



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 21, 2017, at 10 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 Lauren Linker.

Chair Mark Evans called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin led the pledge of allegiance and Chair Mark Evans gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans noted a name, Brittany Perry, that needed to be added under the Social Service update.

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

AGENDA

Monday, August 21st, 2017

10:00 am

- 10:00 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for August 21st, 2017 Meeting
- A. 10:05 Spotlight Business, Gils Jeans and Things – Gil Thadani
- B. 10:15 Resolution of appreciation to Kenny and Cheryl Harris - (Action Requested) (Page 1)
- C. 10:25 Public Agenda Comments
- D. 10:40 Rita Miller, Tax Administrator – (Page 2-9)
1. Auto Refunds-VTS System - Action Requested
2. Auto Releases- Old System - Action Requested
3. Real Releases - Action Requested
4. Real Refunds - Action Requested
5. Tax Collection Report
6. Enforced Collection Report
7. Payment Agreement Report
- E. 10:50 Charity Ballou
Re: Social Services update
- F. 11:00 Josh Greene, Public Works Director– (Page 10-13)
Re: Annual Report
- G. 11:10 Karen Evans, Finance Officer
1. Signature Cards (**Action Requested**) (Page 14-19)
2. Job Title Change (**Action Requested**) (Page 20-21)
- H. 11:15 Karen Evans, Finance Officer and April Hamm, Human Resources
Re: Personnel Policy Revamp (**Action Requested**) (Page 22-83)
- I. 11:30 Sheriff Bryan Maines
Re: Update on Strategic Plan
- J. 11:45 Dale Caveny, Business Development Center Director
Re: Marketing Update and Funding Allocation (**Action Requested**)

K. General Business

1. Reimbursement Resolution for Maintenance Shop (**Action Requested**) (Page 84)
2. Alleghany Memorial Hospital Discussion
3. General Fund budget amendment #1 to budget for asbestos removal at Sparta Elementary School in the amount of \$31,800. (**Action Requested**) (Page 85-87)

L. Public Comments – 30 minutes

M. County Manager Comments

N. Commissioners Comments

O. Adjourn

Gil Thadani of Gils Jeans and Things gave a short history of how he came to Alleghany County and how he came to open his business. He spoke about the evolution of his business from what his original plan was, to today's business.

Chair Mark Evans recognized and thanked Kenny and Cheryl Harris for their dedication to children of the County. County Manager Mike James read the resolution to the public and presented a copy to Kenny and Cheryl Harris.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Kenny and Cheryl Harris. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans then opened the floor for public agenda comments. Seeing no movement, he closed that section.

Tax Administrator, Rita Miller went over the vehicle release and refunds for the month.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the adjustments. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over the releases and refunds from the old taxing system.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over the tax collection report, enforced collection report and payment agreement report. She then gave a quick summary of some upcoming topics from the tax office.

Brittany Perry of social services explained what the foster care program is and how children become part of the foster care system.

Chair Mark Evans asked what the number of foster children for this year looked like compared to the past years.

Lisa Osborne, Director of Social Service, stated the numbers had increased for sure over last year's numbers, but stated there were many different reasons for the influx.

Charity Ballou from social services went over all the steps of how families can become a foster family.

Commissioner John Irwin asked about drug screening for the families.

Josh Green, Public Works Director gave an annual report from his departments. He went over the duties and tasks of all the departments and their annual growth over last year.

Finance Officer Karen Evans, explained to the Board the need for approval of the new signature cards resolution to add Jennifer Boyer as the new accounting technician in the finance office.

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

Karen Evans explained the need for the title change of the accounting technician.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the title change to Deputy Finance Officer. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Finance Officer Karen Evans and HR April Hamm explained how they revamped the personnel policy. April Hamm gave a quick summary of each section that was updated then turned it over to the Board for discussion.

Chair Mark Evans went over the longevity policy to explain more clearly how longevity is rewarded.

The Board then discussed different aspects of the personnel policy and discussed some additional ideas. The Board decided to make a few updates before voting on the document.

Sheriff Bryan Maines gave a quick summary of his department's strategic plan and focused mainly on the Senior Safety Program portion of the plan. He went over the issues that will be discussed at each meeting of the program.

Dale Caveny from the Business Development Center went over the county marketing plan updates, the images for the campaign and the request of \$3,000 of the allocated money to contract with the artist for images for the marketing plan.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to allocate the \$3,000 for the request. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Ricky Brown discussed the future of Alleghany Memorial Hospital and the new model for the business. Craig James thanked Warren Taylor for the support and leadership to bring the Board to this position. He then explained the new expansions of the facility.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to remove the conditions from the allocated \$80,000 to show the Boards commitment. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded.

The Board discussed the specifics of the project and services along with the commitment of funding from the local area for the hospital. They noted as of today they have raised \$800,000.

Chair Mark Evans said the Board can move forward with budgeted amount for this year and then have further discussions about future support a little later.

Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James went over the reimbursement resolution for the maintenance garage.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James went over the General Fund budget amendment number 1 in the amount of \$31,800 for the asbestos removal at Sparta School.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #1. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Daniel Roten, Emergency Management Coordinator gave a summary of an active shooter training that was conducted last week at Alleghany High School. He thanked all the different departments that were involved even some from outside the county.

Chair Mark Evans opened the floor for public comments. Seeing none he closed that section.

County Manager, Mike James noted the surplus sale on August 26th. He then thanked Clerk to the Board, Lauren Linker for facilitating the Opioid Forum and noted that turned out very well. He went on to explain the next meeting will be on Labor Day and suggested it simply be moved to Tuesday. Next, he went over some statistics for the county compared to the State on different topics.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked about the maintenance building start date and timeline.

County Manager, Mike James said he would have all that information for the Board at the next meeting.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans
Chair