

Town of Pollocksville
Regular Meeting
September 9, 2025

Present: James V. Bender, Jr. – Mayor

Guest List: Attached

Sherry Henderson - Commissioner

Ellis Banks – Commissioner

Nancy Barbee – Commissioner

Maria Robles – Commissioner

Vic Bryan - Commissioner

Toni Floyd – Town Clerk

London Mayo – Asst. Town Clerk

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Declaration of a Quorum
The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Pollocksville held its regular schedule meeting on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at the Pollocksville Town Hall. The meeting was open to public attendance as well as participation via Zoom. Mayor Bender called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. With all Commissioners present, we had a quorum.
- II. Introduction of New Business
None
- III. Approval/Adoption of Final Agenda
Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve and adopt the final agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson and all were in favor.
- IV. Public Comment
None
- V. Approval of Minutes of August 12, 2025 Meeting
Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Commissioner Henderson. All were in favor.
- VI. Presentations to the Board
 - A. Mary Ann LeRay – Filling Station request: Ms. LeRay requested permission from the town to close White Street for Perfect 10 event. She Introduced Mr. Ed Jekel, Project Manager, who will be helping with the Perfect 10 event. The Filling Station will be responsible for signage and barricades. The road closure will be from 9:00-3:00. There will provide traffic support as well. They have event insurance, and a copy of the declaration is included in the minutes. Commissioner Bryan made a motion to approve the road closure with the stipulation of reviewing the insurance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barbee and all were in favor.
 - B. Eddie Jenkins – Mowing Buddies: The town currently has a contract with Mowing Buddies. Mayor asked Mr. Jenkins to attend to answer questions and explain what he is doing. Commissioner Bryan said the town looks better than it had. Mr. Jenkins is working on the bump

outs around banner poles in addition to mowing and spraying. Commissioner Henderson asked what his contract covers, and Mr. Jenkins said it is covering everything he is doing. Mr. Jenkins was asked what work he would be doing during winter, and he said trim bushes, blow leaves, and pick up trash. Commissioner Robles asked if Todd Meadows was going to pick up part of the work.

- C. Jeff Mallard, Carol Foy, and Janet Purvis – Pollocksville Rotary Club request: The Rotary Club is asking permission to use Town Hall for upcoming events in 2025-2026. A list of dates/events is included in the minutes. The new event is the America 250 Celebration for the country's 250th anniversary. Commissioner Barbee suggested asking the Daughters of the American Revolution Group in New Bern for help with funding. Commissioner Henderson made a motion to recuse Mayor Bender from the discussion, with a second from Commissioner Bryan, because he is a board member on the Pollocksville Rotary. All were in favor of the motion. Commissioner Robles and Commissioner Henderson are going to work on paperwork for allowing groups to use the restroom trailer. Commissioner Bryan made a motion to allow the Rotary use the restroom trailer for their event, with the stipulation that the paperwork is completed. Commissioner Robles seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- D. Shirley Bryan, Jones County Historical Society: Ms. Bryan presented a plaque to the town from the Jones County Historical Society.

VII. Action Items

- A. None

VIII. Reports

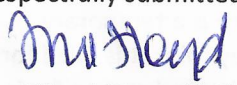
A. Mayor's Report – Mayor Bender:

1. The paving grant has been completed. Ms. Floyd made the final reports and we are waiting on close out documents. Pine Valley Drive at Second Street has some broken pavement.
2. OSMB Grant: The new street signs have been installed and look good. We still have a few signs to order and replace for the cemetery street. \$110,000 of these funds are allocated to the sidewalk project.
3. A banner pole has been torn down as a result of an accident. We are waiting on a quote for replacement and installation. We will send a copy of the quote to Clerk of Court Chris Henderson for attachment to the charge.
4. Sidewalk project: DOT was supposed to start on August 27th. Some residents thought the sidewalk was too close to their homes and wanted it moved. DOT will only make minor adjustments due to the need to remain ADA compliant. There may be a loss of parking spots on the even-numbered side of the street
5. BRIC: No word on alternate funding. The DEQ may not give us matching funds due to the cancellation of federal funds.
6. FEMA Reimbursement: Complete with the exception of the CAT Z funding. The \$83000 has been pending since April 6. Senator Budd's office and Senator Tillis' office said that funds would be available in next two weeks.
7. Golden Leaf: We originally received a \$1M loan/grant, and have drawn \$200,000. Golden Leaf is going to reallocate \$700,000 of the funds and are leaving \$100,000 in case we do not get the CAT Z funds. We have requested to keep the funds to cover the closing fees on the ASADRA loan.

