

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
 )

OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH  
CAROLINA  
MONDAY JUNE 9, 2025

**Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.  
These meetings are located in the Commissioners  
Chambers in the Ronald Reagan Administration Building  
in Danbury.**

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a Regular Meeting in the Stokes County Administration Building in the Commissioners Chambers located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Board of Commissioners Present: Chairman Keith Wood, Vice-Chairman Wayne Barneycastle, Commissioner Brad Chandler, Commissioner Sonya Cox, and Commissioner Rick Morris.

County Administration Present: County Manager Jeff Sanborn, Assistant County Manager Amber Brown, Clerk to the Board Olivia Jessup, Director of Finance Tammy Keaton, and Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Michaud.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION**

Chairman Wood invited those in attendance to join the Board in the Invocation, if desired.

Commissioner Morris delivered the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Wood invited those in attendance to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to amend or approve tonight's agenda.

Clerk to the Board, Olivia Jessup, noted three amendments to the agenda:

- The minutes for the Public Hearing on May 27, 2025, were incorrectly uploaded. This was corrected before the meeting.
- Sherry Smith's application for the Animal Control Advisory Board was incorrectly labeled as At-Large rather than Animal Advocacy Organization Member. This was corrected before the meeting.
- Linda Hartgrove Mabe requested to move her Animal Control Advisory Board application from Animal Advocacy Organization Member to At-Large. This was corrected before the meeting.

Commissioner Chandler moved to approve the agenda as amended.

Vice-Chairman Barneycastle seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

### **Public Comments**

Chairman Wood opened the floor for public comments at 6:04 pm.

The following individuals signed up to speak in public comments:

Angie Gamble  
1025 Brookridge Drive  
Walnut Cove, NC  
RE: Animal Control Advisory Board  
Yielded time to Candis Loy.

Candis Loy  
1108 Still Meadows Lane  
King, NC  
RE: Animal Control Advisory Board

Mary Burton  
235 Winfield Drive  
King, NC  
RE: Animal Control

Kathleen Edwards  
1776 Rogers Road  
Mount Airy, NC  
RE: Animal Control

Katie Tedder  
1282 Coy Hall Road  
King, NC  
RE: Chief Tedder Rescue Foundation

Chairman Wood closed the floor for public comments at 6:25 pm.

### **COMMENTS - Managers/Commissioners**

Chairman Wood opened the floor for comments from the manager and commissioners. •

Commissioner Cox commented:

- Thank you for being here and your attendance and participation in this meeting today. We have stuff that coming up that I'll hold my comments for when it's time. But just thank you all for being here and for your participation.

Vice-Chairman Barneycastle commented:

- It's great to see everybody this afternoon, glad the Lord blessed another beautiful day. Just to kind of touch on what Kate just presented, probably the greatest thing that I've seen in a long time. When you go to somebody's house and just take that phone and I scan that QR code, and it gives me their name, date of birth, doctor, what they diagnosed, and medication. Every bit is on there, we don't have to ask the family members nothing. And I think it'll be a great thing for a lot of our elderly people across this county, disabled people. And I just hope it just takes off and goes again.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- I'd like to welcome everybody and thank everybody for the comments that you provided us tonight. Also, Katie, I'm really interested in what you're doing there, too. I'd like to talk to you about it at a later time.

Commissioner Chandler commented:

- Welcome everybody. Good to see the room crowded again. It's kind of way it should be every meeting with the citizens, the residents of Stokes County, becoming involved and sharing your opinions and sharing your wisdom with the Board.
- I know with Katie, it's devastating. I'm so sorry. You know, with the loss of your husband, and I know that, if anything, there will be good that will come out of it, just from what a couple times I've spoken to you, and then what you're saying up here and with Commissioner Barney Castle, so sometimes with when things go kind of you question why your loved one was taken The way it was taken, taken away from you, and at least there will be a good, goodness part of it that will benefit a lot of lot of people. And I know that all you know definitely support 100% what you want to do. Moving forward, speaking of experience, it won't get easier, but moving forward for the betterment of the community, where it'll, it'll kind of soothe some of that pain.
- The people that were up here talking about the advisory board. I hear you. I guess maybe we'll have a few more comments when the discussions come up for the

nominations. But trust me, and I speak for myself, but I'm going to make sure that there's a well-represented group of people that have all have varied opinions. But the one thing that I think that you know has to be common is that we also listen to one another too. We can't just be talk, talk, talk. Everyone has to listen too, and on my end, that's my criteria that I'm going to be evaluating. Thank you.

County Manager Jeff Sanborn commented:

- Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to observe that our first annual resident survey was mailed out from the ETC Institute on May 30 and from Kansas. So, I expect they should have been arriving in mailboxes sometime last week. Not everybody will have received that survey because it's intended to be a representative sample, but for folks that are here, for folks that are listening online, if you got it and you have questions about its legitimacy, it is the real deal, and we sure would like to hear what you have to say.

Assistant County Manager Amber Brown commented:

- Just welcome everybody, and I appreciate all your public comments.

Clerk to the Board Olivia Jessup had no comment.

Chairman Wood commented:

- Welcome everybody. I'm glad, I'm glad y'all made it too. We appreciate y'all being concerned about all the issues. Katie, just let me or Amber or Olivia know and we will put you on the agenda when you're ready.
- Real quick as I come up the road to come in here, I got hit with the announcement I need to make. July 19, the seniors can get free over the counter drugs and medical supplies at Poplar Springs Church in King from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. I think you have to pre sign up. At Walnut Cove Senior Center Tomorrow at 10:30 am you can sign up there and then at Lawsonville at the old Ruritan Club, where the old fire department was. That's June the 18th, at 11:30 am. If you got any questions, I'm sure our senior centers can help, but it's it's pretty cool.

### **Conflicts Of Interest**

Chairman Wood asked if any Board member had a conflict of interest with any of the items of the agenda for tonight or one that could be perceived as a conflict of interest.

No conflicts of interest were stated by the Board.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

**Budget Amendment**

**Minutes**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the below:

- Budget Amendment
- Minutes

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Chandler seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

### **Recognition of Ronnie Mendenhall**

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Commissioner Cox to recognize Ronnie Mendenhall.

Commissioner Cox led the recognition of former County Commissioner Mendenhall, who was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame North Carolina Chapter on May 18th, 2025.

Commissioner Cox read a short biography of Mendenhall's accomplishments, then turned over the floor. Mendenhall thanked those that had come out to support him as well as recognized the other inductees.

The Commissioners and County Administration congratulated Mendenhall for his accolades in the area of wrestling and to Stokes County.

### **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

### **Cell Tower Rezoning Request**

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Planning and Zoning Director, Eric Nance to present Cell Tower Rezoning Request.

Nance presented the by applicant The Towers, LLC d/b/a Vertical Bridge to rezone a 100'x100' Lot from 16.23 +/- acres from Residential Agricultural (RA) to Residential Agricultural Conditional Zoning (RA-CZ) at US -NC 5289 E Pinnacle, listed as Stokes County Parcels (599404539560). This request is to build a 195' monopole cellular telecommunications tower in order to address the gap in cellular coverage in the area for Stokes County Citizens. It had been passed unanimously by the Planning Board.

Nance turned the floor over to Ralph Wyngarden, who spoke on behalf of the applicant to ensure the Board that the proper requirements and standards had been met.

After some discussion, the item was moved to the Action Agenda for tonight's meeting.

### **ACAB Applications**

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Clerk to the Board, Olivia Jessup to present Animal Control Advisory Board applications.

At the last Board Meeting, it was decided to create a new Animal Control Advisory Board. Applications for At-Large Members and the Animal Advocacy Organization Member were made available on the County Website and accepted until June 6th.

The following applications were received:

At Large Member:

Edith Bennett  
Karen Condon  
Gerald Conrad  
Glenn Knox  
Linda Hartgrove Mabe  
Heather Miller  
Mark Pendleton  
Ellen Peric  
Ken Sevier  
Shannon Shaver

Animal Advocacy Organization Member:

Sherry Smith

Health Director Member:

Tammy Martin

After some discussion about evaluation factors and how long applications could continue to come in, the Board nominated all applications listed and moved the item to the Action Agenda for the next meeting.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

### **Board of Health Reappointments**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to reappoint the members as presented.

The Board was polled. All stated Kiser, Osteen, and Jarvis. The motion Passed.

### **Approval of FY 25/26 Budget**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to approve the item as presented.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the FY 25/26 Budget.

Commissioner Chandler seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

### **Cell Tower Rezoning Request**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to approve the item as presented.

Commissioner Chandler moved to approve Cell Tower Rezoning Request.

Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to enter closed session at 7:12 pm.

Commissioner Chandler moved to go into closed session for the following rationales:

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Vice-Chairman Barneycastle seconded the motion.

With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered closed session.

### **Adjournment**

The Board reentered open session.

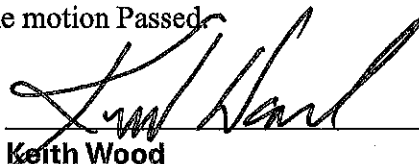
Chairman Wood entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Cox moved to adjourn at 7:43 pm.

Vice-Chairman Barneycastle seconded. The motion Passed.



**Olivia Jessup**  
**Clerk to the Board**



**Keith Wood**  
**Chair**