Caldwell County
North Carolina
Board of Commissioners Meeting

March 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM
City-County Chambers
905 West Avenue NW, Lenoir

AGENDA

Call to Order *Chairman Randy T. Church*

Public Comment Period

Invocation *Jason Hines, Caldwell County Chaplain*

Pledge of Allegiance *Commissioner, Jeff Branch*

Agenda Amendments from the Board, Manager & Public

Agenda Items

1.	Presentation *Randy Church*	Recognition of Retirees
2.	Presentation *Senator Eddie Settle, District 36*	Tri-County Motor Speedway
3.	Public Hearing *Micah Kelly*	Naming of Unnamed Road- Woodstone Dr.
4.	Presentation *Ashley Bolick*	Target Industries Updates
5.	Items for Decision	Golden Leaf Foundation Grant Pre-Application for Economic Development

Consent

6.	Resolution	Board of Equalization and Review 2024
7.	Budget Revisions	Computer Equipment Purchase for County Plaza and ROD
8.	Budget Revisions	Roadside Litter Pickup
9.	Budget Revisions	Building Outdoor Communities Grant Acceptance
10.	Budget Revisions	Animal Care and Enforcement use of Donated Funds
11.	Budget Revisions	Emergency Management Grant

12.	Budget Revisions	Fire Department Radio Purchase
13.	Budget Revisions	Sheriff's Office Purchase of Detective Vehicle
14.	Items for Decision	Appointments to Grace Chapel Relief Board
15.	Items for Decision	Approval of Mowing Contract
16.	Items for Decision	Approval of Audit Contract with Martin & Starnes
17.	Items for Decision	Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2024, Meeting

Adjourn

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Administration	Randy Church

AGENDA ITEM # 1

Recognition of Retirees

BACKGROUND

Kaiser Isbell Caldwell County Sheriff's Office Bailiff 12/29/2003-03/31/2023
Patricia Hall Department of Social Services Income Maintenance Supervisor II 07/01/2004-03/31/2023
Diana Kirk Caldwell County Health Department Public Health Nurse Supervisor 05/04/1999-04/19/2013 and 08/01/2017-03/31/2023
Sharon Alley Caldwell County Health Department Administrative Assistant I 09/08/1992-04/28/2023
Janie Mangum Department of Social Services Social Worker II 12/08/1999-05/31/2023
Deborah Clark Department of Social Services Income Maintenance Caseworker II 10/19/2011-06/30/2023
Eric Byrd Caldwell County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriff 09/15/2014-09/30/2023
Tina Green Department of Social Services Income Maintenance Caseworker 03/01/1989-10/04/2000 and 10/11/2004-10/31/2023
C.V. Morris Department of Social Services Child Support Supervisor 12/01/1996-11/30/2023
Lucy McCarl Department of Social Services Attorney 08/01/2010-12/31/2023
Audrey Frazier Department of Social Services Community Employment Case Manager 06/01/1988-12/31/2023
Teresa Spears Department of Social Services Income Maintenance Caseworker 11/01/1999-12/31/2023
Matthew Mace Caldwell County EMS Assistant Shift Supervisor 01/22/2007-12/31/2023

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Administration	Senator Eddie Settle, District 36

AGENDA ITEM # 2

Tri-County Motor Speedway

BACKGROUND

Individuals with Tri-County Motor Speedway will be providing updates.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Administration	Micah Kelly

AGENDA ITEM # 3

Naming of Unnamed Road- Woodstone Dr.

BACKGROUND

A group of landowners is proposing an unnamed road in Lenoir to be named Woods Rd or Woodstone Dr. Woods Rd. was the initial name proposed, but the landowners came up with Woodstone Dr. as an alternate name at the request of the Board. The public hearing was called at the February 12th regular meeting and the advertisement for the public hearing was published on February 27th.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Economic Development	Ashley Bolick

AGENDA ITEM # 4

Target Industries Updates

BACKGROUND

One of the department's goals for 2024 was to evaluate the list of current target industries for Caldwell County to determine if any updates were necessary. Staff compiled relevant data on all industries in Caldwell County to compare against the current target industries. These metrics included local concentration of a given industry, its growth since 2012, and its average pay compared to the North Carolina average.

Staff presented both findings and recommendations to the Caldwell County Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) and requested feedback. After considering committee feedback and suggestions, staff drafted an updated list of target industries, ones which better reflect Caldwell County's economic position in 2024.

Previous Target Industries:

- Wood Technology and Furniture
- Data Centers
- Green Technology
- Food Processing
- Biotechnology
- Plastics
- Textiles

Updated Target Industries:

- Data Centers
- Biopharmaceuticals
- Advanced Manufacturing
    - Textiles
    - Wood Technology
    - Furniture
    - Plastics
    - Food Processing
- Aerospace
- Emerging Technologies

RECOMMENDED MOTION

None. For educational purposes.

BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Economic Development	

AGENDA ITEM # 5

Golden Leaf Foundation Grant Pre-Application for Economic Development

BACKGROUND

The Golden LEAF SITE Program is now open for Spring 2024 pre-applications. The program is open to nonprofits and local governments in all 100 counties with priority for rural, economically distressed areas. Through this program, Golden LEAF will award funds to communities to identify potential sites for economic development, enable completion of due diligence on sites already identified, or for grading and clearing of publicly owned or controlled sites. There is approximately $9.4m available for the SITE Program this round. The maximum award for a development project is $1.5m.

With the grant writing assistance of Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG), Economic Development staff would like to submit pre-applications for two projects:

- Foothills Regional Airport - $50,000 due diligence funds
- Evergreene Industrial Park - $1.5m site development funds for grading and clearing

Because of our N.C. Department of Commerce Teir II county status, these are non-matching funds, meaning if awarded, we would not have to provide a match for the funds. We would only be responsible for paying the WPCOG grant administration cost of 5% of the award(s).

RECOMMENDED MOTION

N/A. Part of the consent agenda.

BUDGET IMPACT

From $2,500 - $75,000 depending on the amount of the award, if awarded. Paid for from Economic Development funds.

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Administration	

AGENDA ITEM # 6

Board of Equalization and Review 2024

BACKGROUND

This resolution accompanies the appointments made to the 2024 Board of Equalization and Review.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approval of Resolution

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution Board of E&R 2024 (1)

RESOLUTION

03-24

CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW 2024

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina pursuant to North Carolina General Statute Section 105-322, has authorized the county commissioners of the respective counties within the State to appoint a special board of equalization and to carry out the duties imposed under Article 21 of the Machinery Act of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Caldwell County Board of Equalization and Review was established pursuant to G. S. 105-322 (a); and

WHEREAS, the Caldwell County Board of Equalization and Review consists of five (5) members and four (4) alternate members; and

WHEREAS, a taxpayer has the right to appeal a decision of the special board with respect to the listing or appraisal of his property or the property of others to the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2023, the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners set the following policy for the Caldwell County Board of Equalization and Review:

1. MEMBERSHIP

The Board shall consist of five (5) members and four (4) alternate members.

