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Frank Zachary, Commissioner*



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

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **November 4, 2022**

#### ***Sales Tax***

Sales tax collections for the month of September are lower than the previous months of this fiscal year, but are still well above September of last fiscal year.

#### ***Finance Officer Bond***

Session Law 2022-53 revised NCGS 159-29 increasing the amount of the Finance Officer's bond at its next renewal. Currently, the Yadkin County Finance Officer's bond is for \$250,000, which is above the minimum amount required.

The LGC memo states that "A person may not be appointed as a finance officer or assume the duties for which a bond is required if the person is unable to obtain the bond required by G.S. 159-29. Under the revised statute, the bond for the finance officer "may not be less than the greater of the following: (1) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or (2) An amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the unit's annually budgeted funds, up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000)." The statute establishes minimum bond requirements. Governing boards may determine that greater bond amounts are necessary and appropriate." Based upon Yadkin County's budget, the bond would need to be \$1,000,000.

We have contacted our agent, Rusty Crissman who contacted the bond company and they have asked for additional information to write the bond. We have contacted other governments to verify the information their underwriters requested.

#### ***ApSeed***

Several years ago, Billy Prim and the Prim Foundation sponsored a pilot program utilizing ApSeed tablets to better prepare preschoolers for school. The "seedlings" are distributed through the WIC program and the NC Pre-K program in the Yadkin County Schools. Greg Alcorn worked with members of the General Assembly representing Rowan County to seek state funding for "pilot programs" across the state. Yadkin is one of 12 counties being included in the pilot program. The program will be expanded to include Head Start and Greg Alcorn will hire a part-time contract employee to assist with all of the assessments to better monitor preschoolers' efficiencies in shapes, colors, numbers and letters of the alphabet.

### ***School Safety Grant***

According to the Yadkin Ripple, the Yadkin County Schools received funding for all of their safety grants they applied for and discussed with the Board of Commissioners several months ago. Most notably, they received partial funding for 3 new School Resource Officers that will be placed at the Yadkin Success Academy (1) and the remaining two splitting time in the elementary schools that are now within any town limits. This grant does require a county match (\$55,000) and after talking with Dr. Martin, the schools will be ready for these officers to be in place after January 1, 2023.

### ***VIPER Tower***

As discussed during the joint meeting with the Board of Education Tuesday night, to make the switch to the VIPER radio communications' system with the best coverage possible, we need to construct an additional VIPER tower in the East Bend area. There is space on the property of the East Bend Elementary School that could be used, subject to the Board of Education's approval, as well as the Town of East Bend's Board of Adjustment and Town Board. Zoning would require a special use permit in the residential area. I have been asked to attend their meeting on December 1 to discuss it as an option. If the Town Board of Adjustment is open to it, I will revisit with Dr. Martin.

### ***Surry Community College and Training***

Dr. Doug Underwood sent an email to all of the Fire Chiefs that the College will no longer be able to provide EMT continuing educational training at individual fire departments, that they will need to come to the Yadkin Center for that training. One fire department has already notified the Fire Marshal that they will turn in their credentials. This means that EMS will have fewer medical responders to assist on BLS calls. I met with Doug this morning to explore options and discussed 1) having the trainings at the 2 fire departments that consistently had 8 or more participants at the trainings (Buck Shoals and Forbush); 2) condensed trainings offered on 2 weekends per year so that could obtain all of their required training in those 2 weekends; and 3) online trainings. They would still need to complete skills resting. He is going to talk with his Supervisor and attend the Fire Chiefs' meeting next week.

### ***Emergency Services Quarterly Report***

Exhibit A contains the Emergency Services Quarterly report through September 30, 2022.

### ***Opioid Committee Meeting***

We had our second Opioid Committee meeting today and there was a lot of good discussion. Needing a centralized source of information and someone to identify resources in communities. We will meet again next month.

## EXHIBIT A

# **Yadkin County Emergency Services Quarterly Report April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022**

### **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**

The following bullet points will present an overview.

- At this point we are 8 positions away from being fully staffed with the Paramedic positions.
- We are continuing to provide the Community Paramedic services although we do not have anyone in those designated roles. We have one application and the assessment center for that will take place soon.
- Our call volume has increased 5.92% over this same time period last year, with a total of 2598 emergencies answered.
- The average response time to all calls during this quarter is 11 minutes and 40 seconds.
- The average time per call from start to finish minus the report writing is 1 hour 2 minutes and 20 seconds.
- Our medication and supply cost continues to remain about the same as the first quarter report.
- We are averaging two times per day that all of our ambulances are tied up at the same time with the Rescue Squad being placed on stand-by as the only transport unit.
- We are averaging at least one time every two weeks where we are requesting mutual aid from other counties to come into Yadkin County and handle a call where we have no units to cover it.
- The Rescue Squad has had to transport one patient for us due to all of the County Units being on other calls.
- On another note we are being requested for mutual aid from other counties to be on stand-by or to respond to calls within their counties due to their lack of ambulances about four times per week.

### **Emergency Management**

The EM Division is one that works predominantly in the background until very bad things happen. This first quarter has been busy but fortunately without any major incident.

- We had one storm event with Tropical Storm/Hurricane Ian. There was a State of Emergency declared but we were blessed and didn't have any significant damage.
- The CGCG award is in progress. We have submitted a PO for the animal shelter trailer. We are working on the Drone and Mobile Command Post upgrades as well.
- We have also been responding to the usual fuel and hazardous materials spills.

### **Fire Marshal's Office**

The Fire Marshal (Ricky) was released to come back to work with restricted duty in September.

- The part-time Fire Inspectors have continued with the fire inspections. They were able to complete 229 inspections.
- There were 4 fires investigated.
- There were several Public Education classes presented to YVETTI and our Day Cares in the County the classes presented were "Code Breaker/Fire Extinguisher". There were approximately 50 students in attendance.

- The Fire Marshal aided OSFM in the ISO Grading of Yadkinville Fire Department. Their Grade will be known in the upcoming months.
- We are pleased to announce that Keith Handy has accepted the position of Deputy Fire Marshal for our County. He is a Level III Fire Inspector and a North Carolina Certified Fire Investigator (CFI). He is a great fit with our team and an asset to our County.

**Health Preparedness**

- Since the closure of the Local State of Emergency, an After Action Report and Improvement Plan is being developed. This will include input from those involved in the Point of Dispensing operations.
- Work continues on the PHP&R Program's yearly measures and deliverables.