

Posted: 6/11/03
Time Posted: _____
Posted By: Evelyn Baker
Witnessed By: _____

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
June 10, 2003**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on June 10, 2003, at 5:00 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room 203, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Stacy Buchanan, Chairman
 Roberta Crawford, Vice Chairman
 Joe Cowan, Commissioner
 Eddie Madden, Commissioner
 Brian McMahan, Commissioner
 Kenneth L. Westmoreland, County Manager
 Evelyn B. Baker, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Buchanan called the hearing to order and stated the purpose is to receive public input on the Proposed Budget for FY2003-2004. Chairman Buchanan then opened the floor for public comment.

(1) Sandy Frazier, Director of Development, Housing & Community Outreach, REACH of Jackson County, requested \$50,000 for this fiscal year because of significant cutbacks in both federal and state funding. County funds are needed to help offset salaries and fringe benefits. Without additional county funding, one staff position will be eliminated or two full time positions will be made part-time. Reduction of staff will mean a significant decrease in emergency services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in the county. He urged the Board to appropriate additional funding.

(2) Nancy Frederick, Secretary of Friends of the Library, stated that contributions from the organization could only be used to fund the main library for books, not operating expenses.

(3) Bob Cochran, Director, Social Services Department, stated that REACH provides important services to the public which the Social Services Department does not provide. REACH is essential for the protection of children and families. He requested that additional funding for REACH be taken into consideration.

There being no further comments, Commissioner McMahan moved that the hearing be adjourned. Commissioner Crawford seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned.

Attested By:

Approved:

Evelyn B. Baker, Clerk

Stacy Buchanan, Chairman