2. QUALIFICATIONS
   - A. Each member shall be of good moral character.
   - B. Each member shall have resided full time in Caldwell County for at least two years prior to taking office and shall reside in the County the duration of service on the board of equalization and review.
   - C. Each member shall not have been convicted of a felony; if convicted of a felony their rights must be restored before they can be considered for appointment.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY
   - A. Each member shall sign a Conflict of Interest policy

4. COMPENSATION
   - A. To be determined by the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

5. CHAIRMAN
   - A. The Board of Commissioners shall designate the chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review

6. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE
   - A. A member may be removed from office by the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners for:

1) Commission of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude;
2) Violation of a State law governing conflict of interest;
3) Violation of a written policy adopted by the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners;
4) Failure to attend meetings;
5) Conduct that tends to bring the office into disrepute;
6) Failure to maintain county residency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts this policy for the members of the Caldwell County Board of Equalization and Review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners appoints the following individuals to serve on the Board of Equalization and Review for 2024: G. David Waechter, Chairman, Phil Case, Wayne Parson, Barbara Teague, Thomas (Larry) Andrews, Reba Barlow, Phyllis Mitchell, and Bob Price.

Adopted this 11th day of March 2024.

_____
Randy T. Church, Chairman

_____
Abigail Rich, County Clerk

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Information Technology	

AGENDA ITEM # 7

Computer Equipment Purchase for County Plaza and ROD

BACKGROUND

This revision allows for the purchase of computer networking equipment for the County Office. $100,000 of the purchase is funded by the Register of Deeds Automation Enhancement Funds, and the remainder is funded through Fund Balance.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve Budget Revision

BUDGET IMPACT

$100,000 from Register of Deeds Automation Enhancement Funds and $216,180 from fund balance.

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Revision - Computer Equipment for County Offices and ROD
2. Quote for County Office and ROD Computer Equipment

Budget Revision # _____
Item No. _____
Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:
This budget revision allows for the purchase of computer networking equipment for the county office building. This is funded with $100k from the Register of Deeds Automation Enhancement Funds and the remainder from fund balance.

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount	Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.9800.397000	Fund Balance App	I	$	216,180.00	10.9000.451000.4160	Equipment	I	$	216,180.00
10.4181.397000	Fund Balance App ROD	I	$	100,000.00	10.4181.451000	Equipment	I	$	100,000.00
Total				**316,180.00**	**Total**				**316,180.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): No
Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			02/22/24		



BUSINESS DATA solutions
www.bdsinc.com

Upgrading Hardware at Plaza

Quote # 001223
Version 1

Prepared for:

Caldwell County Government

Chris Austin
caustin@caldwellcountync.org

Prepared by:

Headquarters

Melissa Porter
mporter@bdsinc.com

1260 Hidden Cove Lane
Lenoir, NC 28645
www.bdsinc.com

Terms

This proposal is incorporated by reference into and governed under the Master Services Agreement (the "Agreement") between Business Data Solutions and you. The Agreement may be reviewed at https://bdsinc.com/MSA. If you do not agree with the terms of the Agreement, you should not sign this order for the current proposal.

Products

* Contains Optional Items

Description	Price	Qty	Ext. Price
Plaza Hardware **ThinkAgile VX HyperConverg Solution** • 4 Compute Nodes • 108 Total Cores • 1024 Memory • 10GB Ethernet • Redundant Power • 192TB Raw Storage **Software** • VMWare HCI Enterprise • vSphere Enterprise Plus • vSan Enterprise **Microsoft Licensing** • Windows Server Standard 20 • Windows CALs 500 • Windows SQL (16 core) 1 5-Year Premier Support 24x7x4 on all hardware (Pricing included within each section above) ** Microsoft Server Migration to 2022 will be on a separate project	**$243,720.00**	**1**	**$243,720.00**
Switching **Switching** • 208 1GB/RJ45 POE+ Ports • 8 10GB SFP+ Ports • Redundant Management Modules • Redundant Power	**$38,260.00**	**1**	**$38,260.00**

1260 Hidden Cove Lane
Lenoir, NC 28645
www.bdsinc.com

Products

* Contains Optional Items

Description	Price	Qty	Ext. Price
SQL Server 2022 - 1 Device/User CAL	$202.00	100*	$20,200.00
		* Optional Subtotal:	$20,200.00
		Subtotal:	$281,980.00

Services

Description	Price	Qty	Ext. Price
Installation Services • Install and configure all hardware • Migrate existing VMs to new platform • Install and configure switching	$14,000.00	1	$14,000.00
		Subtotal:	$14,000.00

Upgrading Hardware at Plaza

Quote Information:

Quote #: 001223

Version: 1
Delivery Date: 02/21/2024
Expiration Date: 02/29/2024

Prepared for:

Caldwell County Government

905 West Ave NW
Lenoir, NC 28645
Chris Austin
(828) 757-1282
caustin@caldwellcountync.org

Prepared by:

Headquarters

Melissa Porter
(828) 475-8554
mporter@bdsinc.com

Quote Summary

Description	Amount
Products	$281,980.00
Services	$14,000.00
Subtotal:	$295,980.00
Estimated Tax:	$19,978.65
Total:	$315,958.65

*Optional Expenses

Description	One-Time
Products	$20,200.00
Optional Subtotal:	$20,200.00

Your approval to order, whether by signature, verbal, or email, constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions. Any product returns should be requested within 15 days of the order date. If a return is requested, refunds must be approved by manufacturing and a restocking fee may apply. In the event of an open package, additional restocking fees will be assessed. Any additional costs incurred due to circumstances beyond our control will be invoiced as "additional work" on a time and materials basis, as defined in our Master Services Agreement, located at www.bdsinc.com/MSA or can be provided at your request. A complete listing of our Terms and conditions can be found on our MSA. We reserve the right to cancel orders arising from pricing or other errors. A 50% deposit is required on all orders exceeding $2,500 with the remainder due when product is delivered.

Taxes, shipping, handling and other fees may apply.

DISCLOSURE TO THIRD PARTIES IS PROHIBITED!

BUSINESS DATA solutions
www.bdsinc.com

1260 Hidden Cove Lane
Lenoir, NC 28645
www.bdsinc.com

Headquarters

Signature: _____

Name: Melissa Porter

Title: Business Development

Date: 02/21/2024

Caldwell County Government

Signature: _____

Name: Chris Austin

Date: _____

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Facilities Services	

AGENDA ITEM # 8

Roadside Litter Pickup

BACKGROUND

This revision allocates funds needed to continue the Roadside Litter Pickup Program.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve Budget Revision

BUDGET IMPACT

Funded via fund balance appropriation

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Revision Roadside Litter Pickup

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:
This budget revision is needed to continue the road side litter clean up program.

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount	Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.9800.397000	Fund Balance App	I	$	50,000.00	10.4286.444111	Trash Pickup	I	$	50,000.00
Total				**50,000.00**	**Total**				**50,000.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): No
Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			02/22/24		

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Planning	

AGENDA ITEM # 9

Building Outdoor Communities Grant Acceptance

BACKGROUND

This revision funds a feasibility study related to extending the Hickory River Walk into Caldwell County.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve Budget Revision

BUDGET IMPACT

Funded via $25,000 grant, $1.250 contribution from City of Hickory and a $6,250 local match from Caldwell County's fund balance.

