



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 19th, 2018, at 10:00 am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Tom Smith, Commissioner John Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, County Manager Mike James, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Drew Temple.

Commissioner Prince made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve minutes from 11/5. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

## AGENDA

Monday, November 19, 2018

10:00 am

10:00 Meeting called to order  
Pledge of Allegiance and invocation  
Approval of agenda  
Motion on minutes from 11/5 (pages 1-5)

10:05 **US Marshals Service, North Carolina SBI and Alleghany Sheriff's Department Proclamations (pages 6-23)**

10:30 **Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Business – Blue Ridge Santa**

A. 10:40 **Public Agenda Comments:** Citizens are encouraged to comment at this time on any item(s) specifically listed on this meeting's agenda. Guidelines for public comment are posted in the meeting room.

B. 10:45 **Presentations to the Board**  
i. Animal Control Ordinance discussion  
ii. Jim Brown – Cloud based registration system proposal

C. 11:00 **General Business**  
i. Karen Evans and Steve Mason – Occupancy tax refund request **\*Omit**  
ii. MOU for recreational facilities (pages 55-60)  
iii. Deeding tennis court property to school system  
iv. Jeff Cox – Wilkes Community College expansion update

D. 11:10 **Request for closed session pursuant to General Code 143-318.11.(a)-(5) potential acquisition of real property by purchase**

E. 11:20 **Consent Agenda** (Board action requested)  
i. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (pages 24-38)  
1. Auto refunds  
2. Real and personal property refunds

- 3. Real and personal property releases
- 4. Request for release of solid waste fee
- ii. TDA chair appointment
- iii. General Fund budget amendment #11 in the amount of \$50,000 for inmate medical expenses deductible. (page 39)
- iv. General Crimes and S/A Investigator position (pages 40-41)
- v. Resolutions honoring law enforcement

**F. 11:35 Commissioner Recognition**

**G. 11:40 Public Comments:** Citizens are encouraged to comment at this time on any item(s) requiring the attention of the Commissioners. Guidelines for public comment are posted in the meeting room.

**H. 11:45 County Manager Comments**

- i. Building inspection report (page 42)
- ii. ABC permits issued (pages 43-44)
- iii. County and district Q3 environmental health revenue report (pages 45-46)
- iv. Alleghany county schools inspections (pages 47-50)
- v. Vaya Health fiscal monitoring report (pages 51-54)

**I. County Commissioner Comments**

**J. Adjourn**

**US Marshals Service, North Carolina SBI and Alleghany Sheriff’s Department Proclamations**

County Manager Mike James and Chair Evans recognized Deputy US Marshalls, North Carolina SBI and Alleghany County Sheriff’s Department law enforcement officers for their brave service and presented each of them with a proclamation.

Sheriff Bryan Maines thanked the other agencies for their help and cooperation and commended his staff for their hard work.

**Chamber of Commerce spotlight business – Blue Ridge Santa**

Jordon Edwards introduced Blue Ridge Santa, Sam and Julia Simmons.

Sam and Julia Simmons explained their first careers and the different projects they work on throughout the year in Alleghany County.

**Public Agenda Comments**

Jeff Smith gave an update on Sparta lights. Jeff Smith asked if the county commissioners would write a letter asking for the FM radio station to piggy-back the 911 equipment being installed and possibly create a few jobs for Alleghany county.

**Presentations to the Board**

Jim Brown – Cloud-based registration system proposal

Jim Brown, Recreation Director, presented RecDesk, a cloud-based platform for the recreation department. He said this platform would take the place of the part-time recreation position that was previously approved.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to proceed with the platform. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

**Animal Control Ordinance discussion**

Josh Greene said maintenance is receiving 4-6 calls/week regarding animal control.

Nick Hawks said the Sheriff's department is receiving 1 call/day regarding animal control.

Robbie Dolinger gave several examples of vicious dogs and animal neglect cases during the past few months.

There was discussion between the board and Josh Greene, Nick Hawks and Robbie Dolinger about how to proceed with the current ordinance.

County Manager Mike James said it may be necessary to fund one or two animal control officers in next year's budget.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said whatever the ordinance may be, there needs to be wording to protect farm dogs.

Magistrate, Jane Halsey explained the Alleghany County Magistrate's office does see many animal control complaints but of the cases that follow protocol and go through mediation, none have resulted in criminal charges.

### **General Business**

#### MOU for recreational facilities

County Manager Mike James explained the MOU and the fact that we cannot deed the Davis field property because it is part of a PRTF grant.

Chair Mark Evans said his recommendation would be for the county to maintain the properties while the county uses them and the school maintain the properties while the school uses them.

County Attorney Donna Shumate asked for an addition regarding the schools holding harmless the county from damages related to negligence.

Commissioner Prince made a motion to approve the MOU with three amendments. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to modify the original motion about deeding the county owned properties to Alleghany County schools to only include the tennis court property. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

#### Jeff Cox – Wilkes Community College expansion update

Jeff Cox, President of Wilkes Community College, gave an update on Wilkes Community College.

Zack Barricklow, VP of Strategic Planning, went over WCC's strategic plan. Jeff Cox gave an update about the heavy equipment and welding programs proposed for Alleghany County.

Chair Evans suggested we address the consent agenda before entering closed session.

### **Consent Agenda**

County Manager Mike James explained the budget amendment regarding inmate medical insurance.

Commissioner Prince made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

### **Request for closed session pursuant to General Code 143-318.11.(a)-(5) potential acquisition of real property by purchase**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to enter into closed session inviting Susan Nilo, Jeff Cox and Zack Barricklow. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Chair Evans said no action was taken during closed session.

**Commissioner recognition**

Chair Evans recognized Commissioner Smith during his last meeting as County Commissioner.

**County manager comments**

County Manager Mike James went over October’s building inspection report.

County Manager Mike James went over ABC permits attained.

County Manager Mike James went over Alleghany County and district environmental health data.

County Manager Mike James went over Alleghany County’s school fire inspections.

County Manager Mike James went over the quarterly financial reports from Vaya Health.

County Manager Mike James went over Hurricane Florence disaster relief funds Soil & Water has been able to secure in Alleghany County. He said there is a program for Pasture Damage or Cover Crop damage relief, see Maggie Osborne or Aaron Ray Tompkins.

County Manager Mike James said Aaron Ray Tompkins asked the board to waive the “No Till Drill” fee to help with hurricane damage.

County Manager Mike James gave an update on the tree lighting from Friday.

**County commissioner comments**

Commissioner Smith thanked the citizens of Alleghany County for being patient with him during the past 8 years. He recognized county employees for their hard work. Commissioner Smith thanked and praised his fellow commissioners and urged them to be more involved in the NCACC.

Commissioner Prince said the town looks great and thanked them for their work. He said the Chamber of Commerce banquet was great. Commissioner Prince also suggested extending the brush disposal fee to include the ice storm.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked Commissioner Smith for his work on this board and as a teacher.

Chair Evans thanked Commissioner Smith for his service.

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Prince made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Temple  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans  
Chairman