

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 4, 2012, at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Ken Richardson, Vice-Chair Tom Smith, Commissioner Larry Cox, Commissioner John Goudreau, Commissioner Steve Roten, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans.

Chair Richardson called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, led the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 4, 2012, meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA  
Monday, June 4, 2012  
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer  
Motion on Agenda for June 4, 2012, meeting  
Motion on Minutes for May 21, 2012, meeting
- 6:35 A. Public Comments—30 minutes  
B. Public Hearing  
RE: E-911 Road Name  
C. Public Hearing  
RE: Rural Operating Assistance Program  
D. Public Hearing  
RE: Solid Waste Management Plan Update  
E. General Business  
1. Region D Development Corporation Reappointments  
2. Town of Sparta Conservation Amendment  
3. Logan Systems Contract—Register of Deeds  
4. Insurance Renewals  
F. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal  
NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel  
G. Adjourn

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 21, 2012, meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Richardson opened the public comments' portion of the meeting and asked for public comments.

Dennis Smith brought before the Commissioners' attention that the Bilderberg group secretly met over the weekend in Virginia. He explained the purpose of the Bilderberg group. He further explained Agenda 21 was probably a topic at their meeting. He talked about actions stemming from Agenda 21 and how the carbon tax will be administered. He reviewed how Agenda 21 impacts the United States/North Carolina and the actions if Agenda 21 continues. He talked about Charlie Daniels and his actions against Agenda 21. He asked the Commissioners to instruct the County Manager to examine the workings of the County and report back whether Alleghany County has been infected with Agenda 21. He further asked that the Commissioners pass a resolution opposing Agenda 21. He read Dare County's opposition resolution. He quoted a portion of the State of Tennessee's resolution. He quoted a portion of Gaston County's resolution. He asked the Board to oppose Agenda 21. He said that he would like to give copies to Commissioner Goudreau to share with each Board member. He read a prayer offered before the US Senate.

Chair Richardson asked for additional public comments. None were received. He closed the public comments' portion of the meeting.

Wendy Williams, E-911 Coordinator/Mapper, presented one road name for the Board's approval; Carranza Drive. She explained the location of the road.

Chair Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the 911 road name at 6:37pm and asked for public comments.

Commissioner Smith and Wendy Williams talked about there are two structures on the road and all property owners have signed the petition. She explained the process.

Chair Richardson asked for additional comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:39pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the road name as presented by the E-911 Coordinator/Mapper. Commissioner Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

April Hamm, Director of Allegheny in Motion, presented the Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) grant for FY 2012/13; \$47,563 for elderly and disabled transportation, \$5,772 for employment transportation, \$48,807 for rural general public transportation for a total of \$102,142.

Chair Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the ROAP grant at 6:41pm and asked for public comments.

April Hamm stated that there are public involvement forms on the Clerk's table that anyone can complete.

Chair Richardson asked for additional public comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:42pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Roten made a motion to approve the ROAP grant application. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Commissioner Smith and April Hamm talked about these are three programs in one grant.

Commissioner Cox and County Manager Don Adams talked about the money goes to Transportation for their operating costs.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Smith asked if it is working out with DSS. April Hamm talked about it is working better. She explained that having the DSS person in the office allows her access to the calendar to schedule trips for Medicaid clients when other trips are already scheduled.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the House has passed the mandated RFP as discussed earlier and if the Senate passes it and the Governor signs it then there would be a Request for Proposals for Medicaid transportation.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the draft copy of the Solid Waste Management Plan. He reviewed the changes in the Plan including the recent changes about motor vehicle oil filters and changes to the budget page about this is a cash-basis budget. He reviewed the requirements of the 3-year update. He explained that the final plan will be submitted for consideration at the next meeting.

Chair Richardson opened the public hearing regarding the Solid Waste Management Plan at 6:46pm and asked for public comments. None were received. He closed the public hearing at 6:47pm and reconvened the regular meeting.

County Manager Don Adams explained that we have all of the data collected and will present the resolution for consideration at the next meeting.

Commissioner Goudreau and County Manager Don Adams talked about the sections regarding electronic recycling and abandoned manufactured mobile homes in the plan.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from Region D Development Corporation requesting that Don Adams, Bryan Edwards, Dennis Gambill and Russell Sheets be reappointed to serve another 1-year term.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to approve the reappointments. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked about an email explaining the need for a conservation easement amendment for the Town of Sparta. He reviewed the purpose of the update including the description of the restricted areas, the property versus the restricted area and right of enforcement.

Commissioner Roten made a motion to approve the amendment to the conservation easement. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Commissioner Cox asked is there any indication that the Town would not enforce the easement.

County Attorney Donna Shumate said that there is no indication that they would not. County Manager Don Adams explained that this amendment protects Alleghany County even more.

Commissioner Goudreau asked the County Attorney about being the declarant and saying that the declarant shall enforce conservation.

