

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 4, 2009, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

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

Chair Ken Richardson called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Randy Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that the local coordination plan needs to be added to the agenda with Alleghany in Motion.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the amended agenda for this May 4, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA

Monday, May 4, 2009

6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order
Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
Motion on Agenda for May 4, 2009, meeting
Motion on Minutes for April 20, and April 21, 2009, meetings
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
B. Public Hearing
RE: E-911 Road Names
C. Public Hearing
RE: ARRA Grant Application/Alleghany in Motion
Local Coordination Plan (added)
D. Dr. Ashley Weekes
RE: Dental Recruitment Contract
Dental Services
E. Veterans Office Annual Report
F. JCPC Annual Report
G. Sparta-Alleghany Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report
H. County Business
1. NCDOT Resolution
2. NCDOT Vehicles
3. Water Authority Resolution
4. Budget Meetings Schedule
5. Jail Budget Amendment
6. EMS-Lease Budget Amendment
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 20, and April 21, 2009, meetings. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

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

Wendy Williams, E-911 Coordinator/Mapper, came before the Board to present one new road name and one renaming of a road. She explained each road's location and the purpose of renaming a road in the Joe Place subdivision.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the 911 road names at 6:36pm.

Chair Ken Richardson asked for public comments. None were received.

Chair Ken Richardson closed the public hearing at 6:37pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the road names as presented by the E-911 Coordinator/Mapper. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

April Hamm, Allegheny in Motion Director, came before the Board to present information regarding the ARRA application. She talked about including preventive maintenance on the vans for 24 months, facilities equipment replacements and replacing the roof on the maintenance bay. She explained that the total is \$38,117 with no county match because it is all federal funds.

Chair Ken Richardson and April Hamm talked about staying within their guidelines.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the ARRA application at 6:40pm.

Chair Ken Richardson asked for public comments. None were received.

Chair Ken Richardson closed the public hearing at 6:41pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

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

April Hamm presented the local coordination plan. She stated that this has to be in place to apply for stimulus funds. She explained that a meeting was held with all of the human service entities to identify gaps in transportation services, and this coordination plan is what came out of that meeting. She talked about a survey was sent

to all agencies that could not participate in the meeting. She reviewed page 18 under actions that is a result of the plan. She talked about applying for a Section 5310 grant, and the State is reviewing that application at this time.

Chair Ken Richardson and April Hamm discussed her satisfaction with the plan, and it showed other areas where transportation services are needed. She explained the need for the Board to adopt the plan.

Commissioner Randy Miller and April Hamm discussed that they invited anyone who has anything to do with transportation to the meeting.

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

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated his appreciation for applying for these monies.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about someone talking with her about staff providing services outside the hours of 8:00 to 5:00.

Commissioner Doug Murphy talked about the number of positive comments that deal with transportation that he receives.

County Manager Don Adams introduced Dr. Ashely Weekes who will be providing dental services in Alleghany County. He reiterated to the Board that the educational loan agreement/contract will provide \$21,000; \$15,000 from the County and \$6,000 from the Town. He reminded everyone that the County had applied for a \$36,000 grant to assist with the renovation project.

Chair Ken Richardson formally welcomed Dr. Weekes to the community.

Dr. Ashely Weekes stated that she wanted to thank the Commissioners and the County Manager for making it possible for her to come here. She explained that she has shadowed Dr. Johnson, traveled to the mountains during the summer and has always wanted to practice in a rural area. She explained that she is thankful for everyone's support, and everyone has been very supportive. She talked about the renovations for her facility at 507 North Main Street which will open on July 1. She explained her mission statement for the practice and using all new technology from digital x-rays, computers in every room to virtually paperless patient records. She said the office will be open 8:30am to 5:00pm.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Ashley Weekes talked about she will be providing dental services to children.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about a lot of residents travel out of town for dental services, and he is delighted she is here.

The Board reiterated their appreciation.

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

County Manager Don Adams told Dr. Weekes that people are calling wanting to know how to get in touch with you for appointments and employment.

Ashley Weekes stated that the phone number is 372-3434 and website is www.spartasmiles.com.

Sam Nichols, Veterans Service Officer, came before the Board to present his annual report. He explained his location/hours. He stated that he does home visits on Tuesday and Thursday. He talked about his training and certifications including receiving his certification about a year ago that requires continuing education. He talked about the benefits available for veterans and their family members. He explained that he has assisted over 700 veterans with questions, 500 claims submitted from his office to the VA office. He said that there are 1,200-1,400 veterans living here now. He talked about the expenditures have increased quite a bit since 2007.

Commissioner Milly Richardson thanked him for his services.

Chair Ken Richardson and Sam Nichols talked about the veteran population continues to grow. They discussed that people does not have to have an Alleghany County address to get these services because he sees people from other places but mainly Alleghany County.

Kay Luffman came on behalf of the JCPC to present their annual report. She explained that this is a grant program that is administered by volunteers. She talked about the services provided/clients served. She further talked about funding has been cut by 10% last month from the State. She explained that they are serving more kids than before. She talked about the after school counseling program.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Kay Luffman discussed the after school counseling program.

Kay Luffman explained each program offered through JCPC.

Terry McGrady, Chief with Sparta-Alleghany Volunteer Fire Department, reviewed his handout showing the total revenues and expenses, list of calls and types, response times, average of 15 members per call, roster with years of service and training hours plus work detail hours.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that he, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, would like to publicly thank you and your department for handling the EMS building fire.

The Board thanked Terry McGrady and David Edwards.

County Manager Don Adams presented a resolution from NCDOT. He explained

the resolution and the need for it regarding Highway 18 near Osborne Road.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented information about purchasing vehicles from NCDOT. He reminded everyone that NCDOT is holding a sale in August which brings in a lot of visitors. He said prior to taking this request to the fairgrounds board, he asked about obtaining vehicles for the County, and they offered a couple of vehicles at a reduced rate. He described two vehicles that are in good shape; Ford Ranger 66,000 miles for \$1,200 and Ford F-250 90,000 miles for \$2,000. He explained the needs for these vehicles; one being used for cleaning and one for animal control. He further explained this action would free up the blue Chevy for the recreation department to use it to haul their mowers.

The Board and County Manager Don Adams talked about animal control using a smaller truck.

County Manager Don Adams explained as of right now we can pull the money out of the maintenance budget but may need the money later.

Commissioner Milly Richardson asked if this is the County Manager's recommendation.

County Manager Don Adams agreed, and said the County should get half of this amount when the others are sold.

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

County Manager Don Adams presented a resolution regarding the water authority. He said that this is a request from them regarding an easement that the water authority is maintaining. He explained that this resolution is recognizing this easement.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the resolution as presented by the County Manager. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams asked the Board about when they would like to schedule the public hearing about the budget.

The Board agreed on June 30 at 6:30pm.

County Manager Don Adams asked the Board to discuss dates for their budget meetings. He talked about the Board will probably need more meetings than normal.

Chair Ken Richardson asked about the week of June 22.

Commissioner Milly Richardson said she doesn't understand why departments will be coming after knowing our bad situation.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about the Board has four options. He explained that the things the Board hears may help decide which way to go.

The Board and County Manager Don Adams talked about dates and times.

The Board decided to hold budget meetings on June 9, 10, 11, and the week of June 22 starting at 6:00pm.

County Manager Don Adams presented General Fund budget amendment #32 in the amount of \$44,000. He explained that this is due to housing federal inmates.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #32 in the amount of \$44,000. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented General Fund budget amendment #33 in the amount of \$14,500 for lease payments being reimbursed through the insurance company for EMS. He explained that this is for rent for three months for EMS and \$2,500 for insurance. He further explained that the insurance will be prorated for the amount of time EMS is at the Bedsaul property.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #33 in the amount of \$14,500. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Randy Miller stated the need to look at this upcoming budget. He said he doesn't want the County's fund balance to drop but the County may need to drop some more of it during this time of need.

Commissioner Doug Murphy asked about the concept to transfer secondary roads to counties that is in the General Assembly.

Chair Ken Richardson explained that he thinks it is basically dead.

Commissioner Steve Roten talked about Brandon Keener visited Mr. Joines' property and measured 27 acres. He asked does the Board need to act on this.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that he thinks Mrs. Walker needs to bring it to us.

County Manager Don Adams stated that she is going to take care of it, and she is going to present it as information to the Board.

Chair Ken Richardson explained that this is information that came from the Board of E&R last week. He further explained that the Board asked the Forestry Service to do a study of the property is what Commissioner Roten is talking about.

Chair Ken Richardson said that he provided the Board a packet of information regarding the bills that affect counties. He explained that Mrs. Evans can pull up information on a daily basis to see the status if anyone is interested.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about the Community Eye Care benefit for employees provided through the NCACC that doesn't cost anything.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about the Chief Justice coming to Alleghany County on May 16. He encouraged everyone to attend. He talked about he needs the Board's support to allow him and the County Manager to move forward with planning and that will require some funding but they are trying to keep it at a minimum. He said if anyone objects to this, let him know.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to give you support. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson reiterated that this is a rare opportunity and encouraged everyone to arrange schedules to attend.

Being no further business, Chair Ken Richardson made a motion to adjourn at 7:37pm. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson
Chairman