

TOWN OF FAIRMONT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING



JULY 21, 2026

**Fairmont Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Agenda**

Date: July 21, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. Invocation – Rev. Wayne Brewer, Trinity Methodist Church

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Agenda

V. Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance - Anyone wishing to come before the board must place their name and topic of discussion on the list before the meeting begins. The Public Comment period is thirty minutes, and each speaker will be given five minutes to speak. There will be no discussion with the board.

VI. Consent Agenda – These items will be adopted with one vote.

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, June 16, 2026, Special Meeting and Closed Session June 23, 2026 and Special Meeting June 30, 2026.
- b. Ordinance 26-301 – Close Main Street for Farmers Festival on October 17, 2026

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VIII. New Business

- a. Brownfields grant update
- b. Acceptance of Commissioner Melvin Ellison's resignation effective August 18, 2026
- c. Nomination to fill vacant commissioner seat effective August 18, 2026

IX. Mayor and Commissioner Comments

X. Adjournment

XI. Community Announcements

- a. Tuesday, July 28 – Town Talk Citizens Forum, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center.
- b. Thursday, August 6 – Fairmont Planning Board, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall.
- c. Tuesday, August 18 – Regular Town Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerome Chestnut, Town Manager

Regular Meeting – June 16, 2026

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Heather Seibles, Melvin Ellison, Jan Tedder-Rogers, Rasheena Graham, and Felecia McLean. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Attorney Jessica Scott, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Deputy Town Clerk Rodney Cain, Police Chief Jonathan Evans, Fire Chief Veronica Hunt, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Terry Evans, Henry Biernacki, Shea Ann Dejarnette, Tara Ivey, and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Felecia McLean gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing – Contiguous Voluntary Annexation of the Reserve apartment site

Commissioner Ellison made a motion to go into public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Commissioner Seibles seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the contiguous voluntary annexation of the Reserve apartment site located off Church Street, parcel# 050505020, owned by Michael Walters. Town Manager Jerome Chestnut stated that Michael Walters submitted a petition to voluntary annex parcel # 050505020 in April, and it was certified by town clerk in May. The parcel meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-31.

Mayor Kemp opened the floor for public comments. Henry Biernacki, Shea Ann Dejarnette, and Tara Ivey spoke out against the annexation. Mr. Terry Evans spoke in favor of the annexation. Concerns included cost of providing services versus benefits received and potential increase in crime/traffic. There were no comments from the board.

Commissioner Ellison made a motion to come out of the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget

Commissioner Graham made a motion to go into public hearing at 6:25 p.m. Commissioner Seibles seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget. The budget includes a 2.5% cost of living pay raise for employees, no tax increase, sanitation base rate increase of \$1.50, water base rate increase of \$1.05, sewer base rate increase of \$1.35, increasing the minimum gallons from 1,000 to 2,000 and increasing the price per thousand step rate tier by \$0.25 each for water and sewer. The General fund budget is \$2,995,993, Powell Bill fund is \$97,380, and the Water/Sewer fund is \$1,779,843.

Mayor Kemp opened the floor for public comments. Terry Evans was concerned about budgeting fund balance in the General Fund. Mr. Henry Biernacki understood projected numbers can be very difficult to predict. Mrs. Tara Ivey would like the Public Works employees to receive a livable wage. There were no comments from the board.

Commissioner Seibles made a motion to come out of the public hearing at 6:48 p.m. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Graham made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Henry Biernacki

Mr. Henry Biernacki thanked the town staff.

Tara Ivey

Mrs. Tara Ivey stated the town should use additional methods, beyond Facebook, to communicate with citizens about work being done in town, since not everyone uses social media.

Terry Evans

Mr. Terry Evans wondered how residents would feel if the apartments were mobile homes instead. He also asked why the budget did not cut any positions.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Ellison and seconded by Commissioner Graham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda items:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 19, 2026, Budget Workshops June 2, 2026 and June 9, 2026..
- b. Water Write Offs 2025-2026 - \$9,965.25

Signed copies are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Old Business

There was no old business this month.

New Business

Ordinance 26-297 – Annexation of the Reserve apartment site off Church Street

Commissioner Graham made a motion to adopt Ordinance 26-297 – Annexation of the Reserve apartment site off Church Street to be effective June 30, 2026. Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Consider adopting Ordinance 26-298 - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget and Fee Schedule

Commissioner Ellison asked if the town could hold another budget workshop and Mayor Kemp said yes. Commissioner McLean made a motion to table approving Ordinance 26-298 - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget and fee schedule and to hold a special budget workshop on Tuesday, June 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Town Manager updates

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut had no updates to report.

Commissioner and Mayor Comments

The board thanked the citizens for coming and expressing their concerns. They wished everyone a Happy Father's Day. Mayor Pro Tempore Heather Seibles invited everyone to attend the Juneteenth Brunch on Friday, June 19 from 11 to 2 in the Heritage Center.

Mayor Kemp announced there will be a town cleanup on Saturday, June 20 in memory of Tre Watson.

Announcements

America 250th Celebration: Friday, June 26 – “American Voices” Concert, 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center, Saturday, June 27 – “Patriots on Parade”, 10:00 a.m., Downtown followed by vendors and patriotic contests in the Town Hall parking lot from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday, June 28 - Fairmont Fantastic Fourth Fireworks, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Fairmont Community Park.

Tuesday, June 30 – Special Board Meeting to adopt FY 2025-2026 Amended Budget and FY 2026-2027 Budget (if not already adopted), 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Thursday, July 2 – Fairmont Planning Board, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall.

Friday, July 3 – Town Offices closed for Independence Day.

Page 4 – Regular Meeting, June 16, 2026

Wednesday, July 15 – Job Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, July 21 – Regular Town Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, July 28 – Town Talk meeting, 6:00 p.m. Heritage Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk

Special Meeting – June 23, 2026

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Heather Seibles, Melvin Ellison, Jan Tedder-Rogers, and Felecia McLean. Commissioner Rasheena Graham was absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Attorney Jessica Scott, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Deputy Town Clerk Rodney Cain, Fire Chief Veronica Hunt, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Several citizens were also in attendance.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Executive/Closed Session – Personnel/Attorney-Client Privilege

Commissioner Seibles made a motion to go into closed session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss personnel per N.C.G.S. 143-318-11 (a)(6) and consult with an attorney retained by the board to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and Board of Commissioners for the Town of Fairmont per N.C.G.S. 143-318-11 (a)(3). Commissioner Tedder-Rogers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Seibles made a motion to come out of closed session at 6:19 p.m. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that no action was taken.

Consider adopting Ordinance 26-298 - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget and Fee Schedule

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut stated the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget includes a 2.5% cost of living pay raise for employees, no property tax increase, sanitation base rate increase of \$1.50, water base rate increase of \$1.05, sewer base rate increase of \$1.35, increasing the minimum gallons from 1,000 to 2,000 and increasing the price per thousand step rate tier by \$0.25 each for water and sewer. The fee schedule includes raising the utility bill late fee to \$15 and the non-payment fee to \$40. The General fund budget is \$2,995,993, Powell Bill fund is \$97,380, and the Water/Sewer fund is \$1,779,843.

Commissioners Ellison and Seibles had concerns about the state legislature limiting local government's property tax authority.

Commissioner Tedder-Rogers made a motion to approve Ordinance 26-298 - Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget and fee schedule. Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion, and it passed with a vote of 3 to 2 as follows:

For: Commissioners Ellison, McLean and Tedder-Rogers
Against: Commissioners McCree and Seibles
Absent: Commissioner Graham

A signed copy of this ordinance and fee schedule is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Commissioner McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk

Town of Fairmont
Closed Sessions
General Account
June 23, 2026

- I. Personnel—Duties and communication between Town Manager and Commissioners
- II. Motion to adjourn closed session by Commissioner Ellison; seconded by Commissioner Siebles; passed.

Special Meeting – June 30, 2026

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Jan Tedder-Rogers, Felecia McLean and Rasheena Graham. Commissioners Melvin Ellison and Heather Seibles were absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Deputy Town Clerk Rodney Cain and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Administrative Matters

Ordinance 26-299 – StRAP Grant Budget Amendment

Commissioner Tedder-Rogers made a motion to adopt Ordinance 26-299 StRAP Grant Budget Amendment. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 26-300 – Adopt FY 2025-2026 Amended Budget for \$4,974,511

Commissioner Tedder-Rogers made a motion to adopt Ordinance 26-300 – Adopt FY 2025-2026 Amended Budget for \$4,974,511. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner McLean made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk

Agenda VI-B

ORDINANCE 26-301

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE
FAIRMONT FARMERS FESTIVAL PARADE**

WHEREAS, the Fairmont Board of Commissioners acknowledges a long tradition of providing an annual Fairmont Farmers Festival for the pleasure and enjoyment of its citizens and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, the Fairmont Board of Commissioners acknowledges this festival provides an opportunity for day-long, family-oriented activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Fairmont Board of Commissioners acknowledges a parade and festival requires approximately two (2) hours to install signing and traffic control, and also requires approximately two (2) hours for removing signs, traffic control, and litter;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Fairmont Board of Commissioners pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-169 that they do hereby declare a temporary road closure during the date and times set forth below on the following described portion of a State Highway System route:

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2026

Times: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Route Description: The parade route is Main Street (NC 41) from NC 130 Bypass to Railroad Street. The parade lasts from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The main part of the festival is held on Main Street, which will require Main Street (NC 41) to be closed from Cottage Street (NC 130) to Railroad Street.

This ordinance to become effective when signs are erected giving notice of the limits and times of the parade, and implementation of adequate traffic control to guide through vehicles around the parade route.

Adopted this the 21st day of July, 2026.

Charles Kemp, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer H. Larson, NCCMC, Town Clerk

TOWN OF FAIRMONT

MONTHLY REPORTS



JULY 2026



Fairmont Police Department

Monthly Police Department Report

Date:	July 1, 2026	To:	J. Chestnut, J. Larson, R. Cain
Ref:	Monthly Report for June	From:	Captain Josh Harris

Breakdown of Month Statistics-Police

Type of Service/ Activity	Jan. 2026	Feb. 2026	Mar. 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Yr to Date
Missing/Runaway	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Arrests	13	6	5	5	9	4							
Accidents	3	2	6	9	8	7							
Citations	6	11	14	19	12	10							
Thefts	8	4	4	3	1	6							
Homicides/Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Robberies	2	0	0	0	0	0							
B & E	1	0	1	0	1	3							
Assaults	4	1	1	2	3	2							
Narcotics	0	0	0	0	0	2							
Subpoenas Served	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Vandalism	3	2	1	4	2	3							
Cash Value of Recovered Property	2400	6000	0	0	0	0							
All Other	5	9	4	10	17	7							

****Note**:** (S) stands for Suicide



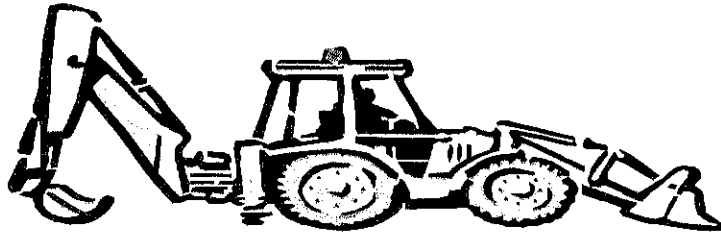
FAIRMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT: JUNE 2026

PREPARED BY: VERONICA HUNT FIRE CHIEF

<i>EVENT</i>	<i>STATISTIC</i>
<i>STRUCTURE FIRES</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>FIRE ALARMS</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>VEHICLE/AUTO FIRES</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>TREE, GRASS, BRUSH, ETC. OUTSIDE FIRES</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>UTILITY LINE DOWN</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>TREE DOWN</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ASSISTANCE TO OTHER AGENCIES</i>	<i>4 (EMS) 0 (FIRE)</i>
<i>ELECTRICAL/LINE FIRES</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>TRAFFIC CONTROL</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>DUMPSTER FIRES</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>GAS LEAKS</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>SERVICE CALL</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>ELECTRICAL HAZARD</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>TOTAL FIRE CALLS</i>	<i>15</i>

TOWN OF FAIRMONT



Monthly Report

Gasoline On Hand
Gals 4719

Month of June
2026

Counter		Pres. Reading	Past Reading	
A-1	Reggie	29545.5	29506.9	38.6 Sewer
A-2	Ronnie	54424.7	54253.0	171.7 PWA
A-3	Brennon	23745.7	23532.5	213.2 Water
A-4	Howard	29913.8	29879.0	34.8 Sewer
A-5	Spare	17816.9	17816.9	0.0 Water
A-6	Spare	8941.7	8941.7	0.0 Water
A-7	Spare	14765.1	14765.1	0.0 St
A-8	Spare	35630.5	35630.5	0.0 Police
A-9	Johnny	27847.3	27847.3	0.0 Sewer
A-10	Spare	30741.0	30741.0	0.0 Sewer
B-1	Fire	21382.2	21382.2	0.0 Fire
B-2	Spare	19018.6	19018.6	0.0 Police
B-3	Harris	40751.9	40622.1	129.8 Police
B-4	Spare	28695.0	28695.0	0.0 St
B-5	Lowry	40384.1	40195.8	188.3 Police
B-6	Inmate Van	33286.5	33140.4	146.1 PWA
B-7	Police	26880.3	26880.3	0.0 Police
B-8	Spare	36933.0	36933.0	0.0 Water
B-9	Edwards	32690.8	32536.0	154.8 Police
B-10	Spare	23256.5	23256.5	0.0 Police
C-1	24	32507.3	32402.1	105.2 Water
C-2	Chad	39123.3	38997.0	126.3 Water
C-3	Spare	13485.8	13485.8	0.0 St
C-4	Graham	31969.6	31833.4	136.2 Sewer

Counter		Pres. Reading	Past Reading	
C-5	Spare	15207.8	15207.8	0.0 Water
C-6	Earl	53449.1	53439.5	9.6 Water
C-7	Huggins	23962.9	23907.3	55.6 Police
C-8	Spare	21413.1	21413.1	0.0 ADM
C-9	Evans	22477.2	22328.2	149.0 water
C-10	V. Hunt	8388.4	8356.4	32.0 Fire
D-1	J. Chestnut	11592.1	11592.1	0.0 PWA
D-2	McKinnon	22416.2	22369.4	46.8 Police
D-3	Locklear	19900.5	19630.2	270.3 Police
D-4	Chavis	10574.0	10503.2	70.8 Police
D-5	Schmale	18473.0	18305.2	167.8 Police
D-6	Spare	10826.2	10826.2	0.0 Police
D-7	Ricky	8380.9	8277.3	103.6 Sewer
D-8	Jeffery	11167.2	11134.2	33.0 Water
D-9	Spare	8994.3	8994.3	0.0 Police
D-10	S.R. Rescue	4699.3	4687.2	12.1 S. Rob Rescue
Diesel On Hand				
On Road				

Gals 918

Counter		Pres. Reading	Past Reading	
A-1		10162.1	10124.1	38.0 Fire
A-2		1051.7	1000.8	50.9 Fire
A-3		413.4	395.4	18.0 Fire
A-10		47125.3	47125.3	0.0 sewer
C-1	49	6021.3	5996.8	24.5 Sant
C-2	spare	17972.2	17972.2	0.0 Sewer
C-3	S.R. Rescue	5498.2	5498.2	0.0 S Rob Rescue
C-4	82	11380.8	11228.3	152.5 Water
C-5	S.R. Rescue	38.1	38.1	0.0 S. Rob Rescue
C-6	58	3736.9	3736.9	0.0 Sant
C-7	Sweeper	9346.6	9325.2	21.4 St
C-8	40	3162.3	3111.1	51.2 Sant
C-9	82	9815.2	9815.2	0.0 St
C-10	Bus	450.1	450.1	0.0 Bus

Diesel On Hand 98103

Off Road

Gals 955

A-1	10551.3	10551.3	0 St
A-2	31445.2	31445.2	0.0 Water
A-3	3382.6	3370.5	12.1 Water
A-10	36458.9	36341.6	117.3 Sewer

Public Works Department

Sanitation Division

1. Made Routine Pick up of Domestic Garbage
2. Remarks: Garbage pick up on regular basis by Waste Management

Water Division

1. Read water meter.
2. Worked reread list of 57
3. Cut off unpaid accounts of. 88
4. Turned water off. 11
5. Turn water on. 8
6. Repaired water leaks. 10
7. Made water connection. 0
8. Raised water meters. 0
9. Replaced water meters. 0
10. Reread water meters. 7
11. Pulled or locked unpaid accounts. 11
12. Performed Routine Maint. At the Well site.
13. Remarks: Repair water leaks at these Location.
Griffin st, 3 on Morro st, Tobbaco st, Thompson st, Mckenzie St, 2 on N Main st, and Iona St
14. Test meters 5

Powell Bill Division

1. Made routine pick up of leaves & limbs.
2. Replaced missing or damaged street signs. 0
3. Mowed lots. 12
4. Pick up Stray animals. 0
5. Pick up Dead animals. 0
6. Made routine repairs of streets.
7. Remarks: Filled Pot Holes With Cold Patch

Sewer Division

1. Flush sewer lines out. 6
2. Made sewer connection. 0
3. Performed routine maintenance & service at the sewer plant.
4. Remarks: Flush lines at these locations.
Cottage st, Bradshaw st, S main st, E Gertrude st, Hwy 130 Bypass, and 110 Maple

Replaced stop signs at:

Section	Total Gallons Consumed Month of June 2026
PWA	317.8
Street	0.0
Water	487.3
Police	1233.2
Sanitation	0.0
Fire	32.0
Sewer	313.2
S.Rob Rescue	12.1
Total	2395.6

Diesel Consumed	On Road	Off Road
Sanitation	75.7	0.0
Street	21.4	0.0
Water	152.5	12.1
Fire	106.9	0.0
Sewer	0.0	117.3
Bus	0.0	0.0
S.R.Rescue	0.0	0.0

	Water Accountability
Gallons Pumped	8.214
Gallons Billed	4.00
Percent	51%
	Sewer Plant
Total Gallons	20.812
Average For The Month	0.69
Total Rainfall	6%

Cash Balance Report

Period Ending 6/30/2026

TOWN OF FAIRMONT

7/15/2026 4:18 PM

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Bank 1	TRUIST Acct#- 1	
	Account	Balance
	10-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$809,808.68
	20-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$50,579.15
	30-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$200,630.87
	40-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$39,832.15
	41-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$7,332.05
	55-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	72-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	73-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	79-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	81-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$3,208,530.13
	82-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	83-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	84-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$10,503.98
	87-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$215,185.00
	88-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
	89-102-0000 CASH IN BANK	\$0.00
Bank 1 Total:		\$4,542,402.01

Total Cash Balance:	\$4,542,402.01
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