

Davie County

Board of Commissioners



Robert Wisecarver, Chairman
Mark Jones, Vice Chairman
Carl Humphrey
Richard Poindexter
Terry Renegar
Beth M Dirks, County Manager
James Stockert, Deputy County Manager

123 SOUTH MAIN STREET
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
MOCKSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 27028

Phone: (336) 753-6001
Fax: (336) 751-7408

May 29, 2013

Chairman: Robert Wisecarver
Vice Chairman: Mark Jones
Commissioners: Carl Humphrey, Richard Poindexter, Terry Renegar
Citizens of Davie County

Gentlemen:

As required by G.S. 159-11, submitted for your consideration is the 2013-2014 budget for Davie County, which is balanced at \$ 72,593,624. I would like to thank the Commissioners for again giving their many long hours of service and leadership to the citizens of Davie County. I would also take this moment to thank each department and each county employee for their tireless efforts to effectively serve the citizens of Davie County.

This year has once again been successful and productive – a year in which we can be proud of all that has been accomplished, some of which are listed below.

- Completed renovations to the former Dodge dealership facility to house Public Utilities, Public Facilities and Development Services.
- Received Grant funding in the amount of \$ 2,592,900 (includes Ashley Furniture/Golden LEAF Foundation grant) for various County departments, outside agencies and A Storehouse for Jesus.
- Received Medicaid relief from the General Assembly for the 2012-2013 fiscal year giving the County an estimated \$675,825, with the final cost settlement coming in August.
- Successfully assisted Ashley Furniture with its 1,000,000 sq. foot expansion plans.
- Received the Recreation Advisory Committees' Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Began work to obtain a permit for a new wastewater treatment plant in Eastern Davie.

The County continues to explore innovative ways to create revenue while looking toward outside funding sources such as grants and foundations. Due to the economic down turn we continue to evaluate each and every vacancy to insure a need for that position continues to exist. We have also successfully transferred individuals from one department to another to help with work load needs.

Highlights of the 2013-2014 proposed budget include:

- A revenue neutral property tax rate of 66 cents
- Inclusion of the DMG years of service increases
- An increase in utility rates as attached
- The mileage reimbursement rate is recommended to remain at \$0.45 per mile
- Outside agencies to receive a 2% decrease from previous years
- The following personnel recommendations are included/excluded:
 - (1) Deletion of 3 full time position in the Health Department
 - (2) Replacement of 1 full time in the IT Department and supplanted by \$12,000 for part time assistance.
 - (3) Positions requested by Departments but not recommended:
8 EMS, 4 Sheriff Deputies, 1 Social Service, 1 part time in GIS, 1 Planning Intern, 1 part time position for the Library
- Communication equipment recommended at a cost of \$199,500
- One new ambulance at \$120,000 after trade in
- Ten new Sheriff vehicles and the necessary equipment for each one
- Health Department PC replacements
- Fire Departments held harmless with Advance, Smith Grove and Mocksville being funded at the agreed upon formula
- Inclusion of a truck turn area at the Community College
- Consolidation of all outside storage units/facilities into the former Utilities Department facility.

As required by law, included is the required revenue neutral tax disclosure statement:

The general reappraisal of real property for the County of Davie occurs once every four years. State law requires that units of local government, including public authorities, publish a revenue-neutral tax rate in the budget immediately following the completion of the general reappraisal of real property. The purpose of the revenue-neutral tax rate is to provide citizens with comparative information.

The FY 2013–2014 operating budget follows the general reappraisal of real property for the County of Davie. The revenue-neutral tax rate, as defined by G.S. 159-11(e), is the rate that is estimated to produce revenue for the next fiscal year equal to the revenue for the current fiscal year if no reappraisal had occurred. The rate is then adjusted by a growth factor equal to the average annual percentage increase in the tax base due to improvements since the last general reappraisal.

The reappraisal produced a tax base of approximately \$4,041,347,017 for the County of Davie. The tax levy for the current fiscal year is \$26,587,804, and the growth factor since the last general reappraisal is .21 of 1 percent. Using the formula mandated by state law,

the revenue-neutral tax rate for the County of Davie is 65.93 cents. The proposed property tax rate for FY 2013–2014 is 66 cents, which represents an increase from the property tax rate of 62 cents for FY 2012–2013.

This has been a very difficult financial year for the County. Tough decisions have been made regarding employees and their benefits, funding for outside agencies and capital needs of the County. We have made every attempt to either freeze or eliminate vacated positions without negatively impacting the delivery of services to the public. Hopefully, as the economy continues to rebound and revenues begin to increase, we can restore some of which has been put on hold to keep the County on good, sound financial footing.

I would like to thank all the volunteer boards and committees that help make the citizens' government in Davie County work effectively and efficiently. May we continue to move the County forward in a positive direction. The Commissioners' strong leadership and guidance allows staff to work diligently to better serve our citizens and community.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth M. Dirks
Davie County Manager