

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
September 18, 2023 - 5:00 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Melton, Vice-Chairman Yoder, Commissioner Beiler, and Commissioner Moore. Commissioner Overholt participated remotely. Also in attendance were Attorney Berg, Temporary Acting Clerk to the Board Ange' High, media, and citizens. Manager Pittman was absent.

1. Public Hearing

A. Call Public Hearing to Order - Chairman Melton. The purpose of the public hearing was to take comments on the FY 2025 Polk County Transportation Authority (PCTA) 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307, and applicable State Funding, or combination thereof, Community Transportation Grants. The public hearing was properly advertised in the Tryon Daily Bulletin. Bill Crisp PCTA Manager was present. A complete copy of the grant application was available for review upon request.

B. Citizen Comments.

There were none.

C. Commissioner Comments.

There were none.

D. Adjourn Public Hearing.

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

2. Call to Order - Chairman Melton.

A. Appoint Ange' High as Temporary Acting Clerk in the absence of Clerk Tipton.

Commissioner Beiler moved to appoint Ange' High as the Temporary Acting Clerk due to Clerk Tiptons absence, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Invocation - Vice-Chairman Yoder.

4. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Belier.

5. Approval of Agenda

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

Attorney Berg requested amending the agenda to temporarily suspend the Board's meeting rules of procedure to allow remote participation for this meeting only.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve to amend the agenda by adding a temporary suspension of the meeting rules of procedure to allow remote participation for this meeting, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

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

6. Consent Agenda - Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of September 5, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. Re-appoint Scott Woodworth to the Jury Commission as required in § 9-1.

C. Sheriffs Department Monthly Activity Report for August 2023.

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

7. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There were none.

8. Polk County Schools - Brandon Schweitzer, Ed. D., Director of Operations.

Brandon Schweitzer, Director of Operations for Polk County Schools, provided an update on the project's progress, affirming that it remains on schedule. He noted that there has been only one change order initiated by the School with the purpose of enhancing the building's access road.

Mr. Schweitzer then formally requested approval of the third distribution payment.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to approve the distribution payment request, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

9. FY 2025 PCTA Grants & Resolution - To consider approval of 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 and applicable State Funding Community Transit Grants subsequent to the public hearing.

Bill Crisp, PCTA Manager, presented the FY 2025 grant information. He said is included administration costs and the replacement of three vehicles.

Commissioner Moore moved to adopt the resolution and submit the FY 2025 grant application, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried

unanimously.

10. Travel and Tourism Update - Melinda Massey, Travel and Tourism Director.

Melinda Massey, Travel and Tourism Director, presented the revised Visitor Guide and Map. Ms. Massey provided a comprehensive overview of the brochure, highlighting its content and detailing the various services offered by her department to both residents and visitors alike. She also extended an invitation to all attendees to explore their department's website at www.firstpeaknc.com for further information and resources.

11. Property Tax Revaluation Update - Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator.

Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator, provided a detailed overview of the 2025 property revaluation timeline from October 2023 to September 2024. She began by outlining the initial step, which involves data collection conducted by appraisers. She explained that the data collection phase will commence in October and involve a method known as "curb reviews." The appraisers will capture photographic documentation of properties within Polk County from their vehicles rather than conducting a comprehensive on-foot inspection of each assessed structure.

Mrs. O'Loughlin said she would present the recommended schedule of values compiled from the appraiser's information to the Board of Commissioners for their review and noted that a public hearing would be scheduled prior to the adoption of these values to ensure transparency and community involvement in the process. She encouraged anyone with questions about the revaluation to contact the Tax Office.

Chairman Melton requested articles from the media to ensure the public is aware of the process.

12. Radio Tower Update - Jeremy Gregg, Director Polk County E-911 Communications.

Jeremy Gregg, Communications Director, reported that the collaborative radio tower project with Henderson County successfully went live in June of this year. He highlighted that implementing these towers has led to substantial enhancements in public safety services across most of our county.

Mr. Gregg also noted that a specific area that may require further attention is within the City of Saluda. He said the stakeholders have initiated discussions to explore potential solutions and options to address the communication needs in this region.

13. NCDOT Prioritization 7 Resolution (The information was presented at the July 24, 2023 Regular Meeting).

Attorney Berg read the resolution. Commissioner Moore moved to approve the NCDOT Prioritization 7 Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the

motion carried unanimously.

14. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There were none.

15. Volunteer Board Application(s)

- A. Applications for consideration: Nigel Stroud - Town of Tryon Planning Board, Alternate ETJ Applicant.

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

16. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

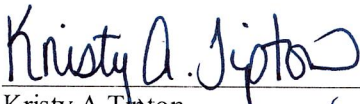
The Commissioners thanked all in attendance.

17. Adjournment

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

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS



Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board



Tommy W. Melton
Chairman