

Special Meeting – November 7, 2013

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville NC for a special meeting. All board was present.

1. Commissioner Edwards called the meeting to order.
2. Commissioner Edwards recessed the special meeting and opened the public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2015 – 5310 TTAP Grant and asks Transit Director Juanita Colvard to speak. Ms. Colvard stated that she was here to present the 5310 TTAP Grant to the Board and to the public and explained this which is a program that is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout the country, by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available. Ms. Colvard stated that the grant is funded 80% by the federal government, 10 % by the state government and 10% by local funds. Ms. Colvard asks for any questions or comments. No comments or questions were asked.
3. Commissioner Edwards closed the public hearing and re-opened the special meeting.
4. Commissioner Edwards asks for a motion to adopt the Public Transportation Program Resolution for Fiscal Year 2015. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Commissioner Edward stated the official date for the ribbon cutting on the new Transit Facility would be November 19, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Colvard stated that was correct and she was waiting on cameras to be installed on her new transit vans and she would be receiving them within the next few days. The board thanked Ms. Colvard for her hard work.
6. Commissioner Edwards asks the board for their decision on the Lisa Beaver’s tax appeal. Manager Cable stated that this is the appeal where the tax office made an error in dropping off her house from the tax scroll and realized the error during the revaluation of this year. Our tax assessor, Erma Phillips sent Ms. Beaver’s a discovery bill without penalties or interest because of the error that was made in her office but Ms. Phillips stated that she couldn’t by law forgive the taxes owed. Manager Cable stated that the board could allow a payment plan to July 2014 interest free to January 5th but after that interest will accrue on the balance. Manager Cable stated that the board doesn’t allow payments to any taxpayers in the county but felt an exception could be made if the board agreed due to the tax office error. Commissioner Eller made the motion to offer the six month payment plan. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Commissioner Holder stated that he had one comment and that was that we pay those workers in the tax office a good salary and someone should be held accountable for this mistake. Commissioner Holder stated that Ms. Beaver’s was paying her taxes in good faith and thought that her taxes was paid and she did not know she owed this money and this should not happen. Commissioner Williams stated that no one was perfect and the tax office has a lot to do. Commissioner Orr stated that if she received a tax bill for one hundred dollars for a house and land she would have to question it. Commissioner Edwards calls for a vote. Vote unanimous. Manager Cable stated that he would inform Erma Phillips, Tax Assessor of the board’s decision so that Ms. Beavers will receive notice.
7. Commissioner Edwards asks for a motion to go into closed session under G.S. 143-318.11(a) (1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. Commissioner Williams made the motion to go into closed session as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. Commissioner Orr made the motion to go back into open session. Commission Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Commissioner Orr made the motion to file the insurance claim on the case from closed session that is confidential from a DSS case file. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. Commissioner Williams made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Holder seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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

Billy Holder, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Keith Eller, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Raymond Williams. Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board