

**WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING**

The Watauga County Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Thursday, February 27, 2025, and Friday, February 28, 2025, in order to conduct a budget retreat to review goals and objectives for the County. The meetings originated in the Commissioners' Board Room at the Watauga County Administration Building, Boone, North Carolina.

Lunch was provided at 12:00 P.M. Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 1:30 P.M., welcoming those in attendance. Ms. Misty Watson, Finance Director Liaison, joined the meeting for both sessions.

Mr. Jim Hamilton

- F. 911/Medic/Emergency Services Facility
- G. Library
- H. School Facilities

Break from 3:28 P.M. to 3:38 P.M.

Sanitation Facility Upgrades

Mr. Chris Marriott

- A. Facility Upgrades
- B. Recycling

Tax Matters – 2027 Revaluation

Mr. Tyler Rash

Appalachian District Health

Ms. Jennifer Greene & Ms. Lindsay Sullivan

- A. District Matters
- B. Opioid Plan

Watauga County Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Jason Walker

Watauga Medics

Mr. Craig Sullivan

- A. Annual Report
- B. Future Needs

County Manager's Summary

Mr. Deron Geouque

Vice-Chairman Castle, seconded by Commissioner Greene, moved to recess the meeting at 6:02 P.M.

VOTE: Aye-5
Nay-0

Chairman Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Greene, moved to reconvene the meeting on Friday, February 28, 2025, at 9:01 A.M.

VOTE: Aye-5
Nay-0

EDC/Chamber Foundation Report

Mr. Joe Furman & Mr. David Jackson

Middle Fork Greenway Update

Ms. Wendy Patoprsty

Watauga TDA

Mr. Wright Tilley & Mr. Matt Vincent

Break from 10:14 A.M. to 10:22 A.M.

Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute

Dr. Mark Poarch

School Board Funding Issues

Superintendent Dr. Leslie Alexander, School Board Chairman Dr. Gary Childers, Board Member Ms. Allison Idol, as well as Staff members Dr. Chris Blanton, Assistant Superintendent and Human Resources Director, and Ms. Joe Nash, Chief Finance Officer

- A. FY 2026 Funding Needs
- B. Schools' Capital Improvement Plan

Public Safety and Emergency Communications Matters

Mr. Will Holt

- A. EMS Updates
- B. Communications Updates

Miscellaneous & Commissioner Matters

Mr. Deron Geouque

- A. State Issues
- B. Commissioner Matters

Wrap up, Goals, Objectives, and Board Directives

Budget Work Sessions are set for May 8, 2025, from 12:00 – 8:00 P.M. and May 9, 2025, from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

The County Manager concluded the retreat by reviewing the issues discussed and seeking direction from the Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

Braxton Eggers

Chairman, Watauga County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Deron Geouque

County Manager