

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 18, 2016, at 10:00am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Tom Smith, Vice-Chair Karen Leys, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, County Attorney Donna Shumate, and Clerk to the Board Lauren Linker.

Chair Smith stated that he would like to make a few additions under General Business. Number four brush grinding and number five a proclamation concerning the current county manager.

With those changes being made Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the agenda for July 18, 2016 Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

AGENDA  
Monday, July 18, 2016  
10:00 AM

10:00 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation  
Motion on Agenda for July 18, 2016, Meeting  
Motion to Approve Minutes from April 12, 2016 meeting

10:05 A. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator

1. June Releases and Refunds - Standard release and refund of both automobile and real property taxes due to reasons listed on the report. Actions Requested – Vote on releases and refunds.
2. June Collections Report - Monthly 2016 collection rates compared to 2015 and 2014 monthly collection rates. No action requested.
3. Enforced Collections Report – Summarizes enforced collections for the month of June 2016. No action requested.
4. Payment Agreement Report - List of people with payment agreements who did not make payments. No action requested.
5. Solid Waste Fee Release Request – Action Requested – Vote on the release.
6. Present Use Value Late Application – A late application has been submitted for present use value. Action Requested – Vote on the late application.
7. Fiscal Year End Report – 98.06% Collection Rate. No action requested.
8. Order to Collect 2016 Property Taxes – Action Requested – Vote to order the collection of 2016 property taxes.

10:10 B. Lisa Osborne, Social Services Director

RE: Special Assistance Recipient Funding  
New legislation requires counties to provide 50% match for Special Assistance Recipients. The required amount for Alleghany County is approximately \$4,000. Action Requested – Vote to allocate an additional \$4,000 for the Special Assistance Recipient program required match.

10:20 C. General Business

1. Review Officer – The Planning Director will need another backup Review Officer effective August 1. Action Requested – Appoint Toni Williams as the backup Review Officer.

2. Agriculture Advisory Board – Action requested – Vote to appoint Stacey Barker to fill an existing vacancy and vote to reappoint Colette Nester, David Gambill and Johnny Wishon to full three-year terms.\_
  3. Voting Delegate for NCACC Annual conference – Action Requested– Vote to select a Commissioner to represent the County at the annual conference.
  4. (Addition) Brush Grinding
  5. (Addition) Proclamation Concerning the Current County Manager
- D. Public Comments—30 minutes
  - E. Commissioners Comments
  - F. Closed Session – NCGS 143.318.11 (a) (6)-Personnel
  - G. Adjourn

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to approve the minutes from April 12, 2016. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller, Tax Administrator went over the vehicle tax refunds from the vehicle property tax system.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the refunds. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller next went over the refunds and releases under the old vehicle property tax system.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the releases and refunds. Commissioner Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over the real property release and refunds for June.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the real property release and refunds for June. Commissioner Davis seconded Vote 5:0

Rita Miller then went over the collection report and the enforced collection for the month of June. She went on to explain a motor vehicle appeal and what all the different values were.

Chair Smith asked Rita Miller what her recommendation was and she explained why she had chosen the NSDS value of \$13,700.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve the accessor's recommendation at \$13,700. Commissioner Evans seconded Vote 5:0

Rita Miller explained a residential solid waste fee release request. She stated that it was for a building on Main St and the owner had requested it before, but at the time there were two apartments in the basement being used so it was not approved. She went on to explain that the property since then had suffered a flood and the cost to repair is too much and the building is actually up for sale.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve solid waste release request. Commissioner Irwin seconded Vote 5:0

Rita Miller then went over present use value application that was left over from the Equalization and Review Board. She went on to explain that the Board needs to decide whether to allow the late application.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the late application. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller explained the end of year report and noted that the collection rate had reached 98.06% this year. She went on to inform the Board that they would need to order her as the Tax Administrator to collect the 2016 property taxes.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion ordering Rita Miller, Tax Administrator to collect the 2016/2017 property taxes. Commissioner Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Lisa Osborne Social Service Director explained their special assistance program and legislation indicating that each person on the program should receive \$34 more to help offset their care with a 50% match from the County. She went on to say that she was requesting \$4,000 to adhere to the County match.

Chair Smith asked if the most of these people are elderly.

Lisa Osborne said yes or they have suffered a traumatic brain injury so they're in a nursing home or some type of residential care facility not necessarily in the County, but because they were at one point a resident of the County we still serve them.

Commissioner Irwin asked if it was really supposed to end next year.

Lisa Osborne stated from what the State had told them the \$34 was only for this year yes, unless they decide to extend it. She noted that the care program will go on it is just the \$34 that expires in 2017.

Commissioner Leys asked Lisa Osborne to explain why she is just now coming to them with this issue instead of at budget time.

Lisa Osborne explained that the legislation had just past this after the budget. She said she had no knowledge of it when she was working on their budget that it was passed after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Irwin asked how Lisa Osborne would be asking for the money, on a monthly bases or all at one time.

Lisa Osborne stated she assumed all at once, but that it was her understanding that the State was still unsure how they would be administering the funds.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he would recommend the money having its own line item so the money can be easily tracked.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve to \$4,000 to abide the match from the State legislation. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams went over the request for a backup review officer in his absence. He went on to explain what the review officer would do. He then stated that that he recommended Toni Williams be named the backup review officer because she has some knowledge of this and works with Travis Dalton our Planning Director and Review Officer so they could work together on each of these.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to appoint Toni Williams as the backup review officer. Commissioner Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained a letter asking to appoint Stacey Barker and reappoint Colette Nester, David Gambill and Johnny Wishon to the Agriculture Advisory board all in full three-year terms.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to approve the appointments. Commissioner Leys seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams explained that the Board would need to select a voting delegate for the Annual Conference.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to appoint Chair Smith as the voting delegate at the NC Annual Conference. Commissioner Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams went over the addition to the agenda of wood waste/brush grinding. He explained the bids and the recommendation by Public Works Director, Josh Green. He went on to say they haven't been able to get ahold of the low bidding company yet and the specs in the bid contract say they should start tomorrow.

County Attorney Donna Shumate said her recommendation would be to table the topic until there is more communication between the companies because you can't just not give the lower bid the opportunity if they show up ready to grind.

Commissioner Leys said she would rather wait until Josh Green has the opportunity to speak with them. She went on to say that the lower bid is the same people that did the brush grinding a few years back and she had heard so many complaints on the quality of the mulch.

Chair Smith read the proclamation for County Manager Don Adams in appreciation of his 19 years of service to Alleghany County.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the proclamation. Commissioner Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Don Adams said he has appreciate and enjoyed serving the citizens for the past 19 years.

Chair Smith opened the floor for public comments. Seeing none Chair Smith then closed this section.

Commissioner Evans thanked County Manager Don Adams for his service and level of professionalism. He went on to say that he appreciates all the people serving to protect the citizens locally and across the Country.

Commissioner Davis wanted to thank County Manager Don Adams for all that he has done for the County.

Commissioner Irwin said the bond money is starting to be dispersed from the education bond. He went on to thank the law enforcement and emergency management people for all that they do. He explained that he had known Don for many years and he looked around at all the things that Don has been a part of. He stated that County Manager Don Adams has made such a footprint in this County.

Commissioner Leys thanked County Manager Don Adams for all that he has done throughout the years for the County. She went on to reiterate her appreciation to all the law enforcement and encouraged people to show their appreciation.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to enter closed session. Commissioner Davis seconded. Vote 5:0 10:50am

Chair Smith stated the Board was back from closed session and no decisions were made.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans  
Chair