

Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Informal Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room CH-14 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina at 5:10 p.m. and in Formal Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:18 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chair George Dunlap, Vice-Chair Mark Jerrell,
and Commissioners Leigh Altman, Patricia "Pat" Cotham,
Arthur Griffin, Elaine Powell, Vilma D. Leake, Laura J Meier,
and Susan Rodriguez- McDowell
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 Dunlap, after which the matters below were addressed.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT

The Board identified item(s) to be removed from Consent and voted upon separately. The items identified were Items:

- 24-0254** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0256** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0263** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0270** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0271** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0272** Commissioner Leake
- 24-0301** Commissioner Leake

STAFF BRIEFINGS - None

24-0286 **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Jerrell, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, to go into Closed Session for the following purpose(s): Land Acquisition and Consult with Attorney.

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:10 p.m. and came back into Open Session at 6:07 p.m.

The Board then proceeded to the Meeting Chamber for the remainder of the meeting.

-FORMAL SESSION-

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dunlap called this portion of the meeting to order, which was followed by introductions, invocation by Vice Chair Jerrell, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; after which, the matters below were addressed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Altman, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of tax parcel 031-152-13 (+/- 0.481 acres) from Charles Deese for a purchase price of \$127,000.00 for Park and Recreation purposes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of tax parcels 139-241-19 and 139-262-54 (+/- 39.34 acres) from Gypsy Holliday Flowe for a purchase price of \$1,692,000.00 for Park and Recreation purposes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Altman, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of tax parcel 139-262-32 and a portion of tax parcel 139-262-33 (+/- 34.21 acres) from Sibyl Moore, Henry Moore, Jr., George Flowe, Kathy Flowe, Emily English, Paulette Whisenant, and Tillman Whisenant for a purchase price of \$1,470,000.00 for Park and Recreation purposes.

AWARDS/RECOGNITION – NONE

24-0287

PUBLIC ART MOMENT

The Board received a presentation on Public Art piece titled "Tuckaseegee Twelve."

Background: On January 5, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved the addition of an agenda topic to the second Regular meeting of the month entitled Public Art Moment. The item, with the help of the Arts & Science Council, will highlight a piece of public art - a different one each month. The purpose of this item is to raise public awareness and appreciation for the tax dollars that are spent on public art each year. This month's featured art piece is called "Tuckaseegee Twelve" by Topher Delaney and Laurel Holtzapple. This project is located at the Valerie C. Woodard Center in District 2.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell gave the presentation.

Tuckaseegee Twelve

Topher Delaney and Laurel Holtzapple

Valerie C. Woodard Center



Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024



24-0288 PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There were no speakers for this portion of the agenda.

APPOINTMENTS

24-0157 APPOINTMENTS – WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

According to the Waste Management Advisory Board Bylaw: Appointments shall be made by the BOCC for terms of three years each, with each individual serving a maximum of two full terms or until the BOCC terminates the Board, whichever is first. Reappointments to new terms or to fill vacancies shall be approved by the BOCC as indicated in Article III, Section 1. If no new persons are known, or there are no new applicants after a term has been unfilled after a period of 30 days, the Director of Solid Waste may recommend an individual who has previously served on the WMAB to fill the vacancy. Such appointment shall be for a period of 12 months.

A one-year term extension request was received by Chris Brown to the Waste Management Advisory Board, expiring June 30, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to approve the term extension request for Chris Brown to the Waste Management Advisory Board for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

Appointments were needed on the Waste Management Advisory board to fill one (1) unexpired term expiring March 31, 2025, one (1) unexpired term expiring February 28, 2027, and two (2) three-year terms expiring March 31, 2027.

The following were nominated:

Henry Allison, Deborah Butler, Suzette McHugh, and Jennifer Peltz – Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell

Matthew Cook and Christopher Kelly – Commissioner Cotham

Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024

NOTE: This item will come back before the Board at the next regular meeting for appointments.

