, Inc - HIV Early Intervention					
190	School Health Services	24,487,148	24,430,148		24,487,148	24,430,148
191	Senior Administration	2,495,315	2,495,315		2,495,315	2,495,315
192	Shelter Health Services	69,000	69,000		69,000	69,000
193	Women, Infants, Children	6,557,943	1,466,734		6,557,943	1,466,734
Total		115,237,439	82,804,607		115,237,439	82,804,607

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services						
County Services			FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted	
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Human Resources Management					
196	Employee Learning Services	1,586,359	1,586,359		1,586,359	1,586,359
197	Human Resource Management	10,752,370	10,702,370		10,752,370	10,702,370
Total		12,338,729	12,288,729		12,338,729	12,288,729
Ref. #	Information Systems Technology					
200	Application Database Management	9,256,161	9,256,161		9,256,161	9,256,161
201	IT Administration	9,038,241	9,038,241		9,038,241	9,038,241
202	IT Quality Services	3,183,214	3,183,214		3,183,214	3,183,214
203	IT Security Services	6,042,701	5,992,701		6,042,701	5,992,701
204	IT Service Management	3,816,252	3,816,252		3,816,252	3,816,252
205	Service Strategy & Planning	10,071,257	10,071,257		10,071,257	10,071,257
206	Technical Services Management & Delivery	4,667,846	4,667,846		4,667,846	4,667,846
207	Telephone And Network Infrastructure	6,167,608	6,167,608		6,167,608	6,167,608
Total		52,243,280	52,193,280		52,243,280	52,193,280
Ref. #	Joint City-County Operations					
210	311 Call Center	1,593,196	1,593,196		1,593,196	1,593,196
211	Fire Service District	16,471,034			16,471,034	
212	Law Enforcement Service District	22,776,488	460,000		22,776,488	460,000
Total		40,840,718	2,053,196		40,840,718	2,053,196
Ref. #	Library					
215	Administration & Fiscal Management	2,491,448	2,491,448		2,491,448	2,491,448
216	ImaginOn	2,491,788	2,491,788		2,491,788	2,491,788
217	IT Resource Management	1,657,888	1,657,888		1,657,888	1,657,888
218	Public Info	695,432	695,432		695,432	695,432
219	Public Library Services	43,897,254	43,647,254		43,897,254	43,647,254
Total		51,233,810	50,983,810		51,233,810	50,983,810

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
County Services

County Services		FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Land Use and Environmental Services Agency						
222	Administrative Support	1,357,977			1,357,977	
223	Air Quality	2,203,944	292,756		2,203,944	292,756
224	Code Enforcement	49,434,254			49,434,254	
225	Fire Marshal	1,501,439			1,501,439	
226	Fiscal Administration	1,089,058			1,089,058	
227	GIS Applications	1,964,475	1,744,475		1,964,475	1,744,475
228	Land Development	3,328,398			3,328,398	
229	Land Records	2,211,444	2,061,444		2,211,444	2,061,444
230	Mapping And Project Services	1,575,106	1,435,405		1,575,106	1,435,405
231	Senior Administration	573,291			573,291	
232	Solid Waste Services	53,890,855			53,890,855	
233	Storm Water Database Maintenance	860,666			860,666	
234	Surface Water Quality And Flood Hazard Mitigation	35,380,937			35,380,937	
Total		155,371,844	5,534,080		155,371,844	5,534,080
Ref. # Manager's Office						
237	Administrative Support	2,856,914	2,856,914		2,856,914	2,856,914
238	Business Process Management	2,081,078	2,081,078		2,081,078	2,081,078
239	Clerk's Office	719,478	719,478		719,478	719,478
240	Cooperative Extension Services	707,071	707,071		707,071	707,071
241	Enterprise Project Management	1,831,096	1,831,096		1,831,096	1,831,096
242	Equity and Inclusion	4,033,119	4,033,119		4,033,119	4,033,119
243	Office of Management & Budget	1,573,843	1,573,843		1,573,843	1,573,843
244	Office of Strategy & Innovation	1,231,736	1,231,736		1,231,736	1,231,736
245	Senior Administration	2,554,832	2,554,832		2,554,832	2,554,832
Total		17,589,167	17,589,167		17,589,167	17,589,167

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
County Services

County Services		FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Medical Examiner						
248	Medical Examiner	4,386,069	2,084,444		4,386,069	2,084,444
Total		4,386,069	2,084,444		4,386,069	2,084,444
Ref. # Non-Departmental						
251	ABC Profit Distribution	1,093,044	1,093,044		1,093,044	1,093,044
252	Accounting	4,651,480	4,051,480		4,651,480	4,051,480
253	Association Dues	293,483	293,483		293,483	293,483
254	Centralina Council Of Governments	316,186	316,186		316,186	316,186
255	Fee Collection for State Fund	20,810,835			20,810,835	
256	Grassroots Nonprofits	1,824,000	1,824,000		1,824,000	1,824,000
257	Lake Norman Marine Commission	37,000	37,000		37,000	37,000
258	Lake Wylie Marine Commission	25,000	25,000		25,000	25,000
259	Law Enforcement Special Separation	3,215,063	3,215,063		3,215,063	3,215,063
260	Read Charlotte					
261	Representative Payee Fund	120,000			120,000	
262	Retiree Medical Insurance	12,088,953	12,088,953		12,088,953	12,088,953
263	Restricted Contingency					
264	Revenues		(1,013,310)			(1,013,310)
265	Road To Hire	884,036	884,036		884,036	884,036
266	Unemployment Insurance	250,000	250,000		250,000	250,000
Total		45,609,080	23,064,935		45,609,080	23,064,935

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook
County Services

County Services		FY2026 Recommended		FY2026 Adopted		
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. # Park and Recreation						
269	Athletic Services	2,286,035	(34,480)		2,286,035	(34,480)
270	Fiscal Administration	1,967,910	1,967,910		1,967,910	1,967,910
271	Levine Senior Centers	102,000	102,000		102,000	102,000
272	Nature Preserves & Natural Resources	8,474,943	7,747,543		8,474,943	7,747,543
273	Park Facility Planning Service	1,392,942	1,392,942		1,392,942	1,392,942
274	Park Operations	21,049,957	18,100,257		21,049,957	18,100,257
275	Park Repair And Maintenance	12,046,673	10,755,704		12,046,673	10,755,704
276	Recreation Centers & Indoor Pools	14,016,706	7,379,349		14,016,706	7,379,349
277	Recreation Programming	11,986,005	9,954,566		11,986,005	9,954,566
278	Senior Administration	1,720,411	1,720,411		1,720,411	1,720,411
279	Therapeutic Recreation	1,151,356	1,009,327		1,151,356	1,009,327
280	Volunteer Coordination	424,407	424,407		424,407	424,407
Total		76,619,345	60,519,936		76,619,345	60,519,936
Ref. # Public Information Department						
283	Public Information	3,970,036	3,970,036		3,970,036	3,970,036
284	Web Services	1,832,772	1,832,772		1,832,772	1,832,772
Total		5,802,808	5,802,808		5,802,808	5,802,808
Ref. # Register of Deeds						
287	Administrative Support	266,493	266,493		266,493	266,493
288	Fiscal Administration	248,650	248,650		248,650	248,650
289	Real Prop Documentation Process	1,524,893	1,122,301		1,524,893	1,122,301
290	Records Accessibility And Preservation	802,583	603,847		802,583	603,847
291	Senior Administration	516,503	516,503		516,503	516,503
292	Vital & Misc. Records	743,389	743,389		743,389	743,389
Total		4,102,511	3,501,183		4,102,511	3,501,183

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services						
County Services						
FY2026 Recommended						
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Sheriff's Office					
295	Administrative Support	442,467	442,467		442,467	442,467
296	Child Support Enforcement	43,832	43,832		43,832	43,832
297	Community Engagement	1,210,586	1,210,586		1,210,586	1,210,586
298	Court Security	8,887,195	8,887,195		8,887,195	8,887,195
299	Detention Services	92,122,608	90,732,608		92,122,608	90,732,608
300	Domestic Violence Enforcement & Education	1,058,750	1,058,750		1,058,750	1,058,750
301	Facility Management	8,749,928	8,749,928		8,749,928	8,749,928
302	Field Operations	14,117,338	10,917,287		14,117,338	10,917,287
303	Fiscal Administration	2,001,252	2,001,252		2,001,252	2,001,252
304	Inmate Finance & Property	3,175,612	3,175,612		3,175,612	3,175,612
305	Inmate Library Service					
306	Human Resources	2,084,810	2,084,810		2,084,810	2,084,810
307	IT Resource Management	2,626,208	2,626,208		2,626,208	2,626,208
308	Off-Site Juvenile Detention Placements	2,215,983	2,215,983		2,215,983	2,215,983
309	Legal Services	706,719	706,719		706,719	706,719
310	Offsite Inmate Medical Care	2,000,000	2,000,000		2,000,000	2,000,000
311	Public Information	298,204	298,204		298,204	298,204
312	Registration Division	1,910,861	1,360,861		1,910,861	1,360,861
313	Rehabilitation Services	2,889,779	2,889,779		2,889,779	2,889,779
314	Research And Planning	229,478	229,478		229,478	229,478
315	Senior Administration	978,311	948,311		978,311	948,311
316	Training Division - Mandated	3,935,566	3,935,566		3,935,566	3,935,566
317	Training Division - Nonmandated	200,675	200,675		200,675	200,675
Total		151,886,162	146,716,111		151,886,162	146,716,111

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

County Services						
County Services						
FY2026 Recommended						
Ref. #	Department & Service	FY2026 Recom. Total	FY2026 Recom. (County)	BOCC Adjustments (County)	FY2026 Final Total	FY2026 Final (County)
Ref. #	Tax Collection					
320	Legal Services	74,440	30,834		74,440	30,834
321	Business Tax	1,906,748	(1,310,194)		1,906,748	(1,310,194)
322	Property Tax Collections	5,314,269	5,021,888		5,314,269	5,021,888
323	Senior Administration	237,825	237,825		237,825	237,825
Total		7,533,282	3,980,353		7,533,282	3,980,353
County Services Total		1,332,074,192	834,948,396		1,332,074,192	834,948,396

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook

Fund Balance Allocation						
Ref. #	Agency	Description	FY2026 Recommended	BOCC Adjustment	FY2026 Final	
324	CMS	Capital Maintenance	\$7,760,000	\$0	\$7,760,000	
325	EMS	10 new ambulances, 9 replacements	7,000,000		7,000,000	
326	NDP	Capital Reserve	4,000,000		4,000,000	
327	AHS	Critical Home Repair	2,575,000		2,575,000	
328	AHS	NOAH project renovations	2,500,000		2,500,000	
329	ELE	FY2026 Elections	1,122,182		1,122,182	
330	CAO	Revaluation Reserve Contribution	1,000,000		1,000,000	
331	EMS	Medic technology	885,000		885,000	
332	SHF	SHF Vehicle Computers	450,000		450,000	
333	NDP	Technology Reserve	400,000		400,000	
334	NDP	A Brighter Day - HUB Contribution	250,000		250,000	
335	NDP	Charlotte Museum of History - Revolutionary War Exhibit	350,000		350,000	
336	CSS	Veteran Needs Assessment	300,000		300,000	
337	LIB	Collections Increase	250,000		250,000	
338	PRK	ONA Funding for New Greenways	271,363		271,363	
339	MED	Double-slot Medical Director position to support transition	200,000		200,000	
340	HLT	CRCHC Dental Service Expansion	170,000		170,000	
341	HLT	Nurse Family Partnership - ARPA continuation funding for 2 months	160,000		160,000	
342	CJS	Public Defender Document Storage	146,258		146,258	
343	FIN	Travel system software	120,000		120,000	
344	CSS	Hearts for the Invisible Coalition - ARPA continuation funding for 2 months	60,000		60,000	
345	HRS	Background Screening	50,000		50,000	
346	IST	Web Firewall Replacement	50,000		50,000	

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025

FY2026 BOCC Budget Strawvote Workbook				
Fund Balance Appropriations				
Fund Balance Allocation				
Ref. #	Agency	Description	FY2026 Recommended	BOCC Adjustment
347	ATY	One-time funding to support (2) new positions	47,308	
348	CJS	Jury Management System Update	30,515	
349	ELE	Election Data Management System Replacement	9,780	
Total Fund Balance Appropriation			\$30,157,406	\$0
				\$30,157,406

STRAW VOTE:

Education:

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap and carried unanimously to approve the CPCC and CMS recommended budget.

Debt service fund:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to change the wording of line item 15 from “Land Acquisition” to “ELAP”.

Commissioner Dunlap said the way line item 15 was written allowed for flexibility and asked why they would restrict CMS’s use of land.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said the purpose of the \$30 million was for ELAP, not for CMS.

Commissioner Powell said they had a verbal conversation agreeing that it was intended for ELAP, and they had to be clear about it.

Commissioner Griffin asked what the land was intended for in terms of land acquisition. *County Manager Diorio said it was not for schools and changing the name of it would not necessarily make it binding.*

Motion was made Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell and carried 5-4 with Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Rodriguez-McDowell, Meier, Altman, and Powell voting yes and Commissioners Dunlap, Griffin, Leake, and Townsend-Ingram voting no to change the wording of line item 15 from “Land Acquisition” to “ELAP”.

County Services:

Commissioner Dunlap asked for clarification on the reduction of children’s services on line 44. *Mr. Cox said there was a reduction to foster care support services due to an underutilized program.*

Commissioner Altman asked for clarification what the different colors represented in the presentation. *Mr. Cox provided the following information:*

- Colors:
- Red services – the amount was restricted
- Purple – don’t have to do, but the amount was specific

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

Blue – must do but the amount was flexible

Green – maximum amount of flexibility

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to add \$109,239 back to the line item 123, the court officials' budget.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said the courts were already extremely underfunded and the court delays and proceedings were terrible.

Commissioner Altman asked why County Manager Diorio recommended the reduction of \$109,239 from the court official's budget. *County Manager Diorio said she recommended the reduction because it was related to the fine collection program which was a State program that the County funded on behalf of the State of North Carolina. She said they turned back hundreds of thousands of dollars every year from the contract the County had with the court officials and were projecting on turning back about \$800,000 in the upcoming year. She said they did not spend the money the County gave them. Mr. Cox said there were two reductions, the first \$196,045 was for the fine collections which was the responsibility of the State and the \$109,239 was because, in looking at the contracts they had with their partners at the State, they found there was funding in CJS's budget for operating as well as funding in the contract for each of those positions so, there was a duplication of funding.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked if the revenue from the fine collection went back to the State or the County. *Mr. Cox said it went back to the State which helped to support the States operation of the courts but a portion of what they paid when they went to the courts did help the County support the building of the courts and some of it went to the schools which were the fines and forfeitures.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked if they had privy to reallocate those funds or was it just what the County designated. *Mr. Cox said they did have flexibility.*

Chair Jerrell asked if they ended up spending their money or needing more, there was nothing that would stop them from asking for more. *County Manager Diorio said yes that was correct.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to add \$109,239 back to the court officials' budget, line item 123, which failed 3-6, with Commissioners Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell and Townsend-Ingram voting yes and Chair Jerrell, Commissioners Dunlap, Leake, Powell, Altman, and Griffin voting no.

Commissioner Meier asked for clarification regarding item 145, Duke's Mayo Bowl, and said the total recommendation was listed at \$275,000 but there was nothing coming from the County. *Mr. Cox said line items 141-146 listed under "Services" were tourism and events items. He said the County did receive a portion of hotel/motel tax or tourism tax of which had to be used for tourism activities, so the County aligned it to those services.*

Commissioner Meier asked how much the County received for tourism dollars. *Mr. Cox said they had \$2,365,765.*

Commissioner Meier asked if the line item 171, Camino Health Center, was restrictive. *County Manager Diorio said it was for health-related programs.*

Commissioner Altman asked why Rain HIV Early Intervention zeroed out. *Mr. Cox said it was reduced because they served 45 unduplicated applicants in 2024 out of the targeted 85 which indicated underutilization.*

Commissioner Altman asked how it affected County's overall ability to deliver those services in-

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

house and continue with prep for anyone who needed it in out-reach. She said it was okay if it did not go through non-profit programs, but she wanted to ensure it did not reduce access to the service. *Mr. Washington said it would not result in a reduction of service at all. He said RAIN received a number of other funding streams for their HIV program.*

Commissioner Dunlap said he wanted to ensure testing was still available. *Mr. Washington said it would still be available as it was a specific initiative they started as part of their CSG application in the previous years and because of the infusion of other HIV resources, they had other funding streams that were mostly Federal and State.*

Commissioner Leake asked how many programs the County was supporting with regards to mental health, specifically under line item 171, Camino Health Center. *Mr. Cox said he was unsure of the exact number. County Manager Diorio said there was likely several programs funded through that line item.*

