

**Cleveland County Board of Commissioners**  
**September 7, 2021**

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners meet on this date, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Offices.

**PRESENT:** Doug Bridges, Chairman  
Deb Hardin, Vice-Chair  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Kevin Gordon, Commissioner  
Tim Moore, County Attorney  
Brian Epley, County Manager  
Phyllis Nowlen, Clerk to the Board  
Kerri Melton, Assistant County Manager  
Martha Thompson, Deputy County Attorney  
Chris Martin, Planning Director  
Sherry Lavender, Tax Assessor  
Tiffany Hansen, Health Department Director  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director  
Tommy McNeilly, Emergency Medical Services Director

**ABSENT:** Ronnie Whetstine, Commissioner

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bridges called the meeting to order and invited anyone from the audience to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and provide the invocation.

Steve Padgett, Small Business Center Director, provided the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bridges announced the following, *“Notice is hereby given of the postponement of the public hearing originally scheduled for the September 7, 2021 Commissioners Meeting regarding the composition and terms of the County’s Planning Board and Board of Adjustment this evening. The public hearing is reset for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Commissioners Chambers.”*

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hardin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Gordon and unanimously adopted by the Board to, *approve the agenda as presented.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**LOCAL ELECTED LEADERS ACADEMY**

The Local Elected Leaders Academy (LELA) is a partnership between the University of North Carolina School of Government and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) that offers local elected officials the knowledge and skills needed to lead and govern their communities. LELA helps the NCACC achieves its strategic goals, including enhance county leadership capabilities to address challenges, provide efficient and effective governance, and develop future leaders, and facilitate and enhance relationships, collaboration, and strategic partnerships.

Commissioner Johnny Hutchins was recognized for his continued service, participation and growth in the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners as well as his contributions serving as a County Commissioner. Board members each gave congratulations to Commissioner Hutchins for this distinguished honor.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT**

The Tax Collector provided Commissioners with the following detailed written report regarding taxes collected during *July 2021*.

TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED JULY 2021				
YEAR	AMOUNT-REAL	AMOUNT-VEHI.	AMOUNT-GAP	COMBINED AMT
DEF REV	\$736,646.18	\$0.00	\$22,301.67	\$758,947.85
2021	\$730,761.26	\$0.00	\$1,759.04	\$732,520.30
2020	\$96,186.79	\$0.00	\$986.01	\$97,172.80
2019	\$26,267.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$26,267.95
2018	\$7,886.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,886.78
2017	\$4,634.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,634.76
2016	\$617.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$617.67
2015	\$446.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$446.42
2014	\$1,252.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,252.47
2013	\$462.71	\$9.63	\$0.00	\$472.34
2012	\$148.13	\$66.17	\$0.00	\$214.30
2011	\$478.02	\$61.68	\$0.00	\$539.70
				<u>\$1,630,971.34</u>
TOTALS	\$1,605,787.14	\$137.48	\$25,046.72	\$1,630,971.34
DISCOUNT	(\$3,622.60)			
INTEREST	\$18,124.43	\$117.00	\$86.00	
TOLERANCE	\$0.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	
ADVERTISING	\$378.00	VEHICLE FEES	GAP BILL FEES	
GARNISHMEN	\$1,326.82	\$118.76	\$355.65	
NSF/ATTY	\$0.00			
LEGAL FEES	\$0.00			
TOTALS	\$1,621,994.37	\$373.24	\$25,488.37	\$1,647,855.98
MISC FEE	\$0.00			GRAND TOTAL
TAXES COLL	\$1,621,994.37			\$1,647,855.98
	\$736,646.18			\$0.00
	\$885,348.19			\$1,647,855.98
TOTAL UNCOLLECTED TAXES JULY 2021				
	AMOUNT-REAL	AMOUNT-VEHI.	AMOUNT-GAP	COMBINED AMT
2021	\$85,785,435.29	\$0.00	\$97,057.62	\$85,882,492.91
2020	\$1,238,814.36	\$0.00	\$61,045.82	\$1,299,860.18
2019	\$885,278.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$885,278.86
2018	\$449,397.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$449,397.60
2017	\$275,430.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275,430.81
2016	\$189,076.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$189,076.59
2015	\$153,917.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$153,917.35
2014	\$149,170.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$149,170.95
2013	\$111,976.44	\$60,485.94	\$0.00	\$172,462.38
2012	\$86,568.55	\$68,444.98	\$0.00	\$155,013.53
2011	\$64,657.35	\$52,180.84	\$0.00	\$116,838.19
2010	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<u>\$89,389,724.15</u>	<u>\$181,111.76</u>	<u>\$158,103.44</u>	<u>\$89,728,939.35</u>

**TAX ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS/PENDING REFUNDS AND RELEASES/LATE**

**APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION EXCLUSION DEFERAL**

The Tax Assessor provided Commissioners with a detailed written report regarding tax abatements and supplements during *July 2021*. The monthly grand total of tax abatements was listed as (\$13,178.35) and monthly grand total for tax supplements was listed as \$116,692.40.

The list for late applications for exemption, exclusion, or deferment for 2021 pursuant to NCGS 105-282.1(a1) are included below. Applicants would have qualified and been approved had they been timely filed with the tax office for the 2021 tax year.

PENDING REFUNDS / RELEASES (RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL)										
The following requests have been reviewed by the County Assessor and found to be in order. They are hereby submitted for approval by the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners per G.S. 105-381. Supporting documentation is on file in the County Assessor's Office. Staff Recommendation: Approve Requests.										
NAME	YEAR	RECEIPT	NOTE	REQUESTED			TAX, FEES & INTEREST		REQUEST	
				VALUE CHANGE	DISTRI	RATE	PAID	RELEASE	REFUND	
Boyd, Charles & Cristi	2019	4472911	Fire report received for 11/28/2018, House total loss	36,894	13	0.8075	371.53	369.54		369.54
Boyd, Charles & Cristi	2020	4650160	Fire report received for 11/28/2018, House total loss	36,894	13	0.8075	371.53	369.54		369.54
Boyd, Charles & Cristi	2021	4749721	Fire report received for 11/28/2018, House total loss	43,896	13	0.7750	418.22	416.21		416.21
								TOTAL	0.00	1,155.29
PENDING REFUNDS / RELEASES (RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL)										
The following requests have been reviewed by the County Assessor. The stated request does not constitute a valid defense to the tax imposed or any part thereof, as provided in G.S. 105-381. Supporting documentation is on file in the County Assessor's Office. Staff recommendation: Deny requests.										
NAME	YEAR	RECEIPT	NOTE	REQUESTED			TAX, FEES & INTEREST		REQUEST	
				VALUE CHANGE	DISTRI	RATE	PAID	RELEASE	REFUND	
								TOTAL	0.00	0.00

2021 LATE APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION / EXCLUSION / DEFERRAL				
as of September 1, 2021				
Name	Parcel/Account	Type	Estimated Value Exempt/Deferred	Estimated Fiscal Impact (County Only)
Western Carolina Rescue Ministries	19955	Charitable	\$ 20,005.00	\$ 109.53
Western Carolina Rescue Ministries	19961	Charitable	\$ 510,556.00	\$ 2,795.29
Western Carolina Rescue Ministries	17536	Charitable	\$ 92,759.00	\$ 507.86
Valor Village Inc	21007	Charitable	\$ 9,097.00	\$ 49.81
Valor Village Inc	23288	Charitable	\$ 67,109.00	\$ 367.42
Valor Village Inc	29618	Charitable	\$ 24,815.00	\$ 135.86
Valor Village Inc	29614	Charitable	\$ 16,574.00	\$ 90.74
Spake Michael R	25684	PUV/Land Use	\$ 34,572.00	\$ 189.28
Gragg Larry E	30560	PUV/Land Use	\$ 143,093.00	\$ 783.43
Dobbins, LaFaye Hamrick	64379	Elderly/Disabled	\$ 112,247.00	\$ 614.55
Buchanan Brian Edward	54683230	DV - Motor Vehicle	\$ 48,680.00	\$ 277.48
Stitzel Development Inc	6 lots Hillcrest St	Builders Inventory	\$ 33,240.00	\$ 181.99
TOTAL			\$ 1,112,747.00	\$ 6,103.24

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #004)**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board to, ***approve the following budget amendment:***

Account Number	Project Code	Department/Account Name	Increase	Decrease
010.442.4.991.00	USICE-P442	Federal Forf Prop/FD Balance Approp	\$11,000.00	
010.442.5.210.00	USICE-P442	Federal Forf Prop/Departmental Supply	\$11,000.00	

**Explanation of Revisions:** Budget allocation for \$11,000 to budget funds for the purchase of printers for patrol vehicles for the new E-Citation Program.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021 FOR CASE 21-18; REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL 65111 FROM RESIDENTIAL (R) TO GENERAL BUSINESS-CONDITIONAL USE (GB-CU)**

Parcel 65111 is a 2.23-acre tract located at 112 Mullinax Drive in Grover. Michael Mull, applicant, has requested to rezone this parcel from Residential (R) to General Business-Conditional Use (GB-CU). Mr. Mull is requesting to rezone the property to use an existing structure on the property for automobile towing. Surrounding

zoning is mostly Residential (R) and large vacant tracts of land. The existing structure on the property has been used previously for automobile storage and as an automobile scrap yard.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve scheduling the public hearing as requested.*

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021 FOR CASE 21-19; REQUEST TO REZONE PROPERTY AT 241 BATTLEGROUND ROAD FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI) TO GENERAL BUSINESS – CONDITIONAL USE (GB-CU)**

Parcel 10528 is a 47.74-acre tract located at 241 Battleground Road between Kings Mountain and Grover. The Moser Group has requested to rezone this parcel from Light Industrial (LI) to General Business-Conditional Use (GB-CU) to create a Recreational Vehicle Park. Surrounding zoning is a mix of Restricted Residential (RR), Residential (R), Light and Heavy Industrial (L&HI), General Business (GB) and Manufactured Home Parks. The applicant has submitted a site plan that conforms to the RV Park ordinance found in Cleveland County's Unified Development Ordinance 12-161.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve scheduling the public hearing as requested.*

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021 FOR CASE 21-20; REQUEST TO REZONE PROPERTY AT 4214 FALLSTON ROAD FROM RURAL AGRICULTURAL (Ra) TO RESIDENTIAL (R)**

Parcel 65343 is a 3.158 parcel tract, belonging to Earl Brice Fox. This tract is located at 4214 Fallston Road. Parcel 65344 is a 3.146-acre tract belonging to Adriana Moreno Lemus, and it is directly north of Parcel 65343. Both Mr. Fox and Ms. Lemus are asking to rezone their respective parcels from Rural Agriculture (RA) to Residential (R). Surrounding zoning is Rural Agriculture (RA) and Residential (R) on the east side of Fallston Road and Residential (R) on the west side of Fallston Road. The Land Use Plan calls this area future rural residential so a rezoning to Residential (R) would be in conformity.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve scheduling the public hearing as requested.*

**COMMISSIONERS: CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD**

A clerical error was found in the June 15, 2021 Cleveland Community College Board of Trustees appointment. Allen Langley should have been appointed for a four-year term instead of a two-year term. Mr. Langley's corrected appointment will be June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2025.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to authorize the Clerk to amend Mr. Langley's board appointment and the June 15, 2021 Minutes.*

## CLEVELAND COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD

The Library System Advisory Board reviewed and made modifications to their bylaws which were approved by their board on August 16, 2021. Some of those changes include the following:

- Article 2. Further clarified unexpired terms
- Article 3. Defining Calendar Year and Quarterly Meetings
- Article 4. Terms of the Secretary's role
- Article 7. added space for an authorized signature and/or seal if appropriate for the county official in charge of bylaws or person so named by the County.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve the bylaw changes to the Cleveland County Library System Advisory Board.*

### *Cleveland County Library System Advisory Board Bylaws*

#### Article 1. Powers and Duties.

The members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed by the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners. The Advisory Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To advise the Board of Commissioners on the formulation of programs, policies, and regulations for the government of the Cleveland County Library System.
- (2) To make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners concerning the construction and improvement of buildings and other structures for the library system.
- (3) To assist in the raising of funds from the community to help finance the operations and programs of the library system.
- ~~(4)~~ To otherwise advise the Board of Commissioners on library matters.
- (5) To make an annual report on the operations of the library to the Board of Commissioners and to make an annual report to the North Carolina State Library which is a section of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources as required by N.C.G.S. 125-5.

#### Article 2. Appointment and Terms of Trustees.

- (1) The Advisory Board shall consist of nine ~~(10)~~<sup>(9)</sup> members who shall be appointed by the Board of Commissioners for terms of three (3) years beginning July 1 in the year of appointment.
- (2) At least one (1) permanent seat on the Advisory Board must be a current member of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.
- (3) One (1) permanent seat on the Advisory Board will be the President of the Friends of the Library or their designee who may serve for one year at a time.
- (4) An Advisory Board member may serve up to three (3) successive, three (3) year terms. A past member of the Advisory Board may serve again, if they have been off the Advisory Board for one (1) full year.
- (5) Any vacancy on the Advisory Board, regardless of how created shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Commissioners for the unexpired term of the vacant position (with suggestions for future members submitted by the current board.) If the remaining current term is less than one (1) year, the appointee is eligible to serve up to three (3)

records of the Board, which shall be maintained and stored by the Library Director; and notify the Board of Commissioners of any vacancies on the Advisory Board. (The Library Director or his/her designee shall act as Recording Secretary when needed.)

#### Article 5. Committees.

-Special committees for the study and investigation of special situations may be appointed by the Chairman to serve until they have completed the work for which they were appointed.

#### Article 6. Quorum.

-A quorum for the transaction of business shall be a simple majority of the Board members.

#### Article 7. Amendments.

These bylaws may be amended from time to time by the Board of Commissioners. These Bylaws were rReviewed and amended by the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

Authorized signature, and seal, if appropriate, should go here

Reviewed and additional suggested changes beyond the Article 2 changes endorsed by the Advisory Board at its July 2021 meeting were drafted by Mark Alan Hudson, Advisory Board Chairman on August 15, 2021. The Advisory Board reviewed and endorsed these suggestions per email communications as of August 16, 2021 with six (6) approving, none (0) opposing and one (1) not having responded as of 8:30 pm on that date.

additional three (3) year terms. If the unexpired term is greater than one year, the appointee may serve up to two (2) additional three (3) year terms.

(6) (A minimum of 50% attendance is required to remain on the Advisory Board, unless the Commissioners determine otherwise on a case-by-case basis.)

(7) As provided in N.C.G.S. 153A-265, the Board of Commissioners may remove a Board member at any time for incapacity, unfitness, misconduct, or neglect of duty.

#### Article 3. Meetings.

(1) The Advisory Board's 'year' shall be based on a calendar year (January 1 through December 31)

(2) The Advisory Board shall meet at least bi-monthly ~~quarterly~~ at a time and place to be determined from time to time by said Board. These meetings generally fall during the months of January, March, May, July, September and November.

(3) An annual meeting shall be held at the time of the regular bi-monthly ~~quarterly~~ meeting for the third quarter each calendar year.

(4) Special meetings may be called by the Chairman or on written request of three (3) members of the Advisory Board or on motion by the Board of Commissioners for the transaction of business stated in the call for the meeting.

(5) The Secretary of the Advisory Board, with the assistance of the Executive Director or her/his designee, shall give at least five (5) days written notice to all members of the Advisory Board of all meetings, whether regular or special.

#### Article 4. Officers.

(1) ~~(4)~~ The Advisory Board officers shall be elected at its regular annual meeting. They shall be as follows: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

(2) The Board Chairman shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees, certify all actions approved by the Board, authorize calls for special meetings, and generally perform the duties of a presiding officer.

(3) When the Chairman is absent from a Board meeting, the Vice-Chairman shall preside.

(4) The Board Secretary shall be responsible for a true and accurate account of all proceedings of the Board meetings plus issuing notices of all regular meetings and, on the Chairman's authorization, of all special meetings; have custody of the minutes and the other

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT CASE 21-17; REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL 14500 FROM GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) TO RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL (RR)**

Chairman Bridges recognized Planning Director Chris Martin to present Planning Department Case 21-17: request to rezone parcel 14500 from General Business (GB) to Restricted Residential (RR). Parcel 14500 is a 0.43-acre tract located at 1113 Stony Point Road and Tim Fleming of HTZ Holdings, LLC is requesting to rezone the half-acre from General Business (GB) to Restricted Residential (RR). Surrounding zoning is mostly Restricted Residential (RR), with a General Business (GB) node at the intersection of Stony Point Road and New Camp Creek Church Road. Surrounding uses are mostly single-family dwellings with some commercial uses near that intersection. The Land Use Plan calls this area Future Residential; rezoning would conform to the Land Use Plan. The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approving the rezoning request from General Business (GB) to Restricted Residential (RR). The Board felt the proposal would be considered an extension of an already existing zone and is consistent with the Land Use Plan's designation of Future Residential.

Chairman Bridges opened the floor to the Board for questions and discussion. Commissioner Hutchins inquired, "If the rezoning is approved, would the owner be able to build a home on the 0.43-acre tract?" Mr. Martin advised the owner would have to apply for several permits before any construction could begin to ensure the home would meet the requirements to build. Mr. Martin stated there is currently no sewer system on the property and no permits for home building have been applied for.

Chairman Bridges opened the Public Hearing at 6:16 pm for anyone wanting to speak for or against case 21-17 request to rezone parcel 14500 from General Business (GB) to Restricted Residential (RR). (*Legal Notice was published in the Shelby Star on Friday, August 28, 2021 and Friday, September 3, 2021*).

Hearing no comments, Chairman Bridges closed the Public Hearing at 6:17pm.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Gordon made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin, and unanimously adopted by the Board, ***to approve the request to rezone parcel 14500 from General Business (GB) to Restricted Residential (RR). The rezoning request is an extension of an already existing zone and is consistent with the Land Use Plan.***

**CASE # 21-17 Rezoning General Business to Restricted Residential**  
Property Location: 1113 Stony Point Road  
Parcel Number: 14500  
Acreage: 0.43



**CASE # 21-17 Rezoning General Business to Restricted Residential**  
Property Location: 1113 Stony Point Road  
Parcel Number: 14500  
Acreage: 0.43



**REGULAR AGENDA**

**COVID-19 MEDICAL UPDATE**

Chairman Bridges called Health Department Director Tiffany Hansen to the podium to present the COVID-19 Medical Update. Cleveland County has a low vaccination rate based on the county's total population. Although the vaccination rate is low, Health Department staff and the Incident Management Team are seeing a steady increase in the amount of people getting vaccinated. The county's COVID Incident Management Team include personnel from the Health Department, County Administration, Emergency Management and Emergency Medical

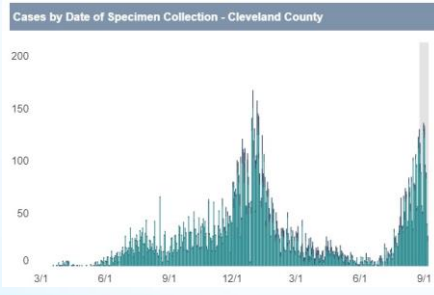
Services. Mrs. Hansen detailed information regarding COVID-19 variants, testing resources and prevention strategies. The following information and PowerPoint were presented to Board members.

# COVID-19 UPDATE

TIFFANY HANSEN



## Total Cases in Cleveland County




**TOTAL CASES Cleveland County**  
15,107

**MOLECULAR (PCR) POSITIVE CASES**  
13,660

**ANTIGEN POSITIVE CASES**  
1,447

Specimen collection date missing for 2 cases.

## Total Cases in Cleveland County



- One out of 7 people have had COVID-19
- Estimated Active Cases: 671 (4.6%)  
95 cases/day average
- Last 14 days: 1307  
93 cases/day average
- Deaths: 253 (1.7%)  
(1 out of 60 infected)
- CC Hospitalized: 52
- Percent Positive Labs:
  - NC: 11.7%
  - CC: 17.7%


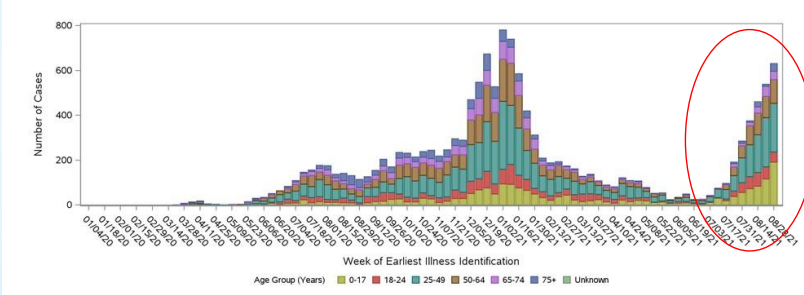
## Incident Management Team




Public Health  
County Administration  
Emergency Management  
Emergency Medical Services



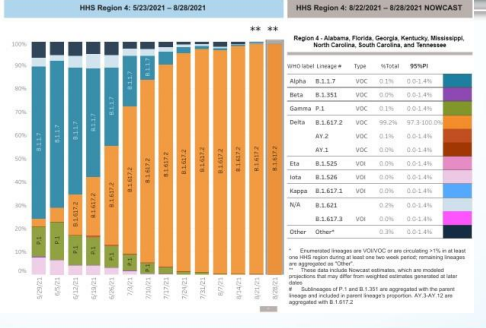
## All Ages are being Impacted...


## COVID19 Variants



- More transmissible
- More severe symptoms

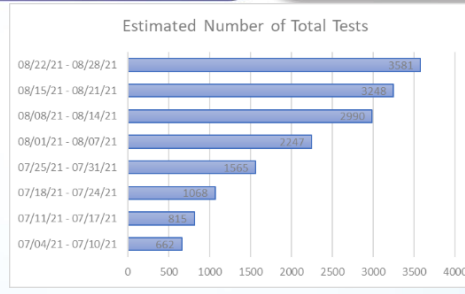


## Testing



- Cleveland County Health Department: 980-484-5100
- Kintegra Family Medicine  
Kings Mountain: 704-710-1077  
Boiling Springs: 704-818-9200
- Atrium Urgent Care—Shelby: 704-468-8888
- CVS in Boiling Springs and Kings Mountain:  
<https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-assessment>
- NextCare Urgent Care—Shelby: 704-481-0555
- Wal-Mart Pharmacy in Kings Mountain  
Schedule appointments online: [www.questcovidtest.com](http://www.questcovidtest.com)
- Prescriptions Plus—Kings Mountain: 704-739-4519

Many doctor's offices are now providing COVID-19 testing. Check with your primary care provider to see if COVID-19 testing is available.



## Additional Testing Resources



- At-Home Test Kits for Screening
- StarMed Contract Testing
- Kintegra Health Partnership
- Increasing Internal Capacity Assessments




## Layered Prevention Strategies

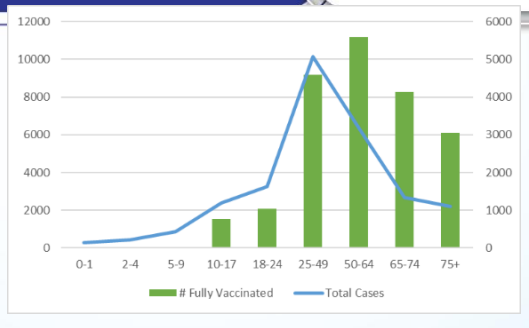



- Vaccinations
- Wearing Mask
- Washing Hands
- Waiting 6 feet Apart
- Disinfecting/Sanitizing

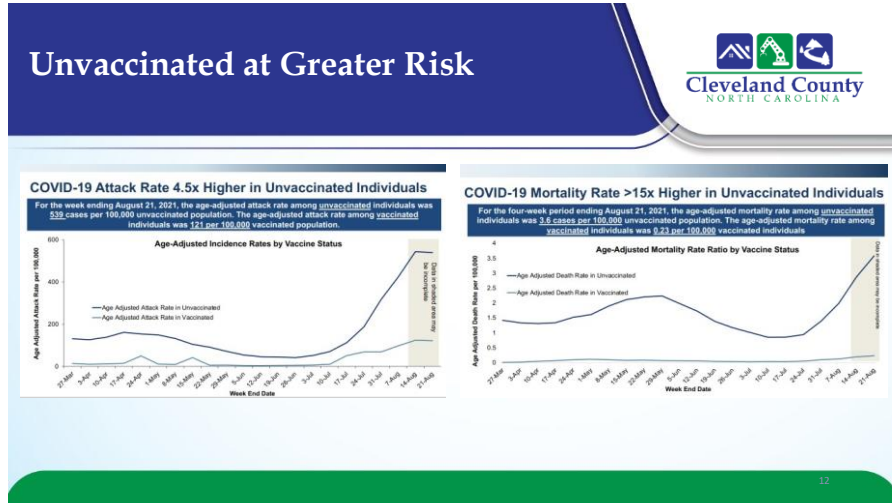
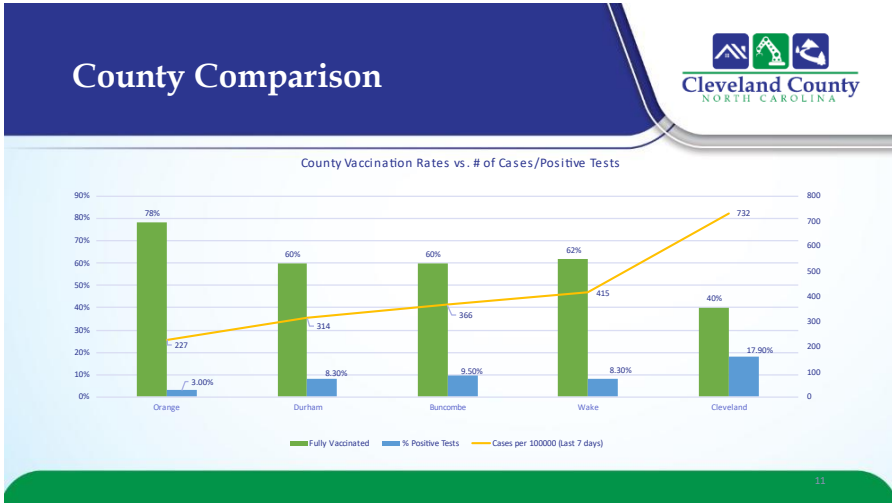
## Vaccination Rates



- 12+ One Dose: 42,937 (51%)
- 12+ Fully Vaccinated: 38,330 (46%)
- 18+ One Dose: 40,966 (54%)
- 18+ Fully Vaccinated: 36,810 (48%)







### Medical Surge

#### CHARLOTTE METRO (Atrium, Caromont, Novant)

- 933 hospitalized
- 857 Unvaccinated
- 126 on life support
- 122 unvaccinated

#### ATRIUM CLEVELAND

- 47% of total patients COVID
- 24 in ER waiting placement
- ICU- 20 patients (15 COVID)
- Two sharing room
- 10 on ventilator (none vaccinated)
- 5 ventilators left in hospital

Data as of 8/12/21

### Hospital Diversion

Typical Daily Hospital Status Screenshot of CAD:

- "Diversion" means the hospital is unable to accept a patient due to a lack of staffing or resources.
- Atrium- Cleveland or Kings Mountain have been on diversion collectively 18 times for a total of 287+ Hours out of the last 15 days.
- We have been called on for Mutual Aid by surrounding counties on a weekly basis for last three weeks. i.e. They are out of ambulances
- We have called for Mutual Aid two times in the last three weeks due to most of our ambulances transporting out of County to hospitals not on a diversion status.

# QUESTIONS

Chairman Bridges opened the floor to the Board for questions and discussion. Commissioner Hardin asked how many students are currently home due to COVID-19. Mrs. Hansen advised, "Staff does track information regarding the virus in school age children. The latest information indicates there are between 1,000 to 1,400 students who are out of school. These numbers include both positive test results and contact tracing."

Commissioner Hutchins inquired, "Are there rapid test result kits available at the schools for children who may have been in contact with someone who tested COVID positive, so they do not have to go to other testing sites?" Mrs. Hansen answered, "The schools are currently working with contract vendors to be able to test children in schools. If children are vaccinated, they can remain in school. If a child is unvaccinated, they would still need to be sent home and follow the CDC guidelines for quarantine and isolation guidance."

Chairman Bridges stated several of the Board members have received numerous phone calls from concerned parents, "the decision to send a child home is between the school nurse, the principal and the school's guidance set by the School Board, not the County Commissioners." Mrs. Hansen responded, "The school system has elected to align with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Strong Schools tool kit. The procedures in the tool kit are what the Administrators, Principals and School Nurse use to provide guidance on quarantine and isolation protocols."

Chairman Bridges recognized Emergency Medical Services Director Tommy McNeilly to give an update on the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department. Mr. McNeilly reported, “*there are still struggles to maintain community operations within the county. The biggest challenge is, at any given time, hospitals are on divergence. This requires EMS to go outside of the county which leads to an increase in response times.*” Commissioner Hutchins asked, if staff has been in contact with the rescue squads to see if they can assist EMS. Mr. McNeilly replied over the last month or so, the rescue squads have been contacted numerous times and have been able to help in a few instances.

Commissioners thanked Mrs. Hansen and Mr. McNeilly for the information and for the ongoing hard work their staff continues to do.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

#### **BOILING SPRINGS PLANNING AND ADJUSTMENT BOARD (ETJ)**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hardin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to appoint David Wacaster to serve as a member of this board*, for a period of three-years, scheduled to conclude June 30, 2024.

#### **CLEVELAND COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hardin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to re-appoint Robin Brackett and appoint Nicole Neales and Niya Pitts to serve as members of this board* for a period of three-years, scheduled to conclude June 30, 2024.

#### **SHOOTING RANGE ADVISORY BOARD**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hardin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to appoint Andrew Hopper Jr. to serve as a member of this board* for a period of three-years, scheduled to conclude June 30, 2024.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Gordon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardin and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to adjourn the meeting*. The next meeting of the Commission will be *Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 6:00pm* in the Commissioners Chambers.

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*Doug Bridges, Chairman  
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners*

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*Phyllis Nowlen, Clerk to the Board  
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners*