

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
MAY 18, 2021**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on May 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m., Justice and Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian McMahan, Chairman
Boyce Deitz, Vice Chair
Mark Jones, Commissioner
Tom Stribling, Commissioner
Gayle Woody, Commissioner

Don Adams, County Manager
Heather C. Baker, County Attorney
Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Chairman McMahan called the meeting to order.

(1) **AGENDA**: Commissioner Jones moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(2) **MINUTES**: Commissioner Deitz moved to approve the minutes of a Regular Meeting of May 04, 2021, as presented. Commissioner Woody seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(3) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**: None.

(4) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**:

(a) Commissioner Woody offered condolences and prayers to the family of Howard Rohner, who was an employee at the Council on Aging and her cousin as well. They tragically lost their grandson, who was a fireman in New Haven Connecticut. He lost his life battling a fire and saving lives.

(b) Commissioner Deitz stated their thoughts were with the family of Lionel Brooks, who passed away. He coached at the high school and his two sons were great football players at Smoky Mountain High School, WCU and coached at Franklin.

(5) **COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**: Mr. Adams stated that he did not have a formal report, but wanted to recognize that the Board was in their regular seating arrangement that they had not been in for over a year. As everyone was aware, Governor Cooper lifted most of the restrictions relating to Covid-19, including mask wearing and social distancing. Also, as a reminder, the Governor's orders applied to everywhere except local government buildings. Chairman McMahan had signed an executive order that ordered social distancing and mask requirements for all the local government buildings. Chairman McMahan signed a release of those requirements as well.

They did have some operations with vulnerable populations that they may move forward with mask wearing such as the Council on Aging facility. Other facilities, such as the recreation centers, would go back to normal, as best they could. If a person was vaccinated, the CDC stated that it was okay to not wear a mask or social distance, but they highly recommended that if someone was not vaccinated to still wear a mask and social distance when they could. People could go to the Health Department website where they had plenty of shots available, if someone was interested.

(6) INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC: None.

(7) CONSENT AGENDA:

(a) Darlene Fox, Finance Director, presented the Finance Report for April, 2021 and one Budget Ordinance Amendment for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, for approval.

Mr. Adams requested that Ms. Fox point out the Contingency Capital section.

Ms. Fox stated that on the Contingency Capital, they started out the year out at \$864,874. They made appropriations of \$588,286 and the balance at the end of April was \$276,588.

Mr. Adams stated that he wanted to point this out because they would see later in the meeting the recommended Capital Purchases for next year. They generally would hold off to make these purchases until after the audit and the funds were put into contingency. When Ms. Fox would present her information the next fiscal year, they would see that number look fairly large, but it would be the contingency. Most of those funds were obligated.

(b) Brandi Henson, Tax Collector, presented the Tax Collector and Refund Reports for April, 2021, for approval.

***Motion:** Commissioner Woody moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(8) OFFER TO PURCHASE AND CONTRACT FROM MATHIS AND RESOLUTION R21-09: Ms. Baker stated that she received an offer from Douglas E. Mathis and Julie L. Mathis, for approximately 12.10 acres (PIN #7589-83-3834) in the amount of \$10,000.00. She presented Resolution R21-09 for consideration.

The Mathis' were adjoining landowners to the property. The county became owners of the property in 2017 for nonpayment of taxes. There had been no interest in the property until a few months ago by someone interested in purchasing an adjoining property that had an access issue. She learned at this point the reason the county still owned this property was because it did not have deeded access. Unless the Mathis' gave access, this piece was landlocked.

If the Board accepted the offer, it would go to an upset bid process. They would advertise in the newspaper and anyone would have the opportunity, for ten days, to upset this offer. Also, they would send out letters to notify surrounding property owners.

***Motion:** Commissioner Deitz moved to approve Resolution R21-09, as presented. Commissioner Woody seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(9) FY2021-22 PROPOSED BUDGET: Mr. Adams presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Budget for the county and stated it was in the amount of \$71,666,678. The proposal constituted an approximate decrease of 2.20% (\$1,569,352) under the FY20-21 amended budget. The budget was balanced and prepared in accordance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, presenting appropriations by categories of expense and revenues by source. All proposals within the general fund were based upon a budget with a tax rate of \$0.36 per \$100 of value. The revenue neutral rate was \$0.3447 per \$100.

(a) Expenditures Highlights: Total Expenditures by Function for the General Fund - \$71,666,678:

- Education 24.06%
- Public Safety 24.53%
- Human Services 21.54%
- General Government 16.56%
- Cultural/Recreation 6.29%
- Non-Education Debt 2.10%
- Ec and Phy Dev 1.52%
- Transportation 1.35%
- Environmental Protection 0.18%
- Other/Contingency 1.87%

(b) Personnel/Insurance: The proposed FY2020-21 budget contained personnel recommendations. The recommendations included:

- One step (2%) increase for all employees.
- A salary study to be completed in FY21-22.
- Additional Career Path Adjustments and New Positions.
- Hospital/Dental Insurance Adjustments, Worker's Compensation, Liability Insurance.

It was recommended that all employees move up one step in the current grade and step plan. This action was necessary to maintain the career path system. Approximately \$426,082 was budgeted to implement a one-step increase for all employees. No Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) was included in the proposal.

They had multiple requests for salary reclassifications and salary adjustments. Currently, they were having hardships in employee hiring and retention, especially in Public Safety and Health Care Professionals. He recommended a salary study be conducted and \$1,000,000 had been set aside in the proposal for phased implementation. Several neighboring counties were conducting salary surveys. Failure to reserve budgetary capacity for those needs would result in the inability to competitively recruit and retain essential personnel.

The following career pathway changes and position adjustments were recommended to be funded:

- Fire Operations: Reclassify the Fire District Service Coordinator positions from Grade 18 to Grade 20 and add indirect time to a Fire District Services Coordinator position.
- Health and Code Enforcement: Reclassify the One Stop Processing Asst IV positions from Grade 15 to Grade 17 and transfer two of the Processing Asst IV positions from Code Enforcement to Health.
- Health: Reclassify a WIC Office Asst III position to a 50% Nutritionist II position at Grade 22 (a net savings of \$7,915) and add indirect time to a Public Health Nurse II position.

The following additional positions were recommended to be funded:

- Garage: Create a new part-time position.
- Fire Operations: Create five new Fire District Service Coordinators at Grade 20.
- Grounds: Create a new General Utility Worker III position to be hired on 01/01/2022.
- Sheriff: Create an Investigator/Detective position at Grade SH48.
- Solid Waste: Create a new part-time position for wash down and equipment operation.

Hospitalization/dental insurance premiums would increase by 3%. The employee rates would remain the same. Worker's Compensation Insurance would increase by 2%. Liability Insurance would increase by 2%.

(c) Capital and Capital Improvements: There were capital and capital improvement needs in the amount of \$2,264,342 that should be addressed in FY21-22. The recommendations were as follows:

- Equipment: \$927,341. Highlights under this category include computers, servers, printers, software, phone systems, garage equipment, cleaning equipment, grounds maintenance equipment, recreation equipment, law enforcement radios, cameras, shotgun replacements and emergency communication equipment. It was recommended that the majority of these expenses be delayed until after the audit was complete.
- Vehicles: \$292,000. Highlights under this category include \$292,000 to replace eight vehicles at the Sheriff's Office. The normal replacement cycle was seven replacements.
- Improvements: \$1,045,000. Highlights under this category include painting, repair of walkway awnings and sidewalks at the Cashiers Library and upgrades for the HVAC Control Module and software for the Cashiers Recreation Center. Also, three picnic shelters and additional sidewalk extension would be added at the Cashiers Recreation Center. The Jail facility would have exterior painting, fence enhancements and main control renovations. HVAC for the Jackson County Library would be replaced and anti-bacterial units would be added to the Justice Center. New gutters would be installed on the Department on Aging facility. Paving of the walking trail and handicapped access paths would be completed at the Cullowhee Recreation Center. A new picnic shelter and pumptrack would be constructed at East LaPorte. One section of paving would be completed at Mark Watson Park and the upper bathrooms renovated at Andrews Park. Note: It was proposed that these projects be funded from three different sources: \$493,500 from General Fund; \$500,000 from CPR Fund; and \$51,500 from Greenway Project Fund.

(d) FY2018-2022 Facility Capital Improvement Plan: The adopted FY2018-2022 Facility Capital Improvement Plan set aside funds for three major facility projects:

- Health Department/One Stop Permitting Center
- Animal Rescue Center
- Justice Center Renovations

The Health Department/One Stop Permitting Center had been completed. The project construction for the Animal Rescue Center was underway. Schematic design work for the Justice Center Renovations would begin at the end of FY 21-22.

(e) Board of Education:

- Current Expense: It was proposed to allocate \$8,431,468 (a 2% increase) to the public schools for FY21-22. This included \$7,024,965 for current operations, \$141,928 for PILT, \$830,458 in teacher supplements and \$434,117 for counselors.
- Capital: 40% of the Article 40 (½ cent) sales tax and 60% of the Article 42 (½ cent) sales tax go to public schools for capital. In FY21-22 the following items were proposed to be funded:
 - Capital Outlay: \$235,000
 - Capital Outlay – Technology: \$400,000
 - Capital Outlay – One to One: \$320,700
 - Capital Outlay – Maintenance: \$375,500 – Preventative maintenance
 - Capital Outlay – Security: \$25,000
 - Total: \$1,355,700

It was recommended to budget an additional \$1,088,774 for public school capital expenditures in FY21-22 out of Articles 40 and 42 sales tax. It was also recommended to budget an additional \$1,827,842 out of the Article 46 sales tax fund in FY21-22 to be used for educational purposes. The additional \$2,916,616 would be used for facility safety upgrades.

(f) Southwestern Community College (SCC): It was proposed to allocate \$2,401,296 (14.78% increase) to SCC in current operations for FY21-22. Additional current operations in the amount of \$267,445 for the new Health Sciences Building was included in the increased amount. It was recommended that this level funding allocation be revisited in January, 2021. The proposed general maintenance capital outlay appropriation was \$312,781. Major items in capital included an update to the exhaust system for welding booths, a tractor, a mower, fleet vehicles and various renovations to the facilities.

(g) County Libraries: It was proposed to allocate \$1,201,566 (a 2% increase) to the Fontana Regional Library System to operate both the Jackson County Library and the Albert Carlton Library

(h) Other Appropriations: There were many agencies that requested funds from the county. He divided the discussions into three categories: Safety-Fire, Forestry, Rescue, EMS; Community Development Centers (CDC), non-profits; and Contingencies.

- **Safety – Fire, Forestry, Rescue, EMS:** It was proposed that Sylva, Canada, Savannah, Balsam and Qualla Volunteer Fire Departments and the Glenville-Cashiers and Jackson County Rescue Squads receive a 2% increase in allocation. Also, proposed was an additional Fire District Service Coordinator for each of the fire departments. An additional \$129,090 was included for fire calls. Matching funds would be available for equipment purchased under grant funding.
- **Cullowhee Fire Department** would be funded at \$1,076,789. This would enable the department to have paid members on staff 24/7. The increased number of calls and property coverage had necessitated this change. Mutual aid was provided to other departments within the county.
- It was proposed that the Forestry Service receive funding of \$108,594, an increase of \$23,186, as requested. This amount included an attack fire engine with associated pumps, hoses and equipment at a cost of \$51,000. The county portion of the truck cost was \$20,400. Per state guidelines, the attack fire engines were recommended to be replaced once they reached 10 years/100,000 miles.
- **CDC and Non-profits:** It was proposed that Community Development Center funding to all 14 centers remain at current FY20-21 levels. It was proposed that most nonprofits be funded at their requested amounts. New nonprofit requests should be directly discussed with the Board.
- **Contingencies:** A contingency of \$321,253 was budgeted for FY 21-22 and was available for general purposes. An additional \$1,000,000 was budgeted for the following:
 - Conduct a salary survey.
 - Reserve budgetary capacity to implement recommendations from the salary study.
 - To continue the county’s internship/work programs.

