

Regular Meeting 7/10/2007

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, July 10, 2007 at 5:00pm 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, Eugene Trull and County Attorney David Sawyer. Chairman Cody called the meeting to order and Commissioner Sherrill gave the invocation.

1. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of item #12 Eugene Trull. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Chairman Cody opened the Public Comment session of the Meeting. Erma Orr told the Board that the Tax Bills that were sent out to tax payers had the wrong seal on them. The Tax Bills had the Eastern Band Cherokee Indians logo on them. Ms. Orr stated the Company that printed the bills had called her and stated that they would deduct \$500.00 off the bills because of this logo and would send a letter of explanation to each tax payer if requested. Commissioner Williams stated that the Company needed to send each tax payer a post card stating this. Ms. Orr stated that she would notify them. With no one else wishing to speak, Chairman Cody closed the Public Comment session of the meeting.
4. Chairman Cody opened the Public Hearing on the proposed Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP). The programs included in the ROAP Program application include: Elderly & Disabled Transportation Assistance (EDTAP) Program, Employment Transportation Assistance Program (TANF) and Rural General Public (RGP) Program. The period of performance for Rural Operating Assistance Program funds is July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The F/Y 2007-2008 ROAP individual program totals are: EDTAP (\$57,522.), EMP (\$3,326) and RGP (\$43,443) a total of \$104,201. Commissioner Cable made the motion to accept the ROAP application for Graham County. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Commissioners Cody and Trull voted yes. Commissioner Williams abstained from voting. With no questions from the Public, Chairman Cody closed the Public Hearing.
5. Melody Adams, County Planner, will be at the next Board meeting on the Recreation Pool Project.
6. Virginia Zakroski met with the Board to discuss the Meadow Branch Voluntary Fire Department. Ms. Zakroski stated that the Meadow Branch Voluntary F/D was formed August 6, 2006 and they had elected officials and they meet every Tuesday in the month. The Fire Department is located ½ to ¼ miles where the old fire station was once located. The building will be 40 x 100 with 3 bays. County Manager Wiggins stated that when the Board was having workshops that the Meadow Branch Voluntary F/D was appropriated \$35,000.00 and now in the budget it appropriation was \$30,000.00. Mr. Wiggins stated that this would be corrected. Chairman Cody stated that they needed to get workman comp because it is required by State Law and to follow all of the guidelines. Mr. Cody also told the F/D that they need a mutual aid agreement with surrounding counties.
7. Beverly Thompson-Hawkins made a request for a No Wake Resolution for Big Horse Branch to County Manager Wiggins to present to the Board. Chairman Williams made the motion to vote no on this request. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. Commissioner Williams made the motion to reappoint Carol Millsaps and Ruby Nell George to a three-year term on the Graham County Nursing & Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sherrill seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

9. Commissioner Williams told the Board that the Transit Building was listed with a local realtor for sale. Commissioner Williams requested that Juanita Colvard, Transit Director, discuss this with the Board. Ms. Colvard stated that the units that they were serving 18,000 plus this year. The lease will end on August 2 of this year and the rent will be month to month. The Transit Grant states that the Transit office has to be centrally located. The rent is \$1,000. a month and the Ms. Colvard sent the State a letter requesting that the rent be reimbursed. There are several things that the State will do to help if the County owns the building. Chairman Cody asked what the selling price was on the building. Ms. Colvard stated that the owner was asking \$369,000. for the building four months ago. The TAB Board was in agreement that the County buys the building. Commissioner Cable made the motion to table this matter to get more information on this matter. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. The Board told Mr. Wiggins to get this information to them.
10. Commissioner Williams stated that he went to Beech Creek to see about a possible dump site and Mr. Wiggins went with the owner to see the property but a lot of work will have to be done. The owner stated that he would give the County a long term lease for the same rent that we were paying for the site at Sweetwater. Commissioner Trull told the Board that the distance between the Sweetwater dumpsite and the Recycling center was not that far. Commissioner Williams stated that two of the Sanitation workers had to work on Sunday to clean up the Sawyer Creek dumpsite. Commissioner Trull stated that the workers wanted to work on Sunday for the over time. The schedule is a split shift for the Sanitation department. Commissioner Williams stated that he did not see why they had to work from 12 to 8 pm and they could come in at 8 am and get their hours in and leave by 4 pm. Mr. Wiggins stated that they could change the schedules for sites to be picked up late in the evening and this Saturday they will work until 6 o'clock and part of the problem is that some of the workers do 1 task and a driver has a helper picking up trash. There needs to be cross training so everyone can do all of the jobs. Chairman Cody suggest for Mr. Wiggins to get with Donald and fix up a schedule.
11. Commissioner Cable made the motion to go into closed session under GS 143.318 A (3) (6). Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Commissioner Cable made the motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. In closed session the Board discussed personnel and Mediation with County Attorney Stewart with the Graham County School.
14. Commissioner Trull made the motion for all well permits to be \$150.00 for new and existing. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
15. Commissioner Cable made the motion to appoint Blair Hyder, Graham County Tax Assessor for a 2-year term. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
16. Commissioner Trull made the motion to rescind the Resolution for Health Insurance for Retired Graham County Employees. This motion died for a lack of a second.
17. Commissioner Williams made the motion to continue this meeting to Monday, July 16, 2007 at 5:00pm in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street for the purpose of discussing a pay schedule for Graham County Employees. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Lynn Cody, Chairman

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Billy Cable, Vice-Chairman

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Jerry Sherrill, Member

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Eugene Trull, Member

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Raymond William, Member

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Jan Millsaps, Clerk