

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 5, 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 Milly Richardson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that a Rural Center Application Form needs to be added under County Business.

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

AGENDA  
Monday, October 5, 2009  
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order
  - Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
  - Motion on Agenda for October 5, 2009, meeting
  - Motion on Minutes for September 21 and 22, 2009, meetings
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
- B. Public Hearing
  - RE: E-911 Road Names
- C. Chamber of Commerce/Occupancy Tax Annual Reports
- D. Piney Creek Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report
- E. County Business
  - 1. Planning Board Appointment
  - 2. EMS Building Award Date for Metal Portion
  - 3. 911 Contract
  - 4. Local Firefighter's Relief Fund Board—CLVFD
  - 5. Surplus Sale
  - 6. USDA Letter of Conditions and Resolution
  - 7. Fairgrounds—Tank Site
  - 8. PARTF Grant Update
  - 9. QSCB Update
  - 10. Rural Center Application Form (added)
  - 11. Other Business
  - 12. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel
  - 13. Adjourn

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 21 and 22, 2009, meetings. Commissioner Steve Roten 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. She explained the road's location.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the 911 road name at 6:35pm.

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

Chair Ken Richardson closed the public hearing at 6:36pm and reconvened the

regular meeting.

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

Bob Bamberg, Chamber of Commerce Director, came before the Board to present the annual report for the Chamber of Commerce and the Occupancy Tax. He reviewed handouts showing examples of the materials available through the Chamber. He thanked Chair Ken Richardson and Mayor John Miller for their work on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities. He talked about how tourism impacts Allegheny County, types of brochures available, how the brochures are distributed, advertising, number/types of visitors, Mountain Heritage Festival, occupancy tax income, ASK ME campaign and staffing at the Chamber office. He discussed their goals/focus for the upcoming year.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Bob Bamberg discussed the possibility of the Chamber using billboards for advertising. They further discussed driving loops for motorcycles but not a printed bicycle loop.

Bob Bamberg thanked the Board.

The Board thanked Bob Bamberg.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the Planning Board appointment and reminded everyone that he provided applications at the last meeting for Bill Brooks and Nancy Wilson.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve Bill Brooks to serve on the Planning Board. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams provided handouts to the Board about the metal bids and the interior bids for the EMS building. He stated that the County received two metal bids; Caldwell Construction and Frank Dillard & Sons with Frank Dillard winning the bid by \$165. He explained that everyone stayed after the opening to make sure the bids were comparing apples to apples since the bids were so close. He talked about the bid specs showed the metal bids would be awarded tonight. He explained that the insurance will reimburse the County \$62,194.96 leaving \$13,602.88 as an additional expense to the County. He reviewed the additional costs; cost of two additional sides of metal, raising the vehicle bay area by two feet, reframing the garage door openings and increasing the garage doors size. He explained the bids did not include safety sensors or garage door openers, which will cost an additional \$840. He stated that Frank Dillard has offered to pay the County \$1,000 to keep the removed metal. He reviewed the amount of the last metal load, \$1,041 after the transportation costs were removed. He stated that he is recommending the County accept the \$1,000 offer, order the safety sensors and garage door openers. He talked to the Board about the color of the building hasn't been decided yet but are looking at gray or tan.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the recommendation of the \$1,000 for the metal, order the sensors and openers plus award the metal bid to Frank Dillard & Sons. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained that he opened interior bids last Friday and is not scheduled to be awarded until October 19. He talked about Frank Dillard & Sons was the low bidder, low bidder on Fire Alarm system, asbestos testing expense and keeping the fixtures and cabinets out of the bid specs. He explained that he will have the exact numbers at the next meeting. He stated that the work will go to local people. He reviewed the total estimated costs for the interior of \$162,056.30 with the initial insurance estimate being \$118,133.65. He explained that the contractor and subcontractors are meeting tomorrow at 9:30am with the insurance company to talk about things like the asbestos materials, electrical upgrades, HVAC. He said that they have to bring it up to code if it was already there. He further said that the Board could award the bid for Frank Dillard & Sons and the fire alarm system tonight while waiting on the other information until the next meeting.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams stated that one of the pressing matters is the color of the metal and why the color needs to be decided before the next meeting. He talked about the time completion dates from Frank Dillard on the metal and the interior.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about all of Frank Dillard's subs are local with the exception of the asbestos people. He asked about the colors of the building; tan or light gray.

The Board stated they didn't have a problem with those colors.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed handouts for the 911 contract: \$209,470.31 with annual maintenance costs of \$3,844.68 the first year then \$7,686 for years 2-5; Southern Software \$30,890 with the maintenance agreement the second year being \$16,770 and third year being \$17,273. He explained that Southern Software is the CAD and Mapping systems. He talked about the costs for the 911 upgrade; System is \$201,720.44 and NetClock is \$7,749.87, which isn't an allowable 911 cost so the \$7,749.87 will have to be paid for with General Fund monies.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to approve the Southern Software bid. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion.

County Manager Don Adams explained that they brought in two other companies to price this equipment.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and County Manager Don Adams discussed the amount of saving by going with Southern Software.

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

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion accepting the proposal from Embarq. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the Cherry Lane Volunteer Fire Department is requesting that Mark Miles be appointed to the Local Firefighters Relief Fund Board. He further explained that Mark Miles is replacing Russell Shaw.

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

County Manager Don Adams discussed lists of items that need to be declared surplus. He explained that the Sheriff wants to hold a surplus sale, and the County will be selling three vehicles.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to declare the items surplus. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams stated that the surplus sale will be on November 14 at 10:00am at the Law Enforcement Center.

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

County Manager Don Adams discussed the USDA letter of conditions and a County Commissioners resolution that establishes conditions which must be understood and agreed to by the Board before further consideration may be given to the application. He explained that this may be completed on the basis of a loan not to exceed \$335,755, a grant not to exceed \$190,000 and an applicant contribution of \$125,000 for a total project cost of \$650,755. He pointed out that this loan is for a period of 40 years unless the Board decides to pay it off early. He stated that as of October 1 the interest rate is 4.25%. He reminded the Board that he has set aside \$50,000 towards the renovations of the house. He explained why it was better to leave the house out of the grant

through USDA. He further explained that if the Board approves the Letter of Conditions and Resolution that allows the County Manager and Clerk to sign the documentation for the grant. He stated that the project start date is spring.

Chair Ken Richardson reiterated that this is for a new training facility on the fairgrounds property.

County Manager Don Adams described the training facility.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about during the needs assessment, this training facility was top priority for the fire departments.

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

County Manager Don Adams explained a letter from Bryan Edwards talking about a site for a 250,000 gallon water tank at the fairgrounds. He talked about the location of the 100 x 100 tank site and the 12-foot easement. He further talked about the current well site that will be provided to the County for use at the training facility. He explained that he has requested that the Town make it part of their records that they will give the County the well site once the Town is not using it.

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

Commissioner Milly Richardson noted that the County Manager has gone to great length for the water and the training site which would not be a possibility without his work on this project.

County Manager Don Adams received news from PARTF that the County did not receive funding for the soccer fields on the Sparta Parkway. He explained that the next grant application is due February 1. He stated that everything is in place to reapply. He asked does the Board want him to reapply. He explained that he sat down with our regional consultant to discuss the grant and learned of ways to strengthen the application.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to reapply for the grant. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams provided a QSCB update that Alleghany County has been allocated \$3,339,585.53, which is \$140,415 less than the amount needed. He explained that if the County can find a bank, then the \$140,000 would have to come from a regular loan.

Commissioner Doug Murphy asked if we are still working on the water/sewer.

County Manager Don Adams agreed and stated that currently the water/sewer costs are \$800,000 including the land purchase and the maximum grant award is \$500,000, at this point. He explained that the \$440,000 would have to be borrowed under traditional ways. He further explained that currently there are no banks that are willing to provide these no interest loans, and the Local Government Commission is not aware of any applications coming in for QSCB. He reviewed that the current law states that the monies have to be spent by December 31, 2009, or the monies revert back. He said that the Department of Public Instruction is meeting tomorrow about this topic. He further said that they are thinking that there may have to be another committee meeting as the information starts coming in. He updated the Board that they began the test well, getting 35 to 50 gallons a minute and is starting the 24-hour test tomorrow. He stated that Larry Davis, the Health Department and himself will be on the 8 acres on Wednesday to dig the test pits to see if it is suitable for the sewer.

Commissioner Steve Roten and County Manager Don Adams talked about the test well is 480-feet deep.

Commissioner Milly Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about the QSCB funds is a federal program administered by the State. She asked about contacting Congressman Burr and Representative Foxx.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that they were emailed immediately and have heard back from Congressman Burr's office.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the tax credits is where the problem is but he has some leads. He stated that he talked to a bank that has hit their limit for 2009 but January 1, 2010, they will be back in the market for the tax credits and the State has to allow the monies to be rolled over so the County can use that bank.

County Manager Don Adams presented the Rural Center Commitment of Other Funds Application Form to apply for a minimum of \$500,000 of the \$800,000 project with a local match of \$300,000 to the Rural Center for the water/sewer project. He stated that the application is due on October 15.

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

County Manager Don Adams provided an update on the ARRA monies through the Department of Transportation (DOT) for Allegheny County projects; repaving Highway 93 to the Virginia state line and paving from Osborne Road to Tayson Road on 18. He talked about the original project was to add a lane and realign the intersection. He further talked about the deadline is to start by March, and DOT didn't think the right of ways for the alignment would be completed to meet the deadlines.

Commissioner Doug Murphy asked if the County has any information on the jail study. County Manager Don Adams stated that he hasn't heard anything.

Chair Ken Richardson mentioned that the County is contracted to take some Wilkes County inmates.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about senior citizens day and Doughton Day having a good turn out for both events. He thanked everyone that was involved with Doughton Day and the activities. He talked about the Lieutenant Governor came to town for the parade and wanted to thank him for coming to be part of the Sesquicentennial activities.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to enter into closed session at 7:50pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel. Commissioner Milly Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to adjourn closed session at 8:18pm 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 Milly Richardson made a motion to adjourn at 8:20pm. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson  
Chairman