



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 7th, 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 John Irwin made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to accept minutes as presented. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

AGENDA
Monday, March 7, 2022
6:00 pm

6:00 Meeting called to order
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation
Approval of agenda
Motion on minutes from 2/21 (pages 1-5)

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 **Presentations to the Board:**

i. Needs-based grant for new high school – Dr. Chad Beasley

B. 6:40 **General Business:**

- i. Quarter-cent Local Option Sales Tax Resolution (page 6)
- ii. 911 Communications Tower project bids – Daniel Roten (pages 7-17)
- iii. Dispatch renovation contract – Daniel Roten (pages 18-21)
- iv. April Hamm, Finance Officer
 - a. Law Enforcement line-item transfer request (page 22)
 - b. EMS line-item transfer request (page 23)
 - c. General Fund budget amendment #8 for insurance reimbursement (page 24)
 - d. Truist Bank Organization Attestation Form – Credit Card (page 25)
- v. Revised Rescue Squad agreement – County Manager, Michael Carter (pages 26-27)

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

D. 7:20 County Manager Comments

- i. February Building Inspections report (page 28)

E. 7:30 County Commissioner Comments

F. Adjourn

Presentations to the Board

Needs-based grant for new high school

Dr. Chad Beasley explained the needs-based grant process has changed and Alleghany County is a “no match county” and went over the concept drawing of the new high school. He said the architect thinks it would take three years to complete. He said he would love to see the pool filled in, building knocked down and it turned into parking for faculty.

General Business

Quarter-Cent Local Option Sales Tax Referendum

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the Resolution ordering the referendum for a quarter-cent local option sales tax. Chair Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0

911 Tower bids

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to accept the bid from Mobile Communications. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Blue Star Home Repair contract

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the contract with Blue Star Home Repair striking the overage penalty. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Law Enforcement line-item transfers

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve law enforcement line-item transfers. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

EMS line-item transfers

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve line-item transfer request for EMS. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

GF budget amendment #8

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve GF budget amendment #8. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Truist Bank Organization Attestation Form

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the Truist Bank Organization Attestation Form – Credit Card. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Rescue Squad contract

County Manager, Michael Carter explained the addition of #12 to allow for amendments to the Rescue Squad contract without termination.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the Rescue Squad contract with the proposed addition. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

McGill agreement for survey

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve the McGill agreement for a survey of 90 S Main. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Matrix lead-based paint survey

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve the Matrix a lead-based paint survey. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Matrix asbestos survey

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the Matrix asbestos survey. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Contract-signing authority

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to allow the CM up to \$25,000 contract-signing authority. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Request for Closed Session

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

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

County Manager comments

County Manager, Michael Carter said he received a complimentary email about how the Tag/Tax office is operating. He encouraged the Board to look over the February building inspection report. He said the Budget Committee has started and there was about a \$2.5M deficit in revenues and expenditures on the first day of meetings. He said there is an intense schedule in March and we have identified several changes already. He said the Courthouse roof has not been finally inspected but it is the proper color. He said he got the approval on the \$200,000 capital improvement award from the state.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner Mark Evans said since the earthquake, this county has really been blessed with needs being met. He said he hopes to see the modular homes set up soon.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said he has received several calls about the time lag in septic and well permitting. He said the time lag is extremely long and it hurts the county, builders and people trying to purchase land. He said the brick sale for the Veterans Committee is still going and the cutoff is July 15th. He said the Recreation Committee needs to meet.

Commissioner John Irwin said finally Alleghany County is getting some good news. He said he does not envy the Budget Committee. He said diesel is \$7 per gallon. He told a story about someone he served with whose parents were Ukrainian. He said he would like to see a prayer meeting over this.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman said she was really glad to see all the candidates file for office.

Chair Bill Osborne thanked Dr. Beasley and Commissioner Mark Evans for their work to get money for Alleghany County schools. He said Alleghany County placed 16th in the state for retirement communities. He said there may be another coyote hunt.

County Manager, Michael Carter recommended having Travis Dalton come to the mid-month meeting to talk about the cell phone tower questions.

County Attorney, Heather Klein gave an update on the opioid litigation. She said the funds would be used for programs through Daymark.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Todd
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne
Chairman