

**BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**AGENDA**  
**Regular Meeting - Thursday, April 2, 2026, 6pm**  
**Burnsville Town Hall**

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Consideration of Minutes
  - a. Regular meeting held on March 5, 2026
4. Public Hearings
5. Presentations
6. Manager's Update - Heather Hockaday
  - a. Project updates
    - i. 118 N. Main renovation
  - b. Carolina Material Holdings property
    - i. Consideration of Resolution of intent to close a portion of Court St and W Blvd
    - ii. Call for a public hearing
    - iii. Consideration of Offer to purchase parking areas from Carolina Material Holdings (Old Post Office parking)
  - c. Consideration of Resolution to extend mowing contract with Mountain Top Landscaping
  - d. Tax Report
7. Clerk's Update
  - a. ABC Board appointment
  - b. Manager and Clerk evaluations discussion
8. Department Updates
  - a. Public Works - Shane Dale
    - i. Water line project update
  - b. Finance - Leslie Crowder
    - i. Budget vs. Actual, previously provided to Council
    - ii. FEMA update
    - iii. Set budget worksession date
  - c. Fire Department - Niles Howell
  - d. Police Department - Brian Buchanan
    - i. BFF 5k road closure ordinance
  - e. Zoning/Code Enforcement/Flood Plain Administration - Brian Buchanan
  - f. Burnsville Town Center - Corbin Cooper
9. Council Members' Reports
10. Updates from Advisory Boards and Non-Profits
  - a. Yancey/Burnsville Chamber of Commerce
  - b. High Country Council of Governments
11. Closed Session - Manager and Clerk evaluations
12. Next Town Council Meeting - Regular meeting on May 7, 2026
13. Adjourn

**BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting - Thursday, March 5, 2026, 6pm**  
**Burnsville Town Hall**

On Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 6pm, the Burnsville Town Council with Mayor Pro Tem Judy Buchanan and Councilors Denise Collier and Bill Wheeler present, held a regular meeting at the Burnsville Town Hall located at 2 Town Square. Mayor Russell Fox and Councilor Randy Ollis were unable to attend. Also in attendance were Town staff members Heather Hockaday, Shane Dale, Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Niles Howell, Chad Fox, and Corbin Cooper. Mayor Pro Tem Judy Buchanan called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business for the month of March 2026.

Adoption of the agenda - Bill Wheeler moved to adopt the agenda. Denise Collier seconded the motion, which carried. All were in agreement.

Public Comment

- Lucy Doll was present to promote Ruthfest, a celebration of former Burnsville Town Clerk and Councilor Ruth Banks. The fundraiser will support Mountain Strong 828, a local Hurricane Helene recovery relief non-profit.

Consideration of Minutes - Minutes from a regular meeting held on February 5, 2026 and a special meeting held on February 18, 2026 were considered. Bill Wheeler made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as read. Denise Collier seconded the motion, which carried. All were in agreement.

Public Hearings

- Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program - Michelle Ball from the High Country Council of Governments was present to hear citizen input on the Town of Burnsville's application for CDBG-DR funds. Ms. Ball explained the funds available and the criteria to receive them. The funds are geared toward assisting low to moderate income residents. She notified citizens that several applications by the Town may occur and once project descriptions and cost are determined another more detailed public hearing will happen before applications are submitted.
  - Open hearing - Denise Collier moved to open the public hearing at 6:12pm. Bill Wheeler seconded the motion, which carried. All were in agreement.
  - Public comment - No one signed up to comment.
  - Close hearing - Bill Wheeler moved to close the public hearing at 6:13pm. Denise Collier seconded the motion, which carried. All were in agreement.

Presentations - There were none.

Manager's Update - Town Manager Heather Hockaday

1. Project updates
  - a. ARPA
    - i. Main Street Water Lines - Mrs. Hockaday said that crews continue work on the water line projects, recently around the square.
    - ii. E Main Interceptor - The sewer line improvements project began recently with a slight delay because of weather.
    - iii. Bolens Creek Raw Water Line Improvements - The project that improves the water line up to the water treatment plant has been completed.
  - b. 118 N. Main Public Works/Police building renovation - Mrs. Hockaday met earlier in the day for an update on the project. She shared a monthly report with the Council

and suggested a trip to see the progress soon. Updates included the near completion of the roof and upper level windows and framing.