Commissioner Meier asked if line item 190, School Health Services, included mental health or if it was strictly school nurses. *Mr. Cox said it was school nurses.*

Chair Jerrell asked if the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) line item received additional federal funding which was why there was a big gap. *Mr. Cox said yes.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked what line item was included with the Charlotte Sports Foundation. *Mr. Cox said there were a couple of different programs but if she was referring to their contribution to the Duke Mayo Classic, there was a reduction shown with line item 146, the Duke Mayo Bowl, line item 145, and the ACC Football Championship, line item 141.*

Commissioner Powell asked which line item was MEDIC. *Mr. Cox said it was 157.*

Commissioner Powell said it showed the same funding on the budget. *Mr. Cox said it was because the \$7 million was for ambulances and other things on their fleet reserve.*

Commissioner Powell said she wanted to ensure the funding for the study requested by the Fire Fighters was in the budget somewhere. *County Manager Diorio said MEDIC would pay for it, so it was not an additional budget item.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap and unanimously carried to adopt the County Services budget recommendation.

Fund Balance

Commissioner Powell asked why there was one time funding to support the new positions for the attorney. *Mr. Cox said it was the one-time expenses related to onboarding.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked clarifying questions regarding the appropriation process of which were answered by Chair Jerrell.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake to adopt the Fund Balance recommendation.

Commissioner Meier requested justification of the revolutionary war exhibit. *County Manager Diorio said the exhibit was unique to the region and the County anticipated significant economic development impact with one time funding. She said it was an important opportunity.*

Commissioner Meier asked what they predicted the impact would be. *County Manager Diorio said she did not have that, but they were the first in the Country to get the exhibit.*

Meeting Minutes May 29, 2025

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake and unanimously carried to approve the Fund Balance Recommendation.

Additional Changes

Commissioner Dunlap asked Mr. Cox to go over the current fund balance and the debt services policy. *Mr. Cox said there was a projection of \$532 million and they had a policy that said they should not spend above 28% of their revenues which had a threshold of \$466.6 million of which resulted in a permittance of \$96 million in fund balance. He said the managers recommendation included \$30.2 million with \$66 million remaining for delegation.*

Commissioner Dunlap asked what the lowest amount the County had in Fund Balance was. *Mr. Cox said he did not have that information available, but it was the lowest it had been since 2019.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked what the threshold was for the AAA bond rating. *Mr. Cox said it involved two things. Mecklenburg Chief Financial Officer David Boyd said they did not publish hard and fast rules but instead looked at the totality of their financial situation and most jurisdictions had around 30-50% fund balance but there were slight variances in how things were calculated.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked what percentage the County would be when they spent it. *Mr. Cox said it would be about 32%.*

Commissioner Powell asked what was anticipated for the upcoming FY26 and FY27. *County Manager Diorio said they did not anticipate significant increases on sales tax in FY27 and construction had slowed so new growth on the property tax side would be slow. She said she was unsure of how things would go at the federal level so they were expecting things would become rocky over the upcoming years.*

Mr. Boyd said they would end up at a total of 30.2% fund balance being used.

Commissioner Dunlap said the County was around 30.2% in fund balance, and asked if the rating agencies typically see large cities at around 35%? *Mr. Boyd said they the range is between 30 – 35% and currently the county was at the bottom of that range.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to fully fund Crisis Assistance Ministry the amount that was cut of \$792,500.

Commissioner Dunlap said he would consider changes but wanted to know all the changes before they voted.

Chair Jerrell said he would like for some organizations to receive half of their original funding, ending at the end of the calendar year to give them time to make their own determinations.

Mr. Cox said the reduction to SYDKIMYL of \$593,400 and \$75,000 was a program provided through DCR for workforce development and the remainder was behavioral health. He said it was reduced due to low performance and underutilization.

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked if they were asking them what the issues were. *Deputy County Manager Anthony Trotman said the performance portion was related to their tutoring offerings and the social and emotional aspect of the budget for emotional health and was not due to low performance but that it was duplicative to CMS work.*

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

Commissioner Griffin said if there were vendors/agencies that were not impactful, he had no issue cutting them but years prior, he asked what the effects of Meck success, SEL and tutoring was but was provided no information. He asked if there was any positive impact with either of them.

