

Regular Meeting – March 21, 2023

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville NC for their regular monthly meeting. All the board was present. Also, present Attorney JK Coward and Interim County Manager/Clerk to the Board Kim Crisp.

1. Chairman Nelms called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Cody to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Williams to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Nelms asks for changes and/or approval of the agenda. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the minutes for the February 21st Workshop and Regular meeting and the January 18th Continued Meeting. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Nelms asks Gavin Colvard, Sanitation Director to speak. Director Colvard stated that they had scored the bids on the two new road tractors and his recommendation is to go with Kenworth for \$447,432.70. Commissioner Williams made the motion to accept the bid from Kenworth as stated. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Chairman Nelms asks Juanita Colvard, Project Manager for Urgent Care to speak. PM Colvard stated that she had received the bids for X-Ray Machine. Chairman Nelms opened the bids, and the amounts are:

a. Simmons Health	\$92,729.00
b. Cuattro Medical	\$93,500.00
c. MRX	\$79,819.33
d. GE	\$131,603.42
e. Cannon	\$99,304.00

PM Colvard asks that the board allow her to review and verify the bids. Commissioner Williams made the motion as requested. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

8. Chairman Nelms asks Tim Sullivan, TP Technologies to speak. Mr. Sullivan stated that he needed to upgrade the county's network servers and switches and he did receive quotes. Ms. Sullivan stated that Prodigy is his recommendation which includes a five-year warranty for \$53,760.28 for the servers and \$62,0005.88 for the switches. Mr. Sullivan stated that this was in the budget. Mr. Sullivan stated that Prodigy knows our system. Director Becky Garland stated that Prodigy came to help our county when our system imploded, and they have been good partners with the county. Commissioner Eller made the motion to go with Mr. Sullivan's recommendation and to accept the quote from Prodigy. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Mr. Sullivan stated that he needed to order cameras for the new buildings and replace some that were damaged, and he wanted to let the board know that he has ownership in one of the companies that he will get a quote from. The board all agreed that if he obtained quotes from other vendors, they did not see an issue.
10. Chairman Nelms asks Jason Marino to give the project manager's report. Manager Crisp stated that PM Marino was not able to attend tonight.
11. Chairman Nelms asks Becky Garland to give the finance reporting. Director Garland stated that the county ended the month with \$9,454,368.74 which is a deficit of \$1,568,0006.59 from this time last year but the monies are all explainable. Director Garland stated that our capital projects reporting is:

a. Capital Projects NCCMT	\$3,134,443.47
b. School Capital Project NCCMT	\$116,758.45
c. American Rescue Plan Act	\$903,389.28
d. SCIF Grant – Courthouse	\$5,112,654.65
12. Director Garland stated that the interest earned on the accounts to date is \$210,698.96.
13. Director Garland stated that the current year tax collection was \$128,656.47; prior year \$20,321.09 and DMV \$56,606.21. Director Garland stated that year to date tax collection was \$7,018,939.90 for real and \$423,322.15 for DMV. Director Garland stated that our tax collection rate is 94.55%.
14. Director Garland stated that our revenues for the month were \$985,514.59 and our expenditures \$1,853,384.48 and our year to date is \$14,470,466.21 for revenues and \$13,425,391.49 for expenditures for a surplus of \$1,045,074.72.
15. Director Garland stated that our LATCF funding is \$454,343.81.
16. Director Garland stated that our sales tax collection was \$265,846.29 and we have had a growth of 10.36% in our collection since the quarter cent tax collection was added. Director Garland stated that we received \$251,041.21 for our 524 Expansion and the school's portion is \$74,219.61.

17. Director Garland stated that we have collected \$486,944.42 in back taxes.
18. Director Garland stated that our capital projects expenditures are:

a. Election Board / Bathroom Renovation	\$261,852.15
b. Recreation Building	\$181,381.23
c. Cemetery Building	\$186,406.80
d. Justice Center	\$181,250.02
e. Middle School – County Match	\$1,197,712.17
f. Total to date – County Dollar	\$2,008,602.37
g. Total to date – Middle School	\$4,579,375.89
19. Director Garland stated that the changes in expenditures for Fiscal Year 2022 to 2023 are:

a. Transit Van	\$219,056.00
b. Courthouse Architect x2	\$181,250.00
c. Fire Department LATCF	\$354,384.00
d. Sheriff Department LATCF	\$ 98,619.00
e. School Match	\$123,238.00
f. Capital Projects Reimbursement	\$168,605.00
g. ARPA Recreation Project	\$ 55,748.00
Total change	\$1,200,900.00
20. Director Garland stated that our budget should be at 33% and we are holding at 41%.
21. Director Garland stated that she would need approval for Budget Amendment #15 to amend to recognize additional revenues via grants donations and to recognize emergency expenditure of IT Equipment for \$54,985.00. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the budget amendment as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
22. Director Garland stated that she did need a motion to pay the annual maintenance for 911 of \$11,566.70. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve payment as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
23. Director Garland stated that her staff and Vice-Chairman Williams had received proposals for the new audit contract from Johnson City, Tennessee and Greensboro, NC and she will have Clerk Crisp poll the board with their recommendation after the proposals have been scored.
24. Chairman Nelms asks for public comment. No public comment.
25. Chairman Nelms stated that he would now go to the discussion items. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the Releases for \$4,674.08 and the Discoveries for \$19,089.63. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Chairman Nelms asks if the board wanted to meet every Tuesday for the Board of Equalization and Review. Commissioner Orr stated it would depend on the number of appeals. The board all agreed Tuesdays until such time that it would need to be changed. Commissioner Orr made the motion to set the dates as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
27. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to surplus a Dodge Van Vin#06251. Commissioner Orr made the motion for the surplus. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
28. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to allow Maintenance to get one of the Transit Vans that are up for surplus. Commissioner Cody made the motion to allow one of these vans to be given to the maintenance department. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
29. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to allow a camera to be installed at the Wachacha Bald tower. Commissioner Cody made the motion for this request. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
30. Chairman Nelms asks for discussion on the Directory APP that is being proposed by members of the health advisory board. Commissioner Orr made the motion to the table for further discussion. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
31. Chairman Nelms stated that the next topic would require he and Commissioner Eller to abstain from the vote due to their employment with the county. Chairman Nelms asks if the board would approve the Resolution authorizing participation in the NC Health Insurance Pool. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adopt the resolution and enter the pool. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
32. Chairman Nelms asks is any board member wanted to attend the NCACC Annual Conference. The board will let the Clerk know later.
33. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the poll to allow Urgent Care to flex hours through March 25th. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
34. Chairman Nelms 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 Orr made the motion as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

35. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Cody made the motion as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.
36. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to allow for the equipment purchase with a repayment plan for Urgent Care. Commissioner Orr made the motion as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
37. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Williams made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Jacob Nelms, Chairman

Natasha Williams, Vice-Chair

Lynn Cody, Member

Keith Eller, Member

Connie Orr, Member

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board