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Revision Building Outdoor Communities Grant

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:

This revision sets up the budget for the Building Outdoor Communties (BOC) grant. This grant includes a feasibility study for extending the Hickory city walk into Caldwell County. Funding is provided by a grant of $25,000. City of Hickoy $1,250 and Caldwell County local match of $6,250

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount	Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.4910.330000.10193	Grant Revenues	I	$	26,250.00	10.4910.429000.10193	Grant Expenditurs	I	$	32,500.00
10.9800.397000	Fund Balance App	I	$	6,250.00					
Total				**32,500.00**	**Total**				**32,500.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): No

Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			02/22/24		

Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

1880 Second Avenue NW | Hickory, NC 28601
PO Box 9026 | Hickory, NC 28603
828.322.9191 | Fax: 828.322.5991 | www.wpcog.org

To: Honorable Randy T. Church, Chairman
Members of the Board of Commissioners

From: Alison Adams, WPCOG Director of Community and Regional Planning

Re: Building Outdoor Communities Grant Application

Date: December 12, 2023

This memo is to address the $25,000 Building Outdoor Communities (BOC) grant application submitted by WPCOG staff on behalf of Caldwell County on December 6th, 2023. The BOC program is designed to help communities in western North Carolina "leverage their natural assets and collaborate to advance their outdoor community and economic development goals." The grant application is for a feasibility study that will explore the potential of creating a trail along the existing Caldwell Railroad line, extending from Caldwell County and ultimately connecting to the City of Hickory's Riverwalk trail.

The study area will also include the abandoned rail spur that runs along the riverfront in downtown Rhodhiss and a possible trail extending from the end of the City of Hickory's Riverwalk trail at Alex Lee Boulevard on U.S. 321 to the Shoppes at Rivercrest. The trail would then continue to downtown Granite Falls via U.S. 321A, creating a loop leading to Rhodhiss via the Caldwell Railroad. The feasibility study will enhance outdoor economic development in Caldwell County by taking the initial steps to create new pedestrian and bicycle connections between 5 municipalities in Caldwell County (Town of Rhodhiss, Town of Granite Falls, Town of Sawmills, Town of Hudson, City of Lenoir), the City of Hickory's 10-mile existing and planned trail system, and the Carolina Thread Trail's Blueway in Hickory.

BOC grant guidelines require a 25% match from Caldwell County ($6,250). The City of Hickory has agreed to contribute $1,250 toward the study's cost.

Should you have questions please feel free to contact me. We are happy to serve Caldwell County.

Respectfully,

Alison H. Adams
WPCOG Director of Community and Regional Planning

Cc. Donald Duncan, County Manager

Executive Committee: Jill Patton, Chair | Joseph L. Gibbons, Vice Chair | Larry Chapman, Secretary | George B. Holleman, Treasurer | Bob Floyd, Jr., Past Chair | **At-Large Members:** Randy Burns | Cole Setzer | Marla Thompson | Larry Yoder | **Executive Director,** Anthony W. Starr

Serving: Alexander County | Taylorsville | Burke County | Connelly Springs | Drexel | Glen Alpine | Hildebran | Morganton | Rutherford College | Valdese | Caldwell County | Cajah's Mountain | Cedar Rock | Gamewell | Granite Falls | Hudson | Lenoir | Rhodhiss | Sawmills | Catawba County | Brookford | Catawba | Claremont | Conover | Hickory | Long View | Maiden | Newton

BUILDING OUTDOOR COMMUNITIES

Planning & Capacity Building Grants

January 23, 2024

Donald Duncan
Caldwell County Government
Project: Trail Feasibility Study

Dear Donald,

Congratulations! On behalf of the Made By Mountains Partnership and the Building Outdoor Communities Scoring Committee, we would like to officially award the 'Trail Feasibility Study' project a $25,000 dollar Planning and Capacity Building Grant. We were impressed by the pedestrian connectivity and regional potential it creates and believe the project scope aligns ideally with the core values of the Building Outdoor Communities program.

Regarding next steps, be on the lookout for an Adobe Sign email for all parties to electronically sign the grant agreement. The signed granted agreement will act as the first invoice. Be sure to review the payment and reporting terms. Upon notification of the signed grant agreement, I will move forward with processing the first payment. To expedite the process, please email me a completed IRS form W-9 when you sign the grant agreement.

Please continue to keep us updated as the project launches. This will enable our team to continuously elevate and communicate the great work underway.

Once again, congratulations to you and the Community Working Group for aligning to enhance the quality of life and outdoor economy in Caldwell County!

Sincerely,

Bradley Spiegel, AICP
Building Outdoor Communities Specialist
Made By Mountains Partnership

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Animal Care Enforcement	

AGENDA ITEM # 10

Animal Care and Enforcement use of Donated Funds

BACKGROUND

This budget revision allows donated funds to be spent on vaccines and other supplies for Animal Care.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve Budget Revision

BUDGET IMPACT

100% donated funds

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Animal Care and Enforcement Use of Donated Funds

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

2/26/2024

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject: Use of Donated Funds

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:

This revision allows Animal Care and Enforcement to use $1,000.00 in donated funds to purchase rabies vaccines and syringes for the Free Rabies Vaccine Event.

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D	Amount
10.5200.364501	Donated Funds		$1,000.00
Total			**1,000.00**

Line Item #	Title	I/D	Amount
10.5200.432900	Expense of Donated Funds		$1,000.00
Total			**1,000.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): Yes

Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			02/26/24		

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Emergency Services	

AGENDA ITEM # 11

Emergency Management Grant

BACKGROUND

This grant allows for the purchase of emergency equipment for Caldwell County Emergency Management.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve Budget Revision

BUDGET IMPACT

100% grant funded

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. EM Grant

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:

This grant accepts and allows for the expenditure of $55,500 in grant funds from HSGP for emergency equipment

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.4602.330000	Other Grants	I	$	55,500.00
Total				**55,500.00**

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.4602.429000	Grant Expenditures	I	$	55,500.00
Total				**55,500.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): Yes

Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			03/01/24		

NC Department of Public Safety
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Roy Cooper, Governor

Eddie M. Buffaloe Jr., Secretary
William C. Ray, Director

September 20, 2023

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

Fiscal Year 2023

SUBAWARD NOTIFICATION

Vic Misenheimer
Caldwell County
2345 Morganton Blvd.
Lenoir , NC 28645-4973

Period of Performance: September 1, 2023 **to** February 28, 2026
Project Title: Restroom-Shower Trailer
Total Amount of Award: $55,500.00
MOA #: 2340033

North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) is pleased to inform you that the federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) has been approved for funding. In accordance with the provisions of FY 2023 HSGP award, NCEM hereby awards to the foregoing subrecipient a grant in the amount shown above.

Payment of funds: The grant shall be effective upon final approval by NCEM of the grant budget and program narrative and the execution of the forthcoming Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Grant funds will be disbursed (according to the approved project budget) upon receipt of evidence that funds have been invoiced and products received and/or that funds have been expended (i.e., invoices, contracts, itemized expenses, etc.).

Conditions: The subrecipient agrees that funds will only be expended to complete the approved project(s) not to exceed the funding amount for the project(s) during the designated period of performance. The subrecipient also agrees to comply with all terms, conditions and responsibilities specified in the MOA, and to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, and rules and regulations in the performance of this grant.

Supplanting: The subrecipient confirms that grant funds will not be used to supplant or replace local or state funds or other resources that would otherwise have been available for homeland security activities.

Required Documents/Forms: The subrecipient must submit the following documents to (ncemgrants1@ncdps.gov) upon execution of the MOA:

- W-9 (09 NCAC 03M .0202)
- Electronic Payment / Vendor Verification Form (09 NCAC 03M .0202)
- Sworn (Notarized) No Overdue Tax Debt Certification (G.S. 143C-6-23.(c))
- Conflict of Interest Policy (G.S. 143C-6-23.(b))
- Copy of SUBRECIPIENT's procurement policy

In the box below, list the names and emails authorized as subrecipient signatories for the above-referenced MOA in the preferred order of signature and receipt. Append "cc" to designate copy-only.

Example: *John Smith (john.smith@yahoo.com)*
Mary Jones (mary.jones@hotmail.com)
Sam Brown (s.brown@gmail.com) cc

Donald Duncan dduncan@caldwellcountync.org
Vic Misenheimer vmisenheimer@caldwellcountync.org

1636 Gold Star Drive Raleigh, NC 27607 | 4236 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4236
Phone: 919-825-2500 Fax: 919-825-2685 | www.ncdps.gov www.readync.gov
An Equal Opportunity Employer

NORDIC AMERICAS

NORDIC AMERICAS GROUP LLC

107 MITCHELL LANE
DE QUEEN, AR 71832

Estimate

Date	Estimate #
2/26/2024	2020294

Name / Address
Caldwell County Emergency Services Lenor, NC

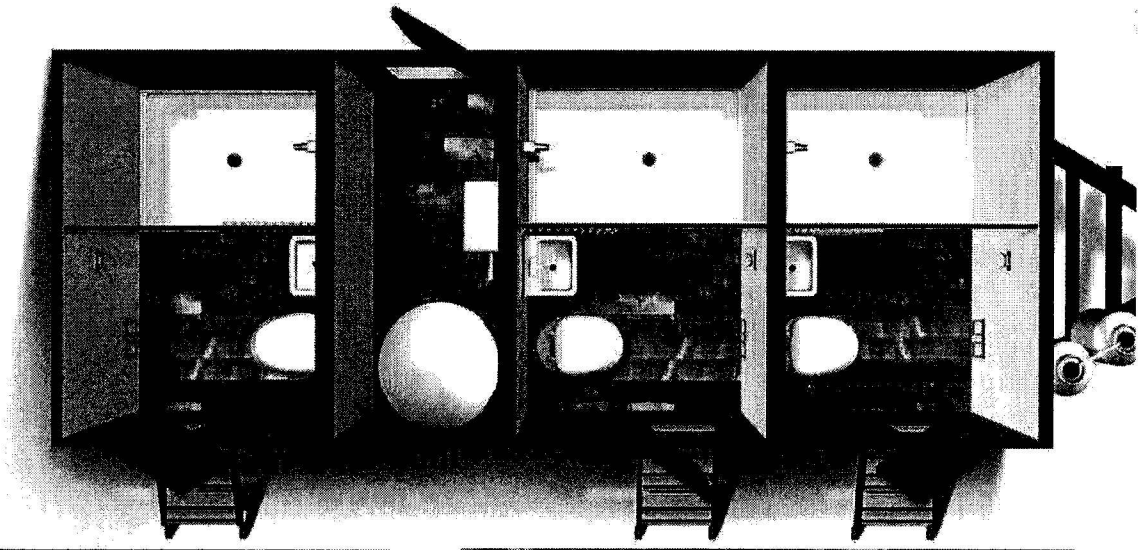
Project

Description	Qty	Rate	Total
Alpha III Shower Combo NEW 2023 16' x ' 6' box Smooth durable fiberglass interior walls Insulated walls & ceiling Bonded aluminum exterior skin Fold down aluminum steps, platform, hand rails LED porch lights 1 piece skid rubber flooring 1 piece ceiling with built in air supply and air return (2) 30 lb propane tanks Automatic door closer Vacant Occupied LED light indicator	1	46,832.00	46,832.00
Shower, Sink, & Toilet Module 32" x 32" shower pan, soap & shampoo dispenser, stainless steel corner sink with solid surface counter top, ceramic pedal flush toilet, toilet paper,paper towel, waste basket, shatterproof mirror		0.00	0.00
Fresh Water Tank 125 G City Fill Fresh Water Inlet		0.00	0.00
Waste Tank 270G 3/8" HDPE extrusion welded tank 1" wash out plug 3" quick connect waste tank valve		0.00	0.00
Roof Mounted AC unit with 5500 BTU Heat Strip		0.00	0.00
3 Season Electric Winter Package: rated to 30 F insulated walls & ceiling 750 watt heaters ea restroom cube, waste tank de-icing system	1	2,900.00	2,900.00
(2) 30 AMP /120 V plugs in lieu of (1) 50 AMP 240V	1		0.00
Alpha Trailer Delivery	1	1,850.00	1,850.00
		Total	$51,582.00

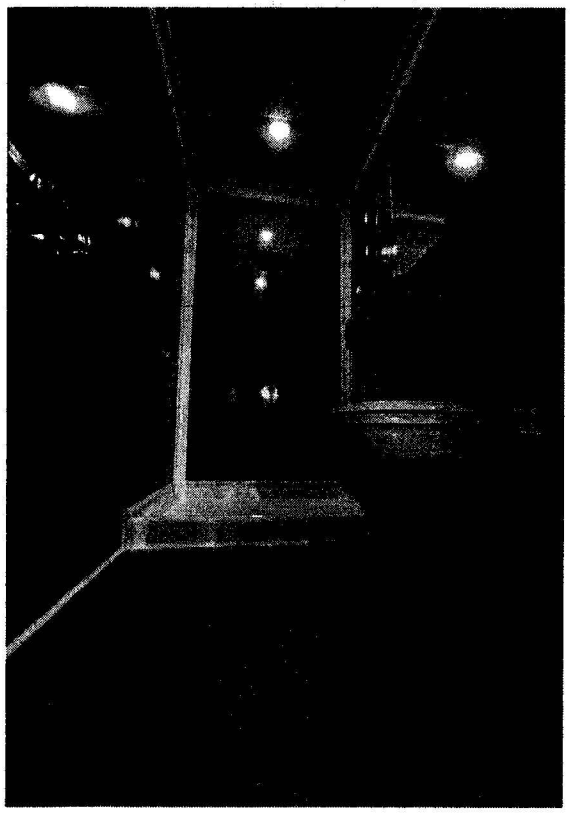
Phone #
8707848965

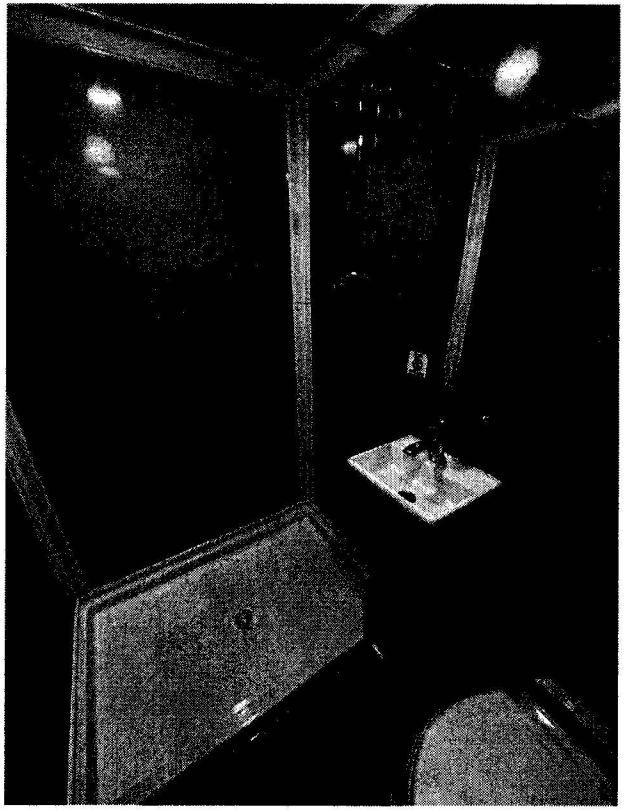
ECT-3-Stall Restroom & Shower Combo Trailer 16' x 6'
150-Gallon Fresh Water Tank | 385-Gallon Waste Tank

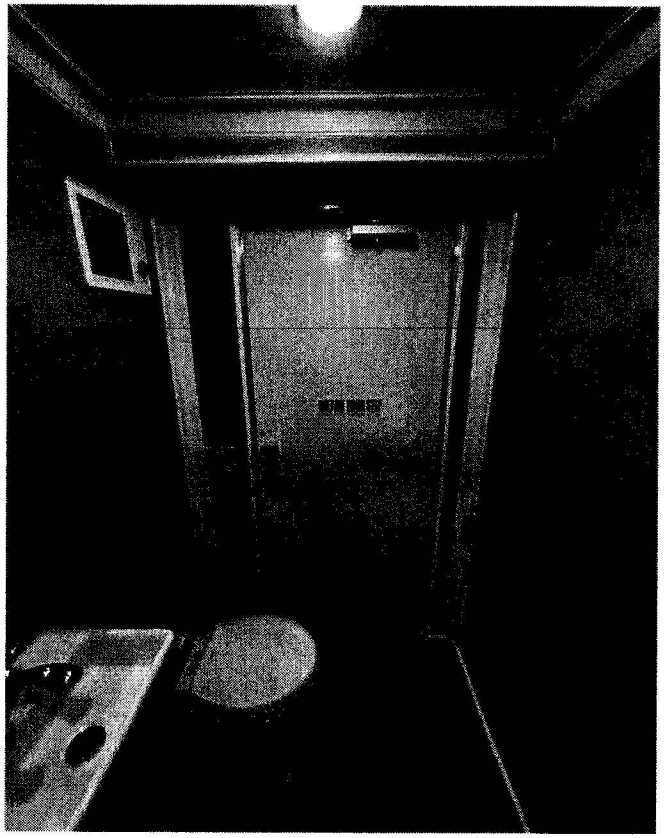
ELK CREEK
TRAILERS











3-Stall Restroom/Shower COMBO Trailer Quote

Elk Creek Trailers <info@elkcreektrailers.com>
Mon 10/30/2023 12:34 PM
To:Vic Misenheimer <vmisenheimer@caldwellcountync.org>

2 attachments (1 MB)
ECT-3-Stall Restroom Shower Combo Specs.pdf; ECT-3-Stall Restroom Shower Combo 16'x 6'.pdf;

Welcome to Elk Creek Trailers, the premier provider of Luxury, high-quality, durable, restroom trailers.

Elk Creek Trailers is a nationally licensed trailer manufacturer based in Arizona, specializing in Direct-to-Consumer sales.

The ETC 3-Stall Restroom and Shower COMBO Trailer is one of our most popular combo models, it is designed for ease of use in all environments.
And features 3 fully self-contained restrooms with a Full Shower outfitted much like your guests might find in their own home.
Where your guests experience a roomy and relaxing atmosphere.

This unit comes complete, It is Plug and play ready to go to work.

FALL SALE PRICE ~~$56,870.00~~ including Delivery to You. * Need Financing Apply Here.

Popular Available Options
AM/FM/BT Stereo with Speakers $450.00
All Room Heat Package $1450.00
Electric heaters in each room & control room and additional 30-amp cord(s)
Full Heat Package $2540.00
Electric heaters in each room & control room, electric waste tank heater and additional 30 amp cord(s)
Spare Tire & Wheel ONLY (matching) $475.00

Just sold the last one in the Yard we will have another available in 1- to 2-weeks or less!
These sell FAST and are sold on a First come first served basis, BUT You can reserve one.
These are usually Sold as soon or BEFORE they come off the line, Reserve yours Now.

If you want to proceed, I will send a Detailed spec sheet and official bid.

All we need to get started is all your information for the paperwork, a signed contract and a deposit or approved financing..

Please email or call me if you have ANY questions.

Lastly, please confirm the receipt of this email.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

Ronald Reagan

May God richly bless you,
BUY ... "MADE IN THE USA" NOT CHINA

Paul Meacham

Senior Project Coordinator
Elk Creek Trailers

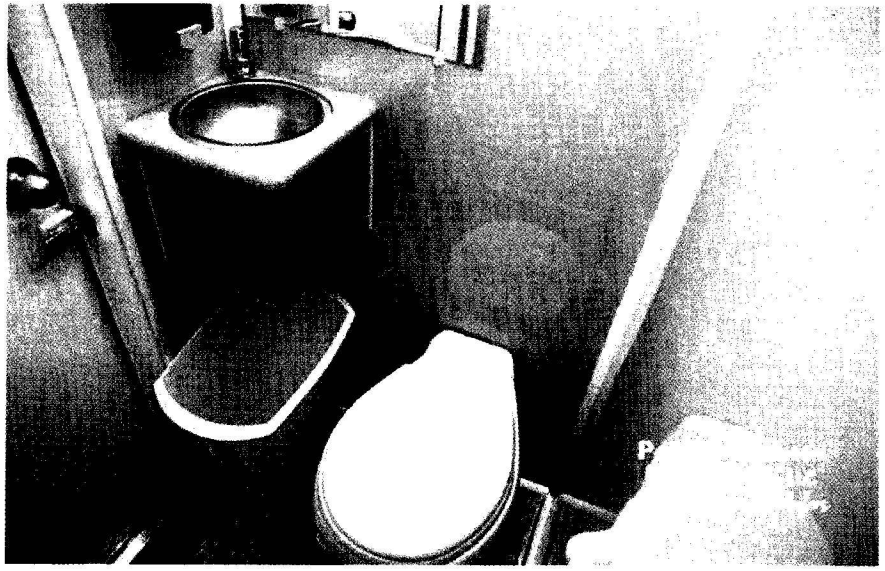
O: 928-275-6880

Email: Info@ElkCreekTrailers.com
P.O. Box 2440 (U.S. Mail)
2740 Hwy 260 (UPS/FedEx)
Overgaard, AZ 85933-2440
Licensed by: NHTSA & SAE International
Elk Creek Trailer Website

**** Many factors can change the est. delivery date: Supply, Availability, The COVID Shutdowns, Governmental Policies, and many other unforeseen conflicts. It is to our advantage to get you your trailer as soon as possible, and we are always moving towards more ways to increase productivity.****

Company Logo

3 Station Shower / Restroom Combo Designer Series - 3 Season Package



FREE FREIGHT
Up to 1,000 Miles

What Clients Say About Our Products

"These are awesome! -Billy"

Available Now

Be the first to review this product

$57,700.00

Regular Price **$61,360.00**

SKU# FRA185443


Check Out Our
BUYBACK
POLICY
EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Qty

1

No down payment! Financing as low as $1,014 per month for 72 months QBO

3 Season | Small | 3 Toilets | 0 Urinals | Up to 250 Guests | 3 Sinks

Keep your capital!

Check out our trusted finance partners.

Option

1

Option

2

Option

3

Recently Viewed Products



3 Station Portable Restroom Trailer | Malibu Comfort Series

$54,560.00

Overview

Designer Shower Trailer Portable Restroom Trailer Combos for Campgrounds, Schools, and Emergency Management

3 Station Shower / Restroom Trailer Combo | Designer Series - 3 Season Package

This 3 Station Shower / Restroom Trailer Combo | Designer Series is the perfect solution for locations requiring shower and restroom facilities in one compact environment!

Each unisex shower/restroom suite includes a water-saving china flushable toilet, a corner sink with metered faucet, and a shower stall with metered shower head and curtain. The trailer also has a beautiful earth-tone fiberglass interior, insulated walls and ceiling, and one-piece aluminum seamless roof with smooth siding.

Abundant porch lighting at each entry door and 1-piece non-skid designer flooring ensure your guests can enter/ exit safely and securely at any time of day or night. Your guests will also enjoy the comfort of a fully climate-controlled environment, including the 3 Season Package, maintained by air conditioning and heat strips!

*Effective immediately, this trailer now includes black-covered A/C units; please see additional photo.

Financing is available with a deposit and approved credit.
Call us today for more information at 1-866-818-4137

***Free Shipping Up to 1,000 miles (any extra mileage additional - no credit for going under miles), no port delivery, Within continental US - Delivery via highways only, no special transport (islands/ferry) - single truck delivery only, limited to specific stock only. Subject to current availability.

Features/Specifications

Model Year: Newest Model

Stations: 3

Standard Toilets: 3

Sinks: 3

Solar panel: No

Keyless Entry: No

Laundry: No

Fresh Water Tank (Gallons): 125

Waste Tank (Gallons): 300

Mechanics Room: Yes

Box Length: 16'

Box Width: 6'

Curb Weight (lbs.): 4828

A/C Unit Type (BTU): 13.5

A/C Unit Count: 1

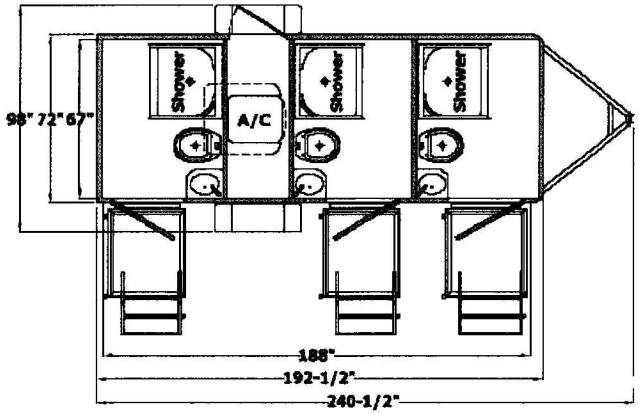
Water Supply: City Water- Pressurized Water System- Garden Hose

Power Supply/Cords: (1-4) 120 v / 30 amp

Motion Sensor Step Lights: No

Warranty Information: This new Comfort Series unit has a 3-year trailer manufacturer warranty on the trailer and a 1-3 year warranty on Individual appliances. Registration details are provided by their individual appliance manufacturers and are located in the component binder located in the mechanics room on the backside of the trailer.

Floor Plan



Warranty
More Information
Product Questions

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Emergency Services	

AGENDA ITEM # 12

Fire Department Radio Purchase

BACKGROUND

This revision allows for $850,000 in grant funding to be used for the purchase of radios for the County fire departments.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approval of budget revision.

BUDGET IMPACT

Grant Funded

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Revision for Fire Department Radio Purchase
2. Fire Department Radio Project Memo

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:
This budget revisions allows $850,000 in grant funding to be used by the county to purchase radios for the fire departments.

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
43.9000.330000.10191	Other Grants	I	$	850,000.00
Total				**850,000.00**

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
43.9000.429000.10191	Grant Expenditures	I	$	850,000.00
Total				**850,000.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): No
Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			03/05/24		

CALDWELL COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES
P.O. Box 2200 • Lenoir, NC 28645
Dino DiBernardi, Chief of Department/Director
828-757-1424
"A Legacy of Service and Dedication"

TO: Donald Duncan

FROM: Trevor Key

RE: Caldwell County Interoperability Project

With the upcoming Phase II/TDMA changes in the North Carolina VIPER System and limited amount of working radios after the January 2025 change, it was deemed necessary to search for a funding source to provide our County Fire Departments with operational radios. Through networking and partnerships $850,000.00 was granted by the North Carolina General Assembly with the goal of providing the Caldwell County Fire Departments with interoperable multi band radios. In September 2023 we were notified that the funding was approved in the 2023/2025 State Budget, successfully securing the requested $850,000.00.

Requests for public safety grade multi band portable and mobile radios were sent out vendors offering said devices. Three vendors replied with quotes with one particular vendor identified as the best option. The initial thought was to purchase 100 portable radios to be divided among the fire departments. After "shopping around" and talking to vendors we found a competitor offering both mobile radios and portable radios within the $850,000.00 budget. After a competitive process, the awarded vendor has obtained pricing under the state contract price for a significant cost savings allowing the purchasing of 31 additional portable radios and accessories. This allows for a total of 28 Mobile Radios and 131 Portable Radios.

Of the Caldwell County Fire Departments, each department will be issued 8 Portables and 2 Mobiles. This will ensure proper communications for two engine companies per department. Portable radios will come with a battery, charger, and remote speaker mic. The radios will be Caldwell County assets assigned to the respective agencies until the end of 5 Years from issue. Caldwell County will maintain a cache of portable radios purchased through this grant for use in incidents throughout the County. At the end of 5 years, ownership will be transferred to the agency once the devices are out of warranty.

Programming will be performed by Caldwell County Emergency Services with one template/codeplug for all radios insuring functionality and interoperability.

Each Agency will be responsible signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between said agency and Caldwell County.

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Sheriff's Office	

AGENDA ITEM # 13

Sheriff's Office Purchase of Detective Vehicle

BACKGROUND

Asset Seizure funds will be used to purchase a detective vehicle for the Sheriff's Office.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approval of budget revision.

BUDGET IMPACT

Funded by asset seizure funds.

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Revision for Undercover Vehicle

ic

Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Board Meeting: Feb 2024

Subject: Undercover Vehicle

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:
To cover the purchase of an uncover vehcile for Narcotics to fill the vehicle void of the new position created in Investigations
This request requires no local funds

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Revenue	Increase		**Expenditures:**	Increase	
Line Item #	Title	Amount	Line Item #	Title	Amount
104314-331100	Asset Seizre Funds	$ 22,600.00	104314-451001	Vehicles	$ 22,600.00
Total		**22,600.00**	**Total**		**22,600.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): YES
Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action: No Local Funds

Department Head	Finance Director Date	County Manager Date
3/5/2024		

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Emergency Services	

AGENDA ITEM # 14

Appointments to Grace Chapel Relief Board

BACKGROUND

Grace Chapel Fire Department is requesting the appointment of Aaron Haas and Jerry Teague to the Fire Department's Relief Fund Board.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

Appointment of Aaron Haas and Jerry Teague

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Caldwell County Relief Fund Change Letter Gracel Chapel 2024 (2)

Commissioners
Randy T. Church, Chairman
Michael W. LaBrose, Vice Chairman
Jeff Branch
Donnie Potter
Robbie Wilkie

Donald Duncan, County Manager

County of Caldwell
PO Box 2200
Lenoir, NC 28645
Phone (828) 757-1300
Fax (828) 757- 1295

www.caldwellcountync.org

February 01, 2024

Mr. Donald Duncan
Caldwell County Manager

Mr. Duncan,

Each year, The North Carolina Firefighter's Relief Fund requires each County to provide information regarding the members of each Fire Department's Relief Fund Board. There is one department that has made changes to their board during the past year. Two of the members placed on this board are required to be appointed by the Caldwell County Commissioners. Traditionally, the County Commissioners have accepted the recommendation of the respective fire department for these positions.

If this is acceptable, please include Aaron Haas and Jerry Teague as the representatives for the Grace Chapel Fire Department on the next consent agenda. Mr. Haas will be replacing Travis Davenport as the representative and Mr. Teague is being re-appointed . If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ricky K. Brown, CFI
Caldwell County Fire Marshal
rbrown@caldwellcountync.org
828-757-1277

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Facilities Services	

AGENDA ITEM # 15

Approval of Mowing Contract

BACKGROUND

Hatton's Lawn Service has been awarded the mowing contract for Caldwell County facilities.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

1. Hatton's Maintenance contract 3.24
2. Mowing Comparisons

NORTH CAROLINA
CALDWELL COUNTY

CONTRACT FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

This Contract for Grounds Maintenance is entered into by and between CALDWELL COUNTY ("County"), a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, and Hatton's Lawn Service, Inc. (Company"), a North Carolina corporation having its offices and principal place of Business located in Caldwell County, North Carolina, on this ___ day of March, 2024.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, on or about November 13, 2023 County issued its Request for Proposals for Landscape and Grounds Maintenance, BID 23-1128 ("RFP"), which is incorporated herein as an integral part of this Contract; and

WHEREAS, Company responded to the RFP by submitting its bid, including its response To Exhibits A and B of the RFP (collectively "Company's Bid"), Company's response is incorporated as an integral part of this Contract; and

WHEREAS, County has identified Company's Bid as the lowest responsible/responsive bids; and

WHEREAS, County and Company now desire to enter in a contractual relationship for Company to be a non-exclusive provider of grounds maintenance for the county properties listed in the RFP, including fixed pricing for standard maintenance services such as (but not limited to) mowing, edging, removal of clippings, etc. and standard hourly labor rates for other extended services. Pesticides are sprayed solely at the discretion of the Facilities Services Manager.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties do agree and contract as follows:

l. TERM. The term of this Contract is one (1) calendar year, commencing April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025, unless earlier terminated as provided in Section 4, below.

2. COMPANY'S OBLIGATIONS. During the term of this Contract, Company will provide the grounds maintenance specified in the RFP, for the prices and within the service turn-around times specified in Company's Bid, and will comply with all other terms and conditions set forth in the RFP.

3. COUNTY'S OBLIGATIONS. During the term of this Contract, and subject to the exceptions Specified hereinafter, County will utilize Company as one of the providers of those grounds maintenance services listed in Company's Bid for its Grounds Maintenance. County will pay Company for its services within thirty (30) days after receipt of Company's invoices, provided that the invoices contain all of the information specified for invoices in the RFP.

4. EARLY TERMINATION. Either party may terminate this Contract as provided in the termination provisions of the RFP.

5. GOVERNING LAW. This Contract is entered into under the last of the State of North Carolina which laws shall govern its interpretation and enforcement.

CALDWELL COUNTY

By: _____
Randy Church
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

HATTON'S LAWN SERVICE, INC.

By: _____
Michael J. Hatton, President

CALDWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA			
MOWING OPTIONS			
Contract with Spann			**$ 221,040**
Contract with Hatton			**$ 181,620**
In house Option			
Hire two staff at grade 64 ($32,318 per year)	64,636		
Add Benefits	28,806		
Recurring staffing cost		**93,442**	
Fuel for equipment	15,600		
Seed	3,900		
Mulch	5,900		
Fertilizer	3,825		
Recurring cost other		**29,225**	
Total Recurring Cost		122,667	
Vehicle Truck to pull trailers		50,000	
Total In House Option			**$ 172,667**
First Year savings in house option over low bid	*8,953*		
Recurring annual savings over low bid	*58,953*		

Board of Commissioners Meeting
Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE	DEPARTMENT	PREPARED BY
March 11, 2024	Finance	

AGENDA ITEM # 16

Approval of Audit Contract with Martin & Starnes

BACKGROUND

This item approves the audit contract with Martin & Starnes

RECOMMENDED MOTION

BUDGET IMPACT

APPROVED FOR BUDGET YEAR

No

ATTACHMENTS

None

Caldwell County
North Carolina
Board of Commissioners Meeting

February 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM
City-County Chambers
905 West Avenue NW, Lenoir

MINUTES

Attendance:

Present:
Randy Church, Chairman
Mike LaBrose, Vice Chairman
Jeff Branch, Commissioner
Donnie Potter, Commissioner
Robbie Wilkie, Commissioner
David Lackey, County Attorney
Donald Duncan, County Manager
Abby Rich, County Clerk

Call to Order
Chairman Church called the February 12, 2024, Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Public Comment Period
There were no individuals signed up for public comment.

Invocation
Senior Pastor David Payne of Flemings Chapel Baptist Church provided the invocation for those in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance
Commissioner Donnie Potter led the Pledge of Allegiance for those in attendance.

Agenda Amendments from the Board, Manager & Public
The County Manager informed the Chairman that were no proposed amendments to the agenda.

Commissioner LaBrose made the motion to accept the agenda as presented by the County Manager and County Clerk.
The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Items

1. **Loyce Price Centenarian Award**
   Chairman Church read the Centenarian Award honoring Ms. Annie Loyce Price and her 100 years of life.

Vice Chairman LaBrose made the motion to approve this award.
Commissioner Branch made a second to this motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

2. Moving Mountains Award to Paisley Beane

County Manager, Donald Duncan, presented the Moving Mountains award to Miss Paisley Beane. Mr. Duncan said that Paisley was born with a rare genetic disease, but despite the numerous surgeries she has undergone, she remains passionate about basketball. The Board congratulated Paisley.

3. Recognizing the Retirement of Regina Goforth

Chairman Church read the Resolution honoring Veteran's Services Director, Regina Goforth's retirement. The Board members congratulated Ms. Goforth and Commissioner Branch shared that he was extremely pleased with the assistance provided by the Veteran's Services Office after the passing of his father.

Chairman Church made the motion to adopt the resolution.
The motion carried unanimously.

4. Updates from US Forest Service

Nicholas Larson with the US Forest Service came to the podium to present updates and information about various projects that the NC Forest Service is working on. Those updates included increased wildfire prevention in NC Forest Land, reducing the risk of wildfire, and the Wilson Creek corridor study. On Friday, February 16th, they will be pulling together stakeholders to target what improvements need to be made to the 2-mile stretch of Wilson Creek that is most visited. Commissioner Wilkie asked if the corridor study would address the traffic issues in the area. Mr. Larson provided that the study would not necessarily address the traffic. Commissioner Wilkie discussed the difficulty emergency response vehicles have in this area and stated that at some point this issue needs to be addressed. Commissioner Potter continued this discussion by saying he could talk about this issue for days. He thanked Mr. Larson for the work done in the forestry areas and continued by saying nothing has been done so far in the Wilson Creek corridor. Commissioner Potter then stated the only work that had been done was a guardrail that he had put in place. There was continued discussion about the Sheriff's Office patrolling the area and the environmental impacts of the number of visitors to Wilson Creek. Commissioner Branch asked if the horse trails were turned into bicycle trails to be leased. Mr. Larson said there are funds that are received when events are held for Outfitters Grants. A portion of these funds comes back to the County for payment in lieu of taxes, but these trails are not leased out. Commissioner Potter asked Chief Financial Officer Tony Helton approximately how much money the County receives from the Pelt Grant. There was discussion about who all the County shares these funds with. The conversation turned back to the discussion about not being able to an ambulance or emergency response vehicle the citizens that live in this area. Mr. Larson said that the study will help determine the number of facilities needed in the area and the Forest Service cannot issue permits without having a minimum number of facilities. Chairman Church said that Commissioner Potter carried the sentiments of the Board well. Commissioner Branch asked how many individuals the forest service had on patrol in the area and there was a discussion held with Caldwell County Sheriff Deputy John Runion about the number of individuals on patrol from the County and State. Chairman Church thanked Mr. Larson for coming.

5. StRAP Grant Accomplishments

Soil and Water Conservationist, Aaron Franks, came to the podium to present the accomplishments of the Soil and Water Department with their use of the StRAP Grant Funding. Mr. Franks showed before and after photos of several stream areas that were cleared. Commissioner Potter told Mr. Franks and team to keep up the good work.

6. RFP for Public/Private Partnership for Residential Development of County Owned Property

Charlie Chapman with the Caldwell County Economic Development Department came to the podium to present the public/ private partnership for property located at 1901 Connelly Springs Rd. in Lenoir. Mr. Chapman provided an overview of the RFQ process for the Board. Mr. Chapman also told the Board that the intent is to reserve 20% of the housing for public service workers such as teachers and first responders. Commissioner Branch asked if this would be a low income housing project. Mr. Chapman provided that it is not. There was a brief discussion about this project helping as a recruitment tool for Emergency Services. The Board thanked Mr. Chapman for his presentation.

7. Ripple Fiber

Jason Farjeski with Ripple fiber came to the podium to discuss the company's expansion into Caldwell County. Ripple Fiber hopes to have an office within Caldwell County, and if not, a nearby County. They currently employee 70 North Carolina workers with offices located across North Carolina. Mr. Farjeski provided the Board with a breakdown of their current cost and noted that Ripple Fiber will also offer phone service. He then noted that Caldwell County will get new fiber, infrastructure, and competition with other fiber providers. These will increase the livability index and typically areas with fiber see a 3.1% home price increase. The goal of Ripple Fiber is to build fiber in areas where fiber is currently not available. Vice Chairman LaBrose asked about the reliability of this fiber. Mr. Farjeski told the Vice Chairman that the reliability rates are in the high 99%. Commissioner Potter asked if there were plans for rural development. Mr. Farjeski told Commissioner Potter that he would not use the term rural. For example, Gamewell is a densely populated area. Mr. Farjeski ended his presentation by saying development would begin in 6 to 9 months and construction could begin as soon as 2 months from now. Mr. Farjeski thanked the Board for their time.

8. Tax Liens on Real Property

Tax Administrator Josh Angle came to the podium to request approval to advertise the 2024 tax liens on real property. The total number of outstanding accounts is 5,128 and the sum of these accounts is $2,543,082.77.

Commissioner Wilkie made the motion to approve the advertisement of these tax liens as presented.
The motion carried unanimously.

9. Call for Public Hearing for Road Name- Woods Rd.

GIS Administrator Micah Kelly came to the podium to request a public hearing for the naming of a road in Lenoir. The name of Woods Rd. was proposed by the landowners. There was discussion about an alternative road name because there is a Woods Dr.

already in Caldwell County. Commissioner Potter asked if the landowners could come up with an alternative name to reduce confusion for Emergency Services.

Commissioner Potter made the motion to hold the public hearing at the March 11, Board of Commissioners Meeting.
The motion carried unanimously.

10. Acceptance of Bid for Lake Park Water System

The County Manager told the Board that this is the 2nd bid for the Lake Park Water System. The bid amount is $532,710 and the acceptance will go to North State Water and Sewer Incorporated.

Commissioner Branch made the motion to accept the bid.
The motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Chairman Church turned the meeting over to the County Manager to present the consent agenda.

11. Honoring Black History Month

The Proclamation Honors Black History Month for 2024.

12. Emergency Services- Radio Purchase Grant

Additional federal funding for purchasing radios. The county will be allowed to purchase six radios for a total of $49,985.34.

13. Sheriff's Office- Use of Donated Funds for Safeguard Kit Purchase

The funding will allow the County to have "Stop the Bleed" kits at each school. The amount of the funds to be spent is $11,820.

14. Health Department- Acceptance of Bridges Access Grant

The Health Department received the Bridges Access Grant, this allows for $74,679 in additional vaccine access for those who are uninsured or underinsured.

15. DSS- Use of Grant Funds for Emergency Placement

DSS has received funding for emergency placement of children with behavioral health issues in the amount of $27,996.

16. SCADA Contract between Water Department and ForTech

This is a $30,000 grant that will start the beginning of a supervising control and data acquisition system. It allows for the digital monitoring of valves and filling of tanks.

17. 2024 Appointments Board of Equalization and Review

The Tax Office requested for Thomas (Larry) Andrews, Reba Barlow, Phil Case, Phyllis Mitchell, Wayne Parson, Bob Price, Barbara Teague, and G. David Waechter, (Chairman) to be appointed to the 2024 Board of Equalization and Review.

18. Approval of Agreement for Miscellaneous Services Between Water Department and Wither's Ravenel

This agreement is for on call services relating to emergencies or other urgent needs.

19. Approval of Tri-County Speedway 2024 Schedule

For 2024, Tri-County Motor Speedway has 17 events planned and has provided a list of rain dates and test dates.

20. Conveyance of Property to Governmental Entity

Two Sheriff's Office Patrol Vehicles are being donated to Brookford Police Department.

21. Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2024, Meeting

The approval of the January 11, 2024, meeting minutes is requested.

Chairman Church made the motion to approve the consent agenda.
The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Commissioner Potter made the motion to enter closed session pursuant to NC GS 143-318-11 (4) at 7:30 PM.
The motion carried unanimously.

22. Economic Development

Commissioner Potter made the motion to exit the closed session at 8:27 PM.
The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Commissioner Wilkie made the motion to adjourn at 8:28 PM.
The motion carried unanimously.