Mr. Cox said there were several contracts that their behavioral health department had in order to provide services. He said the County's Behavioral Health Department did their own assessment and presented the provided suggestions for reduction.

He said SYDKIMYL was zeroed out, Spark was zeroed out due to unclear outcomes, Alliance Center for Education was zeroed out due to low customer satisfaction scores, and Center for Child Health and Inlivan were both zeroed out due to completion of the project.

Commissioner Leake said they had to be cautious with how the money was being spent and they were taking careful considerations to determine the most valuable organizations.

Commissioner Griffin said he hoped that in the following budget cycle, they could embrace a process earlier on so they could see and respond to things in a different manner.

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram said they needed additional data to make the decision to cut things and hoped they could provide that more thoroughly in the following budget cycle.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to restore \$792,500 for the financial empowerment program through the Crisis Assistance Ministry that provided counseling and funds.

Commissioner Altman said Crisis Assistance Ministry was fully funded \$2.2 million for other aspects of its operation through the County and the cut in question was for a financial literacy program that was provided at a much more economical fashion through in-house community resource centers. *Mr. Trotman said their social workers did do that.*

Commissioner Altman asked if 50% of the subset was for administrative costs to staff and overhead costs. *Mr. Trotman said yes.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said it was 48% because it was actually people providing counseling.

Commissioner Leake asked if Crisis Assistance Ministry provided services that were funded elsewhere and if they were brought back to be funded through the County. *Mr. Trotman said that was the case. County Manager Diorio said the County already provided the service through existing programs.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram said 48% of their funding went to administration but a portion went to rent assistance for 3-months. She said it was critical they did not cut anything that was going toward Board priorities.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said eviction rates were skyrocketing, and the program's success rate was 100%, including 215 people who were able to be housed for 12 months. She said it was extremely important that the financial counseling piece was a part of it and asked Mr. Trotman if he had any data through their CRC's. *Mr. Trotman said he was unprepared to provide that data. County Manager Diorio said the Board funded \$2 million in rental assistance through a Home for All.*

Commissioner Rodriguez McDowell said it did not include the counselling assistance piece. *County Manager Diorio said there were plenty other routes to get support.*

Commission Altman asked County Manager Diorio if they gave people the notice to ramp down

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

and when they received the official notice. *County Manager Diorio said they notified the organizations in late April.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to fully fund Crisis Assistance Ministry the amount that was cut of \$792,500 through fund balance of which failed to pass 2-7 with Commissioners Rodriguez-McDowell and Meier voting yes and Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Dunlap, Leake, Altman, Powell, Griffin, and Townsend-Ingram voting no.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake to fund Crisis Assistance Ministry program, Financial Empowerment, through fund balance at 50%, totaling \$396,250, and set to expire December 31, 2025.

Substitute motion was made by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to authorize \$396,250 to Crisis Assistance Ministry, expiring December 31st, 2025, for the sole purpose of providing cash assistance for rental assistance and utility costs.

Commissioner Meier said she understood Commissioner Griffin's sentiment, but Crisis Assistance Ministry was giving people rental assistance while also helping them not get into that situation again. She said she did not support the motion and asked if when Commissioner Griffin said, "expired in December", did he mean that all the money had to be spent by that date.

Commissioner Griffin said it should all be spent by December 31st, 2025.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell requested an explanation of Commissioner Griffin's choices regarding his motion.

Commissioner Griffin said he did not have the necessary data in front of him and he did not know if the success came 100% from the funding from the County or was a collaboration of other funding. He said he felt cash assistance would help people who came through their door seeking assistance.

Substitute motion was made by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and failed 4-5, with Commissioners Altman, Griffin, Dunlap and Chair Jerrell voting yes and Commissioners, Powell, Leake, Rodriguez-McDowell, Townsend-Ingram, and Meier voting no to authorize \$396,250 to Crisis Assistance Ministry, expiring December 31st, 2025, for the sole purpose of providing cash assistance for rental assistance and utility costs.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, and carried 5-4 with Commissioners Leake, Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Townsend-Ingram voting yes and Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Dunlap, Griffin, and Powell, voting no to fund Crisis Assistance Ministry program, Financial Empowerment, through fund balance at 50%, totaling \$396,250, and set to expire December 31, 2025.

Mr. Boyd corrected his previous statement in that, with the recommendation on use of fund balance, they were at 32%, not 30.2%.