(i) COVID-19 Pandemic: Jackson County employees had done a great job in adjusting to local and state orders to help protect the health and safety of the community. As the state and community attempted to transition back to open operations, county government would also need to transition back to a “new normal” of operations. This transition would be done in consonance with the orders and recommendations of the State of North Carolina (DHHS) and other health agencies.

Jackson County would have an allocation of \$8,521,505 from the Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds (ARP – American Rescue Plan Act of 2021). Both the Board of Education and Southwestern Community College would be receiving additional funds related to the Covid-19 pandemic. They would begin making plans for the county use of the funds during FY21-22. The deadline to obligate these funds would be December 31, 2024.

(j) Special Fund Highlights: These funds were separate operating entities from the general fund budget. The general fund budget included transfers to some of these other funds in the amount of \$8,200,623 to support capital projects, recreation and conservation, debt service, the green energy park, economic development, revaluation and school capital reserve.

There were additional personnel and capital recommendations in the following summaries:

- Solid Waste Enterprise Fund: The Solid Waste FY21-22 proposed operating budget was \$4,054,469. The proposal constituted an approximate decrease of 0.0012% (\$4,937) under the current FY20-21 amended budget. The enterprise fund was funded completely from fees collected for services. He proposed a 15% increase in availability fees for the operation. Employees within this Fund would receive a one-step (2%) pay increase. There were no other major operational changes proposed for FY21-22.
- Emergency Telephone (E911) Fund: The E911 FY21-22 proposed operating budget was \$314,070. The proposal constituted an approximate decrease of 26.47% (\$113,109) under the current FY20-21 amended budget. These operations were funded completely through E911 fees. The employees doing implementation services had been transferred to General Fund under Emergency Management. There were no major operational changes proposed for FY21-22.
- Real Property Revaluation Fund: The proposed FY21-22 revaluation operating budget was \$350,500. The proposal constituted no increase over current year operations. Employees within this Fund would receive a one-step (2%) pay increase. New property values would become effective January 1, 2021 in the final year of the current revaluation project. A new four-year revaluation cycle would begin during FY21-22. Software costs had been included in this budget in the amount of \$81,700. There were no major operational changes proposed for FY21-22.
- Green Energy Fund: The FY21-22 proposed budget was \$240,000. The proposal constituted the same level funding over current FY20-21 budget. Employees within this Fund would receive a one-step (2%) pay increase. There were no major operational changes proposed for FY21-22.
- Economic Development fund: The FY21-22 proposed budget was \$137,500. The proposal constituted an approximate decrease of 31.73% (\$63,909) over the current FY20-21 amended budget. The employee within this Fund would receive a one-step (2%) pay increase. There were no other major operational changes proposed for FY21-22.
- Fire Tax Fund: This Fund included both the Highlands Fire and Rescue Operations and the Cashiers-Glenville Volunteer Fire Department.
 - The Highlands Fire and Rescue proposed FY21-22 budget was \$84,000. The proposal constituted the same level of funding from current FY20-21. The current fire tax rate of \$0.0305 per \$100 value would decrease to \$0.0272 per \$100 value to provide the revenues necessary to cover expenses.
 - The Cashiers-Glenville Volunteer Fire Department proposed FY21-22 budget was \$1,789,844. The proposal constituted an increase of \$582,744 in funding from current FY20-21 amended budget. The current tax rate of \$0.0233 would increase to \$0.0294 per \$100 value would provide the revenues necessary to cover expenses.
- Other Funds: This category included other funds such as the Capital Reserve Fund, School Capital Reserve Fund (19 and 20), Economic Development Fund (23, 42 and 64), Community Development Fund, Law Enforcement Fund, Conservation Preservation Recreation Fund, Debt Service Fund, Clean Water Revolving Fund, Airport Authority Fund and all active building funds.

(k) Fee Schedules: The county operated many services that relied on fees to offset the cost of operations. These fee schedules applied to both the general fund and other fund operations. The fee and rate schedule included the following: Mileage reimbursement rate; Hospital/Dental Insurance Rates; Recreation Center Fees and Charges; Pool Fees and Charges; Senior Center Participants Fee Schedule; Permitting and Code Enforcement Fees; Planning Fees; Health Department Fees; and Solid Waste Fund Fees.

