POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2025 - 5:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Moore, Commissioner Hargett, and Commissioner Melton. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board Freeman, and citizens.

Absent: Commissioner Beiler

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Polk, NC
Sheila Whitmire Register of Deeds
BK 497 PG 10-12

1. Call to Order the Regular Meeting - Chairman Yoder.
2. Invocation – Pastor Todd Fletcher.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Yoder.
4. Approval of Agenda

   A. Items may be added or removed at this time.

   Commissioner Melton moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda

   A. Approval of November 17, 2025, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes

   B. Reschedule the public hearing for proposed new road names to be held at the January 12, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting in the Bryant H. Womack Justice and Administration Building, 40 Courthouse Street, Columbus, NC 28722.

   C. Change January 12, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting to begin at 4:00 PM instead of 5:00 PM.

   D. Tax Refund Requests through December 2, 2025, in the amount of $1,426.60.

   E. Vaya Health Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2025.

   F. Annual Examination and approval of Public Official Bonds as required by § 58-72-20. (Bonds are available for review in the County Manager's Office).

   G. Amendment to Contract to Audit Accounts to extend the audit due date from December 31, 2025, to February 12, 2026, as allowed by the Local Government Commission.

   H. Amendment to the Polk County Purchasing Policy to Update the Informal Bid Threshold in Response to the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance Changes.

I. Budget amendment to adjust budget internally within the Sheriff's Department to ensure all expenses have efficient funds.

Commissioner Melton moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. <u>Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.</u>

There was one citizen comment.

7. <u>Regular Agenda Items</u>

A. Resolution Honoring Sandra Hughes for Her Years of Dedicated Service.

Commissioner Hargett read the Resolution Honoring Sandra Hughes for her Years of Dedicated Service.

Commissioner Melton moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners collectively expressed their gratitude to Mrs. Hughes for her many contributions to Polk County and wished her a well-deserved retirement.

B. Appointment of Sonya Ayers as Chief Finance Officer beginning January 1, 2026.

Clerk to the Board Freeman, administered Mrs. Ayers' Oaths of Office.

Commissioner Melton moved to appoint Sonya Ayers as the Chief Finance Officer beginning January 1, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

C. 911 Grant Approval - Jeremy Gregg, 911 Communications Director.

Mr. Gregg thanked the Board for their continued support of the 911 Communications Center renovation project. He explained that while roof replacement was initially included in the major renovation project, it was postponed due to budgetary constraints. Mr. Gregg reported that Polk County was awarded a $93,000 grant from the North Carolina 911 Board to assist with the roof replacement. He said that a previous estimate placed the project cost at approximately $115,000, and if the Board accepts the grant, updated quotes would be obtained before moving forward.

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to approve acceptance of the $93,000 grant award from the North Carolina 911 Board to assist with the roof replacement at the Polk County 911 Communication Center, and to grant Manager Pittman with signatory authority to execute all related documents, provided the cost remains under $115,000, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Extension of the Polk County Recruitment and Retention Schedule to end June 30, 2026 - Manager Pittman.

Commissioner Hargett moved to approve the extension of the Polk County Recruitment and Retention Schedule, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. County Employee Compensatory Time Discussion & Budget Amendment - Manager Pittman.

Manager Pittman requested a budget amendment to appropriate fund balance for comp-time payout balances greater than one hour as of December 1, 2025.

Commissioner Melton moved to approve the budget amendment, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

F. 2026 Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures, Rules, and Decorum.

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to approve the 2026 Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures, Rules, and Decorum, seconded by Commissioner Melton, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. <u>Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.</u>

There were three citizen comments.

9. <u>Commissioner Comments.</u>

The Commissioners thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

10. <u>Closed Session</u>

A. Motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege.

Commissioner Melton moved to go into Closed Session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion to return to open session.

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Melton, and the motion carried unanimously.

11. <u>Adjournment</u>

Commissioner Hargett moved to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Kennedy Freeman
Clerk to the Board

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Myron Yoder
Chairman