



**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**September 13, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

Chairman Tate called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Board Members, County Manager Derek Roland, Deputy Clerk Mike Decker, Finance Director Lori Carpenter, County Attorney Eric Ridenour, and members of the news media were present, as were a number of county employees and citizens.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

(A) Mr. Roland made several announcements:

- a. A letter from the Government Finance Association of the United States and Canada received awarding a “certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting to Macon County for its annual comprehensive financial report ending fiscal year June 30, 2021. This certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management”. Mr. Roland recognized Finance Officer Lori Carpenter and her staff for the excellent job they do. He stated we receive this letter every year due to the work of these staff. **[Attachment 1]**
- b. The Macon Middle School renovation project is complete and the Certificate of Occupancy received. The project was completed on time and under budget with \$148,000 remaining in the contingency fund.
- c. A letter from the WNC Zoological Sanctuary was received requesting a letter of authorization concerning a new cheetah sanctuary located in Burningtown, operated by Bob and Christina Miller, which is planned to be operational later this year. Commissioner Beale indicated this will not be for public viewing and is governed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Mr. Roland stated he did not believe there was an obligation to write the letter as Macon County has no responsibility or authority over the facility. Attorney Ridenour concurred with Mr. Roland. **[Attachment 2]**

(B) Commissioner Beale reminded everyone that the Macon County Fair kicks-off next week on September 21, 2022 and stated this is the last true agricultural fair left in North Carolina.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Mr. Roland asked that the family of Tommy Cabe be remembered. Mr. Cabe was a long time school board member. Chairman Tate requested all in attendance rise and a moment of silence was observed.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** Led by Commissioner Higdon, the pledge to the flag was recited.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S):**

- (A) 2023 Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules – Chairman Tate called the public hearing to order at 6:10 p.m. Tax Administrator Abby Braswell indicated there had been no changes since the August presentation and clarified that the revaluation will occur in January following notification via individual letters to property owners. With no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Tate closed the hearing at 6:12 p.m.
- (B) Proposed resolution requesting that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission undertake rulemaking for the purpose of establishing a new “no wake zone” in the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake - Chairman Tate called the public hearing to order at 6:14 p.m. Jim Strauss spoke representing the residents of the area and stated letters of support from approximately 20 residents had been received. He thanked the board and Planning Director Joe Allen for the support and assistance provided in getting a “no wake zone” established. With no one from the public desiring to speak, Chairman Tate closed the hearing at 6:16 p.m. Commissioner Beale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to approve the resolution as presented. Vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached. **[Attachment 3]**
- (C) Section 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 and applicable state funding, or combination thereof, for Macon County Transit – Commissioner Tate called the public hearing to order at 6:16 p.m. Transit Director Darlene Asher explained the Macon County Community Transportation Program applications and the proposed funding amounts, and requested approval to apply and included the funding in the budget for next fiscal year. With no one from the public signed up to speak, Chairman Tate closed the hearing at 6:19 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to approve the request as presented. Vote was unanimous. A copy of the FY 2024 Local Share Certification for Funding is attached. **[Attachment 4]**



**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** **Narelle Kirkland** thanked the board for their support in making repairs to the greenway and stated that maintenance of the greenway is good. Ms. Kirkland identified three places she feels need attention and requested the board take those under advisement and move to get those repairs completed by Thanksgiving. **Hazel Norris** spoke in support of new voting machines and also requested the board review the public play areas at the greenway, Parker Meadows, Rec Park, etc., and ensure equipment is available for physically handicapped children to utilize. **Brianne Hudak** inquired about acquiring the old Pine Grove School to use as a small private elementary school for grades K-5. She indicated she would plan to continue to utilize the facility as a voting precinct. Commissioner Beale stated the county would need to look at the stipulations of the grants received to see if the property could be sold, but indicated the property could be leased and utilized as long as the fire codes allowed. Commissioner Young stated he agreed with Commissioner Beale and wanted the building used for the best purpose and financial advantage to the county. Mr. Roland agreed to contact Ms. Hudak once he had an opportunity to look at the details.

**ADDITIONS, ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Higdon, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda, as adjusted, as follows:

- To add Item 9D Economic Development Commission's resolution supporting the quarter-cent sales tax referendum, per Mr. Roland
- To add 10B Update on Nantahala Library, per Commissioner Higdon
- To add 10C Update on Macon County Schools, per Mr. Roland
- To add Budget Amendment #57 to the Consent Agenda, per Ms. Carpenter
- To remove Item 10A Update on J&B franchise agreement, per Mr. Roland
- To remove Item 11E Consideration of site for the Barbara McRae viewing platform on the Little Tennessee River Greenway, per Mr. Roland
- To table Item 13A Planning Board appointments

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

- (A) Update from the Southwestern Commission – Executive Director Russ Harris reviewed the annual report and indicated receipt of \$155,000 in dues annually from each of the far western counties, which is estimated to be leveraged to bring in \$15 million this year. Mr. Harris stated those funds are used to support efforts in Macon County including broadband improvements, home consortium, workforce development, NCWorks center, etc.
- (B) Recommendation from the Macon County Board of Elections regarding new voting equipment – Board Chair Kathy Tinsley and Vice Chair Gary Dills provided a review of the recent demonstration of new voting equipment held on August 23, 2022 and August 30, 2022. Ms. Tinsley indicated 40-50 people attended those events. She stated the Board of

Minutes

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Elections is recommending the purchase of the Hart InterCivic, Inc. equipment. Mr. Dills summarized the process that has occurred in compliance with the state requirements and requested approval of the resolution presented. [Attachment 5] He indicated the recommended system is approximately \$14,000 cheaper than the competitor, is friendly to the user, easy to set-up for the poll workers, will decrease cost of ballots by 30-40 percent, and has the ability to print ballots on-demand at the precincts. Mr. Dills shared that after approval of the resolution to purchase, the Board of Elections will conduct a simulated election in January. After a brief discussion regarding the number of machines to be purchased, service contracts, and licensing, Commissioner Beale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to approve the resolution to purchase as presented. Vote was unanimous.

- (C) Update on Broadband projects and grant awards – Mr. Roland recognized the Broadband Committee members who were present and gave an overview of their efforts since 2016 when the committee was appointed, and commended the board for getting out in front of this issue in advance of others. He noted some achievements including getting broadband service to LBJ Job Corps and a fiber backbone in the South Franklin area which now brings fiber connections from Franklin to the Highlands City Limits. Jeff Lee with Little T Broadband provided a PowerPoint presentation showing progress of current efforts. His presentation indicated that all three south Macon community facilities (Otto Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Scaly Mountain Community Center, and Sky Valley-Scaly Volunteer Fire and Rescue) are connected and live. He said these locations serve as hotspots for public access both inside and outside the facilities from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. seven days per week. Mr. Lee also stated they are working on getting businesses along 441 south connected. He also reviewed the status of the GREAT grant, which was awarded to Frontier on August 31, 2022 to provide service to 2,700 residences and business. Mr. Lee indicated Frontier has two years to complete the build for this award and the Broadband Committee has scheduled a meeting with them to discuss.
- (D) Economic Development Commission's resolution supporting the quarter-cent sales tax referendum – EDC Director Tommy Jenkins stated the EDC took up a resolution supporting the efforts of the Board of Commissioners and passage of the referendum at their September 8, 2022 meeting. Mr. Jenkins requested Mr. Roland read the resolution into the record. Mr. Jenkins stated the EDC endorsed the resolution with a vote of 9-1 while identifying that the sales tax increase improves safety, security and ADA compliance of the new Franklin High School campus, helps children prepare for a better future, improves the workforce with more technological opportunities in the classroom and the new facility will be a magnet for



new businesses looking to start-up or relocate to Macon County. A copy of the resolution is attached. [Attachment 6]

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- (A) Update on J&B franchise agreement – removed
- (B) Update on Request for Qualifications for Highlands School additions – Mr. Roland stated that Requests for Qualifications were sent out and responses were received from LS3P and Narmore/Wright. School Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin has appointed a nine-member committee to rank the responses. Mr. Roland will bring the committee recommendations to this board in October and then begin contract negotiations. After a brief discussion, Mr. Roland stated the board will need to decide how to proceed once the recommendations are received, and a cost cannot be determined until the contract negotiation phase. Board members acknowledged the committee and consented to proceed with the process as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (A) Parking lot and garage apron resurfacing/replacement at Franklin and Highlands EMS bases** – Emergency Services Director Warren Cabe explained that NCDOT used to repave these locations for free, but now a grant has to be awarded. He said a \$25,000 grant has been received for the Franklin Base and another \$25,000 grant has been received for the Highlands base. Mr. Cabe requested approval to accept the funds and proceed with the work at these locations. Commissioner Young made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Higdon, to approve acceptance of the funds and to approve the accompanying budget amendment. Vote was unanimous.
  
