

Cumberland County ABC Board
February 9, 2026
Regular Meeting
Person Street, 424 Person St, Fayetteville, NC 28301

PRESENT: Terri Thomas, Chair
Christopher Bullard, Board Member
Delvin McAllister, Board Member
Wade Fowler, Board Member
David Horne, General Manager
John Crawford, Chief Law Enforcement
LaChrista Shull, Finance Officer
Neil Yarborough, Attorney
Jordan Winstead, Triangle Insurance Account Executive

ABSENT: Jordan Stewart, Vice Chair

Ms. Thomas called the meeting of the Cumberland County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to order at 6:00 PM.

Ms. Thomas asked if there were any guests. Mr. Horne introduced Ms. Jordan Winstead, Account Executive with Triangle Insurance.

Ms. Thomas asked if there were any agenda adjustments. There were none.

Ms. Thomas asked if there were any announcements. Mr. Horne stated that national conference and hotel registrations were not yet open and that he would notify the Board once registration becomes available.

Required Reading

Ms. Thomas read the required reading, Statute GS 18B-201. The Board members had no conflicts of interest concerning any matters on the agenda.

Minutes

Ms. Thomas asked for the approval of the January 12, 2026 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Fowler moved that the Board accept the January 12, 2026 minutes as presented.

Second: Mr. McAllister

Vote: Unanimous

Annual Health Insurance Renewal

Ms. Winstead reviewed the current Blue Cross Blue Shield plan. The existing plan includes a \$3,000 deductible and currently costs \$672,204 annually. Renewal would result in a 10% increase based on trend data. There were no high-risk claims in the past year.

She reviewed fully insured and level-funded options through UnitedHealthcare, Aetna, and Cigna.

Level-funded plans may provide refunds if claims are lower than premiums but require a return to a fully insured plan the following year if claims exceed premiums. Aetna and Cigna offer only level-funded options.

Each carrier offered an approximate \$15,000 credit to be reflected on the second month's bill.

Discussion included deductible comparison, risk exposure under level-funded plans, and enrollment timing (current plan ends March 31).

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to move to the United Healthcare UHC FI 2000 plan.

Motion: Mr. Bullard made a motion to move to the United Healthcare UHC FI 2000 plan.

Second: Mr. McAllister

Vote: Unanimous

Ms. Winstead exited the meeting.

Law Enforcement Report

Ms. Thomas asked for the January 2026 Law Enforcement Report.

Chief Crawford gave the January 2026 Law Enforcement report.

Reported activity:

- 7 violation reports submitted to ABC Commission
- 15 underage compliance checks (6 violations)
- 33 permittee inspections
- 297 total compliance checks
- 2 seller/server trainings; 7 alcohol education sessions
- 4 additional criminal charges; 3 agency assists
- 240 ABC store checks
- 17 reported larcenies (11 confirmed)
- 15 arrests; 10 warrants issued

- 42 compliance checks of convenience stores, bars, and restaurants

On January 15, Agent Spann inspected Dirty Myrtle Wing Co. and cited violations for selling alcohol without a permit, possession of alcohol in a commercial establishment, and failure to superintend. Alcohol was seized.

Ms. Thomas asked for the approval of the January 2026 Law Enforcement Report in the packet.

Motion: Mr. Fowler moved that the Board accept the January 2026 Law Enforcement Report.

Second: Mr. Bullard

Vote: Unanimous

General Manager's Report

Ms. Thomas asked for the January 2026 General Manager's reports.

Mr. Horne gave the January 2026 General Manager's report.

State sales increased 2.5% in January. Cumberland County sales increased 2.53%, totaling an increase of \$103,998.40.

Stores closed early two Saturdays due to winter weather. Mixed beverage sales declined over impacted weekends.

Bahama Breeze reduced orders due to bankruptcy proceedings. Twin Peaks opened with large initial orders, though its parent company has also filed bankruptcy.

Ramsey Street Store Updates:

Air quality testing confirmed no mold issues. Water damage repairs were completed. The store closed for 10 business days for renovations including:

- Sheetrock replacement
- Electrical updates
- Restroom upgrades
- Floor refinishing

Sales increased at Ramsey Commons and Person Street locations during closure.

Discussion occurred regarding potentially closing the Ramsey Street store. Ms. Thomas expressed concern regarding community demographics and service needs.

River Landing Shopping Center

Mr. Horne presented a proposed lease opportunity at River Landing Shopping Center.

- Approx. 16,000 sq. ft. building
- Estimated rent: \$14/sq. ft.
- Approx. \$19,000/month (\$232,000 annually)
- Pallet delivery dock available
- Opportunity to create mixed beverage entrance and satellite warehouse

The lease at Ramsey Commons expires in 2027. River Landing could allow occupancy by mid-2026, with opening projected Spring 2027.

Board discussion supported moving forward with lease negotiations.

Motion: Mr. Fowler made a motion to authorize the General Manager execute a negotiable lease that will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Second: Mr. Bullard

Vote: Unanimous

Camden Commons Development

Mr. Horne presented a development blueprint for Camden Commons. Recommended outparcels:

- Outparcel 16
- Outparcel A-2 (corner lot with better visibility)

Outparcels facing the high school were discouraged due to potential ethical and signage concerns.

The proposed building would be approximately 7,000–8,000 sq. ft., brick front, large windows, dock access, and mixed beverage area.

Motion: Mr. Fowler made a motion to give the General Manager authorization to notify developers that the Board is interested in outparcel 16 or A-2.

Second: Mr. McAllister

Vote: Unanimous

Ms. Thomas asked for approval of the January 2026 General Manager's report.

Motion: Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the General Manager's report.

Second: Mr. Bullard

Vote: Unanimous

New Business

Mr. Fowler requested to add new business to the agenda regarding holding a town hall meeting with mixed beverage customers to improve communication and gather feedback.

Discussion included:

- Limited participation in past allocation opportunities (e.g., Pappy Van Winkle lottery)
- Approximately 300 North Carolina items currently available for order
- No recent formal complaints received

Ms. Thomas tabled the discussion, noting that any future town hall meeting would be open to all customers, not limited to mixed beverage.

Adjournment


Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Mr. Bullard moved to adjourn.

Second: Mr. Fowler

Vote: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.


Chairperson