

Regular Meeting – October 15, 2019

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 5:30 a.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 Wiggins called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Wiggins asks Commissioner Cody to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Wiggins asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Wiggins asks for changes to the agenda. Manager Garland stated that we needed to remove #7 Sophia Paulos and add Michelle Shiplet in her place; add #7A Brandon Jones, Fontana Manager; #10 Delete Approval of the amendment to the 2015 Community Transportation Plan and add Juanita Colvard to Closed Session for privileged or confidential information and contracts. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the agenda with the stated changes. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Wiggins asks for approval of the October 1, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes as stated. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Wiggins asks Wanda Hill, Senior Center Director to speak. Director Hill stated that she is here asking permission to apply for the General Purpose Grant of \$10,574.00 with a county match of \$3,524.00 for a total of \$14,099.00. Commissioner Orr made the motion to allow Director Hill to apply for the General Purpose Grant. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Chairman Wiggins asks Michelle Shiplet to speak. Mrs. Shiplet presented a copy of a Wireless License Agreement with Balsam West that the GREAT Organization is working on which will allow Westnet Towers, LLC to install equipment on the property located at the Library. Mrs. Shiplet stated that GREAT is having a meeting on October 21st at the HUB at 11:30 a.m. to speak on this issue and invited the board to attend.
8. Chairman Wiggins ask Brandon Jones, Manager of Fontana Village to speak. Mr. Jones stated that it is time for the Trash Cleanup on Fontana Lake and asks the board if they can help with the dumping charges. Mr. Jones stated that they are receiving assistance from TVA, Harrah's, GREAT, Boy scouts and many volunteers. Mr. Jones stated that he did not need the dumpsters from the county this year but is asking them to waive the tipping fees. Commissioner Orr made the motion to provide in-kind service to Fontana for the Fontana Lake Cleanup. Mr. Jones stated that TVA was supplying the roll off dumpsters for them to use. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Chairman Wiggins asks for the finance report. Manager Garland stated that our cash balance for the month is \$7,533,971.78, which is \$225,025.38 ahead from this time last year.
10. Manager Garland stated that tax collections for the month was \$290,535.26; prior year \$13,721.49 for a total of \$304,256.74. Manager Garland stated that our DMV collections was \$46,223.05.
11. Manager Garland stated that our year to date collections is \$1,489,831.92 for real and \$140,943.23 for DMV. Manager Garland stated that the tax collection rate for the month is 19.80%.
12. Manager Garland stated that our revenues for the month was \$1,067,988.26 and our expenditures was \$1,575,471.86 for a deficit of \$350,449.02. Manager Garland stated that we had big expenditures to pay in the month of September.
13. Manager Garland stated that our sales tax collections for the month was \$193,592.53 and our ¼-cent collection was \$86,145.57.
14. Manager Garland stated that our past due tax collections was \$622,379.76 for prior years.
15. Manager Garland stated our ideal budget percentage is 76% and we are at 77%.
16. Manager Garland stated that she is planning a soft kickoff by December 1 on the Paramedicine Program and we have been communicating with Duke Endowment over the past week. Manager Garland stated that she has been speaking with the team on the ARC Grant and they have started the procurement process for the Quick Response Vehicle.
17. Manager Garland stated that Maggie Sauer contacted her and she will be bringing a team back to Graham County on Monday, October 28 to begin discussion on the paramedicine, Recovery to Work and our Radiology Suite. Manager Garland stated that has received successful calls

organized with the DD Branch of DHHS regarding NC Innovations slots and funding models for persons with I/DD and another call will take place on November 18.

18. Manager Garland stated that the SAMHSA grant that was applied for by Hope Recovery in conjunction with the county last spring was not funded.
19. Manager Garland stated that she met with AT&T regarding the Wachacha Bald Tower and they have requested to come to the December 1 board meeting to go over their proposal to build a tower. Manager Garland stated they would be planning upgrades and expansions of service to our county with the equipment. Manager Garland stated that she did receive documentation related to their buildout of a tower and for the Highway Patrol in another county and will review later. Manager Garland stated that they would be investing \$200,000.00 in the tower.
20. Manager Garland stated that we did receive the new sanitation trailer and Director Colvard found a defect in the tailgate of the trailer, which caused leakage. Manager Garland stated that it is a small defect not noticeable to the eye but we cannot allow for any leakage. Manager Garland and Director Colvard will be talking to the dealer and will request a new trailer.
21. Manager Garland stated that 4H needs to surplus (13) old archery targets that were purchased out of 4H fees. Manager Garland stated that they worked cooperatively with Whisper Mountain Ministries over the years with use of their property and would like to donate the targets to that organization. Commissioner Orr made the motion to surplus the (13) archery targets as requested by 4H. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
22. Manager Garland updated the board on dates to remember.
23. Manager Garland asks Commissioner Orr if she would like to speak on the Veteran Flagpole. Commissioner Orr stated that you can now see part of the pole and they are awaiting a crane to lift the high section. Commissioner Orr stated that she expects the pole to be up prior to Veteran's Day. Commissioner Orr stated that 4H would put out at least 80 Flags for Veteran's Day as well.
24. Chairman Wiggins asks for public comment. No public comment.
25. Chairman Wiggins stated that we would now go to the discussion items. Chairman Wiggins asks for approval of the Discoveries \$14.76. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the discoveries as stated. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Chairman Wiggins asks about the Amendment to the 2015 Community Transportation Plan. Manager Garland stated that we needed to table this issue.
27. Chairman Wiggins asks for new or old business. No new or old business.
28. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to go into closed session under G.S. 143-318.1(1) (3) (5) (6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney-client privilege, personnel and contracts. Commissioner Eller made the motion to go into closed session as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
29. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Orr made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
30. Commissioner Orr stated that the Road Naming Board had met and recommends that the new entrance into the High School be named Black Knight Way. Commissioner Orr stated that Highway Commissioner Dirk Cody needed the name as quickly as possible. Commissioner Orr stated that they would also like to rename the road beside Hugh Atwell from Copperhead Lane to Peter Brown Rd. Commissioner Orr stated that there was one more and she would bring that one to the next board meeting. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to approve the recommendations as given by the Road Naming Board. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
31. Commissioner Orr stated that the Road Naming Board would like to add another member, Misty Hembree, 911 Director, as she is very helpful and knowledgeable. Commissioner Cody made the motion to appoint Misty Hembree as a member of the Road Naming Board. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
32. The board discussed the proposed policy change regarding insurance supplements for employees. The board gave a directive to develop the policy and present to the board on November 5th at 5:30 p.m.
33. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Signature page attached!

Signature page for October 15, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

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