

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 3, 2010, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Ken Richardson, Commissioner Doug Murphy, Commissioner Milly Richardson, Commissioner Steve Roten, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. Vice-Chair Randy Miller was present but arrived late.

Chair Ken Richardson called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the agenda for this May 3, 2010, meeting. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

### AGENDA

Monday, May 3, 2010  
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
  - Motion on Agenda for May 3, 2010, meeting
  - Motion on Minutes for April 19, 2010, meeting
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
- B. Public Hearing
  - RE: Pawn Broker Ordinance
- C. Bob Bamberg
  - RE: Blue Ridge Parkway 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- D. Amy Lucas
  - RE: Fair Request
- E. Larry Davis
  - RE: Maintenance, Animal Control and Transfer Facility budgets
- F. John McCray
  - RE: JCPC 2010/11 Grant Application
  - JCPC Annual Report
- G. Sparta-Alleghany Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report
- H. County Business
  - 1. Budget Amendments—Salary Grade Changes
  - 2. Budget Amendments—Mapping/911 Departments
  - 3. Budget Amendment—Social Services Crisis Public Assistance
  - 4. Budget Amendment—Insurance Proceeds
  - 5. Long Term Care Advisory Committee
  - 6. Explosive Materials Ordinance
  - 7. Planning Board Request—Driveway Permits
  - 8. New River Behavioral Healthcare Board Appointment
  - 9. Insurance Renewal Agreements
  - 10. Budget Meetings
  - 11. Other Business
  - 12. Adjourn

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2010, meeting. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Randy Miller arrived at 6:32pm.

Chair Ken Richardson asked for public comments. None were received. He closed the public comments portion of the meeting.

County Manager Don Adams stated that the Board has the proposed pawn broker ordinance in their packets, and the ordinance has been available to the public. He quickly reviewed the highlights of the ordinance.

Chair Ken Richardson stated he had questions about the annual fee associated with the ordinance.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the pawn broker ordinance at 6:34pm. He asked for public comments.

Ryan Lane came before the Board to discuss the pawn broker ordinance. He explained that he will be running the pawn shop and has questions about the ordinance, mainly the fee. He further explained the different types of licenses required for a pawn shop to operate and the annual fees associated with the operation not including the County fee.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and County Manager Don Adams discussed the fee in the proposed ordinance was from another county's ordinance.

Chair Ken Richardson asked for further comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:38pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about his concern for the annual permit fee in the ordinance.

County Manager Don Adams stated that the permit will go through the Planning Department and the Sheriff's Department will spend the most amount of time in this process.

Commissioner Doug Murphy talked about the amount of fees that is required.

Commissioner Steve Roten asked what other things the Board can compare this fee to.

County Manager Don Adams stated that maybe this fee could be compared to a zoning permit application, which is \$50.

Chair Ken Richardson explained his concern about the permit fee and the positive benefits that the county will receive through the operation of a new business.

He further explained that higher permit fees it will hamper business growth.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the amount of work associated with issuing the permit.

Chair Ken Richardson and County Attorney Donna Shumate talked about having a one-time \$100 application fee then an annual fee of \$25 or \$50.

The Board stated that they don't have a problem with that as long as this fee isn't higher than other business fees that the County charges.

Ryan Lane stated that he doesn't understand why the fee is charged. He pointed out that a bond is required.

County Manager Don Adams recommended changing the wording to making the fee the same all of the way through the ordinance.

Chair Ken Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about making the start-up fee and annual fee \$50.

Commissioner Steve Roten and Ryan Lane talked about the location of the pawn shop being the old pipe factory.

Commissioner Doug Murphy, Commissioner Steve Roten and County Manager Don Adams discussed the County does not have a business license program. The County Manager explained that the bond will have to be reviewed by the attorney to ensure all state laws are met.

County Attorney Donna Shumate stated that the Board can adopt this ordinance with the wording change as noted.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to accept the ordinance with a one-time application fee of \$50 and annual fee of \$25. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Ryan Lane asked for permission to submit his application and explained why he is asking to submit it tonight.

County Manager Don Adams stated this isn't an ordinance until it is recorded, which it will be recorded tomorrow morning. He talked about the application process in the ordinance.

Ryan Lane reiterated his reason to submit the application tonight.

Chair Ken Richardson asked the County Attorney to research whether the Board can allow the County Manager to continue the process by accepting/approving the application.

Bob Bamberg came before the Board to talk about the Blue Ridge Parkway's request for their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He talked about a letter received by the County Manager asking for community participation and ideas already being discussed by the committee. He explained the community participation ideas in the letter. He further explained that they need an answer by mid-May whether Allegheny County is participating.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Bob Bamberg talked about the committee is the same group of people who was the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee. Bob Bamberg explained that there were 17 people at the last meeting, and they are meeting on the fourth Mondays at 4pm at the Town Council Chambers.

Commissioner Milly Richardson motion to move forward with this project. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Bob Bamberg asked for one Commissioner to serve on a subcommittee to select the honorary representative.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that he has served on the 150<sup>th</sup> committee and would like to continue to serve on the Blue Ridge Parkway committee. He further stated that Bob Bamberg would welcome any Commissioner that would like to serve on the subcommittee.

County Attorney Donna Shumate explained to the Commissioners that according to the reading of the ordinance, the Board of Commissioners must approve the application. She further explained the Board could recess this meeting until Wednesday and then take up the matter if everything is submitted and properly reviewed.

Amy Lucas came before the Board to request start-up funds for the fair. She explained the reasons why they are requesting the start-up funds.

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated that there is about \$800 in the account, and insurance will cost approximately \$575. He asked what the amount of the request is.

Amy Lucas answered \$3,700. She explained that they have deferred \$3,000 of expenses. She talked about the two things that has to be paid is insurance and gate transaction monies. She stated that they are asking for some assistance to get started.

Chair Ken Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about how this impacts the County budget. The County Manager explained that this is separate from the fairgrounds, two events didn't occur last year, and they had a similar request a few years ago.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about this jeopardizes the fair without start-up money. Amy Lucas agreed.

County Manager Don Adams and Amy Lucas talked about \$4,600 went back to

the people in the county during the fair.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams discussed the insurance at the fairgrounds and the County's insurance only covers the County not participates or events.

County Manager Don Adams and Amy Lucas talked about having a bulk insurance policy.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to grant the \$3,700 to the Allegheny County Fair Committee for start-up monies. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Larry Davis, Public Works Director, came before the Board to discuss pay grade changes including the maintenance workers be upgraded to pay grade 60 and equalizing both positions.

Chair Ken Richardson and Larry Davis talked about the reasons for requesting this change.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the third person justifications and maintenance workers are in grades 56 and 58 doing the same job.

Larry Davis talked about taking the animal control position from grade 57 to grade 59 and his work at the Transfer Facility.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Larry Davis talked about this position is 50% animal control and 50% at the Transfer Facility.

Commissioner Steve Roten asked about taking the person up to a grade 60 to be even with the maintenance workers.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Larry Davis talked about the years of experience for the animal control officer.

Larry Davis presented information for the Transfer Facility attendants going from a grade 57 to a grade 59 because certifications are now required and both people are certified, Transfer Facility equipment operators from grade 60 to grade 61 because of the required certifications, Public Works Director be upgraded to grade 67 from grade 64 because of the additional duties and ways his job has changed. He talked about these jobs haven't been reviewed in 10 years.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the numbers for the requests; maintenance \$5,072.65, animal control \$241.38, Transfer Facility \$5,588.24 for a total of \$10,902.27.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve the requests by Larry Davis. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion.

Commissioner Steve Roten reiterated that he thinks the Board should look at Animal Control.

Commissioner Randy Miller restated his motion to include the animal control officer at a grade 60. Commissioner Doug Murphy amended second. Vote 5:0.

John McCray came before the Board to present the 2010/11 JCPC funding in the amount of \$71,874; \$68,232 from the State and \$11,024 from the County. He explained that the State is looking for money, and there may be a 5% decrease like last year. He reviewed how much the 5% would impact the JCPC program, and if the JCPC program receives the 5% cut then they will have to cut Alleghany Connections. He talked about the different programs that they have selected to fund this year.

Chair Ken Richardson and County Manager Don Adams discussed approving the larger amount because if the State comes back with a reduction, the Finance Officer watches for the decrease and then adjusts the numbers.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the JCPC grant. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

John McCray encouraged the Board to fund Alleghany Connections because the State has taken a lot of their funding away.

Gary Finney, Sparta-Alleghany Volunteer Fire Department Chief, came before the Board to present their annual report. He reviewed the roster and their certifications, number/types of calls, response times, time on the scene, number of training hours, number of work detail hours, having enough turnout gear and radios for members, number/types of vehicles and equipment, income/expenses. He stated their appreciation to the Board for their continual support.

Chair Ken Richardson and Gary Finney talked about the number of hours required by the State and adding all of the hours per member. They talked about the number of calls/minutes summary.

The Board stated their appreciation for the fire department's work.

County Manager Don Adams stated that the next series of budget amendments are a result of the recent salary grade changes from the last meeting.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment Transfer Facility #3 in the amount of \$524 for job reclassification. He stated that the revenue line needs to be changed to appropriated fund balance, 73-399-0000.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment Transfer Facility #3 in the amount of \$524. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund \$25 in the amount of \$797 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund \$25 in the amount of \$797. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #26 in the amount of \$729 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #26 in the amount of \$729. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #27 in the amount of \$3,568 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #27 in the amount of \$3,568. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #28 in the amount of \$466 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #28 in the amount of \$466. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #29 in the amount of \$718 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #29 in the amount of \$718. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #30 in the amount of \$3,155 for job reclassifications.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #30 in the amount of \$3,155. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #31 in the amount of (\$8,043) and E911 Fund #4 in the amount of \$8,043 for the net clock. He explained that these budget amendments go together because the net clock was put in the General Fund and now it is an allowable 911 expense so these budget amendments are taking the money out of the General Fund and putting it in the E911 Fund.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #31 in the amount of (\$8,043). Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment E911 Fund #4 in the amount of \$8,043. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #32 in the amount of \$10,000 for crisis assistance from the State.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #32 in the amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #33 in the amount of \$466 for insurance proceeds for an accident involving a deer.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #33 in the amount of \$466. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from High Country Council of Governments requesting that Vivian Valdes-Fauli be appointed to the Alleghany County Community Advisory Committee for Long-Term Care.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained that a revised ordinance for the permitting of explosive materials businesses had been included in the Commissioners' packets. He explained that these revisions are to comply with State law that changed regarding fireworks and the County is to issue fireworks permits now. He stated that this ordinance is for the Board's review, and he is requesting permission to advertise for a public hearing the first meeting in June.

The Board agreed.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from the Travis Dalton regarding DOT requires a minimum of 550 feet of sight distance each way on a 55 mph road for an entrance permit. He talked about how this requirement is being enforced in Alleghany County, and the Planning Board is requesting help from the Commissioners by sending a letter to DOT requesting some action take place to have this rule changed or enforced equally among the mountain counties. He reviewed the discussion among the Planning Board.

Commissioner Steve Roten and County Manager Don Adams talked about the Planner is currently investigating whether this is being enforced fairly.

Chair Ken Richardson asked about sending a letter out.

The Board agreed.

Chair Ken Richardson made a motion to approve Commissioner Randy Miller to serve on the New River Behavioral Healthcare Board. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion.

Commissioner Steve Roten asked doesn't the County already have one Commissioner on the Board.

Commissioner Milly Richardson answered yes because she is currently filling the at-large member position. She stated that if Randy Miller doesn't take it, she will.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Commissioner Randy Miller talked about Commissioner Miller would like to serve on the board.

Commissioner Steve Roten stated that he thinks that one Commissioner is enough on the Board.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that we are very lucky to have two Commissioners interested in serving.

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated that he thinks Randy Miller will do a good job. He asked has there been any feedback from the board.

Commissioner Milly Richardson stated no.

The Board voted on motion on floor. Vote 4:1 (Steve Roten).

County Manager Don Adams talked about insurance renewal agreements and budget meetings. He summarized the potential renewal costs for property and liability at \$85,920 which includes the EMS incident, Workers Comp \$138,367, Medical a 9.1% increase or \$74,265 then take out reimbursements of \$14,002 for a costs of \$60,263. He reminded the Board that the insurance decision must be made by the first of June. He talked about scheduling a meeting to discuss the insurance renewals and solid waste.

Chair Ken Richardson reminded everyone that they had to extend the Board of E&R until Wednesday at 6:30pm.

The Board discussed dates and decided on May 12 at 6:30pm for the insurance renewal and solid waste discussions.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about he and Randy Miller can hopefully meet before then to be able to submit their recommendations at that meeting.

County Manager Don Adams asked the Board to start scheduling their budget meetings to hear from departments and agencies. He stated that he will be presenting the budget to the Board on June 1.

The Board discussed dates to start budget meetings and decided to start on June 1 at 6:30pm and then decide when to meet after that.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about on Monday, April 26, he and the County Manager along with others went to Raleigh to present to the Department of Commerce everything that Alleghany County has to offer. He further talked about writing a letter of thanks for the opportunity to present the information. He asked if anyone has a problem sending this letter to let him or the County Manager know.

Commissioner Doug Murphy talked about how he and Ken Richardson had been looking at plaques to honor Joe Roberts at a future time.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about they are talking about some time around September to have something at the Law Enforcement Center and to present to his family. He further talked about looking at doing something larger for this building to honor all Commissioners from the last 50 years.

Commissioner Doug Murphy asked if there is anyone against this.

The Board agreed to proceed.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to close hearing merit increases after the next meeting. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson recessed this meeting at 7:50 pm until Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson  
Chairman