

AGENDA

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, June 1, 2015, 9:30 a.m.
Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 1924 Courthouse
30 North College Avenue, Newton, NC

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Invocation.
4. [Approval of the Minutes from the Board's Regular Meeting of May 18, 2015.](#)
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
6. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.
7. Presentation:
[Eat, Drink and Be Local Week in Catawba County Proclamation. Presented to Kellyn Montgomery, Local Foods Agent, Cooperative Extension.](#)
8. [Appointments.](#)
9. Departmental Reports:
 - A. Sheriff's Office:
[Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\) Formula Program Grant Allocation. Presented by Sheriff Coy Reid.](#)
 - B. Emergency Services:
[Appropriation of \\$35,000 in Existing Fund Balance to Oxford Fire Department. Presented by Assistant Emergency Services Director Mark Pettit.](#)
10. Other Items of Business.
Adoption of the Catawba County Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16.
11. Attorneys' Report.
12. Manager's Report.
Introduction of Luisa Agathon, UNC-Chapel Hill Masters of Public Administration Summer Intern in the County Manager's Office.
13. Adjournment.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Access to the 1924 Courthouse for individuals with disabilities is at the south side ("A" Street). The elevator is located at the north end of the building. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, color, or disability.

INFOTALK/INTERNET: The Catawba County Telephone Information System will allow you to use your touch tone telephone to obtain current information on Catawba County 24 hours a day. Information is updated on a regular basis. Dial 465-8468 and INFOTALK will direct your questions with easy to understand instructions. Reach Catawba County on the Internet at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov>.

CALENDAR: The next Board of Commissioners Meeting will take place on Monday, June 15, at 7:00 p.m., in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room of the 1924 Courthouse, 30 North College Avenue, Newton.



**PREVIEW OF COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015, 9:30 A.M.
ROBERT E. HIBBITTS MEETING ROOM
1924 COURTHOUSE, NEWTON, N.C.**



The Catawba County Board of Commissioners will consider adopting a Fiscal Year 2015/2016 County budget, which would invest in maintaining the Board's goals of an average eight minute EMS response time; long-planned expansion of the Jail facility to meet an increasing jail population; restoring six day a week operation in the County parks; an additional Sheriff's investigator; and increased investment in public education, when the Board meets at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, June 1, 2015, at the 1924 Courthouse at 30 North College Avenue in Newton.

The Board will consider a proposed County application for a 2015 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), which would be used to purchase equipment for specialized training to meet a JAG priority to reduce gun violence by providing active shooter response training to officers. The Board will also consider a request to appropriate \$35,000 in existing fund balance of the Oxford Fire Department to the Department, which would use the funds to replace a brush truck.

And the Board will issue a proclamation declaring the third week of June 2015 as "Eat, Drink and Be Local Week", which focuses annually on raising awareness of the importance of locally grown foods, both to the county economy and toward providing citizens with fresh, nutritious food options.

PRESENTATION

The Board will issue a proclamation declaring the third week of June 2015 as "Eat, Drink and Be Local Week", which focuses annually on raising awareness of the importance of locally grown foods, both to the county economy and toward providing citizens with fresh, nutritious food options. Local restaurants will again be involved in the observance by featuring locally grown foods on their menus during the week.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Board will consider approval of a grant application for the 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance. Funding allocation is based on population and violent crime statistics. The 2015 JAG Grant has been announced and Catawba County is eligible for \$12,900. No local match is required. The Sheriff's Office is requesting these funds be used to purchase equipment to be used in force-on-force training that will meet the JAG priority to reduce gun violence by providing active shooter response training to officers. This training will be for the Sheriff's STAR Team and first responder deputies. Equipment will be used to convert existing rifles, add training pistols and purchase training ammunition.

Force-on-force training is highly superior to traditional target training. The training scenarios enable "suspects" to shoot at trainees to simulate the real world physical and physiological response an officer may face on the job. The exercises expose how accuracy will suffer in an incident involving weapons, and motivate the officers to take training seriously so they will be better prepared if faced with an active shooter.

B. EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Board will consider approval of the appropriation of existing fund balance in the amount of \$35,000 to Oxford Fire Department. The department currently has a 1996 brush truck that has become unsafe to operate and is no longer cost effective to maintain. These funds will be used to replace the brush truck. The department is replacing the current truck with a new truck at a total cost of \$110,000. The \$35,000 being requested will be used as a down payment for the purchase.

Historically, each department has its own fund balance which is carried from year to year unless the department makes a request to appropriate it. The fund balance is created when tax revenue collections exceed the projections

established by the County Budget Department prior to each fiscal year. Fire departments have been allowed to utilize 90% of existing fund balance to address major projects such as buildings, building additions, truck replacement and other non-recurring needs such as equipment items. Ten percent of each department's fund balance is held for unforeseen expenditures during the budget year. Oxford Fire Department has an available fund balance of \$39,896.

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Board will consider adopting a Fiscal Year 2015/2016 County Budget in the amount of \$235,495,973, which would invest in maintaining the Board's goals of an average eight minute EMS response time; long-planned expansion of the Jail facility to meet an increasing jail population; restoring six day a week operations in the County parks, an additional Sheriff's investigator; and increased investment in public education to maintain the County's statewide rank of 15th in total public schools current expense funding and advance from 18th to 15th in statewide community college funding for CVCC. Adoption of a \$0.575 property tax rate for every \$100 of valuation would establish a tax rate that could be held constant for four years--until the next revaluation cycle in 2019. This rate is projected to be the 8th lowest tax rate of the 27 urban counties in North Carolina--those with a population over 100,000--and the 2nd lowest among Catawba's neighboring counties.

