

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Special Meeting  
August 16, 2019 - 9:00 AM  
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building  
Columbus, NC  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Melton, Vice-Chairman Yoder, Commissioner Beiler, and Commissioner Gaperson. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board High, and staff.

1. Call to Order - Chairman Melton.

2. Closed Session

Commissioner Beiler moved to go into closed session for the purpose of attorney client privilege and personnel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to give a one year extension to the North Carolina Department of Commerce Building Re-purposing Grant to Santanna/Bulldog to allow more time to meet the employment requirements of the grant, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to accept the offer from Tryon International Equestrian Center (TIEC) to convey to Polk County tax parcel number P105-33 consisting of approximately two acres to be used as the site for a public safety facility in accordance with the Development Agreement TIEC has with Polk County, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Melton read the following:

To more accurately reflect the average compensation paid for similar positions within units of local government in North Carolina, to retain and incentivize employees falling under the direct control of the Board of Commissioners, and to encourage well qualified candidates to run for office, I will entertain the following motion:

1. We reclassify the Clerk to the Board and Assistant to the County Manager position to a Grade 29, Step 9 effective July 1, 2019 and from henceforth, this position shall receive the same percentage increase in compensation as regular county employees.
2. We modify the current Board of Commissioners compensation to a Grade 4

to begin at \$11,432 effective July 1, 2019 and from henceforth, the Commissioners shall receive the same percentage increase in compensation as regular county employees.

3. Effective July 1, 2019, we modify the County Manager's contract to:

a) reduce his severance compensation period to six months plus one additional month for each year of service as Manager with a maximum cap of eighteen months.

b) to increase his annual base salary to \$105,000 with an annual 5% increase effective July 1, of each year thereafter for a period of five years, and

c) to make an annual contribution of 5% of annual salary to his 401k account on July 1 of each year

4. We add one additional hour to the County Attorney's work schedule effective the week ending August 16, 2019.

Commissioner Beiler so moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Yoder moved to modify the budget by moving up to \$37,500 out of fund balance into governing body salaries. He further moved to modify the budget by moving up to \$23,500 out of fund balance into administration, salaries, and he also moved to modify the budget by moving up to \$7000 out of fund balance to legal salaries, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

### 3. Adjournment

Commissioner Gasperson moved to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

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Ange High  
Clerk to the Board

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Tommy W. Melton  
Chairman