BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 15, 2026
5:00 PM

Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street
Columbus, NC 28722

1. Call to Order the Regular Meeting - Chairman Yoder
2. Invocation - Vice-Chairman Moore
3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Beiler
4. Approval of Agenda
   A. Items may be added or removed at this time.
5. Consent Agenda
   A. Approval of May 18, 2026, Budget Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes, and June 1, 2026, Budget Work Session, Special Meeting, and Public Hearing Minutes
   B. Juvenile Crime and Prevention Council (JCPC) Annual Plan and Budget for FY 2026/2027
   C. Tax Refund Requests
      I. May 2026 Refunds in the amount of $2,792.89
      II. Refund/release request due to illegal tax per NCGS 105-381 in the amount of $224.07
      III. Refund request due to clerical error per NCGS 105-381 in the amount of $3,284.81
   D. Declare two Health and Human Services Vehicles as surplus to be sold via GovDeals auction
6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.
7. Regular Agenda Items
   A. Budget Amendments - Finance Director, Sonya Ayers, will present any budget amendments that may need approval for FY 2025/26. (Budget amendments are eligible to be submitted up to and including June 15, 2026.)

B. Polk County Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2026/27 (including any proposed fee changes included in the County Manager's recommended budget) - The Manager's recommended budget was presented on May 11, 2026. A budget work session was held on May 18, 2026, and the budget public hearing was held on June 1, 2026.

C. Polk County Opioid Settlement Update - Polk County Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

D. Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Skyrunner Update - Skyrunner Representative

E. Consideration of the Polk County Recruitment and Retention Schedule extension to end December 31, 2026 - Manager Pittman

8. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

9. Volunteer Board Applications

A. Appearance Commission - There are four vacancies and two applicants; Craig Hilton, and Rusty Powell.

B. Board of Adjustment - There are three vacancies and six applicants; Adrienne Reilly, Betty Hill, Craig Hilton, Jayne Collins, Lisa Krolak, and Michael Chaffin.

C. Foothills Workforce Development Commission - There are two vacancies and one applicant; Craig Hilton

D. Harmon Field Board of Supervisors - There are two vacancies (two year term, and four year term), and five applicants; Jamie Dunn, Kelly LeCompte, Nathan LeCompte, Princess Wilson, and Rick Covil.

10. Commissioner Comments.

11. Closed Session

A. Motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege, and Personnel.

B. Motion to return to open session.

12. Adjournment

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 4.A

Items may be added or removed at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.A

Approval of May 18, 2026, Budget Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes, and June 1, 2026, Budget Work Session, Special Meeting, and Public Hearing Minutes

ATTACHMENTS

1. May 18, 2026 BudgetWS_Minutes
2. 5.18.26 minutes
3. 6.1.26 Budget WS Minutes
4. 6.1.26 Special Mtg, and PH Minutes

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Budget Work Session
May 18, 2026 - 1:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Moore, Commissioner Beiler, and Commissioner Hargett. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Clerk to the Board Freeman, and citizens.

Absent: Commissioner Melton

1. Call to Order the Budget Work Session - Chairman Yoder

2. Regular Agenda Items

   A. Isothermal Community College - Margaret Annunziata, President.

   Ms. Annunziata discussed the development of a new Heavy Equipment Operations program, which will incorporate simulation-based training and employer partnerships. She said that no new equipment purchases are planned, as participating employers will provide the necessary equipment for training purposes.

   The proposed budget includes a 7.5% increase in operational funding, consisting primarily of a 3% salary increase for employees and approximately 4% for building repairs and maintenance.

   B. Public Schools - Todd Murphy, Superintendent Polk County Schools.
   - Education - Public Schools (10-5910)

   Mr. Murphy said the schools are requesting a one-time $1 million allocation to the school system's fund balance. He explained that the requested allocation would provide the school system with additional flexibility while awaiting final legislative budget decisions and evaluating future funding needs.

   He also explained that approximately 80% of the school system's budget is dedicated to personnel costs and said that rising expenses, including insurance and retirement contributions, continue to impact operations. He emphasized the importance of maintaining small class sizes, which are valued by parents and contribute to student success.

C. Planning and Zoning Department — Cathy Ruth
- Planning (10-4910)
- Economic Development (10-5913)

Ms. Ruth presented a proposed update to the Planning and Zoning fee schedule, which would increase text/map amendment fees by approximately $100 to $500. The revised fee structure is intended to better reflect the actual costs associated with development applications, including advertising expenses that are currently covered by the County. She also discussed an additional fee of $10 which will be required to notify adjacent property owners to cover the cost of certified mail.

D. Building Inspections - Patrick Rimer
- Building Inspections (10-4350)

Mr. Rimer said they are requesting an update to the Building Inspections fee schedule. He explained that fees have not been changed in 18 years. The proposed adjustments would bring the County's fees more in line with those charged by neighboring counties and better reflect current service costs.

E. Solid Waste — Travis Ballard
- Landfill (51-4720)

Mr. Ballard presented a request for rate increases within the Solid Waste Department. The proposal includes a $3 per ton increase for waste shipping to account for Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustments, as well as a $10 increase for annual permit fees. He explained that the annual permit program currently results in an estimated loss of approximately $400,000 per year, with 1,796 permit holders currently utilizing the service.

He said that the proposed fee adjustments are intended to help offset operational expenses and improve cost recovery within the department.

F. Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee (FRAC) - Bobby Arledge, Emergency Management Director, and Fire Marshal.

Mr. Arledge attended the meeting on behalf of the Fire Rescue Advisory Committee (FRAC) to present recommendations regarding fire district tax rates. He said that both the Saluda and Tryon Fire Departments requested increases to support staffing and personnel needs, as well as the replacement of aging equipment.

Mr. Arledge explained that the Tryon Fire Department was recently placed on probation by the State Fire Marshal's Office due to a shortage of on-call personnel. He said Tryon originally requested a $0.04 tax increase, but FRAC recommended a $0.02 increase, raising the district tax rate from 0.1038 to 0.1238. He explained that the additional funding would help with personnel recruitment and retention, as well as equipment needs. He also said that Saluda requested a $0.0075 cent increase in their tax rate from 0.1250 to 0.1325.

G. Sheriff's Department — Sheriff Wright
- **Sheriff (10-4310)**
- **School Resource Officers (10-4311)**
- **Jail (10-4320)**
- **Communications (10-4325)**
- **Animal Control (10-4340)**

Sheriff Wright explained that they would like to add an additional position within the 911 Communications Department. The position is intended to increase staffing levels from two to three personnel per shift, which will improve operational coverage and the department's ability to respond to communications needs.

H. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) — Michael Crater
- **EMS (10-4370)**

Mr. Crater discussed ongoing ambulance replacement and maintenance needs. He said that for the upcoming fiscal year, EMS plans to remount an existing ambulance box onto a new chassis as an alternative to purchasing a completely new vehicle.

I. Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) — Robin Elliot
- **Transportation Operations (20-4520)**
- **Transportation Administration (20-4521)**
- **Health Department (20-5110)**
- **Senior Services (20-5169)**
- **Department of Social Services (DSS) (20-5300)**
- **Veterans Services (20-5820)**

Ms. Elliott explained that several budget projections remain dependent upon the adoption of the legislative budget. She said the department continues to experience revenue reductions resulting from changes in state and federal funding sources, which has led to uncertainty in future funding levels and program support

3. Adjournment

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kennedy E Freeman
Clerk to the Board

Myron Yoder
Chairman

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
May 18, 2026 - 5:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Moore, Commissioner Beiler, and Commissioner Hargett. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Clerk to the Board Freeman, and citizens.

Absent: Commissioner Melton

1. Call to Order the Regular Meeting - Chairman Yoder.

2. Invocation - Chairman Yoder.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Hargett

4. Approval of Agenda

   A. Items may be added or removed at this time.

   Vice-Chairman Moore moved to add an agenda item to cancel the May 19, 2026, Budget Work Session as item 7.A.I. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beiler and carried unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda

   A. Approval of the April 20, 2026, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting, and the May 11, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes.

   B. Schedule a Public Hearing for proposed new road names to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building.

   C. Tax Refund Requests in the amount of $1,537.49.

   D. Budget Amendment to adjust budget lines internally within the Sheriff's Department and Detention Center.

   E. Budget Amendment to cover Sheriff's Department Merit Increases which were budgeted and appropriated in FY26.

   Vice-Chairman Moore moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Beiler, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

There were no citizen comments on agenda items.

7. Regular Agenda Items

A.I. Cancellation of the May 19, 2026, Budget Work Session (added during item 4.A.)

Commissioner Beiler moved to cancel the Budget Work Session, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

A.II. Child Fatality Prevention Team 2025 Annual Report - Robin Elliott, HHSA Director, and the Child Fatality Prevention Team.

Ms. Elliott gave the Child Fatality Prevention Team's 2025 Annual Report.

B. Resolution Adjusting Current and Future Reappraisal Cycles – Melissa O'Loughlin, Tax Administrator.

Mrs. O'Loughlin presented a resolution requesting a six-year reappraisal cycle. She explained that the current four-year cycle is too frequent for a county the size of Polk, while the previous eight-year cycle was too long. A six-year cycle would remain within the statutory limit and provide a more stable tax base, while also supporting long-term financial planning and reducing the frequency of costly reappraisals.

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beiler and carried unanimously.

C. Helene Recovery Disaster Mitigation Program Update - Ryan Searcy - NCFS Polk County Ranger, and Coleman Enloe -NCFS Mitigation Specialist.

Mr. Searcy and Mr. Enloe gave a presentation which is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.

D. Fund Balance Appropriation for new Emergency Management Truck - Bobby Arledge, Emergency Management Director, and Fire Marshal.

Mr. Arledge requested approval of a fund balance appropriation to purchase a new Emergency Management vehicle. He explained that the vehicle currently assigned to the Assistant Fire Marshal has experienced ongoing mechanical issues and that replacing the vehicle would be more cost-effective than continuing repairs. He said his current truck would be reassigned to the Assistant Fire Marshal and that the new vehicle would better meet the towing and operational needs of Emergency Management.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the appropriation, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Polk County Public Libraries 2026-2031 Strategic Plan Approval - Marcie Dowling, Libraries Director.

Ms. Dowling presented the Polk County Libraries Strategic Plan. A copy of the presentation is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.

Commissioner Hargett moved to approve the Strategic Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beiler and carried unanimously.

F. Request for Approval of Reimbursement through the Public School Building Repair and Renovations Fund (PSBRRF) NC Education Lottery - Dr. Brandon Schweitzer, Director of Operations.

I. Sunny View Elementary HVAC Replacement

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to approve the Sunny View Elementary HVAC Replacement PSBRRF request, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. Tryon Elementary HVAC Replacement

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the Tryon Elementary HVAC Replacement PSBRRF request, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There were 14 citizen comments on non-agenda items.

9. Volunteer Board Applications

A. Board of Adjustment - There are two vacancies and one applicant; Arion Jones.

Commissioner Beiler moved to appoint Arion Jones to the Board of Adjustment, seconded by Vice-Chairman Moore, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Saluda Fire District Tax Commission - There are three vacancies, and one applicant; Arion Jones.

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to appoint Arion Jones to the Saluda Fire District Tax Commission, seconded by Commissioner Beiler, and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Commissioner Comments.

The Commissioners thanked those in attendance for participating in the meeting and encouraged residents to continue attending Board meetings and providing input on matters affecting the community.

11. Closed Session

A. Motion to go into closed session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege.

Commissioner Hargett moved to go into closed session for the purpose of Attorney-Client privilege, seconded by Commissioner Beiler, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion to return to open session.

Commissioner Melton moved to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Beiler, and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Moore moved to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Beiler, and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kennedy E Freeman
Clerk to the Board

Myron Yoder
Chairman

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Budget Work Session
June 1, 2026 - 5:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Moore, Commissioner Beiler, Commissioner Melton, and Commissioner Hargett. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Clerk to the Board Freeman, and citizens.

1. Call to Order the Budget Work Session
- Chairman Yoder

   A. FY26-27 Budget Questions and Discussion.

   Manager Pittman explained that the State Supreme Court has approved a Duke Energy rate increase and that Western North Carolina is expected to see higher rates than Eastern North Carolina. He said that the impact on the County's budget is currently unknown but could be significant. He said they would like to use a temporary funding approach similar to the County Manager's discretionary budget to help cover any utility cost overruns. He said he is estimating that it will be approximately $20,000, but the actual amount could vary.

   Manager Pittman also said that they would like to allocate a capital item that was removed from the original budget for communications networking equipment. He explained that the routing and switching equipment would support the County's data network and help ensure redundancy within the CAD system in the event of failure. He said that the North Carolina 911 Board has authorized funding for 70% of the project cost. The total project cost is estimated at $80,000, so the County will be responsible for approximately $30,000.

2. Adjournment

   Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn the Budget Work Session, seconded by Commissioner Melton, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Attest:

Kennedy E Freeman
Clerk to the Board

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Myron Yoder
Chairman

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting and Public Hearing
June 1, 2026 - 5:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
40 Courthouse Street
Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Moore, Commissioner Beiler, Commissioner Melton, and Commissioner Hargett. Also in attendance were Manager Pittman, Clerk to the Board Freeman, and citizens.

1. Call to Order the Special Meeting - Chairman Yoder

2. Public Hearing

   A. Open the Public Hearing - The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the proposed FY 2026/27 budget. The public hearing was properly advertised in the Tryon Daily Bulletin. A copy of the County Manager's recommended budget for FY 2026/27 is available for review on the County website, www.polknc.gov, or in the County Manager's Office located in the Bryant H. Womack Justice and Administration Building, 40 Courthouse St., Columbus.

   B. Citizen Comments

   There were 12 citizen comments.

3. Commissioner Comments

   The Commissioners thanked everyone who attended the meeting and said they appreciated the members of the community for their input and engagement throughout the budget process.

4. Adjournment

   Commissioner Melton moved to adjourn the special meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hargett, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kennedy E Freeman
Clerk to the Board

Myron Yoder
Chairman

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.B

Juvenile Crime and Prevention Council (JCPC) Annual Plan and Budget for FY 2026/2027

ATTACHMENTS

1. JCPC Annual Plan and Budget

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
County Plan

Polk County

For FY 2026-2027

Table of Contents

I. Executive Summary

II. County Funding Plan

III. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Organization

IV. County Risk, Needs and YASI Assessment Summary

V. County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Request for Proposals

VI. Funding Decisions Summary

VII. Funded Programs *Program Enhancement Plan* (PEP) OR, add brief program description for any program without a PEP.

Attachments:

Executive Summary

The Polk County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), in fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities as set forth in the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, has reviewed and updated this County Plan for FY 2026-2027. In 2019, House Bill 593 passed which approved an optional 1 or 2-year funding cycle for DPS JCPC funds, which is determined locally by each JCPC statewide. Also included in the HB was Raise the Age in N.C. which directs 16 & 17 years old from District Court to Juvenile Court. In order to see any new possible trends in juvenile justice data (now serving 16- & 17-year-old) and to plan programming in the community accordingly, the Polk County JCPC approved one year funding cycle. Data continues to be monitored by the JCPC annually, which provides direction to which funding cycle is most beneficial to the community and Council.

The JCPC has identified the issues and factors which have an influence and impact upon vulnerable youth, at-risk youth, delinquent youth, and their families in Polk County. Further, the JCPC has identified the strategies and services most likely to reduce/prevent delinquent behavior.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Each program funded in the past fiscal year by the JCPC has been monitored by the JCPC Monitoring Committee and programs were found in full compliance with DPS JCPC Policy and within the operating parameters of their budget and providing the services as described in their program agreement. The monitoring results and program outcome evaluations were considered in making funding allocation decisions. The JCPC will continue to conduct annual implementation monitoring of its funded programs.

Priorities for Funding: Through a review of risk & needs assessment data, the Youth Assessment Screening Inventory (YASI) data and a community resource assessment, the JCPC has determined that the following services are needed to reduce/prevent delinquency in Polk County.

1. Substance Abuse Assessment/Treatment
2. Interpersonal Skills Building
3. Restitution/Community Service
4. Temporary Shelter
5. Parenting/Family Skill Building
6. Crisis Counseling
7. Psychological Assessment
8. Mediation
9. Structured Day
10. Home Based Family Counseling
11. Tutoring/Academic Enhancement
12. Teen Court

Funding Recommendations: Having advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for these services needed for a minimum of thirty (30) days, the JCPC has screened the submitted proposals and has determined which proposals best meet the advertised needed services. As required by statute, the JCPC recommends allocation of the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds to the following programs in the specified below for the upcoming fiscal year: (Also, see the Polk County Funding Plan with this report.)

1. Aspire Kids at Work $50,617
2. Aspire Vocational Directions $27,687

The JCPC further recommends that the following amount be allocated for the administrative costs of the Council for fiscal year 2026-2027: $5,100

Respectfully Submitted,

_____, Chair, Polk County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Date: 5/21/26

Polk County

NC DPS - Community Programs - County Funding Plan

Available Funds: $ $83,404 Local Match: $ $24,906 Rate: 20%

DPS JCPC funds must be committed with a Program Agreement submitted in NC Allies and electronically signed by authorized officials.

#	Program Provider	DPS-JCPC Funding	LOCAL FUNDING			OTHER	OTHER	Total	% Non DPS-JCPC Program Revenues
			County Cash Match	Local Cash Match	Local In-Kind	State/ Federal	Funds		
1	JCPC Administration	$5,100						$5,100	
2	Aspire Kids at Work	$50,617	$10,123		$5,328			$66,068	23%
3	Aspire Vocational Directions	$27,687	$5,537		$3,918			$37,142	25%
4									
5									
6									
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11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18									
	TOTALS:	$83,404	$15,660		$9,246			$108,310	23%

The above plan was derived through a planning process by the Polk County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and represents the County's Plan for use of these funds in FY 2026-2027

Amount of Unallocated Funds _____

Amount of funds reverted back to DPS _____

Discretionary Funds added _____

check type ☑ initial plan ☐ update ☐ final

-----DPS Use Only-----

Reviewed by _____ Area Consultant Date

Reviewed by Amanda Bullock Program Assistant Date 4/20/26

Verified by _____ Designated State Office Staff Date

5/21/26
Chairperson, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (Date)

Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners or County Finance Officer (Date)

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Organization

FY 2026-2027	Name	Organization	Title
Chairperson	Jessica Winkel	Vaya Health	System of Care Coordinator
Vice-Chairperson	Ange High	Polk County	Community Services Director
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Assessment Committee Chairperson			
Funding Committee Chairperson			

Number of members for FY 20025-2026 15

List meeting dates during the current fiscal year and identify the number of JCPC members in attendance for each.

Meeting Date	Number of Members in Attendance	Quorum Present? Yes/No
9/19/2025	10	Yes
11/21/2025	8	Yes
1/16/2026	8	Yes
3/20/2026	9	Yes
5/15/2026		
6/19/2026		

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE RISK AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

I. **Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) Summary**
II. **Summary of Community Resources**
III. **Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Community Continuum**
IV. **Proposed Priority Services for Funding**

Introduction:

Juvenile Court Services implemented the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) beginning January 1, 2021; the following data summary represents data gleaned from the YASI administered FY 2024-2025.

In reviewing and prioritizing the elevated risk and needs extracted from this data set, one must consider the utilization of YASI:

1. As a predictor of future risk of offending; and
2. As a Case Management instrument for determining level of service and types of services necessary to reduce recidivism.

Part I. Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (Full YASI)

The Risk and Needs Assessment Committee reviewed aggregate data gleaned from YASI assessments administered in the county during the previous fiscal year. The full assessment consists of over 100 separate items useful for both predictive risk and case management, so data reported from this review will consist of county-level risk factors that may be prioritized by the JCPC for RFP development, as well as for highlighting prevalent issues among court involved juveniles that individual programs and community-based service organizations will want to consider when working with court-involved juveniles in the county.

All juveniles at intake receive the YASI Pre-Screen (33 questions) which is also embedded in each full assessment. The aggregate outputs from full YASI assessments are just one of the data sources used by the Committee and, are the focus of summaries that follow in this document.

YASI questions are framed in either a historic context (Legal History, for example), or in some cases, "current" or "prior three-months" timeframes for other, more dynamic, questions.

General Observations and Points of Interest

Risk Level: 58% assessed youth exhibited low risks. 45% assessed youth fell into the moderate risk range as compared to the state's average of 41% in the moderate range.

Needs Level: 86% of the assessed youth exhibited low or very low needs. This is significantly higher than the state's average of 55%.

Strengths Level: 83% of assessed youth exhibited high or very high strength levels. This is much higher than the state's average of 58%.

The youth of Polk County are low risk, have very low needs and have very high strengths levels.

Legal History

Q1 Previous Delinquent Referrals- 72% of the assessed youth had previous delinquent referrals.

Q2 Age at first referral – 3% of the assessed youth were under 12 when they were first referred. This is lower than the state level of 9%.

Family Domain

Q1 & 2 Kicked Out & Runaway –7% of assessed youth were kicked out of their home and 21% have run away from home and/or placement before.

Q4 Family Alcohol/Substance Abuse & Mental Health – 17% of the assessed youth had family members with alcohol and/or substance abuse issues compared to the State's rate of 12%. 7% of assessed youth had family members with mental health issues compared to the State's rate of 12%.

Q6 Living Arrangements – Only 7% of the assessed youth were in foster care. There are many times when DSS social workers stay overnight with juveniles in the offices so that the juveniles will have a safe place to sleep until placement can be found.

School Domain

Q3 School Conflict – 4% of assessed youth reported infractions in the past 3 months. This is lower than the State average of 16%. 36% of assessed youth were reported to the police by the school. This is higher than the state average of 22%.

Community & Peers

Q1 Peers/Associates – 41% report negative influences from friends. No Polk youth reported any involvement or influences from gang members.

Alcohol and Drugs- 34% of assessed youth reported "yes" to the question of alcohol/drug use.

Q2 Age at 1st use – 10% reported first using drugs or alcohol before age 12, 80% reported first use between ages 12-15, and 10% reported not using until 15 or older.

Mental Health Domain- The mental health domain applied to all assessed youth. The council would like to recognize that mental health problems are a pervasive illness that is deeply affecting children's education, safety, aggression, and futures. Untreated mental and behavioral health issues can have profound consequences on the trajectory of a child's life. 72% of the assessed youth answered yes to having mental health problems .

Q6 Victimization History – 17% assessed youth were considered to have some type of sexual vulnerability. This is higher than the state's rate of 6%. Also, 14% were victims of bullying.

Part II. Summary of Community Resources

The following is a list of existing resources. It is not a measure of resource effectiveness and/or sustainability:

JCPC Funded Programs 2025-2026

- Kids at work! Polk - Interpersonal Skill Building Program
- Vocational Directions Polk- Community Service and Restitution Program

Department of Public Safety - Community Programs Funded Programs

- Treatment Alternatives for Sexualized Kids (TASK) (Iredell) - Intensive intervention
- Methodist Home for Children, Inc. Multi-Purpose Group Home – Macon
- Western Area Multi-Purpose Juvenile Crisis and Assessment Center
- AMI Kids North Carolina Family Services, Inc. Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
- Eckerd Connects - Short-Term Residential

Structured Activities

- Mentoring:
  - Big Brother and Big Sister (impossible for court youth to access)
- Interpersonal Skill Building
  - Polk County's School Clubs and Athletics
  - Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, Parks and Recreation, Faith Groups, 4-H, and private classes (financial barrier)
  - Steps to Hope Empower Martial Arts (adolescent skill-building karate)
- Tutoring/Academic Program:
  - After School Enrichment/PEAK program
  - After School Program - Middle School and High School
  - Higher Academia - 501 C 3 providing academic assistance. Will take community referrals
- Vocational Service
  - Career Tech (School Based/Restricted)
  - Job Corp (Restricted)
  - Vocational Rehab (17 & 18 only, but unlikely)

Restorative Services

- Vocational Directions (VD) - Restitution/Community Service (JCPC Funded)

Community Day Programming

- ARC
- Clinical Treatment
- Crisis Counseling: RHA Mobile Crisis (Individual)
- Clarvida – Medicaid/Indigent Services: substance abuse (limited)
- Counseling: Private sector providers
- Intensive In-Home Counseling: MST - Youth Villages, Clarvida

- Children's Hope Alliance - TASK (Sexually Aggressive Youth)
- Vaya LME: Private Sector Providers
- Medication Management
- Equine Therapy - Guiding Reigns and Promise Ponies Ministry
- Family Functional Therapy
- RHA Prevention Services-Early Intervention Substance Use Prevention Program (Teen Intervene) - provided at Polk Middle School

Residential Services

- Tarheel Challenge Academic Program (Limited and Restricted)
- Job Corp (Restricted)
- Therapeutic Foster Care (limited)
- Eckerd Connects
- Respite (Limited)
- Enhanced Services - Children's Hope Alliance (Sexual aggressive youth residential treatment)
- Foster Homes/Group Residential Program (Restricted Based on Funding)
- Domestic Violence Shelter - Steps to Hope (Restricted to victims of Domestic Violence)

Part III. Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Continuum of Services

Structured Activities

- Mentoring (Limited Access for Court involved youth)
- Tutoring/Academic Enhancement (Restricted and Limited)
- Parent Training/Family Skill Building (Limited)
- Experiential Skill Building (Limited)
- Vocational Skill Building (Restricted)
- Interpersonal Skills (JCPC funded program would not be available without JCPC Funds)
- Mediation/Conflict Resolution (Not available in the community, but highly needed)

Restorative Services

- Restitution/Community Services (JCPC funded programs would not be available without JCPC Funds)
- Teen Court (Not available in the community, but highly needed and wanted)
- Lack of referrals for JCPC-funded programs from SROs

Clinical Treatment

- Psychological Assessment (Time Barrier, not JCPC-Funded)
- Home Based Counseling (Limited)
- Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment for Youth (Hard to Access and Limited)
- Sex Offender Treatment (Limited)
- Sex Offender Assessment (Limited)
- Psychological Educational Counseling

Residential Services

- High need for residential services.
- Group Home for Delinquent - Level III Youth and Post-Release Youth (Limited and Hard to Access)
- Foster Care for Pre-Adjudicated youth through Post Released Youth (Hard to Access)
- Runaway Shelter in Buncombe County is closed.
- Temporary Shelter Care - No good option for youth with high needs or in a crisis situation.

Gaps and Barriers to JCPC Programs and other Community Programs

- Lack of therapeutic foster care placements
- Families not having insurance or having the ability to pay copays or deductibles for health or behavioral health care
- Youth and families feeling isolated from peers, family and community
- Lack of availability of residential placements for PRTF or Level I Transportation
- Food insecurity
- Continuation of stressors/trauma on youth and families caused by COVID-19 pandemic
- Traumatic experiences that impact youth and parents
- Difficulty in scheduling health or behavior health appointments or psychiatric appointments

Part IV. Proposed Priority Services for Funding

The Committee proposes that the following services in ranked order be approved as the funding priorities for FY 2026-2027:
The committee compared the services needed to address the elevated Juvenile Risk Factors and Juvenile Needs with services currently available in the community. Services that are currently available in the community and are sufficient to meet the needs of court involved youth or those youth most at risk for court involvement are not considered as a priority for JCPC funding.

PRIORITIES FOR FY 2026-2027:
~ Substance Abuse Assessment/Treatment
~ Interpersonal Skills Building
~ Restitution/Community Service
~ Temporary Shelter
~ Parenting/Family Skill Building
~ Crisis Counseling
~ Psychological Assessment
~ Mediation
~ Structured Day
~ Home-Based Family Counseling
~ Tutoring/Academic Enhancement
~ Teen Court

Polk County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Request for Proposals

$83,404	20%	February 16, 2026
Anticipated Annual Allocation	Required Local Match Rate	Date Advertised

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) has studied the risk factors and needs of Juvenile Court involved youth in this county and hereby publishes this Request for Proposals. The JCPC anticipates funds from the NC Dept. of Public Safety Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the amount stated above to fund the program types specified below. Such programs will serve delinquent and at-risk youth for the state fiscal year 2026-2027 beginning on, or after, July 1, 2026. The use of these funds in this county require a local match in the amount specified above. The county can approve programs for
1 or 2 year funding awards, dependent on county approval and programs meeting all requirements.

Based on identified needed programs and possible gaps in the service continuum, the following checked program types will be considered for funding:

☐ Mentoring Services	☒ Restitution/Community Service	☐ Services Addressing Problem Sexual Behavior
☒ Parent/Family Skill Building	☒ Teen Court – including Sentencing and Responsive Circles	☐ Group Home
☒ Interpersonal Skill Building	☒ Psychological Assessments	☒ Temporary Shelter Care
☐ Vocational Skills	☐ Family Counseling	☐ Runaway Shelter Care
☐ Experiential Skills	☒ Home Based Family Counseling	☐ Specialized Foster Care
☒ Tutoring/Academic Enhancement	☒ Individual/Group/Mixed Counseling	☐ Temporary Foster Care
☒ Mediation/Conflict Resolution – including Truancy Mediation, Victim-Youth and Family Group Conferencing, Responsive Circles	☒ Substance Abuse Counseling	☒ Juvenile Structured Day

Proposed program services should target the following risk factors for delinquency or repeat delinquency:
Previous Delinquent Referrals, Family Alcohol/Substance Abuse, Family Mental Health, Living Arrangements (Foster Care and/or Independent Living situations), School
Conflicts, Youth Alcohol/Substance Abuse, Youth Mental Health, History of Victimization, and Aggression i.e. Bullying/Threatening and Assaultive Behavior

Proposed services should address the following concerns as reported in the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YAS) for adjudicated youth:
Peer Domain:
Individual Domain: Previous Delinquent Referrals, Alcohol/Substance Abuse, Youth Mental Health, History of victimization, Aggression (bullying/threatening, and assaultive behavior)
Family Domain: Living Arrangements (Being in Foster Care and/or Independent Living situations), Family Alcohol/Substance Abuse, Family Mental Health
School Domain: Infractions and Police Reports filed by the school

Applicants are being sought that are able to address items below:
1. Program services compatible with research that are shown to be effective with juvenile offenders.
2. Program services are outcome-based.
3. The program has an evaluation component.
4. Program services detect gang participation and divert individuals from gang participation.
5. Awareness of and sensitivity to Racial Ethnic Disparity that exists in the County.
6. Programs are encouraged to provide effective programming that includes restorative justice practices.

Only local public agencies, 501c3 non-profit corporations and local housing authorities will be considered for funding.

In order to apply for FY 2026-2027 JCPC funding, you must complete and submit your application online by accessing NC ALLIES. Please read and follow all instructions at: https://cp.ncdjjdp.org/CP
Additional self-help videos on the NC ALLIES webpage are available by clinking on the HELP tab.
Private non-profits are also required to submit, by uploading in NC ALLIES, the following:
1) No Over Due Tax form, 2) DPS Conflict of Interest Statement,
3) Agency Conflict of Interest Policy, and 4) Proof of 501(c)(3) status. (#1 & #2 are available at the above link.)

Jessica Winkel — JCPC Chairperson / or Designee

jessica.winkel@vayahealth.com — Email

For further information or other technical assistance about applying for JCPC funds in this county or about the program application workshop, contact:

Regina Arrowood, DPS Area Consultant at .828-230-3590

The deadline for receiving the application: **March 18, 2026 by 5:00pm** **(Email or deliver) to:** **jessica.winkel@vayahealth.com**

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Decisions Summary

Funding Decision for:	**FY** 2026-2027	Date Completed:	5/11/2026
Program(s) Funded	**Select 1-year or 2-year funding and reason(s) for Funding**		**(Check all that apply)**
Aspire Kids at Work	☐ 2-year Funding approved for FY and OR ☒ 1-year Funding approved for FY2026-2027 **Rationale for 2-year Funding approval:** ☐ Funded in past years ☐ In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) ☐ Favorable JCPC monitoring ☐ In compliance with Consultant Monitoring ☐ Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. ☐ Provides an essential dispositional option, explain: ☐ Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (*number served, and described target population*), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance) ☒ Meets funding priority ☐ Compatible with research ☐ Cost efficient ☐ Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions ☐ Has evaluation component ☐ Addresses parental accountability ☐ Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances ☐ Addresses restitution to victims ☐ Addresses gang participation ☐ Would increase funding to this service if funds were available ☐ Other Other		
Aspire Vocational Directions	☐ 2-year Funding approved for FY and OR ☒ 1-year Funding approved for FY 2026-2027 **Rationale for 2-year Funding approval:** ☐ Funded in past years ☐ In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) ☐ Favorable JCPC monitoring ☐ In compliance with Consultant Monitoring ☐ Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. ☐ Provides an essential dispositional option, explain: ☐ Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (*number served, and described target population*), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance) ☒ Meets funding priority ☐ Compatible with research ☐ Cost efficient ☐ Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions ☐ Has evaluation component ☐ Addresses parental accountability ☐ Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances ☒ Addresses restitution to victims ☐ Addresses gang participation ☐ Would increase funding to this service if funds were available ☐ Other Other		
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November 2, 2020

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Decisions Summary

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Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Decisions Summary

Program Not Funded	Reason for Not Funding (Check all that apply)
	☐ Lack of funding, addresses priority need and would fund if resources allowed ☐ Does not meet funding priority ☐ Not compatible with research ☐ Lesser quality than another program funded of its type ☐ Greater cost than program of same type and quality ☐ Other ☐ Other
	☐ Lack of funding, addresses priority need and would fund if resources allowed ☐ Does not meet funding priority ☐ Not compatible with research ☐ Lesser quality than another program funded of its type ☐ Greater cost than program of same type and quality ☐ Other ☐ Other
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November 2, 2020

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

G.S. 143B-853 allows for a 2-year funding cycle for programs that meet the requirements of the statute and have been awarded funds in a prior funding cycle. Indicate below if the JCPC plans to allow for a 1-year or 2-year funding cycle.

1-Year Funding: FY 2026-2027

Membership

A. Have the members of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council been appointed by county commissioners? Yes
B. Are members appointed for two-year terms and are those terms staggered? Yes
C. Is membership reflective of social-economic and racial diversity of the community? No
D. Does the membership of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council reflect the required positions as provided by N.C.G.S. §143B-846? No

If not, which positions are vacant and why?

Polk Co is recruiting for the Local Sheriff, Member of Faith Community, A person under 21, Juvenile Defense Attorney, Chief District Judge, Member of Business Community and Representative of Parks and Rec.

Organization

A. Does the JCPC have written Bylaws? Yes
B. Bylaws are On file
C. Bylaws contain Conflict of Interest section per JCPC policy and procedure. Yes
D. Does the JCPC have written policies and procedures for funding and review? Yes
E. These policies and procedures On file
F. Does the JCPC have officers and are they elected annually? Yes

Meetings

A. JCPC meetings are considered open and public notice of meetings is provided. Yes
B. Is a quorum defined as the majority of membership and required to be present in order to conduct business at JCPC meetings? Yes
C. Does the JCPC meet six (6) times a year at a minimum? Yes
D. Are minutes taken at all official meetings? Yes
E. Are minutes distributed prior to or during subsequent meetings? Yes

Planning

A. Does the JCPC conduct a biennial planning process which includes a needs assessment, monitoring of programs and funding allocation process? Yes
B. Is this Biennial Plan presented to the Board of County Commissioners and to DPS? Yes
C. Is the Funding Plan approved by the full council and submitted to Commissioners for their approval? Yes

Public Awareness

A. Does the JCPC communicate the availability of funds to all public and private non-profit agencies which serve children or their families and to other interested community members? Yes
☑RFP, Distribution List, and Advertisement attached
B. Does the JCPC complete a biennial needs assessment and make that information available to agencies which serve children or their families, and to interested community members? Yes

No Overdue Tax Debt

A. As recipient of the county DPS JCPC allocation, does the County certify that it has no overdue tax debts, as defined by N.C.G.S. §105-243.1, at the Federal, State, or local level? Yes

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JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

Briefly outline the plan for correcting any areas of standards non-compliance.

Polk Co is working to recruit members reflective of the community, racial and social economic makeup.

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

Instructions: N.C.G.S. § 143B-846 specifies suggested members be appointed by county commissioners to serve on local Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils. In certain categories, a designee may be appointed to serve. Please indicate the person appointed to serve in each category and his/her title. Indicate appointed members who are designees for named positions. Indicate race and gender for all appointments.

Polk County - FY 26-27

Specified Members	Name	Title	Designee	Race	Gender
1) School Superintendent or designee	Todd Murphy	Superintendent		White	Male
2) Chief of Police or designee	Scott Hamby	Chief of Police for Columbus		White	Male
3) Local Sheriff or designee	VACANT				
4) District Attorney or designee	Robert Beaver	Assistant DA	☑	White	Male
5) Chief Court Counselor or designee	Adrienne Becton-Marsh	Chief Court Counselor		Black or African-American	Female
6) Director, Local Management Entity/ Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO), or designee	Jessica Winkel	System Care Coordinator	☑	White	Female
7) Director DSS or designee	Robin Elliot	Social Work Supervisor	☑	White	Female
8) County Manager or designee	Ange High	Clerk/County Manager Assistant	☑	White	Female
9) Substance Abuse Professional	VACANT				
10) Member of Faith Community	VACANT				
11) County Commissioner	Jennifer Hargett	County Commissioner		White	Female
12) A Person Under the Age of 21	Celia Pittman	Person Under 21		White	Female
13) A Person Under the Age of 21, or a member of the public representing the interests of families of at-risk juveniles	VACANT				
14) Juvenile Defense Attorney	VACANT				
15) Chief District Judge or designee	VACANT				
16) Member of Business Community	VACANT				
17) Local Health Director or designee	Doreen Iacona	HHS Agency	☑	White	Female
18) Rep. United Way/other non-profit	VACANT				
19) Representative/Parks and Rec	Holly Williams	Parks and Recreation		White	Female
20) County Commissioner appointee	Teri Palmer	Commissioner appointee	☑	Black or African-American	Female
21) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				
22) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				
23) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				
24) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				
25) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				
26) County Commissioner appointee	VACANT				

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2026-2027 Polk County JCPC-Funded Programs

Aspire Kids at Work: Kids At Work is an interpersonal skills development program based around the culinary arts. Youth are a part of the program for 16 weeks and meet for three hours once a week for instruction. The curriculum consists of 24 hands-on lessons that are designed to meet the clients' unique learning styles and help them apply the skills in a work environment. Youth ages 15+ also receive SERV Safe training and exam, making them more markable for employment

Aspire Vocational Directions: Vocational Directions is a restitution/community service program designed to provide juveniles with accountability for their previous actions while also learning about different careers through their exposure at various service sites. Youth learn from the individuals who work in those locations while also contributing to the site and/or those it serves.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.C

Tax Refund Requests

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.C.I

May 2026 Refunds in the amount of $2,792.89

ATTACHMENTS

1. May Refunds

Memorandum

To: Polk County Board of Commissioners

From: Melissa O'Loughlin, Polk County Tax Administrator

Date:

Re: Refund Request

Taxpayer	Parcel	Amount	Reason
Caroline Young	T6-E1	$ 197.42	overpayment
Brian Madey	P78-96	$ 224.41	overpayment
Luna Blu Inc	P103-24	$ 444.80	overpayment
Christara Lourdes	vehicle	$ 133.40	tag surrender
Heather Owens	vehicle	$151.83	tag surrender
Steven Mace	P125-113	$713.47	overpayment
Brendan Michael Hayes	vehicle	$208.77	tag surrender
Paul Fisher	C10-C2	$426.51	over payment
Ainsley Mann	vehicle	$114.49	tag surrender
Allyn Talbot	vehicle	$ 177.79	value correction
	TOTAL:	**$ 2,792.89**	

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.C.II

Refund/release request due to illegal tax per NCGS 105-381 in the amount of $224.07

ATTACHMENTS

1. Misc refund

Memorandum

To: Polk County Board of Commissioners

From: Melissa O'Loughlin, Polk County Tax Administrator

Date: 5/27/2026

Re: Refund/Release Request

Refund request due to illegal tax per NCGS 105-381 **P13-88** Double taxed

estimate to refund $ 121.63
estimate release $ 102.44
Ttotal 224.07

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.C.III

Refund request due to clerical error per NCGS 105-381 in the amount of $3,284.81

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerical error refund

Memorandum

To: Polk County Board of Commissioners

From: Melissa O'Loughlin, Polk County Tax Administrator

Date: 5/27/2026

Re: Refund Request

Refund request due to clerical error per NCGS 105-381 **P97-83** Exemption code not carried forward from year to year

estimate to refund $ 3284.81

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 5.D

Declare two Health and Human Services Vehicles as surplus to be sold via GovDeals auction

ATTACHMENTS

1. HHSA_Surplus

Health and Human Services Vehicle Surplus Request for 6/15/26 BOC Meeting

Titles located and given to Kennedy on 6/10/26

Department	Year, Make and Model	VIN#
Health & Human Services	2018 Ford Transit 7 Passenger (Lift)	1FTBW3XM9HKA50252
Health & Human Services	2018 Ford Transit 12 Passenger (Non-Lift)	1FTBW3XM8JKA48207

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 7.A

Budget Amendments - Finance Director, Sonya Ayers, will present any budget amendments that may need approval for FY 2025/26. (Budget amendments are eligible to be submitted up to and including June 15, 2026.)

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 7.B

Polk County Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2026/27 (including any proposed fee changes included in the County Manager's recommended budget) - The Manager's recommended budget was presented on May 11, 2026. A budget work session was held on May 18, 2026, and the budget public hearing was held on June 1, 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget_Ordinance_26_27_Packet_for_BOC_Meeting_6.15.2026

FY27 Budget Revisions Summary

Fund 10 - General Fund - Revenue Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
10-3114-0000	Vehicle Tax Levy	$50,674
10-3200-1126	2026 Property Tax	($223,575)
10-3231-3510	Sales Tax - Article 40	$30,044
10-3232-3510	Sales Tax - Article 42	$23,478
10-3233-3510	Sales Tax - Article 39	$41,921
10-3234-3510	Sales Tax - Article 44	$5,130
10-3991-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	$46,309

Fund 10 - General Fund - Expense Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
10-4210-5000-0	Capital	$26,309
10-9300-3300-0	Utilities	$10,000
10-9300-2510-0	Non-Department Fuel	($2,000)
10-9300-4510-0	Liability Insurance	($9,939)
10-9300-4520-0	Manager Discretion	($25,000)
10-9300-9910-1	Manager Discretion Fuel	($25,389)

Fund 20 - Senior Center - Revenue Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
20-3438-0006	Senior Center - Home Aide	($73,473)

Fund 20 - Senior Center - Expense Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
20-5169-1240-0	Part-Time Salaries	($6,680)
20-5169-4400-8	Contracted Services - Home Aide	($66,793)

Fund 60 - Emergency Communications (911) - Revenue Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
60-3258-0000	NC 911 Funds	$58,591

Fund 60 - Emergency Communications (911) - Expense Changes

GL Account	Description	Amount
60-4325-5000-0	Capital	$58,591

Quick Totals by Fund

Fund	Revenue Change	Expense Change
Fund 10	($26,019)	($26,019)
Fund 20	($73,473)	($73,473)
Fund 60	$58,591	$58,591
Total	($40,901)	($40,901)

BE IT ORDAINED by the Polk County Board of Commissioners of Polk County, North Carolina:

Section 1: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Current Year Property Tax	$	21,614,826
Current Year Motor Vehicle Tax		1,424,918
Prior Year Property Taxes		215,920
Prior Year Motor Vehicle Taxes		-
Tax Penalties		101,772
Tax Advertising Revenue		8,600
Garnishment Fees		2,130
Foreclosure Fees		-
Tax Collection Fees		85,401
Tax Discounts		(254,543)
Tag Office Notary Fee		43,370
Sales Tax		7,710,295
Register of Deeds		142,065
Tag Office		88,725
Cable Franchise		12,375
JCPC		83,404
Emergency Management		38,904
Library State Aid		95,970
Hold Harmless - Medicaid		-
Court Cost & Fees		63,497
Sheriff's Services		30,407
Election Filing Fees		-
Jail Fees		381,994
Building Permits		341,120
Zoning/Subdivision Fees		17,650
Reg of deeds - Excise Stamps		250,000
R.O.D. -10% Office Enhance		25,000
EMS Receipts		1,441,520
School Resource Officer		183,330
NC AG Cost Share		25,605
Agriculture-Fees/Grants		17,000
Fire Inspection/Alarm Fee		10,000
Library Fines & Fees		16,500
Library Grants/Donations		16,356
Recreation		3,000
Interest Income		1,000,000
Rents		10,800
ABC Revenues		5,151
AGEcon Preservation Grant		14,000
Donations/Bequests/Grants		-
Miscellaneous		275
Transfer In		68,173
Fund Balance Appropriation		1,825,729
Total General Fund Revenues	**$**	**37,161,239**

Section 2: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the county government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Governing Body	$	445,828
Administration		542,080
Finance		495,181
Human Resources		127,616
Tax Collector/Assessor		749,145
Tag Office		91,141
Legal		89,687
Courts		50,566
Elections		335,167
Register of Deeds		300,054
Public Buildings		686,245
Information Systems		830,629
Sheriffs Departments		8,512,969
Communication		1,095,578
Emergency Services		3,852,305
Animal Control Housing		400,000
Building Inspections		445,992
Forestry		156,775
Planning & Zoning		214,950
Cooperative Extension		292,240
Soil & Water Conservation		196,992
Agriculture Economic Development		179,091
Mental Health & Alcohol Rehab		80,142
Juvenile Crime Prevention		99,064
Education		7,800,700
Economic & Development		90,596
Water Services		45,000
Library		841,848
Recreation		495,115
Debt Service		2,516,573
Personnel		143,460
Non-Department		
Contingency		100,000
Insurance/Other		880,765
Transfers to Other Funds		3,977,745
Total General Fund Expenditures	**$**	**37,161,239**

Section 3: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Health and Human Services Agency Fund (HHSA) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Social Service Program Revenues	$	2,950,941
Senior Center Services		234,417
Transportation Services		664,247
Veterans Administration		2,175
Public Health Services		532,011
Grants		-
Miscellaneous		-
Transfer from General Fund		3,212,479
Total HHSA Revenue	**$**	**7,596,270**

Section 4: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the HHSA Fund for the operation of the county government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Social Services	$	4,820,819
Transportation		1,005,961
Health Dept.		1,157,004
Senior Centers		544,824
Veteran's Administration		67,662
Total HHSA Expenditures	**$**	**7,596,270**

Section 5: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Revaluation Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Transfer from General Fund	$	125,353
Fund Balance Appropriation		-
Investment Earnings		-
Total Revaluation Revenue	**$**	**125,353**

Section 6: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Revaluation Fund for revaluation of property in Polk County during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Revaluation		125,353
Total Revaluation Expenditures	**$**	**125,353**

Section 7: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Emergency Telephone System Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

NC 911 Funds	$	252,023
Fund Balance Appropriation		-
Total E-911 Revenue	**$**	**252,023**

Section 8: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Emergency Telephone System Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Operations/Capital	$	252,023
Total E-911 Expenditures	**$**	**252,023**

Section 9: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Tourism Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Occupancy Tax	$	426,919
General Fund Transfer		7,267
Fund Balance Appropriation		-
Tourism Revenue	**$**	**434,186**

Section 10: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Tourism Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Salaries & Benefits	$	293,536
Operations/Programs		140,650
Tourism Total Expenditures	**$**	**434,186**

Section 11: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Capital Reserve Fund the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Transfer from General Fund	$	632,646
Fund Balance Appropriation		-
Interest Income		-
Total Capital Reserve Revenue	**$**	**632,646**

Section 12: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Capital Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Reserve for Future Dam Repair	$	-
School Capital Set-aside		632,646
		-
Capital Reserve Expenditure	**$**	**632,646**

Section 13: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Tipping Fees	$	1,930,554	
Availability Fees		400,000	
Other Revenues		123,468	
Fund Balance Appropriation		-	
Solid Waste Total Revenues	**$**	**2,454,022**	$ -

Section 14: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Salaries & Benefits	$	464,824
Operations		1,989,198
Solid Waste Total Expenditures	**$**	**2,454,022**

Section 15: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Internal Service Fund the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Health Insurance Premiums	$	-
Fund Balance Appropriation		45,715
Internal Service Total Revenues	**$**	**45,715**

Section 16: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Internal Service Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Transfer to General Fund	$	45,715
Internal Service Total Expenditures	**$**	**45,715**

Section 17: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Other Miscellaneous Governmental Special Revenue Fund the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:

Representative Payee (DSS Trust)	$	210,000
Deed of Trust Funds		20,000
Fines and Forfeitures		150,000
Miscellaneous		130,000
Total Misc. Governmental Revenues	**$**	**510,000**

Section 18: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Other Miscellaneous Governmental Special Revenue Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Representative Payee (DSS Trust)	$	210,000
Deed of Trust Funds		20,000
Fines and Forfeitures		150,000
Miscellaneous		130,000
Total Misc. Governmental Expenditures	**$**	**510,000**

Section 19: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:

Opioid Settlement Funds	$	256,982
Opioid Settlement Total Revenues	**$**	**256,982**

Section 20: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for the County:

Public Health		256,982
Opioid Settlement Total Expenditures	**$**	**256,982**

Section 21: There is hereby levied for Fiscal Year 2027 an ad valorem property tax on all property having a situs in Polk County as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2026, at the statutory tax rate of $0.4277 per one hundred dollars ($100) of assed value of such property, pursuant to and in accordance with the Machinery Act of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes and other applicable law for the purpose of raising revenue included in " Current Year Property Taxes" in the General Fund in Section 1 of this ordinance.

Section 22: The following rates are levied per $100.00 for the Fire Districts:

Columbus	0.0950
Green Creek	0.1037
Mill Spring	0.0827
Saluda	0.1325
Sunny View	0.0747
Tryon	0.1238
Edneyville	0.0630
Blue Ridge	0.0967
Dana	0.0794

vehicles based on audit collections for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2014.

Section 23: There is hereby levied a tax rate of 0.0352 per $100 for the Harmon Field District.

Section 24: There is hereby levied a tax rate of 0.03 per $100 for the Saluda School District.

Section 25: As provided by the resolution by the Polk County Board of Commissioners on Monday, February 20, 1995, the operating allocation to the Polk County Schools shall be made according to Purpose and Function, provided that they do not change the local appropriation. The Board of Education may change the allocation of funds within Purpose & Function up to 9% with no notice, and 10% or more with the approval of the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Education may appropriate Fund Balance without complying with the above requirements, but they should notify the Board of Commissioners within a timely manner. Payments for all capital expenditures shall be made upon presentation of the appropriate invoices to the County Finance Office.

Section 26: The following procedures and authorities shall apply to transfers and adjustments with the budget:

A. Transfers Between Funds: Transfers of appropriations between funds in amounts in excess of $20,000 each may be made only by the Board of Commissioners. Individual transfers between funds of or less than $20,000 may be made by the County Manager when necessary or appropriate to adjust for over or under receipts or expenditures from a particular fund.

B. Transfers Between Departments: Transfers of appropriations between departments in a fund and from contingency and fund balance shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners, or may be approved by the County Manager in conformance with the following guidelines:

1. The County Manager finds that they are consistent with operational needs, and any board approved goals.
2. An inter-Department transfer does not exceed $20,000 (with the exception of an emergency with a majority consensus of the Board, to be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting and entered into the minutes).
3. Transfers from contingency or fund balance must have three (3) votes by the Board of Commissioners and entered into the minutes.

C. Transfers Within Departments: Department Managers may transfer line item appropriations between activities within the department under their jurisdiction with approval of the County Manager up to $20,000. Transfers over $20,000 within a department must have approval of the Board of Commissioners with the exception of an emergency with a majority consensus of the Board and to be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting and entered into the minutes.

D. Transfers of Capital Projects Appropriations: Transfers of appropriations between projects within a capital project fund may be made by the County Manager when necessary or appropriate to adjust for over or under receipts or expenditures from a particular project. Transfers into or out of a capital project fund must have approval of the Board of Commissioners.

E. Additional Funding: The Manager may modify the budget for additional funding from any Local, Federal or State program previously approved by the Board of Commissioners and for pass through monies from other sources, providing no local funding is stipulated, without a report being required.

Section 27: Operating funds encumbered on the financial records of the County as of June 30, 2026, are hereby reappropriated to this budget.

Section 28: Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and the Finance/Budget Officer to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

ADOPTED this _____ day of June, 2026

_____
Myron Yoder, Chairman
Polk County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

_____
Kennedy Freeman

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 7.C

Polk County Opioid Settlement Update - Polk County Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 7.D

Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Skyrunner Update - Skyrunner Representative

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 7.E

Consideration of the Polk County Recruitment and Retention Schedule extension to end December 31, 2026 - Manager Pittman

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2026 Recruitment and Retention resolution_6.15.26

POLK COUNTY
RECRUITMENT & RETENTION
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Polk County, North Carolina, like most regions across the State and Country is experiencing a much higher unemployment rate than normal; and

WHEREAS, Polk County Local Government has had a large number of vacancies in different County departments, including emergency services; and

WHEREAS, these positions have remained vacant for an extended time period, using all the standard recruitment strategies and methods; and

WHEREAS, we understand and are sympathetic to other businesses and organizations experiencing the same staffing difficulties, however, the services Polk County Local Government employees provide to the citizens are deemed essential, and many positions are statutorily required and provide emergency and life safety functions in the community.

Therefore, be it resolved, the Polk County Board of Commissioners enact the following temporary recruitment and retention measures:

> Full-time non-exempt emergency personnel working in the following departments: Sheriff, Jail, Animal Control, School Resource Officers, EMS, and 911 Communications, at the discretion of the County Manager, may be paid overtime hours instead of accruing compensation time beginning in the June 29, 2026 pay period and ending in the December 14, 2026 pay period.
>
> Any new person who accepts a full-time regular or part-time regular position with Polk County Local Government between July 1, 2026, and December 31, 2026, will receive a one thousand dollar ($1,000) hiring bonus after they complete the customary probation period

Adopted the 7th day of September 2021. Amended the 20th day of September 2021. Amended the 6th day of December 2021. Amended the 6th day of June 2022. Amended the 3rd day of April 2023. Amended the 19th day of June 2023. Amended the 6th day of November 2023. Amended the 3rd day of June 2024. Amended the 2nd day of December 2024. Amended the 16th day of June 2025. Amended the 15th day of December 2025.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS

Kennedy Freeman
Clerk to the Board

Myron Yoder
Chairman

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 9.A

Appearance Commission - There are four vacancies and two applicants; Craig Hilton, and Rusty Powell.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 9.B

Board of Adjustment - There are three vacancies and six applicants; Adrienne Reilly, Betty Hill, Craig Hilton, Jayne Collins, Lisa Krolak, and Michael Chaffin.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 9.C

Foothills Workforce Development Commission - There are two vacancies and one applicant; Craig Hilton

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 9.D

Harmon Field Board of Supervisors - There are two vacancies (two year term, and four year term), and five applicants; Jamie Dunn, Kelly LeCompte, Nathan LeCompte, Princess Wilson, and Rick Covil.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 11.A

Motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of Attorney-Client Privilege, and Personnel.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

June 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM # 11.B

Motion to return to open session.

ATTACHMENTS

None