

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 6, 2010, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

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

County Manager Don Adams called the meeting to order. He welcomed everyone including Boy Scout Troop 299 to the meeting.

Commissioner Larry Cox talked about how proud he is of these young men. He explained that they are working on their citizenship in the community badge.

County Manager Don Adams explained the reason that he is opening the meeting is because this is the meeting where the Chair and Vice-Chair are selected.

Commissioner Steve Roten led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to approve the agenda for this December 6, 2010, meeting. Commissioner John Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA  
Monday, December 6, 2010  
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer  
Motion on Agenda for December 6, 2010, meeting  
Motion on Minutes for November 15, 2010, meeting
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes  
B. Election of Chair & Vice-Chair  
C. Sheriff's Bond  
D. Appoint Clerk to the Board  
E. Appoint County Attorney  
F. Board Appointments  
G. Rules of Procedures  
H. County Business  
1. Code of Ethics Policy Update  
2. NCDOT Secondary Road Public Hearing Reminder  
3. Wall of Oath  
4. Other Business  
5. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal  
NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel
- Adjourn

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 15, 2010, meeting. Commissioner Larry Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams opened the public comments' portion of the meeting and asked for public comments.

Susan Reinhardt thanked the Board for allowing this public comment time period. She talked about how she hopes that the time will continue. She further talked about sometimes there are people in the audience that are aware of the items that are on the agenda and could offer comments if asked during the meeting.

Keith Howell talked about he is retired from mental health. He congratulated the new Commissioners. He talked about people in the community should be here more often. He further talked about a couple of items that came up recently including how often County Commissioners are called upon and how little the Commissioners are paid for their time/work and he thinks funds should be found to increase the per diem for the Board plus he talked about the insurance issue that came up about County Commissioners receiving insurance. He stated that he hoped the County Manager can find funding for both of these items.

County Manager Don Adams asked for additional public comments. None were received. He closed the public comments' portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to nominate Ken Richardson as Chairman. Commissioner Larry Cox seconded the motion. Vote 3:2 (John Goudreau, Steve Roten).

Commissioner Larry Cox made a motion to nominate Tom Smith as Vice-Chair. Chair Ken Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the bond for the Sheriff is before the Board. He further explained that the bond is currently set at \$25,000 for cost of \$125.

Commissioner John Goudreau made a motion to approve the Sheriff's bond. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to reappoint Karen Evans as Clerk to the Board. Commissioner Larry Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson asked Donna Shumate if she was willing to continue to serve as County Attorney.

Donna Shumate stated that she is.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to reappoint Donna Shumate as County Attorney. Commissioner John Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

The Board of Commissioners discussed the following board appointments with the recommended appointments:

Alleghany Group Homes	Larry Cox
Blue Ridge RC&D	Ken Richardson
Fairgrounds	Tom Smith
Fire Commission	Steve Roten
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council	Tom Smith
Library (local)	Tom Smith
Smoky Mountain Center	Ken Richardson
New River Service Authority Board	Larry Cox
Northwestern Regional Library	Tom Smith
Partnership for Children	Larry Cox
Sparta Revitalization Committee	John Goudreau
Wilkes Community College (local)	Larry Cox
Cascade Highlands	John Goudreau
Joint Committee with Board of Education	Larry Cox and Tom Smith

They also discussed an appointment to Council on Aging, which Larry Cox stated he was interested in but would like some more time to find out more about the board, and the Job Link Management Team appointment which the Board decided to wait until an appointment was needed since the team hasn't met in a couple of years.

Chair Ken Richardson made a motion to approve the recommended board appointments for one year unless the appointed Commissioner wants to resign from a board.

Commissioner Steve Roten and Chair Ken Richardson talked about the two that wasn't filled will come back before the Board.

Commissioner Larry Cox seconded the motion on the floor. Vote 5:0.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams discussed each page of the rules of procedures including the following changes; change the second monthly meeting to 10:00am on the third Monday of each month, delete the entire sentence about if a regular meeting day is a holiday on which county offices are closed, delete the last portion of the sentence about special meetings and items of business, add a sentence about no fee shall be charged to the Sunshine List who receive the notices by email.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about having a section on the agenda that is for the County Manager's business and a section that is for the County Commissioners' business with the Commissioner's name, topic and brief explanation of the topic stated on the agenda.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams talked about policy changes to the agenda including having a moment of silence at the beginning of the meeting.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager continued discussing each page of the rules of procedures including the following changes; add the word "date" in the agenda section where it is stating that items to be placed on the agenda must be received at least three working days before the meeting, change the word majority to unanimous in the sentence about the Board may add an item that is not on the agenda.

County Attorney Donna Shumate clarified that this is once the meeting has been called to order.

Chair Ken Richardson stated yes.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager continued discussing each page of the rules of procedures including the following changes; changing the language about an absence shall not be counted in the vote, deleting the sentence about an unexcused absence will be recorded as voting in the affirmative. The Board of Commissioners, County Attorney Donna Shumate and County Manager Don Adams discussed the language about duty to vote.

Commissioner Larry Cox made a motion to adopt the 2010 rules of procedure as discussed for a period of one year. Commissioner John Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the proposed code of ethics and items to consider. He reminded the Board that State law says that this must be passed by December 31. He also reminded the Board that the first or two sentences of each section is what State law says has to be covered in the code of ethics.

Commissioner Tom Smith talked about he would like to wait since he and Commissioner Cox are going to attend Commissioners school and will receive their ethics training during that time.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about putting this on the next agenda. He asked Mr. Smith and Mr. Cox to take the draft version with them to their school later this week. He talked about additional items that can be added. He reiterated that this must be adopted by the end of December and asked that it be placed on the next agenda.

County Manager Don Adams talked about updates can be made after the Board adopts one version of the code.

Chair Ken Richardson encouraged everyone to talk to the County Manager if they have changes.

County Manager Don Adams reminded everyone of the Department of Transportation's Secondary Road public hearing on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30pm here in this room. He quickly reviewed the purpose of the meeting.

Chair Ken Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about all five Commissioners do not have to attend this meeting.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the Wall of Oath for the Veterans Park in Fayetteville. He reviewed what they are doing by casting veterans' hands. He talked about the prior Board selected the VFW and Marine league to make the selections for Alleghany County. He reviewed their selection list of Walter Bell, US Army POW WWII, will be on the Wall of Oath and the other selections are Wanda Wills, US Army Nurse WWII; Oscar "Doc" Evans, US Army WWII; Rudolf Edwards, WWII US Navy; J.T. Pardue, WWII US Marines. He stated that on Monday, December 20 around 9:00am there will be a lady at the VFW building to do the castings if anyone wants to attend.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that this is for informational purposes.

Commissioner Steve Roten stated that the letter asks for approval.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to follow the recommendations in the letter. Commissioner Larry Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to enter closed session at 7:40pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal and (a) (6)—personnel. Commissioner John Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Steve Roten made a motion to adjourn closed session at 9:05pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that no decisions were made during closed session.

Being no further business, Commissioner John Goudreau made a motion to adjourn at 9:06pm. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson  
Chairman