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

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

March 10, 2023

Opioid Funds

Jeff Eads with Partners Behavioral Health made me aware last week that Yadkin County can receive a little over \$70,000 from Partners for Opioid prevention/intervention/treatment intended for harm reduction. We submitted a plan to distribute 350 Harm Reduction Kits through first responders, public health and others deemed appropriate to reduce the number of opioid overdoses and deaths. The kits will contain fentanyl test strips, basic first aid kit, drug disposal pouch, Narcan and Partners Behavioral Health contact information. The request is for \$70,865.55.

FY2024 Budget

Clayton Campbell and Lindsay Cranford presented updated values for us to use in the FY2024 budget. Lindsey and I are working now to update the revenue neutral rate and the estimated property tax revenues. The Budget Retreat – Phase 2 for the Commissioners is scheduled for March 21st at the Moose Lodge at 6pm.

I met with District Ranger, Mark Bost this week concerning the NC Forest Service budget request for FY2024. It is a little over 7% increase in addition to the cost of replacing a new vehicle. We are responsible for 40% of their budget and likewise we will be responsible for 40% of the cost of the new truck. They did tell us last year that this would be the year to replace one of their trucks for the Yadkin Office.

Brooks Crossroads Sewer

According to a press release from the State, Yadkin County has received loan/grant funding for the Brooks Crossroads Sewer Project. It is for the full amount requested of \$4.887 million. I still have not received an official Letter of Intent to Fund from the State. However, we did have a Teams meeting with Michael Goliber and Mike Slusher with Davis, Martin and Powell this morning. There is an extensive report they will have to prepare that is required by the State. Our current contract with them doesn't include this, so they will send me a Contract Amendment to add this. This report should take 3-6 months to complete and then they will resume the design work.

Vehicles

Two vehicles that were ordered through our Enterprise Lease Agreement last fiscal year finally arrived this week. One goes to Soil & Water and the other to Parks & Recreation. The Sheriff's Office had replaced one of their Animal Control trucks last year and the one they had is now being reassigned to the Animal Shelter to replace their 2008 Ranger that needed the catalytic converter replaced.

Childcare Initiative

Several things are happening on the Childcare Initiative front. A donation of land for the Flex Plex has been made and the architect has already been selected, so now the Shallow Ford Foundation is quickly moving ahead.

Representative Ashton Clemmons and the other members of the Joint Legislative Early Childhood Caucus have been active in the General Assembly. Below is a link to an article in NC Political News and a link to an article/press conference they held.

<https://www.ncpoliticalnews.com/news/joint-legislative-early-childhood-caucus-shares-legislative-priorities>

<https://www.wavy.com/news/north-carolina/proposed-law-could-help-fix-the-approaching-child-care-cliff-in-north-carolina/>

Watershed Dam Improvements Project

Soil & Water held a construction bid opening yesterday for the improvements to the watershed dams that have been funded through a State grant. While there were 7 companies that attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting, none of them submitted a bid. So the RFP will be re-issued and hopefully we will receive at least one.