

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 16, 2008, at 3:30pm 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 Doug Murphy, Commissioner Milly Richardson, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. Commissioner 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 Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 16, 2008, meeting. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

AGENDA

Monday, June 16, 2008
3:30 PM

- 3:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
Motion on Agenda for June 16, 2008, meeting
Motion on Minutes for June 2, 2008, meeting
Motion on May Tax Releases & Refunds
- 3:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
B. Mary Walker
RE: Town Tax Collections and Tag Office
C. Lori Brooks
RE: Vet Recruitment Request
D. County Business
1. Joint Meeting Reminder
2. Tower Clock at Courthouse
3. Alleghany Memorial Hospital Resolutions
4. Dispatch Console
5. Year-End Budget Amendments
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 2, 2008, meeting. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the real property releases and refunds for May. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Randy Miller arrived at 3:33pm.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the auto refunds and releases for May. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public comments' portion of the meeting. He asked for public comments.

Brandon Hawks came before the Board and reminded the Board that he is a college student and a substitute teacher. He invited each Commissioner to attend the next 150th anniversary meeting. He provided the website about their upcoming events. He said that it is a shame that someone comes back here with a college degree cannot find a job. He talked about exploring grant opportunities and the need for an economic developer. He further talked about ways to fund the position of economic developer. He asked the Board to take these items into consideration.

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

Mary Walker, Tax Administrator, came before the Board with a draft version of

the contract between Alleghany County and the Town of Sparta. She reviewed the highlights of the contract.

County Manager Don Adams explained that Mary Walker received an opinion from Department of Revenue stating that the County can require tax certifications on town taxes.

Commissioner Warren Taylor, County Manager Don Adams and Mary Walker discussed the terms of the contract.

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

Mary Walker informed the Commissioners that the Tax Office received a letter stating that the County did not get the tag office.

County Manager Don Adams read the letter received from NCDOT/DMV regarding the tag office.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about the message to the public is that the County tried to get the tag office and didn't get it.

Mary Walker stated that she doesn't know why the County didn't get it.

Lori Brooks came before the Board regarding veterinarians in Alleghany County. She said that Stephanie Dowell is leaving the employment of Twin Oaks Vet Hospital. She explained that they have found a new vet that will be starting July 1, 2008. She stated that Stephanie Dowell is planning to leave on January 31, 2009. She explained that that the new vet has to work under a North Carolina licensed vet until she can obtain her North Carolina license. She talked about the agreement with the new vet. She said that Twin Oaks is requesting the \$434 per month be for two vets until Ms. Dowell leaves at the end of January and asked for the Board's consideration.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the contract for Stephanie Dowell and the terms of the contract. He explained the options available to the Board. He stated his recommendation, if the Board is interested in pursuing the new vet, vote on Stephanie Dowell's contract to change the term to end January 31, 2009 then vote on Jessica Cremeans's contract to start July 1, 2008. He reiterated that their request is to allow overlap for seven months.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to amend Stephanie Dowell's contract to expire on January 31, 2009. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion.

Commissioner Warren Taylor and County Manager Don Adams discussed the length of time for the contract.

County Attorney Donna Shumate talked about needing something in writing from Stephanie Dowell showing that she leaving on January 31, 2009.

County Manager Don Adams stated that Ms. Cremeans's contract will be contingent upon Stephanie Dowell signing the revised contract.

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

Chair Ken Richardson and County Attorney Donna Shumate discussed Ms. Dowell's contract needs to be signed before Ms. Cremeans's contract.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve Ms. Cremeans's contract to be contingent upon Stephanie Dowell signing the revised contract. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams reminded the Board about the joint meeting on June 30 at 7:00pm.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the request before the Board regarding the tower clock. He further talked about there will be no issues in regards to getting power at the location. He explained that at a minimum he recommends that the Board ask the Sparta Revitalization Committee and the Chamber of Commerce to research this, come back with suggestions and provide written recommendations. He talked about other items that he has questions about is what are the fundraising efforts, maintenance and long term costs. He talked about the Doughton statue would have to be rearranged.

The Board of Commissioners agreed. They asked the County Manager to tell the group that it has been tabled until more research can be done.

County Manager Don Adams presented resolutions for Alleghany Memorial Hospital regarding the loan agreements to Blue Ridge Electric and Skyline reconfirming the loan payments.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve the resolutions. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained regarding the dispatch console, bid specs were sent out with one bid received. He further explained that Ryan Lane is doing more research. He stated that additional information will be presented the first of July.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #41 in the amount of \$200 for a donation to the tennis program.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #41 in the amount of \$200. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #42 in the amount of \$8,497. He explained that this is to budget for the SCAAP grant. He further explained that the SCAAP grant is where an accounting firm was hired to find additional funds for the Hispanic inmate population. He said that they found \$42,000, with our costs being 20%.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #42 in the amount of \$8,497. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #43 in the amount of \$801 for Council on Aging's utilities.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #43 in the amount of \$801. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #44 in the amount of \$467 for Transportation utilities.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #44 in the amount of \$467. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #45 in the amount of \$7,632 for EMS. He explained that this budget amendment is to cover part-time and overtime salaries where full-time employees have been off work.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #45 in the amount of \$7,632. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #46 in the amount of \$5,890 for additional occupancy tax monies.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams discussed that the funds go to the Chamber as required by State law.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #46 in the amount of \$5,890. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #47 in the amount of \$488 for maintenance on IV pumps.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #47 in the amount of \$488. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #48 in the amount of \$5,000 for Maintenance supplies. He explained that this line needs to be adjusted in next year's budget, also. He further explained why the money is needed.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #48 in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #49 in the amount of \$581 for the Animal Shelter. He explained the septic problems that occurred at the Animal Shelter.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #49 in the amount of \$581. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Being no further business, Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:05pm. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson
Chairman
NORTH CAROLINA)
)
ALLEGHANY COUNTY)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County, North Carolina have formally committed financial support to Alleghany Memorial Hospital; and,

WHEREAS, the Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation has entered into a loan agreement with Skyline Telephone Corporation to obtain \$200,000 in loan funds that will be used to help finance Alleghany Memorial Hospital's recruitment of a surgeon and two internal medicine physicians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County, North Carolina reconfirms its pledge to provide four annual payments of \$50,000 to the Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation, with the first payment due the tenth day of August, 2007 and thereafter

on the tenth day of each succeeding August until the \$200,000 loan is repaid to Skyline Telephone Corporation; and,

FURTHER, that the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County will annually vote on a resolution and pledge in support of the loan agreement between Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation and Skyline Telephone Corporation and that the resolution will be reviewed in June of each year prior to the beginning of each new fiscal year of the county until such time as the loan between the parties mentioned above is repaid.

Adopted this 16th day of June, 2008.

NORTH CAROLINA)
)
ALLEGHANY COUNTY)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County, North Carolina have formally committed financial support to Alleghany Memorial Hospital; and,

WHEREAS, the Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation has entered into a loan agreement with Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation to obtain \$200,000 in loan funds that will be used to help finance Alleghany Memorial Hospital's recruitment of a surgeon and two internal medicine physicians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County, North Carolina reconfirms its pledge to provide four annual payments of \$50,000 to the Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation, with the first payment due the tenth day of August, 2007 and thereafter on the tenth day of each succeeding August until the \$200,000 loan is repaid to Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation; and,

FURTHER, that the Board of Commissioners of Alleghany County will annually vote on a resolution and pledge in support of the loan agreement between Alleghany County Economic Development Corporation and Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation and that the resolution will be reviewed in June of each year prior to the beginning of each new fiscal year of the county until such time as the loan between the parties mentioned above is repaid.

Adopted this 16th day of June, 2008.