

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. for their regular workshop session in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC. All board was present.

1. Chairman Wiggins called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Wiggins asks Juanita Colvard and Teresa Garland to speak on behalf of the Election Board. Ms. Colvard stated that the election board needed help with the next election due to an Executive Order sent from the State Board of Elections that require social distancing during early voting as well as election day. Ms. Colvard stated that they are required to send the site designation to the State Board to serve as an emergency early voting site. Ms. Colvard stated that being afraid of COVID19 is not an excuse to vote curbside and mail-in will help some but at the current location, they could only allow three voters at a time. Ms. Colvard stated that last election the county saw over 2000 early voters and early voting only lasts (17) days. Ms. Colvard stated that the Election Board requests to use the Community Building for the early voting, which will require the locks to be changed on all doors. Ms. Colvard stated that the Assistant Director Laura Adams would remain at the current office to send all voters to the new location. Commissioner Orr stated that we needed to do what needed to be done. Chairman Wiggins asks if other sites could be opened. Ms. Colvard stated that with the requirements that must be met this would cost quite a bit of money. Ms. Colvard stated that there is one problem with this site in being that Commissioner Orr and Commissioner Nelms have an office in the building and Commissioner Orr would not be allowed to stay in her office due to the (50) foot requirement and Commissioner Nelms would not be allowed to use the restroom facilities. Commissioner Orr stated that she would work from home during this time and Commissioner Nelms stated that this would not be a problem for him. Ms. Colvard stated that the period for early voting is October 15th through October 31st. Ms. Colvard stated that she will ask if the cost to change the locks can be paid with the COVID19 Funds. The board asks that the tax office be notified to cancel any reservations of the meeting room during this time. Clerk Crisp stated that our regular board meeting on October 20th would need to be moved to a different location. The board agreed to the requests.
3. Ms. Colvard stated that more services are being provided at the Urgent Care and this is all good news for Graham County and further stated that they will utilize Telemedicine.
4. Chairman Wiggins asks for further business. No further business.
5. Chairman Wiggins asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Dale Wiggins, Chairman

Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman

Keith Eller, Member

Jacob Nelms, Member

Connie Orr, Member

ATTEST: _____
Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board