

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
April 3, 2023 - 5:00 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building
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. Call to Order - Chairman Melton.
2. Invocation - Commissioner Beiler.
3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Overholt.
4. Approval of Agenda
 - A. Items may be added or removed at this time.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Consent Agenda - Motion to approve Consent Agenda.
 - A. Approval of March 20, 2023 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B. Amended Grant Project Budget Ordinance to allocate \$250,000 ARPA Revenue Replacement Funds for the Department of Information Technology (DIT) approved broadband project with Charter.
 - C. Polk County Recruitment and Retention Resolution Extension.
 - D. Tax Refund Request in the amount of \$739.07.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There were none.
7. Field Representative for US Congressman Chuck Edwards - Tommy Laughter.

Manager Pittman said Tommy Laughter, Field Representative for Senator Chuck Edwards was unable to attend. However, Mr. Laughter will be in the mobile office in Polk County the third Tuesday of every month, from 9:30 am - 11:30 am at various locations.

8. Proclamation to declare April 2023 as Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month - Kim Wilson, Senior Program Manager Polk County Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services.

Kim Wilson read the proposed proclamation and requested that April 2023 be declared Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

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

9. 2022 Uncollected (Delinquent) Tax Report - Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator.

Mrs. O'Loughlin said as of February 28, 2023 the uncollected tax amount was \$1,175,447.27 at a collection rate of 92.8%.

Commissioner Overholt moved to charge the Tax Administrator to advertise and collect the 2022 unpaid taxes by any and all means, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Tax Refund Request Discussion - Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator.

Mrs. O'Loughlin presented two tax refund requests. She said both refunds are due to clerical errors that resulted in double billing. She also presented a request to release rollback taxes.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve the tax refund requests, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Moore moved to release rollback taxes as requested, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

11. 2025 Tax Revaluation Discussion - Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator and Brandon Highsmith, Operations Supervisor.

As Mrs. O'Loughlin explained the 2025 Tax Revaluation process, said he type of revaluation to be conducted would be a street view in conjunction with desktop reviews using GIS and Google Earth, and not a full walk around. She said property values may change and values are driven by sales. She said a change in property value does not necessarily mean an increase in the tax bill. The state requires the revenue neutral rate be included in the proposed budget submitted by the finance officer to the governing board for comparison purposes in reappraisal years. The revenue neutral rate must be published but need not be adopted. The revaluation process for 2025 will begin July 2023, the new property values would go into effect January 1, 2025 and notices would be mailed out February 2025.

12. Interlocal Agreement between Town of Tryon and Polk County for Fire Safety Services - Bobby Arledge, Emergency Management Director.

Manager Pittman said the Municipalities have requested Polk County to conduct their Fire Inspections for a fee of \$50 per inspection. He said included in the meeting packet was an interlocal agreement form the Town of Tryon which their Board has already approved. He expects similar agreements from the Town of Columbus and the City of Saluda in the near future.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the interlocal agreement as presented, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

13. Addendum to 2017 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Polk County E-911 Communications and Rutherford County E-911 Communications - Attorney Berg.

Attorney Berg presented the addendum to the 2017 MOU between Polk County E-911 Communications and Rutherford County E-911 Communications. She said this is an extension of the current MOU agreeing either party would be back up for the other in the case of a mass casualty event, outage, or other type of emergency.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve the addendum to the 2017 MOU, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There was one comment on non-agenda items.

15. Volunteer Board Application(s)

- A. Applications for Consideration: Carolyn Baughman, Library Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the applicant as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

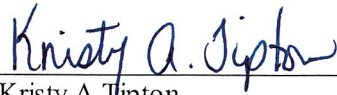
The Commissioner each thanked the public for attending. Chairman Melton reminded everyone that this was the only meeting in April, the next meeting would be May 1, 2023.

17. Adjournment

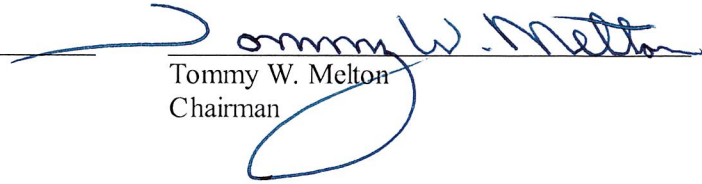
Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS



Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board



Tommy W. Melton
Chairman