

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison County Courthouse Temporary Facility located at 232 Carolina Lane, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Chairman Michael Garrison, Vice-Chairman Jeremy Hensley, Commissioner Matt Wechtel, Commissioner Bill Briggs, Commissioner Alan Wyatt, County Manager Rod Honeycutt, and Clerk Mandy Bradley. County Attorney Donny Laws was not in attendance.

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

**Item 1: Community Housing Coalition Update**

Chris Watson, Executive Director Community Housing Coalition of Madison County, presented and discussed an update on behalf of the Community Housing Coalition as well as answered questions from members of the Board. Information discussed included housing-related needs within Madison County, available funding, associated costs, public housing occupancy rates and additional housing statistics, median wage considerations, availability, land trust models, projects and initiatives for housing, and potential partnership paths moving forward.

Discussion was had by the Board and Mr. Watson.

**Item 2: Transfer Station Floor Resurfacing Agreement Change Order**

Item not discussed.

**Item 3: 2026 Mowing Contracts**

County Manager Rod Honeycutt discussed 2026 mowing contracts as well as answered questions from members of the Board. Information discussed included the 2026 mowing contract proposals, expense history, budget and cost considerations, and sites.

Discussion was had by the Board and County Manager Honeycutt.

**Item 4: County Facilities Upgrades Recommendations**

County Manager Honeycutt discussed recommendations for upgrades to County facilities and answered questions from members of the Board with Matt Yeakley, Marshall Volunteer Fire Department, providing information and answering questions from members of the Board regarding a proposal on behalf of the fire department for the request of conveyance of County owned property located on Medical Park Drive, noting that the property is adjacent to a newly proposed fire department location planned due to damage sustained from the Hurricane Helene event to the fire department's building located in downtown Marshall. Information discussed by Mr. Yeakley included proposed layout of the facility and the need for the department to acquire additional property due to set back requirements for the building. Additional information regarding the proposed project including timelines, funding, FEMA considerations, relocation considerations, and operating and service considerations was provided by Morgan Silvers, Marshall Volunteer Fire Department.

Additional information provided by County Manager Honeycutt regarding recommendations for County facilities included upgrades to the arena at the County's fairgrounds facility, potential relocation and lease between the County and United States Postal Service for the USPS Marshall Branch that sustained damage as a result of the Hurricane Helene event, Veteran's Park, Health Department sign relocation, proposed covered parking area at the County's Maintenance facility, and site work at the proposed public service complex site.

**Item 5: Personnel**

Upon motion by Chairman Garrison and second by Vice-Chairman Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to enter into closed session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, or condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee under N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) at 8:11 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Wechtel, the Board voted unanimously to come out of closed session at 8:30 p.m.

County Manager Honeycutt discussed the County's Personnel Policy noting that there are currently no allowances for disaster provisions that would allow for exempt employees to be paid overtime if needed in the event of a disaster and approved as part of FEMA reimbursement. Human Resources Director Brandi Rice discussed proposed language and costs associated for inclusion in the policy with Chairman Garrison requesting wording be included to mirror FEMA language, and no action being taken on behalf of the Board.

County Manager Honeycutt requested that the Board authorize the County Manager the authority to hire temporary, either joint or new positions as needed for affected FMLA periods of employees of concern. Upon motion by Commissioner Wechtel and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

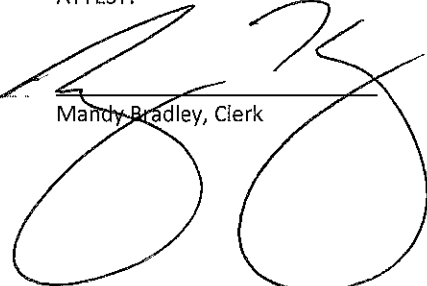
**Item 6: Adjournment**

Upon motion by Commissioner Briggs and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

This the 27th day of January 2026.

  
MADISON COUNTY  
Michael Garrison, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
Mandy Bradley, Clerk