

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Cabarrus met for an Agenda Work Session in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Cabarrus County Governmental Center in Concord, North Carolina at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025.

Public access to the meeting could also be obtained through the following means:

live broadcast at 5:30 p.m. on Channel 22

<https://www.youtube.com/cabarruscounty>

<https://www.cabarruscounty.us/cabcotv>

Present - Vice Chairman: Laura B. Lindsey  
Commissioners: Larry G. Pittman  
Kenneth M. Wortman  
Lynn W. Shue

Absent - Commissioners: Jeff Jones

Also present were: Sean Newton, County Manager; Kelly Sifford, Deputy County Manager; Aalece Pugh, Assistant County Manager; Daniel Peterson, County Attorney and Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board.

Commissioner Pittman provided an invocation.

### **1. Call to Order**

Vice Chair Lindsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Work Session Agenda**

#### **2.1 BOC - Changes to the Agenda**

#### **ADDITIONS:**

Discussion Items For Action

5.9 BOC - Budget Discussion

5.21 Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - Seat #15 Member of the Business Community

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Shue, seconded by Commissioner Wortman and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as amended.

### **3. Public Hearings**

#### **3.1 County Manager - FY 2026 Budget - Public Hearing 5:30 p.m.**

Vice Chair Lindsey requested that County Manager Sean Newton provide an update on the proposed budget.

Mr. Newton spoke about capital expenditures and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He explained how the prior year's surplus, consisting of unspent budgeted funds, was carried into the current fiscal year through the Community Investment Fund. These funds were allocated primarily to address deferred maintenance needs for educational facilities and other government buildings.

The capital budget for the year totals approximately \$35 million, with 82% designated for deferred maintenance projects within Cabarrus County Schools, Kannapolis City Schools, and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College. The remaining funds have been designated for maintenance and design projects related to county government facilities.

A brief discussion ensued between Commissioner Kenneth Wortman, County Manager Sean Newton and Deputy County Manager Kelly Sifford.

The Public Hearing Notice was published on May 22, 2025 in *The Independent Tribune*. The public hearing notice was also posted on the County's website ([www.cabarruscounty.us](http://www.cabarruscounty.us)) on May 21, 2025 in accordance with Article 2, Administration, Section 2.1 (Use of Electronic Means to Provide Public Notices) of the Cabarrus County Code of Ordinances.

Vice chair Lindsey opened the public hearing at 5:39 p.m.

Martin Ericson, a resident of 788 Courtney St. SE, Concord, NC, addressed the Board to ask them to support County employees, County physical infrastructure and the needs of the Cabarrus County Schools.

Courtney Steinburg, a resident of 216 Hahn Pl. SE, Concord, NC, addressed the Board regarding funding the school system.

Keshia Sandidge, a resident of 270 Post Oak Road SW, Concord, NC, commented on the need for teacher supplements.

Chris Cranston, a resident of 475 Meadows Dr., Concord, NC, spoke regarding local government and budget considerations.

Wes Honeycutt, a resident of 2700 Cal Bost Rd., Midland, NC, commented on local government and community needs.

Vice Chair Lindsey closed the public hearing at 5:52 p.m.

### **3.2 County Manager - FY 2026 Economic Development Allocation - Public Hearing 5:30 p.m.**

The Public Hearing Notice was posted on the County's website ([www.cabarruscounty.us](http://www.cabarruscounty.us)) on May 21, 2025 in accordance with Article 2, Administration, Section 2.1 (Use of Electronic Means to Provide Public Notices) of the Cabarrus County Code of Ordinances.

Vice Chair Lindsey opened the public hearing at 5:52 p.m.

Martin Erickson, a resident of 788 Courtney St. SE, Concord, NC, spoke in support of the allocation.

Chris Cranston, a resident of 475 Meadows Dr., Concord, NC, commented on Eli Lilly tax incentive allocations and inquired about the need for an economic development corporation.

Vice Chair Lindsey closed the public hearing at 5:56 p.m.

### **4. Discussion Items - No Action**

None

### **5. Discussion Items For Action**

#### **5.1 Cooperative Extension - Family and Consumer Science Programs (FCS) Programs**

Tracy LeCompte, Cooperative Extension Director, reported that Cooperative Extension recently partnered with the Cabarrus County Extension and Community Association (ECA) to host a joint event at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center. She noted funds were collected to cover registration costs.

Ms. LeCompte presented a budget amendment for consideration, which includes a \$2,200 increase in both expenses and revenue. This adjustment reflects the event payment and the funds received from ECA to cover associated costs. She further explained that this amendment is in addition to the original \$1,500 revenue and expense budget, which was expected to be met through six upcoming food preservation classes.

#### **5.2 Cooperative Extension - Grange Grant Approval**

Tracy LeCompte invited Sarah Newman, Livestock and Field Crop Agent, to present the Voluntary Agricultural District. Ms. Newman advised that Cooperative Extension has been awarded the North Carolina State Grange Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) Awareness Grant in the amount of \$4,500. These funds will be used to purchase VAD signs for members to display on their property. Ms. LeCompte noted that property owners who meet certain agricultural criteria may be designated as part of the Voluntary Agricultural District under Cabarrus County Ordinance No. 2005-20 and can display those signs on their property. She requested the Board's approval and execution of the grant agreement, with funds to be dispersed in FY 2026.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Wortman, seconded by Commissioner Shue, and unanimously carried, the Board suspended the rules of procedure.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Shue, seconded by Commissioner Wortman, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the grant award, approved the budget amendment, and authorized the County Manager to execute the necessary documents after review and approval by legal staff.



### 5.3 Finance - Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

Jim Howden, Finance Director, presented for consideration a budget amendment concerning the Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB). Under GASB 87 and GASB 96, certain leases and technology subscriptions must be recorded as assets or debt service payments. While the original costs were budgeted in departmental General Fund accounts, this budget amendment shifts the accounting so that payments can be recognized as principal and interest in the Community Investment Fund.

### 5.4 Finance - Rowan County Lottery Proceeds

Jim Howden, Finance Director, reported that lottery funds for Kannapolis City Schools (KCS) are received from the State and managed by the county in which the district is located. Since Kannapolis City Schools spans both Rowan and Cabarrus Counties, Cabarrus manages the funds on behalf of the district. Rowan County has requested their funds from Cabarrus. A budget amendment and a project ordinance was presented for consideration to pull the funds for KCS.

A brief discussion ensued; Mr. Howden responded to questions from the Board.

### 5.5 Finance - Year End Budget Amendments

Jim Howden, Finance Director, reported at the end of each fiscal year, the Finance Department reviews all county funds to identify any accounts where expenditures may exceed the budget or where additional revenues have been received such as grants, donations, or interest. A budget amendment has been prepared for each account to align revenues and expenses so departments can access the funds for their programs. Mr. Howden briefly reviewed the accounts and funds that require budget amendments, which were as follows:

- Fund 410 - Community Development Fund
- Fund 430 - Fire Districts Tax Distribution Fund
- Fund 460 - Small Projects Fund
- Fund 461 - Sheriff's Department Fund
- Fund 532 - Department of Aging
- Fund 610 - Self Insured Medical Fund
- Fund 001 - General Fund (Sales Tax and Ambulance Billing Revenue and Expenditure/Turnover)

### 5.6 County Manager - Department of Transportation Resolution

Kelly Sifford, Deputy County Manager, advised that North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has requested a resolution supporting the construction of a traffic circle on NC Highway 3 at Windy Road.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Pittman, seconded by Commissioner Wortman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved suspending the Rules of Procedure.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Pittman, seconded by Commissioner Wortman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the resolution.

Resolution No. 2025-08

#### RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAFFIC CIRCLE BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NCDOT) AT WINDY ROAD AND NC HWY 3 IN CABARRUS COUNTY

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of the citizens of Cabarrus County and the State of North Carolina are of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, safe and efficient roadways are essential for the daily lives of residents, facilitating travel to work, school, healthcare, and other vital services; and

WHEREAS, traffic accidents and related incidents pose a significant risk to the lives of our citizens, causing injuries, fatalities, and economic burdens; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the project is \$2,529,940 with 80% of the funding being provided from Surface Transportation Block Grant-Disaster Resolution funds with the remaining 20% coming from NCDOT; and

WHEREAS, these improvements may include, but are not limited to the construction of a of a traffic circle on NC Hwy 3 and Windy Road; and

WHEREAS, the Cabarrus County government recognizes the opportunity to leverage these funds to address critical infrastructure needs without additional burden to local taxpayers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation to construct for the traffic safety improvements outlined above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cabarrus County government expresses its gratitude to the State of North Carolina Senate for its support enhancing roadway safety in Cabarrus County.

Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2025.

/s/ Jeff Jones  
Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

/s/ Lauren Linker  
Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board

### **5.7 County Manager - Opioid Settlement Strategic Funding Plan-Revision & Addition to Option B Strategies**

Dr. Aalece Pugh, Assistant County Manager, provided an update on the opioid settlement strategic funding plan. It was proposed to amend two previously approved Option B strategies under the category "Address the needs of pregnant or parenting women and their families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome," reducing the total funding from \$1,840,000 to \$1,674,000. It was also requested to add a new Option B strategy. Dr. Pugh noted that Opioid settlement funds come from private companies involved in a national lawsuit against distributors and manufacturers of prescription opioids. A resolution was presented for consideration to update the opioid settlement strategic funding plan.

Kara Clarke, Deputy Chief of EMS, advised EMS personnel continue to respond to opioid-related calls and introduced Bingo, a therapy dog, for staff support. She requested a new Option B strategy to support first responders, citing research shows therapy dogs can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and improve mental wellness for personnel experiencing secondary trauma.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Wortman, seconded by Commissioner Pittman, and unanimously carried, the Board suspended the Rules of Procedure.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Wortman, seconded by Commissioner Pittman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the resolution.

Resolution No. 2025-09

### **A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF CABARRUS TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

WHEREAS Cabarrus County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids.

WHEREAS the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA"), the Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds from Additional Settlements of Opioid Litigation ("SAAF"), and SAAF-2;

WHEREAS Cabarrus County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA;

WHEREAS section E.6 of the MOA states that, before spending opioid settlement funds, the local government's governing body must adopt a resolution that:

- i. indicates that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; and,
- ii. states the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy; and,
- iii. states the amount dedicated to each strategy for a specific period of time.



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA, SAAF, and SAAF-2, Cabarrus County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows (of note, this resolution constitutes an amendment, in part, to Resolution # 2024-46 authorized on November 18, 2024):

1. First strategy authorized
  - a. Name of strategy: Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and Their Families, Including Babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
  - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Item E.1
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ 1,418,000.00
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 07/01/2024 through End date 06/30/2029
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: *Support evidence-based or evidence-informed treatment, including MAT, recovery services and supports, and prevention services for pregnant women - or women who could become pregnant - who have OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, and other measures to educate and provide support to families affected by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Funds will be used to support The Sun Clinic, which provides prenatal care, medication assisted treatment (MAT), case management, nutritional counseling, and peer support to substance using pregnant women and mothers. (Sun Clinic: [SUN Clinic | Cabarrus Health Alliance, NC - Official Website](#))*
  - g. Provider: Cabarrus Health Alliance (local public health authority)
2. Second strategy authorized
  - a. Name of strategy: Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and Their Families, Including Babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
  - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Item E.8
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ 256,000.00
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 07/01/2024 through End date 06/30/2029
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: *Provide enhanced support for children and family members suffering trauma because of addiction in the family and offer trauma-informed behavioral health treatment for adverse childhood events. Funds will be used to provide evidence-based behavioral health treatment and services to women who are eligible for services via The Sun Clinic.*
  - g. Provider: Cabarrus Health Alliance (local public health authority)
3. Third strategy authorized
  - a. Name of strategy: First Responders
  - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
    - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Item I.2
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ 10,000
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 06/01/2025 through End date 06/30/2029
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: *Provision of wellness and support services for first responders and others who experience secondary trauma associated with opioid-related emergency events. Funds will be used to train and implement use of an EMS therapy/support animal to augment EAP and related services in the overall wellness of the employees of the Cabarrus County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel, who are providing MAT and related services to individuals with opioid use disorders in the field. This tool will aid by helping to improve the psychological well-being of first responders. All use of agency therapy dogs shall be in accordance with applicable law and departmental directives.*
  - g. Provider: Cabarrus County Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$ 1,684,000.00.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2025.

s/Laura Lindsey  
Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

/s/ Lauren Linker  
Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board

**5.8 BOC - 2025 Commissioner Board Appointments Update**

The item was tabled for the June Regular Meeting.

**5.9 BOC - Budget Discussion**

The item was tabled for the June Regular Meeting.

**5.11 BOC - NACo Voting Credentials - 2025 Annual Conference**

Vice Chair Lindsey advised the National Association of Counties (NACo) will hold their 2025 Annual Conference in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania on July 11 - 14, 2025. She noted that, in order to participate in the Association's annual election of officers, a voting delegate must be registered. Vice Chair Lindsey inquired if any commissioners were interested in attending; no commissioners expressed interest in attending.

**5.10 BOC - Concord Downtown Development Corporation Appointment**

Vice Chair Lindsey advised that Susie Morris currently serves on the Concord Downtown Development Committee. Her term expires June 30, 2025, and she wishes to continue representing the County.

**5.12 Boards and Committees - Removal and Appointment - Cabarrus County Board of Equalization and Review**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.13 Boards and Committees - Appointment - Centralina Workforce Development Board**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.14 Boards and Committees - Appointment - Centralina Workforce Development Board**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.15. Boards and Committees - Removal and Appointment - Centralina Workforce Development Board**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.16. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Jury Commission**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.17. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.18. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.19. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.20.20 Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.21. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.22. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Mt. Pleasant Planning Board and Board of Adjustment**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.23. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Mt. Pleasant Planning Board and Board of Adjustment**

The item was tabled for the June Regular Meeting.



**5.24. Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.25. Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.26. Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.27. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Board of Trustees**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**5.28. Boards and Committees - Appointment - Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Board of Trustees**

The item was continued to the June Regular Meeting.

**6. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda****6.1 BOC - Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda**

The Board discussed the placement of the items on the agenda.

**UPON MOTION** of Commissioner Wortman, seconded by Vice Chair Lindsey, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as follows for the June 16, 2025 regular meeting.

**Approval or Correction of Minutes**

- Approval or Correction of Meeting Minutes

**Recognition and Presentations**

- Recognition - Cooperative Extension
- Proclamation - Active Living and Parks - July Park and Recreation Month

**Consent Agenda**

- Removal and Appointment - Cabarrus County Board of Equalization and Review
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Centralina Workforce Development Board
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Centralina Workforce Development Board
- Boards and Committees - Removal and Appointment Centralina Workforce Development Board
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Jury Commission
- Boards and Committees - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Boards and Committees - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Boards and Committees - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Boards and Committees - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Boards and Committees - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Mt. Pleasant Planning Board and Board of Adjustment
- Board and Committees - Appointment - Mt. Pleasant Planning Board and Board of Adjustment
- Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
- Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
- Boards and Committees - Appointments - Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Board of Trustees
- Boards and Committees - Appointment - Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Board of Trustees
- BOC - 2025 Commissioner Board Appointments Update
- BOC - Concord Downtown Development Corporation Appointment
- BOC - NACo Voting Credentials - 2025 Annual Conference

- Cooperative Extension - Family and Consumer Science (FCS) Programs - Budget Amendment
- Finance - Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 87 and 96 Budget Amendments
- Finance - Rowan County Lottery Proceeds
- Finance - Year End Budget Amendments

New Business

- County Manager - Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget
- Finance - Cabarrus County FY2026 Capital Projects Budget Request

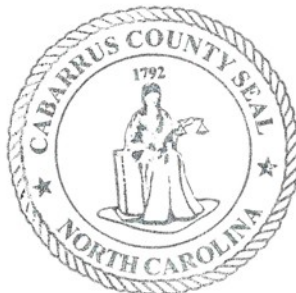
**7. Closed Session**

**7.1 Closed Session**

None

**8. Adjourn**

UPON MOTION of Commissioner Pittman, seconded by Commissioner Wortman, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



  
Ariadne Olvera, Clerk to the Board