

**Minutes of the January 13, 2020
Regular Meeting of the Yancey County Board Of Commissioners
Held at 6:00 pm in the Yancey County Courthouse
Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville North Carolina**

Present at the meeting held January 13, 2020 were Commissioner Mark Ledford, Commissioner David Grindstaff, Commissioner Johnny Riddle, County Manager Lynn Austin, County Attorney Donny Laws, Tax Administrator/Assessor Danny McIntosh, and Clerk to the Board Sonya Morgan, members of the media, and members of the general public. Chairman Jeff Whitson and Commissioner Jill Austin were absent from the meeting. In Chairman Whitson's absence, Vice Chair Commissioner Mark Ledford led the meeting.

Call to Order

Commissioner Ledford welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Commissioner Grindstaff delivered the invocation. Commissioner Riddle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Ledford asked for a motion to amend the agenda to reflect that he would be leading the meeting and approve the agenda. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion in kind. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the amended agenda was approved. (Attachment A)

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Ledford read through the items on the consent agenda as follows:

- Approval of December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of December 20, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- December 2019 Tax Collection Reports – Informational (Attachment B)

Commissioner Ledford asked for a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Grindstaff. By unanimous vote the consent agenda was approved.

Cooperative Extension

Commissioner Ledford recognized Jerry Moody, Cooperative Extension Director from Avery County. Mr. Moody addressed the Board and said that he is currently serving at the interim director in Yancey County and acting director in Avery County. Mr. Moody said that the Cooperative Extension is in the process of hiring new director. He further stated that Tres Wagner was a good friend and would be deeply missed. He told the Board he wanted to introduce himself and appreciated the opportunities presented him.

Tax Refunds and Releases

Danny McIntosh next addressed the Board to address two tax refund requests. Mr. McIntosh presented the first request for the property located on Cane River School Road. (Attachment C) Mr. McIntosh stated that the error occurred during mass appraisal in the desktop evaluation. Mr. McIntosh said that this is a clerical error and that a refund is indicated. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to approve the refund request for the Cane River School Road property. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the refund request was approved.

Mr. McIntosh presented the second request that was a business personal property account. (Attachment D) Mr. McIntosh reported that the business, Heritage Lumber, submitted incorrect information that was entered and in 2017 was corrected late. He indicated that the

taxpayer had requested a refund of excess taxes paid for 2015 and a release of excess tax for 2016. Mr. McIntosh stated that once the taxpayer pays, the county is not obligated to give back. He stated that the commissioners must decide whether or not to approve a refund and release. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to honor the request for refund and release. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

Nolichucky River

Halley Burleson addressed the Board and said that she is working to designate the Nolichucky River as a "Wild and Scenic River." (Attachment E) She said that 6 miles of the Nolichucky passes through Mitchell and Yancey Counties. Ms. Burleson stated that the river is all U.S. Forestry Service's property and the designation provides more protection, such as the river could never be dammed. She further indicated that fishing and hunting privileges would remain with the designation. Ms. Burleson requested that the Board provide a letter of support for the designation. She listed other entities that supported the initiative including Mitchell County Board of Commissioners and Unicoi County. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to write a letter of support for the designation of the Nolichucky as a Wild and Scenic River. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

Earth to Sky Park

Dr. John Boyd addressed the Board and presented a Tri-Party Agreement and Easement for consideration and approval of the Board for a special waste system, a three septic tank system for the Mayland Community College Earth to Sky Park project. Dr. Boyd asked the Board to approve the agreement. Commissioner Ledford asked County Attorney Donny Laws if he had reviewed the easement agreement. Mr. Laws indicated that the easement agreement was not the appropriate document as Yancey County owned the property and there is a lease currently in place. Mr. Laws indicated that the current lease between the county and Mayland would need to be modified to include the easement. Mr. Laws asked the Board to consider approving a modification to the lease to include the easement. Commissioner Riddle made a motion in kind. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the Board voted to modify the lease to include the easement.

Finance Officer's Report

County Finance Officer Brandi Burleson addressed the Board to give her report. Ms. Burleson presented the information in the Review of Proposals for Banking Services. (Attachment F) Ms. Burleson stated that after considering the information, county management was recommending the Board designate First Citizens Bank as official depository for Yancey County effective February 1, 2020. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to approve and designate First Citizens Bank to provide banking services for the county. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

Ms. Burleson presented Yancey County Budget Amendments #1 and #2. Ms. Burleson indicated that the Budget Amendment #1 was presented for the grant received by the Yancey County Sheriff's Office in collaboration with Yancey County Schools in the amount of \$33,000 for a school resource officer to be shared between Micaville and South Toe Elementary Schools. (Attachment G) She indicated the county would expend approximately \$26,574 through June 30, 2020. Commissioner Riddle asked if the grant would continue after June 30. Ms. Burleson said that she anticipated that the grant would continue. She said the county would have an officer retiring in the fall, so that the resource officer could move into that position if the county did not receive the grant for next year. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote Budget Amendment #1 was approved.

Ms. Burleson then presented Budget Amendment #2 and reviewed the proposed amendments. She stated that the amendments would increase the overall budget of \$365,558. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote Budget Amendment #2 was approved.

EMS Proposals

Representatives from Watauga Medics, American Medical Response (AMR), and HCA were present to discuss the emergency management services (EMS) they were proposing to provide for Yancey County and to answer questions the Board might have. Craig Sullivan, accompanied by Doug Helms with Watauga Medics spoke first and said that their company specialized in providing EMS services in this area, currently serving Watauga and Ash Counties. They reported that if they got the contract they have four ambulances in the county; each staffed with 2 paramedics, and would retire ambulances at 150,000 miles. When asked, they indicated that it was their intention to hire existing Yancey County personnel with the same benefits and same pay. Wes Presnell and Dempsey Whitt with AMR spoke next and said that they provide services for surrounding counties. AMR representatives also indicated that they too would use the existing staff as well and stated they would like to highlight that they combine land and air services. Commissioner Ledford asked what was considered the usable life of one their ambulances, to which they replied 200,000 miles. Lastly, Richard Lee, accompanied by two other representatives from HCA addressed the Board. Mr. Lee said that there has been a relationship between Yancey County and HCA since July 1991 and discussed the longevity of the employment of the current staff, the fact that most reside in Yancey County, and seven of the employees are instructors at Mayland Community College and two are instructors at AB Tech. Mr. Lee said that HCA would also have two paramedics per vehicle.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Austin began her report by stating that she understood the Toe River Health District would stay the same with all counties remaining in the district. She then reported that the Ray Cort Park project would go out for to bid in February and that the information would be on the county website. County Manager Austin reported that the mowing contract for the county facilities with Jerry Renfro had ended. She said that she would like to put that out for bid as well with the landfill portion removed from the contract. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to go out for bids for the mowing with the landfill portion removed. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion carried.

County Manager Austin then stated that the county had received RFQs from Headwaters Environmental and Blue Ridge Environmental for reconstruction of the berm at Cane River Park. She reported that the RFQs have been submitted and the county is awaiting direction from FEMA. County Manager Austin reported that there is lottery money to be drawn down by the county for the Blue Ridge Elementary project and presented applications for approval. (Attachment H) Commissioner Riddle made a motion to approve the application to draw down lottery funds. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion was carried.

County Manger Austin then presented a letter from the Ginger Johnson, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce requesting the Board of Commissioners of Yancey County present a request to the local legislature to increase the occupancy tax 6%. (Attachment I) County Manager Austin said that the current occupancy tax rate is 3% and the tax goes to the Chamber for travel and tourism promotion in Yancey County. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to send a request to the local legislature requesting the occupancy tax rate in Yancey County be increased to 6%. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion was carried.

County Manger Austin informed the Board that Robin Smith, Director of TRACTOR had resigned. She also stated that Director position at the Cooperative Extension is open and the position is funded 50% by the county and 50% by the state. She also said that there is a vacant 4H position available previously held by Linda Semon who retired at the end of the year.

County Manager Austin said that Gabe Johnson replaced Chris Deyton at DOT. She also reported that there would be an event at the Town Center on February 20 for Ardell Sink to recognize him and his efforts. She said the Board has been asked to prepare a proclamation for the event which will be presented at the February regular meeting. County Manager Austin said the U.S.D.A. has informed her that there is a Gypsy moth infestation in Yancey County found on Mt. Mitchell. U.S. Forestry will be treating the area and assured the County Manager that the treatment is safe to humans.

County Manager Austin reported that ARC is requiring the county take some additional steps on the East Yancey Water & Sewer District project. She indicated that the county has the funds for the project and must go through the clearinghouse to access the funds. County Manager Austin presented a proposal, in the amount of \$17,600, from Withers & Ravenel who will assist with pulling the money down. She reported that these additional steps have delayed the project for another 3 to 4 months. Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to approve the proposal from Withers & Ravenel. Commissioner Riddle seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the Board approved the proposal.

County Manager Austin distributed a copy of the 2019 Economic Development Report for Yancey County prepared by Jamie McMahan. (Attachment J) Finally, County Manager Austin reported to the Board that county management gathering data and is investigating the possibility of a county run EMS. She indicated that she is gathering data and will present the information to the Board for consideration.

County Attorney's Report

County Attorney Donny Laws reported to the Board that he had only one issue to discuss. Mr. Laws reported that a "sovereign citizen" filed a complaint and is attempting to sue county commissioners; Commissioner Riddle has been served with the complaint. Mr. Laws reported that there is no basis, as the citizen is challenging that no laws apply to him. Mr. Laws said that the Board will have to file a response. Mr. Laws requested that the Board make a motion to authorize him as county attorney to file a response of a motion to dismiss. Commissioner Riddle made a motion to authorized County Attorney Laws to file the motion to dismiss. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the motion was carried. County Attorney Laws said that he did not have anything else to report to the Board this month.

County Commissioners Report

Commissioner Riddle stated that a lot has happened last meeting and said that Tres Magner was here at the last Board meeting and passed away in December. He stated that Tres was a great guy, loved Yancey County, loved joking, was positive, and served on several boards in the county. Commissioner Riddle asked those present to remember his family as they pray. Commissioner Riddle also reported that he, County Manager Austin, County Finance Officer Brandi Burleson, County Attorney Donny Laws attended the first drug court graduation. Commissioner Riddle said that as a result of starting the Drug Court program lives were changed and that he appreciated the Commissioners, District Attorney Seth Banks, Donny Laws and all who worked on it.

Commissioner Grindstaff reported that he had attended his first Northwestern Regional Housing Authority meeting where there was discussion regarding need for workforce housing. Commissioner Grindstaff said that Ned Fowler would be meeting with County Manager Austin and the Commissioners to develop workforce housing so that employees can live in and work in Yancey County.

Commissioner Ledford acknowledged Danny McIntosh and extended his appreciation on behalf of the Board for all of his years of services to Yancey County.

Public Comment

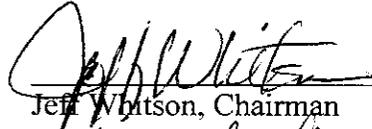
Danny McIntosh expressed his appreciation for be able to serve as Tax Assessor for Yancey County.

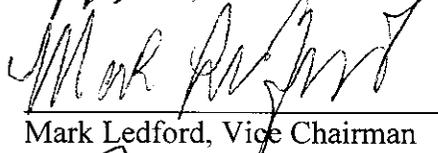
Adjournment

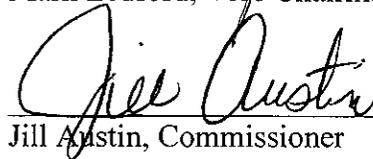
Having no further business, Commissioner Riddle made a motion to adjourn, with

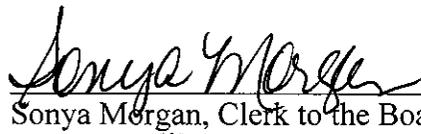
Commissioner Grindstaff seconding the motion. The Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn.

Approved and authenticated this the 10th day of February 2020.

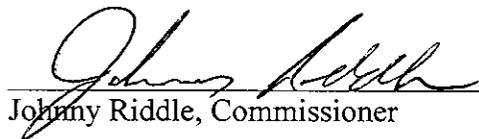

Jeff Whitson, Chairman


Mark Ledford, Vice Chairman


Jill Austin, Commissioner


Sonya Morgan, Clerk to the Board


David Grindstaff, Commissioner


Johnny Riddle, Commissioner





AGENDA
YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
January 13, 2020
6:00 PM

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Jeff Whitson**
- II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
- III. Approval of the Agenda**
- IV. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approval of December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes**
 - b. Approval of December 20, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes**
 - c. December 2019 Tax Collection Reports - Informational**
- V. Cooperative Extension – Jerry Moody**
- VI. Tax Refunds – Danny McIntosh**
- VII. Nolichucky River – Halley Burleson**
- VIII. Earth to Sky Park – Dr. John Boyd**
- IX. Finance Officer’s Report – Brandi Burleson**
 - a. Bank Proposals**
 - b. Budget Amendment/SRO Update**
- X. EMS Proposals**
 - a. Wautaga Medics – Craig Sullivan**
 - b. AMR – Wes Presnell**
 - c. HCA – Richard Lee**
- XI. County Manager’s Report – Lynn Austin**
- XII. County Attorney’s Report – Donny Laws**
- XIII. County Commissioners’ Report**
- XIV. Public Comments**
- XV. Adjourn**

YANCEY COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATION

End of Month Breakout

View Posted Payments in Date Range 12/01/2019 to 12/31/2019 for Both

Description	Amount
Vehicle Payments	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2019	\$1,876.59
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2018	\$650.39
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2017	\$8.43
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2016	\$9.36
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2015	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2014	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2013	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2012	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2011	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2010	
County Vehicle Tax Payments 2009	
County Vehicle Interest	\$34.60
County Vehicle Total Payments	\$2,579.37
Burnsville VFD Vehicle Tax	\$48.69
South Toe VFD Vehicle Tax	
Newdale VFD Vehicle Tax	\$2.67
West Yancey VFD Vehicle Tax	\$140.75
Egypt/Ramseytown VFD Vehicle Tax	
Clearmont VFD Vehicle Tax	
Double Island VFD Vehicle Tax	
Pensacola VFD Vehicle Tax	
VFD Vehicle Interest	\$3.57
VFD Vehicle Total Payments	\$195.68
Town of Burnsville Vehicle Tax	\$12.64
Town of Burnsville Vehicle Interest	
Town of Burnsville Vehicle Total Payment	\$12.64
State Vehicle Interest	\$18.68
Vehicle Total Payments	\$2,806.37

