



Foothills Regional Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting  
May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024  
Minutes

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**Committee Members Present**

- **Chairman**, Fred Baisden, Polk County
- **Vice-Chair**, Max Hopper, Cleveland County
- Ashley Wooten, McDowell County
- Jack Shytle, Town of Polkville
- Jimmy Dancy, Town of Rutherfordton

**Committee Members Absent**

- **Secretary**, Bryan King, Rutherford County
- Dean Buff, McDowell County

**FRC Staff Present**

- Danna Stansbury
- Charlotte Sullivan
- Laura Lynch
- Alan Toney
- Penny Martinez

**FRC Staff Absent**

- Annette Staley
- Pam Hall
- Amanda Scott

**Call to order**

The Executive Committee Meeting of the Foothills Regional Commission was held at Foothills Regional Commission in the conference room on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Chairman Fred Baisden called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and welcomed everyone. Max Hopper gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and State Salute to the North Carolina Flag.

**Approval of minutes**

Chairman Fred Baisden requested approval of the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was made by Jimmy Dancy, with a second by Jack Shytle. All were in favor.

## Reports

### 1. Presentation of 2024-2024 Proposed Budget

Charlotte Sullivan:

- The Proposed Budget was presented and will be adopted in June for Fiscal Year 24/25.

#### Comments:

Jimmy Dancy asked about the intended audience for the presentation mentioned in the notice.

Danna and Charlotte explained the requirements for public notice related to the Budget presentation.

### 2. Finance Update

Charlotte Sullivan:

- Presented and confirmed how the following bank balances are managed:
  - i. \$2.1 million in North Carolina Capital Management Trust.
  - ii. \$543,063 in Section 8 Housing Account.
  - iii. \$75,506 in General Fund Account.
  - iv. \$2,915 in Payroll Account.
- Requested approval of the following Indirect/Outlay Resolution:
  - i. Surplus funds in the Indirect account should be allocated to capital outlay by an assigned fund balance. Excess funds to be used for building maintenance.

**Decision:** Chairman Fred Baisden requested approval of the Indirect/Outlay resolution. The motion was made by Jimmy Dancy, with a second by Jack Shytle. All were in favor.

### 3. Aging Department Update

Laura Lynch:

- Stated that there were two monitoring visits from the State; one for Lori which there were no findings, and another for Danielle which had only one suggestion.
- Mentioned that they always get suggestions and no findings from monitor visits.
- Informed the Board of the Block grant funding to be significantly less this year (\$121,000) and explained the formulary as to population amount.
- Informed the Board that North Carolina does not pay the ombudsman and this salary must come from the Block grant.

- Informed the Board that advocacy is needed for State assistance and she is concerned about more funding going to the “big 3”.
- Emphasizes the need for the State to reevaluate its funding formulary

### **Comments:**

Fred suggested a meeting at FRC with the Legislators to present data on Block grant funding.

Max mentioned the minimum age issue on the formulary for senior services.

### **4. Housing Department Update**

Pam Hall (Absent)

Danna Stansbury & Charlotte Sullivan:

- Provided an update on HUD Section 8. HUD representatives reached out to FRC to inquire about more funding. Pam responded affirmatively and \$65,000 was promptly sent on the same day.
- Pam, Tammy, Danna, and Charlotte were all present during the call when funding was confirmed.
- Stated that there is a need to reconcile \$23,000 after a subsequent call. Auditors participated in the second call.
- Fred had a positive correspondence with the auditors the week before this meeting and expressed satisfaction with the audit.

### **5. Workforce Development Update**

Annette Staley (Absent)

Charlotte Sullivan:

- Reported that WIOA had 3 years of financial monitors (2020-2023) with no findings.
- WIOA also had an ARPA monitoring with no findings.

### **6. Community and Economic Development Update**

Alan Toney:

- Informed the Board of the disbursement of over \$100,000 to the local nonprofit organizations for operating, capacity building, and training.
- Briefed about the development of a tech hub in the region.
- Gave a HUD Home Consortium 2022 funding update. Stated that the projects have received half a million dollars so far.
- Informed the Board that the agricultural work is expanding and that he and Magnolia are now on the Western North Carolina Food Council.

- Stated that their department is working with Rutherford County on a pilot to place farmland into a trust, a first in the state and they were interviewed by NADO.
- Updates the cost assessment to expand Broadband across all four counties is underway.
- Stated that FRC was selected to be a site for a LEAD for NC Fellow. Two candidates were interviewed, and Paloma Garcia will be starting in August. She will assist Alan and Charlotte.
- Informed the Board that the DOT Prioritization 7 Cycle was approaching. Scoring projects will be challenging with limited funding available.
- Informed the Board that RPO will advocate strongly for projects.
- Announced that they are working on a CDBG application with Cleveland County
- Disaster Financial Trainings by Penny Martinez are underway, with one completed and one more at the end of June.

## 7. Executive Director's Report

Danna Stansbury:

- Presented the FY 24/25 meeting calendar for approval.
- Discussed Legislative Day advocacy for a building and statewide COG efforts.
- Requested a special appropriation for a new building for the COG.
- Jake Johnson seemed most likely to assist with a special appropriation.
- Requested the Full Board to contact Legislators in Raleigh to support the appropriation.
- Mentioned Steve Garrison's help with the letter and determining the funding request.
- Announced invitation to be on the NADO Board for the Southeast Region and was voted in.

### Comments:

Fred suggested sending out reminders once the calendar is approved.

Max, Fred, and Jimmy discussed staying in the current building versus moving.

Max suggested all towns should also advocate; Fred agreed.

**Decision:** Chairman Fred Baisden requested approval of the FY 24/25 meeting calendar. The motion was made by Max Hopper, with a second by Jimmy Dancy. All were in favor.

## Adjournment

Chairman Fred Baisden adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:50 pm.

## Closed Session

Fred Baisden requested a motion to enter a closed session for personnel consideration. A motion was made by Max Hopper, with a second by Jack Shytle. All were in favor.

### Closed Session Adjournment

Chairman Fred Baisden adjourned the closed session at 2:13 pm and reopened the regular meeting to rule on personnel action.

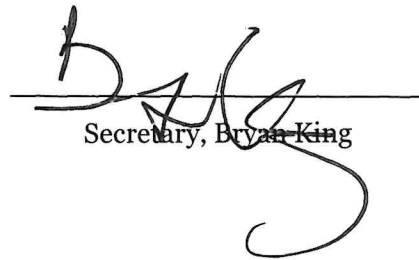
### Adjournment

Chairman Fred Baisden adjourned the regular meeting at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman, Fred Baisden



Secretary, Bryan King