- (B) Consideration of resolution to the North Carolina Legislature to amend the statutory requirements necessary for registration as an environmental health specialist or environmental health specialist inter** – County Attorney Eric Ridenour stated this resolution is a response to staff shortages in the environmental health field and is planned to be presented to the legislature and to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) for inclusion in their legislative goals process. Commissioner Higdon stated the requirements to hire environmental health specialists is an archaic requirement and needs to be updated. Commissioner Beal requested Mr. Roland send the resolution to all counties with a request for them to pass the same resolution. Mr. Ridenour will send the resolution to the attorney at the NCACC. Motion by Commissioner Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Beale, to approve the resolution as presented. Vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached. [Attachment 7]



- (C) Consideration of easement for Duke Energy for Buck Creek Road improvement project** – Lisa Leatherman with Duke Energy reviewed the request to relocate a single pole from the opposite side of the road from Zachary Park onto the Zachary Park side. After a brief discussion and request from Chairman Tate to remove or rewrite the language in item #4 of the easement due to the property being used for recreational purposes, Commissioner Young made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Higdon to approve the easement as rewritten and authorize Mr. Roland to then sign on behalf of the county. Vote was unanimous. A copy of the easement is attached. **[Attachment 8]**
- (D) Grant agreement for Dogwood Health Trust and Macon County Housing Department** – Housing Director John Fay shared the receipt of a planning grant in the amount of \$110,000 which is to be utilized over the next two years to review housing needs for everyone in Macon County. He stated there are no county funds required. Commissioner Beale requested Mr. Fay attend the Mental Health Taskforce meeting on September 14, 2022 and share this information. Motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to accept the grant award as presented. Vote was unanimous.
- (E) Consideration for site for the Barbara McRae viewing platform on the Little Tennessee River Greenway** – Removed
- (F) Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Franklin concerning acquisition of property and extension of the Little Tennessee Greenway** – Mr. Roland recognized Town Manager Amie Owens and council members who were present and explained the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will connect the greenway to the recreation park. He indicated the Town of Franklin is going to purchase the property and construct the connection and the county will sign joint applications for funding sources as well as maintain the greenway connection. Ms. Owens stated this is an excellent opportunity for the town and county to work together and improve the community. Motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to approve the MOU as presented. Vote was unanimous.
- (G) Joint meeting with the towns of Franklin and Highlands on September 22, 2022** – Mr. Roland announced the joint meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. at Franklin Town Hall.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Upon motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Higdon, the board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented which includes: (A) Minutes of the August 9, 2022 regular meeting, (B) Budget Amendments #41-57, (C) Tax releases for the month of August in the amount of \$21,155.31, (D) Property tax settlement report for fiscal Year 2021-22, (E) Change order 009 for the Macon Middle School renovations project resulting in a decrease of \$16,565 to the contractor, (F) Ratification of

email poll approving fireworks display at Skyline Lodge in Highlands on August 27, 2022, (G) Outstanding debt at Macon County Public Health to be "written off", and (H) Monthly ad valorem tax collection report – for which no action is necessary.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

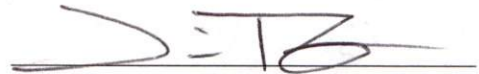
(A) Planning Board – 1 seat - removed

**CLOSED SESSION** – None.

**RECESS:** With no other business, at 8:26 p.m., upon a motion from Commissioner Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Young, the board voted unanimously to recess until Thursday, September 22, 2022 for a joint meeting with the Franklin Town Council and the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners at Franklin Town Hall (95 East Main Street) beginning at 6:00 pm.



Derek Roland  
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board



Jim Tate  
Board Chair

Attachment 1



**Government Finance Officers Association**  
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210  
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

9/12/2022

Derek Roland  
Manager  
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Roland:

We are pleased to notify you that your annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021 qualifies for GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

When a Certificate of Achievement is awarded to a government, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for its having earned the Certificate. This award has been sent to the submitter as designated on the application.

We hope that you will arrange for a formal presentation of the Certificate and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, and give appropriate publicity to this notable achievement. A sample news release is included to assist with this effort.

We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting.

Sincerely,

Michele Mark Levine  
Director, Technical Services



To: Macon County Commissioners

From: WNC Zoological Sanctuary, Inc.