24-0280 APPOINTMENTS – BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

Background: On March 6, 2024, and April 16, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners nominated the following candidates for appointment consideration to the Board of Equalization and Review: Mark Loflin, Michael Nellums, Lloyd Scher, Andrew Dunn, Finesse Lyons, Maureen Mahood, and Edward Tillman.

Per Board policy, the Ad Hoc Interview Committee interviewed the nominees on Monday, May 13, 2024. At the conclusion of the interviews, the Ad-Hoc Committee unanimously chose two nominees for recommendation to the full Board.

The Ad Hoc Interview Committee was comprised of the following Commissioners: Arthur Griffin (Chair), Laura Meier, Elaine Powell, and Susan Rodriguez-McDowell.

Commissioner Griffin gave the report and recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion was made by Commissioner Altman, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to appoint Maureen Mahood and Edward Tillman on the Board of Equalization and Review to fill two (2) unexpired terms expiring March 31, 2025, and direct the Clerk to continue to advertise for the remaining vacancies.

24-0283 APPOINTMENTS – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD (ABC BOARD)

Reappointment was needed for one (1) three-year term expiring June 30, 2027, to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Monifa Drayton was eligible for reappointment.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, to reappoint Monifa Drayton on the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for one (1) three-year term expiring June 30, 2027.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

24-0156 CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT

The Board received an Annual Report of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee.

Willie Ratchford, CRC Executive Director, and Sam Smith Jr., Chair of the CRC, gave the presentation.

Background: The Board's Appointment Policy states all Committees must report at least annually to the Board of County Commissioners on their activities. Reports can be submitted to the Clerk to the Board for distribution to the Board in writing or for formal presentation at a Regular Board Meeting.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee (CRC)



2024 Annual Report

PREPARED FOR THE MECKLENBURG
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



CRC At-A-Glance

VISION: Be recognized as a global model in building community harmony by advocating for diversity, equity and access for all.

MISSION: CRC empowers, collaborates, engages and promotes opportunities to create positive outcomes.

- Current Membership: 30 of 45 seats filled
 - Charlotte Mayor appoints eight members
 - Charlotte City Council appoints 16 members
 - Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners appoints 21 members
- CRC's Primary Functions:
 - Provide authentic feedback on community issues
 - Assist in the facilitation of communication between the committee, community, and elected officials
 - Promote civic opportunities, respect, and understanding among all residents
 - Advocate for equity across Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Committee Structure

CRC Engagement	COMMUNITY/CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT	PUBLIC RELATIONS/NEWSLETTER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ADA• Community Affairs• Dispute Settlement• Fair Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police-Community Relations Awards• MLK Parade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly Newsletter• Speaking (in the community)• Speaker Series (internal)• Partnership

Community/Cultural Engagement



- Lead/Host Annual MLK Celebration
- Lead/Host Police Community Relations Awards
- Promote Equality of Opportunity
- Conducted outreach at international festivals
- Planned visits to various cultural institutions for CRC members to hear speakers and experience different cultures
- International Women's Day festival

CRC Engagement

This committee aims to actively engage with the CRD to explore collaboration opportunities that involve CRC members in advancing the core services of the CRD. This collaboration could involve various activities, such as brainstorming, planning, and implementing initiatives to enhance the delivery of CRD's essential services.

- Community Affairs
- Fair Housing
- ADA
- Dispute Settlement



Public Relations



The Public Relations Subcommittee is working on revamping the new member orientation. This Subcommittee also:

- Builds/strengthens external partnerships and identifies collaboration opportunities
- Develops and distributes the CRC Newsletter to keep community members informed about committee work, events, and other relevant topics
 - Community Relations distribution network:
 - 2,400+ subscribers (via Public Input)
 - 8,000+ city employees
 - 6,000+ county employees



Special Events

- Assisted with interviews, planning and logistics for the annual Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police-Community Relations Awards.
- Assisted with the events and awards celebration for the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Celebrations
- Hosted CRC members only Town Hall meeting to address police community interaction after the Bojangles incident



Community Relations Department

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Program



ADA guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

- Fifteen citywide ADA training sessions conducted in FY24
- Eleven Lunch & Learns held in FY24 to elevate conversations about disabilities across the city and county, and engage community partners in this work
- Currently tracking 8,315 ADA barriers indicated in the Transition Plan
- The City of Charlotte received 47 ADA inquiries and filled eight ASL interpreting requests in FY24
 - Individuals can file ADA complaints and grievances (within 60 days of the alleged violation) to the Community Relations ADA program office at charlotteADA@charlottenc.gov.

