

**MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC HEARING  
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on September 19, 2023, at 6:25 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

<p>Present: Mark A. Letson, Chairman (Via Zoom) Todd Bryson, Vice Chair (Via Zoom) Mark Jones, Commissioner John W. Smith, Commissioner Tom Stribling, Commissioner</p>	<p>Don Adams, County Manager John Kubis, Interim County Attorney Representative (Via Zoom) Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to the Board</p>
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Chairman Letson called the public hearing to order and stated the purpose was to receive public input for consideration of the proposed FY25 Community Transportation Program Application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

April Alm, Transit Director, stated as the applicant, Transit would seek permission to apply for the Public Transportation Program funding, enter into agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, provide the necessary assurances and the required local match.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) handled grant applications with the Federal Transit Administration for mass and community transportation programs. On behalf of rural communities, the NCDOT IMD completed applications for formula grants for rural areas (Section 5311 Admin) and formula grants for the enhanced mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310 Operating), as well as capital improvements for transit systems. This allowed rural communities to work directly with their state rather than needing to apply directly for funding through the Federal Transit Administration.

The 5311 Administrative grant program helped to subsidize the administrative costs of running a transportation system, which includes administrative salaries and benefits as well as office supplies, uniforms, training and marketing. The 5310 Operating grant program supported transportation operating costs for the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

The Combined Capital grant program allowed Community Transportation systems the opportunity to apply for funding to maintain a public transportation system fleet and other capital needs. This capital project consisted of three replacement vehicles (one Raised Roof with lift and two minivan /crossover vehicles), lettering and logos for each vehicle, one propane conversion and a 6 camera IP Camera Surveillance System. All vehicles and surveillance equipment were being requested due to having met the end of their useful life and meet the minimum requirements for replacement with NCDOT IMD.

The total estimated amount requested for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Local Share</b>
Administrative	\$212,321	\$31,849 15%
Capital (vehicles and other)	\$237,174	\$23,918 10%
5310 Operating	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$75,000</u> 50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$601,495</b>	<b>\$130,767</b>
	<b>Total Funding Request</b>	<b>Total Local Share</b>

She noted the Voluntary Title VI Public Involvement forms were available to the public.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

There being no public comments, Commissioner Jones moved that the public hearing be adjourned. Commissioner Smith seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

Attest:

Approved:

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Angela M. Winchester, Clerk

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Mark A. Letson, Chairman