

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 18, 2016, at 10:00am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Tom Smith, Vice-Chair Karen Leys, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Lauren Linker.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and offered the Invocation.

Chair Smith mentioned a change to the Agenda, to remove closed session.

With that change being made. Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the agenda for this April 18, 2016, meeting. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, April 18, 2016
10:00 AM

- 10:00 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for April 18, 2016, Meeting
- 10:05 A. Lisa Tucker, retirement recognition and appreciation of service.
- 10:10 B. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator
1. March Releases and Refunds - Standard release and refund of both automobile and real property taxes due to reasons listed on the report. Actions Requested – Vote on releases and refunds.
 2. March Collections Report - Monthly 2016 collection rates compared to 2015 and 2014 monthly collection rates. No action requested.
 3. Enforced Collections Report – Summarizes enforced collections for the month of February 2016. No action requested.
 4. Payment Agreement Report - List of people with payment agreements who did not make payments. No action requested.
 5. Tax Office Budget Amendment – General Fund Budget Amendment #18 in the amount of \$1,500 to budget for additional postage material. Action Requested – Vote on the General Fund Budget Amendment #18 in the amount of \$1,500.
- 10:25 C. General Business
1. Health Insurance
The Municipal Insurance Trust (NC League of Municipalities) have quoted Alleghany County a 6.64% increase in Health Insurance with no changes in benefits. Mark III (County's insurance consultant) recommends that the County accept this bid. Action Requested—Vote on authorizing County staff to execute all documents necessary to switch County health insurance over to MIT.
 2. Department of Social Services Board Appointment
Commissioner Karen Leys' term on the DSS Board expires June 30, 2016. The DSS Board is requesting that the Board reappoint Commissioner Leys for another 3 year term. Action Requested – Vote to reappoint Commissioner Karen Leys to the Alleghany DSS Board.

3. Appointment of FNS Liaison
The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has recommended that each county appoint a Commissioner liaison to stay apprised of the North Carolina Food and Nutrition Services program.
Action requested—Vote to appoint a liaison.
 4. Alleghany Council on Aging (ACOA)
ACOA has requested to be appointed the Lead Agency for the Home and Community Care Block Grant. Action Requested—Vote on appointing Alleghany Council on Aging as the lead agency for the Home and Community Care Block Grant.
 5. Veterans Park Security Budget Amendment
General Fund Budget Amendment # 19 in the amount of \$1,574 to budget for facility security at Veterans Park. Action Requested—Vote on General Fund Budget Amendment # 19 in the amount of \$1,574.
 6. Recreation Budget Amendment
General Fund Budget Amendment # 20 in the amount of \$4,908 to budget for the swimming pool epoxy that was voted on at April 4, 2016 meeting. Action Requested—Vote on General Fund Budget Amendment # 20 in the amount of \$4,908.
 7. Sheriff's Department Budget Amendment
General Fund Budget Amendment # 21 in the amount of \$1,323 due to insurance proceeds. Action Requested—Vote on General Fund Budget Amendment # 21 in the amount of \$1,323.
 8. Maintenance/Repair Budget Amendment
General Fund Budget Amendment # 22 in the amount of \$3,000 to budget for the repair at the transfer facility. Action Requested—Vote on General Fund Budget Amendment # 22 in the amount of \$3,000.
 9. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget
A summary of the requested FY 16/17 budget will be presented. The summary will include departmental totals, personnel requests, capital requests and any new requests. No action requested.
- D. Public Comments—30 minutes
 - E. Commissioners Comments
 - F. Closed Session – NCGS 143.318.11 (a) (3)-Legal and (a) (6)-Personnel (Removed)
 - G. Adjourn

Rita Miller, Tax Administrator, presented the March auto refunds under the vehicle tax system (VTS) with a total on \$913.64.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the March VTS auto refunds. Commissioner Irwin seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Rita Miller Presented the March auto releases under the old system in the amount of \$297.13.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve March auto releases from the old system. Commissioner Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller presented the March auto refunds under the old system in the amount of \$66.87.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the March auto refunds under the old system. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller presented the March 2016 real property releases. She explained there were 2 foreclosures with no bids so they now belonged to the county and the Tax Office has to release the lean on them making the total for March be \$7,759.52.

Chair Smith asked if the Blue Ridge Group still existed.

Rita Miller explained no that the corporation had dissolved and now the only way to collect was by foreclosure on the property.

Commissioner Evans asked what would be done with the two that were not sold.

Rita Miller Explained the options, either hold the property and try to resale at a later date or to list it with a realtor.

Commissioner Evans clarified that the Board would be a part of the decision when it came that time.

County Manager Don Adams assured the Board that they would be involved and have many more discussions on how to deal with situations like this.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the March real property releases. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the option for the county to pay the home owners association in situations like this, but then the understanding is if it's paid for the County should be able to use the amenities.

Commissioner Evans agreed it makes sense if it is paid for, someone should get the benefit from it.

Commissioner Irwin asked does the planning board have the ability to hold the homeowners association accountable to get the taxes paid.

County Attorney Donna Shumate explained the planning board has never addressed the issue. She also stated that she didn't think they have the authority to do what is being suggested.

Rita Miller presented the March real property refunds in the amount of \$456.02.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the March real property refunds. Commissioner Leys seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Rita Miler presented the March collections report and the enforced collections report.

Rita Miller discussed the General Fund budget amendment # 18 in the amount of \$1,500 needed due to a shortage in postage. There is a new requirement of notification which has used a lot of the allotted postage.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #18 in the amount of \$1,500. Commissioner Irwin seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams went over the Health Insurance options and what the recommended option was with The Municipal Insurance Trust (MIT). MIT will only have an increase of 6.46% with pretty much the same coverage instead of staying with the current increase of 11%.

Chair Smith stated that the County Manager seemed to be getting good feedback and asked if the Department Heads seem comfortable with it.

Commissioner Evans asked what the MARK III representative was referring to when an employee fails to follow the wellness program and there being a 10% penalty if not followed.

County Manager Don Adams explained that if an employee goes through a physical and something turns up that needs further attention, but the employee does not follow what the doctors said then yes it can cause a financial penalty for the employee.

Commissioner Evans stated so it's a more proactive approach to health insurance.

Commissioner Leys said it's a very similar event to what the state plan is doing. I worry though will the employees get notification before they will be penalized.

County Manager Don Adams we will do everything we can to let the employees know.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to switch Health insurance to Municipal Insurance Trust. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained what the letter in the packet is from Lisa Osborne the DSS Director asking that the Board reappoint Commissioner Leys to the DSS Board for another term.

Commissioner Evans thanked Commissioner Leys for her service and work with this group.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Leys to the DSS Board. Commissioner Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has recommended that each county appoint a Commissioner liaison to stay apprised of the North Carolina Food and Nutrition Services program and that Commissioner Leys had volunteered, but asked if there was any discussion needed.

Commissioner Leys explained that there are strict guidelines that have to be met in dealing with this group. She went on to say that this county does a great job of adhering to the guidelines, but because some of the other counties don't. They are looking at penalizing us all. They just need someone to stand up and not let that happen.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to appoint Commissioner Leys as the FNS (Food and Nutrition Services) Liaison. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained why the Council on Aging was asking to be the lead agency.

Chair Smith said the Council on Aging has always been a lead agency.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to make the Alleghany Council on Aging the lead agency for the Home and Community Care Block Grant. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the General Fund budget amendment #19 was for the security cameras at Veterans Park in the amount of \$1,574.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #19. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the General Fund budget amendment #20 in the amount of \$4,908 was to budget for the swimming pool epoxy.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment # 20. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the General Fund budget amendment #21 in the amount of \$1,323 was due to insurance proceeds.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment # 21. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the General Fund budget amendment #22 in the amount of \$3,000 was for the maintenance and repair line.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #22 Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Smith opened the floor for public comments. None were received. He closed that portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Irwin said last week he honored a Wilkes Community College student who had received 2 different degrees while in high school. He encouraged Alleghany County students to do the same. He also reminded everyone about the Veterans Park Wall Dedication that will be taking place next Tuesday April 26, 2016 beginning at 4 pm.

Commissioner Leys thanked everyone for their work on the Veterans Park Dedication. She also informed the Board that she would like to ask to send letters of appreciation to the hard workers for the beautification of the town. She went on to talk about a recent meeting she had attended about the new Medicaid reform and that many people were speaking against the new reform.

Commissioner Evans talked about the Partnership for Children's big donation and their move to a new facility. He explained that the Partnership is trying to get recognition for all the services they provide.

Being no further business, Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Tom Smith
Chair