

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 3, 2012, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chairman Larry Cox, Vice-Chair Tom Smith, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner John Goudreau, Commissioner Karen Leys, County Attorney Donna Shumate and County Manager Don Adams. Clerk to the Board Karen Evans was absent.

County Manager Don Adams called the meeting to order. He explained the reason that he is opening the meeting is because this is the organizational meeting where the Chair and Vice-Chair are selected. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer.

County Manager Don Adams stated that closed session for (a) (3)—legal needs to be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the amended agenda for this December 3, 2012, meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, December 3, 2012
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer
Motion on Agenda for December 3, 2012 meeting
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes
B. Election of Chair & Vice-Chair
C. Public Hearing
RE: Alleghany in Motion (AIM) Community Transportation Program Grant
D. Public Hearing
RE: Alleghany in Motion (AIM) 5310 Grant (“ED” Van)
E. Register of Deeds’ Bond
F. Appoint Clerk to the Board
G. Appoint County Attorney
H. Board Appointments
I. Rules of Procedures
J. General Business
1. General Fund Budget Amendment – Social Services Child Daycare
K. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel
NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal (added)
L. Adjourn

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

Dennis Smith talked to the Board about two years ago vocal prayer at the meeting was changed. He further talked about how petitions by all of the former Commissioners and 1,250 citizens were ignored. He explained that considering all of the blessings that Alleghany County has been blessed by it seems ungrateful that the Commissioners remain silent when thanking God. He talked about the Christmas season and providing a silent thank you for gifts isn’t what people do. He asked the Board to consider reinstating the vocal prayer. He said that he visited 98 NC counties’ websites; 77 have a vocal prayer, 11 ignore God, 5 didn’t provided enough information to know what they do, 3 have a moment of silence, 1 has a nonsectarian prayer and Alleghany County has a silent prayer. He read a prayer that was offered by the US Senate.

Frank Hazard talked about there are whiners and doers. He talked about there are a lot of people who do a lot for this county. He said thank you to those people. He talked about volunteers and clubs that do a lot of work, he says thank you for your service. He thanked several different emergency services groups for their service. He thanked the churches for working together and supporting each other. He talked about the parades in the county, and thanked the parade organizers for their service. He thanked the people who pick up the trash along the sides of the roads. He thanked people who worked on the trees in the rock building this season. He thanked the employees of Alleghany County who work for less pay than they can get elsewhere. He thanked everyone who ran in the recent election. He thanked the Board of Commissioners for their service. He talked about he believes anyone can stand up and make a fool out of themselves, which he said he has done. He further talked about he doesn’t want to limit free speech. He suggested limiting public comments to five minutes, keep them to things of the County and have them at the end of the meeting.

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

Commissioner Smith made a motion to nominate Larry Cox as Chairman. Commissioner Leys seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to nominate Tom Smith as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Cox declared the public hearing open at 6:46pm regarding Alleghany in Motion's Community Transportation Program Grant and asked for public comments.

April Hamm, Transportation Director, presented information to the Board about the Community Transportation Program (CTP) grant including the administrative application in the amount of \$154,273 with a reimbursement amount of \$131,132.05 with the costs to the County being \$23,140.95 with the actual costs being \$6,878.75 after the indirect costs reimbursement. She reviewed the capital application for one replacement van, logo for the van, brake lathe for the maintenance shop and A/C recovery cooling system for a total amount of \$52,540 with a reimbursement amount of \$47,286 with the costs to the County being \$5,254, which comes out of the Transportation Fund.

Commissioner Goudreau, April Hamm and County Manager Don Adams talked about the brake lathe and the importance of correctly using the lathe.

Commissioner Leys and April Hamm talked about saving money by using the lathe. April Hamm talked about they will save the 10% costs in one year.

Commissioner Goudreau talked about the price to replace the routers and making sure that we aren't putting unsafe vehicles on the road.

April Hamm stated that Transportation is only half of the County's vehicle fleet and the machine can be used for the other County vehicles too.

Chair Cox asked for public comments.

Chris Huysman asked for a dialogue among the Board about the equipment purchase instead of putting the work back into businesses that have been hit hard. He said that he isn't against the purchase but have the dialogue up front so the mechanics in the county could be able to bid on the same work.

Chair Cox asked for additional comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:56pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

County Manager Don Adams explained that no action is requested tonight on either public hearing. He further explained that both grants are on the next agenda.

Chair Cox declared the public hearing open at 6:57pm regarding Alleghany in Motion's 5310 grant ("ED" van) and asked for public comments.

April Hamm, Transportation Director, presented information about the 5310 grant application. She provided a history about the 5310 program was awarded in 2009 including the program started operation in May 2010 and have provided more than 5,200 trips for \$1 per trip, over 200 people consistently using it. She talked about this is a different type of program because it is a Federal program. She reviewed information about the grant application, which is for 2 years; operating budget in the amount of \$91,228 she is predicting \$6,400 in fares so the total operating is \$84,828. She further reviewed the matching money for the operating budget of Alleghany Council on Aging and the ADVP for a total of \$42,414 and the Federal amount would be the same. She reviewed the capital budget portion of the grant; tires, maintenance/repair, video cameras in the amount of \$8,715 with a 10% required match.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the first grant's first part does hit the General Fund but the second portion and this grant is in the Transportation Fund. He further talked about for years the General Fund didn't have to supplement the transportation program. He explained that the Transportation Fund has been using its funds to match this ED program. He further explained that he doesn't think the Transportation Fund can continue to pay that over the next 2 years but at this point if this Board follows through with this grant, it will take a General Fund supplement of \$21,000 per year.

County Manager Don Adams and April Hamm talked about the actual contract wouldn't be signed until July. He explained that he wanted to make the Board aware that the General Fund may have to supplement this grant.

Kingsley Booth stated that he would have liked to have heard about that in the very beginning so we could comment on it. He said that transportation is getting where you can't afford it. He further said that he was told at one time this county had taxis and people made money. He asked when you stop something you can't afford. He talked about except for the ED van, he understands that because of the disabilities but as for the rest of the program, we can't afford it.

Chair Cox asked for additional comments.

Commissioner Leys and April Hamm talked about the security cameras in this van. April Hamm explained that the State is requiring cameras in their vans but this van doesn't qualify because it is Federal.

Chair Cox asked for additional comments. None was received. He closed the public hearing at 7:08pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

April Hamm stated that she has the public involvement forms available for anyone that is here and she will include them with the grant applications.

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

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to approve the Register of Deeds' bond. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked about this next topic is just following the rules of procedures.

Chair Cox said that this is reappointing Karen Evans as the Clerk to the Board.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to reappoint Karen Evans as Clerk to the Board. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams asked Donna Shumate if she was willing to continue to serve as County Attorney.

Donna Shumate stated that she is.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to reappoint Donna Shumate as County Attorney. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

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

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|---|---------------|
| Alleghany Group Homes | Karen Leys |
| Appalachian District Health Department | Karen Leys |
| Blue Ridge RC&D | Tom Smith |
| Council on Aging | Tom Smith |
| Court Security Committee | Larry Davis |
| Extension Advisory Leadership Council | Larry Davis |
| Fairgrounds | John Goudreau |
| Fire Commission | Larry Davis |
| High Country Council of Government | Larry Cox |
| High Country RPO Advisory Committee | Larry Davis |
| Smoky Mountain Center | Larry Cox |
| Sparta Revitalization Committee | Karen Leys |
| Grayson/Alleghany Joint Water Authority | Larry Davis |

They also discussed the Job Link Management Team which is inactive. They further discussed appointments to the Northwestern Regional Housing Authority if Leo Tompkins doesn't want to continue to serve and the Grayson/Alleghany Joint Water Authority appointment is for 4 years.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the board/committee appointments as been discussed. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams reviewed each page of the rules of procedures.

Chair Cox talked about the possibility of adding more information about topics on the agenda and to have handouts in the packets available before the meeting.

Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Leys clarified that this is adding information to the agenda about each agenda topic and have documents before the meeting.

Chair Cox agreed.

Commissioner Goudreau said that he cannot support restricting people on the agenda or what they want to talk about.

Chair Cox stated that he didn't mean it to be more restrictive, just more informative.

County Manager Don Adams asked for clarification on what the Board is looking for on the agenda. He talked about if people can't give a description then there is public comments time. He asked the Board if this is what they are wanting.

Commissioner Smith said he didn't hear any restrictions on public comments, and he would have been uncomfortable with that.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the agenda process. He asked is he being instructed by the Board to have a line about each agenda topic.

Chair Cox and County Manager Don Adams talked about ways to proceed with this topic.

Chair Cox said that he feels comfortable with people knowing what they want to talk about and if they don't, they can come to public comments.

Commissioner Smith said he doesn't have a problem with it.

Commissioner Leys said she would like to know what the subject is and doesn't want to restrict anyone on the agenda.

Commissioner Goudreau said he is fine with the present format.

Commissioner Davis said he would like a little more information.

County Manager Don Adams said if the Board will play it by ear and see how it goes with the next agenda then go from there.

Chair Cox continued reviewing the current rules of procedures.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the rules of procedures as discussed tonight. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 4:1 (John Goudreau).

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #6 in the amount of \$1,472 for child daycare. He explained that this is pass-through monies from the State.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #6 in the amount of \$1,472. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to enter closed session at 7:25pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal and (a) (6)—personnel. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn closed session at approximately 8:15pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Cox stated that no decisions were made during closed session.

Being no further business, Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to adjourn at approximately 8:17pm. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Larry Cox
Chairman