

**BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING AND
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2026
5:00 PM**



**Bryant H. Womack
Justice & Administration
Building
40 Courthouse Street
Columbus, NC 28722**

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1. Public Hearing
 - A. Call to Order the Public Hearing. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comments on proposed new road names in Polk County: Rutherfordton Township: Caeli Way – Private Road – Off of County Line Road South (SR 1155), Saluda Township: Sunny Meadows Lane - Private Road – Off of Fork Creek Road (SR 1100). The notice was properly advertised in the Tryon Daily Bulletin.
 - B. Citizen Comments
 - C. Adjourn Public Hearing
 2. Call to Order the Regular Meeting - Chairman Yoder.
 3. Invocation - Chairman Yoder.
 4. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Melton
 5. Approval of Agenda
 - A. Items may be added or removed at this time.
 6. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of January 12, 2026, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B. Budget Amendment to appropriate \$22,000 of fund balance to the Finance Department.
 - C. Tax refunds in the amount of \$728.74 through the period ending January 23, 2026.
 - D. Resolution Supporting the Development of the Saluda Grade Trail.
 7. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.
 8. Regular Agenda Items

- A. Consideration and approval of the proposed two new road names subsequent to the public hearing: Caeli Way, and Sunny Meadows Lane.
 - B. Polk County 2025 Audit Presentation - Brandi Fesperman, Martin-Starnes & Associates.
 - C. Discussion and Approval of the FY 2026/2027 Budget Calendar - Sonya Ayers, Finance Director.
 - D. National Nutrition Month Proclamation - Gail Dyer, HHSA Senior Nutrition Coordinator; Natalie Trachsel, HHSA Assistant Director.
 - E. Polk County 2026 Senior Games - Julie Tremblay, Senior Center Activities Coordinator. (This item was requested by Commissioner Hargett).
 - F. 2025 Sheriff's Department Annual Report - Sheriff Tim Wright.
 - G. St. Luke's Hospital Community Facilities Grant Agreement - Attorney Berg.
9. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.
10. Volunteer Board Applications
- A. Agricultural Advisory Board - There are three vacancies and one applicant; Sam Arledge.
 - B. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) - There are two vacancies and two applicants; Monica Starr, and Kimberly McDonald.
 - C. Library Board of Trustees - There are four vacancies and two applicants; Linda Greensfelder, and Mary Ratcliffe,
11. Commissioner Comments.
12. Closed Session
- A. Motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege, and Personnel.
 - B. Motion to return to open session.
13. Adjournment