Following a public hearing on May 28, 2015, the Board made the following changes to the recommended budget: 1) a \$1381 reduction in Communication Center funding due to the North Carolina E-911 Board certifying a lower payment to the County; 2) \$85,518 added to Utilities & Engineering, consistent with an agreement with Gilbane Building Company approved by the Board on May 18, 2015, to fund a full-time Building Inspector position at the Apple Inc. construction site, to be paid by Gilbane Building Co. for a period of one year; 3) \$6158 added to incentive payments to Bed, Bath and Beyond, based on a higher business personal property listing than originally budgeted; and 4) \$100,000 added to complete security measures in the Catawba County Schools with \$8600 being transferred from other, completed projects and the remaining \$91,400 from Schools Capital Outlay Fund Balance.

MANAGER'S REPORT

The Board will be introduced to Ms. Luisa Agathon, a student in the UNC-Chapel Hill Masters of Public Administration Program, who will be an intern in the County Manager's Office during the summer of 2015.

CONTACT: DAVE HARDIN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

828-465-8464

Government of Catawba County, North Carolina

“Keeping the Spirit Alive Since 1842!”

PROCLAMATION

Eat Drink and Be Local Week in Catawba County

WHEREAS, Catawba County has identified local food as a priority in the Farm and Food Sustainability Plan adopted in April 2013; and

WHEREAS, Local food is an important component of local economic development. Dollars spent on local food circulate in the local economy more times than dollars spent on nonlocal food; and

WHEREAS, Local food is an effective way to connect people to fresh, nutritious food options; and

WHEREAS, Thriving markets and high demand for local food contribute to the viability of local small farm businesses and help preserve working farmland.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, does hereby proclaim the third week of June 2015 as “Eat Drink and Be Local Week in Catawba County” and calls upon all citizens of the County to participate to the limit of their capabilities in the activities and events associated with a successful Eat Drink and Be Local Week in Catawba County.

This 1st day of June, 2015.

C. Randall Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

APPOINTMENTS

BARBARA BEATTY (Due) Library Board of Trustees

06/30/15

Amanda Edwards

Susan Hunsucker

Brenda Sigmon

Amy Smith

Eligible for a 2nd term

Eligible for a 2nd term

Eligible for a 2nd term

Does not wish reappt.

4-year terms

Vice-Chair Beatty recommends the appointment of Carol Preston for a first term to succeed Amy Smith on the Library Board of Trustees. She also recommends the reappointment of Amanda Edwards, Susan Hunsucker and Brenda Sigmon for second terms on this Board. These terms will expire June 30, 2019.

SHERRY BUTLER (Due) CVCC Board of Trustees

06/30/15

Larry Aiello

Eligible for a 2nd term

4-year terms

Commissioner Butler recommends the reappointment of Larry Aiello for a second term on the CVCC Board of Trustees. This term will expire June 30, 2019.

TOM LUNDY (Due) WESTERN PIEDMONT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mr. Lundy recommends the appointment of Mary Furtado as the Catawba County Delegate to the Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority and John Eller as the Alternate Delegate. These terms will expire June 30, 2018.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Coy Reid, Sheriff

DATE: May 18, 2015

SUBJECT: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program Grant Allocation

REQUEST: Staff recommends the Catawba County Board of Commissioners approve a grant application for the 2015 JAG Grant.

BACKGROUND: JAG funding allocation is based on population and violent crime statistics. The 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) has been announced and the **eligible award is \$12,900, and no local match is required.** The Sheriff’s Office is requesting these funds be used to purchase the following equipment to improve law enforcement.

Equipment to be used in force-on-force training will meet the JAG priority to reduce gun violence by providing active shooter response training to officers. This training will be for the Sheriff’s STAR Team and first responder Deputies. Equipment will be used to convert existing rifles, add training pistols, and purchase training ammunition. Force-on-force training is highly superior to traditional target training. The training scenarios enable “suspects” to shoot at trainees to simulate the real world physical and physiological response an Officer may face on the job. The exercises expose how accuracy will suffer in an incident involving weapons , and motivate the officers to take training seriously so they will be better prepared if faced with an active shooter. Primary training will be for the STAR team and first responder Deputies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approve this request to submit the 2015 JAG Grant application. The Sheriff’s Office is applying with City of Hickory as the award was disparate to us this year (HPD \$19,555).

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION UPON AWARD

Revenue	
110-210050-620320	\$12,900
Justice Assistance Grant	
Appropriation:	
110/210050-870100	\$12,900
Law & Admin Small Tools	

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Mark V. Pettit, Assistant Emergency Services Director
DATE: June 1, 2015
SUBJECT: Appropriation of \$35,000 in existing fund balance to Oxford Fire Department.

Request:

Staff requests the Board of Commissioners approval of the appropriation of existing fund balance in the amount of \$35,000 to Oxford Fire Department. The fire department will use these funds to replace a brush truck.

Background:

Oxford Fire Department currently has a 1996 brush truck that has become unsafe to operate and is no longer cost effective to maintain. The department is replacing the current truck with a new truck for a total cost of \$110,000. The \$35,000 being requested will be used as a down payment for the purchase.

Historically, each department has their own fund balance which is carried from year to year unless the department makes a request to appropriate it. The fund balance is created when tax revenue collections exceed the projections established by the Budget Department prior to each fiscal year. Fire departments have been allowed to utilize ninety percent of existing fund balance to address major projects such as buildings, building additions, truck replacement and other non-recurring needs such as equipment items. Ten percent of each department's fund balance is held for unforeseen expenditures during the budget year. Oxford Fire Department has an available fund balance of \$39,896.00.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approval of the appropriation of existing fund balance in the amount of \$35,000 to Oxford Fire Department.

<u>Appropriation of Existing Fund Balance</u>		<u>Expense</u>	
356-260010-690100	\$35,000	356-260010-849010	\$35,000
Fund Balance		Fire Protection	