

*Kevin Austin, Chairman of Board
David Moxley, Vice Chairman
Gilbert Hemric, Commissioner
Marion Welborn, Commissioner
Frank Zachary, Commissioner*



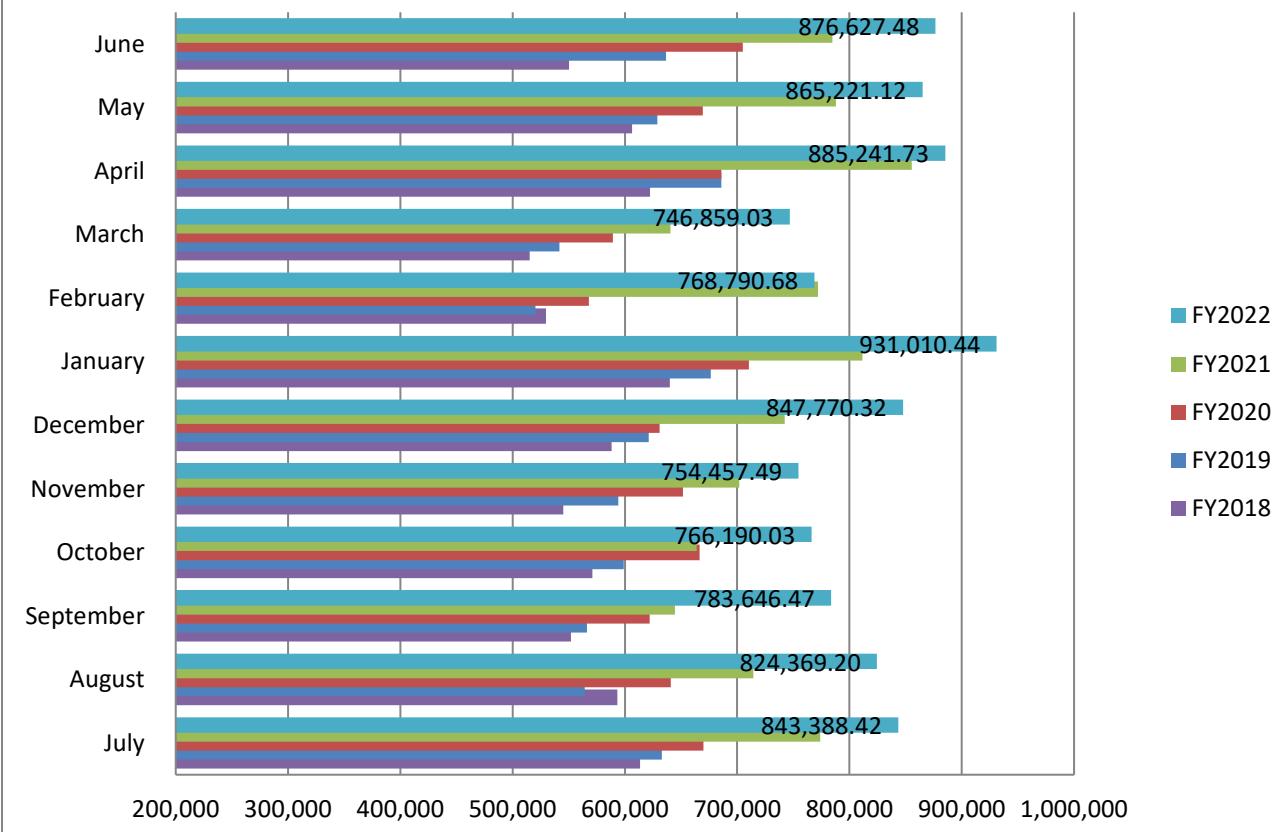
*Ed Powell, County Attorney
Lisa Hughes, County Manager
Tanya Gentry, Clerk to the Board*

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

August 5, 2022

Sales Tax

Sales Tax Revenues 2018-2022



Sales Tax numbers are in for June 2022 and we are \$2.275 million above the estimated budgeted amount and almost \$1 million over FY2021 actuals. The cost of everything continues to increase and people continue to shop from home rather than going to malls, shopping centers or other stores. I think sales tax collections will remain stable and don't think we will see the growth we have seen over the last couple of years, but I also don't think we will see a decline.

COVID

Our active COVID cases continue to increase to 300 as of today. There has been an outbreak at a local assisted-living facility and one additional death. While there have been more cases, there are fewer serious cases.

The NC State of Emergency will end August 15, 2022. The State is winding down a lot of its efforts mitigating/treating COVID. They have notified Emergency Services that there will be a time that they will stop providing monoclonal antibodies. Chris Bolden is looking into other avenues to purchase the antibodies, as we will continue to provide them, as well as COVID vaccines and now home testing kits.

