

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 15, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was held in the Commissioners Boardroom, also known as Multi-Purpose Room 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 15th day of September, 2014 at 6:00 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: C.B. McKinnon, Chairman; Lorraine Meltz, Vice-Chair; Cal Stiles, member; and David Wood, member. Commissioner Jordan was absent. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Assistant Clerk to the Board; R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board; and Candy Roberts Anderson, County Finance Director.

Present from the media was Matthew Osborne of the Cherokee Scout; and Ralph Robinson of Local TV4. DVD copies of commission meetings may be purchased at Local TV4.

Chairman McKinnon read the boards adopted ethics statement.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Meltz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

Modification of Agenda:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to add discussion for Peachtree Convenience Site hours under County Manager Items. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the minutes of July 31, 2014 and August 18, 2014. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Meltz, Stiles and McKinnon. Voting against the minutes was Commissioner Wood. Motion passed 3-1.

Public Forum:

During public forum the following items were discussed:

- Mike Davis introduced himself and shared his interest in serving Cherokee County on the Board of Health and the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.
- Commissioner Wood spoke in opposition of Fracking.
- Chuck Grant questioned budget, employee retention and timing of employee bonus.

At 6:30 p.m. the chairman called for a 5 minute recess.

Meeting resumed at 6:35 p.m.

Commissioner Wood spoke about employee bonus and said that he had opposed.

Finance and Budget Items:

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to waive a \$20 occupancy tax late

fee, due to the business being closed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a budget revision for reclassification of the budget for the Landfill's horizontal bailer. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for the FAA grant match of \$1331.00, for the approach survey and obstruction evaluation for Western Carolina Regional Airport. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously. This project was approved at the April 7, 2014 commission meeting.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a budget revision for the Cherokee County Health Department pass-thru grant, named Project Lazarus, from the Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Cherokee County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve use of restricted sales tax funds for Cherokee County Schools for soil testing at Andrews High School stadium and Murphy Elementary School boiler. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a budget revision for the health department for State funded travel and training for the new WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) system. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for carry-over and restricted funds not expended in the prior year. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the current tax releases and refunds, as presented by Delenna Stiles. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center (HVPWC) board member Tom Flinn gave an update on the financial status of HVPWC and presented a revised fee schedule. A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve the proposed fee schedule. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to appoint Mr. Michael (Mike) Davis to the Cherokee County Board of Health for a three-year term. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Stiles, Meltz, and McKinnon. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Wood. Motion passed 3-1.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the revised lease between Cherokee County and TVA. This was due to a reduction in office space that TVA leases at the County DSS building on 64 West. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Meltz, Stiles and McKinnon. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Wood.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a renewal lease between Murphy Medical Center and Cherokee County for the Cherokee County Transit building on 64 West. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the Cherokee County Saddle Club lease after revising items #13 and #14. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Valley River Humane Society (VRHS) agreement between VRHS and Cherokee County. Motion seconded by

Commissioner Meltz. Commissioner McKinnon and Commissioner Wood opposed. Motion failed.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve the Jail Medical Plan for the Cherokee County Detention Center. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adopt the 2015 State holiday schedule for Cherokee County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

The assistant county manager announced the September 27, 2014 NCDOT Big Sweep cleanup at Hiwassee Lake.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table the Nantahala Regional Library Board of Trustees appointment until next meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to appoint Mr. Michael (Mike) Davis to the Cherokee County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, Commissioner McKinnon nominated Mr. Dana Jones for appointment to serve Cherokee County on the Evergreen Foundation Board. A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the nomination of Mr. Dana Jones. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Town of Murphy Sewer Line Project across the HVPWC property. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board agreed on the submission of the following proposed NCACC Legislative goals:

- Goal submitted to clerk by Commissioner Stiles: *Rescind 113-415.1 "Local ordinances prohibiting oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities invalid; petition to preempt local ordinance." Boards of County Commissioners should be granted local control over whether oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities shall be allowable within their respective counties; and should they be allowed, Boards of County Commissioners should have local authority to determine any additional local regulation they deem proper and needful.*
Motion made by Commissioner Wood to submit goal to NCACC. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- Goal submitted to clerk by Commissioner McKinnon: *Within the North Carolina Vehicle Tax System, allow for the blocking of transfers of certificates of title or the issuance of new certificates of title on all property possessing a Vehicle Identification Number under the Division of Motor Vehicles upon which taxes are due until such time as all taxes are paid in full.*
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to submit goal to NCACC. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wood made a Motion to submit a proposed goal *to support the current law concerning inter basin transfer of water.* After discussion, the Motion failed. The board supports the current law, but did not see this as a suggested legislative goal.

County Manger Items:

The county manager discussed the need to modify the hours of the Peachtree convenience site to forty (40) hours per week. A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to change the hours of the Peachtree convenience site to fall in line with all of the other sites; and, to avoid part-time employees falling under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act, which would create additional and unbudgeted costs for the county. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon.

Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Meltz, McKinnon and Stiles. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Wood. Motion passed 3-1.

Concerning manned convenience sites, Commissioner McKinnon said that he would like to propose a pilot site in the near future, where a 24 hour camera system would be added to a currently manned site. He said the Mountain Folk Center would be ideal for the pilot project.

Commissioner Meltz shared her concerns again, about the number of tires being stored at Tirezans on 64 West.

Chairman Items: None.

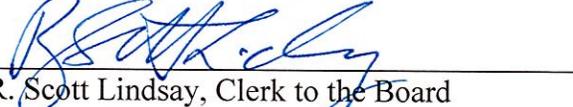
Commissioner items: None

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 o'clock p.m.



C.B. McKinnon, Chairman



R. Scott Lindsay, Clerk to the Board