



**York County
Health & Environmental Protection
Committee
Minutes
March 27, 2025**

Regular Meeting	York County Eastern Maintenance Facility 177 Central Carolina Parkway Fort Mill, South Carolina	5:30 PM
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Call to Order

Chairman, Andy Litten

Order of Business

1. Committee to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2025 Health & Environmental Protection Committee meeting

Passed	Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
SECOND:	Debi Cloninger
AYES:	Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	
RECUSED:	None

2. Discussion regarding Recreation Tax (unincorporated recreation tax)

County Manager, Josh Edwards, opened the meeting with general information regarding the County's current parks. Mr. Edwards explained that the County needs money to fund and maintain the parks the County currently has and the ones coming in the future.

Assistant County Manager, Tom Couch, presented information regarding the York County Service Model and Features:

Aside from Field Day Park, the county manages over 4,000 acres for nature-based activities and community engagement. York County follows a "metro-park" style service model:

- Regional scope complimenting city parks by offering differentiated services;
- Land conservation and preservation;
- Nature-based activities and passive outdoor recreation;
- Broad access with free or low-cost entry;
- Ambitions for greenway/blueway connectivity between urban and rural areas;
- Enhance future program with environmental education, nature centers and community

events

Problem/Issue Statement

- York County needs a funding mechanism that aligns with its service delivery model;
- Transitioning from the unincorporated "recreation" tax to a countywide "parks" tax that aligns with its differentiated service model would create a more equitable and sustainable funding approach;
- Collaborate with municipalities and residents to ensure a smooth transition while maintaining diverse recreation services for all communities.

Funding Options for York County's Proposed Service Model

Option #1: Maintain status quo, 1.5mill unincorporated tax

Option #2: Countywide park tax of 1.5mills, dissolve unincorporated tax, 1-year 50% phase out

Option #3: Countywide park tax of 1.5mills, dissolve unincorporated tax, no phase out

Option #4: Countywide park tax of 1.5mills, dissolve unincorporated tax, integrate/develop needs-based capital or registrant stipends for municipalities.

Motion was made to approve option #4 with Management to evaluate formulas for stipends.

Passed	Yes 2, No 1, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Debi Cloninger
SECOND:	Andy Litten
AYES:	Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger
NAYS:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
ABSENT:	
RECUSED:	None

3. Discussion regarding Parks Masterplan Recommendations

County Manager, Josh Edwards, stated that staff needed a recommendation from the Committee on how to proceed with the current parks the County has now before the County moves forward with additional ones. Also, there is \$3 million remaining in the Bethel-Lake Wylie tax district funds and staff needs direction on how to proceed with the remaining funds. It is staffs recommendation to use the funding to proceed with opening Woodend Park with basic access to the public.

A motion was made to invest the remaining funds in the Bethel-Lake Wylie tax district in Woodend Park, subject to financial guidelines and restrictions for the use of those funds.

Passed	Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
SECOND:	Debi Cloninger
AYES:	Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

Executive Session

Motion was made to go into Executive Session for Receipt of Legal Advice: Potential Sale of Properties in Lake Wylie.

Passed Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0

MOVANT: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

SECOND: Debi Cloninger

AYES: Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

Matters for consideration following Executive Session

No matters for consideration following Executive Session.

Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Passed Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0

MOVANT: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

SECOND: Debi Cloninger

AYES: Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

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