



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Thursday, January 6th, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Mechelle Luffman, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Michael Carter, County Attorney, Heather Klein and Clerk to the Board Drew Todd.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Thursday, January 6, 2022
6:00 pm

6:00 Meeting called to order
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation
Approval of agenda
Motion on minutes from 12/20 (pages 1-6)

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. **Request for Closed Session Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11.(a)-(3) To consult with an attorney**

B. 6:30 **Presentations to the Board:**

i. G B Wagoner Group, LLC, Detention Center Food Service Contract – Garrison Wagoner (pages 7-10)

C. 6:40 **General Business:**

- i. Glade Creek VFD contingency money – Tina Evans, Hugh Shephard
- ii. Glade Creek VFD replace member of Fireman Relief Fund – David Higgins
- iii. Law Enforcement line-item transfer request – April Hamm (page 11)
- iv. General Fund budget amendment #5 in the amount of \$10,307 reimbursement for building and vehicle repairs (page 12)
- v. Appoint Budget Committee members

D. 7:00 **County Manager Comments**

E. 7:10 **County Commissioner Comments**

F. **Adjourn**

Public Comment

Rocky Proffitt expressed his concerns about the toxic atmosphere that has been created at County Commissioner meetings. He said everyone should be motivated by what's best for Allegheny County and there is no place for personal agendas.

John Miller called on the Allegheny County Board of Commissioners and Sparta Town Council to work together.

Closed Session

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

Chair Bill Osborne said no action was taken during closed session.

Presentations to the Board

Garrison Wagoner gave a presentation about the impact of low census numbers at the jail. He asked for the Board to consider an amendment to the current contract.

General Business

Glade Creek VFD contingency money

Hugh Shepherd said GCVFD needs some emergency fund money.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the amount of actual dollars in FY21/22 contingency fund not to exceed \$15,000. Chair Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

Hugh Shepherd asked that the Board remember David Higgins's wife as she battles colon cancer.

Glade Creek VFD replace member on Fireman Relief Fund Board

David Higgins asked that the Board remove Jerry Cleary and appoint Derek Lundy to the Fireman Relief Fund Board.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to remove and appoint the members proposed to the Fireman Relief Fund Board. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Law Enforcement line-item transfer

Nick Hawks explained the law enforcement line-item transfer request.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve the law enforcement line-item transfers. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

General Fund budget amendment #5

April Hamm explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve GF budget amendment #5. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Appoint budget committee members

Chair Bill Osborne recommended appointing the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Budget Committee.

Commissioner John Irwin asked if it is a conflict of interest for Chair Bill Osborne to serve on the Budget Committee because he is running for re-election.

Heather Klein said it is not a conflict for members seeking re-election to serve on the Budget Committee.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner John Irwin no comment.

Commissioner Mark Evans thanked the fire departments for all of their work. He thanked the citizens who came out and for the comments made tonight. He said it is a heavy burden to see how people on this Board have treated people who are serving this community. He said the biggest eye-opening experience from being a Commissioner has been seeing people rise to the occasion and do thankless work.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked everyone who came and spoke tonight. He said there's nothing wrong with asking questions but it's how you ask questions. He said we need to respect everybody in the way we act. He encouraged the Board to reread the Code of Ethics and treat people the way you want to be treated. He said COVID is hitting this county, the state and country hard. He encouraged everyone to do what they think is best regarding vaccination. He said our NCDOT Division Engineer is Mike Pettyjohn and our Maintenance Engineer is Jason Joyce. He said he does not want to let the speed limit on 221 and 93 go by the wayside. He thanked our local DOT for snow removal earlier this week.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman said we need to have appreciation and reverence for our volunteers. She said we would be hurting without our volunteers. She thanked citizens for coming out and speaking. She said there were unfair comments made to Lisa Bottomley that felt like an attack. She apologized to Lisa Bottomley.

Chair Bill Osborne thanked citizens for coming out. He said he has left meetings with indigestion several times. He said the roughhousing that goes on at these meetings is a bad reflection on Allegheny County in anybody's book. He thanked the volunteers and said it isn't right for them to get chewed up. He thanked citizens for coming out and said a Commissioners meeting should be a good, warm place to come and express your concerns.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Todd
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne
Chairman