

*David Moxley, Chairman of Board
Frank Zachary, Vice Chairman
Cliff Collins, Commissioner
Ricky Oliver, Commissioner
Tim Parks, Commissioner*



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

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

April 11, 2025

FY2026 Budget

Budget requests were due last Friday. Without detailed review, General Fund requested expenditures exceed revenues by approximately \$8,000,000. Needless to say, not all of the requests can be funded. Lindsey and I will start taking a hard look at revenues next week.

The Board of Education a statutory deadline of May 15th, but they have their final budget work session next week. I have put in an estimated number for now to work with until I receive their final request.

I have received funding requests from 9 of the 10 fire departments and the rescue squad. As usual, most of their increases are in personnel and apparatus.

My goal is present the Recommended Budget to the Board on May 5th and schedule budget work session(s) for the Board after that date.

General Assembly

HB219, the one for Private Ambulance Services that eliminates counties' authority to approve ambulance franchises moved out of Committee this week and appears to be moving forward. I was told earlier this week that bill wasn't going anywhere, but it looks like it may. This is one of the Bills the Board approved a Resolution in opposition to Monday.

Brittany Anderson is reviewing HB765, the one County Attorney Powell mentioned Monday. During our NCACC Managers' call yesterday, this Bill was referred to as "the Big One." We should have information to you early next week concerning the impact of the Bill on us.

Murals

The current Tax Office in the Courthouse has murals that were painted by students from each of the high schools in the County. County staff placed wooden frames around them to have finished pictures. It has been requested that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution that they never be painted over. If this is something the Board would like to consider, please let me know.

The new Magnolia Building has solid walls in each of the lobby areas (Tax Collections and LPA). I have spoken with Anthony Davis about have art students from the high schools paint a mural in each lobby area. Forbush could have one and Starmount one. I plan to schedule a time for the art teachers to view the space for their input.

Vacancy Report

There are currently 21 vacancies throughout County departments. There are 5 vacancies in Human Services (all in the DSS Division), 7 within the Sheriff's Office (5 Patrol and 2 Detention), 4 in Emergency Services, one each in the Animal Shelter, Central Permitting, Elections, Information Technology and Tax. Of these positions 16 have been vacant over 30 days and 7 have been vacant for over 100 days, 5 of which have been vacant over 200 days. One position has been vacant 313 days and is starting to approach the 12-month vacant policy of being eliminated.

AOA Signs Building

The County purchased the building located at 108 Jackson Street several years ago from AOA Signs. Prior to that it was Yadkinville Town Hall. The County needs to establish a formal name for the building. Please be thinking of ideas.

Charters of Freedom

If you have driven on State Street by the Courthouse, you have probably seen the Charters of Freedom being installed. They should be finished in the next 30 days or so. They will also build a monument for the Sanctity of Life Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners. We are making sidewalk improvements as well as lighting improvements to this area.

There are also opportunities for citizens to purchase engraved bricks at the monuments.

Detention Center

Terracon has begun their further assessment of the structural issues at the Detention Center. They have drilled for soil samples through the floors in 6-7 locations within the building. Hopefully, they will have the results soon.

Former Boonville Elementary School Building

Commissioner Collins, Dwayne Stanley, Brock Hall and I toured the former Boonville Elementary School Tuesday. The gym is in pretty good shape, but will definitely need the windows and roof replaced. There is asbestos in the flooring and ceiling and I imagine lead in the paint. The classroom portion is in terrible shape with broken windows, rain damage, etc. The building that we think was the original school was built in 1941 has good bones, but the flooring has settled and would need to be gutted if retained. I have expressed our continued interest to Anthony Davis and the Board of Education would need to decide on a price. North Carolina General Statutes require that we pay fair market value (based upon

an appraisal) or negotiated price. Jeff Adams has provided us with the maintenance records for the buildings, as well as their set of blueprints.

This property would be great for a park that would include ball fields, basketball court, pickleball courts, walking trails, community building, etc. The Boonville Rec Club currently maintains the existing softball field and has applied for a grant to purchase lights for the field. Sarah Harris is the Coordinator for the Club.

FEMA

As of this week, more than \$100,000 has been awarded in Individual Assistance to residents of Yadkin County. Registrations totaling 265 were received, 82 referred to individual assistance and 32 were eligible for housing assistance or other needs' assistance.

In addition, Chris Bolden was contacted by FEMA concerning damage that we could claim due to trees and other debris in the Yadkin River. We had a Teams meeting this week and reviewed the eligible items. Emergency Services also used their drone to survey the Yadkin River and saw the trees that have formed islands in the river. We will discuss other things we can be eligible to include in a claim at the next Department Directors' meeting as other departments may have items they can include.

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

April 14th at 5:30pm a joint Board meeting will be held with the Board of Education and the Surry Community College Board of Trustees. Dinner will be provided.

April 14th at 6:30pm, Special Called Meeting to enter Closed Session to discuss a Personnel Matter.

April 29th, 11:30am-1:00pm, Industry Appreciation Luncheon in the Banquet Room at the Agricultural & Educational Building. RSVP to Tanya or me no later than April 22.

May 7th, 5:30pm-7:30pm, NCACC District 18 meeting at Forsyth County Cooperative Extension. Let Tanya or me know if you plan to attend by May 2.

June 10-11, 2025, NCACC County Advocacy Days in Raleigh. Please let Tanya know if you would like to attend. It starts at 2pm on Tuesday and concludes Wednesday afternoon.