



**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 13, 2025
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. All Board Members, County Manager Warren Cabe, Deputy Clerk Tammy Keezer, Finance Director Lori Carpenter, and County Attorney Eric Ridenour were present, as were a number of county employees, media, and citizens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- (A) Ms. Keezer announced there will be a public hearing on the fiscal year 2025-26 budget on June 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. during the regular meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners, in the Commissioners Board Room located at 5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC.
- (B) Mr. Cabe announced that the debris clean-up on the rivers should be complete on June 1, 2025.
- (C) Commissioner Breeden said he is not interested in pulling out of the Fontana Regional Library (FRL) Board, nor is the board interested in doing so either.
- (D) Commissioner Antoine said he has no intention of pulling out of the FRL, the board signed a contract, and has no intention of changing that. He said this board has no control over what other counties do, but we intend to make sure our library stays open and accessible.
- (E) Commissioner Young stated that Macon County opted to go with the Corps of Engineers for the river cleanup. He said they are the authority, and we have lessons to learn. For the future, when this happens, and will take a more in-depth look and have the community more involved.
- (F) Commissioner Young shared that he and Commissioner Shearl have a meeting with the Town of Franklin tomorrow about bringing fireworks back to the park this 4th of July.
- (G) Commissioner Shields said he appreciates people sharing their ideas and wants the board to look at reestablishing the water quality advisory committee – a committee of experts to look at some issues.
- (H) Commissioner Shearl shared that he attended a recreation committee meeting this morning and mentioned a fundraiser held a couple of weekends ago for the pregnancy care center. He said the weather did not cooperate, yet they raised a lot of money, and this type of event is what we are looking at having at the new amphitheater. Commissioner Shearl said we have been working on getting fireworks back in the park, pickleball is waiting for one engineer to provide information, the tennis courts are almost complete, and we are spending a lot of time bringing new life back to that park.

- (I) Commissioner Young asked if any board member had an interest in pulling out of the FRL. Commissioner Shearl said he does not have any desire to have Macon County back in the library business, and said the library needs to be neutral, not have any materials regarding anyone's sexuality on display, no sexual ideology on any youth, etc.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Chairman Young requested all in attendance rise, and a moment of silence was observed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Shields, the pledge to the flag was recited.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

ADDITIONS, ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Upon a motion by Commissioner Breeden, seconded by Commissioner Shields, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as revised as follows:

- To remove Item A, Update on the Franklin High School Project, under Old Business, per Mr. Cabe.
- To revise Item G, Approval of fireworks permit for Cool Reception to Approval of fireworks permit for Parties by Design, under Consent Agenda, per Ms. Keezer.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Jason Love** spoke about the river cleanup, saying he feels there is widespread cleanup that is not necessary. He specifically mentioned wood removal, which he feels is vital habitat and removal is damaging to the ecosystem. **Zach Tallent** spoke about woody debris in the rivers and streams and the vital role they play in the ecosystem, reducing erosion, etc. **Nick Potts** spoke about the Army Corps of Engineers project and said what is happening to our rivers is disastrous. He said the board needs to make sure the Corps follows existing laws, obtains proper permits, etc., and stated they work for us and we need to hold them accountable. **Bill McLarney** talked about the ecological health of the rivers and how 35 years of work being done to protect the ecosystem has been destroyed in the past few weeks by the Army Corps of Engineers. He stated that, in hindsight, everyone got blindsided by the Corps, that Macon County could have been better prepared, and that he is interested in being a part of any future endeavors. **Betsy Baste** mentioned transparency in government and addressed the FRL, the Army Corps of Engineers debris removal, the Community Funding Pool, and free vaccines at Animal Control. **Scott Baste** shared that the Otto beach was destroyed during the river cleanup and said the Army Corps of Engineers can fix what they took out. He also mentioned the Community Funding Pool and said he cannot believe we are considering taking away something that does good for people. **Mary Ann Ingram** invited everyone to Pine Grove School on May 17, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to enjoy looking at the school, see what the group is organizing for the school, and how it can be used by Macon County and the citizens. **Heather Dombroskie** talked about the FRL and requested board members reach out to their counterparts in Jackson County and ask them to reconsider their position. She also stated that covering the recreation park pool needs to be a major priority and shared issues occurring at the current facility used by the Macon County swim teams. Ms. Dombroskie requested that the board consult the experts that we have in our community regarding the river cleanup and closed in saying that board members responding to public comment presenters in debate-style rebuttals is inappropriate and out of order. **Bryan Bond** said he believes there is an oversight in the current noise ordinance. He shared a recent experience he had in dealing with a neighbor's barking dogs, saying that the Macon County Sheriff's Office has no authority, and neither does Animal Control. He requested that the ordinance be revised to include a fine for excessive barking. **Leland Shockley** spoke about debris removal in the rivers and said there have been no checks and balances. He indicated that Macon County does nothing to support the fishing community, yet Jackson County receives the trout fishing award every year. He stated that this board has the

power to take up for the community and protect the rivers, and that we have endangered and native fish here that need to be protected. **Bill Trick** spoke about the Community Funding Pool and said he would like to see the board require a financial disclosure to show what other funding these organizations are receiving, as well as a requirement to show they are doing what they say they are with the county funding. **Dylan Castle** talked about the Community Funding Pool, the value of non-profits, and the role they play in our community. He stated that funding initiatives need to be transparent and ensure organizations are being good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

(A) FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET PRESENTATION - Mr. Cabe announced that a budget work session would be held on May 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss some of the issues that will be presented in his proposed budget. Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Cabe provided an overview of accomplishments of the current fiscal year, then identified the goals for the fiscal year 2025-26 to include maintaining a high level of quality service, maintaining our existing facilities appropriately, addressing any unmet needs that are a priority, ensuring existing departments have adequate space for operations, and planning for the future. Mr. Cabe stated that his proposed budget maintains the property tax rate at 0.27 cents per 100 dollar value, service fees remain the same with the exception of adjusting some EMS rates to conform to the current Medicare allowables, revenues are slightly higher due to an increase in the taxable value of properties, revenues are slightly higher due to increased quantities of services fees collected, sales tax revenues are flat with no increase, and intergovernmental transfers decrease slightly. He shared that his proposed budget is \$64,711,599 and reviewed details of the estimated revenue, reviewed expenditures, pay-go capital items, a cost of living adjustment (COLA) of three percent, an adjustment to years of service from ten years to five years for employees to become eligible to receive longevity payments, part-time employees remain eligible to contribute to the 401k program, four new positions (two Sheriff Deputies, one Department of Social Services position, one part-time School Resource Officer, and one management position which was converted to a field tech position for EMS, several reclassifications were included for additional job duties, and health insurance rates remain the same for employees with no increase. Mr. Cabe indicated that we are due for a look at a salary study since the last one was completed four years ago. He said he would like to do an internal salary study and have that ready for the budget cycle next year. Mr. Cabe said he has asked Macon County Schools to attend the work session as they presented a budget with a 2,199,980 increase and he could not include all of those requests in his proposed budget. He indicated that he did not include capital request of approximately 38 million dollars, which included a new East Franklin Elementary School. Mr. Cabe indicated that his proposed budget includes 1,150,000 dollars in approved requests, but they are not prioritized or specified, as he feels the schools can decide the priority based on the project they proposed. He reported that the fire departments will also be at a work session and that he will encourage the departments that made requests to speak to their liaison or a board member. Commissioner Young said he would like for Southwestern Community College to attend the work session. Mr. Cabe said there is no way that we will be able to distribute funds through the Community Funding Pool this fiscal year, as we only have five applications for appointment as committee members and recommended that those funds carry over to next fiscal year, so we can have more time to fill those positions. A copy of Mr. Cabe's budget presentation is available in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

At 7:40 p.m., Chairman Young requested the board take a five-minute recess. Chairman Young reconvened the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

(B) ANNUAL REPORT FOR MACON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - Sheriff Holbrooks provided a handout of his report. He reviewed departmental accomplishments and said pay is the most pressing issue for staff. He

requested that the department be paid on years of experience rather than on the current pay structure and scale.

- (C) UPDATE REPORT FOR THE BROADBAND COMMITTEE** – Broadband Consultant Jeff Lee reported there is a lot of progress within the county, but that many of the providers have been overwhelmed with repair and recovery work due to Hurricane Helene. Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Lee provided an update on each of the grants and projects. A copy of the presentation is available in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

- (A) UPDATE ON THE FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT** – Removed.
- (B) DISCUSSION REGARDING PANTHER DRIVE AND PORTER STREET INTERSECTION REDESIGN** – Mr. Cabe reported that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is going to require a redesign of the intersection reimbursable through NCDOT but we have to do the work through the school project. He requested a budget amendment to the contractual agreement with LS3P to include the survey work in the amount of \$11,750. Commissioner Shields made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Antoine, to approve the amendment as requested. The vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (A) DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED RESOLUTION FOR THE MACON COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION** – Fire and Rescue Commission Chairman Dustin Pendergrass presented and explained the recommended changes to the resolution, which was last updated in 1999. Commissioner Antoine made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shields, to approve the revised resolution as presented (Attachment 1). The vote was unanimous.
- (B) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING FOR A FIRE SAFETY TRAILER FOR THE MACON COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION** – Mr. Pendergrass provided a handout for discussion purposes. He said Macon County had a fire safety trailer for a number of years but had to get rid of it about six years ago due to it outliving its service and being in disrepair. He said this trailer would be used for educational purposes at the local schools during fire prevention week, and can also be used at local events, fairs, festivals, etc. He gave an overview of all the features of the proposed trailer with a cost of \$342,135. After some discussion, no action was taken.
- (C) DISCUSSION REGARDING SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VEHICLE REQUEST** - Mr. Cabe said he did not budget any vehicles in the fiscal year 2026 proposed budget, but that the Sheriff's Department has been told by vendors that there would be a price increase for vehicles next fiscal year, and that there may also be a shortage on equipment. Sheriff Holbrooks explained they are requesting to purchase five Ford Explorers and one Ford F150 now at a cost of \$240,051, which would have been budgeted in next year's budget. He requested approval to purchase now with funds out of the general fund balance. Commissioner Breeden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Antoine, to approve the request as presented. The vote was unanimous.
- (D) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST PROCESS** – Ms. Keezer stated the proposed procedure would standardize the process for requests, tracking, and release of public records (Attachment 2). Commissioner Breeden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Antoine, to approve the process as requested. The vote was unanimous.
- (E) UPDATE FROM BURNINGTOWN-IOTLA FIRE AND RESCUE** – Burningtown-Iotla Fire and Rescue (BIFD) Board Chairman Mike Yacks provided an update on inspections back to July 2024, when the department did not pass an inspection due to delinquent filing of quarterly reports and their membership

falling below the required 19 members. He said they were put on probation, but they have since had some leadership changes, their current membership is at 22, training programs are in place to get 36 hours or better of training per year, and reports are being submitted on time. Mr. Yacks stated they are agreeable to joining with another department to keep services intact for the community and requested the board give them a couple of months before the next inspection. Commissioner Shearl requested that Fire Marshal Jimmy Teem provide an update. Mr. Teem provided a report of membership, training, and reporting status. He said Cowee Volunteer Fire and Rescue has already been assigned to respond to fire calls, and he is considering adding Cowee to all medical calls because of the lack of response to medical calls by BIFD. BIFD Fireman Kenneth McKaskall commented on communication and notification challenges with some of the medical calls due to medical responder pagers not going off because of poor service in the area. After some additional discussion, Mr. Cabe explained the notice process for termination of the contract and said he would give a timeframe for BIFD to come back to have further discussion. Commissioner Shields inquired about liability for the county. Mr. Cabe said it would be mutual liability because we are paying them to do a job through a contract that they are not fulfilling. 911 Communications Supervisor Todd Seagle explained the call notification system and said a secondary means of communication is used and allowable in addition to the pagers, including text messages. He said he is not aware of any reason why the notifications were not received for these calls. Commissioner Young said the county has the fiduciary responsibility to provide fire service, and he still is not satisfied. Board members consented to BIFD providing an update at the May 22, 2025, budget work session.