8. Cory Spaulding said that the auditor had asked for an invoice so he could book the expense for the 2025 audit. We are going to try to determine how much extra we have spent on audits for the last 3-4 years.
 9. WTP and WWTP work is ongoing. Duke Energy found a problem with their 3-phase power at the water plant which has been corrected.
 10. No progress on the Fourth Street Drainage project.
 11. June 2026 is the estimated completion for the WWTP.
 12. 205-J Grant from COG: This is a storm water planning grant. The COG is working with the Sound Rivers group for funding. The COG is also going to reach out to the school system about their drainage ditch.
 13. Mayor Bender met with John Bender and Kyle Smith about providing sewage service for the new Industrial Park. Dry industrial sewer would run to the 10-mile Fork plant where it would join the existing sewage line, which we already provide service for. Commissioner Henderson wants to know what percentage of capacity the new sewer would use.
 14. The ribbon cutting for The Filling Station was a good event. Mayor Bender talked with Golden Leaf representatives during the event.
 15. Removal of tree at Pollocksville School: Duke Energy has removed one of the trees but has not cleaned up the debris yet. Also, there is a tree hanging over Hines Street, with power lines intertwined.
 16. Heritage Festival: September 26-27. Mayor Bender will ride in the parade.
 17. Jones County 4 Life: Our State, Our Home. There was a meeting in August that Commissioner Barbee attended and provided notes prior to the meeting and they are included in the minutes.
 18. Mayor Bender talked to the county manager about mowing the FEMA lots on Barrus Street, and that has been completed.
 19. We received a request for a proclamation for World Pancreatic Cancer Day on November 20, 2025. The board agreed to the proclamation by consensus.
 20. The flood mitigation project was presented at the Jones County Board of Commissioners meeting. The estimated cost to dredge the river is \$86M.
- B. Department of Public Works – Todd Meadows and J.J. Chadwick:
1. Third Street Washout update: Commissioner Bryan contacted Shelton Murphy to do the work at the washout. Tyler Griffin had offered to bring riprap and dump it for \$1000, but could not push it into the hole. Murphy has installed erosion control. There is a temporary coffer dam in place, and a 12" tile. There was a subterranean hole that they think it is filled for now. We will need a permit if we have to work any closer to the river. Estimated cost so far is \$2000 according to Commissioner Bryan.
 1. We still have trees that need trimming, but we do not have the equipment or personnel to do all the work in house.
 2. We are waiting for estimate for cutting the trees on Payton Lane.
 3. Mayor Bender stated that he would discuss Todd Meadow's employment at our next meeting.
 4. Discussion on Mowing Buddies contract: The board agreed to let him continue the work he is doing for now and review the contract during budget preparations in the spring.
- C. Town Clerk/Finance Office – Toni Floyd
1. Check Register, BvA, Cash Report, and Bank Reconciliation for August 2025

- 2. Budget Amendments for approval Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve amendments 2026-2, 2026-3, and 2026-4. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion and all were in favor.
 - 3. Other?
 - D. Beautification/Economic Development – Commissioner Barbee
 - 1.
 - E. Planning and Zoning – Mayor Bender:
 - 1. Update from Andy Thomas, Code Enforcement Officer: Included in minutes
 - F. Attorney-David Baxter
 - 1. Easement resolution: We will receive \$4000 for the easement on the triangular tract of land on Hwy 17. Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve the Deed of Easement and for Mayor Bender to sign it. Commissioner Robles seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- IX. Unfinished Business
- A. None
- X. New Business
- A. None
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Closed Session (if necessary)
- None
- XIII. Announcements
- Next meeting: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
- XIV. Adjournment
- Commissioner Barbee made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robles and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Floyd, Town Clerk

Approval Date 10/14/2025