I will also note that our first Community Paramedic, Kayla Johnson has resigned. The program continues with Jessica Campbell and she is doing a great job. We will post the vacant position as soon as possible.

Remote Meetings

While we have not held remote Board meetings since the initial few at the beginning of COVID, with the State of Emergency ending on August 15th, remote meetings are no longer an option. All meetings have to be held in-person, even though streaming them for the public is an option.

Legislative Goals

It's time to submit Legislative Goals to the NCACC. Goals are due September 12th. So far, I have ones for accreditation, school calendar, CD nurse funding and possibly 100% state funding of forestry. Please let me know any thoughts you have on these or other potential goals.

Affordable Housing

The School of Government is offering an Affordable Housing Seminar on Tools, Strategies and Case Studies for Local Government Leadership on September 30th in Marion, NC. It is an interactive in-person seminar for elected and appointment officials from county and municipal governments who are setting strategic direction around affordable housing. It will focus on local government support and public-private partnerships for workforce residential housing. The cost is \$235 per person. If any of you are interested in attending, please let me know. Seth Harris plans to attend and I made Bobby Todd aware and he plans to attend as well.

GREAT Grant

I was notified this week that YADTEL did receive the GREAT grant! NCDIT issued another round of GREAT awards on August 1. This grant will provide broadband to an additional 742 residences and businesses within the county. See the letter in Exhibit A.

Potential Rabies Case

We did have a resident bitten by a bat this week. Apparently, her house is infested with them. She and her two adult children live in the home, but she is the only one known to be bitten. Medical Clinic staff worked with her and the State to get her qualified to receive the appropriate shots at no cost and Hugh Chatham was also working with staff to ensure she was treated at zero cost. However, she and her daughter went to Davie Medical Center for treatment.

Sound System

Steven Ratcliffe had a company assess the sound system in the Commissioners' Room. The public microphone is top of the line, but he was told it only should have Energizer batteries. So, that may be the issue with that one, so Steven is ensuring that Tanya has plenty of batteries. This mic is a few years old, but still a good mic.

The quote to replace the Board mics and equalizer is \$5,100 and they can replace the system prior to the next Board meeting. I have authorized Steven to move forward and will ask the Board to ratify the contract on August 15th. The only negative to this new system is that there is a button each person will have to press when they want to speak. I have asked Steven to find out if this can be programmed to be on. This sound system and microphones are older and in need of upgrading.

New Building

Creech & Associates architecture firm met with Tax and IT staff to discuss their programmatic needs for the new building. Lindsey and I also met with them in the event there were adequate space to include Admin, Finance and Commissioners' Room. Tax and IT with server room / conference rooms / break room / lobby will be approximately 12,000 sq. ft. They estimated 8,000 sq. ft. for Admin / Finance / Commissioners' Room. The next steps will be to survey all of the property boundaries for the Elm Street properties, Courthouse and the two EMS outposts and structural assess the wall / space between the Community Building and the Dinkins' building.

EXHIBIT A



Roy Cooper
Governor

James A. Weaver
Secretary and State Chief Information Officer

August 1, 2022

Seth Dunlap
VP, Finance
Yadkin Valley TMC
1421 Courtney-Huntsville Road
Yadkinville, NC 27055

Re: Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant Award
Notification; Application # 1000013492

Dear Mr. Dunlap:

Congratulations! On behalf of the N.C. Department of Information Technology's Division of Broadband and Digital Equity, I am pleased to announce that Yadkin Valley TMC (Yadtel | Zirrus) has been selected for funding under the GREAT Grant program in the amount of \$2,591,197.00. These funds are awarded from American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Funds as appropriated by N.C. Session Law 2021-180 and are subject to federal requirements as detailed in the U. S. Treasury Final Rule and other applicable requirements referenced in the GREAT Grant Guidance Document.

The required match for this project is \$1,110,513.00. These funds are contingently awarded for the project entitled YVTMC-Yadkin GREAT Grant FTTH Project to deploy broadband services to approximately 742 households and businesses in Yadkin County. The Broadband Infrastructure Office will send a follow-up letter in the coming days outlining the additional information that must be submitted to us prior to contracting. If the requested information is not received, the awarded project may be rescinded and the next highest scoring application in the county may be eligible for award.

The GREAT grant awards are being made on a rolling basis through July and August for this funding round. We extend our best wishes for success in deploying broadband services to unserved areas in North Carolina, and we look forward to working with you on this important project. If you have any questions about the next steps, please contact Angie Bailey, Director of the Broadband Infrastructure Office, at GREATgrant@nc.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Nathaniel S. Denny

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Nathaniel S. Denny
Deputy Secretary
Division of Broadband and Digital Equity
N.C. Department of Information Technology