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Time Posted: _____
Posted By: Evelyn Baker
Witnessed By: _____

**MINUTES OF A
PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
AUGUST 6, 2007**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on August 6, 2007, 5:30 p.m., Justice & Administration Bldg., Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian T. McMahan, Chairman
Joe Cowan, Vice Chair
Tom Massie, Commissioner
William Shelton, Commissioner
Mark Jones, Commissioner
Kenneth L. Westmoreland, County Manager
W. Paul Holt, Jr., County Attorney
Evelyn B. Baker, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McMahan called the public hearing to order and stated the purpose is to receive public input on three proposed ordinances: (1) Subdivision Ordinance, (2) Mountain & Hillside Development Ordinance and (3) Board of Adjustment Ordinance. Time for public comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

(1) Mike Clark of Cullowhee stated that he opposes the ordinances because they may undermine some of the basic principles of property rights and the issue should be decided by voters.

(2) Chris Moore of Webster stated that he opposes the ordinances because they take away personal property rights; citizens should have the responsibility for their land and the issue should be decided by voters.

(3) Ed Bradley stated that the ordinances will take away his rights to divide his property among his family and the planning office will have a tremendous amount of authority. The issue should be decided by voters.

(4) Bill Lyons of Cullowhee stated that overall the ordinances are fairly good, but there are two things that concern him: (a) the ordinances do not call for absolute control of public water and sewer and if TWSA is not given control of water and sewer, the county will pay down the road; (b) the penalties are not strong enough to get violators' attention.

(5) Myrtle Schrader of Cullowhee stated that she supports the ordinances and growth can be achieved in a manner beneficial for everyone, but is concerned about water.

(6) Elizabeth Wilson of Whittier stated she is opposed to the ordinances because they will impair her ability to divide her property among her children. The government

has set aside enough land for the enjoyment of everyone and the ordinances call for too much control.

(7) Rebecca Rentz stated she bought a home in Glenville 20 years ago and loves the mountains and is concerned about giving up property rights. She supports guidelines through better education and roads should be built properly, but opposes the ordinances as they are now written.

(8) Steve James stated he wants to retain the privilege to build his dream house on his property; however, the ordinances could cause his property, because of the terrain, to be useless not only to him but he won't be able to sell it either. He believes in good stewardship of the land and good building codes.

(9) Jim McCarthy of Greens Creek stated he is a private property advocate and supports the ordinances, but is concerned about the constant muddy streams.

(10) Bill Kerwin of Canada Township stated that ordinances are needed and are in the long-term interest of the county.

(11) Robert Harper of Dills Cove Estates stated he supports the ordinances.

(12) Carol Adams of Glenville stated she supports the ordinances. Uncontrolled development causes erosion and run-off.

(13) Cheryl Woodham of Greens Creek stated she supports some type of regulation, but the proposed ordinances are out of proportion and too restrictive. The current erosion regulations should be enforced.

(14) Tony Owen of Canada Township stated he opposes the ordinances and the issue should be placed before the voters. The ordinances will cause a loss of jobs, thus a loss of people.

There being no further business, Commissioner Shelton moved to adjourn the public hearing. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Evelyn B. Baker, Clerk

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman