

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING – MAY 4, 2015**

ASSEMBLY

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in adjourned session on Monday, May 4, 2015, at 11:30 a.m., Commission Board Room of the County Administration Building, 60 East Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David N. Walker, Chairman; Tony Brown; Matthew Crawford; and Van “Randy” Hollifield.

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles R. Abernathy, County Manager; Ashley Wooten, Deputy Clerk to the Board; and Alison Morgan, Finance Officer; Michael Conley, reporter for *The McDowell News*.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

The County Manager presented an overview of the budget process. He noted that he Mr. Wooten and Ms. Morgan had met with the department heads and several external agencies over the last few months to develop the proposed budget.

Mr. Abernathy noted that the proposed budget would increase \$1,210,096 or 3.15%. He noted that all but \$669,986 of the increase was due to restricted revenues such as DSS funds, occupancy tax, etc. He noted that he was not recommending a property tax increase. He also reviewed the fund balance history over the last several years, and also discussed how McDowell County fares when compared to other counties in similar size in regards to budget size, employee count, etc.

Mr. Abernathy noted that there are several budget impacts such as a 2% increase for school operating funds, a one step salary adjustment for county staff, water line extensions, paving of the Crooked Creek convenience center, and parking deck improvements.

He also presented an overview of several large projects that have not been fully budgeted including greenway trails, water lines, and facility improvements.

The Board thanked Mr. Abernathy and staff for their hard work in preparing the budget.

Chairman Walker noted that the Board would review the budget recommendation in the following days and would schedule follow-up budget meetings at the regular May meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact at this time, upon motion by Commissioner Hollifield and a second by Commissioner Crawford, the meeting was adjourned.

DAVID N. WALKER
CHAIRMAN

ASHLEY R. WOOTEN
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD