POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
October 21, 2024 - 5:00 PM
Bryant H. Womack Justice & Administration Building
4O Courthouse Street
Columbus, NC 28722
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Melton, Commissioner Moore. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board Tipton, media, and citizens.
Absent: Commissioner Beiler and Commissioner Overholt.

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

2. Invocation - Commissioner Moore.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Melton.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

   Chairman Yoder stated that Dave Odom was unable to attend the meeting and would be added to the November 18th meeting. Commissioner Moore requested that Speaker Tim Moore be added to the agenda in his place.
   Vice-Chairman Melton moved to amend and approve the agenda as requested, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda

   A. Approval of the October 7, 2024 Public Hearings and Regular Meeting Minutes.

   B. Sheriff Department Monthly Activity Report for September 2024.

   C. Approval of the updated Board of Commissioners 2024 Meeting Schedule.

   D. Schedule a public hearing to take public comments on the Polk County Transit Authority FY 2025 NCDOT Section 5310 Operations, or combination thereof, Community Transportation Grant for Monday, November 18, 2024 at 5:00 pm in the R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building.

   E. Tax Refund Requests in the Amount of $969.59.

   Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice-Chairman Melton and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There was one citizen comment on agenda items.

7. Regular Agenda Items

A. Lake Adger Dam Project Update - Dave Odom, Odom Engineering.

At the request of Commissioner Moore, and due to the absence of Dave Odom, Speaker of the House Tim Moore gave an update on the progress made at the state level, including the passing of a $273 million Bill, which also extended deadlines for items such as driver's license renewals and gave schools flexibility in their calendars. He said more funding would be discussed in session on Thursday. He went on to thank the NCDOT and the County staff for their hard work.

B. Hurricane Helene Storm Recovery Update - Bobby Arledge, Emergency Management Director.

Mr. Arledge gave an update on the ongoing Hurricane Helene recovery efforts at the county level. He said the Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA were entering into a contract for debris clean up which will take place of the contract between Polk County and a State Contract vendor proposed in the last meeting. He said the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center hopes to be up and running soon and will keep the public updated on both of these items as he gets more information. Together with Manager Pittman, he then presented a Budget Amendment in the amount of $272,700 to increase certain budget lines for FEMA reimbursable spending due to Hurricane Helene. Manager Pittman said these funds are 100% reimbursable and will be used to pay out compensatory time and bonus time for employees who worked throughout the storm, supplies, travel/lodging for outside assistance and food and provisions.
Vice-Chairman Melton moved to approve the budget amendment , seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Cost of Community Services Study - Edward Olive, Lois Brit School of Agribusiness at the University of Mt. Olive.

Mr. Olive presented the Cost of Community Services Study, a copy of which is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.

D. Farmland Preservation Resolution - Magnolia Long, Sr. Planner, RPO Director, Foothills Regional Commission.

Alan Toney, Director of Community and Economic Development for Foothills Regional Commission, presented the Farmland Preservation Resolution for approval.
Commissioner Moore moved to adopt the Farmland Preservation resolution, seconded by Vice-Chairman Melton and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light - This item added at the request of Chairman Yoder.

Chairman Yoder presented the Operation Green Light for Veterans Resolution for

adoption.
Vice-Chairman Melton moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

   There were three citizen comments on Non-Agenda Items.

9. Adjournment

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

Attest:

Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Myron Yoder
Chairman