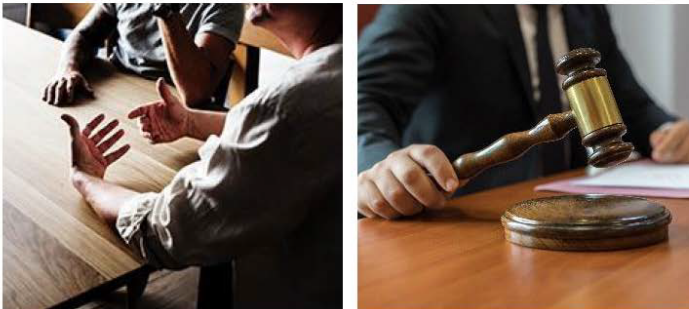


Community Affairs

- Worked with 175+ students through Peer Club Program this school year
- Continued focus on increasing youth engagement through events, field trips, and conflict resolution training
- Strengthened community connections by attending festivals, events and community meetings
- Continued work to build police-community relations
- This division is currently working on youth program expansion and community engagement initiatives to address the needs of our residents

Dispute Settlement Program

FY24



- Continued to provide weekly mediation services in Private Warrant Court
- Mediated/Conciliated 674 cases
- \$131,200 criminal justice dollars saved
- Provided town hall style meetings to address increasing HOA issues
- Continued to recruit and train new volunteer mediators
- Continued to foster partnerships with CMPD, Sheriff's Office, Courts, City and County departments
- Increased education and outreach efforts by presenting information to referral groups, attending resource fairs and community conversations



Fair Housing/ NDO/SOIP

FY24

- Investigated/closed 27 Fair Housing cases and negotiated \$26,665.82 in settlements for Complainants
- Nondiscrimination Ordinance staff investigated/closed eight cases, the majority of which have been disability-related employment complaints, \$45,000 have been negotiated in settlements
- April commemorates 56 years of the Fair Housing Act and staff hosted a Fair Housing Mini Conference on April 4, and partner with various organizations to host additional education and outreach events



Year One - **DISRUPTIVE**



Community/Civil Visit – Listening Sessions (City, County, CC, CRC, etc.)



Increase CRC Membership to the Full Body (Understanding Roles)



Create/Restructure Committees (Formalize)



Decorum and Respect



Revisit Mission/Value/Goals – Staff Roles vs. CRC Roles

Year Two - **GROWTH**

Increase

- Increase community engagement efforts/initiatives

Form

- Form strategic partners

Build

- Build a talk series

Year Three- **STABILIZING**

Retain 100% membership and engagement

Strong leadership transition



Opportunities

01

More engaged committee

02

Increased collaboration

03

City/County partnership



Needs & Support

- Considering reducing the threshold of members to 30 – this will allow room for more engagement
- Partnership with Countywide initiatives – how can CRC get more involved?

Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024



Comments

Commissioner Powell thanked them for the presentation and said that she really appreciated the energy, structuring, and intentionality that went into their work.

Commissioner Griffin thanked them for their leadership.

Mr. Ratchford said they have had 44 Police Community Relations Awards Programs and have worked for the City for 49 years.

Commissioner Jerrell stated that the presentation was helpful and liked the restructuring of the program and trying to simplify things.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell thanked them and stated that she appreciated their hard work and that she, too, liked the program's structure.

Chair Dunlap thanked them for their services. He said he supported pairing down the committee and stated that it was extremely large in terms of having that many people focused on the issues that were being addressed.

Commissioner Leake thanked them for their services.

MANAGER'S REPORT - NONE

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

24-0289 DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

The Board received as information the department directors' monthly management reports. The monthly management reports can be accessed online via public dashboards at:

<https://meck.co/DataDashboard>

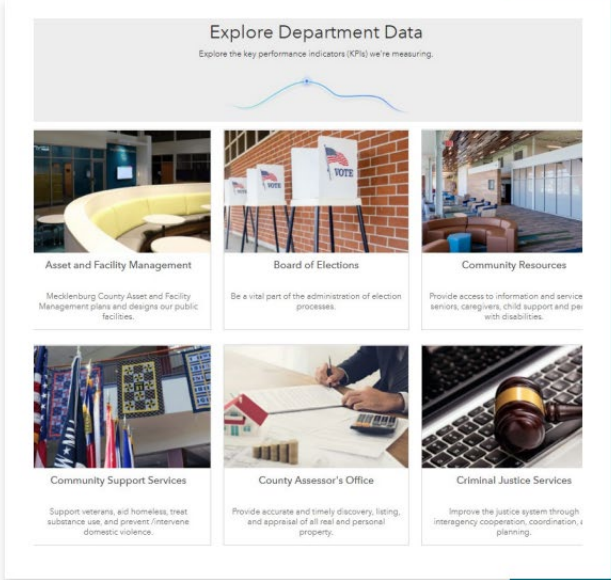
Meeting Minutes May 21, 2024

Background: The County Manager has requested department directors develop department management monthly reports highlighting key activities and initiatives within the departments and that reports show relevant performance indicators of departmental activity.

Department Management Monthly Reports

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2023, the Department Management Monthly Reports transitioned to a public-facing dashboard.

[Click here, or click the image to the right, to access the Department Management Monthly Report Dashboard](#)



STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS - NONE

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS & REQUESTS – NONE

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, to approve the following item(s):

24-0273 TAX REFUNDS

Approve refunds in the amount of \$9,318.18 for registered motor vehicles as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor; and

Approve refunds in the amount of \$968,985.22 as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor.

Background: This Board action is necessary to approve registered motor vehicle tax refunds resulting from clerical errors, value changes and appeals processed in the statewide vehicle tax system.

This Board action is necessary to approve tax refunds resulting from clerical errors, audits, and other amendments, including revaluation appeals. There is accrued interest of \$52,570.41 to be added to refunds of \$909,569.30. There is no accrued interest to be added to the refunds of \$6,845.51. The total refunds with interest added is \$968,985.22.

Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024

24-0298 MINUTES

Approve the following Meeting Minutes:

September 6, 2023, Regular Meeting
September 19, 2023, Regular Meeting

24-0311 SOLE SOURCE APPROVAL – MCSO COMMAND TRAILER

Approve sole source justification for the conversion of a trailer for Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Command Post.

Background: North Carolina General Statute 143-129(e)(6) requires that Mecklenburg County procure all apparatus, supplies, materials, and equipment ("Goods") totaling \$30,000 or more by competitively bidding unless: performance or price competition for a product is not available; a needed product is available from only one source of supply; or standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration.

Blue Compass RV is the original selling dealer of the MCSO Trailer that will be converted to a Command Post Unit. They have factory trained technicians by the trailer manufacture to ensure the structural and electrical integrity of this trailer. Blue Compass RV is a local vendor that will enable MCSO staff to continually monitor the conversion process in person. In previous research for conversion vendors, (Learning Lab Bus) the closest vendor capable of this type of conversion was in Indiana. It is imperative to do business with a local vendor to ensure ease and realistic travel distance regarding production and design meetings, warranty repairs, and adjustments.

THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT

24-0290 PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioners may remove agenda items from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote, to bring public awareness or to make comments. The following items were pulled and voted upon separately:

24-0254 JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC) UPDATE TO PROPOSED FY24 FUNDING ALLOCATION – CJS

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to approve revised FY24 funding allocation plan as recommended by the Mecklenburg County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC).

Background: The Mecklenburg County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) received \$2,051,713 in FY24 funding from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. Board approved item #23-0384 on June 21, 2023, to recognize, receive, and appropriate the funds for Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Services. This funding plan update is due to two of the programs, Team-Up Connections and Youth Style Fitness changing part of its local funding and in-kind contributions.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

**Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024**

Mecklenburg County
NC DPS - Community Programs - County Funding Plan

Available Funds: \$ 2,051,713 Local Match: \$ 661,722 Rate: 30%

DPS JCPC funds must be committed with a Program Agreement submitted in NC Allies and electronically signed by authorized officials.

#	Program Provider	DPS-JCPC Funding	LOCAL FUNDING			OTHER State/Federal	OTHER Funds	Total	% Non DPS-JCPC Program Revenues
			County Cash Match	Local Cash Match	Local In-Kind				
1	JCPC Administration	\$15,500					\$15,500		
2	CMPD Youthful Diversion Program	\$225,000		\$21,657	\$67,379		\$314,036	28%	
3	Tresports Positive Action Program	\$269,855			\$80,960		\$350,815	23%	
4	Life Connections of the Carolinas-DASH Mentoring	\$179,925			\$55,764		\$235,689	24%	
5	Transforming Youth Movement (TYM)-SHIFT Restitution & Community Service	\$272,991			\$82,800		\$355,791	23%	
6	Thompson Child and Family Focus-Court Assessment Program	\$205,808			\$61,743		\$267,551	23%	
7	Team-Up Connections-Group Mentoring	\$206,632			\$62,400		\$269,032	23%	
8	Youth Development Initiatives-YDI Family Life Skills Academy	\$58,471			\$19,100		\$77,571	25%	
9	Youth Development Initiatives-YDI Vocational and Career Development Academy	\$152,052			\$47,840		\$199,892	24%	
10	Achieving Success on Purpose-Building Reality w/ Imagination, Consciousness & Knowledge	\$112,046		\$18,293	\$15,926		\$146,265	23%	
11	KreSivU-A.R.I.S.E	\$43,297			\$13,165		\$56,462	23%	
12	For The Struggle, Inc-SaluteU	\$103,760		\$52,000			\$155,760	33%	
13	Youth Style Fitness, Inc	\$106,376		\$12,500	\$19,850		\$138,726	23%	
14	The FACTS Initiative	\$60,000		\$18,000			\$78,000	23%	
15	Life Connections of the Carolinas-DASH Vocational/Learning Community	\$40,000			\$12,345		\$52,345	24%	
16									
17									
18									
TOTALS:		\$2,051,713		\$122,450	\$539,272		\$2,713,435	24%	

The above plan was derived through a planning process by the Mecklenburg County
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and represents the County's Plan for use of these funds in FY 2023-2024.

Amount of Unallocated Funds _____
Amount of funds reverted back to DPS _____
Discretionary Funds added _____

check type initial plan update final
-----DPS Use Only-----

Reviewed by _____ Area Consultant _____ Date _____
Reviewed by _____ Program Assistant _____ Date _____

Designated State Office Staff _____ Date _____

Muel Beverly 4/28/24
Chairperson, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (Date)

Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners (Date)
or County Finance Officer

ver 6/30/21

Recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Document #106

24-0256 BUDGET AMENDMENT – CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNDS TRANSFER

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to Amend the 2023-2024 General Fund (0001) Budget Ordinance to appropriate \$56,175,133.46 of Code Enforcement Fund balance for transfer to the Code Enforcement Special Revenue Fund (8510).

Background: The FY24 Annual Budget Ordinance established a new special revenue fund to use for Code Enforcement activities beginning July 1, 2023. Prior to this date, Code enforcement activities were recorded in the General Fund. Funds held in the General Fund were not moved at that time to allow for completion of the FY23 audit and a reconciliation to determine the Code Enforcement amount to transfer to the new fund. This action will transfer the balance of Code Enforcement funds held in the General Fund to the Code Enforcement Special Revenue Fund.

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

24-0263 GRANT APPLICATION – PROJECT C.A.R.E

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to affirm the submission of a renewal grant application to Division of Health and Human Services-Division of Aging and Adult Services for up to \$120,000 to support Project C.A.R.E, which is a program to assist family caregivers who are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s Disease or another form of dementia. The grant runs from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025, and may be renewed up to two additional years. The grant deadline is May 1, 2024.

Background: Project CARE is a program that allows DSS to provide support for families caring for individuals with Alzheimer’s disease. Services include referrals and information, individual care consultation, respite care, training, education, and community awareness. One full-time consultant is funded by the grant. Matching funds are not required. Mecklenburg County DSS continues to be a regional site for NC DAAS. Mecklenburg County has served as the lead agency in this region since 2016.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

24-0270 RISK-BASED REMEDIATION LAND-USE RESTRICTIONS – HICKORY GROVE RECYCLING CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager, or designee, to enter into a land-use control agreement on a portion of County-owned Tax Parcel 108-031-15 at Hickory Grove Recycling Center.

Background: The Board of County Commissioners authorized the County Manager to negotiate and execute a lease with an option to purchase Tax Parcels 108-031-30(+/- 11.92 acres) on October 6, 2020. This property, currently owned by Durable Wood Preservers, Inc. is planned for future Solid Waste infrastructure. The property is immediately adjacent to the existing Hickory Grove Recycling Center.

As part of the planned remediation of the Durable Woods parcel, the property is going through the process for inclusion into the Brownsfield program, through the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The risk-based remediation requires the County to agree to restrict placement of groundwater wells on county owned property that is adjacent to the Durable Woods parcel.

This action was expected. No groundwater wells are anticipated to be placed in the areas shown on the attached map. However, it will be necessary to record deed restrictions after the NC DEQ has agreed to the remediation plan. This consent item serves to authorize the County Manager, or designee, to allow the necessary land-use restrictions as required for a Risk Based Remediation Plan.

There are no financial implications for this process.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

24-0271 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT – NAOMI DRENAN RECREATION CENTER RENOVATIONS

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to award a construction contract to AVM Contractors LLC in the amount of \$3,527,487.67.

Background: This contract is for the renovations and addition to Naomi Drenan Recreation Center located at 750 Beal Street, Charlotte, NC 28211 which is off N. Wendover Road. The

renovations consist of new finishes throughout the building, replacement of casework for accessibility, removal of the stage to create a classroom, upgrades to toilet facilities, new ceilings, reconfiguring of spaces to create an office area and classroom, and replacement of mechanical and electrical equipment. An addition to create a new entry lobby is part of the scope of work. Site improvements include upgrades to the existing parking for accessibility, renovations to existing basketball courts and pavilion, playground, and upgrades to sidewalks.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

24-0272 BUDGET AMENDMENT – DEPARTMENT OF CHILD, FAMILY, AND ADULT SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to amend the 2023-2024 Annual Budget Ordinance to recognize, receive, and appropriate an increase in State revenue and expenses in the amount of \$66,492 from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to the General Fund (0001) for the FY2024 Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) in the Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services.

Background: The NCDOT grant provides funding for transportation services to elderly and disabled citizens, Work First clients requiring transitional/employment transportation services, and the general public living outside the urban area boundary not the metropolitan boundary of Mecklenburg County and do not have a human service agency or organization paying for their transportation.

The Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services previously received an allocation of \$398,468 that was approved by the BOCC on 10/3/23 (RFBA# 23-0593). The department will receive an additional \$66,492 in unspent funds from the FY2023 award as allowed by NCDOT.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

24-0301 REVISING THE ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW (BER)

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to revise the Attendance Policy for the Board of Equalization and Review (BER).

Background: The Board of County Commissioners has established an attendance policy for individuals appointed as members to the various boards and committees established by the

BOCC. The policy states in relevant parts that any member who fails, during any calendar year, to attend sixty-five (65%) of all regularly scheduled committee meetings from the time the appointee's term begins until the end of that calendar year and each subsequent calendar year thereafter, shall be automatically removed from said board. There are no excused absences. Members cannot miss three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled committee meetings. The purpose of this agenda item is to revise the attendance Policy for the Board of Equalization and Review. The Chair of the BER is concerned that the County attendance policy doesn't work well for the BER. The BER has struggled with board members attendance this year which negatively impacts the Board's ability to conduct

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

timely reviews. The Chair recommends slight revisions to the attendance policy as it pertains to the BER which are contained in the attached Resolution.

This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
REVISING THE ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW
(BER)**

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina, pursuant to G.S. 105-322, has authorized the Board of County Commissioners of the Counties of the State to review and exercise the powers necessary to carry out the duties of the Board of Equalization and Review (BER) as set forth in Article 21 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the time and meeting of the Board shall be as set forth in G.S. 105-322(e) except that the Board may sit beyond the end of the current calendar year until the first meeting of the next calendar year to hear and determine requests made under the provisions of G.S. 105-322(g)(2) for appeals filed in the current calendar year when such requests are made within the time prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg County Board of Equalization and Review (BER) is a twenty (20) member Board whose required duties are set forth in G.S. 105-322(g)(1) and specifically under (g)(2), to hear taxpayer appeals on assessed values and reviews current assessments made by the County Tax Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has established an attendance policy for individuals appointed as members to the various boards and committees established by the BOCC. The policy states in relevant parts that any member who fails, during any calendar year, to attend sixty-five (65%) of all regularly scheduled committee meetings from the time the appointee's term begins until the end of that calendar year and each subsequent calendar year thereafter, shall be automatically removed from said board. There are no excused absences. Member cannot miss three consecutive regularly scheduled committee meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the BER has expressed concern that the County attendance policy doesn't work well for the BER. Technically the BER only holds two (2) meetings a year, their convene and adjournment meetings. Then, during the annual appeals period, it holds hearings in panels consisting of three (3) BER members to hear appeal cases, but there have been issues ensuring three (3) members are present for the panels to conduct the reviews; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to mitigate the attendance issues, the Chair is requesting the BOCC amend the County attendance policy specifically focused on the BER attendance requirements to add a more structured provision to the Rules of Procedures as set out below:

“The Chair of the BER will work with the Secretary and County Assessor's Office (CAO) staff to develop three Member Panels, with one alternate, for the purposes of hearing taxpayer's appeals. A BER Panel Schedule will be published approximately thirty (30) days in advance. Members assigned to a panel must notify the BER secretary within seven (7) days of the Schedule publication if they will be unable to attend any of the scheduled dates. Except for sudden illness any notification that a member is unable to attend or lack of notice at all after the seven (7) days will be deemed an unexcused absence.” and

**Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024**

WHEREAS, all other provisions of the attendance policy shall remain in full force and effect.

Now therefore be it,

RESOLVED:

1. The Board of County Commissioners does hereby AMEND the Board of County Commissioner's board appointment policy on attendance, specifically pertaining to the Board of Equalization and Review (BER) to include the following language:

"The Chair of the BER will work with the Secretary and County Assessor's Office (CAO) staff to develop three Member Panels, with one alternate, for the purposes of hearing taxpayer's appeals. A BER Panel Schedule will be published approximately thirty (30) days in advance. Members assigned to a panel must notify the BER secretary within seven (7) days of the Schedule publication if they will be unable to attend any of the scheduled dates. Except for sudden illness any notification that a member is unable to attend or lack of notice at all after the seven (7) days will be deemed an unexcused absence"

ADOPTED this the ___ day of _____, 2024.

George Dunlap, Chairman
Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners

Kristine Smith
Clerk to the Board

Approved as to Form:

County Attorney

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Document #107.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

24-0291 COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners shared information of their choosing within the guidelines as established by the Board, which included, but not limited to, past and/or upcoming events.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Jerrell, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024

Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board

George Dunlap, Chair