

Regular Meeting September 16, 2008

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Commissioners Lynn Cody, Billy Cable, Jerry Sherrill, Gene Trull and Raymond Williams. Chairman Lynn Cody called the meeting to order and Terry Slaughter, EMS Director gave the invocation.

1. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the Agenda with the deletion of Ruth King, Mary Lindguberg and Audrey Barnell and the addition of Juanita Colvard, Billy Cable and Raymond Williams. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Commissioner Cody opened the Public Comment session of the meeting. The Commissioners signed the Resolution to withdraw Hwy. 129 between Topton to Tapoco from the Scenic Byways.
4. Blair Ryder, Tax Assessor with Graham County, brought Releases and Discoveries. The #4 discovery, concerning an elderly lady whose home had not been picked up for tax purposes since 1990. The Board decided she would need to make a request to the Board to relinquish these taxes. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve and Commissioner Cable seconded. Vote unanimous. Commissioner Williams also asked Mr. Ryder about the property on Hwy 129 that has been turned into wetlands, asking if our county could receive some form of monies from this land. Mr. Ryder will look into this matter.
5. Rick Davis spoke on behalf of the Graham County Revitalization Team and their plans to develop a Strategic Plan to get monies for the county with the help of Western Carolina University. They have several programs in the works now. Sarah Evans spoke next on the 21st Century Program. She gave a detailed speech concerning her program.
6. Juanita Colvard, Director for Transportation, had a request from the Church Mouse, a non-profit organization, to be given one of the surplus vans from the Transportation Department. Commissioner Trull made the motion to approve the donation. Commissioner Williams seconded. Vote unanimous.
7. Billy Cable spoke next on his concerns about the mercury level that has been found in our fish. He wants a public meeting concerning this issue. Alicia Parham with the Health Department said that a meeting is being scheduled in the next two weeks.

8. Raymond Williams spoke next with concerns about the budget withdrawals for the Santeetlah Fire Department and the land delays concerning the Meadow Branch Fire Department. The county attorney, David Sawyer, spoke about the delays and that he was working with Attorney Mack Tallant to get this issue settled. Raymond then spoke on the budget withdrawal for Santeetlah stating he thought we should go ahead and give them their portion but to be assured this goes straight to the bank. Scott Cunningham, an officer for the Santeetlah department spoke with his concerns of being late on the payment. He was assured the truck payment, if ever late, would not affect his personal credit. He stated that the bank note was around \$11,000.00 dollars.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to take care of this note with the assistance of the bank. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

9. Commissioner Cable made the motion to close open session and to go into

Closed session under G.S. 143.318.11(A) (6) for the purpose of discussing personnel and G.S. 143.318.11(A) (3) attorney / client. Commissioner Williams seconded. Vote unanimous.

10. Commissioner Cable made the motion to come out of closed session back into

Open session. Commissioner Trull seconded. Vote unanimous.

11. Commissioner Trull made the motion to accept the Work First Program being state run. Commissioner Williams seconded. Vote unanimous.

12. Commissioner Williams made the motion to accept the stretcher that was already purchased by the EMS. Commissioner made the motion not to purchase the stretcher. The motion died due to lack of a second.

13. Commissioner Trull made the motion to let Robbie Hyde put in a new gas system for the county at a cost of \$7000.00 and to put a metal building over the pumps. Commissioner Cable seconded. Vote unanimous.

14. Commissioner Trull made the motion to close the meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded. Vote unanimous.