

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, February 2, 2004, at 6:30pm in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 90 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Eldon Edwards, Vice-Chair Warren Taylor, Commissioner Patrick Woodie, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. Commissioner Graylen Blevins, Commissioner Sandy Carter and County Attorney Ed Woltz were absent.

Chair Eldon Edwards called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Patrick Woodie opened the meeting with a prayer.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda for this February 2, 2004, meeting. Commissioner Patrick Woodie seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

County Manager Don Adams stated that John Hauser with Wilkes Community College needs to be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Warren Taylor amended his motion on the agenda to include John Hauser. Commissioner Patrick Woodie seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

AGENDA
Monday, February 2, 2004
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order
Motion on Agenda for February 2, 2004 meeting
Motion on Minutes for January 20, 2004 meeting
- 6:35 Mary Walker
RE: Tax Collection Report
- 6:45 John Hauser (added)
RE: Cluster Development
County Business
1. Northwest NC CEDS Report
 2. FY 04/05 Budget Schedule
 3. Fireworks Display
 4. Farmland Preservation Program
 5. Other Business
 6. Public Comments—30 minutes
 7. Adjourn

Commissioner Patrick Woodie made a motion to approve the January 20, 2004, minutes. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

Mary Walker, Tax Administrator, presented the tax collections report. She explained that she needs the Board to authorize her to advertise the tax liens.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to authorize Mary Walker to advertise the tax liens according to the General Statutes. Commissioner Patrick Woodie seconded the motion.

Mary Walker, Tax Administrator, spoke about the County needs an ordinance authorizing the 2% discount for taxpayers to pay their taxes at a discounted rate in August. She explained she will bring the ordinance back to the Board before May.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 3:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained the concept of the cluster development program that John Hauser is working on through Wilkes Community College.

John Hauser with Wilkes Community College showed the Board a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Northwest North Carolina Advanced Materials Cluster Development Initiative.

Chair Eldon Edwards stated his appreciation to John Hauser for his good presentation and would like to speak on behalf of the Board for the support of this initiative.

Commissioner Warren Taylor stated that there are a lot of economic development initiatives but he hasn't seen one this detailed. He further stated his support.

Commissioner Patrick Woodie talked about Wilkes Community College and John Hauser working on this project and his support for this initiative.

Commissioner Patrick Woodie stated that each Commissioner received complete copies of the Northwest North Carolina CEDS reports for the Region and for Alleghany County individually. He explained that for Federal agencies to fund initiatives like things Mr. Hauser talked about, each County needs to adopt the report. He further explained that each report has things in it that he supports and things that he doesn't support.

The Board decided to wait until all of the Commissioners are present to discuss the report.

County Manager Don Adams handed out a tentative budget schedule. He reminded them that he asked the Board to set two or three budget hearings during the last week in May or the first week in June.

The Board discussed dates for the meetings. They decided to have budget hearings on June 2, 3 and 4 starting at 1:30pm each day.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he will ask everyone at the next meeting whether the Board wants to have a planning budget meeting in March or April.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he is asking the Board whether the Board wants to have the fireworks show on July 4th since the 4th falls on Sunday this year. He explained other events that will be going on July 3rd. He stated that he is planning the fireworks on July 4th unless he hears otherwise from the Board.

The Board agreed.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter and a budget from the Alleghany County Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program stating that they are asking the Board for \$1,000 to help administer this program.

Commissioner Patrick Woodie made a motion to approve \$1,000 for the Farmland Preservation Program. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed a letter from Charlie Moon that the Commissioners received regarding the Planning Department. He stated that Mr. Moon is asking the Planning Office to concur with things that happened that doesn't have anything to do with the Planning Office; such as, purchasing land and right-of-way issues. He further stated that he has told Mr. Moon that he is willing to answer any direct question that Mr. Moon has regarding the subdivision ordinance and any interruption of the subdivision ordinance.

The Board agreed with the County Manager that the Planning Office can't answer questions on legal issues.

County Manager Don Adams reminded the Board that Jan Gwyn came before the Board to ask for the solid waste fee to be released. He stated that she has reported that Ashe County is the only county that does not charge her type of business a solid waste fee.

Commissioner Patrick Woodie stated that he supports her business but thinks it sets a precedent to release a non-profit business solid waste fee.

Chair Eldon Edwards and Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about how the Transfer Facility relies on the solid waste fees from all of the businesses in the County and releasing these fees would hurt other businesses.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he will let Ms. Gwyn know that her request has been denied.

Chair Eldon Edwards mentioned a resolution about Durham County regarding impact fee ordinance for funding school capital costs.

The Board of Commissioners talked special taxes like this including a fire tax.

Chair Eldon Edwards stated if anyone is interested in attending the NCACC conference in March to see Karen Evans.

Chair Eldon Edwards asked the County Manager if a letter has been sent regarding the Western Loop.

County Manager Don Adams stated that a letter has been sent, and he has received a phone call regarding the letter.

Chair Eldon Edwards asked for public comments. None were received.

Being no further business, Commissioner Patrick Woodie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Eldon Edwards
Chairman