



Caldwell County
North Carolina
Board of Commissioners Meeting

February 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM
City-County Chambers
905 West Avenue NW, Lenoir

MINUTES

Attendance:

Randy Church, Chairman
Mike LaBrose, Vice Chairman
Jeff Branch, Commissioner
Donnie Potter, Commissioner
Robbie Wilkie, Commissioner
David Lackey, County Attorney
Donald Duncan, County Manager
Abby Rich, County Clerk

Call to Order

Chairman Randy Church called the February 13th, 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Public Comment Period

There were no individuals signed up for public comment.

Invocation

Chairman Church introduced Pastor Rob Hinman of Lenoir Presbyterian Church to lead the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Jeff Branch led the Pledge of Allegiance for those in attendance.

Agenda Amendments from the Board, Manager & Public

The County Manager informed the Board that there was one amendment to the agenda. This is Item 22- The Reappointment of Bruce Roberts to the Airport Authority.

Vice-Chairman LaBrose made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented by the County Manager.

The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Items

1. Honoring Black History Month

County Manager, Donald Duncan read the Proclamation Honoring Black History Month.

Commissioner Potter made the motion to approve the proclamation.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Health Department 2022 Annual Report

Health Director Anna Martin came to the podium to present information to the Board for the 2022 Annual Report. Ms. Martin provided information from the various departments of the Health Department, including Vital Records, Dental, Clinical and Community Services, Lab and Communicable Diseases, and Environmental Health. The Board thanked Ms. Martin for her hard work and for providing the report.

3. Advertisement of 2022 Delinquent Tax Liens for Real Property

Tax administrator, Josh Angle came before the Board to report on the number of outstanding taxes. As of February 13th, 2023, there are 5197 outstanding accounts. The sum of these accounts is \$2,523,813.89. Mr. Angle requested permission to advertise the 2022 property tax liens.

Commissioner Wilkie made the motion to approve the request to advertise the 2022 delinquent tax liens.

The motion was carried unanimously.

4. Caldwell County Emergency Services 2022 Annual Report

Emergency Services Chief Dino DiBernardi came before the Board to present the Annual report for 2022. Chief DiBernardi went through the key statistics for the annual report, outlining the work completed by various departments in Emergency Services, including EMS, Telecommunications, R.E.S.T.A.R.T., Special Operations Division, Community Paramedics, Emergency Management, Safety Division, and Fire Division.

Chairman Church thanked Chief DiBernardi for how thorough the report was. Chairman Church stated that he encourages the citizens of Caldwell County to explore what the Emergency Services Department is doing.

Consent

Chairman Church turned the meeting over to the County Manager to present the Consent Agenda to the Board.

- 5. Resolution Authorizing the Conveyance of Property to a Non-Profit Organization**
Three vehicles that are no longer being utilized by Caldwell County will be sold to nonprofit fire departments for \$1. Valmead Fire Department and Kings Creek Fire Department will both receive a Ford Explorer and Hudson Fire Department will receive a Ford Ranger.
- 6. Purchase of Emergency Management Equipment Using State Grant Funds**
This grant was previously awarded and the funds need to be carried over from the last fiscal year to the current fiscal year for a purchase of equipment in the amount of \$15,873.00.
- 7. Allowance of Unspent RESTART Grant Funds to be Spent in the New Fiscal Year**
The revision allows \$39,747 of unspent grant funds from the previous fiscal year to be spent in the current fiscal year.
- 8. Replacement of Boiler for the Public Library**
This revision uses \$106,765.00 of ARP revenue replacement funds to purchase a new boiler for the Public Library in Lenoir.
- 9. Agreement for Code Hosting Services Provided by General Code**
After reviewing the prices for other competitors, General Code was chosen by the County Clerk, Abby Rich, to host our code services. ARP revenue replacement funds will be used to fund the cost of the agreement in the amount of \$7,424.00.
- 10. Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program Application**
Waste Management Education Specialist, Mallory Keller, is submitting an application for the Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant.
- 11. Use of State Controlled Substance Funding to Increase Sheriff's Office Investigative Funds**
An increase in the amount of \$40,000.00 is being made to the Sheriff's Office Investigative funds. This increase is funded by State Controlled Substance Funding.
- 12. SCIF Funds Awarded to Register of Deeds to be Used for Record Restoration**
\$2,166 was award to the Register of Deeds Office to be used for record restoration.
- 13. Audit Contract for Fiscal Year 2022-2023**
This audit contract will retain Martin, Starnes, and Associates to conduct the audit at the end of the 2023 fiscal year.
- 14. Increased Service Costs and New Hire for Finance Department**
A new hire will train with an existing employee who is leaving at the end of the fiscal year. The estimated cost of this hire is \$30,000. An additional amount of funds in the amount of \$5,000 is needed for professional fees as well. There was an increase in service costs incurred by new GASB 96 requirements. This budget increase will be funded by an appropriation of fund balance that uses local tax dollars.
- 15. Health Dept Purchase of Tiger Connect with Approved Grant Funds**
Tiger Connect will be purchased using grant funding from the state. The software is a Hi-Trust Certified and HIPPA Compliant text messaging program that allows communication between patients and health department staff. The cost will be \$468.00

per month for 60 months, a one-time fee of \$500.00, and will total to be \$29,000.00.

16. **Health Department Funding to Battle Tuberculosis**
This grant will allow the Health Department to spend \$2,070.00 to fight Tuberculosis.
17. **Additional State Funding for DSS Crisis Intervention Program**
An additional \$75,000 are anticipated to be provided by the state and will be used to assist individuals with utility costs in emergency situations.
18. **Appointment of 2023 Equalization & Review Board**
The Tax Department is requesting the appointment of 9 members to the 2023 Board of Equalization and Review. David Waechter is appointed at the chair; and there will be 5 members and 4 alternates. The members appointed are Thomas (Larry) Andrews, Reba Barlow, Phil Case, Phyllis Mitchell, Wayne Parson, Bob Price, Manning (Bill) Puette, Barbara Teague, and G. David Waechter.
19. **Appointment of Kristy Money to the Caldwell County Council on Aging**
Kristy Money was appointed to the Caldwell County Council on Aging.
20. **Appointment of Micah Kelly as a Plat Review Officer**
Micah Kelly was appointed as a Plat Review Officer.
21. **Approval of January 9th Meeting Minutes**
22. **Reappointment of Bruce Roberts to the Airport Authority**
Bruce Roberts was reappointed to the Airport Authority.

Adjourn

There were no questions or discussion.

Vice-Chairman LaBrose made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as advertised by the County Manager.

The motion carried unanimously.

With there being no more business to attend to, Commissioner Potter made the motion to adjourn at 6:46 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation

Board of Commissioners for Caldwell County **A Proclamation in Honor of Black History Month**

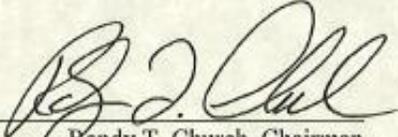
WHEREAS, in 1926 Carter G. Woodson created "Negro History Week" in order to honor the successes of African Americans and to show appreciation for the many ways that African Americans have helped to shape the Nation's history; and,

WHEREAS, fifty years after the first "Negro History Week", in 1976, President Gerald R. Ford officially declared the month of February as Black History Month; and,

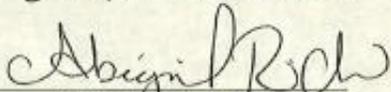
WHEREAS, the 2023 Black History Month theme is Black Resistance, highlighting the strength that African Americans have shown when faced with oppression; and,

WHEREAS, Caldwell County recognizes the month of February as a time to honor the contributions made by African Americans to our Nation and our County; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED THAT, the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners proudly recognizes the month of February 2023, as Black History Month and encourages its citizens and employees to engage in Black History Month activities held throughout Caldwell County.



Randy T. Church, Chairman



Attest: Abigail Rich, Clerk

RESOLUTION
01-23



**Resolution Approving Conveyance of
Property to a Nonprofit Organization
Pursuant to G.S. 160A-279**

WHEREAS, the Caldwell County owns personal property in the form of automobiles

- A) Explorer Interceptor, VIN # 1FM5K8AR7FGC68700
 - B) Explorer Interceptor, VIN # 1FM5K8AR8FGC68706
 - C) 4WD Ranger extended cab pickup; VIN # 1FTLR4FE0BPBO6102
- and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §160A-279 authorizes a county to convey real or personal property by private sale to a nonprofit corporation if the city or county is authorized by law to appropriate money to the corporation; and

WHEREAS, Caldwell County agrees to convey these personal properties for the sum of \$1.00 each to A) Kings Creek Volunteer Fire Department, B) Valmead Volunteer Fire Department, and C) Hudson Volunteer Fire Department, for the intended public use of this property in the service of all Caldwell County citizens; and

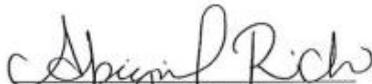
WHEREAS, if these personal property items are to be sold or otherwise disposed of, all proceeds are remitted back to Caldwell County, or the vehicle may be returned and disposed of by the County.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVE THAT:

- 1) The County Manager is authorized to execute all documents necessary to convey title to aforementioned personal property, with the caveat that any proceeds generated from sale be returned.
- 2) The County clerk shall publish a notice summarizing the contents of this resolution.

Adopted this the 13th day of FEB, 2023

Attest:


Abigail Rich, County Clerk


Randy T. Church, Chairman

**THIS PAGE LEFT
BLANK**