

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street for their regular monthly meeting. All board was present.

1. Chairman Wiggins called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Wiggins asks Commissioner Nelms to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Wiggins asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Wiggins asks for approval or changes to the agenda. Manager Garland stated that we needed to add Juanita Colvard and Attorney Coward to Closed Session for contracts and attorney client privilege. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the agenda with the stated changes. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Wiggins asks for approval of the September 17, 2019 Workshop Session and Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the minutes as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Wiggins asks Dillon Chase Lancaster to speak. Mr. Lancaster stated that he had spoken to the commissioners a few weeks ago concerning his being banned from the courthouse and he wanted to know what had been done. Chairman Wiggins stated that the board would address this in closed session with the Attorney Coward. Mr. Lancaster also stated that he would like to hold a rodeo in Graham County to bring money into the county. Commissioner Orr stated that he needed to speak with Daniel Allison at Travel and Tourism to schedule events. Mr. Lancaster asks if the county had any property where the rodeo could be held. Chairman Wiggins stated that if he uses county property he would have to get liability insurance.
7. Chairman Wiggins asks Health Director Beth Booth to speak on NC Med Assist. Director Booth was not present at this time.
8. Chairman Wiggins asks Chief Deputy Chuck Stewart to speak. Chief Deputy Stewart was not present at this time.
9. Chairman Wiggins asks Juanita Colvard to speak. Ms. Colvard stated that the Election Board had plans drawn for their proposed facility. Ms. Colvard stated that they are trying to save money in the renovations. Ms. Colvard stated that an employee bathroom is designed in the plan for the Administration as well as the Election Board. Ms. Colvard stated that there are no loadbearing walls in the middle and this will cut on the cost as well. The board reviewed the plans.
10. Chairman Wiggins asks for the managers' report. Manager Garland stated that the Valley River Humane Society gave their yearly reporting and the total number of animals accepted from Graham County is (413) which is an increase from (166) one year ago. Manager Garland stated that (248) were relinquished animals and (165) were strays.
11. Manager Garland stated that Balsam West is working to get the broadband grant implemented. Manager Garland stated that they currently have equipment on a pole located at the back of the Urgent Care property and they would like to replace it with a higher pole, which will provide a better line of sight to the Wachacha Bald Tower. Manager Garland stated that she did advise them on the new flagpole that will be set. Manager Garland stated that they would also be replacing existing equipment on the Wachacha Bald Tower with updated equipment. Manager Garland stated that she did advise them that she was meeting with USFS about our tower on Wednesday because AT&T continues to petition to place their equipment on the tower. The board agreed to allow Balsam West to replace the pole located at Urgent Care.
12. Manager Garland stated that the ARC Grant for the mammogram machine for \$100,000.00 and the paramedicine program for \$50,000.00 was approved. Manager Garland stated that the ARC Recovery to Work was submitted yesterday and we should know about the Duke Endowment Grant for Paramedicine in November.
13. Manager Garland stated that the trailer with the walking bed was ordered last week for Sanitation and she received quotes on the financing. The board reviewed the financing quotes. Commissioner Orr made the motion to accept United Community Bank financing due to their having the lowest rate. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Manager Garland presented the board with a Resolution approving Financing Terms. Commissioner Orr made the motion to accept the resolution as stated. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Manager Garland presented the board with a Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse. Commissioner Orr made the motion to accept the Declaration as presented. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

14. Manager Garland stated that the backhoe at sanitation is broken and needs repaired. Manager Garland stated that Director Colvard is getting quotes on the labor and parts needed to repair the backhoe and it will probably require a poll vote due to the cost being greater than \$5,000.00. The board was fine with the poll if necessary.
15. Manager Garland asks that Commissioner's Cody and Eller get with her on scheduling a Sanitation Committee meeting.
16. Manager Garland stated that the library needs (6) new cameras and the Friends of the Library wanted to purchase them but they are not compatible with our system and to run them on our system will require us to create a hole in our firewall. Manager Garland stated that she did ask if they would donate the money to us for the purchase of secure cameras that the county uses and they declined. Manager Garland stated that there have been multiple attempted break-ins at the library and they do need cameras. Chairman Wiggins asks that the library board get quotes and bring them to the board and they would review them. Manager Garland also asks permission to turn off the WI-FI connectivity at the library from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. due to the vandalism of the building. The board was agreeable with this suggestion.
17. Manager Garland went over dates to remember with the board and stated that she and Clerk Crisp would be attending a training on Thursday in Asheville and asks permission to take the county car home with her to prevent her from driving to Robbinsville instead of going through Nantahala. The board all agreed to allow Manager Garland to take the vehicle overnight.
18. Chairman Wiggins asks Chief Deputy Chuck Stewart to speak. Deputy Stewart stated that they have (9) old computers that was given to the Sheriff's Department after the fire that needs to be replaced and he has spoken with Manager Garland. Deputy Stewart stated that they would like to purchase Service Pro's with cameras and a docking station in the vehicles so that the deputies can do their reports at the time of the incident instead of waiting to return back to the office. Deputy Stewart stated that he could purchase (22) computers with docking stations for \$33,425.00. Manager Garland stated that she can do a lease and they are in need of new computers. The board asks if we have the money in the budget. Manager Garland stated that we do with a five-year lease for a monthly payment instead of paying the total cost upfront. Manager Garland stated that the computers would be portable and the officer will be able to take it into the sheriff's department and work as well. Manager Garland stated that these would require that they have hotspots for connectivity. The board had discussion. Commissioner Orr made the motion to purchase the computers as stated on a lease program with the funds being taken from the Sheriff's Budget. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
19. The board had discussion on the Impound Yard costs and wanted to see if some of the drug money could be used to pay part of this cost. Sheriff Jones will get with the State to see if this would be possible due to the fact that most impound items are due to drug cases.
20. Chairman Wiggins stated that we would now go to the discussion items. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to approve the Releases \$420.59 and the Discoveries \$2,758.02. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the releases and discoveries as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
21. Chairman Wiggins stated that we needed to approve the poll for the Letter of Support to the YMCA and the poll was unanimous. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the poll as stated. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
22. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to reappoint Pam Shaffer to the RDA Board. Commissioner Orr made the motion to reappoint Pam Shaffer to the RDA Board. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
23. Chairman Wiggins asks for new or old business. No new business.
24. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to 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 Eller made the motion to go into closed session as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
25. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to adopt the Resolution authorizing and appointing J.K. Coward, Jr., County Attorney and Rebecca Garland, County Manager as attorneys-in-fact with the authority to settle the case on behalf of the county concerning Jerry Lee Crisp. Commissioner Eller made the motion to adopt the resolution as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

27. Commissioner Eller asks that maintenance begin cleaning the gutters at the buildings and seal the seams at the P&J Building. Commissioner Eller stated that weeds are growing out of the EMS gutters.
28. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Dale Wiggins, Chairman, Graham County Board of Commissioners

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Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Board of Commissioners

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Keith Eller, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

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Jacob Nelms, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

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Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board