



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 21st, at 10:00 am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Bill Osborne, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner John Irwin, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Drew Temple.

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

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

10:00 am

10:00 Meeting called to order

Pledge of Allegiance and invocation

Approval of agenda

- A. 10:05 **Public Comments/Agenda Items:** 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. 10:10 **Presentations to the Board:**
 - i. Tonya Thompson, Gould Killian – Audit presentation
 - ii. Dare Stromer, BROCC – Community Services Block Grant presentation

- C. 10:30 **General Business (Board action requested)**
 - i. Soil and Water District Board – 61 Fund acquisition (pages 1-4)
 - ii. Aaron Ray Tompkins, Cooperative Extension - Out of state travel request, Cattleman's conference (pages 5-8)
 - iii. Megan Edwards, Recreation Director
 - a. Davis field update
 - b. Disc golf course "tee box" alternative
 - iv. Karen Evans, Finance Officer
 - a. Budget schedule (page 9)
 - b. BB&T signature cards (pages 10-13)
 - v. Communities in Schools appropriation suspension (pages 11-19)
 - vi. Nick Hawks, Chief Deputy
 - a. Domestic Violence grant
 - b. Victim Services grant (underserved population)
 - vii. Drew Temple – unsolicited offer to purchase price
 - viii. Request for County Attorney, Donna Shumate to find all property owned by Alleghany county
 - ix. 2nd Amendment Resolution discussion (no action)

- D. 11:00 **Consent Agenda** (Board action requested)
 - i. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (pages 20-29)

- a. License Plate Agency month end report
- b. December auto refunds
- c. December real and personal property refunds
- d. Real and personal property releases
- e. Delinquent taxpayer contracts
- f. Board update on appeal to the Property Tax Commission
- ii. General Fund budget amendment #10 in the amount of (\$6,165) to undo prior budget amendment approved on 11/18/19. Will transfer monies to cover approved expenses. (page 30)

E. 11:15 **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.

F. 11:25 **County Manager Comments**

G. **County Commissioner Comments**

H. **Adjourn**

Public Comments/Agenda Items

No comment.

Presentations to the Board

Tonya Thompson, Gould Killian – Audit presentation

Tonya Thompson went over the audit presentation.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked Tonya Thompson to get the tax rates of comparable counties in NC.

There was discussion between the board and Tonya Thompson about the letter Alleghany county received from the LGC and how the process will go after sending the response letter.

BROC – Community Services Block Grant

A representative from BROC explained the Community Services Block Grant and the process of choosing recipients.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the CSBG funds proposal. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

General Business

Soil and Water District – 61 Fund acquisition

Alvin Dixon explained the request for the Alleghany County Soil and Water District Board to move the 61 fund out of Finance and to Soil and Water.

Karen Evans, Finance Officer said this request is allowable.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to accept the recommendation to move the 61 funds to Soil and Water. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. 5:0

Aaron Ray Tompkins – out of state travel request

Aaron Ray Tompkins explained his request to travel out of state for the Cattleman’s conference.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the out of state travel. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Megan Edwards – Davis Field update

Megan Edwards explained the proposal to repurpose Davis Field.

Megan Edwards requested approval to have AJ Todd move the dirt from Lions Club to the Sparta School field.

The board decided Megan Edwards needed to put the dirt moving out for bid.

Megan Edwards explained her request for breakaway fences and portable dugouts at Davis Field.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to authorize the portable expenditures not to exceed \$10,000. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Megan Edwards – alternative tee box options

Megan Edwards explained the quote from Alleghany High School masonry class is \$200 per pad (tee-box) and no labor cost.

Megan Edwards said there are other options for tee-boxes such as tamped dirt or gravel.

Donny McCall offered to donate the (18) 5x12 pieces of astroturf for the disc golf course.

Karen Evans – budget schedule

Karen Evans explained the 20/21 budget schedule.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the 20/21 budget schedule. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

Karen Evans - signature cards

Karen Evans explained the request for new signature cards.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve new signature cards. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Karen Evans explained she has the response letter ready to the LGC and explained the 2 changes she had made since last corresponding with the board.

Communities in Schools appropriation suspension

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to amend the Communities in Schools appropriation to \$10,000. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. 2:3 (aye: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin nay: Commissioner Mark Evans, Chair Bill Osborne, Commissioner Larry Prince)

Commissioner Larry Prince explained the county can either pay for this on the front-end with appropriating Communities in Schools or let the children go and pay for it later.

Commissioner Bill Osborne explained he didn't think it was right for the county to go back on the promise we made to pay Communities in Schools \$20,000.

Nick Hawks, Chief Deputy – Grant opportunities

Nick Hawks explained the two in-kind match grant opportunities he is pursuing which would not cost the county any additional money.

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

Drew Temple – Unsolicited Offer to Purchase

Drew Temple explained the clerical error in the previous Unsolicited Offer to Purchase and corrected the offer amount to \$21,600.

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

Donna Shumate – All property owned by Alleghany county

County Attorney, Donna Shumate explained she has made copies of all 26 parcels owned by Alleghany county.

County Attorney, Donna Shumate explained the problem with the school giving the property behind the Rescue Squad to them.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin explained the property the Town of Sparta owns with a well on it at the Fairgrounds.

County Attorney, Donna Shumate said the town needs to make the old well safe before the county takes over the property.

2nd Amendment Resolution discussion

Commissioner Bill Osborne explained the reasoning behind not using the word “sanctuary” when discussing the Second Amendment Resolution.

Sheriff Bryan Maines explained he and the board, as elected officials are required to uphold the constitution and protect the citizens of Alleghany county.

Commissioner Mark Evans read an excerpt from the oath he and the rest of the board took when taking office and said he agreed 110% with Sheriff Maines.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said he supported the amendment and agreed with Sheriff Maines.

Commissioner Bill Osborne welcomed all citizens to the next meeting to speak.

Commissioner Larry Prince said he supports the constitution and especially the 2nd amendment.

Commissioner John Irwin told of his service to America and encouraged people to be respectful of others’ opinions when the Second Amendment Resolution is discussed on February 3rd.

Commissioner Mark Evans explained the authority of the Board of Commissioners does not include making laws.

Consent Agenda

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

Rita Miler, Tax Administrator explained the Property Tax Commission appeal.

Public Comment

George Peebles explained his support for the Second Amendment.

County Manager comments

County Manager Michael Carter thanked the board and staff for their support over the past two weeks.

County Manager Michael Carter explained the changes to the Rec/Maintenance position

County Manager Michael Carter explained his goal to revisit the Custodial position.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said the fire district maps are in and asked for each commissioner to have a big copy of each.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said the LGC wants us to show progress and he hopes to have his questions answered before he will sign the response letter.

Chair Bill Osborne thanked the board and thanked everyone for coming out today.

Adjourn

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Temple
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne
Chairman