

Regular Meeting 3/6/2007

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Commissioners Lynn Cody, Billy Cable, Jerry Sherrill, Raymond Williams and Eugene Trull. Chairman Cody called the meeting to order and Commissioner Billy Cable gave the invocation.

1. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Chairman Cody opened the public comment session of the meeting and no one responded. Chairman Cody closed the public comment session.
4. Erma Orr, Tax Assessor, presented the Releases to the Board. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Releases and Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Attached). Ms. Orr stated to the Board that she had received a Forestry Plan from Albert Wood on 51 acres for horse management on Yellow Creek and that this would lower his taxes from \$1200. an acre to \$331.00 if approved. Mr. Wood did not submit his application by January 31st during the listing period but rather submitted his application in February. Commissioner Cable made the motion not to approve this request because Mr. Wood did not submit his application during the listing period. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Bob Doyle met with the Board to discuss the closing of N. Main Street from the front of Eller's Service Station up to and including the Dula Street intersection on June 30th, 2007 from 8am to 6pm. Mr. Doyle stated that he had talked to all businesses impacted by this closure and he will try to minimize the effect on their business access. Mr. Doyle asked the Board of Commissioners to sign this request for the closing of the street at the specified time and day. (Attached). Mr. Doyle also stated that the music on the grounds would begin June 1, 2007. Mr. Doyle told the Board that he always tried to get local bands to perform and it's hard to get local bands to sign up for the music on the grounds. Commissioner Trull stated that someone had told him that out of town bands got the night show and therefore were getting more money. Mr. Doyle stated that for 90 minutes of playing they receive \$300.00. for playing (2) forty – five minute sessions last year to play locally but only 2 signed up and he had to get the third band from Georgia. The house band plays from 6pm to 11pm and receives \$800.00 a night. Mr. Doyle stated that a rumor was going around if the band played for Relay for Life that they would be the house band. Mr. Doyle stated that he did not have anything to do with the Relay for Life it was a different organization than the Graham County Festival. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the request from Bob Doyle, Graham County Festivals, on the road closing on June 30th, 2007 from 8am to 6pm. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (request attached)
6. The Board opened the bids for the Senior Meals and Weekend Meals.

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| Fontana Village | - \$7.97 a meal |
| Lynn's Place | -\$4.40 a meal and weekend/Holiday meals at \$8.50. |
| Phillips Restaurant/Stanley Cafeteria | -\$4.44 a meal and weekend & Holiday Meals - \$8.50. |

Meal. Commissioner Williams made the motion to table this until the next Meeting. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Andy Posey discussed the Recreation board. Mr. Posey wanted to know if the pool was going to be opened this season. Mr. Posey stated that no one called him when to come to the Recreation Board Meeting. Mr. Posey stated that he would

like to have a printout on what the County monies are and where they are being spent. The Board told Mr. Posey this was public record and he could get this information from the Finance office. Mr. Posey stated that he did not want his taxes raised. Commissioner Cable stated that no one said that taxes were going too raised.

8. Donna Cody told the Board that everything was going fine and she did not need to speak tonight but would reserve for the next meeting.

9. Sandra Smith, County Manager, told the Board she thought that Bobby couldn't be at the meeting tonight but Mr. Smith did come. Mr. Smith stated that all of the helmets had to be certified this year and the cost would be around \$3,000.00. Mr. Smith stated that Andrews little league had extra certified helmets they would be willing to sale for \$15.00 a piece and Mr. Smith stated that he would need 40. Mr. Smith told the Board that Cherokee had told him they would pay for their kids to play little league but if any of them quit before the season was over they would not pay any. The Board agreed that they should pay full price as the entire kids do that play these sports. Mr. Smith also stated that they could buy shoulder pads from Andrews at a price of \$500. for 113 sets. Commissioner Trull made the motion for Mr. Smith to purchase this equipment from Andrews for the Recreation Department. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. The Board stated that the uniforms need to be returned and the parents can only keep them if they pay for the uniforms.

10 .Commissioner Williams told the Board that he had been approached by several individuals that love to get out and hunt but they can't get out of the road and the Forest Service is pushing for an unloaded gun law to 30 feet off the road before they can load their guns. I don't agree with this because we have a lot of older people in our County loves to get out and say they went hunting and some are on oxygen and they just get out of their truck and walk along the road and on the road if you have to be 30 feet from the road you'll be in the river or steep embankments that they can not negotiate because of health or being handicapped. I think that a letter on behalf of the Commissioners that we do not support this because of the reasons stated above. Mr. Williams stated that older people had done this for years and years and no accidents had happened. Commissioner Cable made the motion to write a letter in support of Mr. Williams's request. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

11. Commissioner Cable made the motion to appoint Raymond Williams to the Recreation Board. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

12. Commissioner Cable made the motion to go into closed session under GS 143.318.A (6) for the purpose of discussing personnel. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

13. In closed session the Board discussed part time employment for the EMS, Dispatch full time and Grounds.

14. Commissioner Cable made the motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

15. Commissioner Williams made the motion to hire Ted Gibby and Clifford Williams as part time EMS employees pending on passing a pre employment drug screen. Commissioner Sheriff seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

16. Commissioner Williams made the motion to Wanda Sellers from part time dispatcher to full time position to fill this opening. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

17. Commissioner Trull made the motion to promote Stephen Pressley to Lead Grounds Keeper with a dollar (\$1.00) raise on the hour. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

18. The Board approved Michael Buchanan to clean up the gym after ballgames. Mr. Buchanan's pay for the clean up will be \$150.00.

19. Commissioner Williams made the motion to continue this meeting Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at 3:30pm at the Cheoah District Ranger Station, 113 Massey Branch Road, Robbinsville, NC. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.