



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 21st, 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 Mark Evans called the meeting to order at 10 AM. He led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans then explained there needed to be an addition of a closed session after item M. commissioner comments under legal counsel.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

AGENDA

Monday, May 21, 2018

10:00 A.M.

- 10:00 Meeting Called to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for May 21st, 2018 Meeting
- A. 10:05 Spotlight Business, S&H Outlet – Robbie Pruitt
 - B. 10:10 Recognition of EMS and Dispatch
 - C. 10:15 Public Agenda Comments

 - D. 10:30 Ed Powell, Powell and Powell
Re: Opioid Litigation
 - E. 10:45 Shauna Whitehead and Bill Heath, Muddy Creek Café
Re: Update and Grand Opening
 - F. 11:00 Rebecca Jones, Social Services
Re: Child Protective Services Investigations and Assessments
 - G. 11:15 Karen Evans and Lisa Osborne (Page 1-11)
Re: Uniform Guidance Conflict of Interest Policy
 - H. 11:25 Dale Caveny and Sarah Dalton
 - 1. Marketing update
 - 2. Discussion of terms and conditions of use for using Alleghany County brand materials
 - I. 11:45 General Business
 - 1. Logo Trademark and Policy Discussion
 - 2. WCC Board of Trustee Appointment

 - J. 12:00 Consent Agenda
 - 1. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (Page 12-33)
 - 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 Approval of Late Application
 - f. Request for Release of Residential Solid Waste Fee
 - g. Request for Refund and PUV classification

- h. 2018 Board of Equalization and Review Minutes
- i. Resolution for Reappraisal Schedule
2. EMS and Dispatch Resolution (Page 34)
3. General fund budget amendment # 21 in the amount of \$1,491 (Page 35)
4. General fund budget amendment # 22 in the amount of \$5,000 (Page 36)

K. Public Comments – 30 minutes

L. County Manager Comments

1. Jail Inspection (Page 37-38)
2. Sparta School Renovation Update (Page 39-47)

M. Commissioners Comments

(Addition) Closed Session – Legal Counsel - 143-318.11. A-3

N. Adjourn

Robbie Pruitt of S&H Outlet explained what his store is and went over some of the items that the store carries. He said they opened November 17, 2017 and have had grown 147% in the last five months. He said the store is open 10 am to 6 pm Monday through Saturday.

County Manager, Mike James read over the resolution recognizing National EMS and Dispatch week. The Board thank all EMS and Dispatch workers.

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

Ed Powell of Powell and Powell Associates explained the opioid crisis nationally and locally. He then went over the current law suits and the action from the judge so far on the case. He then introduced Gary Whitaker as his partner. Gary Whitaker went over some statistics for the state, region, and county. He noted a growth of almost four times as many deaths from 2001 to 2016. He then went over the history of the opioid epidemic and how it has affected the county economics. He then went over the defendants for the suite and why those are groups are being excluded.

Chair Mark Evans gave an example of the high prescription rates and the lack of knowledge of the addictiveness. He then said he is not interested in large amounts of money, but he wants a fix that will matter to the citizen not just money changing hands to make it better. He asked why individual counties are suing instead of the state as a whole.

Ed Powell explained that tobacco litigation at the state level and how the money was distributed from several years ago. Then he explained how the county suite would be different in that the money would come directly to each county instead of distributed by the state.

Chair Mark Evans said it is hopeful that the state and the counties are working together on the issue. He then asked about payment.

Ed Powell said it will be contingent on what the county receives.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if individual doctors would be sued in this litigation.

Ed Powell said they felt the bigger issue was at the distribution level where they withheld information about the addictiveness of the drug and didn't correctly report amounts of drugs being issued.

Commissioner Tom Smith was concerned how this would affect the local doctors, pharmacies and health department. So, this will be geared toward the distributors and manufactures.

Gary Whitaker said he believed the doctors have been misled. He said they would not be suing doctors or pharmacies they were going to the source of the problem.

Commissioner John Irwin asked about tracking veterans usage of opioids. He said it is not tracked then he felt their numbers are way low.

Shauna Whitehead from Muddy Creek Café 60 South Main Street gave a brief update on their opening date of June 1st. She talked about some work left to be completed and all their new staff working to make opening a possibility.

Chair Mark Evans called for a five-minute recess at 11:09 am. He then called the meeting back to order at 11:17 am.

Rebecca Jones from social services, went over the child protective services investigation and assessments program. She went over the guidelines and timeframe for their investigations. She explained after all the background work there is to be done then based on the evidence they have to make a decision in the best interest of the child.

Commissioner Tom Smith as if they have to contact the family before going.

Lisa Osborne, social services director said if it is serious abuse or neglect they do not, but if it's just like a dirty house then yes, they will contact the family first.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if health care provider or teachers were mandated to contact social services if they suspect something is going on.

Rebecca Jones said yes everyone in the state of North Carolina is required to report.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked if there are any studies that link suicide to abuse. Lisa Osborne said she did not have those statistics, but they have to do a child fatality review, so they could look into that. Commissioner Larry Prince said he felt like with that information there could be something done proactivity.

Karen Evans stated that she and Lisa Osborne were present to ask for approval on the Uniform Guidance Procurement policy and Uniform Guidance Conflict of Interest Policy. She explained these were for purchases of goods using federal money, so it would only effect social services and some Alleghany in Motion. She then explained it needed to be in place by June 30th to be compliant with the federal and state regulations.

Commissioner John Irwin asked if there was documentation of people reading the contracts.

Lisa Osborne this said yes, she has documentation that they have read their contracts and the guidelines.

Commissioner Tom Smith clarified this would only effect social services and Alleghany in Motion.

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

Dale Caveny went over the progress of the marketing plan and introduced the new marketing coordinator.

Sarah Dalton, Marketing Coordinator went over the new websites and explained when it went live for people look at it and let her know if things needed to be added or changed.

Dale Caveny invited the Board and the citizens to the New River access ribbon cutting that will take place this Thursday at 11 am.

The Board then discussed options of trademarks for the marketing logo and encouraged Dale Caveny and County Manager, Mike James to

Chair Evans went over the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustee appointment request and a nomination Mrs. Susan E Murphy.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to appoint Susan E Murphy to the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

The Board discussed a large release because the property was sold and the bid at the foreclosure sale did not cover the total cost.

Tax Administrator, Rita Miller explained a late application. Commissioner John Irwin asked about the untimely filled. Rita Miller explained that untimely filled is as of December 31. Rita Miller said in the past they have always been approved.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the late request. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over the request for residential solid waste. The appraiser said it was livable and that in her recommendation it should be denied.

Chair Mark Evans explained the next one was of present use value and land ownership. So there needs to be a refund on the payment since the land was not transferred.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the exception of the prior approve item E. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

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

County Manager Mike James went over the clean jail inspection. He went over the school renovation project. Then he went over the No Guts No Glory Mud Bog this Memorial Day weekend. Then he went over the June 1-3 weekend events. The County Offices will be closed for Memorial Day next Monday and there will be a parade and ceremony on Monday. He then discussed \$133,000 from a drug bust \$41,000 land sale from the Department of Justice holding the money because of the sanctuary city issues.

Chair Mark Evans explained the new agenda procedure for Commissioners wanting to add items. He then went over some information he learned in Raleigh last week at the County Assembly Day.

Commissioner Larry Prince requested from pressure to get rid of the traffic light. He said he had heard from merchants that they are feeling the impacts.

Commissioner John Irwin said he had went over the completed work orders and the work order system. He said it is a marvelous tool and will be able to track dollars, man hours and materials. He noted it was looking good.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin noted land use value process has changed and would like an update on the new process. The brick sale will end July 14th. Alleghany High School Softball are going to play Chatham Central tonight in the 5th round of the playoffs.

Commissioner Tom Smith clarified the agenda process.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to enter into closed session under 143-318.11. A-3 with the inclusion of Ed Powell and Gary Whittaker. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Evans called the regular meeting back to order and stated no decisions were made in closed session.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans
Chair of the Board