2. Resolutions to accept Helene SRF funds - DEQ requires resolutions to accept the funds for both the 19E Water Line project and the Hickory Lane and Glendale Area Sewer Line Improvements project. Bill Wheeler moved to approve *Resolution No. 2026.03.05.01* and *Resolution No. 2026.03.05.02*. Denise Collier seconded the motion which carried. All were in agreement.
3. Institute of Emerging Issues update - Mrs. Hockaday spoke about a recent presentation from the IEI with a focus on water. The presentation took a broader look at what water and sewer mean to local communities and how critical the issue is for the entire state.
4. Tax Report - Mrs. Hockaday presented a tax report with a 94.44% collection rate and said that the advertisement for delinquent taxes would come out in the paper later in the month.

#### Clerk's Update - Town Clerk Chad Fox

1. Road closure request, MYPRC May 16, 2026 - The Mitchell/Yancey Prevention and Recovery Coalition, a PATH program, requested that a portion of North Main Street be closed for an event on May 16, 2026. Bill Wheeler moved to approve the closure of North Main from near the Square to Avery Street from 10am-12:30pm. Denise Collier seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### Department Updates

1. Public Works - Public Works Director Shane Dale discussed the challenges of the new water line installation, saying that unknowns encountered while digging have caused unforeseen outages. He said that despite the challenges of the large project, things are going well and some sections of Town are already on the new line with tie-ins and new meters. The Shepard Way pump station will also be worked on soon.
2. Finance - Finance Officer Leslie Crowder
  - a. A budget versus actual and overtime report was previously provided to Council.
  - b. A budget worksheet went out to the departments heads recently and Mrs. Crowder expects a budget work session to be scheduled near the end of April.
  - c. FEMA projects - Mrs. Crowder presented a list of current projects and updated the Council on the \$4,687,697 received so far. She said that the Town has received nearly all of the FEMA funds requested.
  - d. Request for Audit Services - Mrs. Crowder reported that the Town received six responses to a recent *Request For Proposals for Audit Services*. They will be scored soon.
3. Fire Department - Chief Niles Howell submitted a report for a very busy February. Chief Howell welcomed the warmer weather as cold temperatures led to several structure fires. He reported that the new side-by-side, paid for with disaster funds, has been received.
4. Police Department - Police Chief Brian Buchanan presented an activity log and mentioned an upcoming road closure on May 2nd for the BFF 5K.
5. Zoning/Code Enforcement - Zoning Administrator Brian Buchanan said several projects have been discussed but no meetings have been needed.

6. Burnsville Town Center - Town Center Manager Corbin Cooper reported on twenty-nine upcoming events for March, highlighting a craft show, Toe River concert with local musicians, Ruthfest, and a rummage sale.

Updates from Advisory Boards and Non-Profits

- Yancey/Burnsville Chamber of Commerce - Chamber Director Juliana Walker reviewed upcoming events such as an Easter Egg hunt on March 28th, the April 7th Annual Gala to celebrate and award local businesses and community members, and Cruisin' to the Holler on May 23rd. She also mentioned preparations for the Crafts Fair and an upcoming ribbon cutting for new downtown business Sassy Gal.

Closed Session - There was none.

Next Town Council Meetings - Regular meeting on April 2, 2026.

Adjourn - With there being no further business, Denise Collier moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, meeting adjourned.

---

J. Chad Fox, Town Clerk

---

T. Russell Fox, Mayor

**RESOLUTION TO EXERCISE CONTRACT RENEWAL OPTION FOR MOWING SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnsville (the “Town”) previously entered into a Service Contract for Mowing (the “Agreement”) with Mountain Top Landscaping (the “Contractor”); and

**WHEREAS**, Paragraph 3 of the Agreement provides the Town with the option to renew the Agreement for an additional term upon mutual agreement of the parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor has satisfactorily performed the services required under the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor has submitted an updated Certificate of Insurance (COI) evidencing continued compliance with the insurance requirements of the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town desires to exercise its option to renew the Agreement for an additional term beginning April 1, 2026, through November 30, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, this renewal is contingent upon the Town Council’s continued appropriation of funds sufficient to satisfy the Town’s obligations under the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Burnsville that:

1. The Town hereby exercises the renewal option set forth in Paragraph 3 of the Service Contract for Mowing with Mountain Top Landscaping for an additional term beginning April 1, 2026, and ending November 30, 2026.
2. This renewal is expressly contingent upon the continued appropriation of funds by the Town Council sufficient to fulfill the Town’s financial obligations under the Agreement.
3. The Mayor and/or Town Manager are hereby authorized to execute any documents necessary to effectuate this renewal on behalf of the Town.
4. Except as modified herein, all other terms and provisions of the Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

ADOPTED this \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
T. Russell Fox, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

**Dennis Aldridge**  
Chair of the Board

**Larry Fontaine**  
Vice-Chair



**Jeff Whitson**  
Secretary

**Rocky Buchanan**  
Treasurer

468 New Market Blvd.  
Boone, NC 28607

[www.hccog.org](http://www.hccog.org)

Phone: 828-265-5434

Fax: 828-265-5439

Executive Board Meeting  
March 16, 2026 | 7:00 p.m.  
High Country COG Board Room

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION**

*Dennis Aldridge, Executive Board Chairman*

**II. CONSIDERATION OF FEBRUARY 2026 MINUTES [ACTION]**

*Dennis Aldridge, Executive Board Chairman*

**III. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

*Caroline Briggs, Finance Officer*

- Financial Highlights as of February 28, 2026 [ACTION]
- Budget Amendment #5 [ACTION]

**IV. FLOOD RISK MITIGATION FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE: A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMMING SUPPORTED BY APPALACHIAN VOICES IN WNC**

15 MINUTES

*Kristin Stroup, Senior Program Manager, Energy & Climate Resilience*

**V. OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL REPORT**

10 MINUTES

*Stevie Welborn, Regional Ombudsman*

**VI. REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

10 MINUTES

*Julie Wiggins, Executive Director*

**VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**VIII. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Welcome New Board Members

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT [ACTION]**

**\*EXECUTIVE BOARD GROUP PHOTO - APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM\***

**HIGH COUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026  
MINUTES**

The Executive Board of the High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG) met February 16, 2026, 7:00pm, in the HCCOG Board Room in Boone. The following members were present at the meeting: Charles E. Vines, Brenda Lyerly, Wes Greene, Shirley Randleman, Rusty Barr, Bill Wheeler, Valerie Jaynes, Dalton George, John Shepherd, Bobby Munsey, Mike Parlier, Jeff Harding, Teresa McCoy, Rocky Buchanan, Jeff Whitson, Braxton Eggers, Paul Robinson Jr., Larry Fontaine, and Dennis Aldridge. The following member was present via Zoom but did not count toward quorum: Doug Matheons. The following staff and guests were present at the meeting: Arthur Salido, Julie Wiggins, Caroline Briggs, Zack Green, Myles Stacey, Cory Osborne, Chris Grubb, Jackson Marcellus, Judson Blevins, and Victoria Oxentine. The following guests were present via Zoom: Alan Thompson, Kristin Stout, and LaDonte Lee.

**CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION**

Vice-Chairman Aldridge called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. Charles E. Vines led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jeff Whitson offered the invocation.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Jeff Whitson moved to accept the minutes of the December 15, 2025 meeting, seconded by Braxton Eggers. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**Financial Highlights**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented the Financial Highlights as of January 31, 2026 (Attachment A) and discussed revenues versus expenditures. Wes Greene made a motion to approve the Financial Highlights as of January 31, 2026. Jeff Harding seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Budget Amendment #4**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented Budget Amendment #4 (Attachment A1) which is an increase of \$125,000 from Dogwood Health Trust for the Digital Navigator program and \$1,121 for local match in the Area Agency on Aging department. Larry Fontaine made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #4. Wes Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Workforce Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – ARPA Work-Based Learning**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented the Workforce Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – ARPA Work-Based Learning (Attachment A2) which is an additional \$35,000 of ARPA funds through December 30, 2026. Charles E. Vines made a motion to approve the Workforce Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – ARPA Work-Based Learning. Jeff Whitson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Planning Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – NCDIT Digital Champion**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented the Planning Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – NCDIT Digital Champion (Attachment A3) which shifted funds from personnel expenses to equipment. We were able to decrease salaries, fringe, indirect, and direct payments to

