



Wayne County, North Carolina Board of Commissioners

April 8, 2025
The Maxwell Center
3114-A Wayne Memorial Drive, Hall A
Goldsboro, NC 27534

MINUTES

11:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER - Chairwoman Barbara Aycock

The Wayne County Board of Commissioners met with the Board of Education on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 11:33 AM in Hall A of the Maxwell Center, 3114-A Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, North Carolina, after due notice thereof had been given.

Members present: Barbara Aycock, Chairwoman; Bevan Foster, Vice-Chairman; Joe C. Daughtery; Chris Gurley; and Tim Harrell.

Members absent: George Wayne Aycock, Jr.; and Antonio Williams.

Others present: Chris West; Wade Leatham; Leslie Rouse; Dr. Marc Whichard; Willie Joyner, II; Tommy Sanders; Bridgette Cowan; Craig Foucht; Len Henderson; Celena Smith; Ken Derksen; Ashley White; Chip Crumpler; Ginger Moore; Angie Boswell; Andrew Neal; Joel Gillie; Trentt Toms; Kayla Whitley; Carol Bowden; and Ken Fine.

INVOCATION - Commissioner Tim Harrell

LUNCH

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Following the meal, Wayne County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Marc Whichard provided a PowerPoint presentation on their 2024-2025 budget request, attached hereto as Attachment A. He explained their projected \$5.3 million large project capital needs and the total request of \$7.8 million. Dr. Whichard stated their current expense request was \$26,143,941, with an overall increase of the county's allocation of more than \$4.6 million.

Following the presentation, County Manager Chip Crumpler thanked Dr. Whichard for his presentation and opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Joe C. Daughtery discussed proposed legislation from Representative Chris Humphrey requiring counties to adopt a revenue-neutral tax rate in a revaluation year. Mr. Daughtery asked the Board of Education to prioritize their needs. Dr. Whichard stated they had done that, with Exceptional Children funding and school resource officers as the top two. He also said the current ask by the board is 100% of their needs.

Vice-Chairman Bevan Foster asked Dr. Whichard at what point can the two boards meet, each taking on responsibility, and what funds did the Board of Education have available. Dr. Whichard said all funds come from the county and Commissioner Chris Gurley asked specifically about their fund balance. Dr. Whichard and Assistant Superintendent Leslie Rouse stated the fund balance was \$19 million before they spent \$4.5 million on needs. She also said the board wants to keep a \$10 million fund balance, due to unknowns with federal funding.

Mr. Chris West stated the county has given the schools the same amount for capital outlay for the previous 15 years of \$2 million, with no increase. Mr. Daughtery stated the \$2 million was not used some years, giving no reason for an increase.

Mr. Craig Foucht asked about school bonds in the past for new schools and when the next bond process might be considered. Both boards discussed the sales and use tax referendum and the need to get it passed this year.

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:26 p.m., Chairwoman Barbara Aycock adjourned the joint meeting of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners and the Wayne County Board of Education.



Carol Bowden, Clerk to the Board