

Jones County Board of Commissioners

July 7, 2025, 7:00 PM

Jones County Agricultural Building
110 Market Street
Trenton, NC 28585

1. Call to Order

Chairman Frank Emory

2. Invocation

Commissioner Charlie Gray

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comment Period

None

5. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Motion to Approve

Unanimously

To approve the agenda as presented.

6. Presenters

6.1. Employee Years of Service Recognition

Mr. Kyle Smith, County Manager, presented the Employee Years of Service Recognition Certificates.

Tichina Godette, 5 years, Income Maintenance Caseworker II, DSS

Carissa Otis, 10 years, Paramedic Shift Supervisor, Emergency Services

Michael Grant, 10 years, Sheriff Deputy, Sheriff's Office

Latonya Green, 10 years, Detention Officer, Jail

Angelica Hall, 15 years, HR Director/Clerk to the Board, Administration

6.2. FY2024-25 Final Collection Report

Mr. Fleming Jeffress, Tax Administrator, presented the FY 2024 -25 Final Collection Report.

6.3. FY2024-25 Annual Settlement Reports

Mr. Fleming Jeffress, Tax Administrator, presented the FY2024 -25 Annual Settlement Reports to the Board.

Motion made by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Seconded by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

To Approve the FY 2024-25 Annual Settlement Reports as presented.

Unanimously

6.4. Approval of Releases and Discoveries for Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Mr. Fleming Jeffress, Tax Administrator, presented the Board with the Releases and Discoveries for the Period July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025.

Motion made by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Seconded by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

To approve the Releases and Discoveries for the Period July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025.

Unanimously

6.5. Medication Assistance Program Funding Carryover

Ms. Adrian Smith, Health Director, informed the Board that the Health Department was requesting to carry over \$3,990 from the Medication Assistance Program. This program offers low and no-cost medications and medical supplies to those in need and runs from August– July.

Motion made by: Vice-Chairman Charlie Dunn Jr.

Seconded by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Motion to Approve as presented.

Passed Unanimously

6.6. Community Baby Shower

Ms. Adrian Smith, Health Director, provided the Board with the following information in reference to the Community Baby Shower. The Jones County Health Department is partnering with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina to host a Community Baby Shower. This event will be held at the Jones County Civic Center on Saturday, July 12th, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. BCBS NC has donated over 100 packs of diapers and wipes in multiple sizes, and will be providing a light lunch for attendees. Community partners will be present to share information and resources with families. This event is open to all who wish to attend, especially expecting families and families with young children.

6.7. Focused Addiction Recovery

Ms. Colby Powers, Outreach Specialist, provided the Board with information in reference to the Focused Addiction Recovery Program in Wallace, NC. Ms. Powers stated that they focus on evidence-based programs that are not only backed by research proven to work. The services provided are: Outpatient Detox and Day Treatment, Partial Hospitalization Day Treatment, Intensive Outpatient Programs and Outpatient Programs.

6.8. Duke Energy Grant - DEN System

Ms. Ryan Mills, EM Director, informed the Board that Jones County Emergency Management received a \$25,000 Emergency Preparedness grant through Duke Energy. The Grant will provide a DEN System that will be utilized during activations and normal events/disasters as a redundancy for communication and data access. Ms. Mills requested the Board approve the utilization of the \$25,000 Duke Energy Grant for the DEN System.

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Motion to Approve as presented.

Passed Unanimously

6.9. Long Term Recovery

Ms. Ryan Mills, Emergency Services Director, spoke briefly to the Board on the creation of a Long Term Recovery Board. Ms. Mills requested to return to the Board during a work session to provide the Board with more information.

6.10. Urgent Repair Program 2026

Ms. Jennifer King, Deputy Director of Administration, provided the Board with the following update on the Urgent Repair Program 2026. Ms. King stated that the URP26 grant includes \$165,000 in funding to assist low-income homeowners with critical home repairs. The application period opens July 8 and runs through September 23, 2025. The program is expected to benefit at least 10 residents across Jones County. The maximum amount per home has increased to \$15,000.

