

Continued Meeting – January 24, 2014

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Friday, January 24, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC 28771 for a continued meeting. Commissioners present were: Billy Holder, Keith Eller, Connie Orr and Raymond Williams. Commissioner Robert M. Edwards was excused due to illness.

1. Commissioner Holder called the meeting to order.
2. Commissioner Holder asks Manager Cable to proceed with the Discussion Items.
3. Manager Cable stated that he needed approval on the Monthly Senior Center Performance Status Report for CDBG 10-C-2231 and CDBG 12-C-2417. Manager Cable stated that the staff was in the process of doing the punch list for final closings and the projected date to finalize was on time. Manager Cable stated that everything was on schedule with both projects. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the status reports. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
4. Manager Cable presented the Releases and Discoveries to the board for approval. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Manager Cable presented the board with a Senior Center Participant Dismissal Policy which would protect the department. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the policy. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Manager Cable stated the Transfer Station purchase was taken care of at the January 23, 2014 meeting.
7. Manager Cable presented the board with new 911 Road Names which were submitted and approved by the Road Naming Board. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the new road names. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. Manager Cable stated that he had sent out a request for proposals for an ambulance to be remounted. Manager Cable stated that the lowest bid came in at \$85,975.00 and the delivery should be within 90 days. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the lowest bid. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Manager Cable asks permission to surplus the old ambulance at the Sheriff's department for a possible trade toward the purchase of the remount or to sell the ambulance due to its non-use. Commissioner Eller stated that the ambulance was the 450 Ford. Commissioner Williams made the motion to surplus the 450 Ford Ambulance for trade or to sell outright. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. Manager Cable stated that there is a series of meetings scheduled for the week of February 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> for the Comp Plan Update. Manager Cable stated that the board would need to call a special meeting if they wanted to meet as a group. Commissioner Orr felt that the board should meet as a group so that the information given or received would be heard by all the board at the same time. Manager Cable stated that the proposed time for the commissioners would be February 4, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. The board all agreed that they wanted to call a special meeting so that they can meet as one unit. Manager Cable stated that other elected officials of the Town's would also be present.
11. Manager Cable stated that he needed approval of additional funding for the congregate meals from HCCBG for the Senior Center. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the additional funding. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Manager Cable stated that he needed to replace three board members on the HCCBG Board and the recommendations were: Commissioner Connie Orr to replace Gordon Farley to represent the Veterans; Felicia Lewis to replace Donna Sawyer who represents the areas health care providers; and Nettie Jenkins to replace Billy Farley who represents the senior consumers. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the HCCBG Board members as stated. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. Commissioner Orr stated that Brandon Wilson with the Veteran's will be speaking at our next commissioners meeting asking the board to write a letter of support for a new Veteran's Counseling Center to be built in Asheville. Commissioner Orr stated that Beverly Elliott with Congressman Meadows office was asking for the letter also.
14. Manager Cable stated that he needed permission for Tajuana Ledwell to attend school in Morganton, NC and the cost will be \$90.00. Manager Cable stated that this will satisfy her required hours for 2014. Commissioner Orr made the motion to allow the travel. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
15. Manager Cable stated that if the board had any questions or concerns about the Secondary Road Improvements that has been completed or is in the process of completing, they would need to present them to the NCDMV at this time. Commissioner Williams stated that the only

concern he has are the flower beds that was installed on the By-Pass Hwy 129. Manager Cable stated that the county was not responsible for those.

16. Manager Cable stated that he would need approval on the polls that were taken. The polls were as follows:

- a. Filter for New Garbage Truck Approximate cost is \$2000.00.
- b. Settlement on the Danya Vanhook Case, former DSS Attorney of \$15,000.00
- c. Rescheduled Special Meeting from 1/6/2014 to 1/13/2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the polls. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

17. Manager Cable stated that he did have a new business item. Manager Cable stated that Matt Cox, one of our deputies, is in the reserves and is being required to attend a 10-day training. Manager Cable stated that the county only pays for one ten-day training per year and this request is very rare that he must attend two trainings in the same fiscal year. Manager Cable stated that Deputy Cox was asking if the board would make allowance and pay him for this second training time. Clerk Crisp stated that the language was in the policy but was changed and asks if the board wants to amend the policy to include this language back into the new policy. Commissioner Orr made the motion to pay Matthew Cox for the second ten-day training. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

18. Commissioner Orr made a motion to change the policy on the Military Leave to include the possible second 10-day training period as paid leave. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

19. Manager Cable stated that the sheriff had asked if the board would give him back the credit card. Clerk Crisp stated that she was Interim County Manger when the credit cards was obtained and the reason was for travel and fuel because at that time the county did not have gas cards and many of the deputies did not have the money to pay for the cost of a trip especially if they were in another state. Commissioner Holder stated that it's this simple, the board has to know where the money is being spent and he is not for activating the credit card. Commissioner Holder stated that the charges being made on the credit card was not being done properly and he objects to those charges. The board had discussion and gave a directive to Finance Officer Rebecca Garland to contact the School of Government and ask if the county pays for charges that are not pre-audited then are they liable if a taxpayer objects to the charge. Commissioner Eller stated that he did not want to pay for the charges that were not pre-audited and he felt that the sheriff is responsible for these charges out of his own pocket. Commissioner Williams made a motion to pay all the charges this time and inform the sheriff that this is the last time. The board did not agree with this and Commissioner Williams withdrew the motion. The board wanted a formal resolution written to Sheriff Anderson stating the reasons why the county is refusing to pay for the invalid charges and wanted it noted which commissioners voted for the refusal to pay and which did not. Commissioner Holder stated that each member is liable to pay for those bills if the county pays them and he is one of five but he will not pay those bills. Commissioner Holder stated that the EMS had a Christmas Party and they paid for the food from their own pockets and the taxpayer's of Graham County should not pay for these items. Commissioner Orr stated that the board was at an impasse. Commissioner Eller stated that he would not pay the charges because if we do then we each violate the law. Commissioner Williams stated that the county should pay the charges for the vehicle and the rest the sheriff can be responsible for. Rebecca Garland stated that she will not sign the checks to pay for the charges that are not pre-audited and if she did she would be breaking the law and putting her license on the line. Commissioner Holder stated that this is an election year. The board wanted a letter written by the County Attorney with a two week response time from the sheriff. The board wanted to review the letter and the clerk can poll the board member's on their decision to accept the letter as written or to change something in the letter if needed.

20. The board discussed the request on closing the community building as public use and all felt that this should not be done. The board wanted stronger locks put on the doors and safeguards put in place. Ms. Claudie Burchfield, DSS Director stated that she was concerned with the safety and integrity of the files that are located in her building and the doors being left open when the public rents the building puts her office in jeopardy. Commissioner Williams made the motion to deny the request of banning all use from the public. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

21. Commissioner Holder stated that the board needed to go into closed session and asks for a motion under G.S. 143-318.11(a) (1) (3) (6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney-client privilege, personnel and contracts. Commissioner Williams made the motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

22. Commissioner Orr made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

23. Commissioner Williams made the motion to hire Gavin Colvard as the Maintenance Director. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
24. Commissioner Orr made the motion to hire Nancy Blevins as the permanent part-time custodian. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
25. Commissioner Williams made the motion to hire Mack Tallant to handle the closings on the properties that the county is in the process of purchasing from the Cody family. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Commissioner Eller made the motion to cash the check from Jason Cable and apply it as a pre-payment to the GCYAA for his kids sign up fees. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
27. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Robert M. (Mike) Edwards, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Billy Holder, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Keith Eller, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Raymond Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board