

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2014, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chairman Larry Cox, Vice-Chairman Tom Smith, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner John Goudreau, Commissioner Karen Leys, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans.

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

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 2, 2014, meeting. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, June 2, 2014
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for June 2, 2014, Meeting
Motion on Minutes for March 31 and May 19, 2014 Meetings
- 6:35 A. Board of Elections - RE: Elections Director Introduction
- 6:45 B. Andy Evans – RE: Mixed Beverage Referendum Discussions. Action Requested - Vote on referendum to be on November ballot.
- 6:55 C. General Business
1. Jail Open Position, Grade 60, \$23,240.55
Action Requested – Vote on the request to fill the position.
 2. RPO Priority Rankings. No action requested.
 3. Budget 2014/15 Presentation
The County Manager's recommended budget will be presented. No action requested.
- D. Commissioner Comments
- E. Public Comments—30 minutes
- F. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)--legal
- G. Adjourn

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 31 and May 19, 2014, meetings. Commissioner Leys seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Mac Murphy, Board of Elections Chairman, thanked the Board for their work. He introduced the new Elections Director, Michael Day.

Michael Day explained that he worked with Kate Cosner for her last few days and he looks forward to serving the county.

The Board of Commissioners welcomed Michael Day.

Andy Evans came before the Board to discuss the mixed beverage referendum. He stated that he doesn't have anything new since the last meeting.

Chair Cox said two Commissioners wanted to see the questions for the ballot, and the Board has that.

Commissioner Smith and Andy Evans talked about two separate questions will be on the ballot if this Board approves it. Andy Evans explained the wording in the Statutes require the ABC store on the referendum but that doesn't mean the county has to operate an ABC store because the County could work out an agreement with the Town since the Town already operates an ABC store. They discussed different scenarios if both questions aren't approved during the election. Commissioner Smith stated the Commissioners haven't heard much about the petition numbers. Andy Evans stated that these numbers are the first ones that was turned in before the primary, support is there, people don't hear a lot of support for it in the county, based on his research with other areas like Jackson County put it on the ballot and it passed, and people won't publicly state they are in favor of it for fear of losing business or losing their jobs.

Commissioner Smith asked about the costs of putting this on the ballot, if the Board votes to do so.

County Manager Don Adams explained he asked Michael Day to address three questions in writing; costs, actual wording of the questions and what is the procedure to get it on the ballot. He said that there aren't any additional costs to the County.

Commissioner Leys read the wording of the questions; to permit the operation of ABC stores and to permit the sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theatres, and convention centers.

Chair Cox read the last two paragraphs of the letter; there are presently 7,153 registered voters, 2,504 valid signatures will be required, for the ABC store election there are presently 36 valid signatures and for the Mixed Beverages election there are presently 43 valid signatures.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve this request for these two questions to be on the ballot in November. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 4:1 (Larry Cox).

Andy Evans thanked the Board and stated he appreciates everyone's help.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from the Sheriff requesting an open position in the Jail, Grade 60, \$23,240.55, be filled.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked to the Board about RPO rankings taking into consideration 14 regional projects and 14 divisional projects. He explained the points sheet. He further explained how Allegheny County's projects ranked regionally and divisionally. He said if he was to recommend anything he would switch the roundabout and Highway 21 Roaring Gap mountain project, but at this point he wouldn't do anything. He talked about the possibility to let Commissioner Davis to do what he needs to keep our projects in the top 14.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to give Larry Davis the proxy of the other 4 Commissioners to move the projects if needed.

County Manager Don Adams added with the goal to keep Roaring Gap mountain and Sparta Parkway in the top 14.

Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams updated everyone about his conversations with Brandon Whitaker regarding the construction on US 21. He explained he requested that he talk to his public information officer to release information to everyone about the project. He talked about the need to prepare for this for the next 3-4 years, and it's in the contract from 6:00am to 9:00am and 4:00pm to 6:00pm to keep the delays to 15 minutes but the delays could be in multiple locations. He referred to an email from Gregory Johnson about upcoming work near Memory Lane using staged construction and signals for 10 months and also the bridge over Glade Creek will use staged construction for 14 months. He talked about they will try to keep the delays to a minimal. He further talked about they will use detours but have to look at tractor-trailer traffic on the side roads. He said they will keep us informed as best they can during the project.

Commissioner Leys said it seems like they are moving fairly quickly.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the layout of the budget books. He presented the FY 2014/15 Budget Message in the amount of \$14,525,604, which is a 1.48% increase over the current amended budget. He started reading the Budget Message by reviewing the expenditures highlights and charts of the total expenditures and the explanation of the categories. He reviewed his Budget Message of the expenditures of all county revenues/property tax, sales tax, undesignated revenues expended by function and the explanation of expenditures relating to the charts. He continued reviewing the Budget Message; personnel, insurance/retirement, capital/capital improvements--\$144,172. He further reviewed the Budget Message of the Allegheny County Board of Education's current expense and capital (School Capital Reserve Fund), special appropriations—grants & mandates/volunteer safety/primary core functions/secondary functions/new items and continuing items.

Chair Cox declared a brief recess at 7:49pm.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the revenue charts' categories and the explanation of line items. He continued reviewing his Budget Message of the revenue highlights category including ad valorem taxes/grants and reimbursements/sales and other taxes/service fees/miscellaneous/General Fund balance. He further reviewed the Budget Message for the special fund highlights for the Transfer Facility Fund in the amount of \$829,551, E911 Fund in the amount of \$115,184, Transportation Operational Fund in the amount of \$473,144 including capital in the amount of \$192,766. He named the other funds and talked about these can be discussed during the budget process. He expressed his

appreciation to all County employees, department heads, elected officials, special appropriation representatives, Finance and Administration's employees for their work and efforts on the budget.

Chair Cox stated his appreciation to everyone who has worked on this, and now it's the Commissioners to study and come back to discuss. He asked a question about 96.02% tax collection rate is for one year. County Manager Don Adams agreed. Chair Cox talked about collections go on for 10 years, and is over 99% by then. County Manager Don Adams said yes, and that's the \$350,000 that is budgeted for prior year taxes. The County Manager explained he has to put in the audited amount, we should be seeing a higher tax collection rate, which will help and over 10 years we collect the vast majority of the taxes.

Commissioner Smith thanked everyone as well. He asked does the County Manager anticipate any changes from the State about the school cap reserve funds. The County Manager answered no, that's the mandated portion to go to the schools. They discussed the County Manager doesn't see any changes regarding sales taxes.

County Manager Don Adams handed out the agenda for Tuesday night and Wednesday night. He read the proposed agenda.

Chair Cox encouraged each Commissioner to talk to the County Manager about any questions or concerns.

Chair Cox thanked Commander Thomas Owens for extending the invitation to him to speak at the Memorial Day event at the courthouse.

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

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to enter into closed session under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal at 8:29pm. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn closed session at 8:48pm and reconvened the regular meeting. Commissioner Leys seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Cox stated no decisions were made during closed session.

Being no further business, Commissioner Leys made a motion to adjourn at 8:49pm. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Larry Cox
Chairman