

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 5, 2008, 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 Warren Taylor, Commissioner Randy Miller, Commissioner Doug Murphy, Commissioner Milly Richardson, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans.

Chair Ken Richardson called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Warren Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that Item D needs to be removed from the agenda and a closed session for economic development needs to be added to the agenda and Commissioner Miller asked to allow Betty Cook to speak to the Commissioners before County Business.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the amended agenda for this May 5, 2008, meeting. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, May 5, 2008
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order
Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
Motion on Agenda for May 5, 2008, meeting
Motion on Minutes for April 16, April 16 and April 21, 2008, meetings
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
B. Sharon Cahn
RE: CJPP Application
C. Kay Luffman
RE: JCPC Application
D. Jane Wainscot (removed)
RE: Tower Clock at Courthouse
E. Linda Hash
RE: Personnel Request
F. Veterans Annual Report
G. Sparta-Alleghany Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report
H. Board of Education Annual Report
I. Betty Cook (added)
J. County Business
1. QZAB Project Ordinance
2. Budget Amendment—Animal Control
3. Budget Amendment—Recreation

4. Budget Amendment—Governing Bodies
5. Budget Amendment—Transfer Facility
6. Recycling Contract
7. Schedule Budget Meeting
8. NCACC District Meeting Briefing
9. Other Business
10. Closed Session-NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4)-economic development
(added)
11. Adjourn

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 16, April 16 and April 21, 2008, meetings. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

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

Sharon Cahn came before the Board to present the 2008/09 Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) application. She explained that the CJPP Board is asking for grant application approval between New River Behavioral Healthcare (NRBH) and Alleghany County.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the grant amount is \$48,271. He reviewed a list of services provided by NRBH.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 5:0.

Kay Luffman came before the Board to present the 2008/09 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) program. She explained that the State allocates a set amount of money for juveniles that are in trouble with the law. She further explained that the State amount is \$59,994 with the County match being \$11,042. She said that she is requesting the County match for the JCPC program.

Commissioner Warren Taylor and Kay Luffman discussed the Rainbow Center's allocation and the purpose of the Center.

County Manager Don Adams explained the Rainbow Center is the last step before juvenile detention.

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

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

Linda Hash with the Soil and Water department came before the Commissioners to make a request from the Soil and Water Board. She explained that the Soil and Water Board voted to recognize Janie Woodle. She further explained the EEP program, rollover line item in Soil and Water budget and the County Manager didn't feel comfortable signing off on the purchase order.

Chair Ken Richardson and Linda Hash discussed the line items in the Soil and Water budget that isn't County money and how those line items work.

County Manager Don Adams stated the reason he didn't sign the purchase order was because of the restrictions on the budget ordinance stating he can't sign off on salary adjustments. He said that this is in the form of a cash bonus of \$1,000, and he doesn't have the authority to approve salary adjustments. He talked about the rollover lines in other departments as well as in the Soil and Water department.

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

Sam Nichols, Veterans Service Officer, presented his annual report. He explained the location of his office, hours and services offered. He talked about the requirements of his job, trainings completed and certifications received. He talked about services available to veterans and their families. He further talked about the number of veterans and families assisted during the year and the number of veterans in the county. He thanked the Board for their time and attention.

Commissioner Milly Richardson told Mr. Nichols that he does a good job.

Commissioner Warren Taylor and Sam Nichols talked about he assists any veteran that comes in regards of where they live.

Terry McGrady, Chief of Sparta-Alleghany Fire Department, presented their annual report. He reviewed information including the roster, training hours, number/types of calls, budget information and a list of equipment including their trucks.

Chair Ken Richardson and Terry McGrady discussed how the Fire Responders response to calls.

The Board of Commissioners stated their appreciation to the fire department.

Dr. Jeff Cox, Superintendent, presented the Board of Education's annual report. He reviewed overall initiatives/achievements and individual school highlights. He invited the Board to visit each of the schools.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and Dr. Cox discussed how the Smart Boards work.

Betty Cook came before the Board to express their appreciation of the summer

care monies. She talked about they agreed to charge \$325 with parents paying \$65 then DSS picks up the rest. She explained that they have submitted a letter stating that the parent fees are supposed to double in the summer. She further explained how this impacts parents involved in her daycare, and DSS is asking for a letter about the parent fee is doubled. She said the parents asked her to come ask for help. She explained the childcare fees. She said she doesn't know what to tell the parents. She gave more examples how the \$325 and double parent fees are impacting parents.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Betty Cook talked about this takes place when school gets out.

Commissioner Warren Taylor and Betty Cook talked about daycare fees.

John Blevins, DSS Director, and Lisa Osborne, Social Worker Supervisor, addressed the fee doubles because parents are paying for full days instead of half days. They explained that this is not a local decision, but a State decision. They further explained that each family amount is based on income and nothing is different this year than last year. They talked about Betty Cook agreed to the reduced rate; parent fee has always been there and doubles in the summer. They explained how they figured the money per child for summer care. They discussed funding for this year versus last year and the meeting of the providers to discuss how much money would be needed.

County Manager Don Adams used examples about how much money DSS would subsidize the average family last year and this year. He talked about Betty Cook taking a lesser amount is how DSS came up with the money amount to ask for at the recent meeting.

John Blevins and Lisa Osborne talked about summer care and parent fees always double in the summer.

Commissioner Milly Richardson asked if everything remained the same this year as last year they would have asked for a greater amount.

John Blevins agreed and stated that he would have to run the numbers to determine how much more. He explained how the numbers were figured.

Betty Cook talked about when the parent rate doubled, DSS would give them \$433, is how it has worked in the past.

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated that he was hoping the savings would be passed onto the parents.

Betty Cook stated that she has 11 parents that the double fee affects.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about this Board did something that no other board has done in making the \$30,000 available.

Betty Cook agreed.

Chair Ken Richardson reiterated that it is a State issue about doubling fee.

Betty Cook asked didn't they change State law by accepting \$325 rather than \$433, so why not waive the double fee.

Chair Ken Richardson asked do the parents understand it isn't the local DSS board doing this.

Betty Cook talked about how the fees have been over the years.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he would have to defer to John Blevins about what is State law and what isn't. He talked about DSS reduced costs from \$303 to \$185 and leaving the parents fees doubled. He further talked about \$30,000 only covers what we are explaining here and if the Board wants to change this it will take more money.

John Blevins explained that he didn't have time to get numbers together because Don Adams called him at 4:45pm this afternoon about coming to this meeting.

Chair Ken Richardson asked to get the numbers together to bring them back at the next meeting.

Commissioner Randy Miller stated this wasn't the way it was presented before.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and Lisa Osborne discussed the number of daycares affected.

John Blevins stated that he can get the numbers for the next meeting.

Commissioner Warren Taylor and John Blevins talked about the number of kids that this would apply to.

County Manager Don Adams and John Blevins talked about no other county contributes to this parent fee.

Chair Ken Richardson asked John Blevins to bring this back at the next meeting.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and John Blevins talked about this affects 54 children.

County Manager Don Adams presented the QZAB project ordinance in the amount of \$2,030,000. He explained that the QZAB loan was closed last week. He reviewed the project ordinance breakdown. He explained that these monies have been set up in a different checking account because all monies including sales tax and interest have to be spent on these projects.

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated his appreciation to the County Manager for

his hard work on this.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the QZAB project ordinance. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams asked for permission to schedule a public hearing about transferring all the school property to the County. He explained that Allegheny County can claim sales tax reimbursements but the schools can't. He talked about sales tax can be claimed on Allegheny High School and Sparta Elementary School because the County owns the property but not Glade Creek Elementary School and Piney Creek Elementary School because the Board of Education owns them. He explained how this would work to claim the sales tax. He said he will schedule the public hearing unless the Board has any objections.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #34 in the amount of \$3,682. He explained that this is for dog euthanasia. He further explained that this is for the entire contract at the animal shelter not just euthanasia.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #34 in the amount of \$3,682. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #35 in the amount of \$23,028 for pool renovations. He explained that is to budget already approved expenses.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #35 in the amount of \$23,028. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #36 in the amount of \$4,034. He explained that this is for needing additional attorney services.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #36 in the amount of \$4,034. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment Transfer Facility #2 in the amount of \$7,940. He explained that this is for the contract that was approved at the previous meeting.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve budget amendment Transfer Facility #2 in the amount of \$7,940. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained our existing contract for recycling services with Brady Enterprise which expires in June. He further explained that the County is tied to the Town regarding these services. He stated that the Town extended

their contract for another year. He talked about if the County has any plans to separate from the Town and Brady, notice needs to be given. He explained that the receivables from recycling pay Brady's to pick up the Town's recycling. He recommended giving at least a year's notice if the County is thinking about separating these services.

Chair Ken Richardson asked each Commissioner to review this contract. He further asked each Commissioner to bring any changes to the County Manager before the next meeting.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the joint meeting with the Board of Education on May 15 at 6:30pm.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about scheduling a budget meeting immediately following the Board of Education meeting.

The Board agreed.

County Manager Don Adams stated that Ken Richardson, Warren Taylor and himself attended the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) District meeting.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about someone from Alleghany County was the host, and how this was a wonderful opportunity to host this for all of the western Commissioners.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed topics from the meeting including statewide decline in deed transfers, increase in Medicaid costs, SB1180, SB1309, HB1889 and mental health service. He explained how these topics could affect Alleghany County.

Chair Ken Richardson and Commissioner Milly Richardson discussed how the mental health program is currently working.

County Manager Don Adams explained how the prior mental health reform worked. He continued providing the NCACC updates including counties are suppose to take over court system phones on July 1, 2008, and there are new laws about allowing counties to participate in road funding and how it could affect the secondary road program. He explained that the main concern, at this point, is how some of these bills could affect the tax base this year.

Chair Ken Richardson explained how the NCACC lobbies on behalf of counties regarding these bills and others that impact county government.

Commissioner Milly Richardson read a portion from *The Declaration* in Independence about cutting Grayson County's budget.

Commissioner Randy Miller explained that people are thanking us for the skate

park. He talked about issues at the park including there are no trash cans, dangerous sharp edges and the drop offs are steep, no liability signs, area needs to be fenced.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he will pass this information to the Town because this is a town project. He talked about the skate park isn't officially open yet.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to enter into closed session at 8:00pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4)—economic development. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

DW Miles, Wayne Miles and Susan Reinhardt joined the Commissioners at 8:06pm.

DW Miles, Wayne Miles and Susan Reinhardt left the Commissioners' meeting at 8:21pm.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to adjourn closed session at 8:48pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that no decisions were made during closed session.

Being no further business, Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to adjourn at 8:49pm. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson
Chairman