

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
MARCH 4, 2013**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on March 4, 2013, 2:00 pm, Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Rd., Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Jack Debnam, Chairman
Doug Cody, Vice Chair
Mark Jones, Commissioner
Charles Elders, Commissioner
Vickie Greene, Commissioner

Chuck Wooten, County Manager
J. K. Coward, Jr., Co. Attorney
Pat Parris, Clerk to Board

Chairman Debnam called the meeting to order.

AGENDA: Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Commissioner Elders moved to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing, Work Session and Regular Meeting of February 18, 2013. Commissioner Cody seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(1) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman Debnam reminded the Board that the second monthly meeting, March 18, will be held at the Savannah Fire Station.

(2) COMMISSIONER REPORTS: All Commissioners attended the Emergency Services Dinner on February 26th and expressed their appreciation to all volunteers that give freely of their time to keep Jackson County safe.

(3) COUNTY MANAGER REPORT: Mr. Wooten reported:

(a) Jackson Plaza Property: The upset bid period for the Jackson Plaza property has expired and no bids were submitted. The County Attorney has been requested to move forward with closing as soon as possible. The property is being sold to Emma Properties LLC at a purchase price of \$157,895. After paying a 5% realtor's commission, the County will net \$150,000.25.

(b) School Construction Update: The monthly construction meeting for Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountain High School projects was held on February 25th. Both project superintendents reported the projects are on schedule. At Blue Ridge, all block work has been completed and they are waiting for the steel and roof decking. At Smoky Mountain, the foundation work has been completed and significant progress should be seen over the next few weeks.

(c) NCACC Western District Meeting: April 10th, Ramsey Center, Western Carolina University.

(d) Transfer Station Fire: He received confirmation today that the county's insurance carrier will be paying the claims for damages caused by the November 2012 fire at the Transfer Station.

(e) **Landslide Damages – Possible Funding**: Todd Dillard, Tony Elders and he attended a meeting in Bryson City to hear about a possible funding source from the US Department of Agriculture to assist with repairing damages caused by the rain events of the past 6 weeks. If funded, federal funds for 75% of the damages could be made available with a 25% local match required. The landowner would be asked to provide the 25% match and the County manage the federal grants and necessary repairs. If the County wishes to participate in the program, written notice must be provided by April 1st. Dillard and Elders are evaluating slides that may qualify; however, the final decision rests with the USDA.

(f) **FY 13-14 Budget Process**: Budget packets were distributed to the department heads today and they will return their budget requests on or before March 22nd. Similar requests will be sent to external agencies that have heretofore received funding from the County.

(4) **COUNTY FLAG (R13-06)**: Mr. Wooten stated that about a year ago a young boy, David Hopkins, brought to the Board's attention that the County did not have an official flag. He thanked and commended all participants in the flag competition. The top five finalists: Jana Thompson, Alyssa Barnes, Tori Myers, Joseph Moon and Jessica Waldron, were presented with certificates of appreciation. The design by SCC graphic design student, Jessica Waldron, was selected as the one most symbolic of Jackson County. She was presented with a gift certificate.

Motion: *Commissioner Cody moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(5) **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)**: Matt Wike, School Board member, presented a School Resource Officer Program Facts and Figures report, School Resource Officer Program Expansion Plan and a proposed School Resource Officer Agreement between the Board of Education and the Sheriff's Office. He stated the Board of Education is requesting funding for expansion of the SRO program as follows:

(a) **FY 2012-2013**: Hire two officers effective April 1 (salary range not to exceed SH46*11); purchase personal equipment in the amount of \$7,857.30; utilize two existing vehicles from the Sheriff's Office.

(b) **FY 2013-2014**: Hire two additional officers effective July 1 (salary` range not to exceed SH46*11); purchase personal equipment in the amount of \$7,857.30 and two vehicles at a cost of \$62,705.14.

(c) **FY 2014-2015**: Purchase two new replacement vehicles at a cost of \$62,705.14.

Motion: *Commissioner Greene moved to postpone any action until the request is considered during the FY2013-14 budget process. Commissioner Cody seconded the Motion. Motion carried by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Jones voting "nay".*

(6) **BEAR LAKE RESERVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT ORDINANCE**:
A Public Hearing was held on February 4th and no public comments were made.

Motion: *Commissioner Cody moved to adopt the Ordinance. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(7) JACKSON COUNTY ABC BOARD (R13-07): The Resolution establishes a Jackson County Alcohol Beverage Control Board.

Motion: Commissioner Greene moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(8) BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESOLUTION (R13-08): The Resolution establishes a Business & Industry Advisory Committee.

Motion: Commissioner Elders moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Cody seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(9) CASHIERS TRANSPORTATION PLAN: A public hearing was held on March 4th at 1:45 pm and no objections were made.

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved to adopt the Cashiers Transportation Plan. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(10) GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved to reappoint Jack Debnam, Billie Bryson and Debbie Cowan to 3-year terms on the Greenways Advisory Committee. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(11) CEMETERY BOARD: Carry over.

(12) SEDIMENT CONTROL BOARD:

Motion: Commissioner Greene moved to reappoint Victor Lofquist to a 4-year term on the Sediment Control Board. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Informal Comments by Public:

Tom Hannon of Cashiers expressed appreciation for adoption of the Resolution establishing a Jackson County ABC Board.

Press Conference

There being no further business, Commissioner Elders moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Patsy C. Parris, Clerk to Board

W. J. Debnam, Chairman