

Workshop Session – February 16, 2016

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. for their regular workshop session in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC. All board was present.

1. Chairman Nelms called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Nelms stated that the Town of Santeetlah was unable to attend the meeting and asks Rick Davis to speak concerning the GREAT Organization.
3. Mr. Davis thanked the board for their time and was here to bring the board an update on the activities of GREAT. Mr. Davis welcomed the board to attend the next GREAT meeting on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at Fontana and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Davis presented the board with a list of accomplishments for GREAT and the highlights for the year are:
  - a. Collaboration with Graham County Schools to continue implementation of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant from NCDPI to provide after school programs at four sites in Graham County;
  - b. Funding from Marshall University to the Graham County Diabetes Coalition for continuation of prevention and diabetes management activities;
  - c. Completion of the Graham County Schools Greenway Project and Outdoor Classroom with collaboration and support with Graham County Schools, Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Foundation, Alcoa Foundation, Graham County Diabetes Coalition and Cherokee Preservation Foundation;
  - d. Collaboration with the USFS and Town of Fontana Dam to secure Recreational Trails Program FY15 funding to bring the Fontana trails to hiking/biking/equestrian standards;
  - e. Continuation of the Imagination Library Project for Graham County children;
  - f. Collaboration with MANNA Foodbank and Graham County Food Distribution Project to address food insecurity issues; and
  - g. Organization support from the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, Z. Smith Reynolds and Duke Energy Foundation.
4. Mr. Davis stated that there are (15) volunteers who serve as the GREAT Board of Directors and they have provided 750 hours of volunteer service to the organization which equates to \$16,912 using the NC volunteer hourly rate of \$22.55 per hour.
5. Mr. Davis stated that GREAT is trying this year to help Stecoah Valley Center in repairing their roof. Mr. Davis stated that the gallery is leaking and this project needed to be done as soon as possible and hoped that the county can aid in the repair in the next budget.
6. Commissioner Orr stated that MANNA Food Bank is very involved with GREAT. Mr. Davis stated that this is correct and that (832) families were served this year in Graham County.
7. The board thanked Mr. Davis for the updates.
8. Manager Edwards stated that we have a NCACC video for the board's viewing. The video stated that work of the NCACC and welcomed board members to become part of their committees.
9. Manager Edwards stated that Andy Cable, EDC Director had given his notice of resignation and the board would need to fill this position as soon as possible due to the various projects throughout the county.
10. Chairman Nelms asks for further comment. No further comment was given.
11. Chairman Nelms recessed the workshop session.

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Jacob Nelms, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Keith Eller, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Lynn Cody, 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