The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Bill Osborne, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Michael Carter, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Drew Temple.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve minutes from 7/20. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, August 3, 2020
6:00 pm

6:00 Meeting called to order
Pledge of Allegiance and invocation
Approval of agenda
Motion on minutes from 7/20 (pages 1-8)

Public Hearing on Proposed Road Name: Salva Moses Trail (pages 9-13)

6:05 **Public Comments**: Citizens are encouraged to comment at this time on any item(s) requiring the attention of the Commissioners. Guidelines for public comment are posted in the meeting room; please use the sign-up sheet provided.

A. 6:20 **General Business**

i. Special Use Permit – Diamond Communications wireless tower
ii. Splash pad proposal
iii. General Fund budget amendment #1 in the amount of $6,188 for donations received for foster care. (page 14)

iv. Transportation Fund budget amendment #1 in the amount of $123,850 for vans that didn't' arrive in 2019/20. (page 16)
v. Transportation Fund budget amendment #2 in the amount of $15,251 for unspent ROAP Funds from 2019/20. (page 17)
vi. Transportation Fund budget amendment #3 in the amount of $16,458 for replacement van that was totaled. (page 18)
vii. Hemphill-Randel Associates contract pages 19-35)
viii. Discussion on Fairgrounds administration
ix. BDC contract discussion

B. 6:50 **County Manager Comments**
i. Interim Finance Officer appointment

C. 7:00 **County Commissioner Comments**

D. **Adjourn**

Public Hearing

Chair Bill Osborne opened the public hearing on Salva Moses Trail.

GIS Administrator, Wendy Williams explained the proposed road name.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the proposed road name Salva Moses Trail. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Public Comments

Jeff Smith explained the idea of Alleghany Coffee Club.

Andy Blethen gave a COVID-19 update including information on the outbreak at Bottomley Evergreens.

Andy Blethen said there is free testing at the Alleghany clinic on Mondays by appointment.

There was discussion between the board and Andy Blethen about specific protocol when someone tests positive and how everyone is handling the outbreak.

Aaron Ray Tompkins explained how Cooperative Extension is responding to COVID-19 especially with farmers.

General Business

Special Use Permit – Diamond Communications wireless

Travis Dalton, County Planner, explained the special use permit by Diamond Communications.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the special use permit. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Travis Dalton, County Planner, explained how our tower ordinance reads.

Karen Kemerait with Fox Rothschild explained this tower is going to be utilized initially by AT&T and FirstNet.

Splash pad proposal

Megan Edwards, Recreation Director explained her splash pad proposal and ideas for making the current Duncan Recreation Center ADA compliant.

There was discussion between the board and Megan Edwards about possibly putting the splash pad at Crouse Park.

Megan Edwards, Recreation Director said she wished the county would use the remaining Beamer funds for something the kids can utilize year-round rather than just a couple of months per year.

Chair Bill Osborne asked Megan Edwards to get some more numbers together for the cost of a splash pad.

General Fund budget amendment #1

Lisa Osborne, DSS Director explained General Fund budget amendment #1.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve General Fund budget amendment #1. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Transportation Fund budget amendments 1, 2 and 3

Tiffany Boyer, AIM Director explained Transportation budget amendments #1, #2 and #3.

County Manager, Michael Carter explained the amendments to Transportation budget amendments.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve General Business items 4, 5 and 6. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Hemphill-Randel Associates contract

County Manager, Michael Carter explained the Hemphill-Randel Associates contract and his recommendation to accept the proposal.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to accept Hemphill-Randel Associates contract proposal. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

Discussion on Fairgrounds administration

There was discussion among the board about Fairgrounds administration, budget, maintenance, the Fairgrounds Committee bylaws and voting members.

County Manager, Michael Carter explained that August is going to be a month for the county to figure out who owns what in our facilities and organize these things appropriately.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin suggested letting County Manager, Michael Carter come up with a plan for the Fairgrounds and propose it to the board.

Commissioner John Irwin said he would like to see the bylaws, Form-990 and minutes from the organizational meeting for the past 4 years for the Fairgrounds Committee.

BDC contract discussion

Commissioner John Irwin explained the terms of the BDC contract have not been met and suggested hiring a position to run the BDC or rewriting the BDC contract.

Commissioner Mark Evans recommended the Alleghany County Chamber for Economic Development and Tourism, County Manager and BDC should collaborate to rewrite the BDC contract.

County Manager comments

County Manager, Michael Carter explained there is a general statute requiring the county to appoint an Interim Finance Officer.

County Manager, Michael Carter appointed HR Officer, April Hamm as Interim Finance Officer effective August 1.

County Manager, Michael Carter gave a complete new COA update including that we are over budget approximately $102,000 on this project.

County Manager, Michael Carter gave an update on the secondary court room meeting from Friday, 7/31 including the balance of the financing package to complete this project.

County Manager, Michael Carter said Susie Gambill and Judge Duncan went to the Black building.

County Manager, Michael Carter said HDH is almost finished with their analysis. He suggested purchasing a few smaller dehumidifiers to put throughout the current courthouse to help with the humidity problem.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner John Irwin explained his issues with the ACEDC.

Commissioner Larry Prince commended DSS on placing foster care children.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin recognized his grandson, Pearce Irwin.

Commissioner Mark Evans wished a bittersweet goodbye to Karen Evans.

Chair Bill Osborne asked farmers to get the masks and ask the workers to wear them to keep a lid on COVID-19.

Chair Bill Osborne asked for a consensus on holding a work session on the ¼ cent sales tax.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Temple
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne
Chairman