

Budget Meeting – May 11, 2017

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC for a budget meeting. All commissioners was present.

1. Chairman Eller called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Eller asks Manager Rebecca Garland to continue with the budget discussions.
3. Manager Garland stated that the Occupancy Tax increase would have to wait until next year to be presented because it was too late for this session.
4. Manager Garland stated that she received a letter from the NC Forest Service and they will be conducting the interviews which will include residents of the county. The board gave a directive to allow Harold Phillips and Commissioner Orr to sit in on the interviews. The board all agreed that we have every right to attend these interviews due to our funding of 37% to this office.
5. Manager Garland stated that if she keeps the hours the same in Communications then the budget will stand with no deficit. The board discussed a possible contract with the Swain County Jail for our inmates. The board feels that having a jail that administers medications and has a doctor on staff would lower our medical costs. The board wanted inmates sent to Swain County first then to Cherokee County and then to Clay County and no further than that.
6. Manager Garland stated that she needed approval for the JCPC funding request. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the JCPC funding request. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. The board discussed the jail budget. Commissioner Williams made the motion to fund the jail as required by law and no more. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. The board discussed the sheriff's budget request of \$1,458,339.00. The board wanted this budget whittled down. The board discussed the vehicle usage by the sheriff's department. The board wanted us to look at other counties and see how many deputies they employ per population.
9. Manager Garland stated that she needed approval for the upcoming audit by Turner & Company for \$49,900.00. Commissioner Orr made the motion to allow Turner & Company to do our audit for \$49,900.00. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. The board discussed the next budget meetings and will meet on Thursday, May 18th and Friday, May 19th at 10:00 a.m.
11. The board asks that Manager Garland call our county attorney on the matter concerning property boundaries at the Town of Lake Santeetlah.
12. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wiggins seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Keith Eller, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Connie Orr, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Jacob Nelms, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Dale E. Wiggins, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Raymond Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board