subrecipients, and increase the budget for equipment purchased for direct recipients. The grant is still the same amount of \$800,000. Braxton Eggers made a motion to approve Planning Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – NCDIT Digital Champion. Wes Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Planning Grant Project Ordinance – EDA 2025 Partnership Planning Grant**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented the Planning Grant Project Ordinance – EDA 2025 Partnership Planning Grant (Attachment A4) which is a new GPO that runs through December 31, 2027 in the amount of \$420,000; \$210,00 from EDA and \$210,000 from local match. Brenda Lyerly made a motion to approve the Planning Grant Project Ordinance – EDA 2025 Partnership Planning Grant. Charles E. Vines seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Corrected Grant Project Ordinances (Clerical Corrections Only)**

Finance Officer, Caroline Briggs presented three Memos regarding Corrected Grant Project Ordinances (Attachment A5) that needed no action. The corrections entailed updating the correct reporting agency listed.

#### **HCCOG AUDIT PRESENTATION**

Alan Thompson from Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams, & Co. P.A. joined the meeting via Zoom to review the FY2025 Audit (Attachment B). Mr. Thompson shared that there were no findings, and he appreciated the help of the HCCOG finance staff in completing the audit. John Shepherd moved to approve the HCCOG Audit. Charles E. Vines seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **HEALTHY BLUE PRESENTATION**

LaDonte Lee and Kristin Stout joined the meeting via Zoom to present a slideshow (Attachment C) about Healthy Blue - Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP). Mr. Lee and Ms. Stout discussed the goals of the program, the objectives and 2-phase plan launch, the main goal being to prevent entry/reentry into foster care. There was much discussion among Executive Board members and Healthy Blue presenters regarding foster care, DSS, and members expressed more involvement is needed at the local level.

#### **REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Braxton Eggers, Nominating Committee Chair announced the proposed 2026 HCCOG Executive Board slate of officers: Dennis Aldridge - Chairman, Larry Fontaine – Vice-Chairman, Jeff Whitson - Secretary, and Rocky Buchanan - Treasurer. Jeff Harding made a motion to approve the 2026 slate of officers. Wes Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**RECESS OF HCCOG EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION AND CONVENING OF REGION D DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SESSION**

Jeff Whitson made a motion to recess the HCCOG Executive Board session and convene the Region D Development Corporation (RDDC) session. Brenda Lyerly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Consideration of February 17, 2025 RDDC Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Aldridge noted that the RDDC is a nonprofit that was founded in the 1980s that performs a specific function apart from the HCCOG and we meet each year to hear a report and approve minutes from the prior year. Chris Grubb, Deputy Executive Director/Planning & Development Director discussed the Mountain BizWorks investment and presented the February 17, 2025 minutes (Attachment D) for approval. Larry Fontaine made a motion to approve the February 17, 2025 RDDC Minutes. Jeff Whitson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**CLOSING OF REGION D DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SESSION AND OPENING OF HCCOG EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION**

As there was no other business of the RDDC, Brenda Lyerly made a motion to close the RDDC session and open the HCCOG Executive Board session. Charles E. Vines seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Julie Wiggins, Executive Director announced that CDBG-DR grants are open for pre-screening for infrastructure and community revitalization, noting that the Planning and Development team are ready to help our local governments through this process. Ms. Wiggins also presented the FY2024-2025 Annual Report noting the record high ROI of \$108.73. Ms. Wiggins noted what a great snapshot the Annual Report is of the work HCCOG does and expressed appreciation for the partnership with our local governments.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Braxton Eggers thanked Doug Matheson for her service as Executive Board Chairman and noted how appreciated he was. Doug Matheson thanked everyone for the kind words of appreciation.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Vice-Chairman Aldridge welcomed four new board members including: Shirley Randleman - Wilkes County Commissioner, Rusty Barr – Mayor of West Jefferson, Valerie Jaynes – Mayor of Newland, and Dalton George – Mayor of Boone. Vice-Chairman Aldridge noted that two other new board members could not attend due to illness and injury.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Todd McNeill, NCARCOG Executive Director congratulated HCCOG on a great ROI this year. Arthur Salido from 3 Notch Group Engineering introduced himself.