Commissioner Goudreau, County Attorney Donna Shumate and County Manager Don Adams discussed the language in the amendment and the first easement. The County Manager and County Attorney discussed changing language in the amendment stating the Town of Sparta shall enforce the conversation easement. The County Manager talked about changing the language of where it refers to the declarant shall enforce to the Town of Sparta shall enforce.

Commissioner Roten agreed to amend his motion to include the new language. Commissioner Cox seconded the amended motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented a 5-year contract with Logan Systems for their services with the Register of Deeds office. He reviewed the proposed fee increase over the 5 years. He talked about the letter of the conversion of older deed books is being proposed to come out of the Register of Deeds Enhancement Fund. He explained that we have dealt with this firm for several years for our deeds system.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams talked about insurance renewals. He explained that the County has multiple insurances up for renewals; workers comp, property/liability, health. He explained the insurance summary before the Board showing the costs of the renewals that includes the 8.8% health insurance increase, which is included in the budget.

Chair Richardson talked about addressing the property/liability and workers comp first. He further talked about the increases are in the budget.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve property/liability and workers comp. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the inmate liability. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the remaining ones can be discussed but the push on time is the property/liability, workers comp and health insurance. He reiterated that the others can be discussed during the budget process.

Chair Richardson talked about there are five options for medical insurance, and the 8.8% option is built into the budget.

Commissioner Smith stated that the County Manager talked about hiring a consultant for next year.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the original quote was a 19% increase and the 8.8% increase cuts the benefits. He further explained that in the budget message he has requested a consultant/brokerage firm to assist in dealing with these issues now rather than wait until later in the fiscal year. He explained that once NCACC got out of the health insurance business and instead of coming asking for a Human Resource Officer, he is asking for \$2,000 for the consultant. He talked about department heads would like assistance to reduce costs and preserve benefits. He explained that he wants to try to develop a long-time relationship with the broker/consultant firm. He further explained that right now the County deals directly with CIGNA. He talked about trying to make our health plan more consolidated.

Commissioner Smith talked about it is not a one size fit all. County Manager Don Adams explained yes on the supplemental side but when you start reducing benefits you impact someone depending on their situation. The County Manager provided an example of the medical savings account.

Chair Richardson reiterated that before the Commissioners are 5 options. He asked for any other comments or questions about the 5 options.

Commissioner Cox talked about the 8.8% plan's benefits and 19% was to retain the current benefits. County Manager Don Adams agreed. Commissioner Cox listed out the difference between the two plans. County Manager Don Adams agreed. Commissioner Cox talked about there is significant differences and it depends upon what the individual employee uses. County Manager Don Adams talked about what he recommends versus what he can build into the budget. County Manager Don Adams

further talked about the impact will be to employees who use the deductible. Commissioner Cox talked about the County was thrown into this at the end of last year because of the NCACC. County Manager Don Adams talked about being fortunate to have had access to professionals and want those opportunities available to the department heads, more costs but that isn't all of it, costs have gone up, have lost children and families but that impacts the overall group age and explained why you want children on the plan because they bring down the overall age of the group. County Manager Don Adams explained that he is looking for a firm that can brokerage the larger agencies and can do the cafeteria plans also. The County Manager further explained that this is going to be a conversation every year and department heads wants to start early. Commissioner Cox asked about one possibility of joining larger groups. County Manager Don Adams explained that we need outside help on this because it will take State legislative actions because of joining larger groups. The County Manager talked about the safety net of a larger pool, it's not us and another county, and State insurance is an option.

Chair Richardson talked about everyone has to remember that is discussed every year by the General Assembly and a couple of counties have joined, the instability of the State's plan which has to be considered.

County Manager Don Adams said that he agrees and wanted everyone to think of a larger pool than a couple of counties.

Chair Richardson reviewed the plans including labeling each plan; 19% as plan 1, 12% as plan 2, 8.8% as plan 3, 14.99% as plan 4 and 11.25% as plan 5.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the 8.8% or plan 3 for the employees. Commissioner Roten seconded the motion. Vote 4:1 (Ken Richardson).

County Manager Don Adams pointed out that when looking at the 8.8% on the summary sheet and when looking at the budget there are different because of a couple additional retirees included in the budget.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to enter into closed session at 7:25pm under NCGS 143.318.11 (a) (3)—legal and (a) (6)—personnel. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn closed session at 8:08pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Richardson stated that no decisions were made during closed session.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the option to purchase 2.5 acres for the Piney Creek sewer system. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the option to purchase is 2.5 acres for \$25,000.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to approve to give the County Attorney approval to submit a bid on behalf of Alleghany County in the amount of \$257,250 at the foreclosure sale of the New River Service Authority property located in Alleghany County. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Being no further business, Commissioner Cox made a motion to adjourn at 8:12pm. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson  
Chairman