

Regular Meeting 5/15/2007

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, May 15, 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 Eugene Trull gave the invocation.

1. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of items 9-A/9-B and 9-C. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Chairman Cody opened the Public Comment session of the Meeting. Terry Slaughter met with the Board to present the bids for the 911 system upgrade. The bids were opened on Monday, April 30, 2007. Mr. Slaughter stated that it was his recommendation to go with Nine-One-One bid for upgrading as they were the lowest appropriate bid and their projected completion date is four weeks from contract signing and they met the entire specifications. Commissioner Williams made the motion to accept the bid that Mr. Slaughter recommended from Nine-One-One. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Bid attached).
4. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Releases & Discoveries as presented by Ms. Orr. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Attached)
5. Commissioner Trull made the motion to table the Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Peggy Hyde, Interim Executive Director of Hope for Families, met with the Board to discuss F/Y2007-2008 budget. Ms. Hyde explained all that the Hope for Families services that are provided for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Graham County. Ms. Hyde stated that she was requesting an increase of \$10,000.00 over last years budget of \$20,000.00. The Board stated to Ms. Hyde that they appreciated all that HOPE for Families represented and they had their support. Commissioner Trull made the motion to table this request until the Graham County Budget workshop and then it will be discussed. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Dale Wiggins, Interim County Manager, told the Board that he had been asked how better the County could manage the fuel gas distribution. As of now, the County uses the key system manually. Mr. Wiggins stated that he had contacted several places and that he was giving each Board member information they could look at from Petro Vend fuel controls. Mr. Wiggins will get back to the Board after they have had time to look over the information. Mr. Wiggins discussed the over time at the Sanitation Department due to pickups on Sunday. Mr. Wiggins stated that they could change their work schedule and eliminate Sunday pickups. Commissioner Trull made the motion to eliminate Sunday garbage pickups. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. The Election Board has requested more space and Mr. Wiggins stated that the top floor of the P&J building could be used almost immediately. The bottom floor will have to be handicap accessible with some modifications on the top and bottom floors. David Hyatt has walked through the building and stated what is needed to meet specifications for use. The Board stated that they wanted to move as many County offices as possible that they were paying rent on. Commissioner Trull stated that the upstairs part of the building was not only to be used for the Election Board but other County offices. Commissioner Trull also asked why the Election Board was open 5 days a week and not part time and Mr. Wiggins stated that he

would check on this. Mr. Wiggins stated that he was working on the Budget and the Board needed to be continued this meeting until May 29, 2007. Mr. Wiggins also stated that the other dates would be June 5, 7, 12, 15 and 19th for Budget workshops. Also the bids for the pool bids will be up June 15th. We will have the Public Hearing on the Budget and final approval on June 29th. All meetings will begin at 6:00pm except on June 15th the meeting will be at 4:00pm. The Board instructed Mr. Wiggins to get a list of surplus vehicles and advertise for an auction and set the date on Saturday, July 14, 2007. Mr. Wiggins told the Board that the previous Board appropriated monies for the first loan payment on the EMS and Health Department Buildings making 2 payments a year. The first payment is due May 20th. The payments are at a large amount and first we will have to use \$353,003. for the EMS to complete it. The Health Department project we will owe \$273,877.32. Commissioner Sherrill asked Mr. Wiggins about the Health Insurance for employees. Mr. Wiggins stated that BCBS was going up 20% from last year.

8. Rick Davis, Superintendent Graham County Schools, met with the Board for approval to submit the QZAB Application for authorization that Mr. Davis told the Board about at the last meeting. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the QZAB Academy Bond Program application for authorization based on figures given by Mr. Davis. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Attached QZAB application authorization). Mr. Davis told the Board that there was going to be a meeting with the architects to see what can be done to lower the cost of the Helpful Living Center as it was over nearly ½ million dollars.
9. Commissioner Trull told the Board that people had been asking why there was no mowing of the grass on Ft. Hill. Commissioner Williams stated that Duke was supposed to mow the grass according to the lease. Commissioner Trull stated that people had asked him about the Senior Prom and if the fees could be waived for use of the Community Building. Commissioner Williams made the motion to waive the fee and key deposit for the Senior Prom. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Commissioner Trull told the Board that Fontana had moved all of their dumpsters but one on the Forest Service land and the Board directed County Manager Wiggins to notify Fontana that the dumpster is to be removed from the Welch Cove dumpsite. Mr. Wiggins stated that a trailer was set up at the recycling center and all scrap metal was being placed there and when it was full then it would be sold. Commissioner Cable made the motion to change the well permit fees on existing homes to \$150.00. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. Commissioner Williams also told the Board that applications for the County Manager's position should go directly to the County Manager's office. The Board agreed for all County vehicles to be parked in the back of the County parking lot. The Board agreed for County Manager Wiggins to write a letter to all employees that had received Contracts from the previous Board that this Board did not recognize them. Chairman Cody asked Mr. Wiggins to write a memo to all employees that any information that was false that was stated to other employees could result in disciplinary action or loss of job.
10. Commissioner Cable made the motion to go into closed session under GS 143.318.11 A (6) for the purpose of discussing personnel. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
11. Commissioner Cable made the motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. In closed session the Board discussed personnel and the County Manager position.

13. Commissioner Williams made the motion to appoint Dale Wiggins, Interim County Manager with the same salary as the previous Manager. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
14. The Board agreed for Ms. Orr to present the Releases & Discoveries once a month.
15. Commissioner Williams made the motion to continue this meeting to Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Lynn Cody, Chairman

Jerry Sherrill, Vice-Chairman

Billy Cable, Member

Eugene Trull, Member

Raymond Williams, Member

Jan Millsaps, Clerk