- (A) **CONSENT AGENDA:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Breeden, seconded by Commissioner Antoine, the board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented which includes: (A) Minutes of the April 8, 2025 regular meeting, (B) Budget Amendments #285-287, (C) Approval of Macon Aeromodelers Agreement, (D) Ratify approval of fireworks permit for Parties by Design, (E) Approval of fireworks for Nantahala Volunteer Fire and Rescue, (F) Approval of fireworks permit for the Town of Franklin, (G) Approval of fireworks permit for Parties by Design, (H) Tax releases for the month of April 2024 in the amount of \$2,101.51, (I) Monthly ad valorem tax collection report – no action necessary

APPOINTMENTS - None

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURN: With no other business, at 9:40 p.m., upon a motion from Commissioner Breeden, seconded by Commissioner Shields, the board voted unanimously to recess until 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2025.



Warren Cabe
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board



Josh Young
Board Chair

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR
THE COUNTY OF MACON PROVIDING FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MACON
COUNTY FIRE COMMISSION AND THE MACON COUNTY RESCUE COMMISSION
AND PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MACON COUNTY FIRE
AND RESCUE COMMISSION**

Whereas, G.S. 153A-232 empowers a Board of County Commissioners to provide for the organization, equipment, maintenance and government of fire and rescue departments, within the political boundaries of the County; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Macon County has determined, after due consideration that it is for the best interest of and is necessary for the protection of the citizens of said County and their property:

- A. That fire and rescue departments be available throughout the incorporated areas of the County, so as to provide protection for public and private buildings, as well as other real and personal property of the citizens of Macon County in the rural; areas of the County;
- B. To establish an effective fire and rescue organization to supplement the Macon County Emergency Services Management Agency, and to work under its guidance; and
- C. In general, to provide for a more adequate and efficient system for the protection of life and property of the citizens and visitors of Macon County with a trained body of personnel; and

Whereas, at its April, 1979 Regular Meeting and at its March, 1987 Regular Meeting, the Board of Commissioners of Macon County adopted a Resolution establishing and amending a Resolution establishing the Macon County Fire Commission; and

Whereas, at its April, 1989 Regular Meeting, the Board of Commissioners of Macon County adopted a Resolution establishing the Macon County Rescue Commission;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF MACON that the Resolutions of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Macon heretofore adopted at its regular meetings on April 1979, April 1989 and March 1987 establishing and amending the Macon County Fire Commission and the Macon County Rescue Commission be hereby amended by deleting the same in full and replacing them with the following:

CREATING OF THE MACON COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

SECTION 1 – MEMBERSHIP

The Macon County Fire and Rescue Commission shall be composed of the following members:

- A. One (1) member of the board of Commissioners of Macon County to be appointed by said Board, who shall serve as the liaison between the Fire and Rescue Commission and the Board of Commissioners.
- B. Two (2) representatives of each recognized fire and rescue department within the County. The Chief of each department shall appoint that departments representatives, in writing and may designate himself/herself as a representative.
- C. The Macon County Fire Marshal, ex officio
- D. The Macon County Emergency Management Director, ex officio
- E. The Macon County EMS Coordinator, ex officio
- F. The County Forest Ranger, ex officio

SECTION II – ORGANIZATION

- A. The Board of Commissioners of Macon County shall designate its new Liaison to the Fire and Rescue Commission in January of each year.
- B. The Chairperson of the Commission shall be nominated and elected by a majority of the voting membership of the Macon County Fire and Rescue Commission. The Chairperson must be a representative from a voting department. An election will be held during the first meeting of each New Year, usually January.
- C. The Vice-Chairperson shall be nominated and elected by a majority of the voting membership of the Macon County Fire and Rescue Commission. The Chairperson must be a representative from a voting department. An election will be held during the first meeting of each New Year, usually January.
- D. The Secretary of the Macon County Fire and Rescue Commission is a position that can be held by any Firefighter or Board Member from a voting department. The Secretary shall be nominated and elected by a majority of the voting membership of the Macon County Fire and Rescue Commission. An election will be held during the first meeting of each New Year, usually January.
- E. The Commission shall meet as often as necessary to accomplish its purposes; but shall meet no less often than quarterly. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson by giving forty-eight (48) hours' notice to each member as to the date, time and place thereof.
- F. Any member who shall fail to attend three (3) consecutive meetings shall lose all rights of membership and the appointing organization shall provide for a new representative. The Macon County Board of Commissioners shall, at all times, be advised of any changes in membership by giving of written notice thereof to the Macon County Manager.

SECTION III. – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Review the provisions and requirements of this Resolution for the purpose of recommending to the Board of County Commissioners, those amendments or changes which the Commission may deem advisable.
- B. Adopt such rules and regulations as the Commission shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution, subject, however to the approval of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Macon.
- C. Establish and/or cooperate in the establishment of adequate fire and rescue departments in Macon County to provide protection for all public and private property in Macon County and its citizens and visitors, in all areas of the County.
- D. Establish and cooperate in the establishment of improved and more efficient methods for the protection of life and property in rural Macon County and assist in providing a trained body of firefighters and rescue personnel to cooperate with the fire and rescue departments in the incorporated areas of Macon County in cases of emergency.
- E. From time to time, to review and in cooperation with the Fire Marshal, recommend to the Macon County Board of Commissioners suggestions for changes in policy or rules governing fire protection in Macon County, including the requirements for certified fire departments, the training of personnel, and the establishment and location of district boundaries for new departments.

- F. From time to time, to review and in cooperation with the Emergency Management Director, recommend to the Macon County Board of Commissioners suggestions for changes in policy or rules governing rescue services in Macon County, including the requirements for certified rescue departments, the training of personnel, and the establishment and location of district boundaries for new departments.
- G. To establish and coordinate a fire prevention program, education, training activities, and in general, to develop and improve fire fighting, rescue, and fire prevention activities throughout the County.
- H. Investigate and review conditions of all Districts, whether existing or newly established, to insure that all properties throughout the County subject to assessment may enjoy the same level of protection and that the level thereof is adequate and beneficial to the persons and property within the County.
- I. Review budgets and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for the appropriation and use of monies to be utilized by the Departments charged with the duty of providing fire and rescue service throughout the County.
- J. To appoint such committees from amongst its membership, or from volunteers acting under its leadership and supervision, so as to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution, including but not limited to:
 - 1. Fire and Rescue Executive Committee
 - 2. Equipment Requirement Committee
 - 3. Rules and Regulations Committee
 - 4. Rescue Services Committee
- K. Ensure proper investigations of fires are conducted and provide or arrange for such to occur.

SECTION IV – CERTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENTS

- A. The Commission Shall, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Macon, adopt such rules, regulations, and minimum standards as it shall deem advisable for the certification of fire and rescue departments within the County of Macon.
- B. In addition to meeting the standards adopted by the Fire and Rescue Commission, before certification, a fire and rescue department must:
 - 1. Be incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina, as a non-profit organization.
 - 2. Have an active membership and duly elected officers so as to adequately provide fire and rescue protection.
 - 3. Provide all members with appropriate identification indicating their official position with the department. No one other than an active or associate member of the Department in good standing shall have this identification in his or her possession.
 - 4. Have adequate equipment and maintain same in good condition and operative at all times.
 - 5. Have in effect such liability insurance on both its personnel and equipment as shall be sufficient to hold Macon County harmless from any liability for damages or claims resulting from the activities of its members or from the operation of its equipment. Must also carry Workman's Compensation Insurance on its active members.
 - 6. Have in effect an on-going and organized training program, so as to educate its membership in effective and approved rescue and fire fighting techniques and in safety to themselves and the public.

7. Participate in an approved mutual aid agreement which, among other things, shall provide that the district of any department answering a call not be left unprotected.
 8. Have in effect satisfactory chains of command and responsibility.
 9. Have effective methods of adequate and accurate record keeping and filing of all reports.
 10. Have an approved budgetary and accounting procedure.
- C. All applications for certification shall be made to the Commission, and upon application, the Commission shall make arrangements for immediate inspection of the Fire and Rescue Department's equipment, personnel, organization, and methods of operation and shall thereafter file a written report to the Board of Commissioners with a copy to the Department, indicating its approval or disapproval, in which event, the report shall contain a detailed explanation of all areas of deficiency.
- D. When a fire and rescue department has met all requirements of the Insurance Services Office of North Carolina, for providing fire protection to a designated area, and has met all requirements of this Resolution, the Department shall be certified and the fire district shall be designated as a "recognized fire protection district" by the Board of Commissioners. The boundaries so approved shall be in compliance with the requirements of the Insurance Services Office of North Carolina for such districts.
- E. The Fire and Rescue Commission shall conduct or cause to be conducted inspections of each Fire and Rescue Department which shall become certified under this Resolution. There shall be at least one (1) annual inspection with such additional inspections as the Commission shall deem necessary. The Commission shall determine whether certified departments are continuing to meet the minimum standards for certification and shall report their findings, at least annually, to the Board of Commissioners.
- F. Any Department found deficient shall be given a written warning of all areas of deficiency. Should all deficiencies not be corrected within thirty (30) days after receipt of notice, the Department may lose its certification. Appeal from a decision of the Fire and Rescue Commission shall be to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Macon, by filing written notice of appeal with the County Manager, within thirty (30) days after written notice of decertification has been given to the Department.

SECTION V – AREA OF PROTECTION

The various fire and rescue districts in Macon County shall be determined by mutual consent of the affected fire and rescue departments, subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners after recommendation by the Fire and Rescue Commission and pursuant to all stipulations of N.C.G.S. Chapter 153A Article 16 "County Service District Act". If the boundaries cannot be determined by mutual consent, the districts will be set in accordance with N.C.G.S. Chapter 153A Article 16 "County Service District Act" by the Board of Commissioners after recommendation of the Fire and Rescue Commission.

SECTION VI – FINANCIAL ASPECTS

- A. Each fire and rescue department shall prepare an annual budget providing for the receipt and expenditure of all income and revenue. A copy of the budget shall be presented to the Emergency Services Director no later than April 15th of each year.
- B. Only a certified fire and rescue department within a recognized district shall be entitled to service fees levied by Macon County within any fire and rescue protection district.
- C. An accounting therefore of funds delivered to the fire and rescue department from Macon County shall be presented to the Emergency Services Director within 6 months of the end of the department's fiscal year. The County will not sign any financial notices or other financial related documents such as grant requests for any

accordance with N.C.G.S. Chapter 153A Article 16 "County Service District Act" by the Board of Commissioners after recommendation of the Fire and Rescue Commission.

SECTION VI – FINANCIAL ASPECTS

- A. Each fire and rescue department shall prepare an annual budget providing for the receipt and expenditure of all income and revenue. A copy of the budget shall be presented to the Emergency Services Director no later than April 15th of each year.
- B. Only a certified fire and rescue department within a recognized district shall be entitled to service fees levied by Macon County within any fire and rescue protection district.
- C. An accounting therefore of funds delivered to the fire and rescue department from Macon County shall be presented to the Emergency Services Director within 6 months of the end of the department's fiscal year. The County will not sign any financial notices or other financial related documents such as grant requests for any department until they have submitted such an accounting therefore to the Count for the previous fiscal year.

SECTION VII – FIRE AND RESCUE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The Chief of each Fire/Rescue Department shall serve on the Executive Committee.

Upon motion by Commissioner Danny Antoine, and seconded by Commissioner Gary Shields, the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Macon County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting held on the 13th day of May, 2025.

This the 13th day of May, 2025.


Josh Young, Chairman
Macon County Board of Commissioners

Attest:


Warren Cabe, County Manager
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board



Public Records Request Process

Macon County is committed to making public records available to the public as promptly as possible, depending on the nature and scope of the request, staff resources available, and legally permissible for disclosure.

Public Records Request

For records held in offices by independent public officials and boards (Sheriff's Office, Register of Deeds, Board of Elections), requests should be made directly to those public officials. For most records held by departments that report to the County Manager, the point of contact will be the Human Resources Department.

Please note that a local government does not have a duty to create or compile a record that does not otherwise exist (NCGS §132-6.2(e)), and a number of records are not permitted to be inspected, including portions of an employee's personnel file (NCGS §153A-98), criminal investigation records (NCGS §132-1.4) and certain legal matters (NCGS §132-1.1). For more information on what records may be disclosed, see the Public Records Overview at https://www.sog.unc.edu/sites/default/files/course_materials/public_records_overview.pdf

Request Submission

Requests should include the following:

1. Date of request
2. Description of the record(s) requested
3. Title and name of the record requested, if known
4. Delivery method of record to requester

Submit written requests which include the above or the public records request form located on the Macon County website via email to publicrecords@maconnc.org, in person, or by mail to:

Macon County Government
Public Records Request
 5 West Main Street
 Franklin, NC 28734

Fee Schedule

In accordance with NCGS 132-6.2 Macon County may assess fees for different media as prescribed by law. Such fees are limited to direct, chargeable costs (flash drive, paper copies, postage costs) related to the reproduction and delivery of a public record as published on the county's website. Fee estimates greater than \$25 may require a 75 percent deposit prior to the duplication of the record.

If a public records request were to require extensive use of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance by personnel involved. A special service charge may be assessed, which shall be reasonable based on the actual cost(s) incurred for the extensive use of information technology resources or the labor costs of personnel providing the services. The requester will have the option of paying the charge or revising the request to narrow the nature or scope of the request.

Payment must be made prior to the release of public documents. If payment has not been made within 30 days of when fees are incurred, the requester may not begin a new request until the amount has been paid in full. Advance payment in full may be required before work begins on a new request.

Macon County may require a requester to inspect the requested information onsite if deemed appropriate and necessary.



Public Records Request Fee Schedule

Photocopies – The actual costs of producing hard copy records and will be generally produced two-sided when practicable. A two-sided copy will be charged as two pages, which includes the cost of the paper.

8 ½" x 11" single-sided black and white photocopy	= \$.05
8 ½" x 11" single-sided color photocopy	= \$.08

Certified Copies

\$5 for first page / \$2 for each additional page

Electronic Media provided by Macon County)

1 GB Flash Drive = \$3.00

2 GB Flash Drive = \$5.00

Adobe pdf files - no charge

Postage

Will be charged at rates set by the US Postal Service

Special Service Charge

If a public records request were to require extensive use of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance by personnel involved, a special service charge may be assessed, which shall be reasonable based on the actual cost(s) incurred for the extensive use of information technology resources or the labor costs or personnel providing the services. The requester will have the option of paying the charge or revising the request to narrow the nature or scope of the request.



MACON COUNTY

Public Records Request

publicrecords@maconnc.org

5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734

Phone 828.349.2020

Submit to ↑

Public Records Request Form

*Required field

Request Date* _____

Requester Name _____

Mailing Address _____
Address City State Zip

Telephone _____

Email Address _____

Request – Description – be specific*

Title of record requested (if known) _____

Date of record requested (if known) _____

Location of record requested (if known) _____

Public Record Delivery Method*

☐

I want to inspect the record(s) – appointment required

☐

I want a photocopy of the record(s)

☐

I want an electronic copy of the record(s)

☐

I want the record(s) mailed to: _____

☐

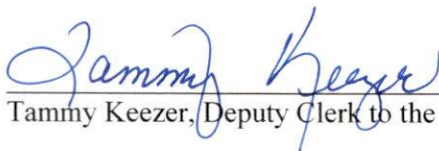
I want the record(s) sent Email to: _____

☐

Other: _____

This process may be reviewed annually by the County Attorney and County Manager. The County Manager is given administrative authorization to implement this process to comply with NCGS 132 – Public Records, publish/update a fee schedule and to monitor compliance.

ADOPTED the 13th day of May, 2025.



Tammy Keezer, Deputy Clerk to the Board



Josh Young, Chairman