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked clarifying questions regarding the HOMES programs. *Mr. Cox said the HOMES program was originally funded with fund balance and since then, they were utilizing it and carrying it forward. He said after the budget got adopted, the Board took an action to take the unused fund balance and appropriate it. He said they accounted for that in what they showed them in terms of fund balance at a total of \$4.2 million to continue the HOMES program.*

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked if they would be able to appropriate more at any time during the fiscal year. *Mr. Cox said they would be able to.*

Chair Jerrell asked if Commissioner Townsend-Ingram was asking if the grant amount could be

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

changed. *Yulonda D. Griffin, Department of Community Resource Director, said they were able to increase the percentage in the previous fiscal year from 25% to 35%. She said it did affect how many people could get approved based on the amount of money they had available.*

Chair Jerrell said the City of Charlotte was not participating in the current year, but the Town of Davidson would continue. County Manager Diorio said Matthews showed an interest in participating.

Ms. Griffin said 5429 applications were approved in the previous year and they generally increased the number yearly.

Chair Jerrell asked why the City was not participating. *County Manager Diorio said she believed they were using ARPA dollars, but they were completely depleted.*

Chair Jerrell said they were looking to see how the most vulnerable people could be the least impacted with respect to the decisions the Board was having to make. He said he wanted to advocate for the Culinary School of Charlotte to continue to receive a level of funding through December 31st, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake and was carried 5-4, with Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Leake, Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Townsend-Ingram and Commissioners Dunlap, Altman, Griffin, and Powell voting no to fund Community Culinary School of Charlotte through fund balance at 50%, totaling \$70,000, and set to expire December 31, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell to fund Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy at \$258,000 for the full year through fund balance.

Commissioner Altman asked why the County Manager decided to defund the program. *County Manager Diorio said the programs performance continued to decline, meeting 2 out of 11 of their output measures in 2023 and only 1 out of 11 in 2024.*

Commissioner Altman asked what the program was in question. *Mr. Cox said there were three different programs and the two that were proposed for reduction included legal support tied to domestic violence and veteran services. He said the domestic violence program served 28 clients out of their 130 target and the veterans service program served 226 out of their 350 targets.*

Commissioner Altman said not to confuse the importance of those groups with the efficacy of a given program and serving them. She said they did not serve them when they were not meeting metrics and supported the managers recommendation, but she wanted to encourage the community members and service provider to return when there was a program that was more efficacious.

Commissioner Dunlap said it was not a financial issue but a consistency issue.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell and failed 2-7 with Commissioners Rodriguez-McDowell and Meier voting yes and Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Griffin, Dunlap, Powell, Leake, Townsend-Ingram, and Altman voting no to fund Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy at \$258,000 for veterans' services support and domestic violence the full year through fund balance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Meier to fund Prospera NC, through fund balance at 50%, totaling \$47,500, and set to expire December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Meier said Prospera helped the Hispanic community in entrepreneurship, and it was a critical time to support them.

Meeting Minutes May 29, 2025

Commissioner Altman said she supported the work Prospera did, but the question was about efficacy with limited resources and asked County Manager Diorio why she made the recommendation. *County Manager Diorio said the program did not achieve key outcome objectives in FY24 including clients starting businesses, creating jobs, or accessing capital.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said the goals that were in the contract were met but there was a misunderstanding as to which goals were being spoken about. She said they had met and surpassed their contractual goals.

Commissioner Townsend-Ingram asked clarifying questions regarding the stipulations of the six-month agreements. *County Manager Diorio said the contracts were reimbursement-based and if they did not spend it by December 31st, 2025, they did not get the rest of it.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Meier and failed 3-6 with Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Meier and Rodriguez-McDowell voting yes and Commissioners Dunlap, Leake, Griffin, Powell, Altman, and Townsend-Ingram voting no to fund Prospera NC, through fund balance at 50%, totaling \$47,500, and set to expire December 31, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Meier to fund Roof Above \$160,000 for the Giles Center.

