

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Admin Conference Room located at 140 Elizabeth Lane, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Chairman Micheal 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 joined the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Garrison and items contained within the meeting notice were discussed.

**Item 1: Tourism Development Authority Update**

Item not discussed at this time.

**Item 2: Resolution Supporting National Agriculture Day**

Chairman Garrison recognized those in attendance from the Farm Bureau Women's Committee, Madison County FFA and 4-H organizations, and North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Madison County Office.

The Resolution Supporting National Agriculture Day was read into record by a member of the Madison County FFA and discussion was had.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wechtel and second by Vice-Chairman Hensley, the Board voted unanimously that we approve the resolution.

County Attorney Donny Laws joined the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Additional discussion was had with introductions from the aforementioned organizations in attendance and photography opportunity with members of the Board. (Attachment 2.1)

**Item 1: Tourism Development Authority Update (cont.)**

Bill Downey provided a power point regarding an update from the Madison County Tourism Development Authority and answered questions from members of the Board.

Information discussed included the Tourism Development Authority's mission, county identity, organization components, strategic advertising and structure, initiatives, funding sources, occupancy tax and funding regulations, and projects.

Discussion was had with Mr. Downey and members of the Board with information regarding occupancy tax collected in the County being provided by Finance Officer Kary Ledford.

**Item 3: FY2026-2027 Budget**

Item not discussed at this time.

**Item 4: County Owned Surplus Property**

County Manager Rod Honeycutt presented and discussed a bid for County owned surplus property, parcel identification number 9706-85-3035.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Wechtel, the Board voted unanimously that we accept this offer and move forward with the upset bid process.

**Item 5: Format Amendment of July 2025 Resolution Consistent with Board Action**

County Manager Honeycutt and Clerk Mandy Bradley discussed a format amendment of July 2025 resolution for consistency of Board action and requested consideration of the Board for approval of the amendment and execution of the document by the then Chairman to replace the original attachment with the amended attachment.

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

**Item 3: FY 2026-2027 Budget Discussion (cont.)**

County Manager Honeycutt presented and discussed the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget as well as answered questions from members of the Board.

Information discussed included the budgetary timeline, facts and assumptions, current FY budget versus the proposed budget, budgetary impacts, sales tax collection, and projected recommendations including the tax collection rate in consideration of the budget. Discussion was had by the Board, County Manager Honeycutt, Finance Officer Kary Ledford, and Tax Administrator April Plemmons with counsel being provided by County Attorney Laws regarding tax collection.

Additional information provided by County Manager Honeycutt included budgetary strategies and allowances, employee compensation, projections, departmental fee schedules, revenues, and departmental and line item requests.

County Attorney Laws exited the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Additional discussion was had by the Board, County Manager Honeycutt, and Finance Officer Ledford regarding items contained in the budget.

County Attorney Laws returned to the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

County Manager Honeycutt provided information regarding future meetings in consideration of the budget, standardization process for County owned facilities rentals, and proposed fee schedules; with discussion being had by the Board, Manager Honeycutt, and Clerk Bradley, and counsel being provided by County Attorney Laws.

**Item 6: Personnel**

Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Commissioner Wechtel, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session for personnel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) at 8:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wechtel and second by Vice-Chairman Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to go out of closed session at 8:36 p.m.

**Item 3: FY 2026-2027 Budget Discussion (cont.)**

Additional discussion was had by the Board and Manager Honeycutt regarding the FY 2026-2027 budget and items contained therein.

**Item 7: Adjournment**

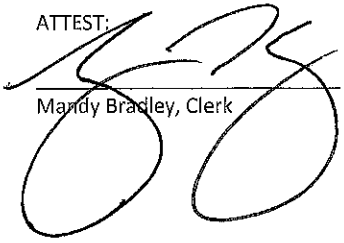
Upon motion by Commissioner Briggs and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

This the 24th day of March 2026.

MADISON COUNTY

  
Michael Garrison, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
Mandy Bradley, Clerk

## Agriculture Awareness Day Resolution

**WHEREAS**, March 24, 2026, has been designated as National Agriculture Day to remind the public of the importance of agriculture to everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County has over 500 farms and more than 42,000 acres of farmland which produce over \$5 million in cash receipts in Madison County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of promoting agriculture in the county through its support and funding of the Cooperative Extension and Soil and Water Conservation District, which contributes to the environmental well-being of Madison County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes that the future of our agricultural heritage depends on the next generation of leaders, and we proudly commend the 4-H and FFA programs for their dedication to developing the character, leadership, and technical skills of our youth, ensuring a strong and innovative agricultural workforce for years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County recognizes the growing significance of Agritourism, which invites visitors to experience our working landscapes through farm tours, seasonal festivals, and direct-to-consumer markets, thereby diversifying farm income and serving as an economic engine that brings together our rich agricultural heritage and our vibrant tourism industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners demonstrates the Commission's commitment to agriculture by promoting and supporting the Present Use Value (PUV) program, allowing agricultural land to be taxed on its current value rather than market value; and

