

**TOWN OF RANLO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONTHLY JANUARY 2023
MEETING
RANLO TOWN HALL
1624 SPENCER MOUNTAIN ROAD, RANLO, NORTH CAROLINA 28054
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2023 7:00 PM**

MINUTES

Governing Body Present

Mayor Pro-Tem Katie Cordell
Commissioner Robin Conner
Commissioner Jamie Fowler
Commissioner Doug Moore
Commissioner Wade Morton

Staff Present

Town Manager Jonathan Blanton
Town Clerk Sarah Rowan

I. Call to Order

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell called the meeting to order and Town Clerk Sarah Rowan conducted roll call. Mayor Black was not present.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Conner motioned to adopt the agenda for the regular January meeting. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

III. Comments from Attendees

The Town Manager noted that there were no comments from attendees.

IV. Approval of the December 8th Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes

Commissioner Fowler motioned to approve the December Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Conner seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to approve the December Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

V. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit

Auditor Eddie Carrick presented the Board with the findings of the Fiscal Year 2022 audit. Mr. Carrick noted the stand was in excellent standing and that the audit was the best the Town has seen in many years. The audit is made available on the Town website.

VI. Adoption of the 2023 Meeting and Holiday Schedule

Commissioner Morton motioned to adopt the 2023 Meeting and Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

VII. Discussion of the Revenue Replacement via the American Rescue Plan Act

Commissioner Moore motioned to direct Town staff to use a portion of the Town's ARPA funding to pay for the recently purchased backhoe. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

VIII. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager announced that Town Hall will be closed Monday, January 16th, 2023 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Garbage will be on a one-day delay.

The Town Manager noted that the capital projects are going incredibly well. He noted that 1,500 meters have been installed across town. The Boulder Court project is nearing completion, with the road expected to be open within the next 60 days. The Town Manager added that Customs Paving and Wooten Company have done an excellent job with the project. The Town Manager apologized for any inconveniences that the project has caused. The Town Manager added that the Lodge project is also moving forward.

The Town Manager informed the Board that the SCIF quarterly report had been submitted. Around \$190,000 had been spent in the most recent fiscal quarter on Lodge renovations, the Boulder Court Project, and plans for the sidewalk project.

The Town Manager shared the annual call report from Chief Lunsford. The Town Manager added that the Police Department has done an excellent job.

The Town Manager thanked Eddie Carrick for conducting the Fiscal Year 2022 audit along with many before. The Town Manager noted that the actions from the Board worked to yield the best audit that the Town had seen in quite some time.

Commissioner Fowler inquired about being removed from the Unit Assistance List. The Town Manager responded that the request will be included in the letter to the State Treasurer that will be ratified at the regular February meeting.

IX. Comments from the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Morton asked about baseball for the summertime. He noted that he wants to give Ranlo kids a chance to get involved in the town. He added that he had received inquiries about Milltown Nights.

The Town Manager responded that he wants to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Ranlo with fireworks on July 29th. He added that there would be two festivals; one in July for the anniversary and one in the fall.

The Town Manager added that he will work up a schedule of events for a summer series and the Fall Festival.

Commissioner Conner thanked the Town Manager and his wife for delivering over 300 food boxes from Kenneth Falls Ministry. She noted that the poverty rate in Ranlo is 15.6%, so the need for the food box delivery is there. Commissioner Conner suggested researching food drives and food banks throughout the Town. She said that nobody in Ranlo should be hungry.

The Town Manager responded that there would be a lot of community support for a food pantry. He also thanked Commissioner Conner for organizing the food box delivery.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell thanked the Public Works Department for fixing the water line outside of her house.

X. Closed Session Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3)(6)

Commissioner Moore motioned to open the closed session. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

XI. Return to Open Session and Consideration of Closed Session Action

Commissioner Moore motioned to return to open session. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Moore motioned to raise the Town Manager's salary to \$135,000. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Moore motioned to add the Town Manager's wife to the Town's insurance. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to backdate the Town Manager's salary of \$135,000 to January 1st, 2023. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Moore motioned to begin negotiations for a new employment contract with the Town Manager. Commissioner Conner seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

XII. Adjournment

Commissioner Moore motioned to adjourn the regular January meeting. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

ATTESTED TO:

Mayor Pro Tem Katie Cordell

Recorder and transcriber of the minutes for the Monthly January 2023 Meeting