

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Department Services

The Board of Commissioners is the governing body of Catawba County. The 5-member board is elected at large for 4-year staggered terms and may serve unlimited terms. Their duties include deciding what services should be provided to the citizens and how to pay for the services; appointing the County Manager and County Attorney; designating the County Clerk; adopting the annual budget; setting the property tax rate; establishing service levels for solid waste, emergency services, public safety, library, public health, mental health, and social services; adopting zoning and subdivision regulations; approving new positions, and appointing over 300 people to 50 citizen boards.

Budget Highlights

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS					Organization: 110050
	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Current	2017/18 Requested	2017/18 Adopted	Percent Change
Revenues					
General Fund	\$177,165	\$190,403	\$202,827	\$203,561	6.9%
Total	\$177,165	\$190,403	\$202,827	\$203,561	6.9%
Expenses					
Personal Services	\$92,654	\$111,253	\$110,677	\$110,911	-0.3%
Supplies & Operations	84,511	\$79,150	\$92,150	\$92,650	17.1%
Total	\$177,165	\$190,403	\$202,827	\$203,561	6.9%

The Board of Commissioners' budget increased by \$13,158 (6.9 percent) due to implementation of a new agenda management software, strategic plan-related site visits to peer communities, and increased health insurance premiums.

Outcomes

1. Lead Catawba County's progress by guiding the development of a community-wide strategic plan focused on turning the downward population curve, growing better paying jobs for citizens, and enhancing the County's position as a vibrant, attractive community. Specific strategies include:
 - a. In partnership with the EDC, drive job growth and tax base investment by supporting private sector engagement in workforce development, approving application of incentive guidelines, and aggressively pursuing business park and spec building opportunities.
 - b. Enhance workforce competitiveness in Catawba County by supporting development of the K-64 initiative to strengthen the school-to-work pipeline, providing leadership and funding through active engagement in the K-64 Board.

- c. Strategically lead growth through targeted water and sewer extensions, balancing smart growth infill opportunities with fast growth expansion opportunities.
 - d. Explore the concept of *Right Care, Right Place, Right Time* aimed at ensuring positive community outcomes for the County's aging and diverse population and optimizing resources dedicated to maintaining a healthy, safe community.
 - e. Clarify and implement strategic role of County in culture and arts.
 - f. Identify strategies to enhance availability of conveniently located, affordable quality workforce housing throughout the County.
 - g. Create synergy between the County's three major parks by sanctioning a distinct set of featured amenities at each location and an associated funding plan to move that vision forward.
2. Endorse a new brand identity for Catawba County and a multi-year brand activation plan that aligns with the Board's strategic plan, initiating priority strategies influencing economic development in partnership with key stakeholders, and promoting key community strengths such as overall quality of life, community amenities, and convenient location.
3. Lobby State and Federal government to preserve and expand local revenue options, avoid passing on locally unfunded mandates to counties, and create a mechanism for bringing publicly dedicated subdivision roads up to NCDOT standards.