

Regular Meeting – June 20, 2017

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC for their regular monthly meeting. All board was present.

1. Chairman Eller called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Eller asks Commissioner Nelms to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Eller asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Eller asks for changes to the agenda. Manager Garland stated that we needed to change Item #10 to continue the meeting instead of adjourning and Chairman Eller stated that he had new business for discussion. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to approve the agenda with the stated changes. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Eller asks for approval of the Budget Meeting Minutes of June 5th; the Joint Meeting with Health Department on June 5th; the Regular Meeting on June 6th and the Budget Meeting on June 8th. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the minutes as stated. Commissioner Wiggins seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Eller asks for the finance / manager's report. Manager Garland stated that we ended the month of May with a cash balance of \$7,833,063.84 which is up \$1.3 million from this time last year. Manager Garland stated that our taxes collected for the month was \$25,566.28 and our DMV collections was \$38,242.07. Manager Garland stated that our total tax collections to date are \$6,146,042.57 which is \$86,000.00 ahead from this time last year and the total DMV tax collections is \$432,707.09 which is \$79,000.00 ahead from this time last year. Manager Garland stated that our tax collection rate is 96.35% which is ahead from this time last year and she is very pleased with the tax collections office for their hard work. Manager Garland stated that our revenues was \$649,160.05 and our expenditures \$1,305,074.18 which left us with a deficit of \$655,914.13. Manager Garland stated that our revenues for the year end are looking to be \$13,903,459.94 and our expenditures are \$12,209,361.90 leaving us a surplus of \$1,694,098.04 which she is very pleased to see and predicts that our final surplus for the year should be \$500,000.00. Manager Garland stated that our sales tax collection for the year was \$515,844.01 and the schools will be getting a check of \$30,000.00 due to the sales tax reversion. Manager Garland stated that \$572,570.40 has been collected in back taxes and again commended the board for taking the necessary steps to remain solvent.
7. Manager Garland stated that our budget is holding at 18% when we should have 8% and she is very pleased with this percentage.
8. Manager Garland stated that our budget has been laid out and we have a total budget of \$15,450,811.00 and a Capital Projects Budget of \$3,866,588.00 and we will be receiving reimbursements throughout the year on the 911 Project.
9. Manager Garland stated that she received an email on the NCDOT A-0009 Project and notes from the meeting in December 2016 and one item of note is that the software Quantum modeling to provided scenarios to alternate routes cannot handle our terrain and is being delayed until the state can get the correct version and we will be speaking with Brian Burch concerning this program.
10. Manager Garland stated that Martin McGill is no longer with McGill and Associates and she heard from Freddy Harrell today and Mike Warsack will continue to be our point of contact on the Stanley Project.
11. Manager Garland stated that she received a request from the Sheriff to purchase a used forest service vehicle for \$9900.00. Manager Garland stated that this was brought in budget but he still had to look at it and he will use some of his restricted funds to purchase it. Manager Garland stated that he has a little over \$30,000.00 in NC and Federal Drug monies as well as impound fees. Commissioner Orr asks if this is an allowable expense and Manager Garland stated yes. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to allow the Sheriff to purchase a Ford Expedition with 80,000 miles for \$9,900.00 out of the NC and Federal Drug monies or impound fees. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Manager Garland stated that Region A Aging Advisory Committee needed to fill one vacancy position and two alternate positions. Chairman Eller stated that he did not have time to be on this board due to his work schedule and asks that he not be reappointed. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to appoint Raymond Williams as the member and he would volunteer for the

alternate position. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. This will leave one alternate position open.

13. Manager Garland stated that she received a tool kit from the NCACC on the County Leadership Forum for Opioid Abuse and has not had time to create information packets for the board yet but will review and have it as soon as possible.
14. Manager Garland stated that she attached a draft of House Bill 795 which proposes to restructure economic development Tier(s) in the State and asks that they pay particular attention to the attachments in the back which show under this bill Graham County would move to a Tier 2 County but Cherokee and Macon counties would remain Tier 1. These pages show that Graham County's average income is more than either County or more than Buncombe County. Something is wrong with this picture and she is doing an in-depth read through the bill and has left Representative Kevin Corbin a message to call ASAP. Manager Garland stated that she received this information last Thursday and just had time to read it today. Manager Garland stated that she also talked with Linda Millsaps at NCACC and she confirmed her fears and further stated that we need to write a letter of protest and comment to NCACC. Manager Garland stated that our Economic Development Director Sophia Paulos is actively calling contacts today as well. Commissioner Wiggins stated that someone needed to go to Raleigh and speak to the House concerning this issue.
15. Manager Garland stated that the NACO Conference was in Franklin, Ohio July 21st through the 24th and asks if anyone on the board would like to attend. The board will not be attending this meeting.
16. Manager Garland stated that a Vaya Health Commissioner Advisory Board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 8th at 6:00 p.m.
17. Manager Garland stated that the offices will be closed for the July 4th Holidays on July 3rd and July 4th and the first monthly meeting would need to be cancelled due to the holiday. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to cancel the first monthly meeting in July due to the holiday and have one meeting that month on July 18th. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
18. Manager Garland stated that Greg Corvelle had resigned from the T&T Board and we needed to appoint someone to this seat. Commissioner Williams made the motion to appoint Donna Stephens to the T&T Board. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
19. Manager Garland stated that we needed to replace Jo Denton on the Nantahala Regional Library due to her years of service being maxed out. Commissioner Williams made the motion to appoint Connie Gross to the library board. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
20. Manager Garland stated that we needed to reappoint Debbie Beasley and Marshall McClung to the Road Naming Board. Commissioner Williams made the motion to reappoint Debbie Beasley and Marshall McClung to the Road Naming Board. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Commissioner Williams stated that he wanted the road signs installed immediately. Manager Garland stated that she had directed this to be done.
21. Manager Garland stated that we needed to reappoint Billy Brown to the Rural Development Authority. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to reappoint Billy Brown. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
22. Manager Garland stated that we needed to reappoint Jacob Nelms and Dale Wiggins to the DSS Board. Commissioner Orr made the motion to reappoint Jacob Nelms and Dale Wiggins to the DSS Board. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
23. Chairman Eller stated that he wanted the War Memorial cleaned before the July 4th festival and asks that we contract with Williams Monuments and have them cleaned properly. Commissioner Williams made the motion to contract with Ronnie Williams to clean the War Memorial at the Courthouse prior to the July 4th Festival. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
24. Chairman Eller asks for public comment. Manager Garland stated that no one had signed in for public comment.
25. Chairman Eller stated that we would now go into closed session under G.S. 143-318.11(a) (1) (3) (5) (6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney-client privilege, personnel and contracts. Commissioner Williams made the motion to go into closed session as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

27. Commissioner Orr made the motion to pay Anchor Site Testing \$5,485.00 for the soil testing located at the Stanley Park. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
28. Commissioner Orr made the motion to junk the 1999 Ford Truck which was used by sanitation and put the parts out for bid with a minimum bid of scrap pricing which should be around \$200.00 or less and turn the tag into Raleigh as a junked title. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
29. Commissioner Wiggins made the motion to continue this meeting to Friday, June 30, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Orr 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