

Item Title: Settlement of 2018-2019 Property Tax Collections by the Tax Administrator, Charge of 2019-2020 Tax Collections to the Tax Administrator

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and approves the settlement of the Tax Administrator and credits him for taxes collected for the preceding year, credits him with releases duly allowed by the governing body for the preceding fiscal year, and charges him with collecting taxes for the current fiscal year.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The purpose of the annual settlement is to comply with NCGS 105-373.

Background: The tax collector (Tax Administrator) must make a sworn report to the governing body of the taxing unit and make full settlement for all taxes collected for the preceding fiscal year. In the settlement, the Tax Administrator should be credited with all sums representing taxes for the year deposited by him to the credit of the taxing unit and credited with releases duly allowed by the governing body. The Tax Administrator should also be charged with the collection of all taxes for the current fiscal year including discoveries, penalties, interest, cost and all other sums collected by him. This report is to certify that the 2018 tax liens on real property were duly advertised as required by law. If the real estate taxes remain unpaid, the County will proceed to take whatever legal action deemed necessary to collect the taxes. This report also certifies that we have made diligent efforts to collect unpaid personal property taxes and will continue to pursue collections on same. To the best of our knowledge, the collection rate of 99.90% overall is the highest collection rate in North Carolina for FY19.

Board Goal: This action reflects routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: An overall collection rate of 99.65% was assumed for budgeting purposes for FY19. An actual overall rate of 99.90% resulted in \$2,234,000 in actual tax collections over budgeted when applied to the estimated tax base.

Additional Information:

A ten-year history of collection percentages is provided below:

	Real Estate & Personal Property	Motor Vehicles	Overall Collections
FY 2018-2019	99.94%	99.46%	99.90%
FY 2017-2018	99.92%	99.50%	99.89%
FY 2016/2017	99.90%	99.52%	99.87%
FY 2015/2016	99.88%	99.48%	99.85%
FY 2014/2015	99.78%	98.83%	99.71%
FY 2013/2014	99.80%	96.04%	99.47%
FY 2012/2013	99.77%	89.78%	99.11%
FY 2011/2012	99.69%	90.36%	99.10%
FY 2010/2011	99.43%	89.39%	98.83%
FY 2009/2010	99.16%	91.06%	98.69%

Attachments:

1. Tax Administrator's Annual Settlement Report for Personal Property
2. Tax Administrator's Annual Settlement Report for Real Property
3. Annual Settlement Collection Summary
4. Special District Collection Report
5. County Tax Collection Report
6. County Billing Summary Report (LE5)
7. Fire District Billing Summary Report (LE5)