

State of North Carolina

Minutes

County of Madison

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison County Public Library Marshall Branch, 1335 N. Main Street, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Vice-Chairman Michael Garrison, Commissioner Bill Briggs, Commissioner Jeremy Hensley, Commissioner Alan Wyatt, County Manager Rod Honeycutt, County Attorney Donny Laws, and Clerk Mandy Bradley. Chairman Matt Wechtel listened to the meeting via remote means.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Garrison.

Counsel was provided by County Attorney Donny Laws regarding voting procedures while listening to the meeting via remote means and he noted that in order to vote while attending the meeting via remote means, consideration of such a policy for allowance would be required of the Board in the future.

Item 1: Nonprofit Funding Request

County Manager Rod Honeycutt presented and discussed a nonprofit funding request on behalf of the Madison County Football Youth League noting that the league submitted the request in consideration of funding in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Discussion was had by the Board, Manager Honeycutt, and Parks and Recreation Director Chris Maney.

Motion was placed on the floor by Commissioner Hensley to give the \$10,000.00 as requested. Commissioner Wyatt requested that consideration of amendment to the motion be given to account for an audit of how the funds are spent with Commissioner Hensley noting that the funding is to reimburse the parents of the kids enrolled for registration fees and Clerk to the Board Mandy Bradley seeking clarification of the motion. Upon second by Commissioner Wyatt with further discussion being had by the Board, the Board voted 2-2 in consideration of the motion with Vice-Chairman Garrison and Commissioner Briggs voting opposed and Commissioner Hensley and Commissioner Wyatt voting in favor. Due to listening to the meeting via remote means, no vote was cast by Chairman Wechtel.

Further discussion was had by the Board and Manager Honeycutt regarding possible consideration of a redirected request in the future.

Item 2: Parks and Recreation Update

Parks and Recreation Director Chris Maney presented and discussed updates regarding consideration of a future facilities agreement in conjunction with the Madison County School System for youth league basketball and counsel was provided by County Attorney Donny Laws.

Updates regarding current and future upgrades to the sports fields located at Beech Glen, Ebbs Chapel, and Walnut were provided by Mr. Maney and Manager Honeycutt who noted that funding from the County has provided for new fencing for the fields and renovations to the dugouts and concession stands at Beech Glen with additional work to be done in the future at Ebbs Chapel.

Mr. Maney provided an update to the progress of the development of an updated Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan in conjunction with Land of Sky and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Discussion was had by the Board, Manager Honeycutt, and Mr. Maney.

Item 3: Property Leases

Manager Honeycutt presented and discussed property leases for County owned property utilized by the Spring Creek Community Center, Rick Bailey of Napa Auto Parts Store in Marshall, the Burger Parlor, the Fairgrounds, Spring Creek Community Center, and Walnut Community Center with Manager Honeycutt noting that the Ebbs Chapel Community Center lease would be used as a model for other community centers that lease County owned property.

Additional information discussed by Manager Honeycutt included proposed lease terms and requirements that would need to be met in order to enter into the leases, payments that would remain the same, and that additional specific information for leases would be identified and presented for future consideration of the Board upon meeting the necessary requirements. Discussion was had by the Board and Manager Honeycutt with counsel being provided by Attorney Laws regarding the future terms of the Fairgrounds lease with Manager Honeycutt noting that the initial lease would be for a term of one (1) year and that negotiations could be considered with interested parties for re-consideration of the Board in the future.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Manager to post the leases for public review. Discussion was had by Manager Honeycutt who requested consideration to enter into negotiations with all parties interested and report back to the Board of Commissioners with the members of the Board in attendance at the meeting voting unanimously to approve. Due to listening to the meeting via remote means, no vote was cast by Chairman Wechtel.

Additional discussion was had by the Board and counsel was provided by County Attorney Laws regarding leases for Solid Waste convenience centers including those located on the Marshall By-Pass, at Bonecamp, and Laurel as well as the electric vehicle charging station located at the Mars Hill Visitor's Center. Upon motion by Commissioner Briggs and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County manager to enter into negotiations with these particular entities to continue these leases. Due to listening to the meeting via remote means, no vote was cast by Chairman Wechtel.

