

Workshop Session – February 20, 2024

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC for their regular monthly workshop session. All board members were present.

1. Chairman Nelms called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Nelms asks Debbie Orr, Town Alderwoman to discuss “The Hut”. Ms. Orr thanked the board for their time and for taking the time to discuss this issue. Ms. Orr stated that they are looking to keep and relocate “The Hut” which is located on the First Baptist Church property and is very hopeful that this can be done. Ms. Orr feels that this will be a very positive thing to do for our town. Mr. Hatch, a member of Rev’d Up stated that they have come up with ideas to save “The Hut” and no one questions that the building is very important to our county, and they are on a quest to find a place to relocate it. Mr. Hatch stated that this is not just a log cabin, it is a log cabin with a history that needed to be preserved. Mr. Hatch stated that it was constructed as the first community building by the WPA in 1938 and has served as a gathering place for several community meetings. The Hut sits on property owned by the First Baptist Church, and they want the building moved or taken down and they are here to save it. The board asks where the committee has plans for the building to be placed. Mr. Hatch stated that the board would like to take the building down and reconstruct it on the property beside the United Community Bank that the county owns. Commissioner Orr thanked the members for bringing this to their attention and stated they will look over the paperwork. Commissioner Orr stated that she is endeared to the building but given short notice the board would need more time to discuss. Mr. Hatch stated that the church wants the building removed now so they do not have more time and apologizes for the short notice, but they want to save this building. Chairman Nelms asks the timeframe, insurance concerns in moving the property to the empty lot, etc. Mr. Hatch stated that Rev’d Up is willing to be responsible, but they cannot commit to the property without some sort of lease or legal agreement. The board asks if the building would be used for community events, lunches, who maintains the property, etc. Clerk Crisp stated that the land belongs to the Graham County Travel and Tourism Authority so the decisions would need to be made by that board. Commissioner Eller asks how much it will cost to move the building. Mr. Hatch stated that this will all be done with volunteers, and they will look for grants and donations. Mr. Hatch stated that this has a historical purpose, and this will be documented in history. Commissioner Eller stated that the property was given to Travel and Tourism, and they would have to make the decision. Commissioner Orr stated that she supports the idea and will speak with the board. Mr. Hatch stated that they wanted to preserve history as much as possible and thanked the board for their time.
3. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Williams made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Jacob Nelms, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Natasha Williams, Vice-Chair, Graham County Commissioner

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Lynn Cody, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Keith Eller Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board