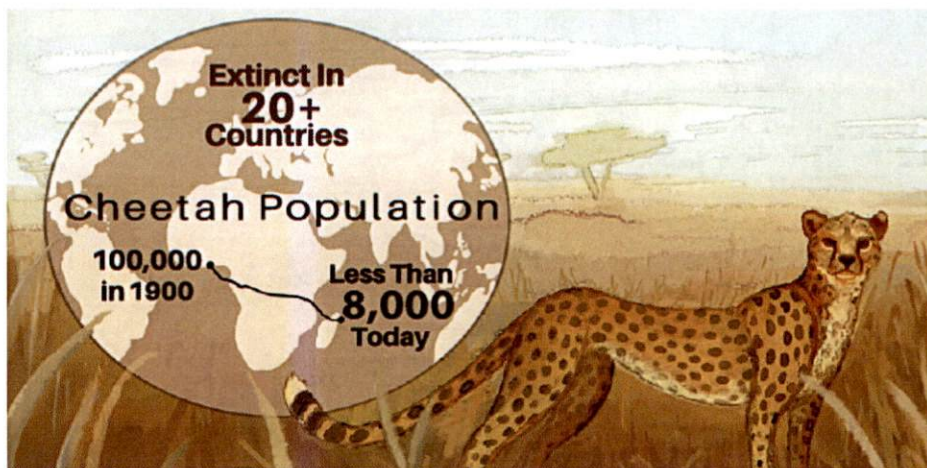
Date: September 9, 2022

Subject: Animal Sanctuary

First, I would like to take a moment to share our passion and enthusiasm as part of the of the Zoological Association of America and in partnership with the Metro Richmond Zoo Cheetah Conservation Program. These two organizations are committed as we are, to saving the worlds most endangered big cat.

## HISTORY

The cheetah is Africa's most endangered big cat. In 1900, the cheetah population was around 100,000 individuals. However, due to habitat loss, human conflict, and illegal animal trade, the cheetah's current wild population is in drastic decline. It is estimated there are around 8,000 cheetahs left in the wild. As of today, the cheetah inhabits only 9% of its historic range. Cheetahs in the wild have an extremely high mortality rate. 90% of cubs die within the first three months of life. 50% of these deaths are attributed to predation and the other 40% fall victim to a lack of genetic diversity.



Breeding cheetahs in zoological parks is very challenging. Only a small portion of the population is breeding. For instance, in 2013, only 8 litters of cheetahs were born in the United States.

The Metro Richmond Zoo was up for the challenge. In 2011, the Zoo purchased 52 acres of land adjacent to the current zoo property. We launched massive efforts in support of cheetah conservation. Construction began on the Cheetah Conservation Center (CCC), a private specialized area dedicated solely to the conservation of cheetahs. The CCC originally contained 10 enclosures for cheetahs. Construction on the CCC was completed in 2012, and seven female cheetahs arrived at the Zoo to join our two male cheetahs. In 2012, our cheetah population was 9. Four years later, our cheetah population would grow to be 35.

Since 2013, 96 cheetahs have been born at the zoo.

## **Cheetah Conservation Center**

After a three month gestation, on October 6, 2013, Lana gave birth to five cubs. This was the first litter of cheetah cubs for the MRZ. As of 2022, we have had 96 cubs born at the CCC. These births have made significant additions to the cheetah population. Some of the adult cheetahs at the zoo are unrelated to the other cheetahs in North America, so the genetic value of cubs for future breeding is extremely high. The Metro Richmond Zoo is proud of our tremendous success we have had with cheetah breeding. To accommodate our growing cheetah population, the CCC was expanded to a total of 19 enclosures.

The CCC has continued the breeding success and furtherance of its genetic diversification. In Africa today, all cheetahs can be genetically be traced back to one of three mothers. This makes the domestic breeding with new lineages of unique DNA very critical to the long term repopulation of cheetahs in the wild. The CCC program at the Metro Richmond Zoo has had more successful cubs born than all of the zoo's in the USA combined.



But the CCC has a limitation in space, much of which is consumed by younger cheetahs ages 1 through 3 years old, which are too young for domestic breeding. And older cheetahs that are past their breeding prime after 9 to 10 years old. These non-breeding age cheetahs still require the care and facilities, yet they consume upwards of 30% of the breeding facilities.

## WNC Zoological Sanctuary

This is where the WNC Zoological Sanctuary provides the much needed support and space for these non-breeding age cheetahs. In partnership with the CCC and with the support of the Metro Richmond Zoo and the guidance of the Zoological Association of America, the WNC Zoological Sanctuary provides a very important part of the overall conservation program. Our facilities will provide a safe conservatory facility including shelters, runs and open areas for the cheetahs to thrive.

Safety being of primary concern, these new facilities are being constructed of commercial grade steel fencing with anti-climb fencing tops well surpassing the standard zoo enclosure heights and strength for cheetah enclosures. A matching secondary perimeter steel fence of the same specification and height with anti-climb fencing tops is being installed for added safety. These overall specifications including the guillotine safety doors goes well beyond both the CCC and ZAA requirements for such enclosures.



Privacy screening will cover the exposed fencing to any open roads.

All facets of this new WNC Zoological Sanctuary meet or exceed both Federal and State of North Carolina regulatory compliance. These cheetahs will not be owned by the sanctuary, they are on loan from the Metro Richmond Zoo. They are not considered pets and there will be no onsite breeding of these cheetahs, all breeding will be done at the CCC in Richmond, VA. The sanctuary's function is to provide safe housing and care for the cheetahs during their stay at the sanctuary. Veterinarian oversight of routine lab results will be tracked, documented and overseen by the CCC. We believe this sanctuary can be completed and initially populated with cheetahs by early first quarter of 2023.

This WNC Zoological Sanctuary is a 501 (c) (3) structure and will not require any Federal, State or Local municipality support. The sanctuary will be fully funded privately by its founders Bob & Christina Miller. There will be no public access to the facilities and the sanctuary will not be soliciting for any outside donations.

The WNC Zoological Sanctuary and its primary benefactors will be investing a significant amount of money to build and operate the facility and as such is requesting the Macon County Commissioners to review and issue a letter of authorization for the sanctuary and its activities within Macon County so long as the sanctuary continues to operate within in both federal and state guidelines.

Thank you again for your time and consideration of this request.

WNC Zoological Sanctuary



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MACON

**RESOLUTION OF MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING  
THAT THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION  
UNDERTAKE RULEMAKING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A NEW “NO  
WAKE ZONE” IN THE LITTLE CHOGA COVE AREA OF THE NANTAHALA LAKE  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF MITIGATING HAZARDS TO WATER SAFETY**

THAT WHEREAS, the Little Choga Cove area of the Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina contains thirty-one docks and two community docks and is the location where many resident and visiting swimmers, boaters, kayakers, and paddle boarders occupy the area simultaneously, including many children.

WHEREAS, Macon County has determined that a “no wake zone” is needed in the Little Choga Cove area of the Nantahala Lake in order to afford sufficient protection to those who occupy that area of the lake and to mitigate hazards to water safety in the area of the lake as set forth in the application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, Macon County respectfully requests that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission undertake rulemaking for the purpose of establishing a new “no wake zone” in the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake in Macon County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Macon County has duly advertised a Notice of Public Hearing to be held on September 13, 2022, at 6:00 o’clock p.m., in The Franklin Press on August 31, 2022 in connection with this matter as required by the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75A-15; and

WHEREAS, Macon County did hold a Public Hearing in connection with such request on September 13, 2022, at 6:00 o’clock p.m., in the Commissioners’ Board Room in the Macon County Courthouse located at 5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75A-15 to:

- A. Discuss and approve the making of a formal application and recommendation by Macon County, North Carolina to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for it to adopt a local rule establishing a new “no wake zone” and/or speed restrictions applicable within the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina;
- B. Request special rules and regulations for the waters described above;
- C. Request full implementation of the U.S. Aids to Navigation System in all waters within Macon County, North Carolina; and

- D. Make application to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulations being proposed as referenced above.

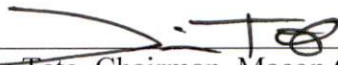
WHEREAS, during such Public Hearing, various comments from the Public were duly received and noted by the Macon County Board of Commissioners regarding the proposals set forth hereinabove.

NOW THEREFORE, upon motion of Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Shields, and duly approved, be it hereby resolved that:

1. The Macon County Commissioners do hereby specifically and formally:
  - A. Approve the making of a formal application and recommendation by Macon County, to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for it to adopt a local rule establishing a new “no wake zone” and/or speed restrictions applicable within the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina in accordance with the Application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;
  - B. Request special rules and regulations for the waters described above;
  - C. Request full implementation of the U.S. Aids to Navigation System in all waters within Macon County, North Carolina; and
  - D. Make application to and request action from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulations being proposed as referenced above.
2. Macon County does hereby respectfully and formally request that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission undertake Rule Making for the purpose of establishing a new “no wake zone” in the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake in Macon County, North Carolina, for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety;
3. Macon County does hereby authorize the submission of the cover letter to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission dated September 13, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.



Read, approved, and adopted in this Regular Meeting of the Macon County Board of County Commissioners this the 13th day of September, 2022.

  
James Tate, Chairman, Macon County Board of Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina

ATTEST:

  
Clerk to the Board of Macon County Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina




(County Seal)

**CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

I, DEREK C. ROLAND, as the Clerk to the Board of Macon County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Macon County Commissioners at the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Macon County Commissioners and that the same is a part of the Minutes of the Macon County Board of Commissioners from such Regular Meeting.

This the 13th day of September, 2022.

  
Clerk to the Board of the Macon County Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina

**FY 2024 LOCAL SHARE CERTIFICATION FOR FUNDING**

**Macon County**

**Requested Funding Amounts**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Local Share**</u>
5311 Administrative	\$ <u>219,268</u>	\$ <u>32,891</u> (15%)
5311 Operating (No State Match)	\$ _____	\$ _____ (50%)
5310 Operating (No State Match)	\$ <u>200,000</u>	\$ <u>100,000</u> (50%)
Combined Capital	\$ _____	\$ _____ (10%)
Funding programs covered are 5311, 5310, 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities, 5307 (Small fixed route, regional, and consolidated urban-rural systems)		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ <u>419,268</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>132,891</u></b>
	<b>Total Funding Requests</b>	<b>Total Local Share</b>

**\*\*NOTE: Applicants should be prepared for the entire Local Share amount in the event State funding is not available.**

The Local Share is available from the following sources:

<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>Apply to Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>County General Funds</u>	<u>Administrative (5311)</u>	\$ 32,891
<u>Contract Revenue</u>	<u>5310</u>	\$ 65,571
<u>County General Funds</u>	<u>5310</u>	\$34,429
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ <u>132,891</u></b>

**\*\* Fare box revenue is not an applicable source for local share funding**

I, the undersigned representing Macon County do hereby certify to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, that the required local funds for the FY2024 Community Transportation Program and 5307 Governors Apportionment will be available as of July 1, 2023, which has a period of performance of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Authorized Official

Derek C Roland, County Manager  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type Name and Title of Authorized Official

09/13/22  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Attachment 4



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF MACON

RESOLUTION OF MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR NEW VOTING EQUIPMENT FOR THE VOTERS OF MACON COUNTY.

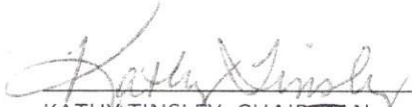
BOARD MEMBERS OF THE MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MET ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022, AT A REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING, AND UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO PURCHASE NEW VOTING EQUIPMENT FOR THE VOTERS OF MACON COUNTY.

The Macon County Board of Elections selects HART Intercivic as the vendor for Macon County. Our rationale includes the following:

- THE UPFRONT COST IS LESS THAN THE OTHER COMPANY
- THE VOTING EQUIPMENT IS MORE USER FRIENDLY THAN THE OTHER COMPANY
- THE EQUIPMENT IS THE MOST UPDATED VOTING EQUIPMENT ON THE MARKET
- THE COST OF BALLOTS FOR AN ELECTION WILL DECREASE
- THE COST OF CODING AN ELECTION WILL DECREASE
- THE AMOUNT OF UNUSED BALLOTS WILL DECREASE WHICH WILL RESULT IN LESS WASTE
- MAINTENANCE WOULD NOT BE NEEDED FOR THE MOVING OF THE EQUIPMENT BEFORE AND AFTER AN ELECTION AS IS THE SITUATION WITH THE OTHER CONTRACTOR
- THE OVERALL PROFESSIONALISM OF THE VENDOR

THE MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS REPECTFULLY REQUESTS THE MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE COUNTY MANAGER APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF HART Intercivic VOTING EQUIPMENT TO BE USED BY MACON COUNTY VOTERS.


THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS PLANS TO USE THE NEW VOTING EQUIPMENT IN THE YEAR 2023 FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

  
KATHY TINSLEY, CHAIRMAN

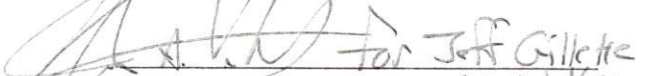
9/12/2022  
DATE

  
GARY DILLS, VICE CHAIRMAN

9/12/2022  
DATE

  
JOHN VANHOOK, MEMBER

9/12/2022  
DATE

  
JEFF GILLETTE, MEMBER *per verbal proxy on line*

9/12/22  
DATE

  
LYNNE GARRISON, MEMBER

9/12/22  
DATE

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MACON  
MACON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE LEVY OF A ONE-QUARTER CENT COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina General Assembly has enacted the “One-Quarter Cent County Sales and Use Tax Act” Article 46 of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes (Session Law 2007-323), which authorizes counties to levy a local sales and use tax; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to levy the local sales tax, Macon County must conduct a special advisory referendum on the question of whether to levy a local sales and use tax and the election shall be held in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes 163-287; and

**WHEREAS**, the Macon County Board of Commissioners is faced with extraordinary funding pressures resulting from the need for capital projects for the Macon County School System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Macon County have, by unanimous vote, resolved to offer the possibility of such additional sales tax to the voters of Macon County in an advisory referendum pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 105-537; and

**WHEREAS**, the Macon County Board of Commissioners have stated its intent to use the revenues from the Article 46 one-quarter cent County sales and use tax, if approved by the voters of Macon County, for capital projects of the Macon County School System.

**WHEREAS**, a referendum has been called during the normal time the polls are open, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at which there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Macon County the question stated below.

