

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

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AGENDA JOINT MEETING COUNTY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEES Monday, April 14, 2014 1:00 p.m. Council Chambers Administration Building, Government Center, Beaufort

Committee Members:

Rick Caporale, Chairman
Steve Fobes, Vice Chairman
Brian Flewelling
William McBride
Stu Rodman
Jerry Stewart

Staff Support

Alicia Holland, Chief Financial Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER – 1:00 P.M.
2. SCHOOL DISTRICT / REVIEW OF FY 2013-2014 APPROVED REVENUE ([backup](#))
3. SCHOOL DISTRICT / OVERVIEW OF FY 2014-2015 PROPOSED BUDGET (TIME PERMITTING)
4. ADJOURNMENT

2014 Strategic Plan: Committee Assignments

Budget Document/Process and Financial Reporting: Revision
Mitchelville Historic Site Development: Funding
Reserve Policy





BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 1, 2014

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Superintendent

ROBYN CUSHINGBERRY
Executive Assistant to the Board

Chairman Paul Sommerville
County Council
100 Ribaut Road
Beaufort, SC 29902

Re: Beaufort County School District
FY 2014 Tax Revenue Collections

Dear Chairman Sommerville,

This letter is to formally present the collections issue we discussed during yesterday's phone conversation. The chart below provides some background information to document the issue at hand:

Info. Date	Mil Value	Mil Rate	Est. Revenue	Revenue Neutral	
				Target Revenue	% Discount
3/26/2013	1,206,341	100.55	121,297,588	114,868,815	5.3%
8/22/2013	1,244,331	94.75	117,900,362	114,868,815	2.6%
Original Ordinance					
8/26/2013	1,244,331	100.55	125,117,482	114,868,815	8.2%
Adjusted Ordinance					
9/4/2013	1,244,331	97.45	121,260,056	114,868,815	5.3%
Most Recent Data:				Projected Revenue	Est. Shortfall
2/28/2014	1,172,920	97.45	114,301,054	110,136,718	(4,164,336)

As seen above, it appears we are trending towards a significant shortfall in collections. The Treasurer's Office has confirmed a drop in collections from prior year to current year of approximately \$4.3M. District historical trends show this shortfall could be as much as \$5M short at year end. We have been informed the majority of the shortfall (\$3.4M) can be isolated to the shift of 6% to 4% homeowners.

During the budget process, the School Board made it very clear that the only desire for the School District was to have a reassessment process with revenue neutrality. Based on the County's reassessment information, the School District requested a lowering of our millage rate by 3 mills.

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In that request, we reserved the right to revisit this adjusted rate when tax collection results became available and discuss with County Council the need to make any necessary adjustments in the event the appropriated revenue was not achieved.

By this letter, we are formally requesting a special meeting with the County's Finance Committee to discuss this topic. Since this topic has a significant impact on our current budget and future budgets, we would like to meet at your earliest, possible convenience.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Evans', written in a cursive style.

William M. Evans
Beaufort County School District Chair