



July 25, 2014

Weekly Report

A Highlight of Departmental Activities

The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory list, department headings, icons and text in blue to be linked to more information.

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Special Announcements

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Did you know that we have profiles on all of these?
We are always looking for content to add!



[Airport](#)

The Airport sold 723.90 gallons of 100-LL fuel and 952 gallons of Jet A. Prepaid customer fuel sales totaled 1,194 gallons and \$40,000; \$200 received in hanger rent; and \$111.21 in cash sales. The regular business meeting was held on July 15.



[Board of Elections](#)

The Board of Elections Second Primary election is now complete. A sample count was held to verify that the equipment worked properly and the Canvass was held to finalize all the results. Best estimates so far show that the election cost approximately \$12,250.00 or about \$5.00 per vote. This week staff processed over 750 registrations and changes that could not be completed until after the Second Primary and mailed new voter cards.

Building Inspections

The Building Inspections Department has written 37 permits this week totaling approximately \$3500—one of which was a new single family home. We have completed plan review of the initial foundation permit for the Tryon Equestrian Facility's International Center and are awaiting the final paperwork from the general contractor over the project for issuance. We also received final plans on our new Development Services building remodel and Jason and Danny (Planning) met with interested general contractors on Wednesday afternoon to go over specs and plans. Bids for the project will be submitted by this upcoming Wednesday.

Clerk to the Board

The Public Information Clerk continued working with Granicus, MeasuredVoice and the new application for data entry for the Boards and Commissions of the County. She participated in the Enhanced Recycling Program Committee meeting Thursday, attended a marketing and operations meeting with the County's textile recycling vendor afterwards and attended the Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting on Friday.

Public Records and Information requests continue to come in and are being delivered to departments. Everyone is doing a great job in assisting Adrienne in seeing that these requests are met in a timely manner. Some require a considerable amount of time by the preparer and the governing body staff appreciate the support.

The County has an online photostream on Flickr. If you have a images from a department workshop, event or anything else that shows the services we offer and the folks that take advantage of them, share them with Adrienne Wallace. She is building a digital archive. Some of the albums started include the Library (all those awesome kid-centered activities), Airport Visitors (aircraft is just plain cool and the stories behind them too), Cooperative Extension (livestock, education, outreach and a few others), Community Project Grant (before and after) and the Thermal Belt Rail-Trail. This image database will be invaluable as we share media releases, present to various groups/stakeholders and capture our daily operations now, for the future.

Cooperative Extension

The Family and Consumer Sciences staff attended a discussion group for NCCE Branding; assisted with West District 4-H Sewing Camp; followed up Kids & Chefs program; and prepared for county employee Health Fair.

County Manager

The County Manager held his weekly project update meetings with the department heads for Economic Development, Solid Waste, Public Works and Planning, as well as, the County Attorney. He attended the monthly meeting of the Broad River Water Authority; Senior Center Advisory Board; DSS continuances; met with the Library Director; and attended the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner. On Friday, the County Manager visited Grey Rock and Queens Gap to look at the status of road projects, met with the Rail Trail Advisory Committee and continued budget discussions with the Finance Director.

Economic Development

The Executive Director continued efforts associated with infrastructure planning; prepared and issued a RFQ for site and civil engineering design services; reviewed a public information request; met with Stonecutter Corporation to discuss economic development opportunities; met with a business prospect; and monitored grant activities associated with recent recruitment efforts.

The Project Administrator networked with existing industry via visits, phone calls and email, provided feedback and scheduled visits; provided follow-up to Business Advancement Team for proposed action steps to industry visits; made amendments to Business and Industry Resource Guide and created introductory materials; worked jointly with office to respond to a public records request; worked with existing industry to gather additional information for a NC DOC Rural Division submittal and attended the Annual Chamber of Commerce dinner.

The Economic Development Assistant reviewed and assembled documentation provided by an existing business for a Building Reuse grant payment request; collected and backed up data for a public information request; reviewed a marketing piece for Gateway West Commerce Park and sent suggested revisions to the marketing firm; assisted the Director in the creation of an RFQ application; and worked with Trelleborg and GoldenLEAF Foundation representatives to commence the upcoming lease agreement.

Finance

The Director continue to update the financial system with the budget as adopted last week. The Director attended a DOT workshop with the Transportation Services Director regarding ROAP training. The Assistant Director and Finance Technician attended an Escheat class sponsored by the NC State Treasurer's Office. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

The Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Director attended the N.C. State Firemen's Association conference in Raleigh; attended an All Hazards Incident Management Team meeting; participated in planning for "Active Shooter" exercise; prepared and sent out contract addendum's to fire departments; and responded to a report of an illegal burn.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Welcome new hires Terry Padgett (p/t Detention), Steven Blair (p/t Detention), William Guffy (p/t Detention), and Sarah Harris (DSS). The Director attended a meeting with Library Director Martha Schatz, conducted interviews along with Sherry Lavender for the Tax Certification Specialist position, and posted for two part time Airport attendant positions. Apply @ www.rutherfordcountync.gov. July 29 is the date for the County Wellness/Financial Fair. We hope everyone will drop by and take advantage of all the services being offered. A special thank you to all those that helped with Relay's Breakfast with Santa at Fatz on July 19th. \$455 was raised to help find a cure.

