

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
March 6, 2023 - 5:00 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building Columbus, NC
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Melton, Vice-Chairman Yoder, Commissioner Beiler, Commissioner Moore, and Commissioner Overholt. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board Tipton, media, and citizens.

1. Public Hearing

A. Call the Public Hearing to Order - Chairman Melton. The purpose of the public hearing was to take public comment on proposed new road name, Alpine South Drive. The public hearing was properly advertised in the Tryon Daily Bulletin.

B. Citizen Comments.

There were none.

C. Commissioner Comments.

There were none.

D. Adjourn Public Hearing.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Call to Order - Chairman Melton.

3. Invocation - Commissioner Moore.

4. Pledge of Allegiance - Vice-Chairman Yoder.

5. Approval of Agenda

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

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

6. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of February 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. Memorandum of Understanding between Polk County Government and Green Creek Volunteer Fire Rescue, Inc. for E911 backup center.

- C. Schedule a public hearing to consider the proposed Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) for Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There were none.

8. Polk County Digital Inclusion Plan - Isabelle Norman, Lead for North Carolina Fellow, Foothills Regional Commission.

Ms. Norman gave a presentation a copy of which is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. She said the mission of the Digital Inclusion Plan is to improve digital literacy and expand access to reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband in Polk and Rutherford Counties through advocacy, collaboration, and education. In 2022 NC State partnered with Dogwood Health Trust to grant each of North Carolina's 18 westernmost counties \$50,000, and another \$25,000 at the end of the year, for a total of \$75,000. The grant funds are to be used to help guide local stakeholders and support the mission of the Digital Inclusion Plan.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Digital Inclusion Plan, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Human Resource Policy Annual Review / Update - Tommy Oakman, Human Resources Officer.

Mr. Oakman presented the proposed amendments to the Board. A list of the changes are hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the updates, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

10. LUCAS Chest Compression System Demonstration and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update - Michael Crater, EMS Director (This item was added at the request of Commissioner Moore)

Michael Crater and Jason Wilson performed a demonstration of the LUCAS Chest Compression System on a Manikin while explaining the benefits of the hands free device.

11. US Census Bureau Count Review Request - Cathy Ruth, Planning/Economic Development Director.

Cathy Ruth presented the proposed letter to the Board and explained the importance of having a correct census count. She went on to thank the employees and departments that helped complete the task. Ms. Ruth's

presentation is also hereby included in these minutes by reference.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve and send count review request to the US Census Bureau, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Polk County Farmers Market Policies and Procedures Changes - Dawn Jordan, Agricultural Economic Development Director.

Dawn Jordan presented the proposed Farmers Market Policies and Procedures to the Board. She said past policies did include vendor fees but for the past 4 years the fees have been waived. She stated that the proposed fees are, \$5 for a day or \$100 for the season and funds received would be used to support the farmers market. She said her department offers a lot of marketing for the vendors including social media posts, a newsletter with 1,800 subscribers, signs, and banners along with other services and support. The commissioners deliberated on the pros and cons of the proposed fees.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the fees as \$5 a day or \$50 for the season, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion failed.

Ayes: Beiler, Moore

Nays: Melton, Overholt, Yoder

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve the fees as proposed, \$5 a day or \$100 per season, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion passed.

Ayes: Melton, Overholt, Yoder

Nays: Beiler, Moore

13. New Polk County Road Name - Alpine South Drive (Private Road off SR1004) in Green Creek Township - Attorney Berg.

Commissioner Overholt moved to approve the road name as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There were none.

15. Volunteer Board Application(s)

- A. Applications for Consideration: Kirk Bowden, Joshua Collier, Meredith Garrett, Adrienne Reilly, Paula Powell, and Tonya Walls - Equalization & Review Board.

Commissioner Moore moved to appoint Kirk Bowden, Meredith Garrett, Adrienne Reilly, Paula Powell, and Tonya Walls as regular members on the Equalization & Review Board and appointed Joshua Collier as an alternate, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Overholt moved to appoint Paula Powell as the Chairperson for

the Equalization and Review Board, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

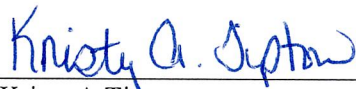
The Commissioners collectively thanked the citizens and department heads in attendance.

17. Adjournment

Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS



Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board



Tommy W. Melton
Chairman