Commissioner Powell said, on other parts of the budget, there was an extension of ARPA funding for other programs doing great work but knowing that that funding would end still burdened them for that \$165,000. She said she wanted to hear more from County Manager Diorio regarding ARPA funding. *County Manager Diorio said there were two the County provided fund balance to get them through to the end of the year, one being Hearts of the Invisible and the other being CareRing for Nurse-Family Partnership. She said CareRing was taking steps to make themselves more financially independent and Hearts for the Invisible showed incredibly strong performance and were a small grassroots organization so their ability to do a long-term sustainability plan was something they were working on but were not there yet. She said Roof Above received \$5.4 million in funding per year from the County and they should be able to find a way to get \$165,000 to keep the Giles Center open.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Meier to fund Roof Above \$160,000 for the Giles Center.

Commissioner Powell asked County Manager Diorio about the extension of ARPA funding. County Manager Diorio said that there were two that received funding from fund balance, Heart for the Invisible and CareRing for Nurse Family Partnership. She said the reasons were that CareRing had a sustainable plan and was going to start accepting Medicaid and Heart for the Invisible had a very strong performance but was a very small grass roots organization so their ability to do a long-term sustainability plan was something they were working on. She said that the County funded Roof Above with \$5.4M per year.

Motion made by Commissioner Meier failed 3-6 with Commissioners Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell and Townsend-Ingram voting yes and Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Altman, Dunlap, Griffin, Leake, and Powell voting no to fund Roof Above \$160,000 for the Giles Center.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell and carried 5-4 with Chair Jerrell and Commissioners Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell, Townsend-Ingram, and Leake voting yes and Commissioners Griffin, Dunlap, Altman, and Powell voting no to fund RAIN at \$36,277.50 from fund balance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap to direct staff to establish a budget ordinance be prepared for the next Regular Meeting.

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025

Mr. Boyd said with the \$502,000 they used, it put fund balance at 31.9%.

Commissioner Griffin asked if Commissioner Dunlap's motion included the tax increase. *Chair Jerrell said it did.*

Commissioner Powell said no one wanted a tax increase but they needed it, and the burden put on the County by the State was huge and requested to see how much the County funded that the State should have been funding. *Chair Jerrell said it was about \$400 million. Mr. Cox said that information was provided in the packet.*

Commissioner Powell said it was important for the public to know how much of a burden was being put on the County by the State.

Commissioner Griffin said he was concerned the Board did not have SMART goals and he was looking for specific outcomes in terms of the Board's 5 budget priorities. He said they needed more information about the impacts and results to make reasonable decisions more consistently. He said if they did everything the Board said since the previous year, capital tax would go up for things they wanted to pay for as a County, and he would feel more comfortable if they were able to say what was going on and follow up with clear results. He said he was concerned about the growing poor population, and they were not going to be able to tax their way out of that problem.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked how many actual cents would be taken off the property tax rate if the County was not having to fill the gaps for the State. She asked what position Mecklenburg County would be in comparison to other Counties in North Carolina based on their tax rate. *Mr. Cox said Mecklenburg County had the 19th lowest tax rate in the State of North Carolina.*

Chair Jerrell said they had not abandoned their SMART goals, and they would be coming up soon.

Commissioner Leake asked what exactly they were voting on. *Mr. Cox said the budget ordinance would total \$2,542,319,642 budget with a 49.27 cent tax rate.*

Commissioner Dunlap said it was important to reproduce/publicize what that impact would be. He asked what exactly the impact would be on a \$300,000 home. *County Manager Diorio said it would be about \$3.00 per month. Mr. Cox said the median value of a home was \$377,000 and, with the increase of the tax rate at 0.96 cents, the increase would be \$36.19 per year and \$3.02 per month.*

Chair Jerrell asked what that would be with the HOMES grant. *Mr. Cox said for property valued at \$277,000, the annual taxes with the HOMES grants would be \$23.64 per year or \$1.97 per month.*

Commissioner Griffin asked if they could provide data regarding a revenue neutral tax rate with a start at 0.44 cents in terms of a capital increase for the County as well as the school.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap and carried 7-2 with Chair Jerrell, and Commissioners Dunlap, Powell, Meier, Rodriguez-McDowell, Altman, and Townsend-Ingram voting yes and Commissioners Leake and Griffin voting no to adopt the budget amendments and direct staff to create a budget ordinance to be presented at the June 3rd, 2025, meeting for adoption.

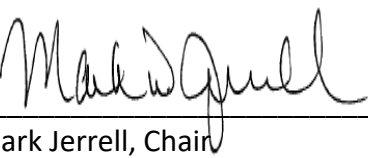
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2025



Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board



Mark Jerrell, Chair