



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 1st, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Mechelle Luffman, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Michael Carter, County Attorney, Heather Klein and Clerk to the Board Drew Todd.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

## AGENDA

Monday, November 1, 2021

6:00 pm

- 6:00 Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Approval of agenda

**6:05 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; please use the sign-up sheet provided.

### **Public Hearings: (page 1)**

**Alleghany in Motion 5311 Administration Grant**

**Alleghany in Motion Capital Grant**

**Alleghany in Motion 5310 Elderly and Disabled Operating Grant**

#### **A. 6:20 Presentations to the Board:**

- i. 90 S Main report – David Daniel, RND Architects
- ii. Earthquake update – Dana Phillips, NCOSBM

#### **B. Request for Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11.(a)-3 to consult with an attorney**

#### **C. 6:40 General Business:**

- i. Telephone/Internet bids
- ii. PDVFD request for 20/21 remaining contingency funds (pages 2-6)
- iii. High Country RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) reappointment – Bill Osborne (page 7)
- iv. Earthquake Fund(21) budget amendment #1 in the amount of 57,230 to rollover EQ insurance proceeds for repairs (page 8)
- v. Fines/Forts budget amendment #1 in the amount of 30,000 to budget for fines and forts separate funding (page 9)

- vi. Aware propane bid
- vii. Award fuel oil/kerosene/off-road diesel bid
- viii. Recreation Commission minutes – Commissioner Mechelle Luffman (page 10)
- ix. Recreation Commission property transfer – County Attorney, Heather Klein
- x. Insurance Committee minutes – Commissioner Bobby Irwin (page 11)

**D. 7:00 County Manager Comments**

**E. 7:10 County Commissioner Comments**

**F. Adjourn**

**Public Comments**

None.

**Public Hearings: Alleghany in Motion**

**5311 Administration Grant**

Chair Bill Osborne opened the public hearing on 5311 Administration Grant.

Chair Bill Osborne closed the public hearing on 5311 Administration Grant.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the 5311 Administration Grant. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

**Capital Grant**

Chair Bill Osborne opened the public hearing on the Capital Grant.

Chair Bill Osborne closed the public hearing on the Capital Grant.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the Capital Grant. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

**Elderly and Disabled Operating Grant**

Chair Bill Osborne opened the public hearing on the Elderly and Disabled Operating Grant.

Chair Bill Osborne closed the public hearing on the Elderly and Disabled Operating Grant.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the Elderly and Disabled Operating Grant. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

**Presentations to the Board**

**90 S Main report – RND Architects**

David Daniel reviewed RND Architects' draft report on 90 S Main. He said they would be interested in the next phase of the project.

**Earthquake update**

Dana Phillips gave an update on open, active and completed earthquake relief projects in Alleghany County.

**Request for Closed Session**

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

Chair Bill Osborne said no action was taken during closed session.

## **General Business**

### Telephone/internet bids

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to accept the lowest bid for telephone/internet bids under GS143-29b and GS143-131a(3) to Ideacom. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 2:3 (aye: Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Bobby Irwin nay: Chair Bill Osborne, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Mechelle Luffman)

Commissioner Mark Evans said we don't have a contract and he did not favor taking action tonight.

### PCVFD request for funds

Larry Adams explained PCVFD's request for the remainder of their contingency funds from 20/21 with receipts for \$22,165.45.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve PCVFD's request for \$22,165.45 out of 20/21 contingency. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

### High Country RPO RTAC appointment

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to appoint Chair Bill Osborne to the committee. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Earthquake fund budget amendment

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve 21 Fund budget amendment #1. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Fines/forts budget amendment

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve Fines/forts budget amendment #1. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Propane bid

Drew Todd explained the bids received for propane.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to award the propane bid to Blue Ridge Energy. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Fuel oil/kerosene/off-road diesel bid

Drew Todd explained the fuel oil/kerosene/off-road diesel bids received.

County Attorney, Heather Klein said if the Board wants the products to be awarded separately, they would have to be bid separately or specified in the bid that can be awarded separately.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to award the fuel oil/kerosene/off-road diesel bid to Hometown Oil. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Recreation Commission minutes

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman highlighted the meeting of the Recreation Commission.

### Recreation Commission property transfer

Heather Klein said the action described in the Recreation Commission minutes can be achieved with a deed. She said after the transfer, the County can make the determination on what to do with the property.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to direct County Attorney, Heather Klein to prepare deeds to transfer property from the Recreation Commission to the county. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

### Insurance Committee minutes

Commissioner Bobby Irwin read minutes from the Insurance Committee meeting.

**County Manager comments**

County Manager, Michael Carter asked the Nominating Committee to meet before the next commissioners meeting. He said he would speak with Daniel about appropriate times for the Emergency Communications Committee to meet. He said once the necessary legal work has been conducted, the Recreation Committee should get together to begin talking about plans for that potential property.

**County Manager comments**

Commissioner John Irwin said in response to the “letter to the editor” published in the Alleghany News there was an email sent to the Commissioners calling them communists. He said when the property was purchased, the title was placed in the Alleghany County Parks and Recreation Committee but that couldn’t happen because only individuals and a legal entity can own property. He explained the actions the Board of Commissioners took was on the advice of counsel. He said they are not trying to hide anything or take anything from anyone.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman said we aren’t trying to kick the Lion’s Club out of the Lion’s club building but it is a way to make the deed correct. She said the Chamber did a marvelous job at Trunk-N-Treat.

Commissioner Mark Evans said the Lion’s Club property name had to be fixed. He said he is not in favor of kicking them out or removing the Sparta Lion’s Club.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked the Commissioners for the annex opening. He thanked the Courthouse committee. He thanked the Town of Sparta for providing traffic control. He thanked the VFW for helping with seating. He said the Veterans Day ceremony is Veterans Day at 11 o’clock. He said he did not appreciate a member of the Lions Club calling him a communist. He said his intentions are not to take the Lions Club away from the members.

Chair Bill Osborne said the Lions Club will keep doing business as usual up there. He thanked Commissioner Bobby Irwin and Commissioner Mechelle Luffman for helping him with Trunk-N-Treat. He congratulated County Manager, Michael Carter on County Manager of the Year award from the HCCOG.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Todd  
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne  
Chairman