01/02/2020

PENSACOLA FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Tax				\$357.57
	\$137.97	\$141.90	\$77.70	
PRICES CREEK FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Tax				\$274.09
	\$5.69	\$28.70	\$65.53	\$174.17
County Vehicle Interest				\$3,713.92
	\$390.27	\$1,887.41	\$1,436.24	
TOWN OF BURNSVILLE Vehicle Interest				\$64.69
	\$5.98	\$48.27	\$10.44	
BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interes				\$93.90
	\$7.96	\$71.51	\$14.43	
CANE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interes				\$20.75
	\$3.50	\$15.77	\$1.48	
EGYPT FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interest				\$6.28
	\$1.11	\$5.16	\$0.01	
RAMSEYTOWN FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interes				\$0.79
	\$0.03	\$0.02	\$0.74	
GREEN MOUNTAIN FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Int				\$13.24
	\$2.43	\$10.48	\$0.33	
JACKS CREEK FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Intere				\$18.69
	\$1.83	\$7.65	\$9.21	
BRUSH CREEK FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Intere				\$6.38
	\$0.83	\$5.55		
CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interest				\$38.81
	\$6.84	\$22.13	\$9.84	
SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interest				\$32.10
	\$6.60	\$15.78	\$9.72	
PENSACOLA FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Interest				\$42.91
	\$3.32	\$18.72	\$20.87	
PRICES CREEK FIRE DISTRICT Vehicle Inter				\$63.86
	\$3.06	\$11.15	\$49.65	
DMV Vehicle Interest				\$427.98
	\$60.85	\$198.23	\$168.90	

Totals					\$51,078.26
	\$6,789.40	\$16,944.45	\$19,985.23	\$7,359.18	

	Billed to Date	% Collected
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County Vehicle Tax 2019	\$10,865.09	43.42%
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01/02/2020

Posting Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

01-02-2020

1:15 PM

I. Tax Collections + Releases

Year	General Fund	Burnsville	West Yancey	Egypt/Ramseytown	Clearmont	Double Island	Newdale	South Toe	Pensacola	TOTAL
2014	\$415.00	\$49.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$464.80
2015	\$448.94	\$49.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$501.50
2016	\$955.57	\$35.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.95	\$36.70	\$0.00	\$23.67	\$0.00	\$1,069.77
2017	\$2,684.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32.40	\$92.46	\$0.00	\$2,809.26
2018	\$7,168.52	\$464.98	\$106.32	\$0.00	\$251.67	\$0.00	\$66.86	\$179.38	\$0.00	\$8,237.73
2019	\$1,557,857.12	\$44,163.05	\$23,900.70	\$11,430.17	\$8,854.90	\$3,558.20	\$18,991.94	\$17,988.14	\$9,277.42	\$1,696,021.64
TOTAL	\$1,569,529.55	\$44,763.51	\$24,007.02	\$11,430.17	\$9,122.52	\$3,596.90	\$19,093.96	\$18,283.65	\$9,277.42	\$1,709,104.70

II. Releases

	Current Year	Prior Year	TOTAL
General Fund	\$20.31	\$0.00	\$20.31
Burnsville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Yancey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Egypt/Ramseytown	\$1.59	\$0.00	\$1.59
Clearmont	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Double Island	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Newdale	\$0.01	\$0.00	\$0.01
South Toe	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pensacola	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$21.91	\$0.00	\$21.91

III. Net Tax Collections

Year	General Fund	Burnsville	West Yancey	Egypt/Ramseytown	Clearmont	Double Island	Newdale	South Toe	Pensacola	TOTAL
TOTAL	\$1,569,509.24	\$44,763.51	\$24,007.02	\$11,428.58	\$9,122.52	\$3,596.90	\$19,093.95	\$18,283.65	\$9,277.42	\$1,709,082.79

Transaction Type Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

Year	General	Fire	Penalty	Waste	Additional Fees	Principal	Interest	Advertising Cost	Legal Cost	Total
2014	\$415.00	\$49.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$464.80	\$195.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$660.39
2015	\$448.94	\$52.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$501.50	\$295.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$796.81
2016	\$955.57	\$114.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,069.77	\$309.62	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$1,391.39
2017	\$2,684.40	\$124.86	\$1.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,810.60	\$507.87	\$24.00	\$0.00	\$3,342.47
2018	\$7,168.52	\$1,069.21	\$1.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,238.97	\$1,075.96	\$76.00	\$0.00	\$9,390.93
2019	\$1,557,836.81	\$138,162.92	\$310.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,696,309.73	\$877.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,697,187.44
TOTAL	\$1,569,509.24	\$139,573.55	\$312.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,709,395.37	\$3,262.06	\$112.00	\$0.00	\$1,712,769.43

Adjustment / Release Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

Year	General	Penalty	Waste	Additional Fees	Principal	Interest	Advertising Cost	Legal Cost	Fire	Amount Due	County Net
2018	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.52	\$0.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.55	\$9.55
2019	\$20.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.31	\$2.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.60	\$24.12	\$22.52
TOTAL	\$20.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.31	\$11.73	\$0.03	\$0.00	\$1.60	\$33.67	\$32.07

Collections Receipts Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

Total general tax	\$1,569,509.24
Total fire tax	\$139,573.55
Total penalty	\$312.58
Total Waste Fees	\$0.00
Total Additional Fees	\$0.00
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Total principal	\$1,709,395.37
Total interest	\$3,262.06
Total cost of advertising	\$112.00
Total legal	\$0.00
Total check overpayments	\$0.00
Total Prepaid Payments	\$319.43
Total Prepaid Applied	\$0.00
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Total misc	\$3,693.49
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Grand total receipts	\$1,713,088.86

District Payment Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

Year	District Code	District Name	Amount
2014	001	BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	\$49.80
2015	001	BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	\$49.80
2015	008	CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT	\$2.76
2016	001	BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	\$35.88
2016	006	JACKS CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$15.95
2016	007	BRUSH CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$38.70
2016	009	SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT	\$23.67
2017	008	CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT	\$32.40
2017	009	SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT	\$92.46
2018	001	BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	\$464.98
2018	002	CANE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT	\$106.32
2018	005	GREEN MOUNTAIN FIRE DISTRICT	\$40.01
2018	006	JACKS CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$211.66
2018	008	CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT	\$66.86
2018	009	SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT	\$179.38
2019	001	BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	\$44,163.05
2019	002	CANE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT	\$7,943.72
2019	003	EGYPT FIRE DISTRICT	\$8,938.29
2019	004	RAMSEYTOWN FIRE DISTRICT	\$2,490.29
2019	005	GREEN MOUNTAIN FIRE DISTRICT	\$3,876.18
2019	006	JACKS CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$4,978.72
2019	007	BRUSH CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$3,558.20
2019	008	CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT	\$18,991.93
2019	009	SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT	\$17,988.14
2019	010	PENSACOLA FIRE DISTRICT	\$9,277.42
2019	011	PRICES CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	\$15,956.98
TOTAL			\$139,573.55

