

AGENDA

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, November 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room
2nd Floor, Catawba County Justice Center
100 Government Drive, 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 and Closed Session of October 19, 2020.](#)
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
6. Public Comments.
7. [Appointments.](#)
8. Departmental Reports:
 - a. Budget.
 1. [Bureau of Justice Assistance \(BJA\) – 2020 Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Acceptance. *Presented by Budget and Management Director Jennifer Mace.*](#)
 2. [Bureau of Justice Assistance \(BJA\) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program \(COSSAP\) Grant Acceptance. *Presented by Budget and Management Director Jennifer Mace.*](#)
 - b. Tax.
[Extension for Listing Personal Property. *Presented by Tax Administrator Brad Fowler.*](#)
9. Other Items of Business.
10. Manager's Report.
 - a. [Resolution Approving the 2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule.](#)
 - b. [Budget Transfer.](#)
11. Attorneys' Report.
12. Adjournment.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, or disability.

CALENDAR: The next Board of Commissioners Meeting will take place on Monday, November 16, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room of the Catawba County Justice Center.

APPOINTMENTS

RANDY (Upcoming) Alcohol Beverage Control Board

10/05/20 Don Coleman

Eligible for a 3rd Term

3-year term

Chair Isenhowe recommends the reappointment of Don Coleman for a third term on the Alcohol Beverage Control Board. This term will expire October 5, 2023.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Scott Reilly, District Attorney 36th Prosecutorial District
Jennifer Mace, Budget & Management Director

DATE: November 2, 2020

SUBJECT: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) -2020 Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Acceptance

REQUEST

Staff and the Catawba County District Attorney request the Board of Commissioners a) accepts a Veterans Treatment Court grant from BJA totaling \$339,323 over three years and b.) authorizes the County Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to accept and administer the grant. The 25% match requirement for this grant will be met through in-kind contributions.

BACKGROUND

BJA announced availability of discretionary grants to fund implementation of Veterans treatment courts earlier this year, with state and local governments being the eligible applicants. The State of North Carolina no longer allows state agencies to apply for grants to serve local jurisdictions, instead requiring them to partner with local jurisdictions. Recognizing that veterans have unique experiences and issues better addressed by courts specializing in dealing with them (due to familiarity with the issues and available resources), District Attorney Scott Reilly approached the County about submitting a grant proposal to fund a Veterans Treatment Court.

At the April 20, 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board authorized the Catawba County District Attorney's Office to submit a grant on behalf of Catawba County to establish a Veterans Treatment Court. Catawba County received notice on October 16, 2020 that BJA has awarded the County \$339,323 over the next three years with a 25% required cash or in-kind match. The match will be met using in-kind resources including direct staff time such as the prosecutor and volunteer services of a mentor coordinator and mentors. Grant funds will primarily be used to fund a coordinator and other associated operating and equipment expenses for the program, drug testing, and training for the team.

Establishment of a Veterans Treatment Court aligns with the BOC's Strategic Plan and is consistent with one of the recommendations of the Jail Diversion Project to increase the number of individuals served by specialized courts.

The District Attorney's Office has worked with numerous groups over the past year to plan the Veterans Drug Treatment Court. A 10-person team was developed that participated in a grant-funded training with Justice for Vets in June 2020 and has been working since to develop protocols for Veterans Treatment Court, with an anticipated service delivery date of April 2021. Team members include:

Judge: Honorable David Aycock
Court Coordinator: Tammy West
Prosecuting Attorney: Lance Sigmon
Defense Attorney: Heather Higgins
Treatment Provider: Jack McConnell

Community Supervision: Blake Knight
Law Enforcement: Jamie Arbelaez
Evaluator: Honorable Kim Sigmon
VJO: Katherine Houghton (Asheville VA)
Mentor Coordinator: vacant

Participation time in VTC will vary on a case by case basis, but is expected to last 1-2 years and is anticipated to work as follows:

- 1) Participant Identification: Veterans who have been honorably discharged or less than honorably with mental health issues will be identified at sentencing or by probation then recommended to VTC. The court will only accept non-sexual assault *H&I felonies or misdemeanors*. The VTC team will determine offender eligibility in meetings prior to the every other week court sessions. The number of participants will be between 25-30 total at any given time.
- 2) Assessment: The Offender Trait Inventory (OTI) along with some or all of the following assessments will be used to identify veterans' needs: Moral Inventory Event Scale, Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test, General Anxiety Disorder, Becks Depression Inventory, Mood Disorder Questionnaire, Suicide Behavior Questionnaire, Life Stress Test and Alcohol/tobacco/Drugs Questionnaire.
- 3) Phase I: Stabilize the veteran's living situation, if applicable. Work with community partners and Veterans' Affairs to assist the veteran with stable housing, clothes, food, etc.
- 4) Phase II: Treatment of drug and alcohol issues and any underlying issues that cause the substance abuse. Potential issues may include: PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, Depression, Military Sexual Trauma or Adjustment Disorder. Treatment may include individual or group counseling sessions and other therapy sessions as deemed necessary by a treatment provider, including Medication Assisted Treatment utilizing buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone. Participants will be drug tested weekly.
- 5) Phase III: Once a veteran has successfully completed treatment or has a plan of ongoing treatment as needed, veterans will be connected with community partners such as CVCC or Goodwill Industries to provide education, job training, or job assistance.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the Catawba County District Attorney request the Board of Commissioners a) accepts a Veterans Treatment Court grant from BJA totaling \$339,323 over three years and b.) authorizes the County Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to accept and administer the grant. The 25% match requirement for this grant will be met through in-kind contributions.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

110-270050-620125	Veterans Treatment Court – Revenue	\$339,323
110-270050-868326	Veterans Treatment Court – Expense	\$339,323

Memorandum

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Tiffany Randazza, Deputy Clinical Director, CVBH
Jennifer Mace, Budget & Management Director

DATE: November 2, 2020

SUBJECT: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program (COSSAP) Grant Acceptance

REQUEST

Staff and Catawba Valley Behavioral Health (CVBH) requests the Board of Commissioners a.) accept a federal BJA COSSAP Grand Award for \$900,000 over three years (with no local match required), and b.) authorize the County Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to accept and administer the grant.

BACKGROUND

Earlier this year, BJA announced the COSSAP solicitation with the requirement that state or local governments had to be the primary applicant. Recognizing how this grant aligned with the goals in the Catawba County Strategic Plan (specifically related to the *Healthy, Safe Community* focus area) and the recommendations of the Cansler Collaborative Resources jail diversion project, CVBH developed a proposal in collaboration with Partners Behavioral Health Management and the County Manager's Office. The proposal was approved for submission by the Board of Commissioners at its May 18, 2020 meeting.

On October 16, 2020, Catawba County received notice that the grant was approved. It will provide up to \$300,000 a year for a total of three years (\$900,000). The award amount is based on population size of the community being served and there are no in-kind match expectations. The funds will build on existing partnerships and services with specific support in three primary areas, as detailed below:

LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion)

- Current funding for the Case Manager position working with Hickory PD ends June 2021. This program has been funded for the last 2 years with funding from Partners BHM and the NC Community Foundation. This position is instrumental in the success of LEAD and needs to continue.
- A full time Peer Support position will add support to the current LEAD case manager and to the Case Manager of the new transitional residential recovery program. There is a need to maximize/expand what is being done, not just augment services currently being offered. While the peer support would expand LEAD participation, it is limited in scope without the additional elements of meeting the underlying social determinants of health such as transitional housing. The peer would also provide programming to people who are in the new transitional housing program or LEAD participants who were not in the housing program. The peer along with the case manager would also provide individually focused aftercare for up to 8 months, after successful completion of the transitional housing program.
- Support the social determinants of health (SDOH) fund to provide assistance in the specific areas outlined by the World Health Organization, such as food scarcity, utilities, transportation, interpersonal safety and access to healthcare.
- Establish a treatment fund to provide partial support for those placed in a sober living program other than First at Blue Ridge (see below), for example: down payment to the Oxford house or Exodus program.

- Explore the potential of developing initial new officer training specific to LEAD. Support current Law enforcement agencies to provide LEAD-specific training to current officers.

Court based interventions

- Education and training for Jail Correction Officers so they can better perform pre-booking screening of all Substance Use related charges to determine the potential for pre-trial diversion and referral.
- Full assessment within 24-48 hours of booking by a Qualified Professional to determine if the client is appropriate for diversion, placement and/or referral.
- Residential treatment referral to defer sentencing.
- Recommendations made to District Attorney prior to 1st appearance, which saves money in terms of bed days a person is housed in the County jail.
- CVBH will partner with an inpatient treatment program (First at Blue Ridge and/or Rebound) to guarantee bed availability and a smooth transition to ensure continuity of care.

“Re-entry Housing”

- This has been a missing piece on the County’s continuum for both LEAD and jail transitioning.
- Facilities would utilize 2 Units of apartments that are already being used by CVBH in Newton, 1 men’s & 1 woman’s, for a total of 4 participants at a time. The two units mentioned would be two additional units within the same complex, which are not being partially funded by the county at this time.
- Each participant will sign a housing contract that outlines program expectations and guidelines.
- Maximum active housing of 120 days with an 8-month person centered after-care program that titrates the client from care while integrating them into an independent role within the community.
- New funds would enable CVBH to hire a Case Manager (1FTE) dedicated to this program/position to manage the apartment residents, identify Social Driver deficits and facilitate access to the resources needed to ameliorate the need and provide aftercare services. Case Manager could support the Peer Support assigned to Support LEAD Case Manager.
- Each participant would complete a comprehensive clinical assessment (CCA) via CVBH and develop an Individualized Treatment Plan with clearly outlined goals and timeframes would be developed based on CCA.
 - Example:
 - 1st 30 days - apply for needed benefits (Medicaid, SSI, Food stamps etc.), obtain Driver’s License, SS card etc. & Identify/apply for vocational needs (Voc Rehab, College, training etc.)
 - 2nd 30 days – complete or engage in vocational needs, develop a budget, begin search for housing, begin applying for job
 - 3rd 30 days - develop independent use of transportation system (provide 30 day bus ticket)
- Participants will participate in treatment; modality (SAIOP/SACOT etc.) based on CCA/SU assessment Cognitive Connection has pledged to provide the SU treatment component.
- Participants will participate in Recovery Support Services i.e. 12-step, Smart Recovery, MARA etc
- Participants will be referred to Catawba Valley Healthcare (a program within CVBH) for primary medical care, if needed.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and Catawba Valley Health Management (CVBH) requests the Board of Commissioners a.) accepts a federal BJA COSSAP Grand Award for \$900,000 over three years (with no local match required), and b.) authorizes the County Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to accept and administer the grant.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

110-270050-620126	BJA-COSSAP Grant – Revenue	\$900,000
110-270050-868326	BJA-COSSAP Grant – Expense	\$900,000

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Bradley Fowler, Tax Administrator

DATE: November 2, 2020

IN RE: EXTENSION FOR LISTING PERSONAL PROPERTY

REQUEST

The Tax Administrator has requested the authority, on an individual basis, to allow extensions for listing personal property. If approved, the extensions will not be granted beyond April 15, 2021.

BACKGROUND

Individuals and Businesses can have difficulty in completing their annual personal property listing abstracts by January 31 of each year. This is due primarily to the fact that they are unable to calculate an inventory that is taken on December 31 and submit this figure to the Tax Administrator timely.

General Statute 105-307 (c) allows the Board of County Commissioners to grant individual extensions of time for the listing of personal property upon written request and for good cause shown. The request must be filed with the Tax Administrator no later than the ending date of the regular listing period. This means a letter must be written and postmarked no later than January 31, 2021 and this letter must provide the reason the extension is being requested. Extensions granted on an individual basis cannot extend beyond April 15, 2021. Failure to meet the deadline results in a 10% late list penalty applied to the total tax bill. There were 2,010 requests for extensions filed and approved during 2020 listing period.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Catawba County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Tax Administrator to grant extensions in accordance with NCGS 105-307 (C).

BF/amp

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Barbara Morris, County Clerk
DATE: November 2, 2020
IN RE: Resolution Approving the 2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

REQUEST

Staff requests the Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution approving the proposed 2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule.

BACKGROUND

Historically, only one Board of Commissioners meeting is held in the month of January due to the holidays affecting the schedule. The proposed January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The meeting will be held on Tuesday due to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, which falls on Monday, January 18, 2020.

The NACo Legislative Conference is scheduled for February 20-24, 2021, in Washington, DC. It is proposed that the February 22, 2020 subcommittee meetings prior to the March 1, 2020 meeting be cancelled to allow for commissioners' attendance at the Legislative Conference.

July is a month which historically only has one meeting due to the July 4th holiday. The NACo Annual Conference is scheduled for July 16-20, 2021. Accordingly, it is proposed the first July Board of Commissioners meeting, as well as its accompanying subcommittee meetings, be cancelled. It is proposed the Board hold its remaining July meeting on Monday, July 12, 2021, to allow the commissioners' attendance at the NACo Annual Conference and its accompanying subcommittee meetings be cancelled as the meetings fall on Monday, July 5, 2021, when the County offices are closed for the July 4th holiday.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners adopts the attached resolution setting the Board's 2021 Meeting Schedule, which reflects the cancellations proposed above.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-

WHEREAS, Pursuant TO Section 2-47 of the Catawba County Code, the regular meetings of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners shall be held as provided in a resolution adopted by the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting held not less than ten days prior to the first meeting to which the resolution is to apply.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Catawba County Board of Commissioners adopts the following Meeting Schedule for 2021:

ALL REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CATAWBA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, 100 GOVERNMENT DRIVE, NEWTON.

January 19, 2021 – Tuesday
February 1, 2021 – Monday
February 15, 2021 – Monday
March 1, 2021 – Monday
March 15, 2021 – Monday
April 5, 2021 – Monday
April 19, 2021 – Monday
May 3, 2021 – Monday
May 17, 2021 – Monday
June 7, 2021 – Monday
June 21, 2021 – Monday
July 12, 2021 – Monday
August 2, 2021 – Monday
August 16, 2021 – Monday
September 7, 2021 – Tuesday
September 20, 2021 – Monday
October 4, 2021 – Monday
October 18, 2021 – Monday
November 1, 2021 – Monday
November 15, 2021 – Monday
December 6, 2021 – Monday
December 20, 2021 – Monday

This the 2nd day of November, 2020

Randy Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Budget Transfers: Pursuant to Board authority granted to the County Manager, the following budget transfers have been completed:

Special Contingency Transfers:

Parks Grant – Catawba Gameland Restoration – US Dept. of Interior

Transfer

From:

110-190100-691500	Special Contingency	\$16,360
110-190100-994200	Special Contingency	\$16,360

To:

110-190900-995410	Transfer to General Capital	\$16,360
110-190050-628300	Dept. of Interior	\$16,360

Revision:

410-460100-988000-18016	Building & Structures Improv – Parks Improvement	\$16,360
410-460100-695110	From General Fund	\$16,360

10/28/20 – Catawba County was awarded a \$16,360 grant from the US Dept. of Interior for the Catawba Gamelands Habitat Restoration Project for the Hudson Chapel property.