**WHEREAS** the Madison County Board of Commissioners honors the immeasurable ecological and societal contributions of small farms as a measure of community resilience in the face of climate change impacts and food insecurity from natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of a county fair and the necessity of well-kept fairgrounds, serving as a bridge between farmers and the public by showcasing local crops and livestock; and

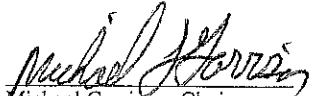
**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes that agriculture is a vital and fundamental part of the economic foundation of Madison County, contributing to the health, prosperity, and sustainability of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners appreciates the contributions of our farmers, growers, agricultural workers, and families for their hard work and commitment to feeding our communities, preserving our natural resources, and building a resilient agricultural future for generations to come; and

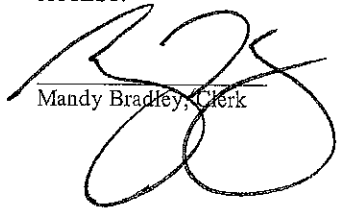
**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of agriculture in our daily lives and the critical role it plays in supporting the diverse culture, economy, and heritage of Madison County.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners hereby resolves to recognize and support agriculture as well as those who sustain, contribute to, and facilitate agriculture in Madison County and commits to agriculture through facilitation of County programs and initiatives as well as the National designation for Agriculture Awareness Day in Madison County.

This 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

  
Michael Garrison, Chairman  
Madison County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
Mandy Bradley, Clerk

**MADISON COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**RESOLUTION CONFERRING UPON THE MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS ALL POWERS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DUTIES OF THE  
MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S § 153A-76 AND  
N.C.G.S § 153A-77(a) AND ALSO PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF MADISON  
COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, N.C.G.S § 153A-76(a) authorizes a county board of commissioners to assume direct control of any activities theretofore conducted by or through any commission, boards, and agencies;

**WHEREAS**, N.C.G.S. § 153A-77(a) authorizes a county board of commissioners to assume direct control of any activities theretofore conducted by or through any commission, board, or agency, including the board of social services and the board of health, by the adoption of a resolution assuming and conferring upon the board of county commissions all powers, responsibilities, and duties of such commission, board, or agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners (the "Board of Commissioners") hereby states the potential to assume and confer upon itself all powers, responsibilities, and duties of the Madison County Board of Health;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners may exercise this power and authority after a public hearing held by the Board of Commissioners pursuant to thirty (30) days' notice given in a newspaper having general circulation in Madison County.

**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing in these matters was published on June 4, 2025 in the News/Record and Sentinel, a newspaper having general circulation in Madison County;

**WHEREAS**, said public hearing was held at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners on July 8, 2025

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Board of Commissioners was convened in a regular meeting with a quorum present;

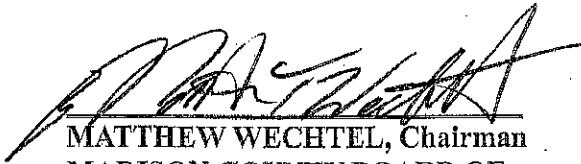
**THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of Madison County resolves that:

1. The Board of Commissioners, Pursuant to N.C.G.S § 153A-76 and N.C.G.S § 153A-77(a), does hereby assume and confer upon itself all powers, responsibilities, and duties of the Madison County Board of Health, effective as of the date hereof.
2. The Board of Commissioners hereby creates the Madison County Public Health Advisory Board. This Board shall have the same membership and terms as the Madison County Board of Health immediately prior to the adoption of this resolution. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Madison County Public Health

Advisory Board shall be the "advisory committee" required by N.C.G.S. § 130A-35. The Madison County Public Health Advisory Board is hereby charged with the duty and responsibility for all accreditation activities described in Title 10A Chapter 48 Subchapter 48B of the North Carolina Administrative Code that may be undertaken by "the local board of health or the advisory committee."

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025

- THE ABOVE RESOLUTION IS ( ) Adopted by the following votes: Yes \_\_\_\_; No \_\_\_\_
- THE ABOVE RESOLUTION IS (✓) Not Adopted by the following votes: Yes 5; No 0
- THE ABOVE RESOLUTION fails for the lack of a motion or for the lack of a second to the motion ( ).



MATTHEW WECHTEL, Chairman  
MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

Attest:   
MANDY BRADLEY  
CLERK TO THE BOARD