

TENTATIVE AGENDA AND MEETING NOTICE
WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 AT 5:30 PM
WATAUGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

| TIME | # | TOPIC | PRESENTER | PAGE |
|------|----|--|----------------------|------|
| 5:30 | 1 | CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER | | |
| | 2 | APPROVAL OF MINUTES | | 2 |
| | | ▪ AUGUST 19, 2025, REGULAR MEETING | | |
| | | ▪ AUGUST 19, 2025, CLOSED SESSION | | |
| | 3 | APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 AGENDA | | 13 |
| 5:35 | 4 | PUBLIC COMMENT | CHAIRMAN EGGERS | 14 |
| | | ▪ WILL LAST UP TO ONE HOUR, DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF SPEAKERS | | |
| 5:40 | 5 | UPDATE ON THE HOMEPLACE RECOVERY HOUSING PROGRAM | MS. MOLLIE BOLICK | 15 |
| 5:45 | 6 | BRWIA HIGH COUNTRY FOOD HUB GENERATOR INSTALLATION | MS. LIZ WHITEMAN | 16 |
| 5:50 | 7 | COURTHOUSE CAMERA SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM REPLACEMENT REQUEST | MR. DREW EGGERS | 30 |
| 5:55 | 8 | SHERIFF'S OFFICE MATTERS | | |
| | | A. PURCHASE REQUEST FOR AXON TASER 7 DEVICES | CPT. BRIAN BUMGARNER | 33 |
| | | B. PURCHASE REQUEST FOR AXON BODY-WORN CAMERAS | CPT. PRESTON RUSSELL | 42 |
| 6:00 | 9 | MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS | MR. DERON GEOUQUE | |
| | | A. ROUND 3 CASHFLOW LOAN AGREEMENT FOR DISASTER RESPONSE | | 50 |
| | | B. AMBULANCE PURCHASES | | 61 |
| | | C. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS | | 63 |
| 6:05 | 10 | BREAK | | 69 |
| 6:15 | 11 | CLOSED SESSION | | 69 |
| | | ▪ ATTORNEY-CLIENT MATTERS PER G. S. § 143- 318.11(A)(3) | | |
| | | ▪ LAND ACQUISITION PER G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(5) | | |
| | | ▪ PERSONNEL MATTERS PER G. S. § 143-318.11(A)(1) | | |
| 6:25 | 12 | POSSIBLE ACTION AFTER CLOSED SESSION | | 70 |
| 6:30 | 13 | ADJOURN | | |

AGENDA ITEM 2:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 19, 2025, Regular Meeting

August 19, 2025, Closed Session

MEETING MINUTES
WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025

The Watauga County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 5:30 P.M. in the Commissioners' Board Room located in the Watauga County Administration Building in Boone, North Carolina.

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M. The following were present:

PRESENT: Braxton Eggers, Chairman
 Todd Castle, Vice-Chairman
 Emily Greene, Commissioner
 Tim Hodges, Commissioner
 Ronnie Marsh, Commissioner
 Nathan Miller, County Attorney
 Deron Geouque, County Manager
 Katie Hancock, Clerk to the Board

Vice-Chairman Castle offered a prayer and Commissioner Greene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Eggers presented the August 5, 2025, regular and closed session meeting minutes.

Commissioner Marsh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to approve the August 5, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: Aye – 5
 Nay – 0

Commissioner Marsh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to approve the August 5, 2025, closed session minutes as presented.

VOTE: Aye – 5
 Nay – 0

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Eggers called for additions or corrections to the August 19, 2025, agenda; there were none.

Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, moved to approve the August 19, 2025, agenda.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- **David Smith**, a 14-year resident of Powder Horn Mountain and a 9-year member of the Stewart Simmons Volunteer Fire Department, expressed support for the construction of the Powder Horn Mountain communications tower, stating that the tower was greatly needed for communication purposes.
- **Shane Vaughan**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain since November 2020, provided the Board with a handout containing a photograph of the communications tower proposed for relocation and a drawing from the project plans. He cautioned that “good intentions can sometimes have unintended consequences” and expressed concern about potential health risks posed by the tower, noting that his wife suffers from chronic Lyme disease. He also stated that he values the sense of escape Powder Horn currently provides and feared that it would be disrupted. Mr. Vaughan’s comments concluded when the three-minute time limit expired.
- **Andy Cox**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain, provided the Board with a six-page handout containing photographs and diagrams that he referenced during his remarks. He stated his opposition to the tower and used the materials to support his concerns. Mr. Cox expressed concern that four homeowners would be unable to access their houses during construction. In addition, he noted that the curves on the road already made it difficult for small trucks and would likely prevent semi-trucks or crane trucks from reaching the construction site. He questioned whether ice and wind had been considered in determining the fall zone, adding that the closest house was 100 feet away and the water tank was 50 feet away. Mr. Cox’s comments concluded when the three-minute time limit expired.
- **Curtis Johnson**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain, began by noting that the issue extended beyond the tower itself. He questioned whether Watauga County should be permitted to disregard the laws and covenants governing the Powder Horn Mountain community. Mr. Johnson stated his belief that the Stewart Simmons Volunteer Fire Department sold the land to Watauga County without notifying the Property Owners Association (POA). He further argued that the lot on which the tower was being built was designated for single-family residential use and that, without a two-thirds vote of the POA, its designation could not be changed. He also expressed concern that the tower would ruin the view for many residents. Mr. Johnson concluded by urging the Board to abandon construction of the Lot 21 tower.

- **Jill Williams**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain, reminded the Board that she had spoken at the August 5 meeting. She stated that the community had been subjected to a “bait-and-switch.” While expressing respect for the government and emergency workers, she emphasized her desire to protect her “sanctuary” and urged the Board to halt the project.
- **Lisa Sheppard**, discussed the covenants that have governed the community. She noted that, for 55 years, people have purchased and built homes based on the area’s natural beauty. She asked the Board whether they would choose to buy a home or rent an Airbnb with a 180-foot steel tower in the view, questioning why Powder Horn Mountain residents should receive any less consideration. She stated that there were no compelling arguments in favor of the tower and concluded by asking why the Board seemed intent on “destroying a nature conservancy.”
- **E.J. Farese**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain, noted that her family initially bought their home as a vacation property from Florida but have since moved in full-time. She expressed concern over the lack of transparency regarding the tower construction and questioned whether Powder Horn Mountain is truly the best location for it. She also cautioned that the tower could lead to cancer clusters, cause irreversible environmental damage, and diminish trust between residents and the County.
- **Don Farese**, a resident of Powder Horn Mountain, stated that his primary concern with the tower was its location in the middle of a neighborhood. He noted that he had flown his drone and 3D-scanned the topography to evaluate the area and had identified potentially better locations for the tower. Drawing on his experience in building resorts, he remarked that no resort would place a tower within a community. He also raised safety concerns, including the impact of rain and ice accumulation on neighboring land, houses, and vehicles. He urged the Board to reconsider the tower’s placement to ensure it is not situated within a family neighborhood.
- **Terry Thompkins**, a part-time resident of Powder Horn Mountain for 20 years and a full-time resident of Wilmington, NC, noted that the community was designed for nature lovers. As a realtor, she stated that the tower construction would negatively affect property values, potentially rendering them worthless. She urged the Board to visit the site to see firsthand what was being built and its location.
- **Maria Jamell**, a retired Watauga County Schools teacher and resident of Powder Horn Mountain, acknowledged the importance of a communications tower but emphasized that there must be a better location than within the Powder Horn Mountain community.

5. MIDDLE FORK GREENWAY – REPAIRS AND BID AWARD

Ms. Wendy Patoprsty, Middle Fork Greenway Director at the Blue Ridge Conservancy, updated the Board on repairs following Hurricane Helene. Most trail sections were quickly reopened, but work remains at Mystery Hill and the Payne Branch Park stream access. FEMA has approved reimbursement for both projects, and staff has coordinated with Emergency Management.

Ms. Patoprsty noted that thousands of people have used the trail since reopening and highlighted completed repairs at various locations along the trail. Commissioner Marsh complimented the artwork along the trail. Chairman Eggers inquired about the scope of the work at the Payne Branch Park stream, and Ms. Patoprsty confirmed that site plans had been shared with Emergency Services Director Will Holt.

County Attorney Nathan Miller noted that he had just received the proposed contract and had not completed a full review but identified a concern with Section 4 regarding Indemnification and Waiver.

Vice-Chairman Castle, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, moved to approve the bid from Brushy Fork Environmental in the amount of \$100,000 for the Payne Branch Park Stream Repair Project, pending revisions by the County Attorney.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

6. SDR FINAL DEBRIS REMOVAL COST (FOLLOW-UP)

Mr. Chip Patterson, President of Southern Disaster Recovery (SDR), provided an update regarding SDR's request to increase the final Not to Exceed (NTE) amount for disaster debris removal from \$6,450,000 to \$7,200,000. This increase reflected additional debris removal and punch list work. At the previous meeting, the Board had requested confirmation that all remaining debris sites had been identified and cleared before approving the final NTE increase.

SDR and Emergency Management confirmed that there were 12 remaining sites, three of which required remediation. One site, located on NC-194 at the Avery County line, was cleaned up by SDR. The other two sites were inaccessible.

Chairman Eggers inquired about the inaccessible sites, and Mr. Patterson explained that they could not be accessed due to low-height and low-weight bridges on private roads, which prevented equipment from reaching them.

Commissioner Greene, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to approve SDR's request to increase the final NTE by \$750,000 to \$7,200,000.

VOTE: Aye – 4 (Eggers, Castle, Greene, Hodges)
Nay – 1 (Marsh)

7. FY26 HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT – REVISED ALLOCATION

Ms. Angie Boitnotte presented the revised FY26 Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) allocation. She noted that the County's final allocation of \$328,280 is \$7,492 more than originally projected, with the additional funds directed to the Home Delivered Meals program. The required local match is \$36,476, an \$832 increase from the original estimate, and is already included in the adopted FY26 County budget.

Ms. Boitnotte discussed staffing for in-home aides, noting that the program recently had six aides, but one resigned. A replacement has been hired, though certified nursing assistants (CNAs) are difficult to find. Chairman Eggers asked about the demand for home delivered meals; Ms. Boitnotte stated that demand ebbs and flows, often increasing after holidays when families recognize the need. Commissioner Greene asked about volunteer recruitment for the meal program. Ms. Boitnotte said current volunteer needs are met, though some positions are seasonal and additional volunteers may be needed later.

Commissioner Marsh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to approve the revised FY26 HCCBG allocation in the amount of \$328,280, with a required local match of \$36,476, and to incorporate the revised allocation into Project on Aging's FY26 budget.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

8. SHERIFF'S OFFICE MATTERS

A. Dodge Durango Fleet Purchase and Upfitting

Major Kelly Redmond presented the Sheriff's Office request to purchase six (6) Dodge Durango AWD V6 SUVs from Ilderton Dodge at a total cost of \$256,444.20 (including taxes and tags). Funding for the vehicles was included in the Sheriff's Office FY 2025–2026 operating budget.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office requested approval to purchase upfitting equipment, including emergency lighting, sirens, partitions, and other patrol-related equipment, from Campbell-Brown, LLC in the amount of \$42,184.12.

Commissioner Marsh, seconded by Commissioner Greene, moved to approve the purchase of six (6) 2025 Dodge Durangos from Ilderton Dodge in the amount of \$256,444.20 and the upfitting from Campbell-Brown, LLC in the amount of \$42,184.12.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

B. Ford F-150 Fleet Purchase and Upfitting

Major Kelly Redmond continued the Sheriff's Office presentation, requesting approval to purchase three (3) Ford F-150 Special Service Vehicles from Parks Ford at a total cost of \$145,085.54 (including taxes and tags). Funding for these vehicles was included in the Sheriff's Office FY 2025–2026 operating budget.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office requested approval to purchase upfitting equipment, including emergency lighting, sirens, partitions, and other patrol-related equipment, from Campbell-Brown, LLC in the amount of \$16,540.17.

Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to approve the purchase of three (3) 2025 Ford F-150 Special Service Vehicles from Parks Ford in the amount of \$145,085.54 and the upfitting from Campbell-Brown, LLC in the amount of \$16,540.17.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

C. Purchase of Dual-Band Police Radios

Major Kelly Redmond reported that the Sheriff's Office requested approval to purchase seven (7) dual-band police radios, including programming, from Two Way Radio of Carolina at a cost of \$32,690.00. He noted that two radios were recycled from other vehicles, which reduced the total number of new radios required for the nine recently approved vehicles. Funding for this purchase was included in the Sheriff's Office FY 2025–2026 operating budget.

Commissioner Marsh, seconded by Commissioner Greene, moved to approve the purchase of seven (7) dual-band police radios from Two Way Radio of Carolina in the amount of \$32,690.00.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

9. EMERGENCY SERVICES MATTERS

A. Hurricane Helene Update

Emergency Services Director Will Holt provided an update as the County approaches the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Helene. He reported that right-of-way debris removal was complete, though staff had shared concerns with the vendor's overall progress. Staff continued validating the punch list provided by SDR.

Mr. Holt stated that waterway debris removal with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was complete, with all eligible sites addressed and temporary debris sites closed out by NCDEQ. Some sites damaged by contractors were still undergoing remediation.

He noted that Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) had begun, with the contract awarded to Bering Strait, the same contractor that performed the waterway work. Weekly coordination continued with USACE, Watauga County Soil and Water, NRCS, and FEMA regarding debris management and future restoration of waterways.

The first batch of Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) projects had been approved by NRCS, and staff was coordinating with Soil and Water on an RFQ to bid the projects. The NCEM Private Road and Bridge Program had begun inspections in Watauga County. At the time of the update, 557 projects had been submitted, 537 of which had already been assessed, serving 1,552 households. The registration deadline is August 31.

Mr. Holt also reported that Hagerty Consulting was assisting staff with Public Assistance (PA) projects. Staff met weekly with Hagerty and biweekly with FEMA to track progress and priorities. Additionally, the Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) had closed due to extremely low census.

This update was for informational purposes only; no action was required.

B. EMS Fleet Equipment Purchase

Emergency Services Director Will Holt presented his request for six (6) Power Pro 2 stretchers, four (4) spare batteries, and four (4) Power Load devices to outfit both the existing and newly ordered EMS fleet. He noted that the equipment represented an upgrade and expansion of the stretchers currently utilized by Watauga Medics, Inc. Mr. Holt stated that these devices greatly reduce the risk of injury to EMS personnel when loading patients into ambulances.

He further explained that the ProCare agreement included a comprehensive warranty covering parts, labor, technician travel, battery replacement, and annual preventative maintenance throughout the service life of the equipment. The only exclusions were for misuse or gross abuse. Funding for this purchase would come from the accelerated payments received from Appalachian State University on the old high school property.

Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, moved to approve the purchase of six (6) Power Pro 2 stretchers, four (4) spare batteries, and four (4) Power Load devices from Stryker Sales, LLC in the amount of \$438,411.78.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

10. TAX MATTERS

A. Monthly Collections Report

County Manager Deron Geouque presented the Monthly Collections Report for July 2025 on behalf of Tax Administrator Tyler Rash, who was home preparing for the arrival of his new baby.

There were no refunds or releases for the month of July.

The report was presented for informational purposes only, and no Board action was required.

11. MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract – Board of Education Resolution (Follow-Up)

Dr. Leslie Alexander, Superintendent of Watauga County Schools, returned to follow up on the proposed Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract that was initially presented at the June 17, 2025, meeting. At that time, the Board tabled the item to allow for further discussion and review of additional information.

Since that meeting, the Board of Education and Schneider Electric had provided State Energy Office template documents and additional reference data from similar projects to demonstrate the guaranteed cost savings and cash flows.

Dr. Alexander reported that the school year had begun smoothly with a positive opening and noted her hope for an uneventful year ahead. She explained that the contract would be placed out for bid and that any energy cost savings realized would remain with the schools to be reinvested in infrastructure and utility improvements.

Commissioner Greene, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, made a motion to approve proceeding with the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract and to confirm that the County would not reduce Watauga County Schools' funding based on potential energy savings.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

B. NCDOT Project – Dale Adams Road Construction Easement

Mr. Deron Geouque, County Manager, presented a request from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for a temporary construction easement to complete the bridge replacement on Dale Adams Road at the site of the Old Cove Creek School. NCDOT offered the County \$375 for use of the easement, which was located on a portion of property not currently utilized by the County.

County Attorney Nathan Miller indicated that he had reviewed the documents and found them satisfactory. In response to questions regarding how NCDOT determined the \$375 value, Mr. Miller explained that it was based on an appraisal. While members expressed concern about the low amount, Mr. Miller advised that contesting the figure would likely cost more in legal fees than the County would recover.

Vice-Chairman Castle, seconded by Commissioner Greene, made a motion to accept NCDOT's request for the temporary easement and the \$375 compensation.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

C. Boards and Commissions

Reagan Breitenstein had been nominated for a second term on the Watauga County Social Services Board, with her current term set to expire on August 30, 2025. In addition, the Board received a volunteer application from David Luther of Boone, North Carolina, expressing interest in serving on several Advisory Committees, including the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee, the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee, and the Watauga County Board of Adjustment.

Chairman Eggers noted that both items were first readings and suggested tabling them. Commissioner Hodges, however, recommended moving forward with the reappointment of Reagan Breitenstein to the Social Services Board. He commented that he had previously worked with Dr. Breitenstein and spoke highly of her service.

The Board agreed to table the volunteer application of David Luther for Advisory Committees, as it remained a first reading. Mr. Luther's application highlighted his extensive volunteer experience with senior care facilities and his service as a volunteer firefighter and EMT, regularly engaging with elderly and vulnerable populations.

Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Marsh, moved to waive the first reading and reappoint Reagan Breitenstein to the Social Services Board.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were no Commissioner comments.

13. CLOSED SESSION

At 6:33 PM, Vice-Chairman Castle, seconded by Commissioner Greene, made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss attorney-client privileged matters, § 143-318.11(a)(5) to consider matters related to land acquisition, and § 143-318.11(a)(1) to discuss personnel matters.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

At 8:11 PM, Vice-Chairman Castle, seconded by Commissioner Greene, moved to resume the open meeting.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

14. POSSIBLE ACTION AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Purdue Opioid Direct Settlement – Participation Form

Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Marsh, moved to approve signing the Sackler Participation Form to participate in the Purdue Opioid Direct Settlement. This action allows Watauga County to share in the settlement funds, which are intended to support efforts to address the impacts of the opioid crisis within the community.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

15. ADJOURN

At 8:16 PM, Commissioner Greene, seconded by Vice-Chairman Castle, moved to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: Aye – 5
Nay – 0

Braxton Eggers, Chairman

ATTEST: Katie Hancock, Clerk to the Board

AGENDA ITEM 3:

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2025, AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 4:

PUBLIC COMMENT

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Public Comment will last up to one hour, depending on the number of speakers.

AGENDA ITEM 5:

UPDATE ON THE HOMEPLACE RECOVERY HOUSING PROGRAM

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Ms. Mollie Bolick, Center Director for Homestead Recovery, the peer-led programs of The Mediation and Restorative Justice Center, along with Housing Coordinator Heather Smith and the Senior Residents of the men's and women's recovery houses, will provide an update on *The Homeplace*, a recovery housing program funded through Watauga County's Opioid Settlement.

This presentation is for informational purposes only; therefore, no action is required.

AGENDA ITEM 6:

BRWIA HIGH COUNTRY FOOD HUB GENERATOR INSTALLATION

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Executive Director of Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture (BRWIA), Liz Whiteman, will present a request for Board approval to install a 26KW Generac generator at the High Country Food Hub, located within the Watauga Agricultural Conference Center. The generator will provide essential backup power to protect farmer inventory and maintain operations during outages.

During Hurricane Helene, the Food Hub nearly lost power to its freezers, which store products from more than 80 local farmers. Even a brief disruption resulted in an estimated \$18,000 loss of producer income. To prevent future risk, BRWIA plans to apply for funding through the NC Food Hub Infrastructure Grant Program.

The total project cost is \$16,846. Board action is requested to approve the installation and authorize the County Manager to sign as property manager for the Town of Boone permit process.



MEMORANDUM

To: Watauga County Board of Commissioners

From: Liz Whiteman, Executive Director, Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture

Date: August 25, 2025

Subject: Request for Approval – High Country Food Hub Generator Installation

Purpose

Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture (BRWIA) respectfully requests the Watauga County Board's approval to install a 26KW Generac generator at the High Country Food Hub, located within the Watauga Agricultural Conference Center. This generator will serve as a critical backup power source to protect farmer inventory and maintain operations during extended outages.

Background

- The High Country Food Hub is an online farmers' market operated by BRWIA. Since 2017, the Food Hub has reinvested over **\$4.5 million** into the local economy.
 - During **Hurricane Helene**, the Food Hub narrowly avoided losing power to its three walk-in freezers, where over 80 High Country farmers and producers have stored tens of thousands of dollars' worth of frozen food inventory (mainly meat).
 - The Food Hub paused operations to store additional products for farmers who lost power, resulting in an estimated **\$18,000 loss of income for producers in just one week**. A prolonged outage would have led to significant product spoilage and greater financial harm.
 - To prevent similar risks, BRWIA intends to apply for funding through the **2025 NC Food Hub Infrastructure Grant Program (Round 2)**, due **September 5, 2025**.
-

Actions Taken

- Consulted with **Robert Marsh, County Maintenance Director**, and a licensed electrician to identify a suitable installation site.
 - Coordinated with **Frontier Gas Company** to review gas line requirements.
 - Obtained contractor estimates (attached) for electrical work and gas line installation.
 - Initiated conversations with the **Town of Boone** regarding the required permit process.
-

Proposal

- **Location:** Outside the Food Hub/Watauga Agricultural Conference Center, adjacent to the existing gas meter.
 - **Operation:** Weekly generator testing will occur on weekends to minimize disruption.
 - **Oversight:** BRWIA will manage all contractors and permitting processes.
 - **Utility:** The generator will ensure uninterrupted refrigeration and freezer capacity for regional farmers during emergencies.
-

Budget

- Generator & Electrical Work: **\$14,322**
- Gas Line Installation: **\$2,349**
- Town of Boone Permit: **\$175**

Total Estimated Project Cost: \$16,846

(To be included in BRWIA's application to NC Food Hub Infrastructure Grant Request)

Request

BRWIA seeks the Watauga County Board's approval to:

1. Authorize the installation of a 26KW Generac generator at the High Country Food Hub.
 2. Sign off as property manager (County Manager) for the Town of Boone permit process.
-

Attachments

- Site maps and proposed generator location mock-up
 - Contractor estimates (electrical & gas line)
 - Frontier Gas Company meter map
 - Draft letter for County Manager signature for Town of Boone permit authorization
-

Farmer Testimonial

"When Hurricane Helene hit and we lost power the day after receiving a new beef shipment, we were in crisis. The Food Hub and BRWIA stepped in immediately, offering freezer storage and saving what could have been 50% of our monthly income... We're incredibly grateful for their partnership—it truly means the world to our farm and family."

— Old Beech Mountain, Food Hub Producer

Thank you for your consideration and support as we work to strengthen the resilience of our local food system.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Liz Whiteman".

Liz Whiteman

Executive Director

Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture



Property Owner Authorization for Town Of Boone Building Permit Application

To Town of Boone Office of Planning and Inspections
From: Watauga County via Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
Date: September 3, 2025

Watauga County, as Property Owner of the address below, authorizes the application for Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture to submit installation of a 26KW gas powered generator for the High Country Food Hub.

Signature

Date

Deron Geouque, Watauga County Manager

Parcel ID: 2900-69-7872-000

Watauga County Property Address:

971 King Street
Boone, NC 28607

High Country Food Hub Building Address:

252 Poplar Grove Road
Boone, NC 28607

HIGH COUNTRY FOOD HUB GENERATOR PROPOSAL



Presented by Liz Whiteman
Executive Director
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture

HIGH COUNTRY FOOD HUB BACKGROUND

- Operated by Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
- Supports 100+ local farmers and food producers: \$839,000 in sales in 2024
- Provides critical infrastructure for local food distribution
- Demand for local food continues to grow

NEED FOR A GENERATOR

- Operations rely on continuous power for cold storage in 3 freezers and 3 refrigerators
- Potential power outages risk loss of tens of thousands of dollars in local food
- Disruptions impact farmers, customers, and community programs

PROPOSED GENERATOR LOCATION

Nearest Location:
USDA Service Center
971 West King Street, Boone, NC

Watauga County Agricultural Conference Center
Outside High Country Food Hub
252 Poplar Grove Road, Boone, NC



 Proposed generator location

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Install a gas-powered 26 KW generator at the High Country Food Hub
- Provides backup power to cold storage and essential systems
- Ensures continuity of operations and safety of stored product during outages
- Protects investment in local food and community trust

PROJECT COST

- Estimated cost: \$16,800
- Funding: NC Food Hub Infrastructure Grant (Round 2) due 9/5/25
- BRWIA will be responsible for all costs, including install, maintenance, and utility

NEXT STEPS

- Request Board approval to install generator at High Country Food Hub
- Request County Manager signature for Property Owner Authorization form
(needed for Town of Boone building permit application)


THANK YOU

Watauga County Board Meeting 9/3/2025
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
High Country Food Hub Generator Location Proposal
Supplemental Documents

PROPOSED GENERATOR LOCATION

Nearest Building Location:
USDA Service Center
971 West King Street, Boone, NC



 Proposed generator location

Outside High Country Food Hub
252 Poplar Grove Road, Boone, NC

Poplar Grove Road



Watauga County Board Meeting 9/3/2025
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
High Country Food Hub Generator Location Proposal
Supplemental Documents

GAS METER MAP



Proposed location of generator

Current Frontier gas line



Map Courtesy of Frontier Gas Co.

Estimate

Travis Cornett Electric
521 Bamboo Heights Road
Boone NC 28607
Phone: 8289648226
travis.cornett.electric@outlook.com
EIN: Travis Cornett Electric

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High Country Food Hub Generator Location Proposal
Supplemental Documents

Agricultural Department-Food Hub

| Customer number | Document number | Page | Date | Valid to |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|----------|-----------|
| 1527 | 1047 | 1 / 1 | 8/5/2025 | 11/3/2025 |

| Item | Quantity | Price | Total |
|--|----------|-----------|-------------|
| Material 26KW GENERAC GENERATOR 200A AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH 1AWG COPPER GEN WIRE CONCRETE PAD CINDER BLOCKS REBAR CONCRETE Plan is to make the concrete higher than the bank so the waterflow will not affect the generator | 1 | 14,322.00 | 14,322.00 |
| Total | | | \$14,322.00 |

The work will be invoiced upon completion. Payment terms are 30 days.

Kahle Plumbing LLC

329 Corbett McNeil Road
Boone NC 28607

Estimate

| Date | Estimate # |
|-----------|------------|
| 8/24/2025 | 62 |

| Name / Address |
|---|
| Agriculture Office West King St. Boone NC 28607 |

Watauga County Board Meeting 9/3/2025
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
High Country Food Hub Generator Location Proposal
[Supplemental Documents](#)

| | | | Project |
|---|-----|--------------|------------|
| | | | |
| Description | Qty | Rate | Total |
| Install gas piping from meter to new generator Estimate includes all labor and material. | | 2,200.00 | 2,200.00T |
| Sales Tax-Watauga | | 6.75% | 148.50 |
| Please allow +/- 10% | | Total | \$2,348.50 |

AGENDA ITEM 7:

COURTHOUSE SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM REPLACEMENT REQUEST

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Information Technologies Director Drew Eggers will present a request to replace the Courthouse security camera system, which is aging, has poor resolution, and has become less reliable. Creekside Electronics has provided a quote to replace the existing system with a new Hanwha IP camera system. The project includes replacement of 31 existing cameras and installation of 5 additional cameras to improve coverage.

The total cost of the new system, including labor, is \$20,665.20, and funds for this project are available and included in the budget.

Board action is requested to approve the purchase of the security camera system from Creekside Electronics at a total cost of \$20,665.20.



WATAUGA COUNTY Information Technologies

*Courthouse, Suite 4 • 842 West King Street • Boone, North Carolina 28607 • Phone (828) 265-8015
FAX (828) 265-8076
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Voice 1-800-735-8262*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Watauga County Board of Commissioners
Deron Geouque, County Manager

FROM: Drew Eggers, Information Technologies Director

SUBJECT: Courthouse Security Camera System

DATE: August 21, 2025

Please see the attached quote for replacing the security cameras at the Courthouse.

The current camera system is very old with poor resolution, and the system has become less and less reliable recently. This attached quote is to replace the existing system with a new Hanhwa IP camera system as quoted by Creekside Electronics. We will be replacing 31 cameras as well as installing 5 new cameras to increase our coverage.

Total cost for the new camera system with labor is **\$20,665.20**.

Funds for this project are available and in the budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Creekside Electronics, Inc

7881 NC Highway 105 S
Boone, NC 28607 US
+18282643039
www.creeksideelectronics.com



Estimate:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| ADDRESS | SHIP TO | ESTIMATE: | 4084 |
| Watauga County | Watauga County | DATE | 08/08/2025 |
| Attn: Susanne Winebarger | Courthouse | | |
| 274 Winkler's Creek Rd, Suite B | 842 West King Street | | |
| Boone, NC 28607 | Boone, NC 28607 | | |

| DESCRIPTION | QTY | RATE | AMOUNT |
|---|-------|----------|-----------|
| SQ-XRN6420B2 64 CAMERA NETWORK VIDEO RECORDER | 1 | 4,508.00 | 4,508.00 |
| SGSH10 10 TB HARD DRIVE | 6 | 259.00 | 1,554.00 |
| SQ-ANVL7012R 4MP VANDAL DOME IR CAMERA | 36 | 220.00 | 7,920.00 |
| SQ-SB137WMW1 CAMERA WALL MOUNT | 6 | 65.00 | 390.00 |
| Category 6 Cable | 6,000 | 0.39 | 2,340.00 |
| Installation & Programming | 1 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Installation & Programming | 1 | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 |
| County Discount 15% | -1 | 3,646.80 | -3,646.80 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| UPGRADE CAMERA SYSTEM FOR | SUBTOTAL | 20,665.20 |
| WATAUGA COUNTY COURT HOUSE | TAX | 0.00 |
| 842 WEST KING ST | | |
| BOONE, NC | TOTAL | \$20,665.20 |

POE SWITCH ON EACH FLOOR
TO PROVIDED BY WATAUGA COUNTY

TO ACCEPT:
SIGN AND RETURN PROPOSAL
WITH 60% DEPOSIT

Accepted By

Accepted Date

AGENDA ITEM 8:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE MATTERS

A. Purchase Request for Axon Taser 7 Devices

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Captain Brian Bumgarner of the Watauga County Sheriff's Office is requesting the Board's consideration to purchase additional Axon Taser 7 devices. These tasers are intended for deployment with School Resource Officers and Civil Deputies to enhance public and officer safety.

Funding for this purchase was included in the Sheriff's Office FY2025 budget. The proposed purchase includes 16 Taser 7 bundles with batteries, holsters, and warranties; 224 cartridges for carry and training; one multi-bay dock and eight single-bay docks; 17 Evidence.com licenses; and a training stand with target.

The total cost of the 21-month contract is \$57,191.02 (excluding tax), with \$28,595.51 due in FY2025 and \$28,595.51 due in FY2026.

Board action is requested to approve the purchase of these tasers and related equipment from Axon Enterprise, Inc. at a total cost of \$57,191.02 (excluding tax).



WATAUGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

184 HODGES GAP ROAD
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA 28607
(828) 264-3761 • FAX (828) 263-5345

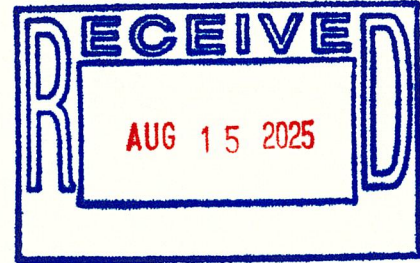
LEN D. HAGAMAN, JR.
SHERIFF

To: Deron Geouque

From: Captain Brian Bumgarner

Date: 08/14/2025

Subject: Axon Taser 7 Purchase Consideration



The Watauga County Sheriffs Office respectfully request's the Board's consideration for the purchase of additional Axon Taser 7's. These Tasers are intended for deployment with School Resource Officers and Civil Deputies to enhance public and officer safety.

Funding for this purchase was approved in the Sheriff's Office FY2025 budget. The proposed purchase includes the following:

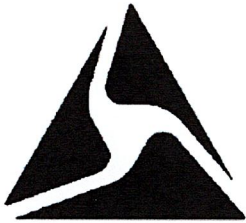
- 16 Taser 7 bundles including batteries, holsters, warranties
- 224 Cartridges for carry and training
- 1 Multi bay dock and 8 single bay dock
- 17 Evidence.com Licenses
- Training stand and target

The total cost for a 21-month contract is **\$57,191.02** (excluding tax) with **\$28,595.51** (excluding tax) being due FY2025, and **\$28,595.51** (excluding tax) being due FY2026.

Respectfully,

Captain Brian Bumgarner

Watauga County Sheriff's Office



Axon Enterprise, Inc.
 17800 N 85th St.
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
 United States
 VAT: 86-0741227
 Domestic: (800) 978-2737
 International: +1.800.978.2737

Q-673783-45855MM

Issued: 07/17/2025

Quote Expiration: 07/31/2025

Estimated Contract Start Date: 12/01/2025

Account Number: 198082

Payment Terms: N30

Mode of Delivery: UPS-GND

Credit/Debit Amount: \$0.00

| SHIP TO | BILL TO |
|---|---|
| Watauga County Sheriff's Office 184 Hodges Gap Rd Boone, NC 28607-8635 USA | Watauga County Sheriff's Office - NC 184 Hodges Gap Rd Boone NC 28607-8635 USA Email: |

| SALES REPRESENTATIVE | PRIMARY CONTACT |
|---|---|
| Madison Mayfield Phone: Email: mmayfield@axon.com Fax: | Brian Bumgarner Phone: (828) 265-7607 Email: brian.bumgarner@watgov.org Fax: |

Quote Summary

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Program Length | 21 Months |
| TOTAL COST | \$57,191.02 |
| ESTIMATED TOTAL W/ TAX | \$60,920.08 |

Discount Summary

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Average Savings Per Year | \$1,440.00 |
| TOTAL SAVINGS | \$2,520.00 |

Payment Summary

| Date | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Aug 2025 | \$28,595.51 | \$1,864.53 | \$30,460.04 |
| Aug 2026 | \$28,595.51 | \$1,864.53 | \$30,460.04 |
| Total | \$57,191.02 | \$3,729.06 | \$60,920.08 |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Quote Unbundled Price: | \$59,711.02 |
| Quote List Price: | \$59,711.02 |
| Quote Subtotal: | \$57,191.02 |

Pricing

All deliverables are detailed in Delivery Schedules section lower in proposal

| Item | Description | Qty | Term | Unbundled | List Price | Net Price | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|------------------------------|--|-----|------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| A la Carte Hardware | | | | | | | | | |
| 80090 | AXON TASER - TARGET FRAME - PROFESSIONAL 27.5 IN X 75 IN | 1 | | | \$120.00 | \$120.00 | \$120.00 | \$8.10 | \$128.10 |
| 80087 | AXON TASER - TARGET - CONDUCTIVE PROFESSIONAL RUGGEDIZED | 1 | | | \$240.25 | \$240.25 | \$240.25 | \$16.22 | \$256.47 |
| 20062 | AXON TASER 7 - HOLSTER - BLACKHAWK RH | 16 | | | \$98.25 | \$98.25 | \$1,572.00 | \$106.11 | \$1,678.11 |
| 20018 | AXON TASER - BATTERY PACK - TACTICAL | 16 | | | \$113.75 | \$113.75 | \$1,820.00 | \$122.85 | \$1,942.85 |
| 74201 | AXON TASER - DOCK - SINGLE BAY PLUS CORE | 8 | | | \$671.75 | \$671.75 | \$5,374.00 | \$362.74 | \$5,736.74 |
| 22175 | AXON TASER 7 - CARTRIDGE - LIVE STANDOFF (3.5-DEGREE) NS | 224 | | | \$45.00 | \$33.75 | \$7,560.00 | \$510.30 | \$8,070.30 |
| 20008 | AXON TASER 7 - HANDLE - HIGH VIS GRN LASER CLASS 3R YLW | 16 | | | \$2,170.00 | \$2,170.00 | \$34,720.00 | \$2,343.60 | \$37,063.60 |
| T7Dock | T7 Dock | 1 | 21 | | \$1,792.40 | \$85.35 | \$1,792.40 | \$120.99 | \$1,913.39 |
| A la Carte Software | | | | | | | | | |
| 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 1 | 21 | | \$5.45 | \$5.45 | \$114.45 | \$0.00 | \$114.45 |
| 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 16 | 21 | | \$5.45 | \$5.45 | \$1,831.20 | \$0.00 | \$1,831.20 |
| A la Carte Warranties | | | | | | | | | |
| 80374 | AXON TASER - EXT WARRANTY - BATTERY PACK T7/T10 | 16 | 13 | | \$0.50 | \$0.50 | \$104.00 | \$7.02 | \$111.02 |
| 80387 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - DOCK SINGLE BAY | 8 | 13 | | \$3.16 | \$3.16 | \$328.64 | \$22.18 | \$350.82 |
| 80395 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - HANDLE | 16 | 13 | | \$7.76 | \$7.76 | \$1,614.08 | \$108.95 | \$1,723.03 |
| Total | | | | | | | \$57,191.02 | \$3,729.06 | \$60,920.08 |

Delivery Schedule

Hardware

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Shipping Location | Estimated Delivery Date |
|------------|-------|--|-----|-------------------|-------------------------|
| T7 Dock | 70033 | AXON - DOCK WALL MOUNT - BRACKET ASSY | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| T7 Dock | 71019 | AXON BODY - DOCK POWERCORD - NORTH AMERICA | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| T7 Dock | 74200 | AXON TASER - DOCK - SIX BAY PLUS CORE | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 20008 | AXON TASER 7 - HANDLE - HIGH VIS GRN LASER CLASS 3R YLW | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 20018 | AXON TASER - BATTERY PACK - TACTICAL | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 20062 | AXON TASER 7 - HOLSTER - BLACKHAWK RH | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 22175 | AXON TASER 7 - CARTRIDGE - LIVE STANDOFF (3.5-DEGREE) NS | 224 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 74201 | AXON TASER - DOCK - SINGLE BAY PLUS CORE | 8 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 80087 | AXON TASER - TARGET - CONDUCTIVE PROFESSIONAL RUGGEDIZED | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| A la Carte | 80090 | AXON TASER - TARGET FRAME - PROFESSIONAL 27.5 IN X 75 | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |

Hardware

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Shipping Location | Estimated Delivery Date |
|--------|------|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | | IN | | | |

Software

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Estimated Start Date | Estimated End Date |
|------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|----------------------|--------------------|
| A la Carte | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 16 | 12/01/2025 | 08/31/2027 |
| A la Carte | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 1 | 12/01/2025 | 08/31/2027 |

Warranties

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Estimated Start Date | Estimated End Date |
|------------|-------|---|-----|----------------------|--------------------|
| A la Carte | 80374 | AXON TASER - EXT WARRANTY - BATTERY PACK T7/T10 | 16 | 08/01/2026 | 08/31/2027 |
| A la Carte | 80387 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - DOCK SINGLE BAY | 8 | 08/01/2026 | 08/31/2027 |
| A la Carte | 80395 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - HANDLE | 16 | 08/01/2026 | 08/31/2027 |

Shipping Locations

| Location Number | Street | City | State | Zip | Country |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|------------|---------|
| 1 | 184 Hodges Gap Rd | Boone | NC | 28607-8635 | USA |

Payment Details

Aug 2025

| Invoice Plan | Item | Description | Qty | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|---------------|--------|--|-----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Add-On Year 1 | 20008 | AXON TASER 7 - HANDLE - HIGH VIS GRN LASER CLASS 3R YLW | 16 | \$17,360.01 | \$1,171.80 | \$18,531.81 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 20018 | AXON TASER - BATTERY PACK - TACTICAL | 16 | \$910.00 | \$61.42 | \$971.42 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 20062 | AXON TASER 7 - HOLSTER - BLACKHAWK RH | 16 | \$786.00 | \$53.06 | \$839.06 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 1 | \$57.22 | \$0.00 | \$57.22 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 16 | \$915.60 | \$0.00 | \$915.60 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 22175 | AXON TASER 7 - CARTRIDGE - LIVE STANDOFF (3.5-DEGREE) NS | 224 | \$3,780.00 | \$255.15 | \$4,035.15 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 74201 | AXON TASER - DOCK - SINGLE BAY PLUS CORE | 8 | \$2,687.00 | \$181.37 | \$2,868.37 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 80087 | AXON TASER - TARGET - CONDUCTIVE PROFESSIONAL RUGGEDIZED | 1 | \$120.12 | \$8.11 | \$128.23 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 80090 | AXON TASER - TARGET FRAME - PROFESSIONAL 27.5 IN X 75 IN | 1 | \$60.00 | \$4.05 | \$64.05 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 80374 | AXON TASER - EXT WARRANTY - BATTERY PACK T7/T10 | 16 | \$52.00 | \$3.51 | \$55.51 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 80387 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - DOCK SINGLE BAY | 8 | \$164.32 | \$11.09 | \$175.41 |
| Add-On Year 1 | 80395 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - HANDLE | 16 | \$807.04 | \$54.48 | \$861.52 |
| Add-On Year 1 | T7Dock | T7 Dock | 1 | \$896.20 | \$60.49 | \$956.69 |
| Total | | | | \$28,595.51 | \$1,864.53 | \$30,460.04 |

Aug 2026

| Invoice Plan | Item | Description | Qty | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|---------------|--------|--|-----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Add-On Year 2 | 20008 | AXON TASER 7 - HANDLE - HIGH VIS GRN LASER CLASS 3R YLW | 16 | \$17,360.01 | \$1,171.80 | \$18,531.81 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 20018 | AXON TASER - BATTERY PACK - TACTICAL | 16 | \$910.00 | \$61.43 | \$971.43 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 20062 | AXON TASER 7 - HOLSTER - BLACKHAWK RH | 16 | \$786.00 | \$53.05 | \$839.05 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 16 | \$915.60 | \$0.00 | \$915.60 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 20248 | AXON TASER - EVIDENCE.COM LICENSE | 1 | \$57.22 | \$0.00 | \$57.22 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 22175 | AXON TASER 7 - CARTRIDGE - LIVE STANDOFF (3.5-DEGREE) NS | 224 | \$3,780.00 | \$255.15 | \$4,035.15 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 74201 | AXON TASER - DOCK - SINGLE BAY PLUS CORE | 8 | \$2,687.00 | \$181.37 | \$2,868.37 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 80087 | AXON TASER - TARGET - CONDUCTIVE PROFESSIONAL RUGGEDIZED | 1 | \$120.12 | \$8.11 | \$128.23 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 80090 | AXON TASER - TARGET FRAME - PROFESSIONAL 27.5 IN X 75 IN | 1 | \$60.00 | \$4.05 | \$64.05 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 80374 | AXON TASER - EXT WARRANTY - BATTERY PACK T7/T10 | 16 | \$52.00 | \$3.51 | \$55.51 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 80387 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - DOCK SINGLE BAY | 8 | \$164.32 | \$11.09 | \$175.41 |
| Add-On Year 2 | 80395 | AXON TASER 7 - EXT WARRANTY - HANDLE | 16 | \$807.04 | \$54.47 | \$861.51 |
| Add-On Year 2 | T7Dock | T7 Dock | 1 | \$896.20 | \$60.50 | \$956.70 |
| Total | | | | \$28,595.51 | \$1,864.53 | \$30,460.04 |

Tax is estimated based on rates applicable at date of quote and subject to change at time of invoicing. If a tax exemption certificate should be applied, please submit prior to invoicing.

Standard Terms and Conditions

Axon Enterprise Inc. Sales Terms and Conditions

Axon Master Services and Purchasing Agreement:

This Quote is limited to and conditional upon your acceptance of the provisions set forth herein and Axon's Master Services and Purchasing Agreement (posted at <https://www.axon.com/sales-terms-and-conditions>), as well as the attached Statement of Work (SOW) for Axon Fleet and/or Axon Interview Room purchase, if applicable. In the event you and Axon have entered into a prior agreement to govern all future purchases, that agreement shall govern to the extent it includes the products and services being purchased and does not conflict with the Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program Appendix as described below.

ACEIP:

The Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program Appendix, which includes the sharing of de-identified segments of Agency Content with Axon to develop new products and improve your product experience (posted at www.axon.com/legal/sales-terms-and-conditions), is incorporated herein by reference. By signing below, you agree to the terms of the Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program.

Acceptance of Terms:

Any purchase order issued in response to this Quote is subject solely to the above referenced terms and conditions. By signing below, you represent that you are lawfully able to enter into contracts. If you are signing on behalf of an entity (including but not limited to the company, municipality, or government agency for whom you work), you represent to Axon that you have legal authority to bind that entity. If you do not have this authority, please do not sign this Quote.

Signature

Date Signed

7/17/2025



AGENDA ITEM 8:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE MATTERS

B. Purchase Request for Axon Body-Worn Cameras

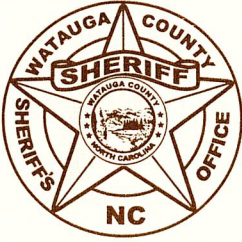
MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Captain Preston Russell of the Watauga County Sheriff's Office is requesting the Board's consideration to purchase additional Axon body-worn cameras. These cameras are intended for deployment with School Resource Officers and Civil Deputies to enhance accountability, transparency, and officer safety.

Funding for this purchase was included in the Sheriff's Office FY2025 budget. The proposed purchase includes 14 Axon body-worn cameras, one multi-bay dock and eight single-bay docks, and 14 user licenses.

The total cost for the one-year contract is \$15,638.30 (excluding tax).

Board action is requested to approve the purchase of these body-worn cameras and related equipment from Axon Enterprise, Inc. at a total cost of \$15,638.30 (excluding tax).



WATAUGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

184 HODGES GAP ROAD
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA 28607
(828) 264-3761 • FAX (828) 263-5345

LEN D. HAGAMAN, JR.
SHERIFF



To: Deron Geouque
From: Captain Preston Russell
Date: 8-7-25
Subject: Axon Body Camera Purchase Consideration

The Watauga County Sheriff's Office respectfully requests the Board's consideration for the purchase of additional Axon body-worn cameras. These cameras are intended for deployment with School Resource Officers and Civil Deputies to enhance accountability, transparency, and officer safety.

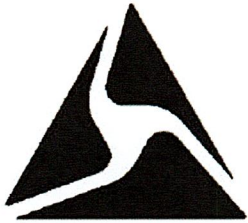
Funding for this purchase was approved in the Sheriff's Office FY2025 budget. The proposed purchase includes the following:

- 14 Axon body-worn cameras
- 1 multi-bay docking 8 single bay docks
- 14 user licenses

The total cost for a one-year contract is **\$15,638.30** (excluding tax).

Respectfully,

Captain Preston Russell
Watauga County Sheriff's Office



Axon Enterprise, Inc.
17800 N 85th St.
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
United States
VAT: 86-0741227
Domestic: (800) 978-2737
International: +1.800.978.2737

Q-724732-45849MM

Issued: 07/11/2025

Quote Expiration: 07/31/2025

Estimated Contract Start Date: 09/01/2025

Account Number: 198082

Payment Terms: N30

Mode of Delivery: UPS-GND

Credit/Debit Amount: \$0.00

| SHIP TO | BILL TO |
|---|---|
| Watauga County Sheriff's Office 184 Hodges Gap Rd Boone, NC 28607-8635 USA | Watauga County Sheriff's Office - NC 184 Hodges Gap Rd Boone NC 28607-8635 USA Email: |

| SALES REPRESENTATIVE | PRIMARY CONTACT |
|---|---|
| Madison Mayfield Phone: Email: mmayfield@axon.com Fax: | Brian Bumgarner Phone: (828) 265-7607 Email: brian.bumgarner@watgov.org Fax: |

Quote Summary

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Program Length | 12 Months |
| TOTAL COST | \$15,638.30 |
| ESTIMATED TOTAL W/ TAX | \$16,637.19 |

Discount Summary

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Average Savings Per Year | \$1,258.60 |
| TOTAL SAVINGS | \$1,258.60 |

Payment Summary

| Date | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Aug 2025 | \$15,638.30 | \$998.89 | \$16,637.19 |
| Total | \$15,638.30 | \$998.89 | \$16,637.19 |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Quote Unbundled Price: | \$16,896.90 |
| Quote List Price: | \$16,896.90 |
| Quote Subtotal: | \$15,638.30 |

Pricing

All deliverables are detailed in Delivery Schedules section lower in proposal

| Item | Description | Qty | Term | Unbundled | List Price | Net Price | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
|----------------------------|---|-----|------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| A la Carte Hardware | | | | | | | | | |
| H00002 | AB4 Multi Bay Dock Bundle | 1 | | | \$1,638.90 | \$1,638.90 | \$1,638.90 | \$110.63 | \$1,749.53 |
| H00003 | AB4 1-Bay Dock Bundle | 8 | | | \$229.00 | \$229.00 | \$1,832.00 | \$123.66 | \$1,955.66 |
| H00001 | AB4 Camera Bundle | 14 | | | \$899.00 | \$809.10 | \$11,327.40 | \$764.60 | \$12,092.00 |
| A la Carte Software | | | | | | | | | |
| 73449 | AXON BODY - LICENSE - DEVICE CONNECTIVITY | 14 | 12 | | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | \$840.00 | \$0.00 | \$840.00 |
| Total | | | | | | | \$15,638.30 | \$998.89 | \$16,637.19 |

Delivery Schedule

Hardware

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Shipping Location | Estimated Delivery Date |
|---------------------------|--------|--|-----|-------------------|-------------------------|
| AB4 1-Bay Dock Bundle | 100201 | AXON BODY 4 - DOCK - SINGLE BAY | 8 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 1-Bay Dock Bundle | 71104 | AXON - DOCK/DATAPORT POWERCORD - NORTH AMERICA | 8 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Camera Bundle | 100147 | AXON BODY 4 - CAMERA - NA US FIRST RESPONDER BLK RAPIDLOCK | 14 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Camera Bundle | 100466 | AXON BODY 4 - CABLE - USB-C TO USB-C | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Camera Bundle | 100775 | AXON BODY 4 - MAGNETIC DISCONNECT CABLE | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Camera Bundle | 74028 | AXON BODY - MOUNT - WING CLIP RAPIDLOCK | 16 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Multi Bay Dock Bundle | 100206 | AXON BODY 4 - 8 BAY DOCK | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Multi Bay Dock Bundle | 70033 | AXON - DOCK WALL MOUNT - BRACKET ASSY | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |
| AB4 Multi Bay Dock Bundle | 71019 | AXON BODY - DOCK POWERCORD - NORTH AMERICA | 1 | 1 | 08/01/2025 |

Software

| Bundle | Item | Description | QTY | Estimated Start Date | Estimated End Date |
|------------|-------|---|-----|----------------------|--------------------|
| A la Carte | 73449 | AXON BODY - LICENSE - DEVICE CONNECTIVITY | 14 | 09/01/2025 | 08/31/2026 |

Shipping Locations

| Location Number | Street | City | State | Zip | Country |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|------------|---------|
| 1 | 184 Hodges Gap Rd | Boone | NC | 28607-8635 | USA |

Payment Details

| Aug 2025 | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|---|-----|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Invoice Plan | Item | Description | Qty | Subtotal | Tax | Total |
| Year 1 | 73449 | AXON BODY - LICENSE - DEVICE CONNECTIVITY | 14 | \$840.00 | \$0.00 | \$840.00 |
| Year 1 | H00001 | AB4 Camera Bundle | 14 | \$11,327.40 | \$764.60 | \$12,092.00 |
| Year 1 | H00002 | AB4 Multi Bay Dock Bundle | 1 | \$1,638.90 | \$110.63 | \$1,749.53 |
| Year 1 | H00003 | AB4 1-Bay Dock Bundle | 8 | \$1,832.00 | \$123.66 | \$1,955.66 |
| Total | | | | \$15,638.30 | \$998.89 | \$16,637.19 |

Tax is estimated based on rates applicable at date of quote and subject to change at time of invoicing. If a tax exemption certificate should be applied, please submit prior to invoicing.