Detailed District Payment Report

12-01-2019 to 12-31-2019

Year	District Code	District Name	Taxpayer Name	Address	Amount
TOTAL					\$0.00

Outstanding Balances Report

As of 12-31-2019

Year	Amount	County	District	Interest	Advertising	Penalties	Waste	Additional Fees
2008	\$14,454.46	\$6,485.47	\$579.73	\$7,190.14	\$52.00	\$147.12	\$0.00	\$0.00
2009	\$13,313.95	\$6,607.77	\$502.81	\$6,139.37	\$64.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2010	\$14,693.71	\$7,481.80	\$676.82	\$6,443.09	\$92.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2011	\$22,380.11	\$11,708.11	\$1,162.47	\$9,387.68	\$104.00	\$17.85	\$0.00	\$0.00
2012	\$25,868.22	\$13,653.97	\$1,541.33	\$10,265.67	\$128.00	\$279.25	\$0.00	\$0.00
2013	\$22,157.37	\$12,918.37	\$1,185.85	\$7,831.15	\$222.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2014	\$29,505.95	\$17,120.78	\$1,577.24	\$8,701.58	\$176.00	\$443.60	\$0.00	\$0.00
2015	\$33,309.92	\$21,508.04	\$2,058.32	\$8,558.10	\$228.00	\$257.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
2016	\$68,782.91	\$45,695.85	\$3,406.74	\$14,172.54	\$348.00	\$355.41	\$4.00	\$0.00
2017	\$85,777.64	\$66,025.88	\$5,590.61	\$12,848.56	\$592.00	\$720.59	\$0.00	\$0.00
2018	\$163,723.65	\$136,574.30	\$11,135.73	\$13,533.67	\$1,279.97	\$1,199.98	\$0.00	\$0.00
2019	\$2,407,930.77	\$2,215,640.36	\$189,945.25	\$13.97	\$0.00	\$2,331.19	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$2,901,898.66	\$2,561,420.70	\$219,362.90	\$105,085.52	\$3,285.97	\$5,752.29	\$4.00	\$0.00

Yancey County Tax Office

County/District Collection Percentage Report

As of: 12-31-2019

Run Date: 01-02-2020

2019 County

Net Levy \$	Collections \$	Collections %
12,740,907.18	10,526,017.71	82.62

Districts

Name	Net Levy \$	Collections \$	Collections %
001 - BURNSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	198,948.52	175,251.56	88.09
002 - CANE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT	78,231.74	63,253.83	80.86
003 - EGYPT FIRE DISTRICT	77,435.58	66,808.16	86.28
004 - RAMSEYTOWN FIRE DISTRICT	24,300.17	18,739.50	77.12
005 - GREEN MOUNTAIN FIRE DISTRICT	29,522.52	22,708.50	76.92
006 - JACKS CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	64,789.74	55,312.44	85.38
007 - BRUSH CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	40,178.54	33,045.48	82.25
008 - CRABTREE FIRE DISTRICT	172,752.95	135,156.43	78.24
009 - SOUTH TOE FIRE DISTRICT	192,938.70	160,446.79	83.16
010 - PENSACOLA FIRE DISTRICT	95,799.15	73,832.10	77.07
011 - PRICES CREEK FIRE DISTRICT	153,706.29	134,103.86	87.25

District Totals

Net Levy \$	Collections \$	Collections %
1,128,603.90	938,658.65	83.17



YANCEY COUNTY TAX OFFICE

110 Town Square, Room 2 * Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

Phone: (828) 682-2198 * Fax (828) 682-4817

Email: dannv.mcintosh@yanceycountync.gov

Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners January 13 2020

Refund request:

HIGGINS, RAY
1669 CANE RIVER SCHOOL RD
BURNSVILLE NC 28714

PIN: 987000744057000 (ANGEL BRANCH RD) Property owner found that the property accumulated a mobile home during the 2016 revaluation process. This condition was created during the mass appraisal as part of the Advanced Desktop Appraisal portion of the revaluation. The result of the overstatement of value and tax collected for the past four years is as follows:

2016 Excess tax collected	\$ 59.52
2017 Excess tax collected:	\$ 59.52
2018 Excess tax collected:	\$ 59.52
2019 Excess tax collected:	\$ 59.52
Total excess tax collected during the past five years:	\$238.08

Property owner did request in writing that the excess tax paid be refunded.

Assessor's opinion: Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 105-381 refund is indicated and recommended in the amount of \$238.08.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY RECORD CARD

YANCEY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

EFFECTIVE DATE OF VALUE: 1/1/2020

ANGEL BRANCH RD

PARCEL ID: 987000744057000

ACCOUNT NO: 000014525

CLASS: R

STATE CLASS: 545

CARD #: 1 OF 1

CURRENT OWNER/ADDRESS
HIGGINS, RAY

ZONING:

ESN: 153

TOWNSHIP NAME: CANE RIVER

NBHD ID: 201.00

LIVING UNITS: 1

VALUE FLAG: COST

1669 CANE RIVER SCHOOL RD

LAND DATA:

TYPE

SIZE

RATE

INFLUENCE FACTORS

%

LAND VALUE

- ASSESSMENT INFORMATION -

BURNSVILLE

NC

28714

UNDEVELOPED 1.000 10000
RESIDUAL 5.000 5000
WOODLAND 6.880 2500

10,000
25,000
17,200

LAND
FARM USE
BUILDING
TOTAL

PRIOR 52,200
CURRENT 52,200
9,300
61,500
61,500

DEED BOOK: 329 -
DEED PAGE: 710
DEED DATE: 19990421

PRIOR YEAR ASSESSMENTS:
2018 61,500
2017 61,500
2016 61,500
2015 96,600
2014 96,600

DATE 19990421
TYPE 1
PRICE 58,000

VALID 0

BOOK/PAGE 329-710

TOTAL ACREAGE: 12.880

TOTAL LAND VALUE:

52,200

ADDITION DATA:

EXEMPTION: NONE

PERMIT DATA DATE NUMBER PURPOSE COST

Lower Level First Floor Second Floor Third Floor Area Value

2016 9300 x .0064 = 59.52 00
2017 " " " " 00
2018 " " " " 00
2019 " " " " 00

DWELLING DATA:

Story/Ht.
Style: DOUBLE-WIDE
Walls:
Bedrooms:
Total Rooms:
Basement:
Attic:
Full Baths:
Half Baths:
Add'l Fixtures:
Total Fixtures:
Heating System: NONE
Type:
Fin. Bsmt. Living Area:
Basement Rec Room Area:
Total Fireplace:
Basement Garage (# Cars)
Ground Flr Area: True GFA
TOT LIVING AREA: True TLA
Quality Grade:
Condition:
Year Built: 2003
Eff. Year Built:
CDU:

COST APPROACH COMPUTATIONS

Base Price
Plumbing
Additions
Unfin. Area
Basement
Attic
Heat/AC Adj.
FBLA
Rec Rm
Fireplace
Bsmt. Gar.
SUBTOTAL
Grade Factor
C & D factor
TOTAL RCN
% Good
Market Adj.
TOTAL RCNLD

OUTBUILDING DATA

Type	Qty	Year	Size1	Size2	Grd	Cond	Value
RM2	1	2003	28	44	C	A	\$9,310

NOTES:

OTHER IMP:

MISC. OUTBUILDING TOTAL: 9,300
OUTBUILDING TOTAL:

I'm writing to request refund for taxes paid on a mobile home that is not on my property or owned by me. I have been taxed for this since 2016, so I'm requesting a refund for years 2016-2019.

Ray Higgins



YANCEY COUNTY TAX OFFICE

110 Town Square, Room 2 * Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

Phone: (828) 682-2198 * Fax (828) 682-4817

Email: danny.mcintosh@yanceycountync.gov

Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners January 13, 2020

Refund request:

HERITAGE LUMBER CO INC
PO BOX 625
BURNSVILLE NC 28714

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY ACCOUNT 000000331. Property owner found that Heritage Lumber Co staff submitted incorrect listing information resulting in an overstated taxable value for the years of 2015 and 2016. Investigation revealed that the subsequent corrective actions has created the following circumstances:

2015 Excess tax collected	\$333.72
2016 Excess tax billed:	\$863.47 (Billed, not paid, to be released)

Property owner did request in writing that the excess tax paid be refunded and that the excess tax billed be released.

Assessor's opinion: Taxpayer actions resulted in the creation of an excessive tax bill and the Board of County Commissioners may agree and desire to accommodate the taxpayers request to refund \$333.72 tax paid for 2015 and to release the unpaid tax of \$863.47.



Heritage Lumber Co., Inc.

ACE

570 Hwy. 19E ByPass • P.O. Box 625 • Burnsville, NC 28714 • (828) 682-3033 • FAX (828) 682-6589

December 31, 2019

Yancey County Tax Collector
Yancey County Courthouse
Town Square
Burnsville, NC 28714

RE: Business Property Tax for 2015 and 2016

Dear Yancey County Tax Collector:

We respectfully would like to request a refund of excess taxes billed in error for years 2015 and 2016.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

 12/31/19

James M Ray
Heritage Lumber Co., Inc.

Fw: Nolichucky Wild and Scenic

Lynn Austin <Lynn.Austin@yanceycountync.gov>

Mon 1/6/2020 2:33 PM

To: Sonya Morgan <Sonya.Morgan@yanceycountync.gov>

January Meeting

Lynn Austin

Yancey County Manager

Phone: 828-682-3971

Fax: 828-682-4301

From: Halley Burleson <halley@americanwhitewater.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 12:08 PM

To: Lynn Austin <Lynn.Austin@yanceycountync.gov>

Subject: Nolichucky Wild and Scenic

Hi Lynn,

It has been a few weeks since I spoke to you about putting me on the January Agenda for the Commissioners. I have been very busy gaining community support as well as support in Washington, D.C. I've just returned from D.C. where I met with Representatives for both Senator Burr and Tillis. Both meetings went extremely well and they are looking forward to helping us with this project. Here is some information I would like you to share with the Commissioners - Our website www.noliwildandscenic.org has a lot of great information including 2 short films on the Nolichucky River, I would encourage you to watch both, starting with "This is the Noli" then "This is the Noli 2". Also attached is a PDF with general info on the designation, a letter from Caldwell County Commissioner, Ron Beane, speaking to why they designated Wilson Creek as a Wild and Scenic River and letters of support we have from Erwin, TN. Although the eight mile long Nolichucky Gorge is often associated with Tennessee, because of the commercial rafting companies in Unicoi County, six of those miles are in Mitchell and Yancey County. It's time the Nolichucky River Gorge and our Communities get the National Recognition they deserve. If you have any questions, please let me know!

--

Halley Burleson

Nolichucky Wild and Scenic Coordinator

828.467.3034



NOLICHUCKY

WILD & SCENIC

"People miss out on the big picture of the river and what life it creates and sustains."

-John Holsclaw - TN State Representative

8

Miles of River

30,000

Recreational Yearly Users

**Poplar, NC
to
Chestoa, TN**

The Grassroots Movement

Inspired by the incredible landscape and rich cultural history of the Nolichucky there is a grass roots movement to designate this incredible place as the next Wild and Scenic River. If you've ever visited the section of the river from Poplar, NC to Chestoa, TN you understand why there is so much passion and interest in keeping this river free-flowing for everyone to enjoy!

What is Wild and Scenic Designation?

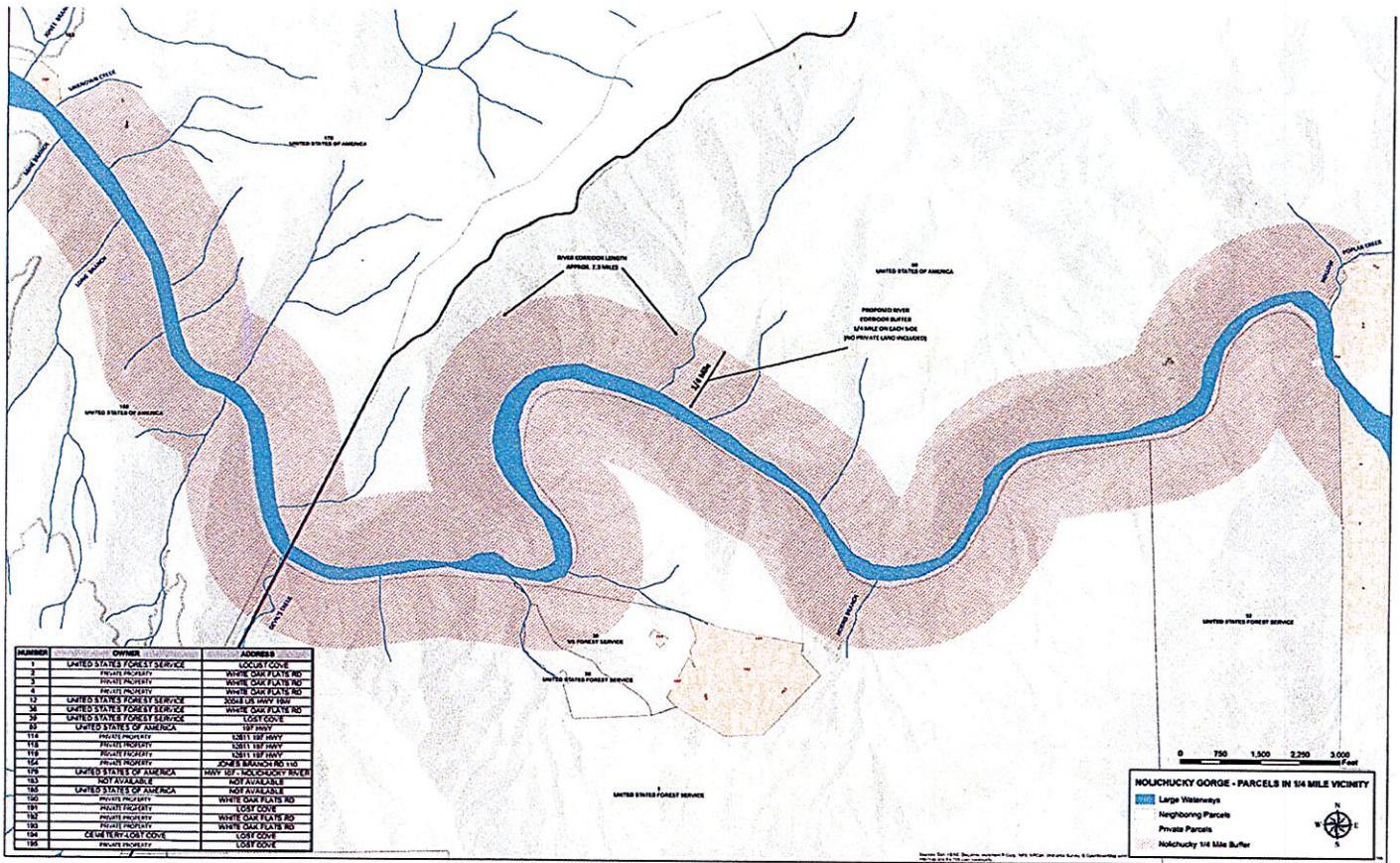
The federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is a popular and uniquely American river conservation tool. The act prohibits the construction of dams or other in stream activities that would harm the river's free-flowing condition, water quality, or outstanding recreational values. However,

designation does not affect existing water rights or the jurisdiction of states and federal government over protected waters. Simply put, Wild and Scenic Designation keeps the river as is it is for generations to come.

Why the Nolichucky?

The Nolichucky is one of the last major free-flowing (undammed) rivers left in the Southeastern US.

The cool, free-flowing waters of the Nolichucky provide world-class angling opportunities for bass, crappie, catfish, muskie and trout. Kayakers, rafters and paddlers of all sorts share this love for the class III- IV rapids, steep canyon walls, and ever changing water levels. The recreational opportunities are endless!



FAQ

Where would designation take place?

The 8 mile section of river from Poplar, NC to Chestoa, TN plus 0.25 miles of shoreline on each side of the river. This is entirely in National Forest lands.

How does this affect private land?

None, the designation area is entirely within federal land.

Why designate Wild and Scenic?

This is the best insurance available to keep the river clean, cool and free-flowing for generations to come.

What needs to happen?

Through motivation from local support congress must create a new law designating the corridor as Wild and Scenic.

How will use of river change?

Simply put, it won't. This is why Wild and Scenic is so unique. As long as it doesn't affect the wild nature and recreational value of the river nothing changes.

What can an individual do to help?

Go to noliwildandscenic.org to ask your congressional representative to make this a priority.

Learn more noliwildandscenic.org

Review of Proposals for Banking Services

December 30, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Present were: Brandi Burleson, Lynn Austin, Lynne Hensley

Request for Proposal packets were sent out to all five local banking institution (Wells Fargo, United Community Bank, First Citizens, PNC Bank, and TD Bank) on November 8, 2019 with a specified due date of December 20, 2019 by 4:00 PM. Two responses were received, First Citizens Banks and United Community Bank. On Monday, December 30th a detailed review was conducted item by item for both banks. The proposals were based on data for October, 2019, a sample month provided by Yancey County.

Overall, the prices were comparable. First Citizens' service fee for the sample month of October was \$306.96 (after subtracting interest earned for the month at the rate of .05%), and United Community Bank's fee was \$350.40 (after subtracting interest earned at .10%), which is a difference of \$43.44 for the sample month. Service fees are based on detailed charges for ACH deposits, checks paid, teller deposits credited, returned items, electronic debits, night deposits, security software and procedures, etc.

In addition to the above referenced charges were several other variables in our decision-making process. Some of these include: positive pay and exception processing deadlines, cancelled check imaging archives and credit card rewards. The deadline for positive pay was longer by an additional three hours, credit card rewards were offered, and extended archive retention were included in First Citizens Bank's proposal. United Community Bank proposed continuing the purchasing of payroll and accounts payable checks.

The greater of our concerns were the security and chartering aspects for both banks. Our main concern is that the financial institution recommended be equipped to best address the technological needs of Yancey County Government. Regarding security, Yancey County's IT Department reviewed the BOBs Advantage and Q2 ebanking, the online banking processes offered by First Citizens Bank and United Community Bank respectively. This analysis found that the Q2 system is certified through Amazon where they have their website and information storage. BOB is certified through Digi-Cert and has their information stored on private servers. Both have encryption for online transactions. BOB uses an authentication process that is updated continually and relies on industry standards. Q2 also utilizes two factor authentications, but it is a specialized process that may not have to conform to regulations.

After our recent loss, we were advised that our current bank is not chartered in North Carolina, thus limiting the North Carolina Banking Commission's resources to assist us in our loss. We have also researched the number of local governments currently associated with each of the two banks, and, including Yancey County, UCB serves 10 county accounts in North Carolina and First Citizens serves 55 counties.

Based on the above information and thorough review of the proposals received, we recommend that the Board designate First Citizens Bank as official depository for Yancey County effective February 1, 2020.

Reply Delete Junk Block ...

County Bank account Info

Getting too much email? Unsubscribe

SM

Susan McCullen <Susan.McCullen@nctreasurer.com>

Like Reply Reply All Forward ...

Fri 1/10/2020 12:36 PM
Brandi Burleson

Brandi,

You were not far off with your estimate. Counting the Yancey County account, UCB has 10 county accounts. First Citizen's has 55.

Hope this helps.

Visit the [LGC Staff Blog](#) to stay up to date on deadlines, news, and announcements.

Susan McCullen, CPA
Assistant Director, Fiscal Management Section
State and Local Government
Finance Division
Office: (919) 814-4302

3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27604
www.NCTreasurer.com



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER



Dale R. Folwell, CPA
STATE TREASURER OF NORTH CAROLINA
DALE R. FOLWELL, CPA

E-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to North Carolina's Public Records Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 132, and may be disclosed to third parties. However Federal and State law protects personal health and other information that may be contained in this e-mail from unauthorized disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and any accompanying documents and contact the sender immediately. Unauthorized disclosure, copying or distribution of any confidential or privileged content of this e-mail is prohibited.

↶ Reply ∨ 🗑 Delete 🚫 Junk 🚫 Block ...

Fw: Question on software

Subject: Re: Question on software

Brandi and Lynn,

I have looked into the security aspect of both of these systems. The Q2 system re-certifies their web security in May of every year through Amazon (where they have their website and info stored). BOB gets their certificates straight from Digi-Cert in February of every year and has their info stored on private servers. Both have sha256, which is the encryption you would want for online transactions. I like 2 factor authentication, but couldn't find how Q2 handles it. Q2 uses Cetrax for their security and reporting. They probably have their own version of 2 factor auth, but not specifically industry standard. BOB has true 2 factor auth combined with their own BOB auth which uses a combo of 2 factor with Google authenticator. I'm a fan of this as it will be updated as time goes on since it relies on industry standard factors of authentication. Both look like they provide ample security, however, so it's all in how you like the softwares (how they function) and whether you want true 2 factor auth or specialized auth that may not have to conform to regulations. I'm leaning more toward BOB, but both have what you need to get it done. Is this what you needed? Any more questions, just holler.

Thanks.

Travis

Travis Rhymer, I.T. Director
Yancey County Local Government
Burnsville, NC 28714
Email: Travis.Rhymer@yanceycountync.gov

From: Lynn Austin <Lynn.Austin@yanceycountync.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 4:34 PM
To: Travis Rhymer <Travis.Rhymer@yanceycountync.gov>
Subject: Question on software

Travis

I have a couple of banking software's that I would like for you to look into and compare. The first being BOB Advantage and the second being Q2 eBanking... of course one of the main focuses is security...

Thanks Travis and Happy New Year!

Lynn

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Yancey County Notes to Budget Amendment #1 & #2

Budget Amendment #1

The Yancey County Sheriff's Office in collaboration with the Yancey County School System received a grant in the amount of \$33,000 to fund a School Resource Officer to divide time between South Toe Elementary and Micaville Elementary. The match to the grant will be covered by the costs of firearms, uniforms, vests, lettering of vehicle (vehicle provided as an in-kind match by Yancey County Schools). The SRO Grant will only cover salary of officer and benefits through June 30, 2020. With the timing and hiring of officer we will only expend \$26,574 of the grant in salaries & benefits.

Budget Amendment # 2

Budget Amendment # 2 will cover any expenditures or anticipated expenditures that came about after the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget was adopted in June of 2019. Lines 1 & 2 will cover various inmate emergencies that have already occurred this year. One inmate was air transported to the hospital and we have several admitted to the hospital for various other reasons. This expense is uncontrollable and as much as we try to pretreat or have nurses visit onsite some situations warrant a hospital stay. The Emergency Management Department received a \$42,000 grant to cover the costs of an Emergency Response Trailer Package. The county will receive \$27,000 and we will match \$15,000 (lines 3 & 21). Lines 4 and 22 will reflect a grant that was received for the AMY Wellness Project and Yancey County's portion is \$75,868. This grant will provide tablets and training to implement software to make trips and scheduling more efficient. Lines 5-7 will cover the increase to the salary of the County Planner for the remainder of the fiscal year (6mths). Line # 8 is the continuation of an economic industrial retention agreement with Altec Industries. The final year of the agreement will be in the 2020 calendar year. Line # 9 will cover the match to the Building Reuse Grant that Altec Industries received to modify the building on Ferguson Hill Road for the expansion. The grant was for over \$500,000 and the match will be \$25,000. Lines 10-13 will cover the remaining salary of the CRC Director which retired June 30, 2019. Line 14 will cover the contract to continue cleaning services for the CRC building. Lines 15-18 were various line items that we will have some savings on this fiscal year. Line 19 will cover the 911 Department temporary salaries for covering the shifts of the two employees that had kidney surgery. Both of those employees have returned to work. Line 20 is the expense line item for the balance of the sales tax due to Yancey County Schools for the close of the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Yancey County Schools receives 30% of Article 40 and 60% of Article 42. After the totals are in (usually near the end of September) they receive their portion minus the \$500,000 that is their portion of the debt service payment for Blue Ridge Elementary School.

**APPLICATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CAPITAL FUND
NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY**

Approved: _____

Date: _____

County: YANCEY COUNTY

Contact Person: Robbie M. Renfro

LEA: 995

Title: Finance Officer

Address: PO Box 190 Burnsville, NC 28714

Phone: 828/682-6101 ext 116

Project Title: Blue Ridge Elementary School - New Construction

Location: 910 Cane River School Road Burnsville, NC 28714

Type of Facility: Elementary School

North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 18C, provides that a portion of the proceeds of the North Carolina State Lottery Fund be transferred to the Public School Building Capital Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.2. Further, G.S. 115C-546.2(d) has been amended to include the following:

(3) No county shall have to provide matching funds.

(4) A county may use moneys in this fund to pay for school construction projects in local school administrative units and to retire indebtedness incurred for school construction projects.

(5) A county may not use moneys in this fund to pay for school technology needs.

As used in this section, "Public School Buildings" shall include only facilities for individual schools that are used for instructional and related purposes, and does not include central administration, maintenance, or other facilities. *Applications must be submitted within one year following the date of final payment to the Contractor or Vendor.*

Short description of Construction Project: New Elementary School Construction

Estimated Costs:

Purchase of Land _____	\$ _____	770,360.00
Planning and Design Services _____	_____	743,000.00
New Construction _____	_____	12,835,500.00
Additions / Renovations _____	_____	_____
Repair _____	_____	_____
Debt Payment / Bond Payment _____	_____	_____
TOTAL _____	\$ _____	14,348,860.00

Estimated Project Beginning Date: 01/2017

Est. Project Completion Date: 11/27/2019

We, the undersigned, agree to submit a statement of state monies expended for this project within 60 days following completion of the project.

The County Commissioners and the Board of Education do hereby jointly request approval of the above project, and request release of \$ 119,737.14 from the Public School Building Capital Fund (Lottery Distribution). We certify that the project herein described is within the parameters of G.S. 115C-546.

[Signature]
(Signature — Chair, County Commissioners) (Date)

[Signature]
(Signature — Chair, Board of Education) (Date)

**APPLICATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CAPITAL FUND
NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY**

Approved: _____

Date: _____

County: YANCEY COUNTY

Contact Person: Robbie M. Renfro

LEA: 995

Title: Finance Officer

Address: PO Box 190 Burnsville, NC 28714

Phone: 828/682-6101 ext 116

Project Title: Blue Ridge Elementary School - New Construction

Location: 910 Cane River School Road Burnsville, NC 28714

Type of Facility: Elementary School

North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 116C, provides that a portion of the proceeds of the North Carolina State Lottery Fund be transferred to the Public School Building Capital Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.2. Further, G.S. 116C-546.2 (d) has been amended to include the following:

- (3) No county shall have to provide matching funds.
- (4) A county may use monies in this Fund to pay for school construction projects in local school administrative units and to retire indebtedness incurred for school construction projects.
- (5) A county may not use monies in this Fund to pay for school technology needs.

As used in this section, "Public School Buildings" shall include only facilities for individual schools that are used for instructional and related purposes and does not include central administration, maintenance, or other facilities. **Applications must be submitted within one year following the date of final payment to the Contractor or Vendor.**

Short description of Construction Project: New Elementary School Construction

Estimated Costs:

Purchase of Land _____	\$ _____	770,360.00
Planning and Design Services _____		743,000.00
New Construction _____		12,835,500.00
Additions / Renovations _____		
Repair _____		
Debt Payment / Bond Payment _____		
TOTAL _____	\$ _____	14,348,860.00

Estimated Project Beginning Date: 01/2017

Est. Project Completion Date: 11/27/2019

We, the undersigned, agree to submit a statement of state monies expended for this project within 60 days following completion of the project.

The County Commissioners and the Board of Education do hereby jointly request approval of the above project, and request release of \$ 195,606.96 from the Public School Building Capital Fund (Lottery Distribution). We certify that the project herein described is within the parameters of G.S. 115C-546.2.

[Signature]
(Signature — Chair, County Commissioners) _____ (Date)

[Signature]
(Signature — Chair, Board of Education) _____ (Date)

HOME OF MT MITCHELL

BURNSVILLE * YANCEY
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

November 15, 2019

Yancey County Commission
Yancey County Courthouse
110 Town Square
Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

RE: Occupancy Tax

Dear Commissioners:

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Yancey County / Burnsville Chamber of Commerce, to ask that you, as the Board of Commissioners of Yancey County, present to our local Legislative members a request to increase the occupancy tax in Yancey County to a 6% level. A recent Strategic Economic Development Plan conducted on behalf of Yancey County by the High Country Council of Government will have as one of it's recommendations that the occupancy tax be increased to a level compatible with other area counties. As the recipient of the occupancy tax proceeds, the Chamber of Commerce has long had the responsibility of promoting the county for tourism purposes. Through the Travel & Tourism Committee, we have engaged the services of a local marketing firm and will be conducting a marketing plan to further the positive tourism and economic impact on Yancey County. With an increase in the occupancy tax, we will be able to improve our efforts to increase the number of visitors to our county. We hope that you will agree that these efforts are very important to the business community of Yancey County. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have in connection with this request.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,


GINGER JOHNSON

Executive Director



YANCEY COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Jamie L. McMahan
Planning & Economic Development Director
NCEDA, AICP, NREDA, SEDC



2019 Economic Development Report for Yancey County

As Planning & Economic Development Director for Yancey County it is my privilege to share with you a year-in-review report to look back at 2019 and the progress made to grow, enhance and diversify the economy in our community. In many ways 2019 was a watershed year for economic development efforts in Yancey County, with many projects positively enhancing our economy. Highlights of those projects are listed by economic sector below.

Business Retention and Recruitment

We saw the number of jobs added by existing business and industry grow in 2019 and were able to add new employment opportunities by assisting our existing businesses to expand and by recruiting new employers to the area.

Yancey County was able to successfully compete to bring a second manufacturing facility by Altec Industries (in addition to their existing main campus in Burnsville) to Yancey County. The new Altec facility, located in the Burnsville Business Park at 54 Ferguson Hill Road in Burnsville, in addition to a planned expansion of their existing main campus, was supported by a \$500,000 building reuse grant through the North Carolina Department of Commerce and will bring fifty new jobs to the community. In recognition of Altec Industries' continuing contributions to the economic development of Yancey County the Yancey EDC, along with our colleagues at the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, nominated Altec for statewide recognition as the manufacturing industry leader in economic development an award they received from the North Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership at the 2019 Annual North Carolina State Manufacturing Conference in Winston-Salem.

113 Green Mountain Drive, P.O. Box 246, Burnsville, NC 28714
(828) 682-7722

Jamie.McMahan@yanceycountync.gov

In 2019 Yancey County was also proud to announce the recruitment of Little Leaf Farms to North Carolina at a facility to be developed in Burnsville on the site of the former Outboard Marine Corporation facility along US Highway 19E. Little Leaf Farms is an industry leader in cutting-edge agricultural production and will bring an \$86,000,000 capital investment to Yancey County and create 100 new jobs in the development of a twenty-acre, technologically advanced greenhouse facility designed to cultivate lettuce and leafy greens for sale to grocery chains along the east coast. Utilizing the most advanced technology available to cultivate their crops, the facility to be constructed by Little Leaf Farms will be among the most advanced greenhouse facilities in North America and will not only be a boost to the Yancey County economy but to the economy of the greater western North Carolina region as a whole. In addition to being supported by a local incentive negotiated by Yancey County, the project also received the prestigious Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) from the North Carolina Department of Commerce in an amount of \$1,400,000 in addition to state grants to assist in infrastructure development and workforce training associated with the project. Working with the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina to recruit this business to North Carolina was indeed the highlight of the work of the Yancey EDC in 2019.

Small Business Development

Yancey County saw growth in the small business sector in 2019 as well. Yancey EDC continued its collaboration with the Town of Burnsville, Yancey Chamber of Commerce and Mayland Community College's Small Business Center in sponsoring the Business Builders' Breakfast series. The series allows downtown merchants to gather together, share ideas with our local agencies working in economic development, and be provided with great training and educational resources through Mayland's Small Business Center. Resources range from accounting and management to marketing and in dealing with a seasonal retail economy.

In addition the Yancey EDC awarded three local small business grants through the Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program Grant (DEAP Grant) in 2019, supporting new businesses and expansion of local retail establishments. The grants awarded through the DEAP Grant program emphasize the Yancey EDC's dedication to supporting local small businesses as well as working to recruit larger scale business and industry. In 2019, grants supported the newly opened Highway 55 Diner, Rad Dawgz Hotdog Joint, and Homeplace Beer Company and Hog Hollow Pizza's newly expanded facility which began construction in 2019 and will open in early 2020.

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Public Facilities/Capital Improvements

2019 saw the completion and grand opening of the newly constructed Blue Ridge Elementary School. This project was a consolidation of Bee Log, Bald Creek and Clearmont Elementary Schools into a new, state-of-the-art elementary school campus located near the existing Cane River Middle School campus. The \$11,700,000 new campus was a joint effort of Yancey County and the Yancey County Board of Education and marks the first major campus construction project for Yancey County Schools in over twenty years. The campus opened to students for the 2019-20 school year in the fall.

Revision of the Yancey County Economic Development Strategic Plan

Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2018, in partnership with Yancey County and the Town of Burnsville, Yancey EDC brought together a steering committee to work with the High Country Council of Governments and the North Carolina Department of Commerce to develop a new Strategic Economic Development Plan for our community. The previous plan, adopted in 2005, featured recommendations focused heavily on community development and infrastructure construction. In the intervening years, it has become obsolete due to the advancements made by county and town governments to implement the proposals contained in the 2005 plan. This effort concluded its planning stages in the fourth quarter of 2019 with a draft plan having been submitted to the Yancey EDC. This plan will be submitted to the Yancey County Commission and Burnsville Town Council, as well as being made available to the public, in the first quarter of 2020. The plan will establish the goals and priorities of the community in economic development efforts for the next decade.

State of the Local Economy; Facts & Figures

Due to the combined efforts of our local business community and the collaboration of those agencies and individuals working together to grow Yancey County's economy, 2019 was an impressive year for our community by the numbers.

Unemployment numbers released by the North Carolina Department of Commerce as of November 2019 reported Yancey County's unemployment rate (not adjusted for seasonal employment) remains at 3.2% making it one of the lowest unemployment rates in North Carolina and well below the national unemployment rate for 2019.

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2018 saw the average median wage for Yancey County workers increase as well. The average median wage for the previous year in Yancey County was \$32,490. According to data released by the North Carolina Department of Commerce that figure rose to \$36,466 in 2019, an increase of \$3,976. This increase was larger than the increase noted in the average wage in Yancey County for the previous year.

As a result of the growing workforce, decrease in unemployment rate, and increase in average median wage, Yancey County continued to remain a designated Tier 2 county in North Carolina, having risen from Tier 1, economically distressed status, to Tier 2 status in 2018, indicating improved economic health and prosperity in the community as a whole.

We have made a lot of progress toward the goal of growing our economy in Yancey County over the past year. That is due in large part to the quality and dedication of our workforce, and to the business-minded attitude of our employers. It is also due to the great cooperation between local and state agencies working in the field of economic development every day here in our community. I would like to specifically thank the nine members of the Yancey County Economic Development Commission, the governments and elected officials of Yancey County and the Town of Burnsville, and our partners at the High Country Regional Council of Governments and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina.

In 2019, Yancey County announced more than \$102,000,000 in public and private capital investment, over \$2,000,000 in grant funding to support business expansion and recruitment, announced more than 150 new jobs associated with business recruitment projects, and saw continued improvement in the take-home pay of our workers. As we look forward to 2020, I wish the best for all those who live, work and do business in Yancey County and hope for another year of continued partnership and success.

Jamie L. McMahan, Director
3 January 2020