

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Madison County Center located at 258 Carolina Lane, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Chairman Matt Wechtel, Vice-Chairman Michael Garrison, Commissioner Bill Briggs, Commissioner Jeremy Hensley, Commissioner Alan Wyatt, Interim County Manager Rod Honeycutt, County Attorney Donny Laws, and Clerk Mandy Bradley.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Wechtel.

Item 1: Personnel

No action was taken.

Item 2: Legal Advice Regarding Planning and Zoning Matters

No action was taken.

Item 3: S.L. 2023-134 Funding Planning Update

Hannah Shelton, Grant Coordinator discussed the allocation of funding provided by S.L. 2023-143 with the Board and answered questions from board members.

Ms. Shelton noted that the funding in the amount of \$18,000,000.00 which was previously allocated to the County is designated for water and wastewater projects in the towns of Hot Springs, Marshall, and Mars Hill with the County managing the development and implementation of the projects and each town operating and maintaining each respective system upon completion. Additional information discussed included the scope of each project, planning, project budgets, process for acceptance of the funds, and project milestones.

Item 4: Advent Health Letter of Recommendation

Chairman Wechtel discussed the request from Advent Health to provide a letter of recommendation on behalf of the County which would support the need of a Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit within the hospital system, as only one such certified facility currently exists in the area.

Discussion was had by the Board regarding approval of the letter. (Attachment 4.1)

Item 5: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Highway 213 Water System Interlocal Agreement

Chairman Wechtel presented and discussed the resolution that would authorize the execution of the Highway 213 water system interlocal agreement, noting that if approved, the agreement would be entered into with the County and towns of Marshall and Mars Hill for projects that are currently in progress for a water interconnector as provided for through funding from S.L. 2021-180.

Discussion was had by the Board with counsel being provided by County Attorney Laws.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to approve the interlocal agreement. (Attachment 5.1)

Item 1: Personnel (cont.) and Item 2: Legal Advice Regarding Planning and Zoning Matters (cont.)

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to enter into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (a)(6) and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3) at 6:25 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Briggs, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 10:28 p.m.

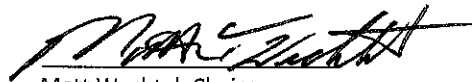
Upon motion by Commissioner Hensley and second by Commissioner Briggs, the Board voted unanimously to add \$6,000.00 to the Animal Shelter budget for personnel.

Item 3: Adjournment

Upon motion by Commissioner Briggs and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:29 p.m.

This the 23rd day of January 2024.

MADISON COUNTY



Matt Wechtel, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Mandy Bradley, Clerk



Madison County Administration

PO Box 579
Marshall, NC 28753
(828) 649-2854
www.madisoncountync.org

January 23, 2024

Attachment 4.1

Ms. Micheala Mitchell
Chief, Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2704 Mail Center Service
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

We are writing to express our full support for AdventHealth Hendersonville's Certificate of Need (CON) application to develop neonatal acute care beds in Henderson County. Writing as the Madison County Board of Commissioners, we recognize the profound impact that this project will have on promoting access to essential healthcare services for infants and newborns in western North Carolina.

Currently, the limited access to neonatal acute care services in western North Carolina poses a significant challenge for our region. Infants and newborns needing nursing care must compete for access at Mission Hospital's busy tertiary care center. When Mission's neonatal beds are full, patients and their families must travel to Charlotte, Tennessee, or South Carolina. The development of neonatal acute care beds at AdventHealth Hendersonville will offer a crucial community-based alternative, alleviating the burden placed on families and providing a more accessible option for those in need.

By undertaking this initiative, AdventHealth Hendersonville demonstrates a commitment to improving healthcare accessibility in our region. The availability of neonatal acute care beds will not only enhance the quality of care for infants and newborns but also reduce the strain on existing healthcare facilities, ensuring that all patients receive the attention and support they require.

The prospect of having AdventHealth Hendersonville equipped with neonatal acute care beds is particularly promising for the residents of Madison County and surrounding areas. This project aligns with our shared goal of fostering a healthcare system that is responsive, patient-centered, and community-focused. We believe it will contribute significantly to the well-being of our residents and enhance the overall healthcare landscape in western North Carolina.

We applaud AdventHealth Hendersonville for their efforts toward addressing this critical healthcare need, and we wholeheartedly support their CON application. As the Madison County Board of Commissioners, we fully support this project and its potential to provide a vital community-based alternative for infants and newborns in need of specialized care.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of five individuals: Bill Briggs, Michael Garrison, Jeremy Hensley, Matthew Wechtel, and Alan Wyatt.
Bill Briggs, Michael Garrison, Jeremy Hensley, Matthew Wechtel & Alan Wyatt
Board of Commissioners
Madison County, NC

**RESOLUTION APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR INSTALLATION,
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A WATER SYSTEM
INTERCONNECTION ALONG NC 213 BETWEEN MADISON COUNTY, THE
TOWN OF MARSHALL AND THE TOWN OF MARS HILL**

WHEREAS, Madison County (**County**), The Town of Marshall (Marshall) and the Town of Mars Hill (Mars Hill) are units of government organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, Article 20 of Chapter of 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes refers to interlocal cooperation which is authorized for any unit of local government, and details of such contracts or agreements are contained therein;

WHEREAS, County has obtained special funding to construct a water project along NC 213 to interconnect the water distributions systems of the Town of Marshall and Town of Mars Hill referenced as the **NC 213 Water Project**; and

WHEREAS, due to the funding provided pursuant to S.L 2021-180, County desires to construct the water system improvements and to transfer ownership and maintenance responsibility for the water system improvements to the Town of Marshall and Town of Mars Hill as each are permitted water supply systems operating under the laws of North Carolina. Both the Town of Marshall and Town of Mars Hill are ready, willing, and able to provide potable water service to the other party under certain terms and conditions, have agreed upon the future service area for each water system with the master meter and interconnection point to be determined as a part of the design; the service area for Marshall to extend eastward along ~~NC 213 from the connection point with the existing Marshall system near US 25/70~~ and extend along NC 213 to the master meter pit, and the service area for Mars Hill to extend westward along NC 213 from the connection point with the existing Mars Hill system near the intersection of NC 213 and Athletic Street and extend along NC 213 to the master meter pit, and,

WHEREAS, it serves the mutual benefit and convenience of Madison County, the Town of Marshall and the Town of Mars Hill to enter into this Agreement to better utilize the assets and abilities of each party for their mutual benefit and for the public good and protection of health and welfare.

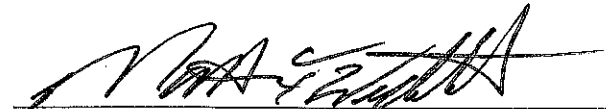
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
MADISON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA:**

Section 1. The Interlocal Agreement for Installation, Operation and Maintenance of a Water System Interconnection Along NC 213 between the Town of Marshall and the Town of Mars Hill is hereby adopted.

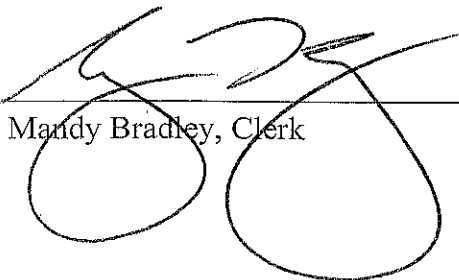
Section 2. That the Chairman and Clerk to the Board of Commissioners are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Interlocal Agreement with the respective parties as referenced.

Section 3. That the Madison County Manager and Finance Director are hereby authorized to execute, work with and submit documents as may be appropriate in relation to this project with the Town of Marshall and the Town of Mars Hill.

Adopted and Approved this 23rd day of January 2024.



Matthew Wechtel, Chairman



Mandy Bradley, Clerk