Item 4: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Personnel Duties

Manager Honeycutt presented the Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Execute Personnel Duties which would permit the County Manager to execute personnel duties including appointment, suspension, and removal of employees below departmental head level or those not elected or appointed as otherwise provided for by law.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Hensley with discussion being had by the Board, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Manager to adopt the resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute personnel duties. Due to listening to the meeting via remote means, no vote was cast by Chairman Wechtel. (Attachment 4.1)

Item 5: Facilities Roof Maintenance and Repair

Consideration of funds set aside for roof maintenance of the County owned building that currently houses the Spring Creek Community Center was had by the Board, Manager Honeycutt, and Grants Manager Ross Young who discussed engineering recommendations and details for the request of consideration by the Board for the approval of the development and issuance of a Request for Proposals to advertise for bids to be submitted by parties interested in performing the work.

Discussion was had by the Board regarding the current roof condition, specifications for the repair, estimated cost, and additional factors with comment being received from a member of the audience.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hensley and second by Commissioner Wyatt with discussion being had by the Board, the Board voted unanimously to execute the RFP process for the Spring Creek Community Center roof. Due to listening to the meeting via remote means, no vote was cast by Chairman Wechtel.

Item 6: Acquisition of Real Property, Item 7: Personnel

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to enter into closed session for acquisition of real property and personnel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(5) and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) at 7:09 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hensley and second by Commissioner Briggs, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 8:09 p.m.

Manager Honeycutt presented on behalf of the Emergency Management 9-1-1 Department the request for authorization of bonuses for employees during the transition of the 9-1-1 Department in the amount of either \$100.00 or \$150.00, respectively. Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Manager Honeycutt presented on behalf of the Human Resources Department, the request to hire Brandi Rice as Human Resources Director effective September 27, 2023. Upon motion by Commissioner Hensley and second by Commissioner Wyatt, with discussion being had by the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Item 8: Adjournment

Upon motion by Commissioner Hensley and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.

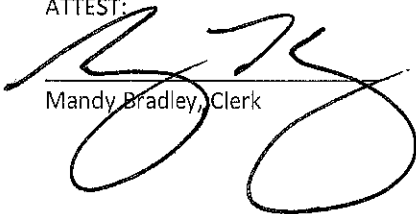
This the 26th day of September 2023.

MADISON COUNTY



Matt Wechtel, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Mandy Bradley, Clerk

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE PERSONNEL DUTIES

WHEREAS, it has been the process and practice for the Madison County Board of Commissioners to formally approve all employee appointments and removals prior to said action being taken; and

WHEREAS, the current practice is time consuming which can result in perspective employees seeking employment elsewhere and disciplinary actions being prolonged; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Statutes § 153A-82 (a)(1) sets forth the powers and duties of the County Manager; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 153A-82(a)(1), the Board of Commissioners may by resolution permit the Manager to execute certain personnel duties; and

WHEREAS, under the authority of this resolution, the Board of Commissioners permits and delegates to the Manager, the ability to execute the appointment, suspension, or removal of all county officers, employees, and agents except those who are departmental head level employees, those elected by the people, or those whose appointment is otherwise provided for by law; and

WHEREAS, the Manager shall make his or her appointments, suspensions, or removals in accordance with any general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances that the board may adopt; and

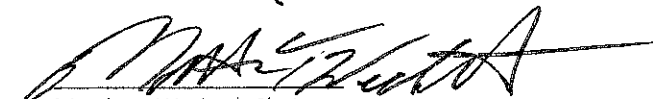
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners permits the Manager to appoint, suspend, or remove officers, employees, and agents without first securing the board's approval; and

WHEREAS, the Manager will report each appointment to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the appointment; and


WHEREAS, the Manager will report each suspension or removal to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the suspension or removal;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Madison County Board of Commissioners does hereby delegate to the County Manager, the authority to appoint, suspend, and remove all county officers, employees, and agents except those who are who are departmental head level employees, those elected by the people, or those whose appointment is otherwise provided for by law. The Manager shall make his or her appointments, suspensions, and removals in accordance with any general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances that the board may adopt. In the event that a personnel action is executed, the Manager will notify the board at the board's first regular meeting following the action.

Adopted this the 24 day of September 2023.


Matthew Wechtel, Chairman

ATTEST:


Clerk to the Board of Commissioners