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News Release

Commissioners Approve Special Bond Referendum

August 1, 2016, Monroe, NC – The Board of County Commissioners on Monday completed the final step for a bond referendum by holding a public hearing and adopting bond orders to be considered by registered voters in the General Election in November. The total amount to be placed on the ballot is \$104.5 million.

The Board took action on three separate items that will be on the ballot as separate questions, \$40.2 million for South Piedmont Community College (SPCC), \$10.1 million for construction of a new library in southwestern Union County, and \$54.2 million for Union County Public Schools (UCPS). Should the referendum be successful, the estimated tax impact will be a 3.13 cent tax increase (1.25 for SPCC, 0.28 for Library and 1.60 for UCPS) starting in FY 2018.

The \$40.2 million of bonds for SPCC will pay for construction, renovation improvement, equipping and furnishing of facilities and the potential acquisition of lands or rights-of-way.

The proposed \$10.1 million Southwestern Union Library bond will fund a full-service, modern public library with more than 35,000 square feet of space. The facility will be equipped with a robust collection of printed and electronic material suitable for all ages and areas of interest. It will also contain program space for meetings, special presentations and programs, tutoring, as well as areas for creativity. Public computers will be available for on-line research, browsing, and general information gathering. Finally, there will be a reading garden for those wishing to relax outdoors.

The \$54.2 million of bonds for UCPS will pay for the renovations, improvement and additions to Porter Ridge High School, Porter Ridge Middle School, Western Union Elementary School, Monroe High School, Sun Valley High School and Piedmont High School, the construction of a new transportation facility for UCPS, the acquisition of equipment and furnishings for the transportation facility and the potential acquisition of land or rights-of-way.