Information Technology

Information Technology staff want to remind you of a few things as the new fiscal year begins:

- Make sure that all equipment that has been approved for purchase is also approved by IT
- The County has a Shred-It account so If you have any shredding needs please contact the IT office. Jill Wilson, 287-6319, will be glad to assist you in anyway possible.
- To verify what IT needs were approved, call the IT department head.
- As you all know we have upgraded our exchange server. The server upgrade was needed for the new phone system to make some of its features work better. So you will continue to see some changes throughout the year with both the phone and email systems.
- Thank you for your continued use of Track-It. Don't forget to keep submitting request through the Track-It system.

You never know what you will find at the Library. These happy faces got a big dose of MAD SCIENCE recently.

Check out the calendar of events for more - <http://www.rutherfordcountync.gov/calendar>



Library

From the Director -

Attended, along with others on staff, a CMC consortium meeting at the County Library. Prepared for a Library Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday and met with the County Manager and Debbie Bedford from the Board of Elections regarding an issue on voter registration drives.

From Library IT -

Kenneth has finished upgrading all three library web sites (rutherfordcountylibrary.org, haynesbranchlibrary.org, and mountainsbranchlibrary.org) and they are now live for the public. The new sites will automatically adjust to fit on small screens (smartphones, tablets, etc) and have been reorganized so items are easier to find.

Stephanie Long and April Young were awarded grants in the amount of \$1,200 each to attend the 2014 Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference in Tacoma, Washington September 4-6. The grants are being administered through the State Library.

From the Children's Librarian -

The Summer Reading Program is still going strong with Dr. M & M from Mad Science of the Piedmont performing a chemistry stage show for the patrons this week. Next week will culminate with the SRP Celebration at all three libraries. Miss Jeannie will be doing the program with stories, songs, and games, as well as handing out certificates, awards, prizes, gifts, and refreshments.

From the Mountains Branch -

Mountains Branch is currently hosting a model of the new Lake Lure Classical Academy slated for groundbreaking in early August 2014, with a completion date of July 2015. The model was built by Academy student Hannah Yoxall with the assistance of Mr. Hagmann, a teacher at the Academy.

Public Works and Planning

The Public Works and Planning Department maintenance staff continued emphasis in partnering with the designer, contractors, building inspections, environmental, and elections offices to meet the rigorous schedule of creating the developmental services in compliance with the elections deadlines. Also, Planning and Projects continues working with regulatory agencies and contractors in Queens Gap Greyrock and the Developmental Services project. We have also been very busy with the historical Gilbertowne and Biggerstaff properties in addition to multiple plat reviews, coordination with the planning board. In addition, an update on Community grants project which will be offered for this current fiscal year to communities beginning soon. Maintenance experienced a busy week completing 45 work order repairs in addition to reviewing multiple others. Lastly the garage has been very busy with multiple service calls, repairs, and inspections.

Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds Department made 12 copies resulting in cash receipts of \$44, processed 192 real estate records with \$14,649 received in cash, and processed 118 vitals, receiving \$1,830. A total of 322 transactions were made with a total of \$16,523 in cash received.

Revenue

The Revenue Department answered 564 phone calls, and assisted 222 citizens who came in to the office and assisted 26 PUV customers. We had 45 deeds recorded, 80 deeds were transferred and 49 new accounts were set up. 23 Deeds were certified. We processed 2 splits, 3 merges, 3 acreage adjustments, 3 estate transfers and created 7 new maps. We also had 3 plats reviewed and 1 pre-permit issued. 3 new E911 addressees were assigned and 52 addressees were updated with ownership information. Appraisers completed 406 field reviews and 71 building permits. We had 115 citizens pay at the counter. Electronic payments consisted of 13 by credit/debit, 15 by website, and none by phone. Enforced collections consisted of 22 garnishments, 1 bank draft, 19 prepays, 4 employer lists, 29 attachments, 11 overpayments, and 28 newspaper issues. Staff worked 3 data requests, 5 exemptions, 27 mail out letters, 45 VTS assists, and 11 bankruptcy payments/issues. 119 pieces of mail were received and processed. We completed 9 discoveries, 9 releases, and 2 refunds.

Senior Center

The Senior Center welcomed Chad Arrowood on Tuesday to present a program on “Vials of Life”. The Vial of Life kit quickly tells emergency personnel important medical information such as medications, ailments, insurance, hospital, and physician information. On Wednesday, Dr. Lassiter from Rutherford Wound Care & Hyperbarics came to talk about the most current treatments offered at the Wound Care center. The Senior Center Advisory Board met on Thursday for the quarterly meeting. Lastly, on Friday we had a program called “Meet the Staff”. This gave new participants an opportunity to learn more about the Center’s staff and their job responsibilities, as well as services and referral programs available at the Senior Center. The staff has also been distributing Farmers Market Coupons this week. The Seniors Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program provides congregate nutrition site participants who do not exceed the monthly income levels of \$1,799 for an individual or \$2,425 combined for a couple with coupons to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from the local farmers market. Each eligible participant receives \$21 worth of coupons. We received enough coupons to distribute to 65 individuals. The Center continues to stress health and wellness with our Zumba class and Square Dance Class. Our Square Dance Class is on Thursday’s at 4:00 p.m. and we will have Zumba on July 28 at 5:30 p.m.

Social Services

The Department of Social Services Income Maintenance staff continues to plan for the further implementation of Medicaid in the NC FAST System. The regular weekly NC FAST Conference Call was held on Wednesday. There are upcoming deadlines that must be met, which requires careful work distribution and planning. Income Maintenance supervisors conducted interviews this week for vacant positions. On Thursday, the Director and Program Manager attended a meeting to discuss court hearing processes and court continuances in DSS cases. The meeting was held at the courthouse and among those attending were Judge Randy Pool; County Attorney, Richard Williams; DSS Attorney, Brian Oglesby; the County Manager; and the Clerk of Court. The Director and Medicaid Transportation staff attended the quarterly Medicaid Transportation statewide conference call on Thursday. The agency is in the process of preparing for the move to the Rutherford Center. When the move is completed, all Income Maintenance Services will be located in the Rutherford Center and all Social Work Services and Child Support will be located in the current DSS Building.

Soil and Water

The Admin/Education Specialist worked on the District Meeting Agenda, District Annual Report and Conservation Field day plans. Staff also visited a potential site with FSA staff to work on plans for 2014 Farm City Event. The Soil and Water technician worked on the annual report to the NC Soil and Water Division, fielded several technical service calls and visited 3 projects under construction.

Solid Waste

The landfill served 293 customers, hauled 55 loads from convenience centers, shipped 33 loads to Lenoir and sent out two recycling trailers. The landfill staff continue to perform everyday job duties while bush hogging and wrapping electronics. The staff is preparing to move equipment to the airport later this week or the beginning of next week. The director attended various meeting this week including the weekly solid waste meeting with Carl, a meeting with Waste Industries, sewer line review with David Odom, ERPC meeting and a meeting with Carolina Village Textiles. Steve Nanney and myself have been asked to attend the NC SWANA Conference in October this year and put on another presentation about our recycling program. The landfill received its first check for the textile recycling this week. The amount was \$2544.00.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

- Actives cases 12
- Convenience center cases 3
- Pictures taken 3
- Home visits 2
- Letters written 0
- Citations written 0
- Community Service workers 3
- Community service reports 1

Please remember Mr. Kimbrell in the passing of his wife and Tony Bumgarner as he has shoulder surgery.

Keep promoting recycling within your departments. The landfill is up 28% which is roughly 200 tons above last year. This is great to see and thanks for all your help!

Tourism Development Authority

The TDA held several meetings and conducted research as it relates to the needs, opportunities, and priorities relevant to the equestrian center, worked with UNC-TV for the filming of an upcoming tourism segment on their weekend travel show, communicated with NCDOT in regards to its public comments request about road priorities, revised its annual strategic plans, performed another round of edits on the travel guide, held discussions with web developers, and greeted visitors at the welcome center, where it continues to be a very busy summer!

Transportation Services

EMS: This week EMS Personnel responded to 143 emergency calls and 70 convalescent calls. The director met with medical staff and Rutherford County Rescue to discuss contract issues. Staff is compiling the “Keep the Beat” CPR and AED public awareness campaign, including meeting with Dr. Kirsey at Asheville Cardiology. IT has also developed an online survey through Survey Monkey to help EMS collect AED information. Staff met with Hospital personnel to address contract rates and billing.

Transit: Transit drove 10,181 miles, completed 1,182 local trips and 82 out of county trips, transported 254 unduplicated passengers and collected \$15,745 in revenue. Following an informal quote process, a contract was awarded to Caldwell Construction for the paving and resurfacing of the Transit parking lot and old Farmer’s Market lot. Director and Finance Director attended training in Hickory with NCDOT pertaining to funding requirements.

Veteran Services

The Veterans Services Office had 89 mail-ins, 336 facsimiles, 91 mail-outs, 101 telephone contacts, and 172 veteran contacts.

County Commissioners

William Eckler, Chairman **Julius Owens**
Eddie Holland, Vice Chairman **Roger Richard**
Greg Lovelace

Carl Classen, County Manager
Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board
Richard Williams, County Attorney

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