

Regular Meeting December 2, 2008

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Community Building at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Commissioners Bruce Snyder, Sandra Smith, Billy Cable and Lynn Cody. Chairman Bruce Snyder called the meeting to order and Commissioner Cable gave the invocation.

1. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the Agenda with the deletion of his name to speak in open session and request to speak in closed session and the addition of Commissioner Bruce Snyder's name. Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. Commissioner Cable made the motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Commissioner Snyder opened the floor for Public Comment. Commissioner Snyder requested that if you came in a group you would be allowed one speaker to represent your group. Robert Orr spoke for the Fort Hill Homeowner's Association expressing concerns on the article in the Graham Star about the landfill being moved to Fort Hill. He stated that last year their association had been sued by the county for a quarter of a million dollars. Commissioner Cody stated that the suit was actually two years ago. Commissioner Snyder and Smith made no comments as they were not in office at that time. Commissioner Cody and Cable said this was a rumor and was never mentioned. There was never a plan for a landfill on Fort Hill. The only plan for that building was a new administration building. Mr. Orr stated he was voicing concerns when anything was spoken about the landfill or things happening on Fort Hill. Mr. Orr thanked the board for their time.
4. The Graham Star editor, James Bud spoke next. He stated the Lynn Cody told him that they might have to use Fort Hill for a landfill. Commissioner Cody denied this and said the Bear Creek land was where the landfill could be moved. He stated that we always needed a plan B and the plan B location was a Bear Creek. Commissioner Cody also stated that he gave Mr. Bud the names and phone numbers of the state people in which were contacted about the landfill. Commissioner Cody again stated that Fort Hill was never mentioned.
5. Bob Doyle with the Graham County Heritage Festival spoke next. He stated there were two things that needed to be updated. At the November 22, 2008 meeting the festival were looking for a new board. The total heritage festival board is resigning and Mr. Doyle would like to invite or persuade a commissioner to be on that board and hopefully a town board member could serve as well. Mr. Doyle is the acting chair until a new one is appointed. His duties are to handle money and nominate people to work the festival. He stated the importance of the festival to the Travel and Tourism and the monies that were brought into the county because of the festival. The county provided help in setting up the bleachers, stands and etc. that was needed. He stated there needed to be a five member board. The festival is non-profit and Rebecca Garland was the accountant in charge of all monies. Commissioner Snyder volunteered to on the board. Commissioner Smith asked about money donations but Mr. Doyle said the county always donated the labor for putting up the stage, tents and bleachers but money would always be welcomed. Commissioner Cable spoke about Mr. Doyle dedication to the festival and thanked Bob for his time. Mr. Doyle stated that the festival was self supporting now. He stated that the foreigners made up 45% of the visitors and that all motels are filled within a 60 mile radius. Vendors come from other states now and the festival has been a success every year. All Commissioners thanked Mr. Doyle again for his dedication to the festival.
6. Josh Carpenter, planner for the county since October 2008 spoke next. He introduced himself and discussed the projects that were going on at this time. He stated that he was excited to be working for the county and hoped to obtain grants to help with our economic crisis. He spoke briefly about the Economic Development Grant that would help our citizens, the pool grant that was

88.6% done, the transit project with Juanita Colvard that helps provide transportation to Stanley Furniture for their workers and using the information from the Community Assessment Plan that Kristen Shuler worked on. Commissioner Smith asked about the monies on the pool and did we do all the paperwork and did McGill send us the paperwork to send on for reimbursement. Josh stated that he would find out and report to Commissioner Smith tomorrow. Josh also stated the need for a strategic plan for the revitalization of downtown and he was hoping to form an implementation board to see that the project is finished and to bring fresh new ideas to the department. His set goals are 1) planning stages and 2) making sure these goals is met and 3) to implement the board with one commissioner.

7. The next order of business was releases and discoveries by the tax office. There were none for this meeting. Please note that the clerk adds there name to the agenda just in case last minute releases and discoveries are done that need the boards attention.
8. Commissioner Snyder spoke next on the request made by the Sanitation Director, Donald Crisp concerning the Christmas Holidays. See Attachment. Commissioner Smith made the motion to approve the request. Commissioner Cody seconded. Vote unanimous.
9. Commissioner Snyder made the motion to go into closed session under G.S.
10. 143.318.11A (6) (3). Commissioner Cable seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
11. Commissioner Snyder made the motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Cody seconded. Vote unanimous.
12. Commissioner Cody made the motion to stop all deductions other than the state or federal mandates being withheld from payroll checks. Commissioner Cable seconded. Vote unanimous.
13. Commissioner Snyder made the motion to appoint Kim Crisp and the Interim County Manager. Commissioner Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.
14. Commissioner Snyder made the motion to continue this meeting until Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at the community building for the Local Coordinated Plan for Transit meeting. Commissioner Cody seconded. Vote unanimous.

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Bruce Snyder, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Sandra Smith, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Billy Cable, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Lynn Cody, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Jerry Sherrill, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board