

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 18, 2005, at 10:00am in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 90 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

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

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer.

Commissioner Ken Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda for this July 18, 2005, meeting. Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

AGENDA  
Monday, July 18, 2005  
10:00 AM

- 10:00 Meeting Called To Order  
Motion on Agenda for July 18, 2005 meeting  
Motion on Minutes for July 5, 2005 meeting
- 10:05 Mary Walker  
RE: Tax Releases & Refunds
- 10:15 Amy Pardue  
RE: Preliminary Subdivision Plat Approval  
Land-Use Committee Discussions  
County Business
1. Fairgrounds : Lease Agreement & Citizen Request
  2. Special Appropriations Annual Reports
  3. Other Business
  4. Public Comments—30 minutes
  5. Adjourn

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 5, 2005, meeting. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

Mary Walker, Tax Administrator, discussed a memo from Rita Miller concerning the business audits that will be performed in October.

Mary Walker gave the Board information regarding charges and collections for the last fiscal year, outstanding balances for 1994-2003 and outstanding balances for business personal property. She talked about sending out notices to the delinquent taxpayers. She further talked about mobile home taxes and how to collect those taxes, taxes from bankruptcies and 2004-2005 discoveries.

Commissioner Warren Taylor, Commissioner Ken Richardson and Mary Walker discussed the tax levy and the all other category making a total due on each delinquent account.

Mary Walker talked about garnishments and bank attachments. She reminded the Board that the tax bills will be going out next week in a new format. She stated that if this format is used next year, the tax bills will include a line for delinquent taxes. She talked about the debt set-off

program.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins arrived at 10:14am.

Mary Walker continued talking about bringing information to the Board in September about the debt set-off program.

Mary Walker presented the June 2005 real property requests in the amount of \$250.53 for refunds and \$1,207.35 for releases.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the June 2005 real property requests in the amount of \$250.53 for refunds and \$1,207.35 for releases. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Mary Walker presented the June 2005 automobile requests in the amount of \$161.12 for refunds and \$708.77 for releases.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the June 2005 automobile requests in the amount of \$161.12 for refunds and \$708.77 for releases. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon and Mary Walker discussed the new format for the tax bills.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor talked about materials in the agenda packets for the Twin Oaks Mountain Estates preliminary plat approval with a letter from Amy Pardue stating that the road requirements from the subdivision ordinance will be met.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about Phase 1 and Phase 2 lot sizes being between one and five acres. She stated that her understanding is that the lots cannot be sold until the roads are completed in accordance with the subdivision ordinance or until the builder puts up a bond.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor and County Manager Don Adams talked about the right of ways in this subdivision and private driveways.

County Manager Don Adams further talked about the types of roads in this subdivision.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor talked about the Board including in the motion for Amy Pardue to remind the developer in writing of the subdivision ordinance requirements.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the plat subject to that letter being sent to the developer about the Board's requirement of a bond or completion of the roads according to the ordinance prior to selling any lots. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams discussed water and sewer in subdivisions.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon presented the 15<sup>th</sup> member for the land-use committee. She stated that Joe Ritchie on Brush Creek Road has agreed to serve on this committee, if the Board wishes to approve him. She further stated that Luetta Morgan as agreed to serve as an alternate for this committee.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to approve the 15<sup>th</sup> member and the alternate. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ken Richardson stated that he thinks each Commissioner should present an alternate. He talked about having more discussion on the alternates. He stated that he would like to approve the 15<sup>th</sup> member today.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon stated that was fine. She talked about the prior discussions concerning the alternates and their responsibility.

Commissioner Ken Richardson and Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the committee and the use of the alternates.

Commissioner Warren Taylor stated that a group of that size doesn't need alternates.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the committee needs to set their rules of operation.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor stated that the motion on the floor right now is to approve the 15<sup>th</sup> member, Joe Ritchie, and that has been seconded.

The Board voted on the motion on the floor. Vote 4:0.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor stated that he spoke to Chair Eldon Edwards, and he requested that the Fairgrounds discussions be tabled to give the County Manager more time to work out the details.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon informed everyone about the reason for not having the requested lawnmower race information and that she concurs with the delay until we have the information needed to make the decision.

County Manager Don Adams reminded everyone about the Fairgrounds purchasing property for \$180,000 to be paid annually with the last payment due in August. He talked about the County making the payments. He stated that he is looking at transferring the property to the County from the Fairgrounds board before the final payment is made. He informed everyone that the Fairgrounds board has been renting the house. He stated that the County Attorney has the information to transfer the property to the County. He further stated that there is a month-to-month renter in the house currently for \$600 per month. He talked about the County leasing the property. He further talked about the Fairgrounds board discussing leasing the property to have additional revenue and the expansion of parking.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about the erosion problems at the fairgrounds that need to be addressed.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor talked about using the garage for storage if it isn't included in the

lease. He further stated that if the County doesn't need the property then continue leasing it.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the pros and cons of leasing the property. He explained the actions of the Fairgrounds board regarding this property.

The Board of Commissioners discussed the fairgrounds property, fund raising and the Fairgrounds board.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to transfer the property to the County before making the final payment. Commissioner Ken Richardson seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon suggested that the County lease the property if the County doesn't have a need for the facilities. She talked about the lease payments will come to the County once the property has transferred and then the maintenance and repair will be the responsibility of the County.

Commissioner Ken Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about the property being insured by the County's insurance once the property has been transferred.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins and County Manager Don Adams talked about the current agreement is a verbal month-to-month lease and honoring the agreement that the Fairgrounds board has with the tenant.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the annual reports requested by the Board. He stated that currently department heads are scheduled from August to mid-April. He talked about scheduling the special appropriations groups.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager Don Adams talked about having the special appropriation's reports during the same timeframe.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about a letter from NCACC regarding HB 1638 which eliminates 911 funding.

The Board of Commissioners talked about the impact of the elimination of the 911 funding, and the Board not in favor of this bill.

The Board asked the County Manager to research this bill and let each Commissioner know what he finds out.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about HB 635 requiring time for public comment at each meeting. He further talked about finding out which agencies are required to follow this action.

Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about a court ruling that will affect school funding regarding fines and forts. He summarized the court ruling.

The Board of Commissioners and County Manager talked about the fines and forts.

Vice-Chair Warren Taylor asked for public comments. None were received.

Being no further business, Commissioner Ken Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:05am. Commissioner Graylen Blevins seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Eldon Edwards  
Chairman