Jones County ABC Board

Performance Audit Report

Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission
400 East Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
p: 919-779-0700 | f: 919-661-5927 | http://abc.nc.gov

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ABC COMMISSION NORTH CAROLINA

Alcoholic Beverage Control

CHAIRMAN:
Hank Bauer

COMMISSIONERS:
La'Tanta (L.T.) McCrimmon
Raleigh

David Sherlin
Raleigh

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:
Mike DeSilva

LOCATION:
400 East Tryon Road
Raleigh NC 27610

MAILING:
4307 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-4307

PHONE: (919) 779-0700
http://abc.nc.gov/

August 18, 2026

Jones County ABC Board
Frank Emory, Chair
402 NC Hwy 58.
Trenton, NC 28585

Chairperson Emory,

On the following pages, you will find the performance audit report conducted by the staff of the ABC Commission reviewing the operations of the Jones County ABC Board. The report consists of an overview of the objectives & background summary, financial analysis and findings, and a summary of actions recommended based upon your board's performance and related findings.
Additional considerations are listed as well to provide further guidance and enhance awareness to promote ABC board success.

Please reach out if you have any questions or require assistance in implementing any of the statute requirements, Commission rules, or other recommendations included in the report. On behalf of the North Carolina ABC Commission, I thank you and your staff for your assistance and cooperation in conducting this periodic review. We appreciate the continued efforts by your board to comply with the performance standards, as well as the board's commitment to increase profitability and reduce expenses.

If we can be of assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff.

Respectfully,

Michael G. DeSilva

Michael DeSilva
Deputy Commissioner

OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In addition to regular and special financial audits, G.S. 18B-705(a) authorizes the NC ABC Commission to conduct performance audits of all local ABC boards in the state. Performance audits are examinations of existing operating policies, practices, controls, and activities to determine those areas in which there may be a need for improvement.

The audits are designed to ensure that all local ABC Boards comply with established performance standards pursuant to G.S. 18B-203(a)(20). The audit's scope addresses compliance with ABC laws and rules, store appearance, operating efficiency, solvency, and customer service.

To achieve the objectives of the audit, auditors:

- Review applicable General Statutes, ABC Commission Rules, Reports, and Administrative Policies
- Verify compliance with Commission and Board policies
- Verify results of previous performance audit recommendations
- Review ABC Board annual independent financial audits
- Review ABC Board reporting and documentation reports
- Visit the store(s)
- Interview key ABC Board personnel

Jones County is in eastern North Carolina, and the county seat is Trenton. The county has three incorporated communities and is the fourth least populated county in the state. The current estimated population for the county is approximately 9,600 residents, which reflects an increase of almost 5% since the 2020 census. The Jones County ABC Board operates two retail stores and is the only ABC board in the county.

The 1937 Act authorized Jones County to hold an election for an ABC store. The referendum was held October 19, 1957, and the vote passed 800 to 511. The first retail sales here occurred in Trenton, NC on December 6, 1957. A county wide mixed beverage referendum was held on May 2, 2000, which did not pass. However, the Town of Maysville passed mixed beverage sales in 2024. Currently the Jones County Board of Commissioners appoints a chairperson and four additional board members to serve on the ABC board. Current board members are Frank Emory, Chair; Luther Cox; Timothy Sanderson; James Harper; and Matt Wineman.

The most recent performance audit for the Jones County ABC Board was concluded in 2023. The Commission audit serves as an ongoing method to provide local boards with information and best practices that identify areas for improvement.

402 NC Hwy 58, Trenton

OPERATIONAL OBSERVATIONS, FINDINGS, REQUIRED ACTIONS, & RECOMMENDATIONS

On July 14, 2026, ABC Commission Program Analyst Edwin Strickland visited the Jones County ABC Board and interviewed the General Manager, Brantley Uzzell, and the Finance Officer, Melanie Danza. Below is a financial analysis, followed by operational observations, findings, and recommendations related to the performance audit.

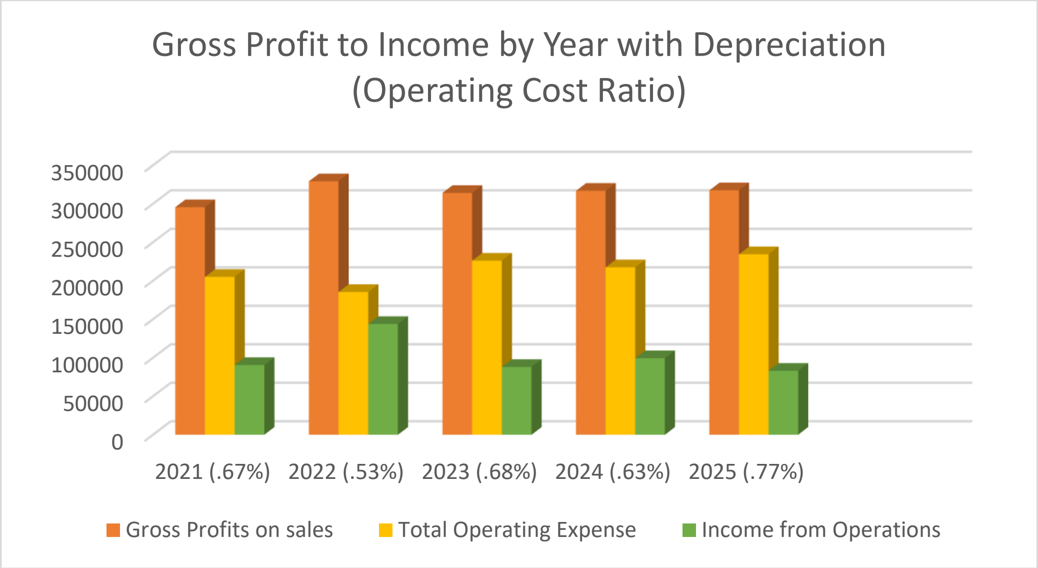
6045 Hwy 70, Wyse Fork

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

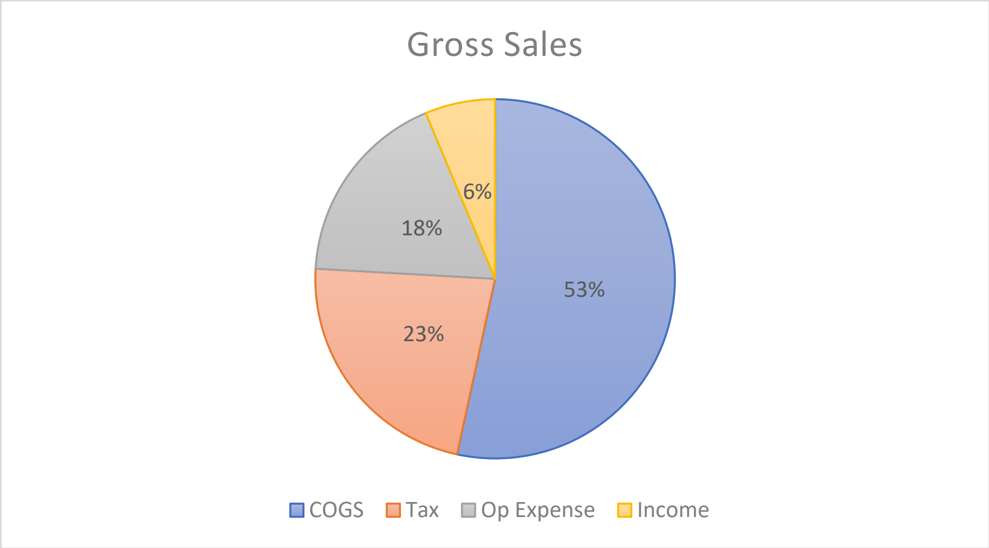
SALES, PROFIT PERCENTAGE, & OPERATING COST RATIO

- In FY 2025, the Jones County ABC Board had gross sales totaling $1,315,018, an increase of approximately 0.3% from the previous year.
    - Since FY 2021, the board's sales have increased by over 6%.
- In FY 2025, the board's profit percentage to sales ratio was 6.32%.
    - *The profit percentage to sales ratios over the previous four completed fiscal years were 7.56%, 6.90%, 10.81%, and 7.30%, respectively.*
    - The ABC Commission's profit percent to sales standard for boards with sales less than $5M is 3% or higher.
- In FY 2025, the Jones County ABC Board operated two retail stores without mixed beverage sales. The operating cost ratio for the board was 0.68 in FY 2025. *The previous four years are shown in the chart below.*
    - The ABC Commission standard for ABC Boards without mixed beverage sales is 0.85 or less.
- Therefore, the Jones County ABC Board met the profitability standard and the operating cost standard set by the ABC Commission for FY 2025.
- Below are charts showing gross profit on sales, total operating expenses including depreciation, income from operations for recent years, and operating cost ratios.

	FY 2025	FY 2024
Gross Profit on Sales	$317,437	$316,896
Total Operating Expense	($234,391)	($217,447)
Income from Operations	$83,046	$99,449



- The chart below shows where portions of gross sales are expended or retained as income. COGS and primary distributions (Taxes) usually account for approximately seventy-six percent (76%) of any board's gross receipts, with the remainder used to operate the system and as income. In turn, the income is then used to satisfy other statutory distributions and as working capital, capital improvements, debt service, or as additional distributions beyond the minimum requirement.



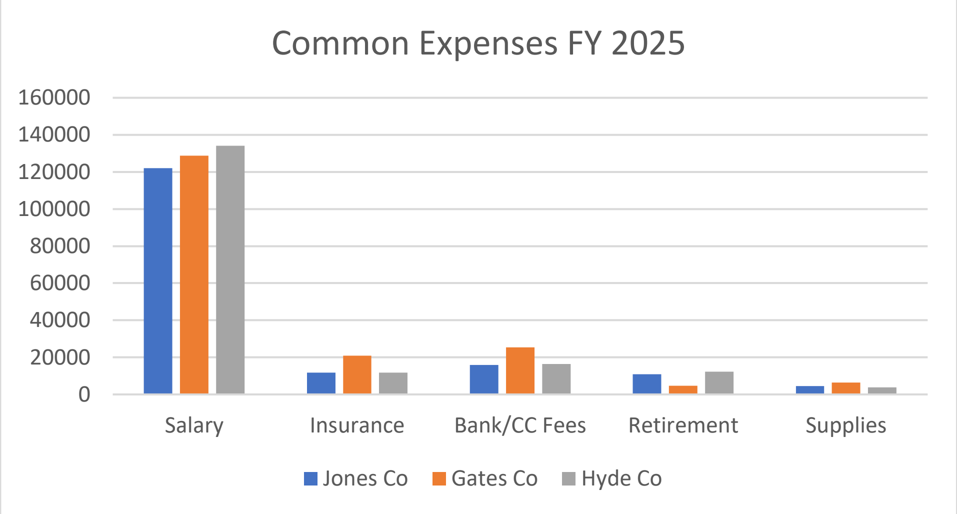
- *Factors affecting sales:*
  - There are three other ABC boards with a store within a 30-mile radius of the Jones County ABC store.
  - Jones County had a 4.1% unemployment rate in 2025, with the North Carolina average being around 3.7% at that time.
  - Approximately 18% of the population in the county is below the poverty level, which is higher than the North Carolina average of around 12.6%.
  - The county's median annual household income is around $60,000, with the state's median household income is approximately $73,000.
  - In FY 2025, the board did not have any mixed beverage sales.

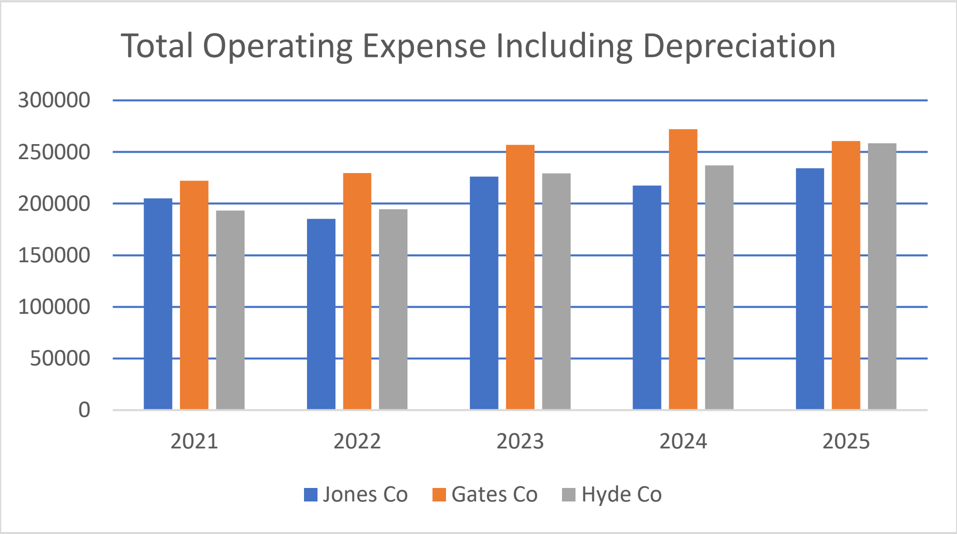
INVENTORY TURNOVER

- The inventory turnover rate is calculated by dividing the cost of liquor by the average inventory in the system (Cost of Liquor/Average Inventory). The Commission has set these goals for determining an effective rate based on the frequency of deliveries.
  - Once a week deliveries target at 6 times or more per year
  - Twice a month deliveries target 5 times or more per year
  - Monthly deliveries target at 4.5 times or more per year
- The Jones County ABC Board receives shipments twice a month, with a target inventory turnover rate of around 5. The inventory turnover rate in FY 2025 was 3.8, which is somewhat below the official goal.

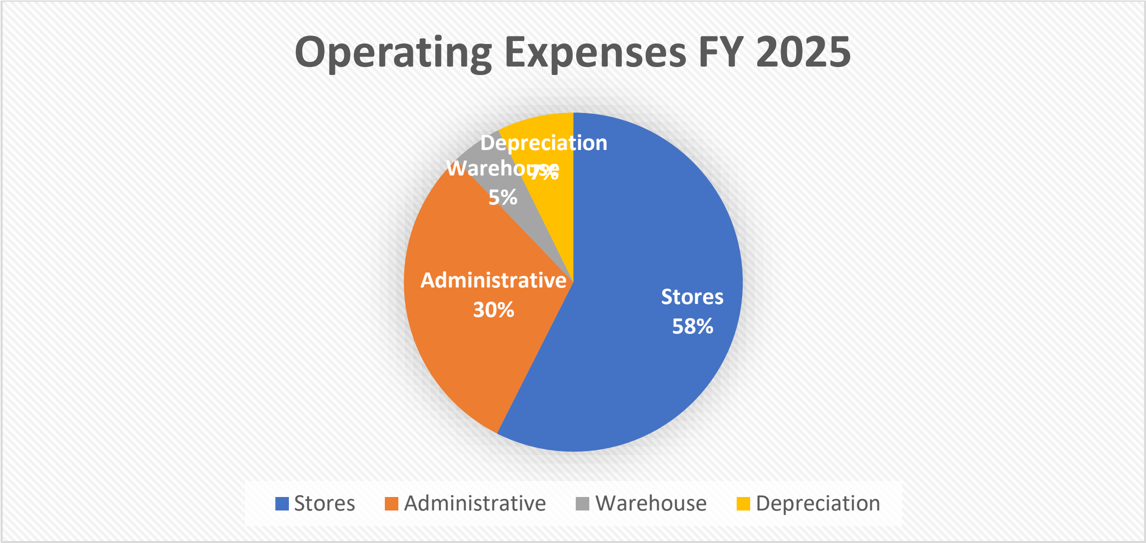
EXPENSES

- *Expense Information:*
  - In FY 2025, total operating expenses increased by less than 8% from the last fiscal year and were around 18% of total annual sales.
  - Salaries were 9.3% of total annual sales with an increase of around 19% from the previous fiscal year. *The largest increase in scheduled salaries was for administrative expenses.*
  - Cost of Goods Sold (COGS) was 53.4% for the fiscal year with a normal range being 52% to 54%.
- A review of both a common expense report and a total operating expense report indicates the Jones County ABC Board has similar categorical and total operating expenses to those of the other two ABC boards with comparable gross sales and number of stores.
  - *Common expense report categories can be unreliable, as different CPAs may allocate costs to line items inconsistently.*

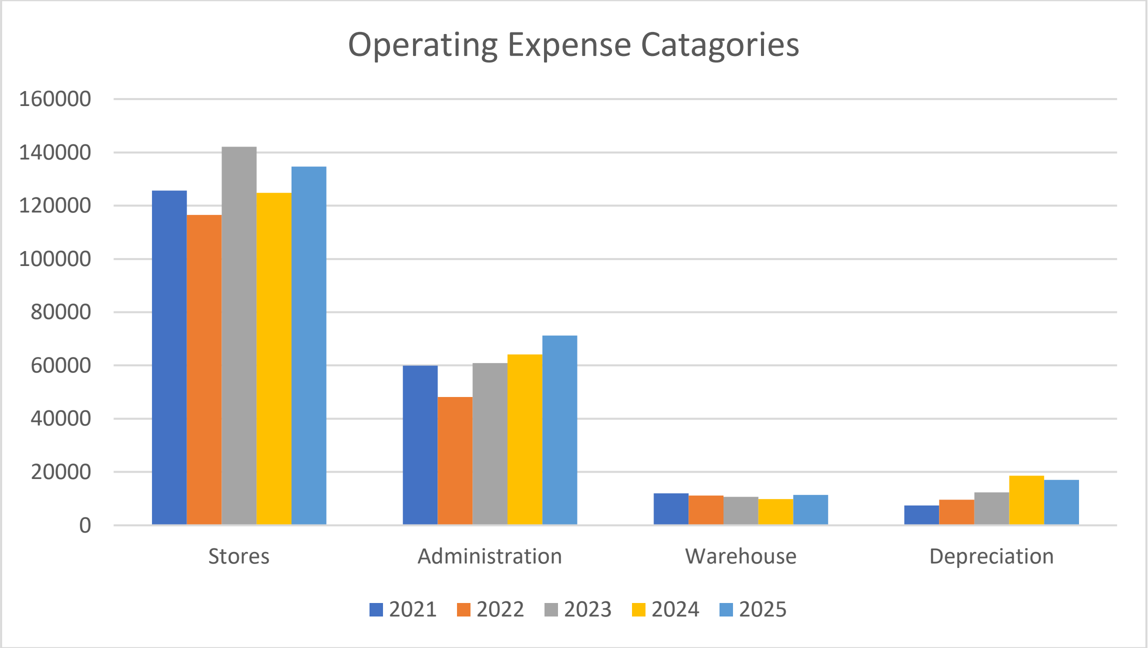




- The chart below illustrates how operating expenses are allocated across the three primary operational categories and depreciation.



- The chart below shows operating expenses as allocated across the primary operational categories over the last five fiscal years



BUDGET ANALYSIS

	FY 2025 *Budget Projections*	*FY 2025 Actual*	Variance	Variance %
Total Revenues	$1,315,000	$1,315,303	$303	0.0%
Total Expenditures	$1,282,210	$1,211,865	$70,345	5.5%
Distributions	$146,210	$73,331		
Revenue over/under Expenditures & Finance		*$30,107*		
After Reconciling Items		*$10,000*		

- In reviewing the budget to actual analysis of the FY 2025 financial audit, actual total revenues were marginally above the final budget, and expenditures were 5.5% below the final amended budget.
- The change in net position during the fiscal year was $10,000. *The board's collective net position on June 30, 2025, was $292,286; the net position has increased by almost 26% since FY 2021.*
- In FY 2026, the board was below budgeted sales for the year by a modest $1,069.

DISTRIBUTIONS

- G.S. 18B-805 (b) requires the board to pay from gross receipts, all expenses, excise, and rehabilitation taxes. G.S. 18B-805(c)(2) requires the board to *typically* distribute at least five percent (5%) of applicable gross receipts to law enforcement and *typically* at least seven percent (7%) for alcohol education. *Before assigning these percentage distributions, G.S. 18B-805(c)(1) requires the board to first make a minimum quarterly distribution of the 3.5% markup and relevant bottle charges to certain county/municipal recipients.* **Some of these distribution percentages are designated by an official local enabling act (*and thus distribution requirements and recipients are subject to vary).***

- NCSL 2024-14 stipulates the Jones County ABC Board make annual distributions rather than quarterly distributions.
- In FY 2025, a total of $295,735 in primary distributions and other taxes were paid to the NC Department of Revenue (NCDOR), and DHHS.
- In FY 2025, Jones County ABC accrued funds for other statutory distributions totaling $73,331 *(the net profit recipient received $67,840).*
- Per the local enabling act, the distribution formula for recipients of net profits is as follows:
  - 100% to Jones County General Fund.

DISTRIBUTIONS (cont.)

- STATUTORY DISTRIBUTIONS:
  - Net Profit Distributions: The Jones County ABC board has made net profit distributions for the last five fiscal years above the minimum mandatory distribution as referenced in G.S. 18B-805(c)(1). The table below shows distributions calculated on the left and total distributions made by the ABC Board for the last five (5) years on the right.
  - Law Enforcement Distributions: Have been accrued and/or disbursed at or above the standard 5% statute amount for the last five FYs.
  - Alcohol Education Distributions: Have been accrued and/or disbursed at or above the standard 7% statute amount for the last five FYs.

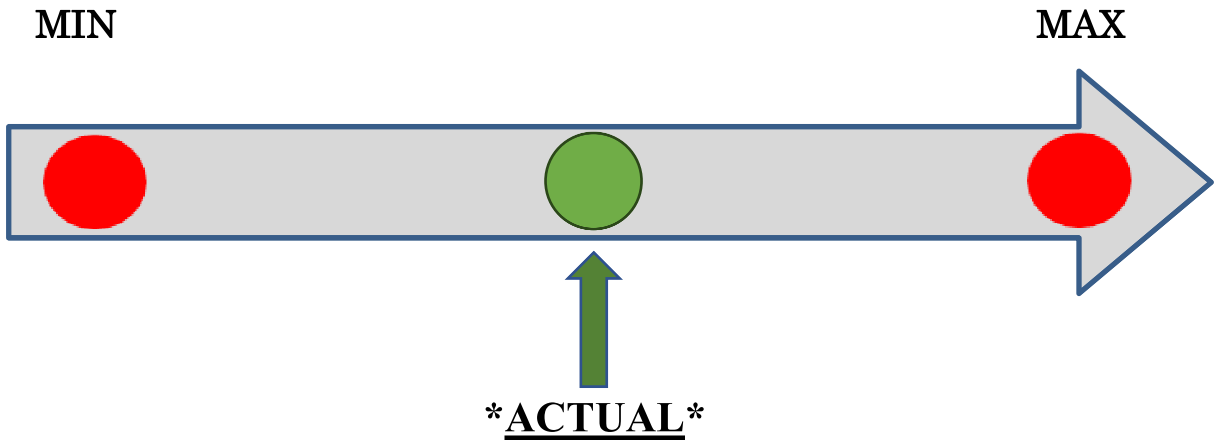
NC GENERAL STATUTE: 18B-805 (c)(1)			
Calculation of Minimum Mandatory Distribution for Net Profit to Designated Recipients ***Note: Referencing CPA Audit Reports***		**Jones County ABC Board** **Net profit distribution made annually by fiscal year**	
Calculated Amount		**Total paid to recipient(s)**	
FY-2025	*$37,574*	FY-2025	***$67,840***
FY-2024	*$37,567*	FY-2024	***$83,415***
FY-2023	*$36,579*	FY-2023	***$66,819***
FY-2022	*$38,256*	FY-2022	***$106,391***
FY-2021	*$35,745*	FY-2021	***$73,326***

- Since inception in 1957, the board has distributed a total of $901,298 to the Jones County General Fund, with over 44% of this amount distributed within the last five fiscal years.

WORKING CAPITAL

- G.S. 18B-805(d) allows the board to set aside a portion of the remaining gross receipts, within the limits set by the rules of the Commission, as cash to operate the ABC system.
    - NCAC 15A .0902 sets a working capital maximum standard for boards with annual gross sales less than $1.5M as an amount equal to four (4) months of gross sales.
    - G.S. 18B-702(g)(3) defines "Working Capital" as the total of cash, investments, and inventory less all unsecured liabilities. As it pertains to working capital computation, gross sales means gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages less distributions as defined in G.S. 18B-805(b)(2), (3), and (4).
- Based on the existing rules, as of June 30, 2025, the Jones County ABC Board is required to maintain a minimum working capital of $39,203 with a maximum working capital amount of $339,761.
    - On June 30, 2025, the board had a working capital balance of $199,536 which is the maximum allowed per Commission requirement for this section (*).

* FY 2025: *Working Capital (WC) Graphic*



- Under G.S. 18B-805(d), with approval of the appointing authority for the board, the local board may set aside a portion of the remaining gross receipts as a fund for specific capital improvements whenever working capital is exceeded.

PERSONNEL, OPERATIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE

Board Members

- The board is composed of four members and a chairperson, all appointed by the county board of commissioners.
    - Each appointee brings significant professional experience in fields such as law enforcement, military service, banking, agriculture, education, and county government.
    - Members receive compensation for their services in compliance with G.S. 18B-700(g).
    - Current board members' terms are now properly staggered to comply with G.S. 18B-700(a) and all have completed the ethics training requirement. *One recently reappointed member will need to satisfy the training requirement in the coming months.*
    - Members have taken oaths of office, and copies of the oaths are available in the board's administrative records.
- Meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month.
    - Meeting dates are provided to the county.
- Meeting minutes are well organized, available, and follow the proper order of proceedings.
    - The meeting minutes reviewed included no conflict-of-interest statements.
    - Financial data are presented and discussed at board meetings to include income statements with budget comparisons for sales and expenses.
    - Board members are heavily encouraged by the Commission to use checks and balances to ensure that cash management practices are upheld. Boards should also routinely review any notes and recommendations provided by the CPA firm in annual audits.

Board Personnel

- The board has nine team members on payroll, all of whom are part-time.
- The General Manager is responsible for overseeing all board operations and activities and is also the General Manager for an adjacent ABC Board.
    - He has over twenty-three years of experience across four different ABC systems.
- The Finance Officer is responsible for accounting-related activities to include billing and payroll.
- Each store is assigned a manager for compliance with G.S. 18B-803(a).
- Several employees of an adjacent ABC Board provide warehouse support for deliveries, inventory, and transfers.
- Additional employees are salesclerks and provide customer service and store upkeep.
- Training for new store employees is initially held at one of the neighboring ABC Board's stores.
    - Cross training for the General Manager's responsibilities has been extended to a key employee, who can perform some of the administrative tasks in the General Manager's absence.
    - All team members have received responsible alcohol sales training from the Lenoir County ABC Board's Law Enforcement Chief.
- No conflicts related to nepotism were found, based on discussions with the General Manager.
- All store personnel are aware that loitering is prohibited on board property and in the store.

Law Enforcement and Alcohol Education

- The board has an active law enforcement contract with the Jones County Sheriff's Office signed in 2022.
- Law enforcement reports are submitted each month by Captain D. Pridgen and contain applicable data for accountability as outlined in G.S. 18B-501(f1).
- The captain often attends board meetings to present the reports.
- Alcohol education distributions are made to the Sheriff's Office whose personnel conduct training assemblies in the county school system.
- Jones County Sherrif Mathew Wineman is a member of the ABC Board and reports to the board on the expenditure of funds as required by G.S. 18B-805(h).
- In FY 2025, the board accrued funds for its law enforcement and alcohol education distributions in the amounts of $2,288 and $3,203 respectively.

Policies

- The board has a code of ethics policy which adheres to the requirements of G.S. 18B-706(a), and a thorough personnel manual which covers many additional policies and the requirements of Rule 15A .1006.
    - Additionally, the board has a price discrepancy policy to address situations in which a posted shelf tag displays a lower price than the register and the customer objects.
- The board should adopt a written shelf management plan pursuant to Rule 15A .1708.
- Other written policies the board may wish to consider include allocated products and mixed beverage sales.
- For travel, the board follows the State travel plan per G.S. 18B-702(g2), with reimbursements made pursuant to G.S. 138-6.

Operations

- Full inventory is conducted at both stores every two months for all stock except mini bottles.
    - Counts are made by the warehouse team, and any adjustments are made by the General Manager.
    - *A sample of products were inventoried at both stores during the Commission visit with no variances found.*
    - Dead stock is sometimes sold to a neighboring board at cost.
- Liquor orders are made by the General Manager who runs a 25-day sales history and compares this to stock status.
    - An out of stock feature is reviewed to eliminate any products that may not appear on the recent sales list.
    - Special order requests are logged by the salesclerks and provided to the manager for consideration.
    - Monthly SPA lists are reviewed, but the General Manager relies more heavily on the quarterly price changes to monitor price fluctuations and guide ordering decisions.
- The board receives liquor deliveries on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.
    - Pallets are dropped and variances are rechecked before the report is sent to LB&B.
- The board has recently filled its first ever mixed beverage order.
    - Pulled orders are rechecked with the permittee's agent during the customer transaction.
    - Invoices are provided to the permittees, and signed copies will be retained for three years.
    - The board affixes tax stamps to bottles as required by Rule 15A .1901.
- Allocated products would be available for the mixed beverage customers should they request, with others being shelved according to the General Manager's discretion.
- The board retains breakage reports and submits them to suppliers for credit. To comply with Rule 15A .1701(c), the board should reestablish emailing copies of the reports to the Commission quarterly.
- The board does not have social-media account(s) or a website.
- The board's login website was updated prior to the Commission visit and contains accurate information pertaining to board members, personnel, and store locations.

Financial & Internal Controls

- Invoices for liquor are processed by the Finance Officer monthly and within the 30-day requirement.
  - *A small sample of invoices were reviewed and check stub dates indicated payments were made within the specified time frame.*
- The board's checks are signed by the Finance Officer and typically counter-signed by the Chairperson, with the General Manager as an alternat as needed.
  - The checks have the required disbursement certificate for compliance with G.S. 18B-702(q).
  - *The board has implemented ACH payments for liquor and other distillers, and this process is expected to begin in the coming weeks.*
- The preaudit certificate is stamped on the receiving list for liquor orders rather than the initial order.
- Tax and primary distributions are processed by the Finance Officer with some being paid annually per North Carolina Session Law.
- Credit cards are issued to the General Manager and the Finance Officer.
  - Itemized receipts are retained and the account is settled monthly.
- Tills and change funds are counted daily and usually one salesclerk works at each store.
- Deposits are compiled daily and transported to the bank twice a week.
  - The board has previously received a waiver from the Commission to stagger deposits per Rule 15A .0905.
- The General Manager reviews the bank accounts weekly, and the Finance Officer conducts month-end reconciliations.
  - *A sample of recent deposits for one of the stores was reviewed with no variances noted.*
- Payroll is processed every two weeks for most board personnel and once monthly for the administrative team and board members.
  - Salesclerks provide signed time sheets which are reviewed by the administrative team before being processed.
  - *Payroll summaries reviewed indicate aligned compensation for board members and the General Manager as compared with the board's log-in website.*
- All board members, applicable personnel, and store managers are bonded for at least $50,000 as required by G.S. 18B-700(i) and G.S. 18B-803(b).
- The annual CPA audit was received by the Commission on September 24, 2025.

STORE INSIGHT & OVERVIEW

- The Jones County ABC Board's Store #1 is a freestanding building on a highway near downtown Trenton. Store #3 is part of a gas station duplex located on U.S. Highway 70 between Kinston and New Bern.
    - Both stores have clearly visible roadside and building signs.
    - Both have adequate parking, and the exteriors and associated landscaping are well maintained and free of trash and debris.
    - Security systems are in place and functional at both stores.
- The showrooms in both stores are well lit and organized.
    - Floors and shelves are clean and displays and end caps are utilized.
    - Store #1 was renovated in 2021 to include new floors and shelving.
    - The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome poster required by G.S. 18B-808 is displayed in both stores.
    - A quarterly price book is available at sales counters.
    - Shelf tags highlighting items currently on sale are used for most specially priced items.
    - Category signs are displayed in both stores.
- Shelf management practices are properly implemented.
    - Products are fronted and bottles are dusted.
    - Products are grouped by category, and premium products are located at eye level or higher.
    - Bottles are mostly arranged so that they increase in size from left to right of the same item in Store #1, but Store #3 is not arranged in accordance with the shelf management rule.
    - Shelf space for products is set to follow the factors identified in Rule 15A .1708(5).
- A sample of approximately one hundred items was selected to determine if uniform pricing was displayed at both stores. Of those selected, only one item's displayed price was incorrect.
- Both stores open from 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.
- The stores are closed every Sunday, and the two mandatory holidays, and New Years Day.
    - Other traditional holidays are considered for opening based on employee availability and willingness to work, and on the condition that both stores operate on the same schedule.

REQUIRED OR REQUESTED ACTIONS

- Item #1: When applicable, ensure unsaleable merchandise (breakage) reports are submitted to the Commission quarterly. Rule 15A .1701(c) requires boards to submit quarterly reports for any unsaleable merchandise and to retain the original copies for three years.

- Item #2: Local boards shall establish and maintain a shelf management plan per Rule 15A .1708, The board should work to rearrange liquor inventory on the shelves to follow shelf management requirements, in particular ensuring bottles increase in size from left to right.

- Item #3: In connection with the periodic audit, a Certificate of Accountability attestation form should be reviewed and signed by board members and applicable personnel. A signed copy would then only need to be emailed to Commission personnel to be included in the final draft posting of this report.

CONSIDERATIONS

- The board may wish to consider adopting a written policy for the sale of allocated products. A formal policy would establish clear and equitable guidelines, assist team members in interactions with patrons regarding high-demand items, and promote transparency in the distribution process.

- As the board may begin to experience an increase in the number of its mixed beverage customers, the board could consider a written mixed beverage sales policy. Such a policy can help provide information to new and existing customers about the preferred methods for placing orders and expectations for order fulfillment.

    - With pending legislation to potentially allow mixed beverage permittees to purchase spiritous liquor in adjacent counties, such a policy may be beneficial to new customers within the board's current jurisdiction, as it would demonstrate the board's willingness to provide flexibility in fulfilling orders and reinforce its overall business-friendly approach.

Please network with the ABC Commission whenever needed for guidance and assistance to support local ABC board mission and success.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR ALL BOARDS

- The Commission's primary focus for ABC board members:

    - ABC board members are highly encouraged to meet monthly for the best formal oversight and review of board operations, routinely recording meeting minutes (*adhering to closed meeting requirements where applicable*) and ensuring either no conflicts of interest are present or that they are addressed appropriately when presented. Monthly sales should be reported to the Commission at the beginning of next month, providing annual budgets, budget amendments, miscellaneous financial reporting to Commission following timelines, and ensuring Commission has annual CPA audits by September 30th of each year.

    - ABC boards are highly encouraged to keep term begin dates & term end dates updated on the Commission's board login website for all ABC board members and other information such as store hour changes, pictures, email updates, etc.

- ABC Boards are required to work within general minimum and maximum limits for working capital, as established per Commission Rule NCAC 15A .0902(a)(2). When ABC Boards exceed maximum working capital in any given FY due to planned capital improvements, please secure written approval from the applicable County or Municipal authorities per N.C.G.S. 18B-805(d) and forward to the Commission. As best measure, securing documentation prior to exceeding maximum working capital would be the most ideal approach.

- Board members and applicable personnel are encouraged to satisfy the requirements of G.S. 18B-706(b) and Rule 15A .2001 in a prompt manner and before the twelve (12) month mandate.

- Any ABC board members who also serve on the board of the appointing authority must recuse themselves from voting on or being involved in any decisions involving net profit distributions or other applicable distributions that will be dispersed to the appointing authority, adhering properly to avoiding conflicts of interest referenced in G.S. 18B-201.

- Cross training opportunities for personnel should be maximized to ensure solid continuity of operations occurs for ABC boards. Also, training opportunities can work well to develop store employees for increased responsibility roles and serving to make both the routine operations and employee morale stronger.

PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE AUDIT ACTIONS (2023)

- ABC Boards are required to operate within a balanced budget each fiscal year. Budget amendments must be approved by the board before any funds are transferred between accounts and utilized, occurring at the actual point of time an adjustment of funds is necessary. This would include the point in time during the fiscal year when the board will exceed its annual forecasted sales budget. Ensure budget amendment copies are submitted to the ABC Commission as required per NCGS 18B-702(h), to include a final reconciliation budget amendment for the fiscal year end.
- Local boards shall establish and maintain a shelf management plan per Commission Rule 15A .1708 Shelf Management. The board needs to rearrange liquor inventory on the shelves to follow shelf management requirements, mainly ensuring bottles increase in size from left to right.
- Boards must keep full and accurate minutes of all official meetings, including all closed sessions, referencing G.S. 143-318.10. Regular minutes should make a general reference to the reason for closed session occurring. Closed sessions minutes could either be kept at the board location secured under lock and key, or with board attorney (or appointing authority attorney) for proper stewardship.
- ABC board members must complete ethics training within one (1) year of each appointment and again following all reappointments following NCGS 18B-706(b). Currently one board member needs to complete this training by May 31, 2023. General managers, finance officers (and any applicable deputies) have a one-time training requirement for ethics training yet are highly encouraged to complete training periodically as a good refresher along with any other personnel interested.
- Ensure all purchase orders to include obligations evidenced by a contract or agreement requiring the payment of money, shall include or bear a certificate stating that the instrument (or order) has been preaudited to ensure compliance with G.S. 18B-702(m) with a signature by the finance officer. The specific statement should read, "This instrument has been pre audited in the manner required by G.S. 18B-702." Special note: This would be most reasonably accomplished by signing & stamping the summary total of the Order Edit List from inventory system before any liquor orders are placed with state warehouse.
- In connection with the periodic audit, a Certificate of Accountability attestation form should be reviewed and signed by board members and applicable personnel. A signed copy would then only need to be emailed to Commission personnel for recordkeeping.
- The recipients of alcohol education distributions must provide annual documentation to the board describing the activity for which these awarded funds are spent per G.S. 18B-805(h). The board may want to consider obtaining documentation before the funds are officially awarded / transmitted to any recipients.

While having addressed most considerations from the previous Commission review, the board should still monitor and strive to satisfy previously recommended actions.

JONES COUNTY ABC BOARD

Frank Emory, Chairman
James Harper, Member
Luther Cox, Member
Timothy Sanderson, Member
Matt Wineman, Member
Brantley Uzzell, General Manager

To: The North Carolina ABC Commission
From: The Jones County ABC Board
Re: Performance Audit Response
Date: 8/17/2026

The Jones County ABC Board would like to thank Edwin Strickland for his time and effort in conducting the Board's 2026 performance audit.

The Board has read, reviewed, and discussed the performance audit report and its findings. We appreciate the recommendations provided and will take them into consideration as we continue to strengthen the operations, growth, and development of the Jones County ABC Board and its programs.

We appreciate the Commission's guidance and the opportunity to continually improve our operations and service to the community.

Sincerely,

Frank Emory, Chairman
The Jones County ABC Board

110 South Market Street ● Trenton ● North Carolina ● 28585 ● Phone: (252) 448-7571 ● Fax: (252) 448-1072 ● www.jonescountync.gov

08 17 2026
Month Day Year

Jones
ABC Board

Certificate of Accountability

This document assures this Board and the State of North Carolina that the following statutory duties required of local ABC Boards have been properly performed.

1. The system has complied with all State uniform pricing requirements pursuant to NCGS §18B-804.

2. That all alcoholic beverages sold have been approved by the Commission for sale in this State pursuant to NCGS §18B-800.

3. That all "gross receipts" pursuant to NCGS §18B-805(a) have been properly accounted for and are lawful.

4. That all taxes due and board expenses have been properly and timely paid pursuant to NCGS §18B-805(b).

5. That all distributions pursuant to NCGS §18B-805 have been properly and timely paid.

6. That the finance officer for the board has properly performed all duties as required pursuant to NCGS §18B-702(k).

General Manager

Melanie B. Dunn
Financial Officer

Frank Emory
Chairman

Board Member

Luther J. Cox
Board Member

Ty Sanders
Board Member

Matthew J. Wise
Board Member