

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
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OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY
GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH
CAROLINA
MONDAY AUGUST 25, 2025

Regular Meeting of the Stokes County Board of Commissioners

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, August 25 at 2:00 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 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.

Chairman Wood 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.

Commissioner Morris moved to approve the agenda as presented.

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

Public Comments

Chairman Wood opened the floor for public comments at 2:02 pm.

The following individuals signed up to speak in public comments:

Michael Goodman
0 Jewel Road
Danbury NC
RE: Noise Ordinance

Kathleen Edwards
1726 Rogers Road
Mount Airy, NC
RE: ACAB Hunting Org Member

Chairman Wood closed the floor for public comments at 2:10 pm.

COMMENTS - Managers/Commissioners

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

Commissioner Cox commented:

- Today, but thank you all for being here and your participation and your comments, and we can just get right on with the meeting.

Vice-Chair Barneycastle commented:

- It's great to see everybody today. Welcome everybody. Thanks for coming after the double meeting, and God bless with another beautiful day, another day of life.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- I'd like to also welcome everybody thank you for your participation. We always really appreciate that. Like to recognize Brandon Hooker for the genealogy program that he put on this past weekend over at the Arts Place. First time I've been involved in that and it's really interesting stuff, and he and his participants in that program did an outstanding job. I think it'll be back again next year. So, I highly, highly recommend folks attend to that if, if that's something you're interested in, that's all I have.

Commissioner Chandler commented:

- Welcome everybody. It's good to see everybody. We appreciate the two public comment speakers. We always, always want to hear from people in the community looking ahead to next week. Let's don't forget it's Labor Day weekend, so please remember that while a lot of us will be enjoying the holiday. Don't forget our troops

that are overseas. Our troops are even with the National Guard, they're in DC. Don't forget them. And of course, our public safety, our Sheriff's Office, Highway Patrol and our fire departments and, of course, our medical emergency services, they'll still be working 24/7.

County Manager Sanborn commented:

- Mr. Chairman, couple things I'd like to comment on. The first is that we are continuing our collective effort to work on the new Fire Department contract mechanism, and I'm pleased to report that on Friday, I got the draft back from the fire commission one week ahead of schedule. I've not really had a good chance to review that document yet, but we're in position now where we'll be able to get that on your next agenda for you to consider updating you know this most of a more current version of the draft that we can send out to the fire departments for review after you do approve that.
- The second thing I'd like comment on is that I spent the tail end of last week in Greenville at the Association of County Commissioners conference. It's an annual event. First time I've been able to attend one of those. It was very well run, very well attended, except maybe not quite so much for the counties on the western side of the state, for obvious reasons. That's quite a long drive to get over there. They had a lot of great breakout sessions and classes that I was able to participate in, and was able to connect a lot of people, and reconnect with a lot of people that I did previously. So, it was good event. Thank you.

Assistant County Manager Brown had no comment.

Clerk to the Board Jessup had no comment.

Chair Wood commented:

- First of all, I like to thank you, Jeff for taking one for us by going to Greenville and then and being a voting representative. I don't even know what y'all were voting on.

County Manager Sanborn commented:

- To be honest, I got I was ill at the end of the last week. I came home before the business session on Saturday afternoon, but it was the new voting on the new power structure.

Chair Wood commented:

- No big deal. And then Rick stole my thunder. I was also attending the event that Mr. Hooker put on Saturday. It was probably 35 people there? It was well attended, and it was from outside the county too. And this was the third one. He does plan more for people that's interested in that type of stuff. They're doing something similar the 27th of September at the Madison Library in Rockingham. So, if you're in your family tree, you can get some good information, or good sources. They're going to have a guy from

Wilkesboro. If you got an old deed in your family history, he can take it and show you where it is this day and time on the map, which I'm very interested in.

- Also, 60 plus food giveaway. I haven't mentioned them lately, and they reached out to me last week. I think they were 30 pounds short of three tons of food they give away. They helped 120 families. And if he informed me, this is their third year, I can't believe that, because that's an average about that amount, and that's that just shows you how needy people in this county and surrounding counties are and I'm sure they could take help, and they kind of wing it by themselves, so but that's just one of many things that goes on helping the needy in this county.

Conflicts 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 Amendments

Tax Office Agenda

Pay and Benefit Policy Amendment

King Planning Board ETJ Alternate

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Chander 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.

NIBRS Crime Stats FY25

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Chief Deputy Eric Cone to present NIBRS Crime Stats for FY 2025.

Chief Deputy Cone presented an update on the Sheriff's Office including public service events, employee training, the Citizen's Academy, and new RMS and JMS systems. He showcased

how many calls had been received through January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025, and what those calls were for. Total calls for service neared 9,500.

Additionally, Chief Deputy Cone presented the numbers through the National Incident-Based Reporting System which showed a majority of incidents falling into the category of assault, drug/narcotic violations, damage/destruction/vandalism of property, other larceny, and breaking and entering.

The Board thanked Chief Deputy Cone for the presentation and for the work that the Sheriff's Office has done for the community.

Soil and Water Annual Report

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Soil and Water Conservation Director Amelia Harold to present Soil and Water Annual Report.

Director Harold discussed the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program, Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs, and Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program, as well as how those program funds were allocated. She also mentioned their staff trainings and public education work within Stokes County. Director Harold thanked her Board, and all those who volunteer their time towards conservation efforts.

The Board thanked Director Harold for the presentation and the efforts made by the whole Soil and Water Conservation team. They also wished her the best in her new role as Director after the retirement of Janice Pack.

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.

Pine Hall Elementary School Property

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to County Manager Sanborn to present the Pine Hall Elementary School Property.

County Manager Sanborn noted that the Stokes County Board of Education had determined that the Pine Hall Elementary School property is no longer needed for public school purposes. The Stokes County Board of Commissioners have the first opportunity to acquire the property. Price will be fair market or otherwise negotiated and agreed upon with the Board of Education.

The Board discussed a potential timeline and the need for public input on what the property may become prior to acquiring Pine Hall Elementary School.

The item was moved to the discussion agenda for the next meeting.

Animal Control Advisory Board Hunting Organization Member Applications

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to Clerk to the Board Jessup to present the Animal Control Advisory Board Hunting Organization Member Applications.

Clerk to the Board Jessup noted that the advertisement for the Hunting Organization member was posted and open until August 22. One application was received, Ken Sevier.

The Board nominated Ken Sevier for the Hunting Organization Member on the Animal Control Advisory Board.

The item was moved to the Action Agenda for the next meeting.

Board of Health Member Status

Chairman Wood turned the floor over to County Attorney Jennifer Michaud to discuss the Board of Health Member Status.

Attorney Michaud explained that the Board of Health Chair Chad Jarvis was arrested on August 2nd, 2025, and is facing several charges related to domestic violence. Under North Carolina General Statute 130A-35, the Board may discuss the matter and come to a consensus on whether any action will need to be taken in response.

The Board debated if it was better to take action now or to wait until the first court date has happened to move forward. After some discussion, the Board agreed that they would ask Jarvis to resign willing with the stipulation that if he was proven innocent then he would be reinstated.

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.

Child Support Awareness Month Resolution

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

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the Child Support Awareness Month Resolution.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.


Adjournment

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to adjourn.

Vice-Chair Barneycastle moved to adjourn at 3:48 pm.

Commissioner Chandler seconded. The motion Passed.


Olivia Jessup
Clerk to the Board


Keith Wood
Chair