

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: July 15, 2009

SUBJECT: City of Saluda Request

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Board is requested to begin discussions on a request from the City of Saluda with respect to future water supply needs for the City. Specifics on the request are contained within the attached letter. Depending on the direction from the Board, Staff recommends that the Board consider scheduling a public hearing to receive input on this request.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to schedule a public hearing to receive input on issues with the City of Saluda. Possible dates for this public hearing are August 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th or 25th.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board schedule a public hearing with respect to issues with the City of Saluda for 7:00pm on _____.

May 17, 2009

TO: Steve Wyatt, Henderson County Manager

From: John Morgan, Commissioner, Water and Sewer, City of Saluda

Subject: Future Water Supply

The severe drought situation in Western North Carolina has highlighted the vulnerability of the water supply for the City of Saluda. Our current source for water is totally dependent on the City of Hendersonville.

Hendersonville has been most helpful in working with Saluda to provide a dependable water supply. Unfortunately, the drought caused a shortfall in Hendersonville's water supply and they had to exercise a contract option to buy water from Asheville.

The most practical solution to prevent future water shortages is to develop an alternative water source. With that goal in mind, Saluda has received verbal acceptance from Aqua North Carolina to purchase their wells and water system at Tuxedo.

We project that the Tuxedo system would meet the needs of Saluda and the Lake Summit water system, which Saluda owns, for at least the next ten years.

Pursuant to N.C Gen. Stat. 153A-15, which requires consent for a unit of local government located outside of Henderson County to acquire land within the county, Saluda is requesting Henderson County approve this acquisition. In return Saluda is offering to pay Henderson County a royalty of one percent on all water sold outside the Saluda city limits. Other advantages to Henderson County would be to help Hendersonville decrease their need to buy water from Asheville in the future, and improved fire protection in an area where there a number of summer camps.

As a representative of the City of Saluda I would like to discuss this proposal in detail with you at your convenience. I can be reached at Email MILPWR@aol.com or telephone 749-1918, cell 243-1456.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



John Morgan, Commissioner

City of Saluda