

Regular Meeting 1/3/2006

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, January 3, 2006 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Commissioners Randy Jordan, Dirk Cody and Richard Stewart. Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order.

1. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of 9-A and to move item #10 to item #8. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Chairman Jordan opened the Public Comment session of the meeting and Chairman Jordan closed the session as no one spoke.
4. Commissioner Cody made the motion to open the Graham County Public Hearing Scattered Sites Housing CDBG Application. Graham County is eligible to receive a \$400,000.00 CDBG Scattered Sites Housing grant from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance I 2003. The primary objective of the Scattered Sites Housing (SSH) program is to improve the housing conditions of very-low income households with incomes at or below 50% of area median income. Rehabilitation costs, acquisition, clearance, relocation of very low-income households and CDBG Administration (up to 10%) for the following activities are eligible for CDBG SSH funding. Applicants can use up to 10% (\$40,000) of the total \$400,000 grant for an emergency repair local option project. A local option (L-1) project must meet the criteria. The L-1 project may target housing systems needing repair such as a roof, heating system, electrical, etc. The selection committee will select applicants from applications received by January 15, 2006. Selected applicants must be included in the Environmental Review Record which is to be included with the application. Applications are due March 31, 2006. Commissioner Jordan asked Ms. Hill if the Local Option was necessary and let the Housing Board make that decision. Commissioner Cody made the motion to close the Public Hearing on the CDBG Application. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Agreement between Alcoa Power Generating Inc. and Erma Orr, Graham County Assessor and Graham County, North Carolina. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Jordan, Erma Orr and Walter F. Brockway signed the Alcoa Agreement. (Attached signed Agreement)
7. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Releases and Discoveries as presented by Erma Orr, Tax Assessor. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous. (Attached)
8. Commissioner Jordan made the motion to table Peter Covert (Tax Penalty) and Jutts Creek Tax appeal until the next Board's meeting. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
9. Melody Adams, County Planner, met with the Board to give them a project update on Planning and Economic Development. Ms. Adams discussed strategic plan, the Streetscape project and the NC Step Demonstration Project. The Board told Ms. Adams to get more information on these projects and give them the information in the short version. Commissioner Cody stated that they could discuss these projects at a workshop before a regular meeting. Ms. Adams told the Board that she and Jeff Cabe had met with the Town on the Streetscape Project and the NC Step Program. Commissioner Cody made the motion for Ms.

Adams to have the authority to proceed with the NC Step Demonstration Project. Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

10. Alisha Parham, Graham County Health Director, met with the Board in reference to a new Health Department Facility and the location of this project. Ms. Parham told the Board that she had 4 locations on property that would be for sale but she did not know the prices to house a Health Department. Ms. Parham said the locations were the R.J. Humes property, land by Tallulah Valley Clinic, the Ft. Hill property and the property already owned by the County across from the Court House. The Board told Ms. Parham to pursue the cost of the property and get back to the Board.
11. Commissioner Cody made the motion to go into closed session under GS 143.318.11 A (6). Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Commissioner Stewart made the motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. Commissioner Cody told the Board if they were in agreement that he would check with the local banks on quotes on CD's for the monies from the Alcoa taxes and this way the County could be collecting interest on their monies until they are utilized. The Board was in full agreement with plan.
14. Commissioner Cody also told the Board that he would be willing to work on a pay plan for County employees and have this ready for the new physical year. The Board agreed for Mr. Cody to assume this project.
15. Commissioner Cody made the motion to reappoint Gavene Collins, Matt Shiplett and Dirk Cody to the Graham County Health Board and to appoint Vickie Walsh to take the position of David Matheson who resigned from the Board. (Private Citizen Position). Commissioner Jordan seconded this motion.
16. Commissioner Jordan made the motion to give Tajuana Ledwell a 5% pay increase to begin next pay period (1/5/06-1/18-06). Commissioner Cody seconded this motion.

Randy Jordan, Chairman

Dirk Cody, Vice-Chairman

Richard Stewart, Member

Jan Millsaps, Clerk