

Draft

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**     November 3, 2025

**ALEXANDER COUNTY**  
**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**PRESENT:**    Marty Pennell, Chairman  
                  Larry Yoder, Vice-Chairman  
                  Kent Herman  
                  Josh Lail  
                  Ronnie Reese

**STAFF:**        Ben Faulkenberry, County Attorney  
                  Gary Herman, PIO  
                  Jamie Starnes, Clerk to the Board

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Monday, November 3, 2025 in Room 103 of the CVCC / Alexander Center in Taylorsville, North Carolina.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Pennell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Reese gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Yoder led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

No reports were given.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Adrien Appling requested the Board's assistance in resolving a noise complaint concerning the Alexander Industrial Park. He explained that the noise was constant, continued throughout the night, and could be heard from a mile away. Mr. Appling provided a petition signed by 29 neighbors regarding the complaint, which he said had been reported to law enforcement and a plant manager with no action yet to be taken.

**PUBLIC HEARING: APPROVAL OF ROAD NAMES**

Sara Milstead, 911 Addressing Coordinator, submitted the following road names for approval:

<u>Road No.</u>	<u>Road Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
3768PT	Brushy Meadow Lane	Off Paul Payne Store Road
3719JH	Burton Reid Drive	Off Old NC 90
3757KG	Camden Way	Off NC Highway 16 South
3820FJ	Cardinal Drive	Off All Healing Springs Road
3851AC	Crotts Lane	Off CJ Lane
3830PE	Faith Drive	Off Ned Herman Road
3749WP	Paw Paw Lane	Off US Highway 64-90 West
3769JC	R D Homeplace Lane	Off Highway 90 East
3756DB	Red Dirt Lane	Off Little River Estates Drive

All roads were checked for duplication and sound indexing.

After a motion by Vice-Chairman Yoder, second by Commissioner Reese, and unanimous vote, the public hearing was called to order and comments requested. There being none, Commissioner Reese made a motion to close the public hearing. Vice-Chairman Yoder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to approve the road names as presented. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING: REZONING CASE RZ-25-03 – DILLOW**

Patrick Creech, Planning Director, presented Rezoning Case RZ-25-03 submitted by Heather and John Dillow who requested rezoning of 1.359 acres located on Sulphur Springs Road from Residential District Two (R2) to Residential District Two Rural (R2R) to allow placement of a singlewide manufactured home.

After reviewing an aerial map and criteria to be considered when conducting rezoning cases, Mr. Creech reported that the property was located in a Rural / Urban Transition Area according to the Future Land Use Plan. Approval of the request would allow the applicants to provide an affordable housing option for a family member and the proposed use is consistent with the character of the surrounding community.

The Planning Board held a public hearing on October 9, 2025 to consider this petition and voted unanimously to recommend approval based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.

After a motion by Commissioner Reese, second by Vice-Chairman Yoder, and unanimous vote, the public hearing was called to order and comments requested. There being none, Commissioner Lail made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reese made a motion to approve Rezoning Case RZ-25-03 based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. Vice-Chairman Yoder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Creech also informed the Board that staff would be seeking applications to fill the seat of Bud Caywood, longtime member of the Planning Board, who is moving to another county.

### **CORRECTIONS ENTERPRISES PRESENTATION**

Brit Wilkinson, Corrections Enterprises Supervisor, presented information about the woodworking and upholstery plants at Alexander Correctional Institution, noting that Corrections Enterprises had 27 locations statewide. A total of 56 inmates staff the woodworking shop and 24 are in upholstery. Items produced include high quality office furniture, school work stations, display cases, custom chairs, bedroom furniture, metal fabrication, etc. which can only be sold to state and local governments. Mr. Wilkinson advised that the program improved inmates' chances for successful re-entry into society by providing job skills.

### **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ALEXANDER COUNTY MANAGER & APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

Ben Faulkenberry, County Attorney, presented two items for consideration by the Board including a resolution to appoint Justin Mundy as Alexander County Manager effective December 1, 2025 as well as his employment contract.

After brief comments by each commissioner and Mr. Mundy, Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to approve the resolution appointing Justin Mundy as County Manager effective December 1, 2025 and the employment contract. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS #9 - #12 & PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE #P-1**

Ben Faulkenberry, County Attorney, reviewed the purpose of Budget Amendments #9 - #12 and Project Budget Ordinance #P-3 as follows:

Budget Amendment #9 – To:

- increase the Sheriff's Office budget for additional personnel expenses and revenues from billing outside entities for special assignments.
- increase the Medical Examiner budget due to a state fee increase from \$1,750 to \$3,625 per autopsy performed.
- decrease the Emergency Management grant revenue budget for FY 2026 due to receipt of Hurricane Helene grant reimbursement funds in FY 2025.

Budget Amendment #10 – To increase:

- the Health Department budget for additional grant funds received for general public health services, increased participation in WIC services, communicable disease implementation of electronic test ordering and results system, and child fatality case reporting and prevention.
- the DSS budget for Administration and Social Worker enhanced preparedness skills training to better serve children in DSS custody through use of Vaya Child Welfare funding received in prior budget years.
- the DSS budget to use Adoption Enhancement special funds for the DSS Adoptions Program received in prior budget years.

Budget Amendment #11 – To adjust the General Fund budget for FY 2026 personnel costs that differ from original budget estimates and for vacation payouts for employees leaving County service during July through October 2025.

Budget Amendment #12 – To budget for:

- professional services fees for development of a master plan for improvements to East Alexander Park.
- the County's 5% local match for the NC Department of Commerce Building Reuse Grant for the Urgent Care of Mountain View Building Renovation Project.

Project Budget Ordinance #P-3 – To establish a budget for the Urgent Care of Mountain View Building Renovation Project.

Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #9 - #12 as well as Project Budget Ordinance #P-1 for the Urgent Care of Mountain View Building Renovation Project. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **DECEMBER MEETING CHANGE**

Ben Faulkenberry, County Attorney, requested the Board to reschedule the December 1<sup>st</sup> Commissioners' Meeting to be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday falling on agenda preparation week. There will be no change to the normal scheduled time and location.

Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to reschedule the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> as requested. Commissioner Lail seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Tax Abatements & Adjustments (\$2,739.76) and Tax Refunds (\$17,155.62) for September 29 – October 26, 2025.
- B. Minutes from the October 6, 2025 Regular Meeting and October 9, 2025 Special Called Meeting.
- C. Board / Committee Appointments – WPRTA Board.
- D. Line-Item Transfer Report for October 2025.
- E. NC Community College System FY 2025-2026 budget request sign-off form for CVCC.
- F. 2026 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule.
- G. 2026 Holiday Schedule.
- H. Contract with CHA Consulting, Inc. for East Alexander Park Renovation Project design services.

Commissioner Reese made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice-Chairman Yoder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3, 4, & 6) ATTORNEY / CLIENT PRIVILEGE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, & PERSONNEL**

Vice-Chairman Yoder made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:58 PM to allow for attorney/client privilege and to discuss economic development and personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3, 4, & 6). Commissioner Reese seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Reese made a motion to adjourn at 9:18 PM. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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Marty A. Pennell, Chairman

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Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board