

Board of Commissioners met on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 9 am in the County Administration Building at 348 South Main Street in Sparta, North Carolina, for budget hearings from special appropriation groups.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner Tom Smith, County Manager Mike James, Finance Officer Karen Evans, and Clerk Lauren Linker.  
Absent: Commissioner John Irwin and Commissioner Bobby Irwin.

Chair Mark Evans led the pledge of allegiance and invocation.

Chad Beasley presented the public schools request.

Cindy Holder, Schools Finance Officer explained that the money from the state does not cover the cost of school treasurers or data collections in all schools.

Chair Evans asked about money allotted for charter schools.

Cindy Holder explained how charter schools are able to get money from the public schools.

Commissioner Tom Smith asked about state funding for the teachers.

Cindy Holder said the state funding for teachers covers about half of the teacher's salaries in the County.

Chad Beasley went over the capital project requests and explained the need for each of the requests.

Kay Luffman explained the request for Alleghany Connection. She stated it was to cover the liability insurance for the program. She went on to explain the program and how they go about recruiting students and mentors.

Kay Luffman next explained what the JCPC (Juvenile Crime Prevention Council) programs do for the County and their request of funding for the three programs they facilitate.

Chair Mark Evans stated it was the same amount as last year.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the JCPC request.  
Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 3:0

Agnes Joines explained that the planning committee helps to fight poverty in Alleghany County. She noted they are a supportive arm of the Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission (BROC).

Stacey Hawks explained the budget for the planning committee from last year and went over the request for FY 17/18. She explained the need for funding from the County to help support the planning committee as they strive to end poverty in Alleghany County.

Commissioner John Irwin came in at 9:45 AM.

Dr. Jeff Cox went over the state funding Wilkes Community College has increased over the past few years into the Alleghany Campus.

Susan Nilo explained a six year pathway plan for high school student.

Dr. Cox explained their request and explained the more programs the Alleghany Campus can provide the more expense it is to the College.

Karon Edwards from Council on Aging thanked the Board for their past support. She then went over the council revenue and the request. She stated the requested amount was an increase of almost \$5,000 and it would allow them to keep all their current clients.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked how many clients they serve.

Karon Edwards stated they serve 100 meals a day and lots of new programs that are coming.

Brandon Kenner, Forest Service Ranger presented the budget request and explained that the budget was paid 40% by the County and 60% by the State.

Commissioner John Irwin asked if there are any provisions in the budget for controlled burns.

Brandon Kenner said no it's strictly operational cost for the service.

Commissioner John Irwin thanked him for his service.

Commissioner Larry Prince asked about his radio usage.

Brandon Keener said the Forest Service uses a State issued radio on a State channel.

County Manager Mike James explained the example of the budget ordinance.

Clerk Lauren Linker explained the fee schedules from all the departments.

Finance Officer Karen Evans went over the budget books and explained how to find certain things.

Commissioner Prince asked about money being set aside for the nuisance ordinance.

County Manager Mike James stated that was for discussion of the Board, but he would suggest maybe \$10,000.

Chair Mark Evans asked where the suggested amounts were coming from.

County Manager Mike James said it was based on what their quote was per trip for the Town.

Commissioner Tom Smith stated he was confused and asked if they were looking to set aside money for an ordinance that isn't in place yet.

Commissioner John Irwin wanted to go through the capital requests for the county departments. He then said he needed more information from the Sheriff's Department viper radios.

Chair Evans suggested Commissioner John Irwin have a conversation with the sheriff about the topic and then bring the information back to the Board.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 4:0

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans  
Chair