

**MINUTES**  
**NASH COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**Special Call Meeting: April 2, 2025**

The Nash County Tourism Development Authority met on April 2, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Nash County Administrative Building. The purpose of the Special Call meeting was to review and take possible action on a request from the City of Rocky Mount for a Fund Balance appropriation for a project they wish to undertake and to review with the Board, a proposed General Assembly House Bill 332. Present were Robbie B. Davis, Chairman and members Judy Winstead, Kay Mitchell, Retho Williams, George Griffin, Brenda Stallings, Allen Corbett, Miranda Knight, Chelsea Baines, Earlene Bailey, and Lauren Williams.

Also present were Stacie Shatzer, Nash County Manager; Susan Phelps, Nash County Economic Development Manager; Mary Edwards, Nash County Finance Specialist; Susan Wilder, Nash County Finance Technician; Dave Cruze, Rocky Mount Telegram; and Nancy West-Brake, Nashville Graphic.

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests to the Special Call Meeting. TDA's normal meetings are held the second Tuesday in January and May. May meetings are to conduct regular business and to hold public hearings on the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Documents provided at meeting were as follows:

- Exhibit "A" - House Bill 583 from Session Law 2001-349 creating the 2% tax for the City of Rocky Mount which was added to the 3% tax for Nash County created in 1987
- Exhibit "B" - The Resolution the Nash County Board of Commissioners adopted in accordance with the 1987 General Statutes
- Exhibit "C" - The Proposal 2025 House Bill 332 as filed on March 6, 2025
- Exhibit "D" - Email from Nash TDA Attorney Mike Gaynor stating TDA funds could be used for roof repair
- Exhibit "E" - A Proposed Resolution taking a position against House Bill 332
- Exhibit "F" - A potential change to the original filed House Bill 332

Chairman Davis explained that Peter Varney, City of Rocky Mount, requested \$1.9 million in funds for improvements of the Imperial Centre for roof and window restoration. Attorney Mike Gaynor, Battle, Winslow, Scott, and Wiley, determined that the maintenance on the civic center is an allowable use of the tax. This request is not a normal request through the funding application process but the funding would come from the reserve fund for the City of Rocky Mount. After discussions, Brenda Stallings made a motion to approve \$2 million-dollar funding to the City of Rocky Mount for the improvements, seconded by Retho Williams, and all remaining TDA Board members present were in favor. Motion carried.

A draft bill introduced in the North Carolina Legislature, House Bill 332, proposes a modification to the Nash County occupancy tax which would permit discretionary expenditures to be made contrary to the original intended purpose of such occupancy tax and allow tax dollars collected for the benefit and development of Nash County to be spent for the benefit and development of other counties which did not participate in the acquisition of such funds.

After discussing the bill and how it would affect Nash County, Kay Mitchell made a motion, seconded by George Griffin, to adopt a Resolution of the Nash County Tourism Development Authority to oppose the modification of the Nash County Occupancy Tax as shown in Exhibit "C".

Chairman Davis stated that the next TDA meeting will be held Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. with the location being at the Nash County Administration Building.

There being no further discussion, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Judy Winstead made a motion, seconded by Retho Williams. The meeting was adjourned by approval of the board.

Mary Edwards  
Finance Specialist I