



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 16, 2018, at 10 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 Lauren Linker.

Chair Evans called the midmonth meeting to order at 10 AM led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

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

AGENDA
Monday, April 16, 2018
10:00 A.M.

- 10:00 Meeting Called to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for April 16, 2018 Meeting
Motion on Minutes from 3/19 and 4/2
- A. 10:05 Spotlight Business, Janet Tompkins, My Comfort Companion
- B. 10:15 Public Agenda Comments
- C. 10:30 David Ledbetter, Department of Transportation
- D. 10:40 Chance Wyatt, Social Services
Re: Child Protective Services Intake
- E. 11:00 40th Anniversary Recognition Resolution
Re: Pioneer Eclipse
- F. **Consent Agenda**
1. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (Page 4-10)
 - a. Auto Refunds - VTS System - Action Requested
 - b. Auto Refunds – Legacy (Old) System
 - c. Real Releases - Action Requested
 - d. Real Refunds - Action Requested
 - e. Request for Release of Residential Solid Waste Fee
 2. Castle Branch – Contract Testing for Alleghany County Substance Abuse Policy (Page 11-13)
 3. Gould Killian CPA Group Audit Contract
- G. General Business
- H. Public Comments – 30 minutes
- I. County Manager Comments
1. Courthouse Committee Update
 2. New River Access Update
 3. Health Insurance Renewal Update
 4. Joint meeting with Town on April 30th
- J. Commissioners Comments
- K. Adjourn

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked why a particular interaction was missing from the minutes. He felt that was important and wanted it reflected within the minutes.

Commissioner John Irwin also commented on the March 19th minutes. He was concerned how his commissioner comments section was stated.

The Board concluded to have the clerk revisit the March 19th, 2018 set of minutes.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the April 2nd, 2018 set of minutes. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Janet Tompkins, owner of My Comfort Companion explained how she can to be the make comfort companions. She gave her background and education that allowed her to fill a need she saw in her profession. She went over her product line and the growth of different lines over the past few years.

Chair Mark Evans opened the floor for public agenda comments. Seeing no movement, he then closed that section.

David Ledbetter, project manager for the North Carolina Department of Transportation went over the steps to prioritize highway projects. He then went over the funding criteria for the projects. Next, he explained different ways local representation can help effect the prioritizing process.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked about guardrails in certain dangerous locations in the county.

Commissioner Larry Prince mentioned the visibility range criteria for a new housing development. He asked if there was a solution to help alleviate this issue to allow the project to continue.

The Board decided to move take up item E. since everyone had arrived. County Manager Mike James read the resolution recognizing Pioneer Eclipse for forty years in business.

Bill Slagle of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, Senator Deanna Ballard and the Board of Commissioners thanked Pioneer Eclipse for their commitment to their community and years of growth.

Chance Wyatt, department of social services child protective services intake worker, went over the intake process. He explained what happens within the office after the report is filled. He noted the largest of their reports come from law enforcement.

Commissioner Larry Prince said give us an idea of how many calls you deal with on a daily or monthly basis.

Chance Wyatt said in March they received 16 reports and it depends on the call, but he has been on one report before that lasted multiple hours.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked about the anonymous reports.

Chance Wyatt explained that most are good faith calls and there is usually an issue going on.

Commissioner Tom Smith asked if each call was responded too whether they think the call is credible or not. Chance said yes, they are all screened.

Commissioner John Irwin asked about drug and alcohol in relation to the reports.

Chance Wyatt and Social Services Director Lisa Osborne said about 90% were because of substance abuse.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked about if VAYA Health is a part of this in any way.

Lisa Osborne, social services director said no. not in the screening processes, but they are used for services with some families and individuals.

Chair Mark Evans mentioned this month is child abuse awareness month and thanked them all for their work.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if the Tax Office could put a recommendation on their forms to be approved or denied.

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

Chair Mark Evans called a recess at 10:55. He then called the meeting back to order at 11:01.

Chair Mark Evans opened the floor for public comments.

Jeff Smith, owner of Alleghany Cable Vision suggested providing WIFI at the fairgrounds in exchange from signage stating the “WIFI is provided by”. He explained some of the options to help provide this for the county.

Colette Nester explained her second annual Earth Day community litter pick up. She explained it was to begin at 9am at Miles Reality on Saturday 21st.

Seeing no other movement Chair Mark Evans closed the public comment section.

County Manager Mike James gave an update on the courthouse committee meeting from last week. He explained at the end of the meeting the committee was in favor of studying the commissioners conference room and maybe more information of switching the court date from Tuesdays to Thursdays. Next, he went over the completion of the public New River access. Then he went over the county employee health insurance; he explained what the renewal with the current insurance company would be and gave market place comparisons with the other bids. He then went over the insurance options and noted it needed to be decided by the end of the month. He then asked the Board to meet at 6:30 PM prior to the joint meeting with the town on April 30th to decide on the insurance.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked if there would be an option to add chamber members to an insurance coverage. County Manager Mike James said with the new pool that may be possible, but they would need to explore that more.

County Manager Mike James noted the AHS baseball team will be hosting the conference tournament the week of April 30th. He then added the commissioner’s forum is tomorrow night at the library and will be livestreamed as well as recorded.

Commissioner Larry Prince said he thanked Colette Nester for her work on the Earth Day roadside clean up. He said he would like for the commissioners to adopt a highway to help clean up the county.

Commissioner John Irwin said, “I would encourage everyone to go back and look at the uh March 19th uh commissioners meeting you may find that extremely interesting. I would urge you to compare the written word uh to the broadcasted word. It is so interesting as a matter of fact that I won’t comment until after I have spoken to the attorney that I have an appointment with this afternoon and with that my doctor requested that I come in early to see if I’m well so with your permission I will leave sir.” He then left the meeting.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if the paving at the park could be completed yet. County Manager Mike James said no because at the last commissioners meeting

there was a consensus to wait for the public feedback before making any decisions. Commissioner Bobby Irwin said so that will put us behind and will not be ready for the next veterans event. He noted he would like to see that on the next agenda for action. Commissioner Bobby Irwin then asked if there could be a flag pole at the business development center. Next, he mentioned the brick sale. He felt with resent issues at the sheriff's office he felt the need to look quickly into a third and fourth School resource officer.

Commissioner Tom Smith said he would like to thank Dale Caveny for his efforts getting Alleghany County a New River access.

Chair Mark Evans asked that everyone keep the law enforcement officers and dispatch employees in their thoughts.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 4:0

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans
Chair of the Board