

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, April 4, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC 28771 for their regular monthly meeting. All board was present.

1. Chairman Eller called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Eller asks Commissioner Williams to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Eller asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Eller asks for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Eller asks for approval of the July 21<sup>st</sup> Regular and Workshop Minutes. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Eller asks Rebecca Garland for the finance report. Ms. Garland stated that she would have a more detailed report at the next regular monthly meeting. Ms. Garland stated that she had received the final bill for the new bleachers that was approved in budget and the cost was \$7,100.00 plus tax for a total of \$7,862.14. Ms. Garland stated that Jason Sawyer, Recreation Director did obtain three quotes, but this company offered the best quality. Commissioner Williams made the motion to buy the bleachers with the best quality. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Ms. Garland stated that she is still awaiting word on the trade in values for the Cardiac Monitors.
8. Ms. Garland stated that the HVAC Unit went bad at the Health Department and the cost to repair the unit is \$2,410.00 or to replace the unit at \$3,720.00. Ms. Garland stated that she was told that the compressor was bad. Commissioner Williams made the motion to replace the unit with a five year warranty which was included. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Ms. Garland stated that Jan Garrison from UCB Bank is planning to come here and meet with the board on a county reinvestment plan.
10. Ms. Garland stated that she and Manager Cable had completed the inventory at the upper plant building and several items was marked as non-salvageable and she would be presenting a list of these items to be put up for bid.
11. Ms. Garland stated that she needed signatures on the new Federal Drug Tax Bank Account due to receiving funds. Ms. Garland commended Sheriff Millsaps for these types of drug busts.
12. Chairman Eller asks Sheriff Millsaps and Chief Jailor Edward Cable to speak. Sheriff Millsaps thanked the board for their time and presented a handout to the commissioners. Sheriff Millsaps stated that he was here to request raises for the Detention Officers and asks that the board to review and see that he will have stay within budget. Sheriff Millsaps stated that this department stayed within budget last year and he only had control of that budget from December forward. Sheriff Millsaps stated that he is losing a lot of employees to the Tribe and he is trying to give incentives for the staff to stay here in the county. Chairman Eller stated that they will review the request. Commissioner Williams asks about the cars. Sheriff Millsaps stated that the two new ones were on their way and he was unsure about the used ones.
13. Chairman Eller asks Rick Lanier to speak. Mr. Lanier stated that he was here to give the board of commissioners an invitation to join the growing list of cities and counties that are voting yes to proudly and prominently display our national motto, IN GOD WE TRUST, in and on their governmental buildings. Mr. Lanier stated that he felt this display expresses confidence to our county. Mr. Lanier stated that these words have been on our US Currency since 1864 and is above the US Chambers Speaker of the House seat. Mr. Lanier stated that this national motto is protected by our First Amendment and was reaffirmed in 2011 with a 396 to 90 a vote by our state representatives. Mr. Lanier stated that the board of commissioners would need to pass a resolution with their intent to display the national motto at the Graham County Courthouse and in the Graham County Commissioner Meeting Room. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the resolution to display the national motto "IN GOD WE TRUST" on the buildings as named. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Mr. Lanier stated that his company is planning to reach out to local businesses to see if they would like to support the cost for this display and further stated that the county tax dollars would not be used for this display.

- Commissioner Orr asks what the total cost would be. Mr. Lanier stated that it would be from \$1400.00 to \$1800.00 for the two displays. Mr. Lanier thanked the board for their vote.
14. Chairman Eller asks Joan Stillwell to speak. Manager Cable stated that she was not able to attend the meeting tonight and further stated that Ms. Stillwell had sent out four (4) RFQ's on the CDBG project and only one response was returned by McGill and Associates. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the RFQ by McGill and Associates. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  15. Chairman Eller asks for public comment. Manager Cable stated that Terri Sessoms had signed in for public comment. Chairman Eller asks Ms. Sessoms to speak. Ms. Sessoms stated that she is a part time resident in the county and she was a public servant with the State of North Carolina for 31 years. Ms. Sessoms stated that she was here to say thank you to the board for watching our tax dollars responsibly. Ms. Sessoms stated that she liked her money but she does understand the need for the county to increase salaries in the Sheriff's Department and commended the staff for all the hard work that they do and for always being nice even when the taxes are raised. Ms. Sessoms stated that her taxes in Johnston County has a .78 mil rate and the city has a .57 cent mil rate on top of that which leaves her paying quite a bit more in the other county. Ms. Sessoms stated that she applauded the board for taking our money and being frugal yet responsible. Ms. Sessoms stated that she would like to go on record that she hoped we didn't have another increase next year.
  16. Chairman Eller asks Manager Cable to present the discussion items. Manager Cable stated that he needed approval on the Releases and Discoveries. Manager Cable stated that the releases were \$689.00 and the discoveries was \$8493.97. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  17. Manager Cable stated that he needed the reappointment of Keith Eller to the Southwestern Region A board. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  18. Manager Cable stated that he needed the reappointment of Nancy Norcross for the Senior Tar Heel delegate/alternate. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  19. Manager Cable stated that the county has received two RFQ's on the Recreation Park project and those firms was: McGill and Associates and Equinox. Manager Cable stated that the firms were scored by Jason Sawyer, Recreation Director, Andy Cable, EDC Director and himself, Greg Cable, County Manager. Manager Cable stated that the firms scored very close. Commissioner Orr made the motion to award the RFQ to McGill & Associates. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  20. Manager Cable stated that the next item concerned Erma Phillips, tax assessor, and the pontoon rental for the use of her pontoon while she was assessing the house boats. Manager Cable stated that he approved the fuel for the pontoon but denied the rent of the pontoon. Manager Cable stated that Erma Phillips, tax assessor, asks to speak with the board. Commissioner Cody stated that in 1998 the board agreed to allow the tax office to rent a boat or do whatever needed to be done to insure that the houseboats was taxed. Commissioner Cody stated that the board agreed to reimburse the costs for this to be done. Chairman Eller stated that this needed to be pre-audited like all other expenditures. Rebecca Garland, finance officer, stated that she would need board approval due to this expenditure not being pre-audited. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the pontoon rental to Erma Phillips. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Ms. Phillips stated that she had \$9600.00 in discoveries for the house boats.
  21. Manager Cable stated that he needed approval for the emergency poll that was taken for the weekend cook. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the poll. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Chairman Eller calls for a vote. Commissioners Cody, Nelms, Orr and Williams voted yes. Chairman Eller voted no. Motion carried four to one.
  22. Manager Cable stated that he had been in discussion with our uniform company to review the pricing. Manager Cable stated that the county had been approached by another company with lower prices. Commissioner Williams made the motion to get the uniforms from the company that is the cheapest. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
  23. Commissioner Orr asks where we are on the tennis court repairs. Manager Cable stated that one quote to resurface was \$24,000.00 per court. Manager Cable stated that he has Jason Sawyer looking at other alternatives to resurface.

24. Commissioner Orr asks about the shooting range. Manager Cable stated that we are engaged with Andy Lynn who is bringing info from the NRA for a possible grant to complete this project. Manager Cable stated that the site will be at Bear Creek. Commissioner Williams stated that the property needed to be bush hogged. Manager Cable stated that he would be getting a backhoe to the property and this will include making a new entrance.
25. Commissioner Orr asks about the sanitation scheduling to incorporate an evening trash pickup. Manager Cable stated that Donnie Orr was trying to figure out a late shift pick-up at this time but that he has been down two trucks. Manager Cable stated that we are still having problems with the Mack truck and it was in the shop at World Wide Equipment in Tennessee. Commissioner Williams stated that he wanted the sites in better condition, mowing needed to be done, trees need to be cut, brush needed moving and the fence needs to be fixed. Manager Cable stated that he would get with Donnie concerning these items. Commissioner Williams stated that when he got time he would mow and move the brush at the Sweetwater dumpster site.
26. Manager Cable stated that the county did receive some good news and this is that we did receive the \$3.4 million dollar grant for a new 911 Communication Center. Manager Cable stated that we were one of three that received this funding. Commissioner Williams asks why a new center is needed. Manager Cable stated that the law has changed and backups are required for the neighboring counties.
27. Commissioner Orr asks if the county had found a new supply company for the medical supplies. Commissioner Orr stated that the previous company's pricing went up 300%.
28. Commissioner Orr asks about the trip to Raleigh with NCDOT. Manager Cable stated that the meeting went well and Corridor K is reconvening and they are going back to development. Manager Cable stated that Graham County is part of the process and we are at the table this time. Manager Cable stated that our input is weighted on all decisions and progress is being made. Manager Cable stated that he is very happy to be a part of the discussions as well as Chairman Eller.
29. Chairman Eller asks for a motion to go into closed session under G.S.143-318.11(a) (1) (3) (6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney-client privilege, personnel and contracts. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to go into closed session as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
30. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
31. Commissioner Orr made the motion to fix Cindy Knight's retirement contribution. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
32. Commissioner Orr made the motion to allow time for the Fort Hill inventory to be separated and disposed of prior to the demolition. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
33. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Keith Eller, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Jacob Nelms, Vice-Chairman, 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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Raymond Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board