

STAFF REPORTS

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: October 18, 2006

SUBJECT: County Attorney's Report

SUMMARY:

The County Attorney will provide the Board of Commissioners with a brief update concerning any issues that should be brought to the attention of the Board.

MEETING DATE: October 18, 2006

SUBJECT: County Manager's Report

SUMMARY:

The County Manager will provide the Board of Commissioners with a brief update concerning any issues that should be brought to the attention of the Board

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Statement of Authority

Pursuant to its "Smoking Ordinance", adopted 7 September 1993, reiterated on , the undersigned was authorized by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners to designate smoking and non-smoking areas in buildings owned or operated by Henderson County. The Henderson County Board of Commissioners is authorized to regulate smoking in buildings owned or operated by Henderson County pursuant to Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Findings

The United States Surgeon General released a report in June 2007¹ making certain findings relative to passive or "second-hand" cigarette smoking in buildings, including the following:

1. Secondhand smoke causes premature death and disease in children and in adults who do not smoke.
2. Children exposed to secondhand smoke are at an increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems, and more severe asthma. Smoking by parents causes respiratory symptoms and slows lung growth in their children.
3. Exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer.
4. The scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.
5. Many millions of Americans, both children and adults, are still exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes and workplaces despite substantial progress in tobacco control.
6. **Eliminating smoking in indoor spaces fully protects nonsmokers from exposure to secondhand smoke. Separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate exposures of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke.** (Emphasis added.)

Henderson County should supply a safe working environment for its employees and citizens in buildings owned or operated by Henderson County.

Conclusion

Given the foregoing, it is physically impractical, and not feasible, to allow smoking within any building owned or operated by Henderson County.

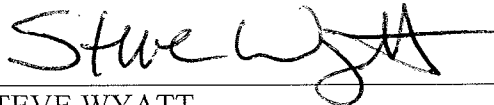
¹ This report, *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General*, is available at <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/secondhandsmoke/>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that no tobacco smoking is allowed within any building owned or operated by Henderson County, including without limitation the following buildings:

- County Administration Building (100 North King St., 28792)
- EMS Station #2 (100 Commercial Dr., 28792)
- EMS Station #3 (100 Vance Hill Dr., 28792)
- EMS Main Office (820 N. Justice St., 28739)
- Land Development Building (101 E. Allen St., 28792)
- Historic Courthouse (First and Main St., 28792)
- Finance & Human Resources Annex (113 N. Main St., 28792)
- Courthouse (200 N. Grove St., 28792)
- Sheriff Offices:
 - Detective Division (201 N. King St., 28792)
 - Civil Process Division (201 N. Main St., 28792)
 - Patrol / Warrant Division (318 4th Ave. E., 28792)
 - Evidence Division (4th Ave. E., 28792)
- Visitors Center (201 S. Main St., 28792)
- Spectrum Youth Home (2110 Woodridge Dr., 28739)
- Cane Creek Utilities Department (235 St. Johns Rd, 28732)
- Chamber of Commerce Building (320 King St., 28792)
- Central Services / Garage Building (320 William St., 28792)
- Day Reporting Resource Building (331 1st Ave, 28792)
- Detention Center (375 1st Ave. E., 28792)
- Cooperative Extension Building (740 Glover St., 28792)
- Jackson Park Buildings (Glover St., 28792))
- Solid Waste / Landfill Buildings (Stoney Mountain Road, 28739)
- Libraries:
 - Main Library (301 N. Washington St., 28739)
 - Fletcher Branch (120 Library Rd., 28732)
 - Edneyville Branch (2 Firehouse Lane, 28792)
 - Etowah Branch (245 Brickyard Rd., 28729)
- Board of Elections Offices (75 E. Central St., 28792)

Violation of this Order shall constitute a violation of a Henderson County ordinance.

Effective this the 15th day of October, 2006.



STEVE WYATT
County Manager for Henderson County