Standard Terms and Conditions

Axon Enterprise Inc. Sales Terms and Conditions

Axon Master Services and Purchasing Agreement:

This Quote is limited to and conditional upon your acceptance of the provisions set forth herein and Axon's Master Services and Purchasing Agreement (posted at <https://www.axon.com/sales-terms-and-conditions>), as well as the attached Statement of Work (SOW) for Axon Fleet and/or Axon Interview Room purchase, if applicable. In the event you and Axon have entered into a prior agreement to govern all future purchases, that agreement shall govern to the extent it includes the products and services being purchased and does not conflict with the Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program Appendix as described below.

ACEIP:

The Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program Appendix, which includes the sharing of de-identified segments of Agency Content with Axon to develop new products and improve your product experience (posted at www.axon.com/legal/sales-terms-and-conditions), is incorporated herein by reference. By signing below, you agree to the terms of the Axon Customer Experience Improvement Program.

Acceptance of Terms:

Any purchase order issued in response to this Quote is subject solely to the above referenced terms and conditions. By signing below, you represent that you are lawfully able to enter into contracts. If you are signing on behalf of an entity (including but not limited to the company, municipality, or government agency for whom you work), you represent to Axon that you have legal authority to bind that entity. If you do not have this authority, please do not sign this Quote.

Signature

Date Signed

7/11/2025



AGENDA ITEM 9:

MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Round 3 Cashflow Loan Agreement for Disaster Response

MANAGER’S COMMENTS:

Finance Director Deron Geouque will present the County’s Round 3 Cashflow Loan Agreement with the State of North Carolina, administered through the Department of State Treasurer. This loan provides \$3,268,632.81 in funding to support disaster response activities related to Hurricane Helene.

The loan proceeds are intended to cover eligible expenditures for disaster response as outlined in FEMA Public Assistance Worksheets and other applicable federal reimbursement programs. Repayment of the loan is scheduled over five years, beginning with \$1 by the first anniversary of the loan date, and concluding with the final installment by the earlier of the five-year anniversary or June 30, 2030.

The County will account for the loan proceeds in a separate fund and follow all reporting and auditing requirements as prescribed by the State and applicable law.

Board action is requested to approve the execution of the Round 3 Cashflow Loan Agreement, Resolution, and related Promissory Note with the State of North Carolina.

Finance Officer

**STATE CASHFLOW LOANS FOR DISASTER RESPONSE ACTIVITIES TO LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS**

LOAN AGREEMENT (ROUND 3)

BETWEEN

**THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA (BY AND THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TREASURER)**

AND

THE COUNTY OF WATAUGA, NORTH CAROLINA

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Loan Round: | Round 3 |
| Round 3 Loan Number: | Watauga County-Round3Loan-16346 |
| Round 3 Loan Date: | _____ |
| Round 3 Loan Amount: | \$3,268,632.81 |

REPAYMENT TERMS:

- **\$1 by the first anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date**
- **10% of the Round 3 Loan Amount by June 30, 2027**
- **20% of the Round 3 Loan Amount by June 30, 2028**
- **30% of the Round 3 Loan Amount by June 30, 2029**
- **40% (less \$1) of the Round 3 Loan Amount by the earlier of the fifth anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date or June 30, 2030.**

Recipient Tax ID/EIN: 56-6001816

PURPOSE:

For good and valuable consideration, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, this loan agreement (“Agreement”) is hereby entered into by and between the State of North Carolina, by and through the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer (“NCDST”), and the **County of Watauga, North Carolina** (“RECIPIENT”) (referred to individually as Party and collectively as “Parties”) to provide NCDST cashflow loans for disaster response activities to local governments, in accordance with Section 4E.5. of North Carolina Session Law 2024-53, as modified by Section 1F.1 of North Carolina Session Law 2024-57 (together, as amended, the “Authorizing Act”).

1. EFFECTIVE TERM:

This Agreement shall be effective as of the latest date of signature below (“Effective Date”) and, subject to Section 15, shall terminate upon full repayment of the loan proceeds to NCDST, unless earlier terminated pursuant to Section 9.

2. NCDST’S DUTIES & PAYMENT PROVISIONS:

NCDST shall loan RECIPIENT a total of **\$3,268,632.81** to pay for RECIPIENT’S disaster response activities as set forth in FEMA Public Assistance Worksheets. This principal-only loan does not carry interest charges or

administrative fees. Upon signature of this Agreement by the Parties, the funds will promptly be transferred to RECIPIENT via wire/ACH transfer to the RECIPIENT'S account, pursuant to the written bank wiring instructions that RECIPIENT must submit to the NCDST as provided in Section 3.a. below.

3. RECIPIENT'S DUTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS:

- a. **As soon as reasonably practicable following its receipt of this Agreement, RECIPIENT shall provide each of the following to NCDST: (a) a certified copy of a resolution authoring execution of the Agreement and Promissory Note in the form set forth in Attachment A; (b) an executed copy of this Agreement; (c) an executed Promissory Note in the form set forth in Attachment B; and (d) the completed NCDST Hurricane Helene Cashflow Loan Program Wire Form enclosed as Attachment C, signed and certified by the appropriate official of RECIPIENT.**
- b. Before and during the term of this Agreement, RECIPIENT will use or has used loan proceeds to cover expenditures for disaster response activities, which may be expenditures that are eligible for reimbursement by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program, National Flood Insurance Program, or other federal reimbursement program.
- c. Both NCDST and RECIPIENT agree that this Agreement shall be interpreted as to not diminish or impair RECIPIENT's eligibility to secure FEMA or related recovery funding support.
- d. RECIPIENT agrees to deliver repayment installments of the loan proceeds in the amounts and by the dates set forth in the Repayment Terms recited on Page 1 above, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Further, RECIPIENT understands and agrees that all loan proceeds provided to RECIPIENT under this Agreement must be repaid no later than the earlier of the following two dates: (i) the five-year anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date; or (ii) June 30, 2030.
- e. RECIPIENT agrees that loan proceeds received through this Agreement shall be accounted for in a separate fund and accounting structure within RECIPIENT's central accounting system. RECIPIENT agrees to manage all accounts payable disbursements, check register disbursements, and related transactions in a detailed manner that supports fully transparent accounting of all financial transactions associated with loan funding allocations described in Section 2 of this Agreement. RECIPIENT understands and acknowledges the total direct loan funding level available under this Agreement is **\$3,268,632.81**.
- f. As provided in the Authorizing Act:
 - (i) RECIPIENT shall use best efforts and take all reasonable steps to obtain alternative funds that cover the losses or needs for which the loan proceeds are being provided, including funds from insurance policies in effect, available federal aid, and private donations. RECIPIENT understands and agrees that the loan proceeds paid to RECIPIENT pursuant to this Agreement are in excess of any funds received by RECIPIENT from any of the following: (a) settlement of a claim for loss or damage covered under RECIPIENT's applicable insurance policy in effect; (b) federal aid; or (c) private donations.
 - (ii) If RECIPIENT obtains alternative funds pursuant to subdivision (i) of this subsection f., RECIPIENT shall remit such funds to NCDST as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, but no later than the earlier of the two dates established in subsection d. to this Section 3. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, RECIPIENT shall not be required to repay to NCDST any amount in excess over the amount of loan proceeds provided under this Agreement.

4. AGREEMENT ADMINISTRATORS:

All notices permitted or required to be given by one Party to the other and all questions about the Agreement from one Party to the other shall be addressed and delivered to the other Party's Agreement Administrator. The name, post office address, street address, telephone number, fax number, and email address of the Parties' respective initial Agreement Administrators are set out below. Either Party may change the name, post office address, street address, telephone number, fax number, or email address of its Agreement Administrator by giving timely written notice to the other Party.

| For NCDST | |
|---|---|
| IF DELIVERED BY US POSTAL SERVICE | IF DELIVERED BY ANY OTHER MEANS |
| Jeff Poley Director of Disaster Services and Rural Economic Development Office of the State Treasurer 3200 Atlantic Avenue Raleigh, North Carolina 27604 Phone: (919) 410-3044 Email: helenecashflowloans@nctreasurer.com | Jeff Poley Director of Disaster Services and Rural Economic Development Office of the State Treasurer 3200 Atlantic Avenue Raleigh, North Carolina 27604 Phone: (919) 410-3044 Email: helenecashflowloans@nctreasurer.com |

| For RECIPIENT | |
|--|--|
| IF DELIVERED BY US POSTAL SERVICE | IF DELIVERED BY ANY OTHER MEANS |
| Name Deron Geouque Title County Manager/Finance Director Address 814 West King Street Boone, NC 28607 Email Deron.Geouque@watgov.org Phone 828-265-8000 | Name Deron Geouque Title County Manager/Finance Director Address 814 West King Street Boone, NC 28607 Email Deron.Geouque@watgov.org Phone 828-265-8000 |

5. MONITORING AND AUDITING:

RECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that, commencing on the Effective Date of this Agreement and for a period of three (3) years following this Agreement's termination, RECIPIENT's books, records, documents and facilities with respect to the loan funds shall be open to NCDST for auditing, inspection and monitoring at all times during such period. Further, upon a request for access by NCDST (whether in writing or otherwise), RECIPIENT shall make all such books, records, documents, and facilities open to NCDST for inspection. To that end, RECIPIENT agrees to provide NCDST staff, any authorized agent or other designee of NCDST, and

staff of the Office of State Auditor, as applicable, with access to financial and accounting records to support internal audit, financial reporting and related requirements.

RECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that, with regard to the Loan funds, it will be subject to the audit and reporting requirements prescribed by N.C.G.S. § 159-34 (Annual independent audit; rules and regulations) within the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. Such audit and reporting requirements may vary depending upon the amount and source of Loan funding received by RECIPIENT and are subject to change.

RECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that, with regard to the loan funds, it will be subject to the reporting requirements of both NCDST and the North Carolina Office of Budget and Management, as mandated by those agencies from time to time, as applicable.

6. SITUS AND EXCLUSIVE VENUE:

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of North Carolina and any claim for breach or enforcement of this Agreement shall be filed in State court in Wake County, North Carolina.

7. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW:

RECIPIENT shall be wholly responsible for the loan terms and RECIPIENT's responsibilities described in this Agreement. RECIPIENT shall be responsible for supervision of any of its employees and contractors funded under this Agreement, and compliance with all laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, licensing requirements and other regulatory matters that are applicable to the conduct of their loan performance under this Agreement, including those of Federal, State, and local agencies having appropriate jurisdiction. RECIPIENT is reminded that all funds are subject to the requirements of the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, including but not limited to all budgeting and pre-audit requirements.

8. CLAW-BACK; OFFSET:

- a. NCDST may also demand repayment of previously expended funds, and RECIPIENT must comply with such a demand, in the event NCDST determines that RECIPIENT has not spent loan funds on eligible uses set forth in the FEMA project worksheets used to determine the Round 3 Loan Amount, or if NCDST determines that RECIPIENT has not materially complied with any other requirements set forth in this Agreement concerning the loan funds (generally, "Non-Compliance"). Before making a formal demand for repayment as provided in this subsection, NCDST will provide RECIPIENT thirty (30) days' written notice to cure such Non-Compliance, and the Parties will make every reasonable effort to resolve the problem informally.
- b. In the event the Parties are unable to resolve RECIPIENT's Non-Compliance as provided in subsection a. above, RECIPIENT understands and agrees that, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-71, the State Treasurer is authorized to demand, sue for, collect and receive all money and property of the State not held by some person under authority of law. In addition, RECIPIENT understands and agrees that NCDST shall have the right to recoup any funds for which repayment has been demanded through the Setoff Debt Collection Act (Chapter 105A of the North Carolina General Statutes) and any other provision of State law providing for setoff debt collection, as applicable.

9. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT:

Subject to Section 15, this Agreement may be terminated:

- a. By mutual written consent of the Parties;
- b. By NCDST for cause, if: (i) RECIPIENT violates the terms of this Agreement and RECIPIENT fails to correct the violation(s) within thirty (30) days of written notice of violation from NCDST; (ii) NCDST determines RECIPIENT has made a misrepresentation in connection with this loan; or (iii) RECIPIENT

abandons or otherwise ceases to make reasonable progress towards completion of the disaster response activities funded by this Agreement; or

- c. In the event that RECIPIENT repays the Round 3 Loan Amount in full prior to the earlier of the following two dates: (i) the five-year anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date; or (ii) June 30, 2030.

In the event of termination, NCDST may require the return of unspent funds. NCDST may, in its sole discretion, allow RECIPIENT to retain or be reimbursed for costs reasonably incurred prior to termination that were not made in anticipation of termination and cannot be canceled, provided that said costs meet the provisions of this Agreement.

10. AMENDMENTS:

Subject to all applicable laws, this Agreement may be amended in writing, executed by both NCDST and RECIPIENT. If RECIPIENT requests revisions of Agreement terms, it shall provide to NCDST for review and approval a detailed written request that includes documented financial management reason(s) for amending the terms of this Agreement.

11. E-VERIFY:

If this Agreement is subject to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-133.3, RECIPIENT shall impose the obligations of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the General Statutes on any contractor and its subcontractors funded by this Agreement.

12. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY; CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS:

RECIPIENT will hold NCDST harmless from any loss(es) or damage(s) arising in connection with the performance of this Agreement to the extent permitted by law, including the North Carolina Tort Claims Act (Article 31 of Chapter 143 of the North Carolina General Statutes). This Agreement is intended for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Parties. This Agreement does not create, and shall not be construed as creating, any rights enforceable by any person not a party to this Agreement. Nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State of North Carolina.

13. SEVERABILITY:

- a. Generally. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to conflict with any law, or regulation, or rule of the United States, or the State of North Carolina, or NCDST. The Parties agree that if a term of this Agreement cannot be interpreted in a way to be consistent with such authority, then that term shall be deemed invalid, but the remaining terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- b. Federal Reimbursement. The Parties expressly agree that they intend for this Agreement to constitute and be construed as a loan agreement, toward the end that all loan proceeds provided to RECIPIENT hereunder would remain eligible for reimbursement under the FEMA Public Assistance Program, National Flood Insurance Program, or other federal reimbursement program (generally, for purposes of this subsection, the “Federal Funding Programs”). The Parties further agree that: (i) no provision of this Agreement shall be construed as creating or contemplating a current or future condition or circumstance that would in any way alleviate RECIPIENT of the repayment obligations set forth in this Agreement, or in the related Promissory Note; and (ii) to the extent that any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or term of this Agreement is deemed incongruous with any relevant provision(s) of federal law pertaining to RECIPIENT’s eligibility for reimbursement under the Federal Funding Program(s), then such word, phrase, clause, sentence or term shall be modified, deleted, or interpreted in such a manner as to make the loan funds provided to RECIPIENT hereunder fully reimbursable under the Federal Funding Program(s), or else reimbursable to the maximum extent allowable under such program(s).

14. ENTIRE AGREEMENT:

This Agreement and any annexes, exhibits, and amendments appended hereto, and any documents incorporated specifically by reference, represent the entire Agreement between the Parties and supersede all prior oral and written statements or Agreements.

15. SURVIVAL:

The following sections shall survive termination of this Agreement: 3.c., 5, 6, 7, 8, 12 and 13.

16. EXECUTION AND EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. One or more counterparts of this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile or in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) sent by electronic mail, with such delivery having the same effect as delivery of an original counterpart. Signatures provided by facsimile transmission, in PDF sent by electronic mail, or by electronic signature such as DocuSign, shall be deemed to be original signatures.

This Agreement shall become effective upon the Effective Date and NCDST's loan obligations shall commence upon NCDST's receipt of the items set forth in 3.a. above.

[signature page follows]

19. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE WARRANTY:

The undersigned represent and warrant that they are authorized to bind their principals to the terms of this Agreement.

In Witness Whereof, RECIPIENT and the State of North Carolina, acting by and through the NCDST have executed this Agreement in duplicate originals, with one original being retained by each party.

COUNTY OF WATAUGA, NORTH CAROLINA

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| <hr/> | |
| AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL | Date |
| | |
| Braxton Eggers | Chairman |
| <hr/> | |
| Printed Name | Title |

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, by:
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| <hr/> | |
| AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL | Date |
| | |
| Jeff Poley | Director of Disaster Services and Rural Economic Development |

ATTACHMENT A

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ROUND 3 NORTH CAROLINA CASHFLOW LOAN AGREEMENT
AND PROMISSORY NOTE**

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, in connection with the State of North Carolina cashflow loan program (Loan Program) authorized by the Disaster Recovery Act of 2024, Session Law 2024-53 (as amended by Session Law 2024-57), the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer has been working with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety-Division of Emergency Management (NCEM), the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), and the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) to formulate a working plan for the disbursement of cashflow loans aimed at assisting local governments affected by Hurricane Helene; and

WHEREAS, local governments wishing to participate in Round 3 of the Loan Program are required to execute a Round 3 Cashflow Loan Agreement and Promissory Note with the State of North Carolina, by and through the North Carolina Department of the State Treasurer; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY OF WATAUGA, NORTH CAROLINA:

1. That the Round 3 Cashflow Loan Agreement and Promissory Note provided by the North Carolina Department of the State Treasurer are hereby approved.
2. That the Manager, Clerk, or Authorized Representative of a Tribal Government is authorized to execute the attached agreements (or those substantially equivalent thereto) and such other agreements and actions as necessary to receive disaster recovery loan funding from the State of North Carolina.

Adopted, this the 2nd day of September 2025

COUNTY OF WATAUGA, NORTH CAROLINA

By: _____

Mayor/Commissioner/Authorized Representative

Name: Braxton Eggers

Title: Chairman

ATTEST:

Town Clerk/Authorized Representative

Name: Katie Hancock

Title: Clerk to the Board

ATTACHMENT B

This Promissory Note has been pre-audited as required by the
Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act

Finance Officer

PROMISSORY NOTE

Date: _____

Round 3 Loan Number: **Watauga County-Round3Loan-16346**

Round 3 Loan Amount: **\$3,268,632.81**

The **County of WATAUGA, North Carolina** (“BORROWER”) DOES HEREBY unconditionally promise to pay to the STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA (by and through the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer) (“State”) the following Round 3 Loan Amount: **\$3,268,632.81**. The promissory note is made in accordance with the related Loan Agreement, dated as of the date hereof (the “Agreement”), between the State and the BORROWER. As set forth in the Agreement, the BORROWER hereby promises to pay the Loan Amount in accordance to the following schedule:

- **\$1 by the first anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date**
- **10% of the Round 3 Loan Amount by June 30, 2027**
- **20% of the Round 3 Loan Amount by June 30, 2028**
- **30% of the Round 3 Amount by June 30, 2029**
- **40% (less \$1) of the Round 3 Loan Amount by the earlier of the fifth anniversary of the Round 3 Loan Date recited in the Agreement or June 30, 2030.**

Payment instructions will follow from the State or its agent.

This Promissory Note and the Agreement were duly authorized by action of the BORROWER’s governing body at a meeting duly held on September 2, 2025.

COUNTY OF WATAUGA, NORTH CAROLINA

Signature

Deron Geouque, County Manager/Finance Director

[Name and Title]

[SEAL]

Attest:

Signature

Katie Hanock, Clerk to the Board

[Name and Title—should be clerk]

ATTACHMENT C

Watauga County



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER

BRADFORD B. BRINER
STATE TREASURER OF NORTH CAROLINA

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Hurricane Helene Cash Flow Loan Program Wire Form

Questions concerning the completion of this form should be directed to 919-814-3902.

RECIPIENT INFORMATION

Recipient/Account Holder's Name: Watauga County

Recipient's Address, City, State, Zip: 814 West King Street, Room 216, Boone, NC 28607

Information for the Recipient (optional):

BENEFICIARY BANK INFORMATION

Beneficiary Bank Name: First National Bank

Beneficiary Bank Routing Transit Number (RTN): 043318092

Beneficiary Bank Account Number: 8000133055

Bank's Address, City, State, Zip: 2111 Blowing Rock Road, Boone, NC 28607

Information for the Beneficiary Bank, if applicable:

I certify the recipient information and beneficiary bank information provided above is true and correct. I am authorized to act in the capacity indicated and to transact business on the account listed above. Only original signatures accepted. No electronic signatures.

Deron Geouque

Recipient Official's Printed Name

Signature

828-265-8000

9/2/2025

Phone #

Date

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Financial Operations Division

US Dollar Wire Amount:
\$3,268,632.81

Contract/Reference Number:
Watauga County-Round3Loan-16346

Date Wire Processed:

Source:
Tranche 2

3200 Atlantic Avenue • Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
Courier #56-20-45 • Telephone: (919) 814-4000 • Fax: (919) 855-5809 • www.NCTreasurer.gov

AGENDA ITEM 9:

MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

B. Ambulance Purchase

MANAGER’S COMMENTS:

Staff received notification that two (2) 2025 Ford F-350 4x4 Type I AEV ambulances are available for purchase. The total cost is \$512,384. These units are on the HGAC contract, consistent with the previous ambulances purchased from ETA. Funds for this purchase are available through the County’s CIP.

Staff respectfully requests that the Board approve the purchase of two (2) 2025 Ford F-350 4x4 Type I AEV ambulances from Northwestern Emergency Vehicles in the amount of \$512,384.

QUOTE



Northwestern Emergency Vehicles

Watauga County Emergency Services
184 Hodges Gap Rd. Suite D
Boone, NC 28607

| Date | | Sales Rep. | FOB | Ship Via | Terms |
|---------|--|--------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| 8/26/25 | | David Hudler | Destination | Drive | Net on Acceptance |

| Quantity | Item | Description | Unit Price | Total |
|----------|------|--|--------------|--------------|
| 2 | | 2025 Ford F-350 4X4 Type I AEV Ambulance | \$256,192.00 | \$512,384.00 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | TOTAL | \$512,384.00 |

Northwestern Emergency Vehicles
Phone: (800) 536-8488

P.O. Box 790
Fax: (336) 246-8978

Jefferson, NC 28640
E-mail: david@nwev.com

AGENDA ITEM 9:

MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

C. Boards and Commissions

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Volunteer Application for Advisory Committees – David Luther

The County has received a volunteer application from David Luther of Boone, NC, expressing interest in serving on the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee, the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee, and the Watauga County Board of Adjustment.

Currently, there are three vacancies on the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee and two vacancies on the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee. The Watauga County Board of Adjustment currently has no vacancies.

Mr. Luther has extensive volunteer experience with senior care facilities and currently serves as a volunteer firefighter and EMT, regularly engaging with elderly and vulnerable populations. This item was previously presented as a first reading.

Board action is now requested to appoint Mr. Luther to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee and/or the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee, contingent upon available vacancies.

Volunteer Application
Watauga County Boards And Commissions

If you are a Watauga County resident, at least 18 years old, and willing to volunteer your time and expertise to your community, please complete the application below and click on Print Form.
Please sign and mail or fax to:

Watauga County Commissioners' Office
814 West King Street, Suite 205
Boone, NC 28607
Phone: (828) 265-8000
Fax: (828) 264-3230

Name: David Luther

Home Address: 139 Sunnyside Dr.

City: Boone Zip: 28607

Telephone: (H) 336-681-8435 (W) _____ (Fax) _____

Email: davidhluther@gmail.com

Place of Employment: Corpay

Job Title: Director, Product Marketing and Content Strategy

In Order To Assure County wide Representation Please Indicate Your Township Of Residence:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Bald Mountain | <input type="radio"/> Story Fork | <input type="radio"/> Watauga |
| <input type="radio"/> New River | <input type="radio"/> Brushy Fork | <input type="radio"/> Cove Creek |
| <input type="radio"/> Beaver Dam | <input type="radio"/> Meets Camp | <input type="radio"/> Shawneehaw |
| <input type="radio"/> Blue Ridge | <input type="radio"/> Blowing Rock | <input type="radio"/> Laurel Creek |
| <input type="radio"/> Elk | <input type="radio"/> North Fork | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Boone |

In addition, Please Indicate If You Live In One Of The Following Areas:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Foscoe-Grandfather Community | <input type="radio"/> Valle Crucis Historic District |
| <input type="radio"/> Howards Creek Watershed | <input type="radio"/> Winklers Creek Watershed |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> South Fork New River Watershed | <input type="radio"/> Extraterritorial Area |

We Ask Your Help In Assuring Diversity Of Membership By Age, Gender, And Race, By Answering The Following Questions

- | Gender | Ethnic Background | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Male | <input type="radio"/> African American | <input type="radio"/> Hispanic |
| <input type="radio"/> Female | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Caucasian | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| | <input type="radio"/> Native American | |

Please List (In Order Of Preference) The Boards/Commissions On Which You Would Be Willing To Serve.

1. Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee
2. Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee
3. Watauga County Board Of Adjustment

Volunteer Application
Watauga County Boards And Commissions
(Continued)

Please list any work, volunteer, and/or other experience you would like to have considered in the review of your application.

Work
Experience:

Oracle, Digital Strategy Senior Manager
(all other experience is related to project management and marketing strategy)

Volunteer
Experience:

Volunteer Senior Companion
Hospitality House Board
Deep Gap Volunteer Fire Department

Other
Experience:


NC Army National Guard
Kenan-Flagler School of Business

Other
Comments:

I'm primarily interested in filling vacancies on the boards supporting and advocating for adult and senior care facilities. Our population is aging rapidly, and as more people require care in these facilities, it's even more important that our board is fully staffed with people to advocate for the patients and their families.

As a teenager, I volunteered in state-run care centers, where I was the only volunteer

Signature:



Date:

8/6/25

Print Form

Reset Form

Comments, continued

I'm primarily interested in filling vacancies on the boards supporting and advocating for adult and senior care facilities. Our population is aging rapidly, and as more people require care in these facilities, it's even more important that our board is fully staffed with people to advocate for the patients and their families.

As a teenager, I volunteered in state-run care centers, where I was the only volunteer — the rest were court-ordered community service workers. The conditions were less-than-desirable, but more than anything I noted the need for engagement and interaction despite personnel being understaffed. In college, I was a senior companion, where I would visit with seniors during standard visiting hours when they had no one come to visit. More recently, I spent years visiting my grandparents in a luxurious assisted and nursing facility; but even there, where fees were five times my mortgage for one person, there were issues with standards given in memory care units.

I'm currently a volunteer firefighter and EMT, where I frequently interact with elderly people on medical calls and patients in the RHA Group Home. While these are different experiences from standard nursing and adult care facilities, these calls remind me that an engaged advocate is absolutely essential for people who cannot rely on attentiveness from overworked staff and relatives who make the difficult choice to place their care in the hands of professional facilities. I would see myself as an advocate for the patients first, but with an eye to the realities and needs of those working within the homes.

DAVID LUTHER

davidhluther@gmail.com | (336) 681-8435

EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Kenan-Flagler Business School | *Master of Business Administration (MBA), expected graduation 2025*

Harvard Business School Online | Credential of Readiness (CRe) | *Graduated with honors*

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | Bachelor of Arts, *English and Comparative Literature*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Oracle | Enterprise Tech/SaaS | Remote

Digital Strategy Senior Manager — November 2023 to Present

- **Marketing Program Management:** Oversee content and marketing campaigns for Oracle and NetSuite, managing cross-functional teams to develop product, industry, and technology marketing materials.
- **Subject Matter Expertise:** Create content and provide expertise in SEO, financial management, accounting, and ERP systems. Provide ongoing editorial support and localization of content subdomains.

Senior Content Marketing Manager — June 2021 to November 2023

- **Content Operations Leadership:** Led SEO-driven business solutions projects, collaborating with product, web development, marketing, and demand generation teams to produce content that drives traffic, generates leads, and supports sales, resulting in triple-digit traffic growth.
- **Team and Resource Management:** Managed contractors, directed editorial teams, and coordinated with developers to produce and quality-assure hundreds of articles annually, utilizing analytics and testing to optimize processes and enhance lead generation.
- **Omnichannel Content Development:** Partnered with sales teams and marketing managers to create diverse marketing materials, including white papers, infographics, social media posts, case studies, eBooks, email and website copy, data sheets, bylines, and infographics.

Senior Content Manager — August 2018 to June 2021

- **Content and Product Marketing:** Managed content calendar and product marketing materials for the NetSuite Global Business Unit and Bronto SBU, collaborating with design and web teams to produce web copy, email marketing materials, paid ads, webinars, podcasts, and social media posts.
- **Digital Strategy and SEO:** Executed digital strategy and SEO initiatives to relaunch websites, enhancing online presence and engagement using tools such as SEMRush, Ahrefs, and Moz.

ROI Revolution | Digital Marketing Agency | Raleigh, NC

Senior SEO Content Strategist — March 2018 to August 2018

- **Content Marketing Strategy:** Developed and executed content marketing strategies that integrated SEO, influencer marketing, and creative campaigns, engaging both influencers and customers to enhance clients' organic search presence.
- **Creative Content Development:** Combined elements of content creation and public relations with search engine marketing to promote clients' products and services, building robust inbound link and mention profiles.

Truist (Formerly BB&T) | Contract | Raleigh, NC

Digital Content Strategist — January 2018 to March 2018

- **User-Centered Content Analysis:** Analyzed user goals, conducted content inventories, gap analyses, user research, and stakeholder interviews to develop optimal communication strategies that convey messages effectively and compel user action.
- **Strategic Content Solutions:** Translated complex business requirements into actionable content solutions that reflect brand best practices, meeting user needs and business objectives with concise, scannable content suitable for digital platforms.

Zippia Inc. | Startup | Durham, NC

Content Marketing Manager — February 2017 to January 2018

- **Press Outreach and SEO:** Developed press outreach projects, building relationships with reporters at major publications, resulting in features in Business Insider, Forbes, Bloomberg, Time, and others, enhancing credibility and SEO.
- **Content Creation and Management:** Collaborated with creative teams to brainstorm and produce weekly content, managed the CMS and social media accounts, contributing to user acquisition and brand growth.

Eli Global | Content Team | Durham, NC

Content Marketing Editor — April 2011 to November 2013 | January 2015 to February 2017

- **Marketing Campaign Development:** Developed marketing campaigns and designed custom content for print, web, email, and digital media, acting as press liaison by writing press releases, developing release calendars, and serving as the point of contact.

- **Editorial Management:** Managed freelance writers, developed editorial calendars, and authored content for nationally distributed medical newsletters, ensuring high-quality publications.
Content Marketing Editor — April 2012 to November 2013
- **Email Marketing and Event Coordination:** Oversaw outbound email marketing campaigns and assisted senior management in developing regional events, enhancing engagement and outreach.
- **Mergers and Acquisitions Support:** Researched online media companies for potential mergers and acquisitions, collaborating with company leadership during transitional acquisition processes.

VOLUNTEER AND MILITARY EXPERIENCE

Hospitality House | Executive board | 2020 to current | *Secretary, Public Advocacy committee chair and strategic planning committee for homeless services non-profit*

Deep Gap Fire Department | 2022 to current | *Volunteer firefighter and EMT*

Special Olympics of North Carolina | Regional logistics manager | 2021 to 2024 | *Manage supplies, volunteers and site logistics for events*

Army National Guard | April 2006 to January 2012 | *715th Public Affairs Team | 230th Heavy Combat Brigade*

AGENDA ITEM 10:

BREAK

AGENDA ITEM 11:

CLOSED SESSION

Attorney-Client Matters – G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3)

Land Acquisition – G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(5)

Personnel Matters – G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(1)

AGENDA ITEM 12:

POSSIBLE ACTION AFTER CLOSED SESSION