



November 9, 2015

Weekly Report

Highlight of Departmental Activities

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

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Thank you to our Veterans and families for your commitment, dedication and sacrifice.

Veterans Day is a public holiday that is dedicated to honoring anyone who has served in the United States military. The holiday began as a day to remember the end of World War I and was declared a holiday by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. Originally known as Armistice Day, the holiday became Veterans Day in 1954.

Most federal workers are given the day off and there is no mail service in the United States on this day. When Woodrow Wilson declared November 11 a holiday, the primary intention was to have a day to reflect on the sacrifices of those who had served in the military during World War I. Observation of the holiday through parades and meetings was envisioned.

Today, many Americans observe the day by attending ceremonies and parades that are dedicated to honoring the troops for their service. These often allow veterans to speak about their time in the service and give Americans the opportunity to personally thank veterans for their sacrifice.



Airport

The Airport sold 2,604.0 gallons of Jet A to 12 aircraft and 334.9 gallons off 100LL to 9 aircraft last week.

PHOTO:

Two Standard Aero mechanics from New York were at our airport replacing a CFE 738-1-1B engine. The engine was off of a Dassault Falcon 2000 that developed engine trouble coming into Rutherford County.



Board of Elections

The Municipal Election was historic with a write-in candidate receiving the most votes in Spindale. We greatly appreciate the poll workers that put in over 14 hours Tuesday and staff that worked over 16 hours. We are busy trying to get everything audited and voter history recorded before our Canvass next Tuesday.

County Manager and Commissioners

The County Manager's busy week began with the quarterly Department Head meeting at the County Office. Topics of discussion were:

- County Policy Regarding Placement of Political Signs
- Human Resources Updates on EAP, Performance Evaluations and FLSA Requirement
- Capital Facilities Planning
- Winter Weather Reminders

The meeting ended with a time for Department Heads to share information regarding projects and plans in their departments.

The Board of Commissioners' regular monthly meeting was held this past Monday evening. Throughout the week, the Manager had several interdepartmental meetings including Revenue, Transit, TDA, Veteran's Service, Economic Development, Fire Marshal, Human Resources, Planning and Projects, and County Attorney. Several staff members attended various webinar workshops. The County Manager was involved in the Community Health Council which met on Wednesday. Chairman Bryan King participated in a Leadership Session at ICC on Friday, and addressed several college students in the area of county government and industry in the Rutherford County area.

The week continued with additional duties, including numerous luncheons, meetings, including interoffice, various boards, and one-on-one meetings. A number of calls were addressed, as well as conference calls. All departments remain diligent and full of activity.

Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department responded to an industrial RFI and attended internal meetings with county departments and industry allies. Staff continues to be busy reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines and continuing work on website content and updates.

Finance Department

The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week. The Director and Assistant Director attended several interdepartmental meetings.

Birthday greetings to a very special lady, Jeanette Bosgra (Finance). Every day you sparkle, but today (November 4th) you rule!



Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Conducted one origin and cause investigation.
- Followed up on active cases.
- Completed the tour to the elementary schools with the fire safety house.
- Met with County Manager regarding the relocation of the firefighters memorial monument.
- Attended various meetings and training.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. The HR Director attended a staff meeting, County Commissioner meeting and met with several department heads this week.

The Director and County Manager conducted interviews for the Veteran Service Officer position. The Director along with James Kilgo conducted interviews for a Solid Waste mechanic position.

The HR Specialist is continuing to attend webinars and meetings regarding ACA reporting.

Current vacancies are: Economic Development Director, Veterans Service Officer, and mechanic for Solid Waste. Applicants can apply at www.rutherfordcountync.gov.

Public Works and Planning

The garage completed multiple preventative maintenance service calls, repairs, tire service calls and other repairs to the County's motor vehicle fleet. Maintenance has had a productive week in conducting repairs and preventative maintenance to the County's facilities.

Meanwhile, Planning and Projects had a busy week with preparations for both the Commissioners meeting and the department head meeting.

The new library and EMS station is nearing completion of construction and things have been very demanding as we draw this project to a close in scrutinizing punch lists and needs identified. The Director and Project Mgr. have also been involved in multiple meetings including a projects update report, Rail Trail meeting along with multiple site inspections and community project grant follow up with the grant applicants and a bid for road work in Queens Gap

Revenue Department

This week the revenue department has been a little busy. We had six employees go to Asheville for Personal Property classes and two the week before were in class regarding GIS. Several attended the Western Piedmont Tax Assessors meeting on Thursday hosted by Gaston County. Gaston County presented a program on customer service. Four from our office also attended a workshop that day about work safety in and out of the office, also provided by Gaston County.

We are getting ready for end of year processes. It's that time of the year to close out this year and get started for the next year. Next week will be a busy week with several staff going to the annual conference. They will be attending classes about all areas of the office learning many new updates.

Don't forget that November 11th is Veterans Day and please remember all those who have served and are currently serving our country. Please remember county offices are closed that day.

Last but not least, Mrs. Sherry Lavender has been reappointed as the Revenue Director for the next two years. Look forward to many things to come.

	Totals
Phone Calls	325
Customer Service	207
Building Permits	34
Website Hits	153,290
Deeds Certified	62
Counter Payments	337
Electronic Payments	68

Senior Center

The “Living Healthy with a Chronic Pain” workshop continued this week on Tuesday. This 2 ½ hour class will be held weekly on Tuesday morning for six weeks. Each session is facilitated by two trained leaders who follow a detailed manual, so that each workshop is highly consistent. This workshop is appropriate for people living or caring for someone with a wide variety of chronic health conditions. This week’s topic was “Better Breathing”.

The Senior Center also hosted “Use It or Lose It” on Wednesday. We encourage seniors to engage in thinking games as well as learning new skills and hobbies to continually keep the brain functioning and alert. Studies show that the brain requires a consistent workout to stay sharp just like the body does to stay strong.

On Thursday, the seniors played one of the Center’s favorite games - Chair Volleyball!

Upcoming:

Zumba at 6:00 p.m. on November 9, 16, 23, and 30

Special Veteran’s Recognition Program at 10:15 a.m. on November 10

The Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period is October 15 through December 7, and SHIIP, the Seniors’ Health Insurance Information Program, can help Medicare beneficiaries compare plans. The Senior Center has SHIIP counselors that are available to help. Call for an appointment to talk with our trained SHIIP counselors. The main number is 287-6409.

Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist attended:

- Department Head Meeting
- Farmland Preservation Meeting
- District Board Meeting.

The Admin/Education Specialist worked on:

- District and Farmland Meeting folders.
- the Farm/City Poster Contest.
- District Poster Contest Information.

The Ag Cost Share Technician worked on:

- Farm Planning Contract writing
- a Request for Payment

The Ag Cost Share Technician attended:

- the District Board Meeting.

Please Note:

The Rutherford Soil & Water and the USDA Service Center has moved to:
500 West Street, Suite 2
Spindale, NC 28160

Solid Waste

Customers served 319
Loads hauled from convenience centers 46
Loads shipped to Lenoir 31
Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2
Tire customers 21
Community service workers 4
Community service reports 1

The director attended the department head meeting, held a couple of internal meeting, conducted interviews and worked on the purchase of a new loader. The office staff has worked on state reports and grants. We have a fully executed contract for electronics so we will be arranging the first pick up with the new vendor. The transfer station staff has been busy processing all the MSW and recycling tonnages that are coming in. C&D staff has been playing catch up from all the rain and the extremely busy week we had last week. The shop staff continues to perform preventative maintenance on all of our vehicles and equipment. The airport maintenance part has slowed down so that crew has moved to the south landfill to begin trimming trees close to the boundary markers. We will begin bush hogging the flat areas once it dries with the tractor and then when the skid steer arrives we will bush hog the slopes. We had several vendors stop by the landfill this week.

Please continue to recycle!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

Staff have worked extremely hard over the last few weeks in preparation of the new EMS station. Furniture, appliances and other items have been purchased and will be moved into the new facility in the next week or two. Final inspection of the building will be this week. Administration will also participate in a meeting on Thursday at Rutherford Regional Health System. The meeting is being orchestrated by the new emergency department director. The intent is to build better collaboration between entities.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	172	168
Convalescent Calls	48	59

Transit Department:

Transit is currently interviewing prospective employees for position of part-time driver. Staff has completed filling out the 140 page questionnaire in preparation for the Federal Compliance review and continues to gather documents to send to the Auditor in preparation for the on-site visit in January. Staff held its monthly staff meeting. Staff met with our NCDOT Mobility Development Specialist for a scheduled visit to inspect our maintenance files for adherence to procedures, to review our schedule for on time performance and to gather general information for 1st quarter reporting. A public hearing was held at the Commissioners meeting on

Transportation Services continued from page 6

Monday for approval to submit the application to NCDOT for administrative and capital grants totaling over \$370,000. The director has also assisted the Senior Center and Rutherford Life Services on their federal/state grant submissions. Finally, The director attended the quarterly NC Public Transportation Association Board of Directors meeting on Friday.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,603	10,056
# of Local Trips	1,118	1,149
# of Out of County Trips	75	81
# Unduplicated Passengers	228	241
Total Revenue	\$18,852	\$15,385

Veterans Services

- *Toys for Tots* boxes have been put out in various places. Please help us fill the boxes this year for the local children.
- Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 p.m., Symphony at ICC Foundation: Salute to veterans. Free to all veterans. Other guests \$10 each (**see ad on page 9**).
- Wednesday, November 11, Veterans Day!
- Saturday, November 14, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., RS Middle School: Salute to veterans.

Mail In	36
Mail Out	32
Fax	113
Phone Calls In/Out	64
Veteran Contacts	154



**A CONCERT IN GRATITUDE:
CELEBRATING OUR
VETERANS**

with

**Symphony of Rutherford County
& Gardner-Webb University Orchestra**

Dr. Patricia Sparti, Conductor

TUESDAY, NOV. 10 - 7:30 PM

General Admission - Adults \$10, Students \$5

(Veterans receive a FREE Ticket)

Call or Visit: 828-286-9990 FoundationShows.org

the FOUNDATION
ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, SPINDALE, NC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Grand Opening / Ribbon Cutting Rutherford County Foothills EMS and Haynes Branch Library

A delay in receiving certain construction materials has unfortunately held up the finishing touches of the new Haynes Branch Library. As a result, we must reschedule our grand opening and the events surrounding it.

We apologize for any inconvenience, but hope you can still join us on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 4:30 p.m., for our official grand opening festivities.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Foothills EMS and Haynes Branch Library
Tuesday, December 1, 2015
4:30 p.m.

Join our supporters and local dignitaries for the big event as we officially open our new facilities.



County Manager
Steve Garrison

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, *Chairman*

Alan Toney, *Vice Chairman*

Michael Benfield, Eddie Holland, Greg Lovelace

County Office

Hazel Haynes, *Clerk to Board*

Richard Williams, *County Attorney*

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