7. Approval of Items on Consent Agenda

7.1. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2025, Work Session Minutes for June 16, 2025, and Special Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2025

7.2. Project Ordinance - URP 26

7.3. Volunteer EMS Lease Agreements

7.4. FEMA Lot Leases

7.7. Capital Request - Skid Steer

This is the official quote to proceed with purchasing a skid steer at source well pricing, which was included in the adopted FY 2026 budget. Total price is \$86,492.

7.8. Adoption of Neuse River Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan via Resolution

NCEM reviewed and approved the Neuse River Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the plan is now under review by FEMA. While the plan is being reviewed by FEMA, local governments subject to the Neuse River Regional HMP are encouraged to approve the plan via a resolution. The resolution for adoption is attached.

7.9. NCDOT Special Event Authorization

Consent by Board of Commissioners to authorize the 2025 Jones County Heritage Festival Parade through the NCDOT Special Event Request portal.

7.10. Budget Amendments #1-8

7.11. Bulk Ammunition Purchase

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner James Harper

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Unanimously

8. Public Hearing

Motion to go into Public Hearing for Financing Shell Building in Jones County Industrial Park.

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Passed Unanimously

8.1. Public Hearing for Financing Shell Building in Jones County Industrial Park

Public Hearing regarding the financing of a shell building in the Jones County Industrial Park. Jones County will be taking a loan for \$500,000 from Jones-Onslow EMC to pass through the Jones County Development Alliance for construction.

There were no public comments.

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Vice-Chairman Charlie Dunn Jr.

Motion to Approve to go out of Public Hearing

Passed Unanimously

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Motion to Approve the Resolution as presented.
Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs voted No on this motion.

Passed

9. New Business

9.1. Approval for Funds to Build Shell Building in Jones County Industrial Park

Mr. John Bender, Economic Developer, presented to the Board a request from the Jones County Development Alliance. The Jones County Development Alliance has already secured \$930,000 from NC's Southeast and Jones-Onslow EMC for the construction of a shell building in the Jones County Industrial Park. They are now requesting that the county contribute up to \$1.4 million, as needed, to support the completion of the project.

Motion made by: Commissioner April Aycock

Seconded by: Vice-Chairman Charlie Dunn Jr.

Motion to Approve and appropriate up to \$1,367,323 as needed. Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs voted no on this motion.

Passed

9.2. Request for Technology Contractor Award for Pollocksville Jones County EMS Substation and EOC

Ms. Ryan Mills, Emergency Services Director, requested the sole use of JNBTEK for the Pollocksville EMS Station and the Jones County EOC to ensure all security equipment (door latches, camera systems, technology) is under one system. Additionally, Jones County Emergency Services requested approval for Communications Support Specialists to place a tower on the side of the existing EOC building to hold HAM radio equipment and increase our redundancy for communication throughout Emergency Events. This tower would be utilized in EOC operations as a secondary form of communication, enhancing the emergency response and recovery.

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner James Harper

Motion to Approve \$29,580.15 for the Pollocksville EMS Station and seek an additional quote for the EOC, not to exceed \$72,433.97.

Passed Unanimously

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Motion to Approve the request for the tower to hold HAM radio equipment in the amount of \$15,500.

Passed Unanimously

9.3. EOC Furniture

Ms. Ryan Mills, Emergency Services Director, presented the Board with a quote for office, EOC, and conference room furniture for the new EOC. Ms. Mills informed the Board that the quote was a state contract quote in the amount of \$36,302.00.

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Motion to Approve as presented.

Passed Unanimously

9.4. Change Order Request - EOC Renovation

Ms. Ryan Mills, Emergency Services Director, requested the Board's approval of two change orders for the EOC Renovation project. The first change order adds a small server room to the original plan to consolidate and house all IT-related equipment. The second change order replaces and relocates 14 LED lights in the EOC Breakroom and includes wiring for 6 TV's.

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Motion to Approve the change order to add a small server room to the original plan to consolidate and house all IT-related equipment.

Unanimously

Motion made by: Vice-Chairman Charlie Dunn Jr.

Seconded by: Commissioner James Harper

Motion to Approve the change order to replace and relocate 14 LED lights and the wiring of 6 TV's.

Passed Unanimously

9.5. Playground Grants Project Ordinance

Mr. Blake Batchelor, Finance Officer, presented the Board with a project ordinance to budget the construction of playground facilities at the future Jones County Recreation and Wellness Center site. Mr. Batchelor informed the Board that the funding was provided through a Trillium Inclusive Playground Grant, Accessible Parks Grant, Harold Bate Foundation Grant, and local match.

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Motion to Approve the project ordinance as presented.

Passed Unanimously

9.6. Demolition and Removal of House on Parcel: 449792843200

Mr. Kyle Smith, County Manager, provided the following recommendation to the Board, to authorize Landtek Solutions, LLC to demolish and remove the old home on property parcel 449792843200 (Future Recreation/Wellness Complex site). The quote for the work is \$15,000.

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner James Harper

Motion to Approve as presented.

Passed Unanimously

9.7. EMS, Station 1 - Change Order

Mr. Kyle Smith, County Manager, informed the Board that the Wooten Company agreed to pay for the following items, totaling \$23,317.40, of the change order totaling \$52,176.52:

1. Wooten's internal costs to re-design the parking lot.
2. Relocation of the ex. light pole and liquid propane tank.
3. Demolition of the ex. concrete pad and affected portion of the curb and gutter.
4. Pro-rata percentage of the Contractor's additional labor and administrative costs.

There was a motion by Commissioner Harper to approve, but this motion was rescinded, and this item was moved to Closed Session for further discussion. Closed Session- Attorney-Client Privilege 143.318.11.(a)(3).

10. Manager's Comments

- The next Joint Elected Officials Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 6 PM. The meeting will be held at the Jones County Civic Center.
- The next BOC regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, August 4, 2025, at 7 PM. No work session.
- NACo Annual Conference is July 10th - July 15th, 2025.
- The 118th NCACC Annual Conference is August 21-23, 2025, in Greenville, NC.
- The Jones County Recreation Department has secured another NCAS grant in the amount of \$5,750. This grant will support Youth Sports Equipment purchases.
- Several grants have recently been awarded for the future "Jones County Recreation and Wellness Complex."
 - NC Accessible Parks Grant: \$468,750 (Local Match, \$93,750), bringing the project total to \$562,500
 - Trillium Health Resources All Inclusive Playground grant: \$250,000
 - Harold H. Bates Foundation grant: \$50,000 to support the National Fitness Campaign Accessible Workout Pad

11. County Attorney's Comments

None

12. Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs requested that a letter be sent to the State regarding the river cleanout.

Commissioner James Harper noted that during their time in Raleigh, the Chairman and County Manager did a great job advocating for the County and wanted to commend them for their efforts.

Commissioner Charlie Gray requested an update on the Flood Study.

13. Public Comment Period

None

14. Closed Session

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Commissioner April Aycock

Motion to go into Closed Session: Attorney-Client
Privilege § 143-318.11.(a)(3)

Passed Unanimously

Motion made by: Commissioner James Harper

Seconded by: Vice-Chairman Charlie Dunn Jr.

Motion to go out of Closed Session

Passed Unanimously

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner James Harper

Motion to Approve the Purdue Pharma/Sackler Bankruptcy Plan and authorize County staff to complete and transmit any necessary documentation to effectuate that purpose, including the GESA Sackler Release; to approve submission of the participation form for the 9-Defendant Settlement and the Sandoz Settlement, and to authorize County staff to complete and transmit any necessary documentation to effectuate those purposes.

Passed Unanimously

15. Adjournment

Motion made by: Commissioner Charlie Gray

Seconded by: Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs

Motion to Adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Passed Unanimously