

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 6, 2005, at 6:30pm in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 90 South Main Street in Sparta.

Present: Chair Eldon Edwards, Vice-Chair Warren Taylor, Commissioner Graylen Blevins, Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon, Commissioner Ken Richardson, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans.

Chair Eldon Edwards called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Warren Taylor opened the meeting with a prayer.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 6, 2005, meeting. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, June 6, 2005
6:30 PM

- 6:30 Meeting Called To Order
Motion on Agenda for June 6, 2005 meeting
Motion on Minutes for May 3, May 16 and May 16, 2005 meetings
- 6:35 Karen Leys
RE: Energy Performance Contract Information
- 6:50 Amy Pardue
RE: Recreation Survey Results
- County Business
1. Land-Use Committee Discussions
 2. Boys Basketball Budget Amendment
 3. Health Department-CAP Budget Amendment
 4. E-911 Indirect Costs Budget Amendment
 5. Board of Elections Budget Amendment
 6. Building Inspections Budget Amendment
 7. Deed Stamps Budget Amendment
 8. Chelsea Lane Addition to State Maintenance System
 9. Regional Library Board Appointment
 10. Business Appreciation Day
 11. Other Business
 12. Public Comments—30 minutes
 13. Closed Session—NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—Legal
NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4)—Economic Development
 14. Adjourn

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 3, May 16 and May 16, 2005, meetings. Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Karen Leys gave the Board a brief presentation concerning an energy saving contract with Ameresco. She explained how the energy-saving program works. She further explained that they have received several positive comments regarding this program. She further explained that the Board of Education is here tonight to inform the Commissioners about the program but is not asking for any money. She stated that the Board of Education will be taking out a 12-year loan in

order to finance this project. She explained how the Board of Education will not lose any money regarding this contract.

Duane Davis gave examples of other energy saving proposals that have been used in the United States.

Commissioner Warren Taylor asked about who is responsible for the maintenance during the 12 years.

Karen Leys explained what the company is responsible for concerning the contract. She described the references' comments. She further described the benefits of the energy-savings contract. She explained that the monies for the contract will be paid out of their current expense and what is saved on energy will go towards the loan payment. She talked about Alleghany being the first North Carolina county to have a contract with the Charlotte-based company. She explained that if the energy costs go over the amount budgeted, Ameresco will write a check to the schools. She reviewed some of the items that they are talking about changing; lighting system, electric to propane in gyms. She stated that they have a list of items that Ameresco will work on. She stated the loan could be up to \$250,000 borrowed over a 12-year period.

County Manager Don Adams talked about ways to track the energy savings.

Amy Pardue, Planner/Recreation Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the results of the recreational survey that was completed by KPC Research. She reviewed the highlights of the presentation.

County Manager Don Adams asked the Board if they wanted to have discussions about the land-use committee members.

The Board gave their committee members' names to Amy Pardue.

Commissioner Warren Taylor mentioned that people had requested to him to have the committee meetings in the late evening around 7pm.

The Board of Commissioners and Amy Pardue discussed having Amy Pardue check the names to see if all of the areas are accurately represented. They discussed that the official list will come back before the Board for approval.

County Manager Don Adams asked that the Board vote on the committee list and create a timeline of the goals and objectives for the committee in the near future.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #37 in the amount of \$1,275 for boys' basketball. He explained the budget amendment reflects the revenues and expenses for the boys' basketball program.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #37 in the amount of \$1,275. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ken Richardson and Amy Pardue discussed the girls' basketball program.

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

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #36 in the amount of \$4,500 for the Health Department CAP program. He explained that this was approved at the last meeting.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #36 in the amount of \$4,500. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment E-911 fund #2 in the amount of \$11,422. He explained this budget amendment is for the indirect costs associated with the 911 operations.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #2 in the amount of \$11,422. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #38 in the amount of \$229 for the Board of Elections. He explained this is for a grant the Board of Elections received.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #38 in the amount of \$229. Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #39 in the amount of \$1,000 for Building Inspections. He explained that this is to replace their computer because it no longer works.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #39 in the amount of \$1,000. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented budget amendment General Fund #40 in the amount of \$30,857 for deed stamps. He explained how the County is mandated to spend a certain portion of the Register of Deeds fees for various programs.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to approve budget amendment General Fund #40 in the amount of \$30,857. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented a Department of Transportation petition requesting that Chelsea Lane be added to the state-maintenance system. He explained that the petition has all of the signatures of the property owners along the road. He further explained the process of submitting a petition.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the petition for Chelsea Lane to be added to the state-maintenance system. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams presented a letter from the Northwestern Regional Library requesting that Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon be reappointed to serve another term on the regional library board.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Sandy Carter

Herndon to serve another term on the regional library board. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about a letter the Board received from the Department of Transportation concerning a secondary road in Piney Creek they could not get the necessary right of way signed for paving the road. He talked about losing six or seven roads in recent years because of right-of-way issues.

Chair Eldon Edwards discussed a letter from Gordon Burns concerning Jack Martin's term has expired on the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees, and he has indicated that he will serve another term on the Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Ken Richardson made a motion to reappoint Jack Martin to serve another term on the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Don Adams explained Business Appreciation Day on June 16 at 5:30pm at the Blue Ridge Business Development Center. He further explained that this is to show appreciation to the local businesses and items offered by Wilkes Community College. He stated that he is asking the Board to approve the County giving the businesses, which attend this meeting, a solid waste fees gift certificate. He explained that the gift certificates could be \$10-\$15-\$20 gift certificates for only businesses that come to the meeting. He further explained that the gift certificates would only apply to business solid waste fees. He talked about the gift certificates being like the Christmas gift certificate program.

The Board of Commissioners discussed the amount of the gift certificates. They decided on \$15 for the gift certificates for Business Appreciation Day on June 16.

Commissioner Ken Richardson gave the Board an update of the County Assembly Day in Raleigh on May 25. Commissioner Warren Taylor, Chair Eldon Edwards and Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about the lottery issue and how it might benefit Alleghany County and school construction with the main point being that the monies would not be retroactive and can't be for debt reduction.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about the senate version of the budget takes away the ADM money, which equates to \$35,000 for the County.

Commissioner Ken Richardson mentioned that he attended an ARC meeting last week in Ashe County representing Alleghany County.

Chair Eldon Edwards asked for public comments.

Jane Phipps Boger stated her appreciation on behalf of Wilkes Community College for supporting the Business Appreciation Day.

DW Miles stated that he is glad that Amy Pardue is on Board. He further stated that no matter how land-use is addressed, it is still zoning. He said the Board doesn't need to take away the property owner's rights. He further said to throw away the 1990's plan and start from the beginning. He talked about the problems on getting the right-of-way's signed on secondary roads. He stated that the Mountain View situation is an overreaction and if left alone, in 18 months, grass would be growing on the track. He stated that the Board needs to be working for the local people.

Susan Reinhardt mentioned the County getting a breakdown from Blue Ridge Electric concerning what was used in 2004-2005 that could be used as a baseline on the energy-savings contract. She talked about calls from local people can also help address issues with the legislators.

Paul Reeves talked about how much money has the county lost by the State buying property and not doing anything with the property. He further talked about who supports the parks now and who uses them; Crouse Park and the Edwin Duncan property. He mentioned the State owning a lot of property that hasn't been developed and nobody being in charge.

Chair Eldon Edwards said that once the State owns property, it is up to them as what to do with the property, and it is up to the citizens to urge the State about using the property. He explained actions previously done by the County in relation to some State-owned land.

Chair Eldon Edwards and DW Miles discussed the State studying the land and then turning the land over for other uses. DW Miles stated that he has talked to Jim Harrell, and it takes a push from someone. Chair Eldon Edwards stated that they can look into it to see what is going on with that tract.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon and Paul Reeves discussed the location of the George Oliver property being where the North and South forks of New River are with four miles of good river access.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about when property is taken off the tax records, the County can't collect the property taxes.

Chair Eldon Edwards stated that he will see what we can find out about it.

Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to enter into closed session at 7:50pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)—legal and (a) (4)—economic development. Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

The Board of Commissioners took a brief recess.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to adjourn closed session and reconvene the regular meeting at 8:21pm. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Eldon Edwards stated no action was taken during closed session.

County Manager Don Adams talked to the Board about scheduling a public hearing on June 20 regarding Charleston Forge.

The Board of Commissioners talked about upcoming budget meetings.

Being no further business, Commissioner Warren Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm. Chair Eldon Edwards seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Eldon Edwards
Chairman