

Regular Meeting – November 1, 2016

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC 28771 for their regular meeting. All board was present.

1. Chairman Nelms called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Williams to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Nelms stated that we need to amend the agenda to add Erma Phillips as 9A and to add Juanita Colvard to closed for personnel. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda with the amendments as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the October 18<sup>th</sup> Workshop and Regular Meeting. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Nelms stated that the board was going to give a presentation of plaques tonight but the parties are not present.
7. Chairman Nelms asks for the finance report. Rebecca Garland stated that at the last meeting we signed with Davenport LLC and they have prepared us a debt model which we will be meeting about on Thursday, November 3<sup>th</sup> with Commissioner Orr, Manager Edwards and herself. The meeting will be over the preliminary work for the financing of the renovations of the P&J Building and the Community Building for \$2.5 million dollars. Ms. Garland stated that the bank can finance at a better rate of interest and we have been advised by the Local Government Commission to pass a Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse. The declaration is made pursuant to the requirements of the United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 and is intended to constitute a Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse under such Treasury Regulations Section. Ms. Garland stated that this covers us under the general statutes and makes sure that we do not go over budget with expenditures. Ms. Garland stated that the maximum amount to borrow would be \$2.5 million. Commissioner Orr made the motion to accept the Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. Rebecca Garland stated that she had spoken with the CEO of Vaya Health LME and the meeting was very positive in regards to help with substance abuse. Ms. Garland stated that they are opening an Urgent Care Center in Asheville which will serve as a holding place until placement can be made. Ms. Garland stated that the deputies will not be required to sit with the patient at the Urgent Care Center and this will save the county thousands of dollars. Manager Edwards stated that we will be meeting with Shelly Foreman in December for updates and further stated that the Evergreen Foundation is working on these issues as well and they are willing to talk with us. Manager Edwards stated that he had spoken with the Chief Jailer and they had nine commitments last month. Commissioner Orr asks about the availability of the 15 beds in the Urgent Care. Rebecca Garland stated that they will try and move the patients quickly to a facility which will keep the patients out of the emergency rooms. Commissioner Orr stated that this is only a short term holding area. Ms. Garland stated that this was correct.
9. Chairman Nelms asks Alicia Parham to present the new fees. Ms. Parham stated that the Board of Health approves fees on an annual basis and there has been only one change since last year which is the lab pricing and further stated that she was trying to renegotiate the drug screening fees. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the fees as presented. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. Chairman Nelms asks Erma Phillips, Tax Assessor to speak. Ms. Phillips stated that this is in reference to the PUV of Robin Turner. Ms. Phillips stated \$239,000.00 of property is deferred due to PUV and this amounts to around 4.5 cents on the mil rate. Ms. Phillips stated that Harold Phillips, NC State Forest Service had stated that Mr. Turner had logged approximately 15 acres of his land but her calculations was 14.5 acres. Ms. Phillips presented a letter to the board from David Holder and Jamie Brooks who were the loggers that was harvesting the land and stated that they had been promised to be able to cut at least 250,000 feet of timber, making it worth moving all of their equipment from Waynesville. Ms. Phillips stated that she hired Keith Moss, Registered Forester to cruise the timber and he stated that the timber was mature and ready for

harvest. Chairman Nelms asks how much we paid Mr. Moss to cruise the timber. Ms. Phillips stated \$300.00. Ms. Phillips stated that Mr. Turner used a forester that he paid and they will do as the land owner wishes. Commissioner Williams stated that we do not need to pay for this when Harold Phillips with the NC State Forest Service can do this for us.

11. Chairman Nelms asks for public comment. No one was signed in for public comment.
12. Chairman Nelms asks for the manager's report. Manager Edwards stated that the county will be closed on November 11<sup>th</sup> for the Veteran Holiday.
13. Manager Edwards stated that our projects are getting underway. The pool insulation will be taking place this week. Manager Edwards stated that we discovered why the power bill was so high at the P&J Building with Scott Sawyer's help and we are trying to remedy this situation.
14. Manager Edwards asks for approval of the releases and discoveries. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the releases and discoveries. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
15. Manager Edwards stated that the bids needed to be opened for the repairs to the building inspections office. Chairman Nelms opened the bids and they are: 1) Noah Williams \$2500.00; 2) Mitch Crow \$6500.00 and 3) Betterbuilt for \$3460.00. Commissioner Williams made the motion to take the lowest bid and the bid was awarded to Noah Williams. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
16. Manager Edwards stated that we had a request from Dusty Snider for his father's name to be added to the memorial that sits in the courthouse courtyard. Manager Edwards stated that he is unsure on who is responsible for the cost. Commissioner Williams made the motion to have his name added to the memorial. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
17. Manager Edwards asks who is responsible for the cost. Commissioner Williams made the motion for the county to pay for the inscription of William Snider's name on the memorial. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. The board gave Manager Edwards a directive to get quotes on the cost and they will decide at the next meeting who gets the bid.
18. Manager Edwards stated that he was still waiting to hear from our attorney on the Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Robbinsville.
19. Manager Edwards stated that AJ Brown had requested that he be paid 29.25 of his comp hours. Commissioner Eller made the motion to pay the comp time to AJ Brown. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Commissioner Williams stated that we need to pay everyone their overtime and we will not have these requests. Commissioner Orr stated that we needed to plan this expenditure in our budget. Commissioner Williams stated that this may eliminate the large turnover that we have in some departments. The board agreed to wait until the new budget to begin a new process.
20. Manager Edwards stated that we had received the plans for the remodel of the P&J Building and he needed the board's approval. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the plans upon the recommendation of those who have been meeting on the remodel. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Chairman Nelms calls for a vote. Commissioners Nelms, Eller, Cody and Orr voted yes. Commissioner Eller voted no. Motion carried four to one.
21. Manager Edwards stated that he was given a directive to do a vendors list and the county already had a process adopted in 2010 by a previous board but he would need to make a couple of minor changes and the board can approve this at their next regular meeting.
22. Commissioner Orr made the motion to go into closed session under G.S. 143-318.11(a) (1) (5) (6) for privileged or confidential information, personnel and contracts. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
23. Commissioner Orr made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
24. Chairman Nelms asks for acceptance of the contract by PFA, Architects for the remodel of the P&J Building. Commissioner Orr made the motion to contract with PFA, Architects on the remodel of the P&J Building. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
25. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the Manic Contract which will provide consulting services to Graham County related to developing and executing a plan for our county to continue efforts to bring high speed internet access to areas of the county that are currently underserved. Commissioner Eller made the motion to accept the contract with Manic. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Manager Edwards asks for approval to start the Phase II Environmental on the Stanley property for \$26,465.00. Commissioner Orr made the motion to start the Phase II Environmental. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

27. Commissioner Williams made the motion that all department heads must go through the administration office prior to hiring and drug testing and the administration office will set the pay rate of all new hires. Ms. Garland stated that we needed a centralized process so that all paperwork is submitted to Human Resources prior to the employee beginning work. Commissioner Orr seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.
28. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve Viola Lane working in the county under the EBCI program and that the Human Resource office can find her a place to work. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
29. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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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