Burke County 2027 Revaluation Taskforce Committee Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2026 | 9:00 AM
Burke County Commissioners Chambers | 110 N. Green St., Door E, Morganton, NC
Livestream Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndr8k7j2Crk

Committee Members Present: Brian Smith, Tim Newton, Johnnie Carswell, Evan Crawley, Jerry Norvel, John Bridgers

Committee Members Absent: Jim Belote, Kevin Farris

Staff Present: Hugh Sandoe, Emma Mathews

I. **Call to Order**

Chairman Johnnie Carswell called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

II. **Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Carswell entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Tim Newton motioned, Evan Crawley seconded, unanimous vote overall.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Carswell entertained a motion to approve the draft minutes from the January 6, 2026, meeting. Evan Crawley motioned, Brian Smith seconded, unanimous vote overall.

IV. **New Business**

A. **Exemptions and Exclusions, Presented by John Bridgers and Hugh Sandoe**

i. Hugh Sandoe, Strategy and Performance Manager, presented alongside Burke County Tax Administrator John Bridgers. A brief history of state and local taxation was given, as well as different types of exclusions and exemptions in North Carolina, like the "circuit breaker," which refers to North Carolina individuals who are 65 or permanently disabled before January 1; non-profits; disabled veterans, etc. Mr. Sandoe explained that 53% of Burke County (roughly 168,091 acres or 3,502 parcels) is nontaxable. Reasons for this include federally protected lands, conservation lands, government-owned property, etc. This is a tax revenue equivalent of $12,086,709.

ii. Chairman Carswell entertained a motion to accept the report as presented. Jerry Norvell motioned, Evan Crawley seconded, unanimous vote overall to accept the report as presented.

V. **Member Reports**

A. Received comments from Jerry Norvel, Evan Crawley, Tim Newton, and Brian Smith.

VI. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the 2027 Revaluation Task Force will be Tuesday, March 3, at 9am.

VII. Adjournment

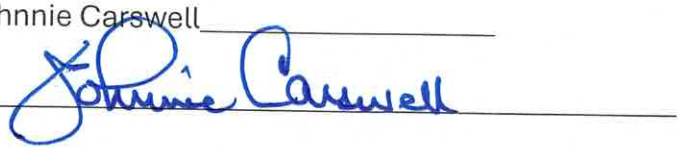
Chairman Carswell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Evan Crawley motioned, Tim Newton seconded, unanimous vote overall. The meeting adjourned at 9:53am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emma Mathews
Executive Assistant to the Burke County Manager

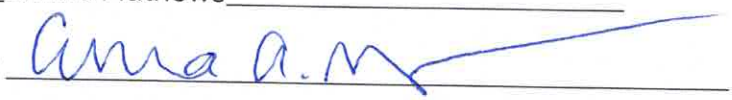
Approved March 3, 2026

Name: ___Johnnie Carswell_____

Signature: 

Title: Chairman, 2027 Burke County Tax Revaluation Task Force

Name: ___Emma Mathews_____

Signature: 

Title: Secretary, 2027 Burke County Tax Revaluation Task Force