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

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

March 28, 2025

FY2026 Budget

Please don't forget to submit your top 5 goals you would like to have considered for next fiscal year.

Also, let me know if you would additional information about topics already discussed or areas we have not touched upon yet.

Departments are working on their zero-based budgets for submission to me by April 4th.

All budget requests are due April 4th in accordance with the budget schedule required by North Carolina General Statutes. The only exception is the Board of Education that has a different statutory deadline, but Yadkin County Schools usually provides their request well in advance of that date.

I have met with a few fire departments to discuss theirs and the two areas needing additional funding are personnel and apparatus.

Federal Cuts Impact

Yadkin County government and citizens are now being impacted by the cuts being made at the Federal level. Human Services Director Jessica Wall provided the following information.

On March 25, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services was notified by the federal government of an abrupt and immediate termination of millions of dollars in federal grant funding. This includes funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). We were advised to pause any spending on this grant immediately, as funds spent or obligations incurred after March 24 may not be reimbursable. Some Local Health Departments may have already spent all their funding and this does not apply. Due to this, NC Department of Public Health issued a Stop Work Order for Agreement Addenda (AAs) 716 and 720 for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 25. This order is being issued due to an unanticipated termination of federal funding. Neither AA has been issued for SFY 26. Yadkin County did not receive funds via AA716 in FY25. We did receive funds via AA720, but have ceased any spending or plans for spending of these funds. The following provides information on the purpose and intent for each of these grant funds:

AA716 CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program - The Local Health Department is to continue activities that focus on removing the barriers to accessing vaccine, increasing vaccine confidence, coordinating COVID-19 vaccine services, and expanding its COVID-19 vaccination program, with an emphasis on reaching high-risk and underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minorities, and all others disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

AA720 CDC Enhancing Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Efforts for Farmworkers - The Local Health Department is to build on routine seasonal influenza and COVID-19 vaccination activities, and expand on partnerships with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics, and/or other community health centers or partners that focus on livestock, dairy, and poultry farmworker health. This work will reduce the risk of seasonal respiratory illness for workers in these settings, reduce barriers/increase vaccination uptake in a population with lower vaccination rates than the general public, reduce the strain on rural health care providers in treating severe illness in the coming season when other respiratory viruses are also circulating, and reduce the likelihood of coinfection with seasonal and novel influenza viruses. At the time of the stop work order, there was \$8,975 remaining on this AA.

Remote Work

The NCACC has been tracking the use of remote workers since 2020. They have prepared a one-page report on remote working by county with the differences in 2023 vs. 2020. I will note that while some local governments utilize remote workers, Yadkin County does not on a permanent basis. This report is not local government specific. The report is in Exhibit A.

Vacancy Report

There are currently 23 vacancies throughout County departments. There are 9 vacancies in Human Services (all in the DSS Division), 5 within the Sheriff's Office (4 Patrol and 1 Detention), 4 in Emergency Services, one each in the Animal Shelter, Elections, Finance, Information Technology and Tax. Of these positions 18 have been vacant over 30 days and 9 have been vacant for over 100 days, 4 of which have been vacant over 200 days.

Rural Summit

Over 600 people attended the NC Rural Center's Rural Summit last week in Raleigh. Our panel presentation on the Mama Jewell ChildPlex was attended by over 60 people from across North Carolina. Access to quality and affordable child care continues to be a major issue for employers, businesses and families. People who attended our session were from local governments, businesses, philanthropy, educational institutions and child care partners. Hopefully, they will help us obtain funding to begin construction. A request is also being made to the General Assembly for funding.

I-Pads

If you would like to be able to save documents on your I-Pad, you can use the files app on your I-Pad or you can use OneDrive. If you would like assistance from IT on learning how to do this, please see Steven.

Salute to Heroes

Do you know someone who has saved a life, demonstrated extraordinary courage or exemplifies outstanding humanitarian values? If so, please nominate that person for Salute to Heroes and help the American Red Cross honor our community heroes. Nominees must live, work or attend school in Alamance, Caswell, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry or Yadkin counties. Nominations close April 30, 2025.

Upcoming Dates

March 31st is a meeting with the Board of Education and Budget 101 following the meeting.

April 7th at 5:00pm is the Cooperative Extension Report to the People. We need to RSVP by April 4th.

April 14th at 5pm a joint Board meeting will be held with the Board of Education and the Surry Community College Board of Trustees. Dinner will be provided.

May 7th, 5:30pm-7:30pm, NCACC District 18 meeting at Forsyth County Cooperative Extension.

The School of Government has a webinar coming up that you may be interested in. Please let Tanya know if you are interested in any of these or any other training.

April 2: Fiduciary Responsibilities of Local Elected Officials Online



North Carolina Counties: Remote Workers

Remote work has surged across North Carolina, with rates of remote work **increasing in 96 of 100 counties** between 2020 and 2023.

The share of remote workers ranges from 26% in Wake County to just 1.3% in Graham County, reflecting the significant variation in county economies across the state.



This data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, which asked how workers primarily commute each week. The rates below show workers who worked remotely at least most of the time.

Share of Workers Who Reported Primarily Working Remotely: 2023 vs. 2020

County	2023	2020	County	2023	2020	County	2023	2020
Alamance	9.2%	4.4%	Franklin	10.3%	5.6%	Pamlico	10.7%	5.7%
Alexander	5.4%	4.1%	Gaston	10.3%	4.4%	Pasquotank	8.5%	4.8%
Alleghany	8.5%	6.7%	Gates	3.3%	2.0%	Pender	11.4%	7.5%
Anson	6.2%	2.4%	Graham	1.3%	3.8%	Perquimans	6.6%	3.5%
Ashe	9.4%	5.9%	Granville	11.2%	6.0%	Person	11.6%	6.2%
Avery	7.0%	5.0%	Greene	3.7%	2.6%	Pitt	11.0%	6.4%
Beaufort	8.7%	5.5%	Guilford	12.1%	6.7%	Polk	12.1%	8.8%
Bertie	3.7%	2.1%	Halifax	7.2%	4.3%	Randolph	6.3%	4.0%
Bladen	6.2%	4.1%	Harnett	7.0%	3.6%	Richmond	2.7%	1.9%
Brunswick	12.7%	7.9%	Haywood	7.7%	3.9%	Robeson	3.8%	2.5%
Buncombe	16.2%	11.4%	Henderson	9.2%	7.4%	Rockingham	5.0%	3.6%
Burke	5.4%	4.1%	Hertford	4.6%	2.0%	Rowan	7.8%	4.2%
Cabarrus	15.8%	8.6%	Hoke	6.2%	4.8%	Rutherford	6.7%	3.8%
Caldwell	6.3%	4.0%	Hyde	1.6%	5.8%	Sampson	4.5%	3.1%
Camden	12.7%	5.4%	Iredell	13.5%	8.2%	Scotland	4.4%	3.2%
Carteret	10.3%	5.1%	Jackson	6.0%	5.4%	Stanly	7.7%	4.4%
Caswell	6.6%	2.4%	Johnston	13.1%	7.1%	Stokes	6.5%	3.2%
Catawba	7.5%	4.3%	Jones	2.3%	3.1%	Surry	5.5%	2.9%
Chatham	20.1%	12.3%	Lee	5.7%	2.8%	Swain	5.4%	5.9%
Cherokee	10.7%	8.5%	Lenoir	2.9%	1.7%	Transylvania	10.7%	8.0%
Chowan	5.9%	5.5%	Lincoln	12.0%	5.8%	Tyrrell	8.9%	3.9%
Clay	7.5%	4.3%	Macon	7.0%	3.9%	Union	18.0%	10.2%
Cleveland	6.2%	2.9%	Madison	11.5%	9.9%	Vance	9.2%	6.0%
Columbus	4.8%	2.4%	Martin	6.5%	3.4%	Wake	26.0%	13.3%
Craven	6.8%	4.4%	McDowell	5.3%	4.1%	Warren	8.9%	2.4%
Cumberland	6.5%	4.4%	Mecklenburg	25.5%	11.9%	Washington	5.0%	4.6%
Currituck	8.3%	4.8%	Mitchell	6.9%	3.5%	Watauga	9.6%	8.3%
Dare	14.3%	8.8%	Montgomery	5.7%	1.6%	Wayne	4.0%	3.0%
Davidson	8.8%	5.2%	Moore	11.4%	7.6%	Wilkes	8.1%	5.2%
Davie	7.3%	5.2%	Nash	9.6%	4.3%	Wilson	6.5%	2.6%
Duplin	5.4%	3.7%	New Hanover	17.8%	10.5%	Yadkin	5.8%	4.4%
Durham	20.2%	9.4%	Northampton	6.2%	3.0%	Yancey	8.7%	6.4%
Edgecombe	8.0%	2.8%	Onslow	10.9%	4.6%			
Forsyth	12.6%	6.6%	Orange	24.2%	13.8%	Statewide	14.5%	7.7%