The form of the question to appear on the ballot and in the instruction to voters for said referendum shall be as follows:

FOR  AGAINST

Local sales and use tax at the rate of one-quarter percent (0.25%) in addition to all other State and local sales and use taxes.

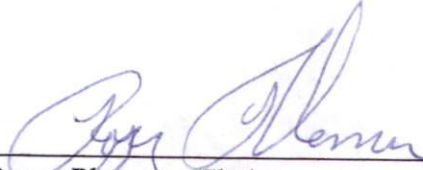
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Macon County Economic Development Commission, that:

1. The Macon County Economic Development Commission endorses and supports the Macon County Board of Commissioners’ “**RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ADVISORY REFERENDUM FOR THE LEVY OF A ONE-QUARTER CENT COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX**”, dated March 8, 2022, for capital projects of the Macon County School System.




2. The Macon County Economic Development Commission supports the passage of a Local sales and use tax referendum, at the rate of one-quarter percent (0.25%), in addition to all other State and Local sales and use taxes, for capital projects of the Macon County School System.

**ADOPTED**, at the September 8, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Macon County Economic Development Commission.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Plemens, Chair  
Macon County Economic Dev. Commission

ATTEST

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Jenkins  
Interim Director  
Macon County Economic Development Commission

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MACON

**RESOLUTION OF THE MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
TO THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE STATUTORY  
REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY FOR REGISTRATION AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH SPECIALIST OR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST INTERN.**

WHEREAS, the Macon County Department of Health and Human Services has a shortage of Environmental Health Specialists and is unable to meet the demand to issue On-site Waste Water and Water Well permitting; and

WHEREAS, the lack of qualified Environmental Health Specialists has resulted in a backlog of applications for On-site Waste Water and Well Permitting, which has resulted in untimely construction delays; and

WHEREAS, the need for Environmental Health Specialist is critical to the construction industry and local economy; and

WHEREAS, the inability to fill the Environmental Health Specialist position has had and is having a crippling effect on the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Macon County Board of Commissioners believe that the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist pursuant to N.C.G.S. §90A-53 are too strict and must be revised before further damage is done to the local economy.

NOW THEREFORE, upon Motion of Commissioner Higdon,  
seconded by Commissioner Beale, and duly approved, be it  
hereby resolved by the Macon County Board of County Commissioners as follows:

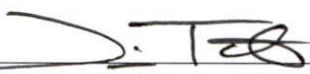
1. That the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist as required under N.C.G.S. §90A-53(a)(3)(a) be revised to remove the requirement of "one or more years of experience in the field of environmental health practice."
2. That the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist as required under N.C.G.S. §90A-53(a)(3)(b) be revised to:
  - a. Reduce the minimum of 30 semester hours or its equivalent in the physical and biological sciences to 15 semester hours, and
  - b. Remove the requirement of "two or more years of experience in the field of environmental health practice."



3. That the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist as required under N.C.G.S. §90A-53(a)(3)(c) be revised to:
  - a. Reduce the minimum of 30 semester hours or its equivalent in the physical and biological sciences to 15 semester hours, and
  - b. Remove the requirement of “two or more years of experience in the field of environmental health practice.”
4. That the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist as required under N.C.G.S. §90A-53(a)(3) be revised to allow for a person who has graduated with an Associate’s Degree from a Community College or Junior College that is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) and has completed 15 semester hours or its equivalent in the physical and biological sciences.
5. That the job qualifications required by the State of North Carolina to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist as required under N.C.G.S. §90A-53(a)(3) be revised to allow for a person who has graduated with an Associate’s Degree from a Trade School that is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) and has completed 15 semester hours or its equivalent in the physical and biological sciences.

RESOLVED, that Macon County requests and pleads that that the North Carolina General Assembly amend the requirements necessary to become a certified Environmental Health Specialist pursuant to N.C.G.S. §90A-53 be amended as stated herein, effective immediately.

Adopted at the September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

  
James Tate, Chairman, Macon County Board of  
County Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
Derek Roland, Macon County Manager  
and Clerk to the Board



Prepared by: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
Return to: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
Attn: c/o Southeastern Land Company  
PO Box 1241  
Conway, SC 29528

Parcel # 7541624853  
7541632119

EASEMENT

State of North Carolina  
County of Macon

THIS EASEMENT (“Easement”) is made this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022, from **MACON COUNTY**, a body corporate and politic organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina (“Grantor”, whether one or more), to **DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company (“Grantee”).

Grantor, for and in consideration of the sum of One and 00/100 Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, does hereby grant unto Grantee a perpetual and non-exclusive easement, to construct, reconstruct, operate, patrol, maintain, repair, replace, relocate, add to, modify, and remove electric and communication lines including, but not limited to, all necessary supporting structures, and all other appurtenant apparatus and equipment for the transmission and distribution of electrical energy, and for technological purposes related to the operation of the electric facilities and for the communication purposes of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (collectively, “Facilities”).

Grantor is the owner of that certain property described in that instrument recorded in Deed Book K-40, Page 2106, and Deed Book J-23, Page 1941 Macon County Register of Deeds (“Property”).

The Facilities may be both overhead and underground and located in, upon, over, along, under, through, and across a portion of the Property within an easement area described as follows:

A strip of land forty feet (40’) in uniform width for the overhead portion of said Facilities and a strip of land twenty feet (20’) in uniform width for the underground portion of said Facilities, lying equidistant on both sides of a centerline, which centerline shall be established by the center of the Facilities as installed, along with an area ten feet (10’) wide on all sides of the foundation of any Grantee enclosure/transformer, vault and/or manhole, (hereinafter referred to as the “Easement Area”).



The rights granted herein include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Grantee shall have the right of ingress and egress over the Easement Area, Property, and any adjoining lands now owned or hereinafter acquired by Grantor (using lanes, driveways, and adjoining public roads where practical as determined by Grantee).
2. Grantee shall have the right to trim, cut down, and remove from the Easement Area, at any time or times and using safe and generally accepted arboricultural practices, trees, limbs, undergrowth, other vegetation, and obstructions.
3. Grantee shall have the right to trim, cut down, and remove from the Property, at any time or times and using safe and generally accepted arboricultural practices, dead, diseased, weak, dying, or leaning trees or limbs, which, in the opinion of Grantee, might fall upon the Easement Area or interfere with the safe and reliable operation of the Facilities.
4. Grantee shall have the right to relocate the Facilities and Easement Area on the Property to conform to any future highway or street relocation, widening, or alterations.
5. Grantor shall not place, or permit the placement of, any structures, improvements, facilities, or obstructions, within or adjacent to the Easement Area, which may interfere with the exercise of the rights granted herein to Grantee. Grantee shall have the right to remove any such structure, improvement, facility, or obstruction at the expense of Grantor.
6. Excluding the removal of vegetation, structures, improvements, facilities, and obstructions as provided herein, Grantee shall promptly repair or cause to be repaired any physical damage to the surface area of the Easement Area and Property resulting from the exercise of the rights granted herein to Grantee. Such repair shall be to a condition which is reasonably close to the condition prior to the damage and shall only be to the extent such damage was caused by Grantee or its contractors or employees.
7. The rights granted in this Easement include the right to install Facilities wherever needed on the Property to serve future development on the Property and neighboring lands. Portions of the Facilities may be installed immediately and other portions may be installed in the future as the need develops. Facilities installed in the future shall be installed at locations mutually agreeable to the parties hereto if they are to be located outside of the Easement Area. Upon any future installations of Facilities at mutually agreed locations, the Easement Area shall be deemed to include such future locations at the widths defined in this Easement.
8. All other rights and privileges reasonably necessary, in Grantee's sole discretion, for the safe, reliable, and efficient installation, operation, and maintenance of the Facilities.

The terms Grantor and Grantee shall include the respective heirs, successors, and assigns of Grantor and Grantee. The failure of Grantee to exercise or continue to exercise or enforce any of the rights herein granted shall not be construed as a waiver or abandonment of the right thereafter at any time, or from time to time, to exercise any and all such rights.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said rights, privilege, and easement unto Grantee, its successors, licensees, and assigns, forever. Grantor warrants and covenants that Grantor has the full right and authority to convey to Grantee this perpetual Easement, and that Grantee shall have quiet and peaceful possession, use and enjoyment of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has signed this Easement under seal effective this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.



**MACON COUNTY**  
a body corporate and politic  
organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina

[Signature] (SEAL)

By: Derek C. Roland,  
County manager Title

Attest:

[Signature]

By: Derek C. Roland,  
County manager Title

STATE OF NC

COUNTY OF Macon

I, Pamela R. Farmer, a Notary Public of Macon County, State of North Carolina, certify that Derek C. Roland personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged that he/she is County Manager of MACON COUNTY, State of Registration a body corporate and politic organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina, and that by authority duly given and as the act of said a body corporate and politic organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina, the foregoing EASEMENT was signed in its name by its County Manager, sealed with its official seal, and attested by herself/himself as its County Manager.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this 16 day of September, 2022.

Notary Public: Pamela R. Farmer  
Commission expires: 8-17-2024

For Grantee's Internal Use:  
Work Order #: 40574009

