



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 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 Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Tom Smith, Commissioner John Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, County Manager Mike James, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Drew Temple.

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Chair Evans led the pledge of allegiance and Commissioner Larry Prince gave the invocation.

Commissioner Larry Prince so moved a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0.

**AGENDA**  
Monday, August 20, 2018  
10:00 am

- 10:00 Meeting Called to Order
  - Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
  - \*Amendment to the Agenda:** Update from Sheriff Maines
  - Approval of Agenda
  
- 10:05 **Public Hearing for Regional Housing & Community Service Corporation (Public notice attached) – Page 1**
  
- A. 10:30 **Public Agenda Comments:** 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. 10:45 **Presentations to the Board**
  - i. Social Services Adoptions (Shane Atwood)
  - ii. Veterans Advisory Committee
  
- C. 11:05 **General Business**
  - i. Offer to purchase county property (Board action requested) – Page 2 of packet
  - ii. Offer to lease county property (Board action requested) – Page 3 of packet
  
- D. 11:25 **Consent Agenda** (Board action requested)
  - i. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator - Pages 4-48 of packet
    - 1. Auto Refunds
    - 2. Real & Personal Property Refunds
    - 3. Real & Personal Property Releases
    - 4. Request for Release of Solid Waste Fee
    - 5. Request for Approval of Late Application

- ii. Resolution Authorizing Assisted Living Revenue Bonds  
Pages 49-51 of packet

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. 12:05 **County Manager Comments**

- i. Vaya Health financial statement Pages 52-56 of packet
- ii. Building permit report Page 57 of packet
- iii. Transfer station update
- iv. Sparta School construction update
- v. Review of county tourism smart device app
- vi. Upcoming meeting schedule

G. **County Commissioner Comments**

H. **Adjourn**

**Sheriff's update**

Bryan Maines updated on events of 8/11 vehicle chase and gun battle involving the Sheriff's Department. Through many hours of interviews and investigation, the suspects were believed to be in Florida. One suspect was arrested leaving the apartment the suspects had been staying in. The second shooter was taken into custody later Saturday and is recovering from injuries sustained while trying to extract him from the apartment.

**Public Hearing**

Chair Mark Evans opened the public hearing.

County Manager Mike James explained the Tax-Exempt Bond Financing with regards to how it impacts the residents of Alleghany County (no financial impact).

Chair Mark Evans closed the public hearing.

**Public Agenda Comments**

Chair Mark Evans opened the public agenda comments.

Dennis Crouse of the Veteran's Advisory Committee, DAV spoke with regard to surfacing Veteran's Park. He is concerned with tar and chip because he has seen the tar and chip tracked in and out of plants, will have tar all over the side of your car, tar will get on the wheels of a wheelchair, hands and on the sidewalk. Dennis thinks the park needs to be asphalt because more people and events are going to be going on. He said the tar and chip could damage the bricks the Veterans have sold for the patio and walkway. Dennis thinks if we can't afford to pave the parking lot now, let's wait until we can. Need more bids from larger companies.

Chair Mark Evans closed the public agenda comments.

**Presentations to the Board**

Shane Atwood made a presentation about the different types of adoptions and DSS's involvement in each type. He outlined how to search for children available for adoption. Shane then talked about the process DSS goes through in screening and selecting families and matching them with children. If the adoption committee approves the placement, visits, trial periods and then a trial placement all must be completed before a petition is filed then a legal adoption. There is a desperate need for foster parents in Alleghany County. The increase in children available for adoption and foster children is substance.

Robert Overbay made a presentation from the Veterans Advisory Committee. He said the brick sales were a great success and the contractor has been selected to begin phase 1 of the construction. Robert feels many veterans and citizens are opposed to the tar and chip option for Veterans Park. He also thinks official functions should be exempt from \$30 fee for using the facilities.

County Manager Mike James said \$40,000 was budgeted for surfacing Veterans Park.

Chair Mark Evans opened discussion regarding tar and chip vs paving.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked how long will tar and chip last as opposed to asphalt?

County Manager Mike James doesn't have an objective answer; wear depends on traffic. He does think tar and chip is a reasonable alternative.

Commissioner Prince said the rear parking lot at Sparta UMC is tar and chip done by DeBord and they are well satisfied, they have never had a problem and durability depends on the quality of the work.

Commissioner Smith is prepared to honor the \$40,000 commitment to surface the parking lot.

Robert Overbay said if we are only talking about \$11,000, that difference can be raised.

Commissioner John Irwin agrees we should maintain the funding to surface the parking lot at Veterans Park but wondered if we should wait until the Veterans Council can raise the difference. Also, Commissioner John Irwin stated the VFW paid for the \$30 charge to use the pavilion at the memorial that was brought up in the 8/13/18 meeting.

Ronnie Presnell said tar and chip is not a good option for the parking lot.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin proposed a \$5,000 increase from the Beamer property and a \$5,000 increase from the General Fund; he said if you look at the past few meetings, people want the asphalt and that it would be much more convenient for people who enjoy the park. Commissioner Bobby Irwin stated if we wait beyond the time A1 will hold this quote, we are going to be looking at more money.

Chair Evans would like to see asphalt because of the long-term investment. He said \$40k was budgeted and then give the veterans the opportunity to raise the difference. He would like to get a vote on the next agenda to make a decision regarding surfacing Veterans Park.

### **General Business**

Commissioner John Irwin motioned to accept bids for purchase of county property. Chair Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner John Irwin motioned to accept lease agreement contingent upon repairs. Commissioner Smith seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Prince motioned to approve consent agenda. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

### **Public Comments**

Chair Mark Evans asked if anyone would like to address the board on any items.

No comments.

### **County Manager Comments**

County Manager, Mike James outlined Vaya Health financial statements and building permit report.

County Manager, Mike James gave an update regarding the transfer station. He said the first round of paving has been completed; grading and excavating to widen entrance, new scale house and scales will be next.

County Manager, Mike James updated the meeting on the SES construction project. It is up to the school to finish paying for the project.

County Manager, Mike James reminded the board the first meeting in September will be on the 4<sup>th</sup>. He also said we will have a joint meeting with the Sparta Town Council on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

County Manager, Mike James congratulated Sheriff Maines, Captain Hawks and his team on working hard and catching the fugitives; NCSBI, US Marshall's Office and the Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri and his team for all their hard work.

County Manager, Mike James said he had received several Animal Control phone calls. He strongly recommends to revisit and possibly updated the Animal Control Ordinance

**Commissioners comments**

Commissioner John Irwin complimented the maintenance department.

Commissioner Prince does think the animal policy should be revisited. He also said if the preference at Veterans Park is asphalt, he is satisfied with the \$40,000 commitment.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin recommended if the Forest Service is going to look at the fairgrounds, they should look at all properties including the BDC to avoid a lawsuit.

Commissioner Smith said he is concerned with the length of the construction project at Sparta School.

Commissioner Prince motioned to adjourn. Commissioner John Irwin second. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

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Drew Temple  
Clerk to the Board

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Mark Evans  
Chair