

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. for their regular workshop session in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC. Board present Dale Wiggins, Lynn Cody, Connie Orr and Jacob Nelms. Board absent Keith Eller.

1. Chairman Wiggins called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Wiggins asks Beth Fields to speak. Ms. Fields stated that she was here to discuss the Stecoah Valley Center lease. Ms. Fields stated that they have leased the building since 1998 and would like to extend the lease to October 2020. Ms. Fields stated that they are planning on working on the gymnasium replacing windows, fixing leaks and cleaning out the old locker rooms. Ms. Fields stated that the rock on the outside is solid except for the top rocks that are allowing water to get inside the building. Ms. Fields stated that there are issues with the gutters and this will be addressed as well. Ms. Fields stated that they will have to redo the bathrooms in the gym and the construction costs are around \$2 million to renovate the building. Ms. Fields stated that they did receive a feasibility study from Appalachian Regional Commission that addresses the long-term projects. Ms. Fields stated that their goal is to have a multipurpose event center. Ms. Fields stated that the top three suggested uses of the building are a fitness center, residency studio and a spa service. Ms. Fields stated that they have plans for weddings, dances, theater and more. Ms. Fields stated that if they have an artist residency then they could have more performances. Ms. Fields stated that they replaced the HVAC unit last year and they will apply for grant funding for all repairs. Ms. Fields asks for a 25-year lease at \$1.00 per year with the same terms. Ms. Fields stated that they have one year left on the current lease. Ms. Fields stated that they are determined to get the gym redone and they have the buildings in better shape now than they were at the beginning of the lease. Chairman Wiggins stated that the center does well with what they have to work with.
3. Ms. Fields stated that Mike Teem with Celebrate Recovery needs a program to assist recovering addicts with job skills and they plan to help with this program. Ms. Fields stated that they have a full commercial kitchen that can be used to teach them how to cook, etc. Ms. Fields stated that the people in recovery need life-skills and the center could provide that opportunity. Ms. Fields stated that she and her board would be exploring the options on providing this service for Celebrate Recovery. Commissioner Orr stated that Tri-County needed to send people to help train and I.O.I. is dedicated to putting people to work as well. Chairman Wiggins stated that all people need is hope. Commissioner Orr stated that people need a second chance.
4. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous,

Dale Wiggins, Chairman, Graham County Board of Commissioners

Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Board of Commissioners

Keith Eller, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

Jacob Nelms, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board