The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 1, 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 Steve Roten led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 1, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, June 1, 2009
6:30 PM

6:30 Meeting Called To Order
   Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
   Motion on Agenda for June 1, 2009, meeting
   Motion on Minutes for March 30 and May 18, 2009, meetings

6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
   B. Public Hearing
      RE: Solid Waste Management Plan Update
   C. Mary Walker
      RE: Solid Waste Appeal
   D. County Business
      1. Recycling Contract
      2. WCC Board Appointment
      3. Jail Medical Contract
      4. Public Health Improvement Plan
      5. Jury Commission Appointment
      6. 2009/10 Budget Recommendations
      7. Other Business
      8. Recess

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 30, and May 18, 2009, meetings. Commissioner Doug Murphy 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.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public hearing at 6:32pm regarding the solid waste management plan update. He asked for public comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:33pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

Mary Walker, Tax Administrator, presented a tax appeal for solid waste fees from Mr. Edwards. She explained that this is for a mobile home in the Stratford area.

Chair Ken Richardson and Mary Walker talked about this is for the 2008 bill.

County Manager Don Adams and Mary Walker talked about this mobile home has electricity.

Mary Walker said that it states in this letter that it used for hunting and fishing.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the Board had previously looked to see whether structures have electricity.

Chair Ken Richardson and Mary Walker discussed that this is an availability fee.
Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to deny the request. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams discussed the proposed recycling contract for Roger Brady. He stated that he is requesting the Board to extend this contract for one year. He talked about cardboard prices, and Mr. Brady hasn’t approached him about contract language changes in the event that cardboard prices fall again.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams discussed Mr. Brady’s comments regarding glass recycling in the Roaring Gap Club.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams discussed Mr. Brady’s comments regarding cardboard recycling in the Roaring Gap Club.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about instructing the County Manager to follow up about the cardboard issue.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to extend the contract. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams discussed Mr. Brady’s comments about the ABC law regarding glass recycling containers.

County Manager Don Adams updated the Board about Roaring Gap Club’s glass recycling and their cardboard. He reminded everyone that the cardboard recycling program reduces the businesses’ solid waste fees.

County Manager Don Adams presented letters from Gordon Burns and Jack Martin regarding Mr. Martin’s appointment to the WCC Board of Trustees and that Mr. Martin has requested that someone else be appointed to the Board.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that he has talked to Warren Taylor about the appointment. He further stated that Warren Taylor asked when they meet and is it a conflict for him to teach.

Chair Ken Richardson made a motion to appoint Warren Taylor to serve on the WCC Board of Trustees. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that if Warren Taylor declines the appointment or the County learns that it is a conflict, this will be brought back to the Commissioners.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter to the Sheriff from Southern Health Partners regarding the inmate medical services. He talked about this does not increase their medical expenses. He explained that the prior company did not fulfill their contract, and the company has been performing medical services for the County without a contract. He further explained that approval of this contract allows him to sign off on the contract.

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

County Manager Don Adams talked about the Public Health Improvement Plan. He read the proposed resolution. He talked about their biggest fear is the State legislature pushing this like mental health reform.

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

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from Susie Gambill requesting the Board to consider reappointing Virginia Van Hampton to the Jury Commission.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to reappoint Virginia Van Hampton to
serve on the Jury Commission. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the layout of the budget books.

County Manager Don Adams presented the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 budget message. He explained the revenues and expenditures of the General Fund in the amount of $13,654,448. He talked about reductions in the budget that would have occurred regardless of the economic conditions in the amount of $1,126,871. He explained that the budget has been reduced by $630,000 or 4.1%. He reviewed the revenue categories including ad valorem taxes, grants and reimbursements, sales and other taxes, service fees, miscellaneous and General Fund balance appropriation. He explained the expenditures categories including personnel reductions.

Commissioner Randy Miller talked about the Board just fixed this and this is a cut for employees.

County Manager Don Adams continued reviewing his budget message of personnel reductions, insurance/retirement, capital and capital improvements.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams discussed the costs of the panic buttons for the Courthouse.

County Manager Don Adams continued reviewing his budget message for the Board of Education.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and County Manager Don Adams discussed the stimulus funding for the Board of Education.

County Manager Don Adams continued reviewing his budget message for the Board of Education's capital; special appropriations broken out into four categories of grants/mandates, volunteer safety, primary core functions, secondary functions; reduction summarization and fund balance discussion; special fund highlights including personnel reduction highlights and capital highlights for the Transfer Facility Fund, 911 Fund and Transportation Fund; and other funds. He explained that he knew no Board member would like these recommendations. He talked about different options he considered for his recommendations. He further talked about spreading these cuts across the board. He stated his appreciation to everyone involved with the budget.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about nothing can be changed on this budget without the majority of the Board. He further talked about the June 30 public hearing and budget approval. He talked about he thinks there are four options; continue with the cuts, look at the fund balance, look at borrowing money, look at a tax increase. He reminded everyone about the budget meetings on June 9, 10, 11 at 6:00pm each night.

Commissioner Milly Richardson thanked the County Manager for doing this difficult job. She stated that he has worked up a budget for us to deal with during these tough economic conditions. She applauded his efforts, and stated he showed a great deal of respect for the taxpayers and county departments.

Commissioner Doug Murphy stated that Chair Ken Richardson has put things before us to look at as options for this budget. He said that everyone is aware of the economic conditions and the need to look at the fund balance; and it is there for emergencies, to some degree. He asked the people of the county to be patience with the Board during this process.

Commissioner Randy Miller stated his appreciation for the County Manager's work but the Commissioners have their work cut out for us. He talked about retail businesses put employees first. He further talked about this gives the Commissioners many options, and he does not want touch that part of it.

Commissioner Doug Murphy agreed with Commissioner Randy Miller about looking at what we have available to make the best decision.
Commissioner Steve Roten agreed that the Board has the work cut out for us. He said it is going to be difficult, and doing the best the Board can. He said, like Commissioner Miller, the need to look out after the employees.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about information in the packets about receiving over $40,000 in Medicaid money for EMS by working with the NCACC.

Being no further business, Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to recess at 8:05pm until Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 6:00pm. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson
Chairman