It was recommended that adjustments be made to the following fee schedules:

- Hospital/Dental Rates – The county’s contribution for employees would be increased by 3%.
- Solid Waste Availability Fees would increase by 15%.
- Other minor changes in departmental fee and rate schedules were included in the proposal.

(I) Closing: The public hearing was scheduled for June 1, 2021 at 5:55 p.m. in regards to the proposed budget. The public would be able to examine the proposed budget on the county’s website and hard copies would be available for inspections at the Administration and Finance Departments. The budget was tentatively scheduled to be approved at the regular scheduled June 15, 2021 Commissioners’ meeting after the Board had the opportunity to make any final adjustments.

He extended his appreciation to all county employees who worked extremely hard to provide the necessary services that made Jackson County a great place to live. He also extended his thanks to the department heads, elected officials and other representatives for their cooperation in fashioning their budget requests to the required specifications and timelines. Last, but by no means least, he thanked Finance Director Darlene Fox and her staff for their tireless effort and attention to detail over the budget development process.

Chairman McMahan stated this had been an overview of the budget. The Board would have more detailed conversations in the days ahead as they heard from the various agencies and departments the county funded. They would then have the opportunity to make changes, as this was the Manager’s Recommended Budget. This was what the leadership team presented to the Board, but ultimately, it was the Boards’ Budget they would adopt. They would take the recommendations and in the coming days make suggested changes or not and come to a final vote for adoption.

Informational item.

The Board took a ten-minute break.

Chairman McMahan called the meeting back to order.

(10) **BLUE RIDGE PUBLIC RADIO FEE WAIVER REQUEST**: Mr. Adams stated that this item was discussed at the work session. Blue Ridge Public Radio requested a waiver of the \$1,000 colocation fee for the antenna on airport property.

***Motion:** Commissioner Jones moved to approve the \$1,000 Fee Waiver for Blue Ridge Public Radio, as presented. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(11) **STATUE PLAQUE COST ESTIMATE**: Mr. Adams stated that he confirmed the sides would not be enclosed and AOA Signs would provide the Board with different choices on how the pan would be mounted. He requested that the Board consider this item and if they wished to move forward, he would transfer the funds from contingency and submit the purchase order. AOA Signs would then re-measure and provide a design for approval. After the design was approved, it would take approximately eight weeks to be installed.

***Motion:** Commissioner Woody moved to authorize the County Manger to move forward with the process and transfer funds from contingency. Chairman McMahan seconded the Motion. Motion carried by a vote of 4–1 with Commissioner Stribling voting “nay”.*

(12) REGISTER OF DEEDS REFUND: Ms. Baker stated that this was a request for a refund for excess revenue stamps paid to the Register of Deeds. There was an error on the deed where they listed \$1,641.00 in revenue when it should have been \$41.00. They had complied with the law by filing a corrective deed and making written request to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

She believed this had been happening because of the electronic recording that had been taking place. This must have been happening all over the state because legislation had been introduced to allow the Board to authorize the County Manager, the Finance Officer or both to sign off on these so that it would not have to come before the Board every time this happened.

Motion: Commissioner Stribling moved to approve the refund in the amount of \$1,600.00, as requested. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(13) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT NC OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RESOLUTION R21-10: Ms. Baker presented Resolution R21-10 for consideration. They did not know when the settlement would take place exactly, but the entire settlement would have to happen first. This would put the memorandum in place on how the funds would be distributed to the counties.

Chairman McMahan stated that as they discussed at the recent work session, this was a MOA and a resolution that had gone out to all counties in North Carolina with a request that all counties adopt these documents as soon as possible.

Commissioner Woody stated that at the Board of Directors Meeting of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, they mentioned that other states were looking at North Carolina's proposal as a model because it really did give local communities the grassroots effort and money to make a difference.

Motion: Commissioner Woody moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement NC Opioid Settlement Agreement and Resolution R21-10, as requested. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(14) HOUSE BILL 405 SUPPORT TO DIVIDE STATE DISTRICT COURT 30 RESOLUTION R21-11: Chairman McMahan stated that the Board had received a request to consider this resolution.

Commissioner Woody stated that this would allow Jackson and Swain to be in the same category and because they shared the Qualla Boundary, that would make it more efficient.

Motion: Commissioner Deitz moved to approve Resolution R21-11, as requested. Commissioner Woody seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(15) COWEE TUNNEL NINETEEN HISTORICAL MARKER RESOLUTION R21-12: Chairman McMahan stated this was an item presented at the work session. He presented Resolution R21-12 for consideration. The resolution supported the erection of a highway marker to recognize the Cowee Nineteen. Those were the 19 individuals that died during the construction of the Cowee Tunnel. The request came to the Board to support this effort.

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved to approve Resolution R21-12, as requested. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(16) CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS PROTECTION: Chairman McMahan stated they briefly discussed this item at the last work session.

Commissioner Stribling stated he wanted to make Jackson County a “Constitutional Carry County Protecting the Second Amendment”, like all of the neighboring counties around them.

Chairman McMahan stated that several counties and jurisdictions adopted a resolution declaring their county or jurisdiction to be a “Constitutional Rights Protection County or Municipality”. This had a lot of movement in 2019 into 2020 then Covid hit and all came to a halt.

The issue had been brought before the Board by the public previously and the Board had started the process of having informal discussions. The Board requested that staff work on a draft document, which was shared. The draft was submitted to honor the request to recognize Jackson County as a Constitutional Rights Protection County.

The draft included recognition of the first ten amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, which was the main focus to honor, protect and highlight. They thought it was important to include that they stood very firmly on protecting the Constitution and that the Jackson County Board of Commissioners had taken an oath to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States. That was a strong statement that they felt they needed to make.

Also included was the statement that the Board led efforts to raise funds to establish Freedom Park and installed full size replicas of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights so that all citizens could read and learn about the founding documents. The Board felt so strongly about this over the last several years that they worked to raise money to build the monuments because they believed in the Constitution.

This draft was simple and he knew other counties had adopted larger resolutions that were more in depth, but this was very straight forward, to the point, stating the Board protected the Constitution and honored it.

Commissioner Jones requested a copy of the resolution Commissioner Stribling proposed so that he could compare the two drafts.

Chairman McMahan stated that the resolution Commissioner Stribling proposed was the resolution passed by Haywood County. He requested staff to provide copies to the Board.

Ms. Baker stated that she based the draft copy she prepared on Haywood’s resolution with some changes.

Chairman McMahan stated they would revisit this issue when everyone had the chance to review both drafts.

Informational item.

(17) CASHIERS PLANNING COUNCIL:

Motion: *Commissioner Jones moved to appoint Douglas Homolka, Carole Stork and Daniel Fletcher to serve three year terms on the Cashiers Planning Council, terms expiring May 07, 2024. Commissioner Woody seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

Commissioner Jones stated that he wanted to make a comment regarding the millage rate that Mr. Adams sent out to each Commissioner with a comparison of each county in the state. Under the work that Mr. Adams and Ms. Fox had done, the proposed millage rate would make Jackson County tied for the second lowest tax millage rate in the state of North Carolina.

(18) PRESS CONFERENCE: None.

(19) CLOSED SESSION:

Motion: *Commissioner Jones moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried.*

Chairman McMahan called the regular meeting back to order and stated that no action was taken in closed session. There was one item remaining on the agenda: Economic Development Director Position.

(20) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR POSITION: Mr. Adams stated that the Board was provided a memo that was representative of an interview team comprised of stakeholders who would partner with the new Economic Development Director.

The recommendation to the Board was to hire Tiffany Henry as the county's next Economic Development Director. The recommended salary was \$65,501.58. They felt that Ms. Henry's economic development expertise and knowledge of the county would ensure a successful and smooth transition into the position of Economic Development Director. They looked forward to having her join the team.

Motion: *Commissioner Woody moved to accept the recommendation to appoint Tiffany Henry as the Economic Development Director at the recommended salary of \$65,501.58, as presented. Chairman McMahan seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

There being no further business, Commissioner Woody moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman