

## MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Rebecca McCall, Vice-Chair J. Michael Edney, Commissioner William Lapsley, Commissioner Daniel Andreotta, Commissioner David Hill, County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Christopher Todd, Financial Services Director Samantha Reynolds Attorney Russ Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

Also present were: Emergency Budget Analyst Jennifer Miranda, Health Director David Jenkins, Director of Facility Services Andrew Griffin, Assistant Finance Director Randal Cox, Social Services Director Lori Horne, Deputy Director Lorie Horne, Engineer Marcus Jones, Sheriff Lowell Griffin, A/V Technician Oscar Guerrero, and Capital Projects Manager Bryan Rhodes. Deputies Travis Pierce and Kayla Brezillac provided security.

### **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Chairman McCall called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**INVOCATION** Reverend George Grimm-Howell with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hendersonville provided the invocation.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman McCall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

### **RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

#### **2024.120 State of Emergency Ratification**

During Hurricane Helene and its aftermath, County personnel took significant and required actions on behalf of the County. The proposed resolution will ratify the county's actions.

**HENDERSON COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**Before the Board of Commissioners**

### **RESOLUTION AND RATIFICATION**

#### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENACTMENT 2024-120**

WHEREAS, a state of emergency on account of Hurricane Helene was declared in Henderson County as of 8:00 a.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> of September, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Hurricane Helene storm and associated flooding have caused damages to Henderson County, its citizens, and its infrastructure unprecedented in modern times; and,

Approved:

WHEREAS, the staff of Henderson County has worked tirelessly to try to coordinate the protection of the lives of its citizens and, where possible, their property, during the state of emergency; and,

WHEREAS, this work has involved emergency and exigent operations, subject to final approval of this Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED** by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners that all the acts of the County and its staff, including all contracts, resolutions and proclamations, done in providing the protection referred to above are hereby ratified and affirmed as official and appropriate acts of the County.

This the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.

*Chairman McCall made the motion to approve the proposed Resolution and Ratification. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA**

*Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

CONSENT AGENDA consisted of the following:

**Approval of Minutes**

Draft minutes were presented for Board review and approval for the following meeting:  
September 19, 2024 - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the minutes of September, 2024.*

**Tax Collector’s Report**

The report from the office of the Tax Collector was provided for the Board’s information.

Please find outlined below collections information through September 25, 2024 for 2024 real and personal property bills mailed on July 31, 2024. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

**Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):**

<b>2024 Beginning Charge:</b>	<b>\$101,657,826.07</b>
Discoveries & Imm.	\$81,987.90
Releases & Refunds:	(\$47,571.45)
<b>Net Charge:</b>	<b>\$101,692,242.52</b>
Unpaid Taxes:	\$78,775,416.57
<b>Amount Collected:</b>	<b>\$22,916,825.95</b>



**Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):**

Net Charge:	\$1,750,113.97	
Unpaid Taxes:	\$3,694.51	99.79%
<b>Amount Collected:</b>	<b>\$1,746,419.46</b>	

**Henderson County FY25 Budget Analysis:**

<b>Budget Ordinance</b>	<b>Revenue Collected</b>
Ad Valorem: \$103,559,409.00	Ad Valorem: \$24,663,245.41
Prior Years: \$1,041,250.00	Prior Years: \$288,771.07
<b>Budget Total: \$104,600,659.00</b>	<b>YTD Revenue: \$24,952,016.48</b>



Approved:

**2024.121 Pending Releases & Refunds**

The Assessor reviewed the pending releases and refunds and concluded that these findings were in order. Supporting documentation is on file in the County Assessor’s Office.

The pending release and refund requests were submitted for approval by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners.

<b>Type:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
Total Taxes Released from the Charge	\$ 6,871.31
Total Refunds as a result of the Above Releases	\$ 324.06

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the Combined Release/Refund Report as presented.*

**County Financial Report – August 2024**

The August 2024 County Financial and Cash Balance Reports were provided for the Board’s review and approval.

The following were explanations for departments/programs with higher budgets to actual percentages for the month of August:

- Administrative Services – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Human Resources - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Finance – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- County Assessor – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Tax Collector – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Legal – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Register of Deeds – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Information Technology – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Sheriff Department - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Detention Facility - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Building Services - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Wellness Clinic - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Emergency Medical Services - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Rescue Squad – payment of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Board appropriations
- Planning - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Code Enforcement - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Site Development - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Project Management - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Public Health - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Environmental Health - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Mental Health – payment of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Board approved appropriation
- Social Services - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Juvenile Justice Programs - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Veterans Services - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Public Library – timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Recreation – timing of payment of board approved expenditures

Approved:

- Public Education – payment of 2 of 10 annual appropriations made to the public school system
- Non-Departmental - timing of payment of board approved expenditures
- Year-to-date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Emergency Telephone System (911) Fund was due to utilizing fund balance appropriations for FY25.
- Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Public Transit Fund were due to the timing of disbursements in FY25.
- Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Misc. Other Governmental Activities Fund is due to the timing of fines and forfeitures disbursements in FY25.
- Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Opioid Fund is due to the timing of Opioid Settlement receipts and disbursement of approved expenditures in FY25.
- Year to Date Net Revenues under Expenditures for the Etowah Sewer Fund is due to the timing of collection receipts and disbursements of approved expenditures in FY25.

HENDERSON COUNTY  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
AUGUST 2024

GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
General Fund	205,293,753.00	20,303,514.89	22,917,567.64	11.2%	-	22,917,567.64

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
Governing Body	671,803.00	58,437.18	100,085.88	14.90%	-	100,085.88
Dues/Non Profit Contributions	1,055,544.00	133,359.18	170,905.74	16.19%	-	170,905.74
County Manager	466,644.00	34,375.47	58,557.57	12.55%	-	58,557.57
Administrative Services	829,103.00	78,867.96	147,880.56	17.84%	-	147,880.56
Human Resources	1,527,684.00	158,911.81	275,179.19	18.01%	21,864.00	297,043.19
Elections	1,241,838.00	79,776.37	183,370.61	14.77%	60,560.00	243,930.61
Finance	1,421,108.00	135,045.01	249,579.35	17.56%	-	249,579.35
County Assessor	2,184,868.00	210,249.06	390,063.86	17.85%	28,946.64	419,010.50
Tax Collector	593,939.00	63,784.54	110,570.93	18.62%	-	110,570.93
Legal	1,107,787.00	138,717.21	240,820.09	21.74%	-	240,820.09
Register of Deeds	783,052.00	82,955.91	157,823.63	20.15%	24,961.00	182,784.63
Facility Services	6,222,214.00	504,977.78	782,640.89	12.58%	382,379.18	1,165,020.07
Garage	461,539.00	20,588.84	50,861.81	11.02%	-	50,861.81
Court Facilities	153,000.00	12,740.05	15,146.08	9.90%	-	15,146.08
Information Technology	6,286,966.00	551,922.18	1,333,372.09	21.21%	846,510.77	2,179,882.86
Sheriff Department	25,314,298.00	2,570,318.23	4,524,573.17	17.87%	176,983.10	4,701,556.27
Detention Facility	7,251,349.00	711,762.98	1,230,104.52	16.96%	486,506.49	1,716,611.01
Emergency Management	948,725.00	83,121.64	150,252.49	15.84%	50,562.41	200,814.90
Fire Services	1,097,642.00	55,308.47	101,295.76	9.23%	-	101,295.76
Building Services	1,863,208.00	185,177.13	314,564.89	16.88%	-	314,564.89
Wellness Clinic	1,533,962.00	181,483.79	305,806.30	19.94%	133,959.23	439,765.53
Emergency Medical Services	13,662,702.00	1,440,879.99	2,382,527.24	17.44%	177,925.94	2,560,453.18
Animal Services	984,647.00	79,036.18	129,461.56	13.15%	6,529.38	135,990.94
Rescue Squad	782,750.00	1,659.72	199,870.19	25.53%	-	199,870.19
Forestry Services	133,168.00	-	-	0.00%	-	-
Soil & Water	752,601.00	58,181.23	93,979.43	12.49%	103,000.00	196,979.43
Planning	1,123,598.00	119,515.62	207,740.25	18.49%	31,400.00	239,140.25
Code Enforcement	353,444.00	35,190.44	62,437.96	17.67%	20,000.00	82,437.96
Site Development	234,739.00	23,273.65	41,625.16	17.73%	-	41,625.16
Heritage Museum	100,000.00	8,333.33	16,666.66	16.67%	-	16,666.66
Cooperative Extension	843,323.00	53,995.82	125,520.36	14.88%	-	125,520.36
Project Management	267,161.00	28,933.07	48,966.44	18.33%	-	48,966.44
Economic Development	2,097,190.00	108,500.00	108,500.00	5.17%	-	108,500.00
Public Health	11,758,944.00	1,130,348.11	2,019,409.68	17.17%	461,522.63	2,480,932.31
Environmental Health	1,889,599.00	189,095.37	332,178.41	17.58%	-	332,178.41
H&CC Block Grant	863,502.00	63,572.75	63,572.75	7.36%	-	63,572.75
Medical Services - Autopsies	95,000.00	7,100.00	-	0.00%	-	-
Strategic Behavioral Health	473,611.00	27,927.88	51,350.26	10.84%	-	51,350.26
Mental Health Services	528,612.00	-	132,153.00	25.00%	-	132,153.00
Rural Transportation Assist Program	201,384.00	-	-	0.00%	-	-
Social Services	23,598,432.00	2,301,571.80	4,016,705.47	17.02%	89,512.40	4,106,217.87
Juvenile Justice Programs	306,020.00	52,339.00	60,550.00	19.79%	-	60,550.00
Veterans Services	241,124.00	22,520.91	40,268.05	16.70%	-	40,268.05
Library	4,194,022.00	444,386.72	874,429.69	20.85%	406,198.96	1,280,628.65
Recreation	3,185,348.00	291,929.12	685,235.65	21.51%	114,062.60	799,298.25
Public Education	42,378,000.00	4,116,966.67	8,296,433.34	19.58%	-	8,296,433.34
Debt Service	22,527,198.00	-	-	0.00%	-	-
Non-Departmental	955,510.00	424,470.01	424,470.01	44.42%	-	424,470.01
Interfund Transfers	7,745,851.00	644,654.26	1,290,141.85	16.65%	-	1,290,141.85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205,293,753.00</b>	<b>17,726,332.44</b>	<b>32,597,646.82</b>		<b>3,623,384.73</b>	<b>36,221,031.55</b>
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp.</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,577,182.45</b>	<b>(9,680,079.18)</b>		<b>(3,623,384.73)</b>	<b>(13,303,463.91)</b>

Approved:

HENDERSON COUNTY  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
AUGUST 2024

APPROPRIATIONS DETAIL						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>						
Staff Operations	19,855,443.00	2,033,328.94	3,528,425.35	17.8%	89,512.40	3,617,937.75
Federal & State Programs	3,642,989.00	281,925.66	480,179.27	13.2%	-	480,179.27
General Assistance	100,000.00	6,317.20	8,100.85	8.1%	-	8,100.85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,598,432.00</b>	<b>2,301,571.80</b>	<b>4,016,705.47</b>		<b>89,512.40</b>	<b>4,106,217.87</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>						
Schools Current/Capital Expense	36,628,000.00	3,637,800.00	7,338,100.00	20.0%	-	7,338,100.00
Blue Ridge Community College	5,750,000.00	479,166.67	958,333.34	16.7%	-	958,333.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,378,000.00</b>	<b>4,116,966.67</b>	<b>8,296,433.34</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>8,296,433.34</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>						
Public Schools	11,321,925.00	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Blue Ridge Community College	3,218,681.00	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Henderson County	7,988,592.00	-	-	0.0%	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,527,198.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>INTERFUND TRANSFERS</b>						
Capital Projects Fund	200,000.00	20,833.34	37,500.01	18.8%	-	37,500.01
Capital Reserve Fund	1,254,919.00	104,576.58	209,153.16	16.7%	-	209,153.16
Fire Districts Fund	60,000.00	-	5,000.00	8.3%	-	5,000.00
HCCPS MRTS	3,603,500.00	300,291.67	600,583.34	16.7%	-	600,583.34
BRCC MRTS	2,301,750.00	191,812.50	383,625.00	16.7%	-	383,625.00
Solid Waste	325,682.00	27,140.17	54,280.34	16.7%	-	54,280.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,745,851.00</b>	<b>644,654.26</b>	<b>1,290,141.85</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>1,290,141.85</b>

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>FIRE DISTRICTS FUND</b>						
Revenues:	16,876,915.00	2,658,933.03	2,758,737.90	16.3%	-	2,758,737.90
Expenditures:	16,876,915.00	158,746.19	158,746.19	0.9%	-	158,746.19
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,500,186.84</b>	<b>2,599,991.71</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>2,599,991.71</b>
<b>REVALUATION RESERVE FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,413,172.00	130,708.35	264,812.49	18.7%	-	264,812.49
Expenditures:	1,413,172.00	109,232.19	240,025.07	17.0%	173,380.00	413,405.07
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,476.16</b>	<b>24,787.42</b>		<b>(173,380.00)</b>	<b>(148,592.58)</b>
<b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM (911) FUND</b>						
Revenues:	360,945.00	27,212.65	30,067.20	8.3%	-	30,067.20
Expenditures:	360,945.00	34,958.58	106,646.05	29.5%	32,012.88	138,658.93
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,745.93)</b>	<b>(76,578.85)</b>		<b>(32,012.88)</b>	<b>(108,591.73)</b>
<b>PUBLIC TRANSIT FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,418,890.00	8,051.47	8,051.47	0.6%	-	8,051.47
Expenditures:	1,418,890.00	71,922.71	71,922.71	5.1%	94,685.00	166,607.71
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(63,871.24)</b>	<b>(63,871.24)</b>		<b>(94,685.00)</b>	<b>(158,556.24)</b>
<b>MISC. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>						
Revenues:	1,074,000.00	33,040.90	43,977.54	4.1%	-	43,977.54
Expenditures:	1,074,000.00	33,029.19	89,995.35	8.4%	-	89,995.35
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11.71</b>	<b>(46,017.81)</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(46,017.81)</b>
<b>ARPA FUND</b>						
Revenues:	-	79,796.76	215,952.62	0.0%	-	215,952.62
Expenditures:	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,796.76</b>	<b>215,952.62</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>215,952.62</b>
<b>OPIOID FUND</b>						
Revenues:	1,044,793.00	21,713.90	49,124.42	4.7%	-	49,124.42
Expenditures:	1,044,793.00	29,930.41	55,616.56	5.3%	4,000.00	59,616.56
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(8,216.51)</b>	<b>(6,492.14)</b>		<b>(4,000.00)</b>	<b>(10,492.14)</b>

CAPITAL PROJECTS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	PROJECT TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>EDNEYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT (1702)</b>						
Revenues:	26,854,136.00	2,733.76	27,947,391.00	104.1%	-	27,947,391.00
Expenditures:	26,854,136.00	-	26,959,829.76	100.4%	-	26,959,829.76
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,733.76</b>	<b>987,561.24</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>987,561.24</b>
<b>HENDERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT - 2019 (1903) - PROJECT COMPLETE</b>						
Revenues:	60,442,694.00	-	61,181,021.22	101.2%	-	61,181,021.22
Expenditures:	60,442,694.00	-	60,940,000.37	100.8%	-	60,940,000.37
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,020.85</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>241,020.85</b>

Approved:

ENTERPRISE FUNDS						
	BUDGET	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	% USED	ENCUMBRANCES	TOTAL
<b>SOLID WASTE LANDFILL FUND</b>						
Revenues:	10,144,975.00	814,977.71	1,833,108.57	16.1%	-	1,833,108.57
Expenditures:	10,144,975.00	1,247,016.84	1,525,250.38	15.0%	11,772,640.58	13,297,890.96
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	-	<b>(432,038.93)</b>	<b>107,856.19</b>		<b>(11,772,640.58)</b>	<b>(11,664,784.39)</b>
<b>JUSTICE ACADEMY SEWER FUND</b>						
Revenues:	70,006.00	7,471.98	15,920.59	22.7%	-	15,920.59
Expenditures:	70,006.00	6,325.74	6,504.07	9.3%	11,258.00	17,762.07
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	-	<b>1,146.24</b>	<b>9,416.52</b>		<b>(11,258.00)</b>	<b>(1,841.48)</b>
<b>ETOWAH SEWER FUND</b>						
Revenues:	182,602.00	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Expenditures:	182,602.00	697.64	697.64	0.4%	33,600.00	34,297.64
<b>Net Revenues over (under) Exp</b>	-	<b>(697.64)</b>	<b>(697.64)</b>		<b>(33,600.00)</b>	<b>(34,297.64)</b>

**HENDERSON COUNTY  
CASH BALANCE REPORT  
AUGUST 2024**

Fund(s)	07/31/24	Debits	(Credits)	08/31/24
	Beg. Cash Balance			Revenues
General	\$ 82,542,795.73	\$ 29,343,902.91	\$ (23,813,263.93)	\$ 88,073,434.71
Special Revenue	43,450,367.74	3,089,610.05	(1,076,825.58)	\$ 45,463,152.21
Capital Projects	24,650,804.49	99,692.24	(4,826,846.55)	\$ 19,923,650.18
Enterprise	2,814,938.12	847,630.20	(1,436,036.18)	\$ 2,226,532.14
HCPS - Maint. and Repair	7,464,942.88	300,291.67	-	\$ 7,765,234.55
BRCC - Maint. and Repair	2,453,493.72	191,812.50	-	\$ 2,645,306.22
Custodial	525,065.57	3,034,416.55	(315,973.26)	\$ 3,243,508.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 163,902,408.25</b>	<b>\$ 36,907,356.12</b>	<b>\$ (31,468,945.50)</b>	
<b>Total cash available as of</b>	<b>8/31/2024</b>			<b>\$ 169,340,818.87</b>

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the August 2024 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented.*

**Henderson County Public Schools Financial Report – August 2024**

The Henderson County Public Schools August 2024 Local Current Expense Fund / Other Restricted Funds Report was provided for the Board’s information.

Approved:



**HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE/OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS  
as of August 31, 2024**

	LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND	OTHER RESTRICTED FUND		
REVENUES:	YTD Activity	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
3200 State Sources	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -
3700 Federal Sources-Restricted	-	37,011	37,011	104,304
3800 Other Federal-ROTC	-	-	-	-
4100 County Appropriation	7,075,600	-	7,075,600	6,575,600
4200 Local -Tuition/Fees	-	3,615	3,615	2,280
4400 Local-Unrestricted	45,592	27,448	73,040	102,961
4800 Local-Restricted	-	27,152	27,152	24,947
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfer From school	-	1,863	1,863	401
<b>TOTAL FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 7,121,192</b>	<b>\$ 105,088</b>	<b>\$ 7,226,281</b>	<b>\$ 6,810,493</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
<b>Instructional Services:</b>	<b>YTD Activity</b>	<b>YTD Activity</b>	<b>Combined Total</b>	<b>Prior YTD</b>
5100 Regular Instructional Services	\$ 675,691	\$ 90,999	\$ 766,689	\$ 584,762
5200 Special Populations Services	11,948	103,124	115,072	67,742
5300 Alternative Programs and Services	8,462	130,104	138,566	35,869
5400 School Leadership Services	403,565	11,418	414,984	413,808
5500 Co-Curricular Services	42,137	6,452	48,589	34,671
5800 School-Based Support Services	224,743	7,131	231,874	205,742
<b>Total Instructional Services</b>	<b>\$ 1,366,546</b>	<b>\$ 349,228</b>	<b>\$ 1,715,774</b>	<b>\$ 1,342,594</b>
<b>System-Wide Support Services:</b>				
6100 Support and Development Services	\$ 56,841	\$ 13,198	\$ 70,039	\$ 71,258
6200 Special Population Support	12,918	18,158	31,076	52,440
6300 Alternative Programs	19,439	431	19,870	15,120
6400 Technology Support Services	226,677	7,715	234,392	297,922
6500 Operational Support Services	1,323,317	22,302	1,345,620	1,366,138
6600 Financial and Human Resource Services	1,770,415	38,918	1,809,334	1,374,060
6700 Accountability Services	31,736	1,200	32,936	32,674
6800 System-Wide Pupil Support Services	74,054	538	74,593	57,989
6900 Policy, Leadership and Public Relations	131,352	13,420	144,771	144,884
<b>Total System-Wide Support Services</b>	<b>\$ 3,646,749</b>	<b>\$ 115,880</b>	<b>\$ 3,762,630</b>	<b>\$ 3,412,485</b>
<b>Ancillary Services:</b>				
7100 Community Services	\$ 388	\$ 28,789	\$ 29,176	\$ 16,097
7200 Nutrition Services	388	-	388	6,508
<b>Total Ancillary Services</b>	<b>\$ 775</b>	<b>\$ 28,789</b>	<b>\$ 29,564</b>	<b>\$ 24,605</b>
<b>Non-Programmed Charges:</b>				
8100 Payments to Other Governmental Units	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 209,824
8400 Interfund Transfers	-	300	300	300
8600 Educational Foundations	-	-	-	976
<b>Total Non-Programmed Charges</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>	<b>\$ 211,101</b>
<b>TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 5,014,070</b>	<b>\$ 494,197</b>	<b>\$ 5,508,267</b>	<b>\$ 4,990,785</b>

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the August 2024 Henderson County Public Schools Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented.*

**Notification of Vacancies**

The Notification of Vacancies was provided for the Board’s information. They will appear on the next agenda under “Nominations.”

- 1. Laurel Park Planning Board – 1 vac.**  
Position # 1 – Resides in Laurel Park ETJ
  
- 2. Laurel Park Zoning Board of Adjustment – 2 vacs.**  
Position # 1 - Resides in Laurel Park ETJ  
Position # 2 - Resides in Laurel Park ETJ

Approved:

**Preliminary Consideration of Offer to Purchase Property – Tax Foreclosed Property Oleta Road**

Marvin Gilmore has offered to purchase 0.67 acres, more or less, located off Oleta Road in Blue Ridge Township, in Henderson County. This matter was on the agenda for preliminary review and, if desired, preliminary acceptance only. The offer included a total deposit of \$700.00, based on an offer of \$500.00 plus publication costs.

Henderson County obtained its interest in this property via a tax foreclosure sale in 1983. No taxes have been received on the property since that time.

If the Board agrees to provisionally accept the offer, it will be subject to a newspaper advertisement and a ten-day period for upset bids.

If an upset bid is received, a new advertisement is placed, and the process continues until the bidding ends. Once done, or if no upset bids are received, the matter comes back before this board for a final decision on the sale.

Motion:

*I move that the Board give provisional acceptance to this offer, subject to upset bids.*

**Preliminary Offer to Purchase Property – Tax Foreclosed Property – High Vista**

Deresa Stroud and Felicia Culbreth offered to purchase Lot 160 in the High Vista Subdivision, constituting 1.16 acres, more or less, located on Chestnut Ridge Road in near the Buncombe County line in Mills River Township, in Henderson County. This matter is on your agenda for preliminary review and, if desired, preliminary acceptance only. The offer included a total deposit of \$1,000.00, based on an offer of \$1,000.00 plus an advance of publication costs.

Henderson County obtained its interest in this property via a tax foreclosure sale in 2017. No taxes have been received on the property since that time.

If the Board agrees to provisionally accept this offer, it will be subject to newspaper advertisement and a ten-day period for upset bids.

If an upset bid is received, a new advertisement is placed, and the process continues until the bidding ends. Once done, or if no upset bids are received, the matter comes back before this board for a final decision on the sale.

Motion:

*I move that the Board give provisional acceptance to this offer, subject to upset bids.*

**Use of Courtroom Eagle Scout Court of Honor**

Boy Scouts Troop 601 submitted a request to use the Commissioner’s Meeting Room (Courtroom) on Sunday, December 29, 2024, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for their Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

Motion:

*I move that the Board approve the use of the Commissioner’s Meeting Room (Courtroom) on Sunday, December 29, 2024, from 2 pm to 5 pm*

Approved:



**2024.122 Budget Amendment – Unspent Funds Transfer Hendersonville High School**

To date, \$241,020 in unspent sales tax reimbursements remain related to Henderson County’s 2020 limited obligation bonds for Hendersonville High School’s capital project. According to the installment financing contract, unspent funds must be applied against future debt service payments for that specific project as they become due.

The debt service principal payment for Hendersonville High School for FY25 is \$2,630,000.

The Board was requested to approve a budget amendment to transfer \$241,020 from the Hendersonville High School project in the Capital Projects fund to the general fund to be applied against the FY25 debt service payment.

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the budget amendment to transfer the unspent funds to the general fund.*

**2024.123 Budget Amendment - Project Management Position**

The Board was requested to approve a budget amendment to fund nine (9) months of salary and benefits for a full-time Administrative Assistant position within the Project Management Department.

Motion:

*I move the Board approve the attached budget amendment as presented.*

**Designation of Voting Delegate to the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference**

The Board was requested to designate Commissioner Rebecca McCall as Henderson County’s Voting Delegate to the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference being held November 14-15, 2024, in Wake County.

Motion:

*I move the Board designate Commissioner Rebecca McCall as the Designated Voting Delegate to the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference.*

**Architect Contract Approval – Agricultural Services Building**

The Board was requested to approve the proposal from McMillan, Pazdan, Smith Architecture for the Advanced Planning through the Schematic Design Phase and authorize staff to proceed into the programming phase of the HC Agricultural Services Building

Motion:

*I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal from McMillan, Pazdan, Smith Architecture, for the Henderson County Agricultural Services Building Advanced Planning through Schematic Design, and direct Staff to proceed.*

**Architect Contract Approval – Health and Human Services Building Shell Space Upfit**

The Board was requested to approve Clark Nexsen's proposal for the Advanced Planning and Architectural Services and authorize staff to proceed into the programming phase of the HC Health and Human Services Building Shell Space Upfit.

Approved:

Motion:

*I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal from Clark Nexsen, for the Henderson County Health and Human Services Building Shell Space Upfit, for Advanced Planning and Architectural Services and direct Staff to proceed.*

### **2024.124 Transportation Advisory Committee Bylaws**

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) met on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, and unanimously recommended approval of the amendments presented to their committee bylaws. The TAC requested the Board to adopt the amendments officially. The amendments included a clarification concerning eligibility for maintaining the appointment of at-large members and a change to the committee's minutes to allow for more accurate and transparent records.

Motion:

*I move to approve the proposed amendments to the TAC bylaws.*

### **Farmland Preservation Grant – Application Authorization**

Staff was preparing to apply for a Farmland Preservation Grant once it became available. Staff requested authorization from the Board in advance to submit the application.

Motion:

*I move the Board authorize staff to apply for a Farmland Preservation Grant once available.*

*Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Hurricane Helene Update**

County Manager John Mitchell opened the discussion by reading a portion of a passage from "From the Banks of the Oklawaha," by Frank L. Fitzsimmons that discussed the 1916 Flood in Henderson County. *It was described as the greatest disaster that had ever happened to the county and all of WNC. That flood began on July 4th of 1916, when it rained for ten days and ten nights. Streams and rivers were out of their banks, and water covered all the low-bottom farmlands. By July 16<sup>th</sup> the railroad tracks and trestles had washed away. Houses and barns that were close to creek banks were washed away.* Mitchell encouraged everyone to read the passage in its entirety in the book "From the Banks of the Oklawaha" by Frank L. Fitzsimons, which was available at the Henderson County Public Library. He felt it important to start with the story and recognize that the county had been through a devastating flood before. He said the flooding from Hurricane Helene was the largest natural disaster in the history of the County by far; many were hurt, and many have suffered great loss and continue to suffer. Mitchell then shared excerpts from the first Board of Commissioner's meeting that was held after the 1916 flood.

Approved:

# 1916 Flood BOC Meeting Minutes

- Held August 7, 1916, with John A. Maxwell, Chairman, John T. Staton, and John Russell
- To construct and repair roads and bridges recently destroyed and damaged by floods, a sum of \$25,000 is necessary.
- County resolved to borrow funds sufficient to construct and repair roads and bridges, payable in periodical installments.
- Installments consist of \$2,000 beginning in 1919 to 1930 and \$1,000 in 1931.
- Bonds are to be sold in \$500 increments, bearing the corporate seal of Henderson County, signed by the Chairman and Clerk to the Board.

Mr. Mitchell said Emergency Operations staff had been working nonstop since the disaster began, even before the heavy rains that occurred the day before the storm. All county staff have worked for twelve days since the storm hit to secure the county and will continue.

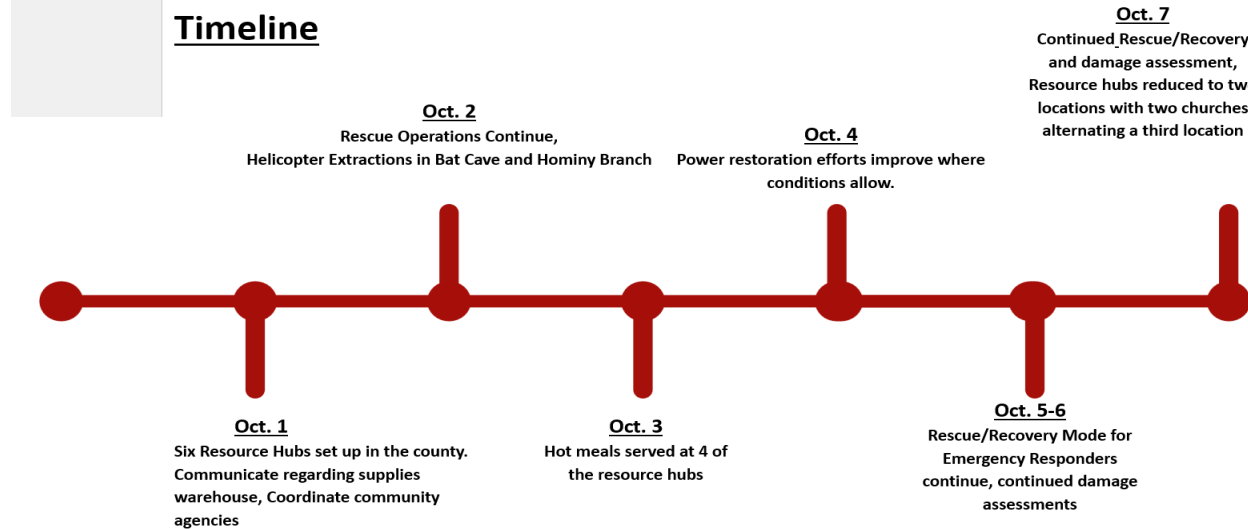
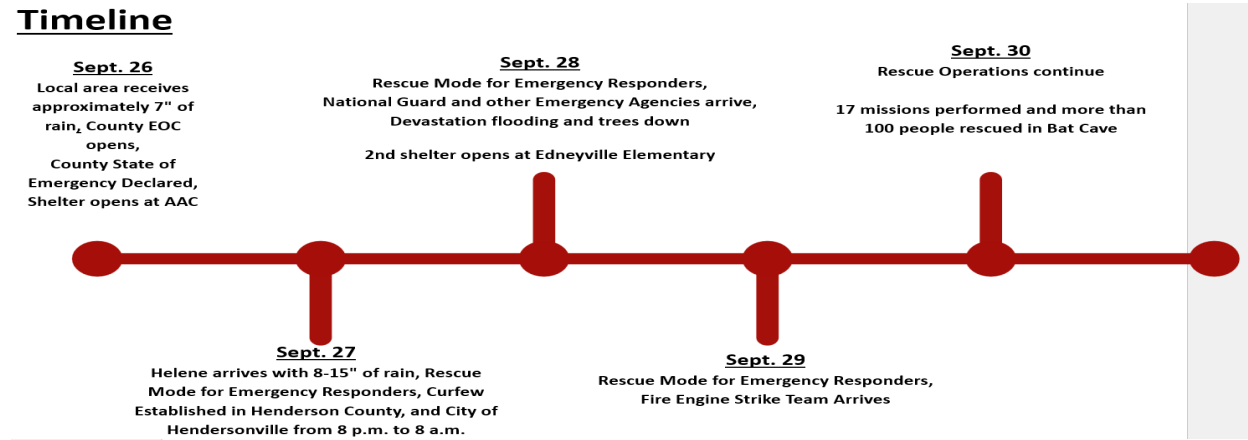


Public Safety Director Jimmy Brissie presented the Board with the timeline and statistics from Hurricane Helene. He said the county had flooding on Thursday, September 26, before the remnants of Hurricane Helene got to Henderson County. On Friday, the county received eight to fifteen inches of rain. The south side of the county was essentially cut off from the north side of the county. A boat shuttle was set up on September 27<sup>th</sup> to move patients from the south side of town to the hospital to receive the care needed. There was contemplation of setting up a field hospital on Highway 176 to treat patients. That pace continued for several days. The second shelter was opened at Edneyville Elementary School. Additional responders arrived on the 29<sup>th</sup> from Eastern NC to assist. As the weather improved, aircraft missions began to evacuate people from Bat Cave and the isolated lower parts of Edneyville and Gerton. North Henderson and the Justice Academy were utilized to offload the survivors and get them the needed help. At one point, there were thirty aircraft operating in the air simultaneously. Six resource hubs were set up in the community to get food and water to the citizens. Much of the infrastructure in the county is gone; Duke Energy is rebuilding a power grid, and NC DOT is rebuilding highways.

Approved:

Once it was determined that most rescues had been performed, door-to-door damage assessments began. To date, working with the fire department, building inspectors, and the tax office, 230 structures have been affected: 220 with minor damage, 306 with major damage, and 70 destroyed. Brissie said the documentation was beginning and expects those numbers to increase.

**Timeline**



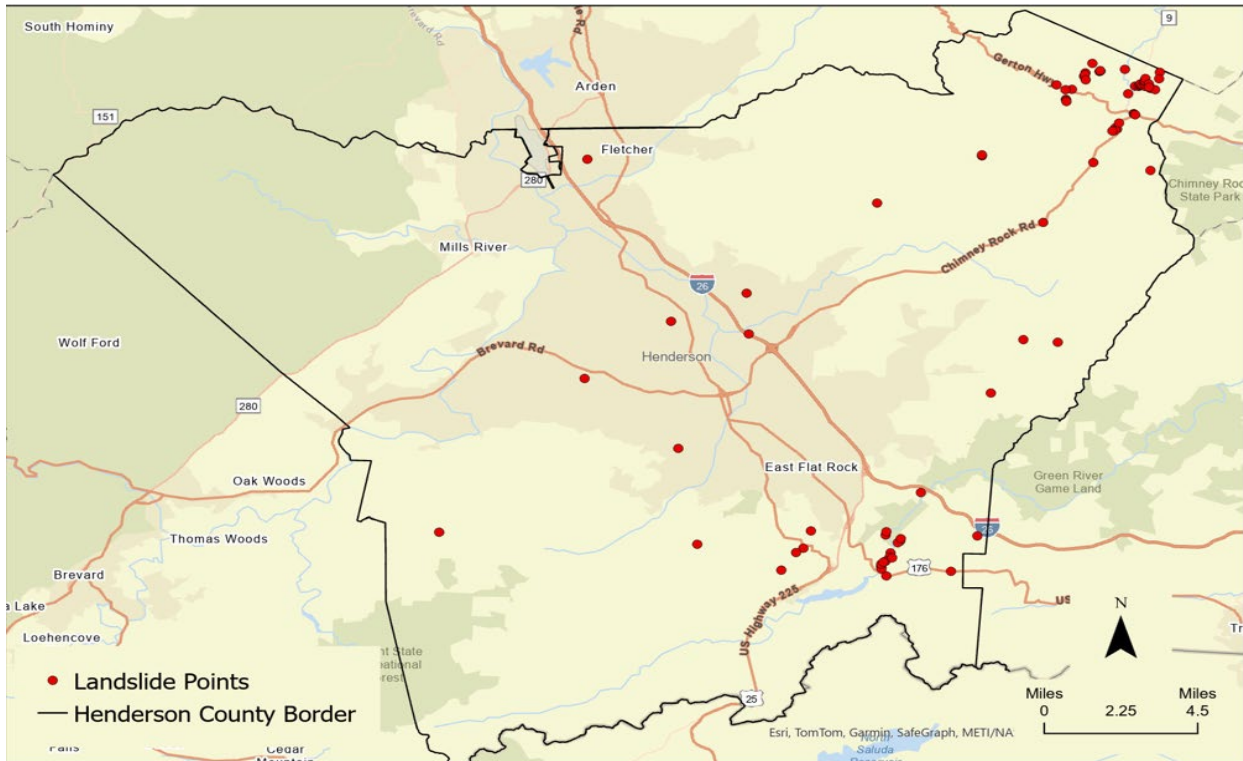
**Rainfall Before and During Helene**  
8 AM 9/24 to 8 AM 9/28

A total range of roughly 15 to 22 inches of rain fell in Henderson County during the event.

Largest rainfalls occurred along the Blue Ridge Escarpment and eastern portions of Henderson County.

Source: National Weather Service

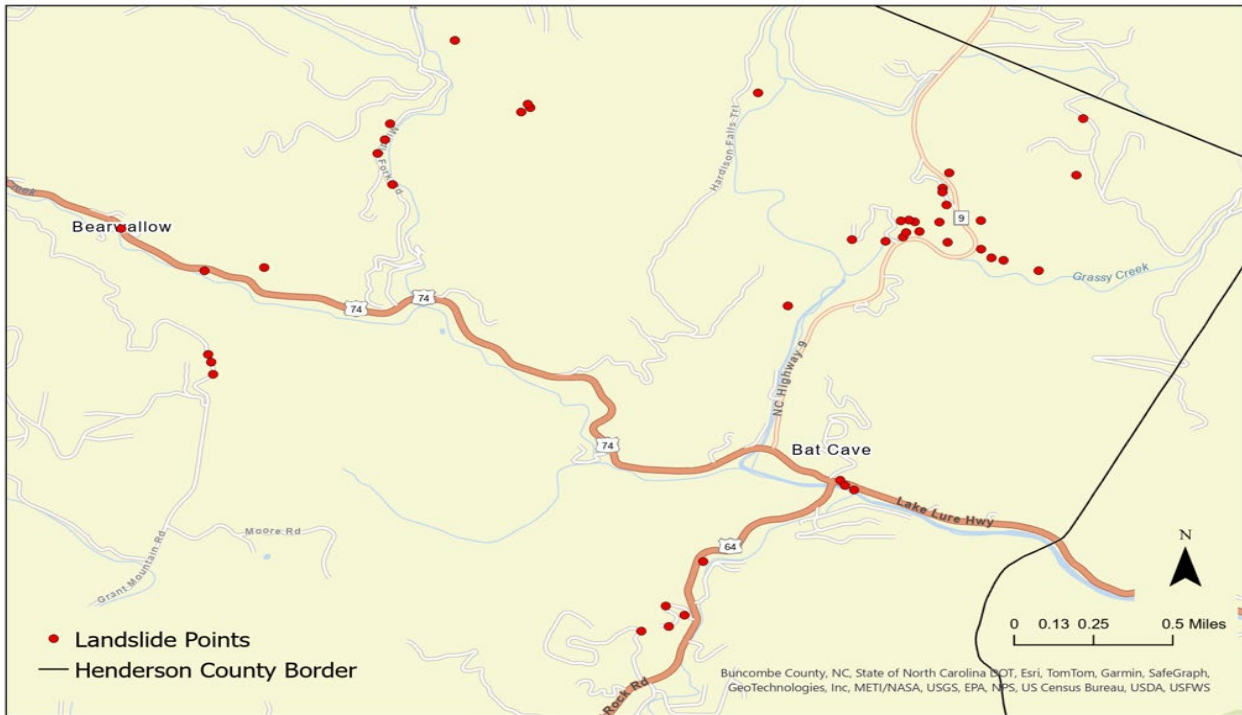
Approved:



### Henderson County Landslides as of Hurricane Helene

\*This only includes landslides confirmed by USGS. Data collection and analysis is ongoing.

Henderson County Situation Unit  
10/7/2024  
Data Source: USGS



### N.E. Henderson County Landslides as of Hurricane Helene

\*This only includes landslides confirmed by USGS. Data collection and analysis is ongoing.

Henderson County Situation Unit  
10/7/2024  
Data Source: USGS

Approved:





## Current Priorities

- Continued Damage Assessments
- Recovery Housing
- Resource Hub Transition Plan
- Long term needs for communities with limited road access



## Priority Response Regions

- Bat Cave & Gerton – Remains top area of concern
- Other Areas:
  - Deep Gap Road Area – Dana Fire District
  - Flood prone areas in Etowah – [Horse Shoe](#) Fire District

# Overview of Stats

- 911 Call Center received an excess of 4,000 calls over the storm period.
- 22,023 customers out of power as of 10/7
  - Less than 100 of the total 69,281 customers had power at the storm's peak
- 7 total fatalities in Henderson County as of 10/7

Approved:



# Community Impacts

Bat Cave & Edneyville Area



# Community Impacts

Bat Cave & Edneyville Area



Bat Cave & Edneyville Area



Approved:





# Community Resource Hubs



Approved:





On Friday, the county obtained the use of a 150,000-square-foot warehouse off Upward Road on I26. That same day, forty National Guard Troops were sent to help manage the space; another twenty members were later sent. Between the State National Guard and Air Guard, over 200 National Guard troops operated in the county.

## Current & Anticipated Actions

### Current

- Establish long term recovery needs for communities with limited road access.
- Debris pile searches along the Rocky Broad River.
- Conduct countywide damage assessments in partnership with Building Services, Tax Assessors first responders and National Guard.

Approved:

## Anticipated

- Resource Hub Transition Plan, support local nonprofits and community organizations distribution efforts.
- Identify long-term housing solutions for individuals who are displaced from homes.
- Support FEMA damage assessment being conducted in community.

NC DOT Division Engineer Wanda Payne provided the following updates on road conditions and closures in Henderson County:

- NC DOT was in the process of entering into an MOA with Henderson County for debris removal
- Grant Mountain Road and Bearwallow Mountain Road were currently open to 74A
- US 74A was open
- Bridge Construction Crews will begin working tomorrow on the bridge at US74A and Hwy 64
- 480 slides had been identified
- Some of the bigger slides included: Finley Cove Rd, David Mountain Rd, Middlefork Road, Green River Cove, and Pleasant Grove Church Rd.
- There are fifteen contract bridge replacements under contract and forty additional structures that were damaged and will be replaced
- DOT officials are trying to determine how to approach the reconstruction and repairs needed in the Gerton/Bat Cave area. They are attempting to get a contract in place that would be more of a corridor replacement and repair and rebuild. That would include working with Division 13 going into Buncombe County on NC9 and also into the Lake Lure area.
- There were nine crews that were currently working in Henderson County; six of which are internal to Division 14 and three from Division 3 (Wilmington). Two bridge crews will arrive Wednesday from Division 2 (Greenville, NC) and another road crew from Division 9 (Winston-Salem).

Sheriff Lowell Griffin praised the coordination and harmony of all the entities that worked together and all the facets of government that came together for a common goal. He said people on his staff had flood damage, trees on their houses, and some who had lost everything, yet they still came to work and completed their assignments. He said during the height of the storm, dispatch had every console full while extra people sat on the floor to help answer the intense barrage of phone calls that lasted for days. They listened to endless pleas for help and, at one point, were just 15 calls short of having over 1,000 911 calls on active calls on the screen at one time. He said the detention facility had experienced a total power outage and maintained order using only flashlights to light their way; they even served a meal using only flashlights. Dispatch and detention had officers who worked multiple days in a row with only short naps between duty cycles as their relief officers could not reach the office.

Sheriff Griffin said they had to call on outside agencies. He called on local agencies to come in

Approved:

and provide help, such as state probation, wildlife, agents from SBI, and ALE agents stepping in to help with security needs. A group of officers from the Charleston PD was in town assisting the Sheriff's office staff. In closing, he read a letter that he sent to his staff over the past weekend, in which he encouraged all Staff to utilize the mental wellness programs available.

Sheriff Griffin said there had been some looting incidents, and those would be investigated.

Henderson County Public Schools Superintendent Mark Garrett provided an update on the status of school operations.

- Atkinson Elementary School sustained the most damage of any school in the county. There was water in the building, and the flooring needed to be replaced. Once school resumes, those students must be relocated while the repairs are made. He expects repairs to take approximately two months.
- East Henderson High School had tree damage to a couple of buildings outside the stadium, and some of the stands in the stadium had been hit. Repairs were already underway.
- After the storm, East Henderson High, North Henderson High, Rugby Middle, and Etowah Elementary were utilized as distribution sites.
- All teachers and staff had been accounted for.
- HCPS delivered fuel using their mobile fuel truck.

#### Next Steps

- Get kids back to school – possibly next week (the week of October 14).
- Childcare was opened this week for emergency management personnel or hospital employees to ensure the PSPM program allows them to continue working.
- Finding families and students. Schools are going name by name with their students to connect and check in with all of them to see how and where they are and what needs they may have.
- Schools were utilizing nine minivans to deliver supplies to families who could not reach the distribution hubs.
- Sugarloaf Elementary School opened a site for donations and supply pick-up.
- Athletic practices resumed today to offer some normalcy to the kids.
- HCPS is working with the Education Foundation to offer a donation link for current and long-term needs.

Mr. Garrett said the relationships and partnerships that existed before this storm were instrumental in our ability to weather it. In closing, Garrett cautioned that the county's roads had changed as a result of the hurricane, and bus routes would not be the same.

Pardee Chief Executive Officer and President Jay Kirby provided an update on Pardee Hospital. He said the lights flickered, and the generators came on; the hospital never lost water. Communication was challenging at times. He highlighted some of the support the hospitals received:

- The Governor called to ensure that both Pardee and Mission Health would have power restored that same day.
- Mission's laundry went down because they lost water. Jimmy Brissie was informed and Tide trucks were sent so laundry could resume.

Approved:

Mr. Kirby said he had no dramatic stories other than steady, calm, and purposeful leadership. He shared that forty team members had completely lost their homes, some of which were still reporting to work. They had left their husbands, children, and families and slept in the hospital for four days to be there when the men and women on the front lines brought victims from the storm in to receive care.

Kirby closed with the following points:

1. UNC Healthcare stepped up. They sent doctors, nurses, pallets of food, linen trucks, and medications.
2. WNC needs a strong Mission Healthcare; there is no redundancy of tertiary care facilities in WNC. We rely on Mission for all tertiary care in our region. Pardee Hospital needs enhanced stroke capabilities, cardiovascular care, trauma care, and women's and children's services. Redundancy of tertiary care is needed in WNC.

Charman McCall noted that Baxter Healthcare in Marion was temporarily shut down, which was concerning as this facility manufactures 70% of the IV bags used in the United States. Mr. Kirby expects there to be a "rationing" of surgeries. The bags will be available for emergency and immediate surgeries. Elective surgeries like cataracts, knee and hip replacements, and cosmetic procedures will be pushed back to ensure that emergency cases continue.

City of Hendersonville Manager John Connet shared the following regarding the city's utility system.

- At the height of the storm, the Mills River intake, which supplies 60% of our water, was completely underwater.
- The wastewater plant was completely underwater.
- Many pump stations were underwater or without power.
- The city stored ten million gallons of water in its reservoirs. However, a lot of water was lost due to water line breaks.
- 92% of customers have clean, fresh drinking water. 5.5% of those are under a system pressure advisory.
- 879 customers in the Hoopers Creek area do not have water.
- 99 out of 113 facilities, such as pump stations, hydro stations, and tanks, are fully operational. He expects most of those will come online once power is restored in Laurel Park and Bearwallow.
- The Etowah Community never lost water.

Mr. Connet said conversations had begun about how the city of Hendersonville could help the city of Asheville, either through bulk water or through system delivery.

Despite losing three employees before the storm, County Engineer Marcus Jones said Solid Waste opened the Monday after the storm and has been operating on its normal schedule. One of the employees at Solid Waste lost her house in the storm, but she has returned to work and has been contributing greatly to the cause.

Mr. Jones said the record tonnage has been broken by 50% to date; the department has processed 900 tons of trash. Staff has received a lot of positive feedback about the Board's waiver of the tipping fee for storm debris. The transfer station on Stoney Mtn Road is open for business they are taking storm debris and regular trash. To augment the transfer station, they are going to have

Approved:

two vegetative debris sites open for the contractor who will collect the debris for the county. That contractor, SDR, mobilized Tuesday onsite. The two debris sites will not be open to the public as debris contractors, municipalities, and DOT will utilize them. He said citizens could put their vegetative and storm debris on the right-of-way on the road in front of them, and the county would pick it up for no charge.

Commissioner Hill said the county should have sites for local graders and tree companies to dispose of debris. Mr. Jones was confident that the landfill could handle this after the two sites for the two vegetative sites for the contractor and municipalities opened. Commissioner Lapsley agreed with Hill that an alternative to the landfill needed to be found. He said he lived close to the landfill, and traffic was backing up to 191 to enter the landfill. He had received calls that day asking if anything could be done to help the process move faster. If there was some way to address the problem, he said we owe it to the community to figure it out.

Chairman McCall said two additional items needed to be addressed.

### **Project Positions – Disaster Response/County Operations (Add on)**

Henderson County will continue to experience operational pressures in response to and recovery from Hurricane Helene. Due to these pressures and to ensure the continuity of all county operations, 20 project positions are requested as support. These project positions are to support both disaster response and regular county operations and could include assistance for Emergency Management, Buildings Services, Facilities Services, Department of Social Services, etc. Assignment of project positions will be made at the County Manager's discretion.

The term of these project positions was expected to expire in six months on March 31, 2025.

*Commissioner Lapsley made the motion for the Board to approve 20 project positions for county operations related to the disaster of Hurricane Helene. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

### **Hurricane Helene – Employee Pay for Hours Worked (Add on)**

Henderson County issued a proclamation of a State of Emergency on September 26, 2024, at 8:00 am based on the approach and potential impacts of Hurricane Helene. At that time and to the current day, dedicated county staff have devoted countless hours to response and relief efforts related to the devastation of Hurricane Helene.

Staff requested the Board authorize all employees' payment for all hours worked during the State of Emergency. This includes hours exceeding standard hours currently paid to exempt employees. This request excludes the County Manager.

*Chairman McCall made the motion that the Board approve payment of all hours worked to County staff participating in the response and relief efforts. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

### **COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

Chairman McCall shared that John Mitchell was on vacation when Hurricane Helene ripped through our county but left his family at the coast to return home to ensure he could manage the necessary actions of county business. She expressed her thanks to the level of dedication of the

Approved:

county manager, assistant county manager, and all staff in the days following the storm.

Commissioner Lapsley echoed Mrs. McCall's remarks. He felt it necessary to emphasize to the taxpayers that the Board had just authorized additional expenditures for employees and project positions and that the county's budget would have to cover an unknown amount of unanticipated expenditures related to this event. He said the board's work was to ensure sufficient reserve funds were included in every year's budget to handle events such as the hurricane. He said the county was in good financial shape and could handle the additional expenditures.

Commissioner Hill echoed comments regarding staff and expressed his appreciation to law enforcement, volunteer fire departments, rescue squads, EMS, and volunteers from all over the Southeast who had pitched in to help in any way they could following the storm.

Commissioner Andreotta also echoed comments made by fellow Board members regarding staff. He encouraged everyone to get to know their neighbors so that in situations like this, we could all band together to take care of one another. He encouraged people to practice self-care.

Vice-Chair Edney thanked the employees and the families of all the employees who had worked countless hours. He believed this flood to be much worse than the 1916 flood.

Chairman McCall added that our Senator and State Representatives had supported the county during this disaster in many important operational aspects.

#### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

John Mitchell thanked all county departments and all employees for their hard work and dedication. Henderson County did not close; it will never close, and the many projects we were engaged in continue.

*Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(6). All voted in favor, and the motion carried.*

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

#### **ADJOURN**

---

Denisa A. Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

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Rebecca McCall, Chairman

Approved: