

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
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Subject: Transcript of Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley, March 20, 2023 county commission meeting.

The following are transcribed comments from **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley** [RINO] during the constituent concerns portion of the March 20, 2023 county commission Meeting. These comments are in response/retaliation against Van Walker, who spoke during the Public Comment period of the meeting. **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley** [RINO]’ entire response to Van Walker came from a prepared “queue card”, just like ‘Let’s Go Brandon’ uses. WTF?

Let’s compare the county approved minutes of what **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley** [RINO] said, verses a transcript of what he says.

From the minutes of that meeting (filtered by Amy Stevens) -

“ ... Chairman Ensley addressed concerns raised during public comment about harm reduction, stating that the syringe exchange program is a state program for which there is no local control. It was introduced and passed by Republican leadership at the state level. Commissioner Best noted that the Haywood County Commissioners signed a resolution on October 3, 2022 and sent it to the state legislature requesting local authority over the needle exchange program in the community.

Chairman Ensley addressed public comments regarding homelessness initiatives, stating that as a Christian, he cannot be against such programs. Chairman Ensley also addressed public comment by stating that the Commissioners stand up for the people of Haywood County as well as the county’s employees, including the Economic Development Director and the partnerships he has helped foster. He noted that the issues facing Commissioners are local, and concern local people and jobs, not political parties and affiliations. Chairman Ensley also thanked Vice-Chairman Rogers and Commissioner Long for making themselves available as Canton-based representatives during the crisis. ...”

Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley [RINO] start at 47:15.

47:15 [This whole next portion was read from a queue card by **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley**, so he had this entire response prepared in advance]. “Well, just some of the comments that were directed at me, uh, I’m gonna respond to those. Uh, The needle, or the syringe exchange program, is a State program. It would not exist if it were not for the State. We have no, we have no control over the health of the community is controlled by the State. They allow this to happen, and just to give you all some background, Jim Davis was a co-sponsor, He was one of the most conservative Senators we ever had. He co-sponsored that bill, for that. It was supported by Ralph Hise, who represents the Canton area now, a State senator who is very conservative, Michelle Presnell voted for that bill. All those, all our local delegation of Republicans voted for that bill. Bill Hollingsed, the Waynesville Police Chief, supported that legislation. Uh, Pat McCrory signed that. He was the governor at that time, he signed bill in 2016. So that’s why that program exists from the State, it’s not a county program. It may be an issue, but it is a STATE issue. So that’s the reason that - and I support that, because it is a state issue, and I support those law makers that passed that. I have the most [garbled - trouble reading his prompt queue] utmost respect for them. And their just trying to help people, and that’s, uh, and that program has expanded in the state, but it’s controlled by the

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. [*Video zooms in on me and Van Walker*]. I talked to the director there, or rather to the representative, she's from Cabarrus County, that sits - that chairs that committee, and she said that, uh, and she sent an email to me, and she understands, she gets the same kick-back and everything about it, but she supports the program. Uh, Chuck Edwards tried to introduce a Bill who when he was a Senator, a few years ago, to curb [garbled], but it didn't go anywhere. It died in committee. So, that's why this law is here for that, as far as the homeless situation, [still reading from the queue card], I am a Christian, and I'm - I remember - and I have a heart for people, and uh, I remember - in Luke 13:16, it talks about the beggar Lazarus, the beggar, and the rich man, and I can just remember the beggar was late at the gate, and he was carried to heaven by the angels. The beggar was a homeless guy at the time. And he was in heaven, and, and, so the rich man, was in heaven, and he wanted Lazarus, the nasty, homeless beggar man, to dip his finger into - to cool his tongue [*Video now switches to me, writing down the fact that Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley is quoting a Bible verse in an open county commission meeting, and Van Walker politely raising his hand*] at that time. So that's what my Christianity to do. I'm not gonna be like the rich man, and turn these people out and try to help them as much as I can. So, I'll never back down from that, I - I will not back down for my support from these programs, because they try to help people, and my Christianity will not allow it. So, that's about as strong as I can say that. [*Video switches again to me and Van Walker, who still has his hand politely raised*] [*Looking now at Van Walker*] and I know you have only lived here a few years - NO SIR, YOU ARE NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING, I know you've lived here only a few years, but we're up here, and stand up for our people, and we're gonna stand up for our Development Director, and our partnerships, because they work. [*Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley IS STILL READING!!!*] And we know they work, we see the things behind the scenes that make em work. And, it's not Left or Right - liberal or conservative, it's jobs, and that's what gonna try to get our people to the good paying jobs that they deserve.

50:50 [*Now switching gears and starting to talk about the paper mill closure*] I was contacted by Buncombe County and Transylvania County commissioners this past week, [*STILL READING FROM HIS QUEUE CARD*] and they offered to help, to help us any way they could, I had a Buncombe County commissioner contact me, and she said - If there's anything that they could do, to let us know and then I just got an email from the Transylvania Chairman of the Board of Commissioners there. They went through a similar problem, with [*Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley gets completely tongue-tied, just as he did when he attempted to say the word "adjudication" in a prior county commission meeting accousta?*] okay, when it closed, it was a plant that closed, I guess a few decades ago, and I told him that they were a good example of how you can rebound from a plant closing, because they really have done a great job in Harrison - Transylvania County with that and everything, but I've heard from others in the community, I know Brandon and Tommy have heard from a slew of people, and uh, and I appreciate, and I think our Board is blessed to have you two, on our board at this time, you were here during the flood, and that top part of the county, and you for this, and I just can't imagine uh, the friendship that you guys have being able to reach out and talk to these people and try to let them know that what all's being done for them. And we are lazar focused, as I said at the meeting, on making sure our people can get those jobs again. [*Going of the queue card*] My great grandfather went to the mill, actually, he lived in Jackson county and moved here to Clyde, so he could work at the mill, and my grandparents were at the mill, and my Dad worked with Jennifer's Dad at the Canton yard on Southern Railway. And my Dad was a train engineer, and I can remember [*taking off his glasses*] - every now and then, I probably shouldn't say this, but every now and then, my Dad would sneak me on the train, and that was the most boring thing, because you're really excited when you get on the train, and after about five minutes, going back and forth, on this track, cause what he did in the yard was - the chip mill - he would get the cars and line them up, to when the road train came through, they need to have them all lined up and so it took a lot of work to get them all lined up, and of course they were bringing cars - the empties, and so they had to do all that, so for about ten minutes, it was exciting, so for the rest of the day on the shift, it was basically hostage to going up and down the train track. I can appreciate my Dad's job.

But anyway, my Dad would not have worked - he would have worked on the railroad in Asheville, and he had to finish his career there because they closed the Canton yard in the 90's. I guess for whatever reason, Dad said - they started using a lot more - the trucks, is why that went away. So, but it's just - the mill closing - it's just head for all of us to get over this. ...”

End transcribe.

I hate doing transcripts, but in the end, they are so worth it.

The thing I never realized during the meeting was that **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley** [RINO] was reading the entire time from a queue card. He was prepared in advance for Van Walkers public comment.

WTF?

Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley [RINO] is wrong about the county not having local control of this issue.

It's clear that the NC State Constitution (Article II Sec. 24 (1) (a), leaves that responsibility with them (local County and City Governments) to enact local legislation "relating to health, sanitation, and the abatement of nuisances" (a.k.a. needle litter), and actually "prohibits" the NC General Assembly from enacting such legislation.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer