

*Kevin Austin, Chairman of Board
David Moxley, Vice Chairman
Cliff Collins, Commissioner
Marion Welborn, Commissioner
Frank Zachary, Commissioner*



*Ed Powell, County Attorney
Lisa Hughes, County Manager
Tanya Gentry, Clerk to the Board*

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

April 5, 2024

Agriculture Update

Every five years the USDA releases a Census of Agriculture and the most recent release is of 2022 data. They compare this data to the 2017 data. The number of farms in Yadkin County has decreased 8% since 2017, yet the acreage of land in farm use has increased 12%, as well as the average farm size has increased. The market value of products sold has increased 51%, from \$139,652,000 to \$211,147,000. Exhibit A contains some of the data, not only for Yadkin County, but also Davie, Surry, Wilkes and NC. If you would like more details, please let me know. Agriculture, like everything else is changing.

Vacancy Report

This week we have 24 vacancies. Human Services continues to have 13 vacancies this week. Three of the vacancies are in the Sheriff's Office and 3 in Emergency Services. The Tax Assessor's Office has 2 vacancies. Some of these positions have been vacant over 300 days, which in accordance with the County's Personnel Policy positions vacant for 12 months are eliminated.

FY2025 Budget

Budget requests for FY2025, with the exception of the Yadkin County Schools are due today. Review of the requests will begin next week.

State Direct Grants

The County received the Direct Grant funds from the State this week. We have received the signed Agreements from all of the fire departments and the non-profit groups, with one exception. The Director of that entity said we will receive it this week. Senator Settle will pick-up the checks next week to deliver to the entities.

Legislative Goals

It's time to start thinking about Legislative Goals to submit to the NCACC. The submission process will kick-off in May.

Story Walk Ribbon cutting

Last Monday morning, the ribbon cutting was held for the Library's Story Walk at the Yadkin County Park.

Vice-Chairman David Moxley cut the ribbon as members of the Shallow Ford Foundation staff held the ribbon and Commissioner Collins, County staff and staff of the Northwestern Regional Library System look on.



Conferences and Trainings

The Upcoming Dates section below includes several Conferences and meetings that require pre-registration. As a County, we try to be good stewards of County funds and take advantage of early bird registrations, when registration fees are at their lowest point. Most of these registrations, as well as hotel registrations, have cancellation dates to receive full refunds or partial refunds. If these cancellation dates are not met, the registration fees and / or hotel fees are not-refundable.

Attending Conferences and Trainings is beneficial to employees and Commissioners, however, we all need to be cognizant of the costs involved and the commitments to attend once registered.

Please note the early bird registrations in the Upcoming Dates below and ask Tanya about cancellation dates in the event you register and are later not able to attend. Tanya is the point of contact for the Commissioners to register for Conferences and Trainings.

Upcoming Dates

April 8, 5:30pm is an informational update and dinner with the Surry Community College Board of Trustees and Yadkin County Board of Education in the Agricultural & Educational Building Banquet Room. You are invited to attend the SCC Board meeting at 4:00pm as well.

April 19, 8:00am-3:00pm, there will be a joint DSS Board meeting in Greensboro for all NC DSS Boards. Being that Yadkin County is a consolidated county and the Board of Commissioners serves as the DSS Board, all of you are invited to attend. The registration deadline has passed. Chairman Kevin Austin and Commissioner Cliff Collins plan to attend.

NCACC's County Advocacy Days will be held **June 11 & 12** in Raleigh, like last year. It will kick-off with dinner on June 11 at the Raleigh Marriott City Center and June 12 will be the morning advocacy program before heading over to the Legislative Building.

The NACo Annual Conference & Exposition is **July 12-15** in Hillsborough County, Florida. Early bird registration closes **April 16**, so please let Tanya know before that date if you are interested in attending.

The NCACC Annual Conference will be held **August 8-10** in Forsyth County.

EXHIBIT A

Census of Agriculture Profiles	Davie	Surry	Wilkes	Yadkin	NC
Number of farms	594	933	871	754	42,817
% change since 2017	1%	-12%	-7%	-8%	-8%
Land in farms (acres)	74,899	105,791	114,778	98,329	8,128,136
% change since 2017	-3%	-31%	8%	12%	-4%
Average size of farm (acres)	126	113	132	130	190
% change since 2017	-3%	-21%	15%	22%	5%
Market value of products sold (\$)	30,622,000	337,165,000	459,419,000	211,147,000	18,692,574
% change since 2017	14%	47%	37%	51%	45%
Government payments (\$)	172,000	505,000	528,000	838,000	164,646,000
% change since 2017	-38%	5%	554%	71%	53%
Farm-related income (\$)	1,785,000	2,696,000	4,023,000	4,519,000	313,177,000
% change since 2017	8%	-35%	11%	77%	6%
Total farm production expenses (\$)	29,274,000	219,493,000	285,186,000	153,959,000	12,858,711,000
% change since 2017	22%	38%	32%	60%	39%
Net cash farm income (\$)	3,306,000	120,873,000	178,784,000	62,545,000	6,311,687,000
% change since 2017	-31%	60%	46%	34%	57%
Share of sales by type%					
Crops	73%	14%	4%	23%	25%
Livestock, poultry, and products	27%	86%	96%	77%	75%
Land in Farms by Use (acres)					
Cropland	37,640	51,240	38,425	60,812	4,880,656
Pastureland	12,318	20,181	33,150	19,865	845,947
Woodland	21,344	27,184	35,818	13,021	1,839,455
Other	3,597	7,186	7,385	4,631	562,078