

Regular Meeting 12/19/2005

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Monday, December 19, 2005 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Commissioners Richard Stewart, Dirk Cody and Randy Jordan. Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence for the troops and their families around the world and the residents of the Gulf Coast.

1. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of 4-A (Tapoca Tax Appeal and 5-A (Health Board Appointment). Commissioner Stewart seconded this motion.
2. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion.
3. Chairman Stewart opened the Public Comment Session of the Meeting. Chairman Stewart closed the Public Comment Session as there was no one wishing to speak.
4. The Board discussed the election of Chairman for the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Stewart stated that this would happen when a 5-member board was elected next year. Commissioner Cody stated that had nothing to do with the Resolution that was passed by the Board for the 5-member structure. Mr. Cody also stated that each First meeting in December the Board should elect a chairman for the following year. Commissioner Stewart stated that no Board adhered to that schedule and the candidate with the most votes was the Chairman. Commissioner Cody stated that was a past custom and when the 5-member Board is elected they will elect a new chairman each year. Commissioner Cody made the motion to appoint Randy Jordan, Chairman to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Chairman Stewart stated he was voting negative, because he believed that the Chairman was changed every year when it's a 5-member Board. Commissioner Jordan directed Mr. Cabe to talk with County Attorney McKinney and see if this was correct and legal.
5. Commissioner Jordan made the motion to approve the Releases and Discoveries as presented by Ms. Orr with the exception of the releases of Bob Jenkins and CC Gentry Heirs. Commissioner Jordan stated that he would like for the County Attorney check on these two Releases and make sure the property did not exist and have them on the Agenda next Board Meeting. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Attached)
6. Commissioner Cody stated that he had received a settlement offer from Mr. Brockway on the Tapoca Appeal with 3 conditions: (A)-everybody drop their appeals (B): 1998-2001 discoveries be settled to Graham County revenue \$35,000. And (C)-the current Board will not set a Reval will to take place before 2010. Approximately \$3.2 million dollars will be paid to Graham County if the offer finalized. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve this settlement offer. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Commissioner Cody made the motion to appoint Donald Crisp to the Graham County Health Department to replace Libby Waldroup for a term of 4 years. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
8. County Manager Cabe told the Board that Attorney McKinney stated that the Jutt's Creek property was in state of default and that he would file papers and get a court date for the County for the owners or lease owners to clean this property up. Commissioner Cody made the motion to table the Jutt Creek Property Owners tax appeal. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Susie Farley, Graham County Election Board Director, told the Board that she would have to have a Public Forum on January 5, 2006 in the Graham County Courtroom pertaining to voting equipment before a Resolution could be passed

regarding this. Ms. Farley stated that the grant would be roughly \$76,000. for the voting machines.

10. Commissioner Jordan made the motion to approve the Resolution for the sale of the old Wachovia Bank Building by William Jack Adams for the closing of the property. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Commissioner Stewart stated he declined to vote to approve this because as previously stated that he believed that the building could be utilized for County offices.
11. Commissioner Cody made the motion to go into closed session under GS 143.318.11 (6). Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Commissioner Jordan made the motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. In closed session the Board discussed personnel, pay increases and a vacancy in the Cemetery Department.
14. Alisha Parham, Graham County Health Director, met with the Board to discuss a new Health Department Facility. The Board directed Ms. Parham to get a generic drawing of the facility that she would need. Ms. Parham stated that the property which would house the facility needed to have city water and sewer. Ms. Parham stated that she would know in January if they were approved a grant in the amount of \$65,000. toward this project. Ms. Parham will get back to the Board on the generic drawing for a Health Department. The Board was in favor unanimously for proceeding forward with a new Health Department facility. The Board of Commissioners will try to find an appropriate site for the new Health Department facility.
15. County Manager Cabe stated that he had received 3 proposals for the EMS building. After discussion, the Board directed Mr. Cabe to get in touch with Mr. Lackey and have him come to the next Board meeting with designs for the new facility. Commissioner Jordan would like a letter from Terry on whether the Rescue Squad and Fire Department wanted to be housed in the new complex. County Manager Cabe also told the Board that Santeetlah Fire Department was requesting \$3,000.00 more for their budget. Commissioner Cody stated that all of the fire departments should be given the \$3,000. to keep them the same amount of allocation. Mr. Cabe also told the Board that Tri-County Community College stated to him that they were going to request an extra \$10,000 to \$15,000. for their budget and all Commissioners agreed to this.
16. The Board agreed to the following by motion of Commissioner Cody and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. (Vote unanimous)
 - A. Employees who have to work on Friday/Monday and Christmas Day (December 23/25/26) will be paid holiday pay.
 - B. A pay increase of \$00.15 (15 cents) per hour for EMS Workers to begin next pay period.
 - C. Susie Farley, Election Board Director, will receive a \$1.00 raise per hour to begin next pay period.
17. Commissioner Cody made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioners Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Randy Jordan, Chairman

Dirk Cody, Vice-Chairman

Richard Stewart, Member

Jan Millsaps, Clerk