

Continued Meeting – May 26, 2020

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC and by teleconference for a continued meeting. All board was present.

1. Chairman Wiggins called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Wiggins asks for approval or changes to the agenda. Manager Garland added new business, Ronnie Milsap Highway designation; surplus property; insurance renewal and MOU with Tribe and (7) Western Counties. Commissioner Orr added discussion on a dangerous tree removal. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the agenda as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Chairman Wiggins asks Juanita Colvard to speak. Ms. Colvard stated that she reviewed the Ultrasound bids and stated that this was the second time that the ultrasound was sent out for bid and we still only received two. Manager Garland stated that the board can decide tonight even though they only received two bids due to this being bid out twice. Ms. Colvard stated that the best bid is GE for \$122,594.28, which contains the probes. Chairman Wiggins asks where this is being paid. Manager Garland stated that this is all county dollars. Commissioner Orr asks what the parameters for using the Goldenleaf funding are. Ms. Colvard stated that the county would use those funds for the maintenance and upkeep of all the equipment purchases. Commissioner Orr made the motion to accept the ultrasound bid from GE for \$122,594.28 and agrees that we need other physicians to get in the building to utilize this equipment because we need sustainability for medical services in our county. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
4. Commissioner Orr asks how much funding we have in the account. Manager Garland stated that we have \$77,575.00 and are awaiting \$75,000.00 from ARC for a total of \$150,000.00.
5. Manager Garland stated that she received an email regarding the Ronnie Milsap Highway designation and NCDOT has designated that this be for (5) miles only and asks where the road needs to begin and end. The board discussed the mileage and Commissioner Cody made the motion to begin the highway designation at the center of the Tapoco/Cheoah Dam Bridge to Yellow Creek Road intersection on Highway 129. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Commissioner Orr stated that we have a danger tree on the county property below Urgent Care that needs to be taken down and made the motion to have this tree removed. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Manager Garland stated that she had received a request from the Graham County Historical Society for their appropriation of \$10,000.00. Commissioner Orr made the motion to pay the appropriation. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. Manager Garland stated that she had an invoice from Heery for \$6,990.00 for payment on the work done for the newly proposed courthouse. Commissioner Eller made the motion to pay the invoice as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Manager Garland stated that 4-H will no longer utilize the shooting range and they would like to donate their surplus equipment to the school. Commissioner Orr made the motion to surplus the items used by 4-H for the shooting range. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. Manager Garland stated that the board had received a Memorandum of Understanding: multi-county (7 western counties), State and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and needed board approval. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the MOU as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
11. Manager Garland stated that we had received our health insurance renewals, which has an increase of 9 ½%. Manager Garland stated that this is for the same plan, same policy that we currently have at this time. Manager Garland stated that there are a couple other options one of which would include the county employees paying \$50.00 per month or opt for a Blue 123 Plan, which is not as rich as our current plan.
12. Chairman Wiggins stated that we needed to recess the meeting to meet with Brookfield Representatives and asks for a motion to recess. Commissioner Orr made the motion to recess the continued meeting. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. Chairman Wiggins called the meeting back to order.

14. Chairman Wiggins stated that the board would continue the discussion on health insurance. The board discussed the plans and the increases in premiums. The board discussed having discussions for next year with the NC Health Pool to see if the premiums could be reduced. The board discussed the high claims that were paid by BCBS. Commissioner Eller made the motion to keep the current plan paid in full by the county and try to find something cheaper prior to next year's renewal. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
15. Chairman Wiggins asks if the county finds something cheaper in mid-year could they change plans midstream. Commissioner Orr stated that you can but it would be at your own risk, which is usually a nightmare for the insured.
16. Chairman Wiggins stated that the board would continue this meeting to June 16th at 4:30 p.m.

Dale Wiggins, Chairman

Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman

Keith Eller, Member

Jacob Nelms, Member

Connie Orr, Member

ATTEST: _____
Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board