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there were no other comments or business, Jeff Whitson made a motion to adjourn. Valerie Jaynes seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Dennis Aldridge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board, Victoria Oxentine

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Dennis Aldridge**  
Chair of the Board

**Larry Fontaine**  
Vice-Chair



**Jeff Whitson**  
Secretary

**Rocky Buchanan**  
Treasurer

468 New Market Blvd.  
Boone, NC 28607

[www.hccog.org](http://www.hccog.org)

Phone: 828-265-5434

Fax: 828-265-5439

## Financial Highlights – March 16, 2026

### FEBRUARY 2026

		<b>2025</b>
Total Fund Balance - Governmental Funds		\$ 2,973,983
Restricted Fund Balance - GF		\$ 15,260
Assigned Fund Balance - GF		\$ 1,225,738
Unassigned Fund Balance - GF		\$ 1,732,985
	<b>2026</b>	
Total Expenditures - YTD	\$ 3,716,053	\$ 7,539,615
Total Fund Balance as % of General Fund Expenditures*	36.05%	39.44%
Unassigned Fund Balance as % of General Fund Expendit	21.01%	22.99%

<b>*FY2026 Budget Expenditures</b>	<b>FISCAL YEAR 2026</b>	
	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>\$8,249,380</b>		
<b>Total Revenue</b>		
General	\$ 476,531	\$ 377,535
Planning/Development	\$ 917,615	\$ 316,307
Resilience Contractual	\$ 110,784	\$ 118,356
Area Agency on Aging	\$ 3,214,943	\$ 1,679,197
Workforce Development	\$ 3,529,507	\$ 1,104,946
	<b>\$ 8,249,380</b>	<b>\$ 3,596,342</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		
General	\$ 476,531	\$ 348,190
Planning/Development	\$ 917,615	\$ 383,492
Resilience Contractual	\$ 110,784	\$ 31,724
Area Agency on Aging	\$ 3,214,943	\$ 1,603,503
Workforce Development	\$ 3,529,507	\$ 1,349,144
	<b>\$ 8,249,380</b>	<b>\$ 3,716,053</b>
Revenues over (under) expenditures		\$ (119,712)

**Dennis Aldridge**  
Chair of the Board

**Larry Fontaine**  
Vice-Chair



**Jeff Whitson**  
Secretary

**Rocky Buchanan**  
Treasurer

468 New Market Blvd.  
Boone, NC 28607

www.hccog.org

Phone: 828-265-5434

Fax: 828-265-5439

FY2026 PROJECT ORDINANCES				
DESCRIPTION	FISCAL YEAR	BUDGET	REVENUE	EXPENSE
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)	2022	\$ 593,750	\$ 536,695	\$ 570,024
DOGWOOD HEALTH TRUST	2025	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 2,329
EDA PARTNERSHIP PLANNING 25-27	2025	\$ 420,000	\$ 46,667	\$ 7,773
ARC DISASTER HELENE FUNDING	2025	\$ 276,000	\$ 8,186	\$ 152,218
EDA DISASTER HELENE FUNDING	2025	\$ 500,000	\$ 127,595	\$ 168,116
NCARCOG HELENE	2025	\$ 665,000	\$ 665,000	\$ 144,066
NCARCOG HELENE TRANCHE 2	2025	\$ 532,000	\$ -	\$ -
DHT COG CAPACITY	2025	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ -
URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM	2026	\$ 330,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 18,446
DIT DIGITAL CHAMPION	2025	\$ 800,000	\$ 503,719	\$ 479,322
CHOOSING HOME SFRF	2025	\$ 132,889	\$ 6,907	\$ 8,711
NCOA INNOVATION'S LAB	2025	\$ 289,973	\$ 144,987	\$ 75,364
DHT DEMENTIA CAREGIVER	2025	\$ 163,200	\$ 156,600	\$ 11,060
PEAS	2025	\$ 97,120	\$ 5,196	\$ 5,196
ASU FALLS PREVENTION	2023	\$ 251,959	\$ 250,459	\$ 250,716
AGELESS ACCESS DIGITAL NAVIGATOR	2025	\$ 98,058	\$ 98,039	\$ 98,039
OMB LOC 6 - ARPA	2024	\$ 15,425	\$ 15,417	\$ 15,417
AAA ARPA	2023	\$ 1,159,598	\$ 1,155,841	\$ 1,155,842
NCWORKS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER RECOVERY	2023	\$ 200,000	\$ 175,302	\$ 181,841
NCWORKS SMALL BUSINESS WORK-BASED LEARNING	2023	\$ 1,035,000	\$ 759,161	\$ 803,769
DOGWOOD WORKBASED LEARNING	2025	\$ 310,000	\$ 310,000	\$ 185,307
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$ 8,544,972</b>	<b>\$ 5,790,770</b>	<b>\$ 4,333,557</b>
<b>Cash Balances</b>				
Operating Account		\$ 816,088		
NCCMT Account		\$ 2,813,391		
		\$ 3,629,479		

The financial information in the report reflects the HCCOG's overall financial position for the fiscal year through June 30, 2026 and is for the management discussion purposes only.

Caroline Briggs, Finance Officer

**BUDGET AMENDMENT #5**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of High Country Council of Governments that the following amendment be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

**SECTION 1: REVENUES BY SOURCE**

**GENERAL FUND**

Fund Balance	\$ -
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ -

**PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Federal	\$ -
State	\$ -
Local	\$ -
TOTAL PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT FUND	\$ -

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING FUND**

Federal	\$ 100,000.00
State	\$ -
Local	\$ -
TOTAL AREA AGENCY ON AGING FUND	\$ 100,000.00

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Federal	\$ -
TOTAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND	\$ -

**TOTAL REVENUES BY SOURCE**

**\$ 100,000.00**

**SECTION II: EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM**

**GENERAL FUND**

Fund Balance	\$ -
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ -

**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Planning/Development Fund	\$ -
Area Agency on Aging Fund	\$ 100,000.00
Workforce Development Fund	\$ -
TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$ 100,000.00

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM**

**\$ 100,000.00**

<b>FY2025-2026 ORIGINAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 7,578,641.00</b>
<b>Budget Amendment #1 8-18-2025</b>	<b>\$ (212,357.00)</b>
<b>Budget Amendment #2 10-20-2025</b>	<b>\$ 99,751.00</b>
<b>Budget Amendment #3 11-17-2025</b>	<b>\$ 657,224.00</b>
<b>Budget Amendment #4 2-16-2026</b>	<b>\$ 126,121.00</b>
<b>Budget Amendment #5 3-16-2026</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>

**TOTAL AMENDED BUDGET FY2026**

**\$ 8,349,380.00**

BY VOTE OF THE HIGH COUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS UPON MOTION BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ AND SECONDED BY \_\_\_\_\_

THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Aldridge, Chair of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Whiston, Secretary

# Regional Long-Term Care Ombudsman

## Program: At a Glance 2025



### Overview

The High Country Area Agency on Aging Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman Program serves seven counties: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey. One ombudsman serves the seven county region. There are currently 25 long term care facilities in the region that are comprised of 10 adult care homes, 4 family care homes, and 11 nursing homes.

### Complaint Data and Trends

A total of 57 cases and 98 complaints were filed during Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (FFY 2025). The five most common complaint categories were:

- Dignity and respect
  - Food Services
  - Personal Hygiene
    - Medications
- Response to requests for assistance

### Program Assistance and Facility Visitation

- 188 visits to long term care facilities by ombudsman and CACs (120 to nursing homes, 65 to adult care homes, 3 to family care homes)
- 451 advocacy and general activities conducted by the ombudsman.
- 22 elder abuse awareness and prevention activities
- 17 resident council presentations
- 97 benefits, rights, and regulations activities by the ombudsman
- 73 provider consults

### Advocacy & Outreach

- Co-chair of the North Carolina Long Term Care Ombudsman Association (NCLTCOA) legislative and advocacy committee
  - FOR public policy committee member
- Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention month activities

CACs provided 448 hours of service and drove 2919 miles to advocate for residents in their communities