

MORE ON MOORE

MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE MOORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

VOLUME III, ISSUE 4 APRIL 2015

UNIFIED FIRE TAX RATE ADOPTED

The Board of Commissioners has approved a single fire tax rate for all of the unincorporated county. After holding a public hearing on April 21st, the Board adopted a resolution establishing a single service district for fire protection, ambulance and rescue effective July 1, 2015.

Currently, there are 16 different fire tax districts within Moore County, with varying tax rates. A unified tax district will be more equitable for the County's taxpayers, who already pay the same property and ALS tax rates.

Following are answers provided by Moore County's Public Safety Department to frequently asked questions regarding the unified rate:

Is the County abolishing the local fire departments?

No, the County is not abolishing the local fire departments, or establishing a County-wide fire department.

Does the new fire service

district affect the insurance districts?

No, we are not moving the 5 mile or 6 mile insurance district lines. We are establishing a single service district for the collecting of taxes at a single rate.

Who has the responsibility to establish the service districts in the County?

According to N.C.G.S. 153A-301, the Board of Commissioners of any county may define any number of service districts in order to finance, provide, or maintain for the districts.

Does this affect citizens that live within the municipalities?

No, the fire tax for citizens living within municipal limits is included in their general municipal tax rate.

How will this affect my local fire department?

The fire departments will continue to operate and provide the same services.

Who will determine how the funding is distributed?

In January 2015, the Board of Commissioners established a Fire Commission comprised of 6 fire chiefs and 5 citizen representatives. The Fire Commission has been tasked with determining a funding model, establishing a minimum level of service needed and making recommendations to the Board on the future needs for fire service in Moore County.

Is this a new tax?

No, this is not a new tax. Citizens already pay a fire tax, but currently at 16 different rates, depending on the district in which they reside.

Will my taxes increase or decrease?

Some citizen's taxes will go up and some will go down. The actual amount will depend on the property values and the overall rate needed to provide funding for the fire departments.

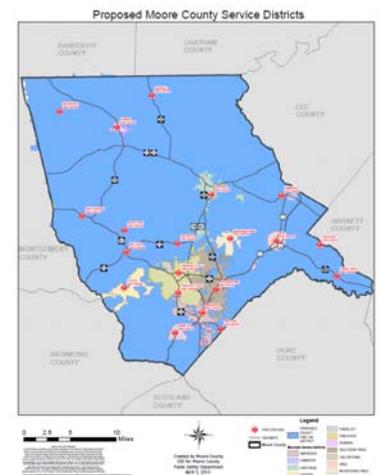
For additional information, contact Moore County Public Safety at 910-947-6317.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **May 5, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.** (Regular Meeting—Manager's recommended FY 16 budget presented)
- **May 19, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.** (Regular Meeting—FY 16 Budget Public Hearing)

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NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

Moore County celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 12th through the 15th. A proclamation making this declaration was adopted by the Board of Commissioners at its April 7th regular meeting.

Telecommunicators are more than just the voice on the oth-

er end of the line. They are a group of highly trained specialists who provide a vital link in our safety and that of our law enforcement officers, paramedics, and firefighters.

These heroes impact and save the lives of citizens daily.

Thank you for your service!



Pictured (top to bottom, left to right): Jenna Scott, Lee Staley, Sparkle Slaughter, Daniella Smith, John Frye, Jason Steel, Cherelle Faulk, Shannon Cagle, John Regan, Kristen Goins, Tori McLeod, Wilda Hussey, Kris Sheffield, Teresa Nall, Ken Skipper, Cindy Monroe, Matt Scott, Tracie Myrick, Margaret Blue, Thomas Mierisch

JOINT LETTER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR TEACHER FUNDING



MOORE COUNTY SCHOOLS
Growing to Greatness

April 13, 2015

Honorable Members of the North Carolina General Assembly:

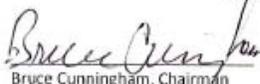
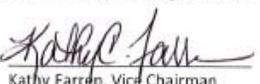
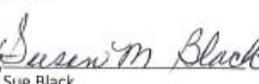
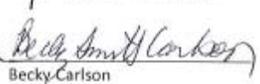
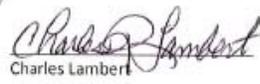
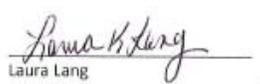
The Moore County Board of Education and the Moore County Board of Commissioners jointly and respectfully request your consideration to reinstate funding conversion at average teacher pay in State PRC (Program Report Code) 001 – "Classroom Teachers." As you may recall, this provision previously allowed for the local school district to hold on to savings that may have resulted from teacher salaries that were lower than the state-designated average. The State changed this provision in FY 2012-13, limiting funding conversion to the beginning step on the teacher pay scale. As of FY 2012-2013, any such conversion is restricted only to beginning teacher pay. Savings associated with all other teacher pay now reverts back to the State.

For Moore County Schools, restoration of this provision would immediately provide \$1.4 to \$1.6 million in annual teacher funding, the equivalent of at least 28 teaching positions. We are requesting reinstatement of funding conversion at average teacher pay, allowing us to use available resources to support our classrooms. The State budget already allocates these funds to Moore County Schools. Therefore, this is not a request for increased funding.

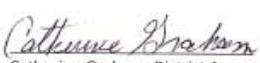
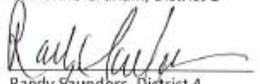
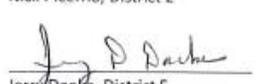
Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and for your support of our schools.

Respectfully,

Members of the Moore County Board of Education

 Bruce Cunningham, Chairman	 Kathy Farrin, Vice Chairman	 Sue Black
 Ben Cameron	 Becky Carlson	 Ed Dennison
 Charles Lambert	 Laura Lang	

Members of the Moore County Commissioners

 Catherine Graham, District 1	 Nick Picerno, District 2	 Otis Ritter, District 3
 Randy Saunders, District 4	 Jerry Daake, District 5	

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The Board of Commissioners on April 21st approved the above letter to the NC General Assembly, which they jointly signed with the Board of Education.

The letter requests the reinstatement of a former policy that would allow school systems to keep all funds allotted

by the State for teacher salaries.

Chairman Nick Picerno and others plan to hand deliver the letter to the offices of President Pro Tempore Phil Berger, Speaker of the House Tim Moore, and Senator Jerry Tillman on April 30th.

While in Raleigh, Chairman Picerno will also attend a workshop provided by the UNC School of Government on county boards' role in K-12 public education.



MOORE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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L-R: CHAIRMAN NICK PICERNO, COMMISSIONER RANDY SAUNDERS, COMMISSIONER CATHERINE GRAHAM, COMMISSIONER JERRY DAEKE, VICE CHAIRMAN OTIS RITTER

WWW.MOORECOUNTYNC.GOV/BOC

VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED FOR EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE



At the April 7th meeting, the commissioners recognized the following recipients of the Governor's Volunteer Service Award: Peggy Raney (Family Promise of Moore County); Robert Harling (Coalition for Human Care); Mary Ann Linville (Habitat for Humanity); Nancy Kees (Habitat for Humanity); Moore Regional Hospital Cardiac Rehab Volunteers; Christine Ganis (MooreHealth, Inc.); Richard and Carol Johnson (Moore County Department of Aging); Kermit Dean Johnson (St. Joseph of the Pines); Wanda Rhyne (Boys & Girls Club of the Sandhills); Linda Hubbard (Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC). Bob Harling was also a Governor's Medalion Award winner.

UPCOMING TERM EXPIRATIONS

There are several board/committee term expirations upcoming in June. If you are interested in service on any of the following, please submit an application to the Clerk:

Board of Adjustment, College Board of Trustees, Convention & Visitors Bureau Board, Human Resources Appeals Committee, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Planning Board, RSVP Advisory Council, Transportation Advisory Board, Workforce Development Board