



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

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner Bill Osborne, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin, and County Attorney Donna Shumate.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to remove the Recreation Director and Clerk to the Board/Assistant County Manager job descriptions from the agenda. Commissioner John Irwin modified his motion to include removing item v. from the consent agenda. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 2:3 (aye: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin nay: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince)

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA

Monday, October 21, 2019

10:00 am

10:00 Meeting called to order
Pledge of Allegiance and invocation
Approval of agenda
Motion on minutes from 10/7/19 (pages 1-6)

- 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. 10:15 **Presentations to the Board:**
- i. Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Business Innovative Occasions
 - ii. Daniel Roten, Emergency Management – contingency budget requests (pages 7-8)
 - iii. Jeff Cox, Wilkes Community College – Strategic plan, Alleghany building project

- iv. Jen Greene, Appalachian District Health Department (pages 9-38)
- v. Julie Wiggins, High Country Council of Governments
- vi. Pat Polley, Debbie Brewer, Alleghany County Public Library
- vii. Lisa Osborne, Social Services – Revenue vs. Expenditure (page 39)

C. 11:00 **General Business (Board action requested)**

- i. Lisa Osborne, Social Services – CSSA pay increase (pages 40-44)
- ii. JCPC Board appointment – Lee Cornett (page 45)
- iii. Marketing agreement (pages 46-48)
- iv. Communities in Schools discussion

D. 11:15 **Consent Agenda (Board action requested)**

- i. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (pages 49-71)
 - a. September auto refunds
 - b. September real and personal property refunds
 - c. Real and personal property releases
 - d. Delinquent taxpayer contracts
 - e. Solid Waste release requests
- ii. Vote on Poppies Way (pages 72-76)
- iii. Recreation Director job description (pages 77-79)
- iv. Clerk to the Board/Assistant County Manager job description (pages 80-83)
- v. MOU for shared use of recreational facilities (pages 84-89)

E. 11:35 **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. 11:45 **Interim County Manager Comment**

- i. Fairgrounds financial report (pages 90-95)
- ii. Alleghany County Detention Center POC Approval (pages 96)

G. **County Commissioner Comments**

H. **Adjourn**

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve minutes from 10/7. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

Public Comments/Agenda Items

No comment.

Presentations to the Board

Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Business

Karen O’Leary gave a Chamber update and introduced Denise McIntyre and Innovative Occasions.

Denise McIntyre highlighted Innovative Occasions.

Daniel Roten, Emergency Management

Daniel Roten explained his budget amendment request to take funds from a revenue line to an expense line to be disbursed.

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

Daniel Roten explained his request for highway use tax for 2 Emergency Management vehicles.

Daniel Roten explained his request for installation of lights on his new Emergency Management truck.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve Daniel Roten’s requests be paid out of the contingency funds. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Daniel Roten explained his request to be the Domestic Preparedness Region sponsor for receiving 9 message boards and distributing them to the rest of the region then being reimbursed by them.

Chair Mark Evans asked for Daniel Roten to reach out to some surrounding counties and get more information on his proposal and report back to the board.

Jen Greene, Appalachian District Health Department

Jen Greene gave a general overview of AppHealthCare.

Jen Greene highlighted their portable dental clinic and said they hoped to grow that program.

Jen Greene explained some funding challenges facing AppHealthCare.

Jen Greene said AppHealthCare will be coming to each board of commissioners in the district to talk about the gap between appropriations and operating expenses.

Jen Greene said there have been no cost of living adjustments which would cost AppHealthCare in the long run because of not being competitive with salaries.

Jen Greene explained that AppHealthCare has to maintain a certain level of service to receive grants.

Julie Wiggins, High Country Council of Governments

Julie Wiggins gave a history and overview of the High Country Council of Governments.

Phil Trew explained his department works in 4 major programs: grants, long-range planning, GIS and transportation.

Phil Trew explained various projects he is working on in Alleghany county.

Phil Trew said he is working with the county currently with reworking the fire districts.

Phil Trew said the COG publishes a weekly bulletin to keep everyone updated on grant deadlines.

Julie Wiggins said they are unveiling a new website soon and would take into consideration publishing these deadlines there as well.

Pat Polley, Debbie Brewer – Alleghany Public Library

Pat Polley thanked the board for pay raises to the Alleghany Public Library and said they would be back for the next 2 years to fully reach the goals of their salary study.

Pat Polley gave an update on events and projects at the library.

Debbie Brewer highlighted the “Go For Life” program, Matter of Balance class, VITA program, and shared that with the NC Cardinal program, you can check out books from any library in the NC Cardinal system.

Recess

Jeff Cox, Wilkes Community College

Jeff Cox updated the board on Wilkes Community College’s strategic plan.

Jeff Cox gave an update on the WCC building project in Alleghany county; he said the plan is to reduce the scope of the project and focus on the welding portion only located in a stand-alone building in the back corner of the current WCC parking lot.

Jeff Cox said with the board’s consent, WCC still believes the new facility could be open next fall.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to allow WCC to proceed the building on the property as discussed. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Lisa Osborne, Social Services expenditures and revenues

Lisa Osborne presented Social Services' revenues and expenditures.

Lisa Osborne explained the need to bump the part-time Supervised Visitation Worker.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to increase the hourly rate to the amount requested. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

General Business

JCPC Board Appointment

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve Lee Cornett to the JCPC board. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Marketing Agreement

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to table the agreement. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded.

Chair Mark Evans explained this agreement is simply to finish out the year as to not lose momentum in this area and could be regrouped at the end of the year.

Ricky Brown explained how the Chamber of Commerce decided on the direction to take the Marketing program.

Vote 2:3 (aye: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin nay: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince)

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the Marketing agreement as submitted. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 3:2 (aye: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince nay: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin)

Communities in Schools discussion

Chair Mark Evans explained the JCPC had additional funds allocated to them from the state that could go towards Communities in Schools.

Chair Mark Evans said there could be some additional SRO funding coming to the county.

Chair Mark Evans said we could be getting some help on the jail meals lawsuit cost.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to table the CIS discussion until we get answers to the aforementioned questions. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Consent Agenda

Rita Miller explained the correction to the LPA month-end report.

There was discussion among the board and Megan Edwards about various aspects of the Recreation Director job description such as the amount of work, hours in the office, Fairgrounds board, Recreation Advisory Commission, certifications and the need for an assistant.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to table the Recreation Director job description. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded.

There was discussion among the board about various aspects of the Assistant County Manager job description such as duties and responsibilities, signature and attestation issues that could arise and how to remedy them.

Vote on first motion 2:3 3 (aye: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin nay: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince)

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to table the Clerk to the Board/Assistant County Manager job description.

Commissioner John Irwin conceded his motion for lack of a second.

Chair Mark Evans explained the MOU for shared use of the recreation facilities.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 3:2 (aye: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince nay: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin)

Public comments

No comment.

Interim County Manager comments

Fairgrounds Financial Report

Chair Mark Evans explained the financial report included in the board packet.

Chair Mark Evans said essentially the annual cost is \$15,000 from the county.

There was discussion among the board about how to decipher the fairgrounds financial report as presented.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin expressed that he is not satisfied with this report and would like more specific details regarding the expenses at the fairgrounds.

Chair Mark Evans said Karen Evans has completed her certification through the UNC School of Government as a Finance Officer.

Chair Mark Evans said there was an employee appreciation lunch Friday at 90 S Main Street including maintenance.

Chair Mark Evans said a benefit is showing up in a reduced amount of tonnage at the transfer station.

Chair Mark Evans said he attended a groundbreaking in Wilkes at Synergy Recovery which is an addiction recovery and mental health provider who serves this region.

Chair Mark Evans said the data from NCHIP is very positive and on track to have no increases in premiums.

Chair Mark Evans said the state budget shows \$2M for court-house renovations in Alleghany county and \$40,000 for our local child advocacy center but the budget has not yet passed.

Chair Mark Evans said Aaron Ray Tompkins is doing an ag tour on November 5th.

Chair Mark Evans said there is a \$9,000 increased allocation for JCPC.

County Attorney, Donna Shumate explained the circumstances around the foreclosed-upon property next to the transfer station.

Chair Mark Evans said Affinity Living Group indicated they are about 45 days out from starting their project in Alleghany.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked that the board be made aware when a county vehicle is involved in an accident.

Commissioner Bill Osborne said the 2nd Annual Highland Cattle Auction was a great accomplishment for the county.

Commissioner John Irwin said 50% of the people polled in the recreation survey were from the Council on Aging. Commissioner John Irwin said the survey is not representative of the needs of Alleghany county.

Commissioner John Irwin said he made an incorrect statement “where if we moved the PSAP to the EMS building if needed a paramedic could come in and offer advice; by state statute, that cannot be done.”

The board discussed a retreat meeting November 6th at 9:00 am.

Commissioner Larry Prince said in response to Commissioner Bill Osborne comments, it was a great show and they were impressed with Alleghany county.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Temple,
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans,
Chairman