

**MINUTES OF A  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on September 17, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian McMahan, Chairman  
Charles Elders, Vice Chair  
Boyce Deitz, Commissioner  
Mickey Luker, Commissioner  
Ron Mau, 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**: Chairman McMahan requested to add two items: Project Ordinance Amendment and Immunization Fee Increase. Commissioner Mau moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(2) **MINUTES**: Commissioner Elders moved to approve the minutes of a Regular Meeting of September 04, 2018 and a Special Meeting of September 10, 2018. Commissioner Deitz seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

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

(4) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**:

(a) Commissioner Deitz stated they all should feel fortunate that the wrath of the hurricane did not come through the county. He was thinking about and praying for all of their neighbors to the east. Some members of the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Services would be helping down east. It would take many people a lot of time and effort to get a lot of people back on their feet.

(b) Commissioner Elders concurred with Commissioner Deitz and added that some of the Department of Transportation folks were headed down east to help as well.

(c) Commissioner Luker thanked God that they were spared. They had all seen pictures of the devastation from the hurricane and he prayed for God be with them all.

He congratulated the Smoky Mountain High School football team for another win and a 4-0 start. He was glad to be a sponsor and be a part of that. Also, he commended the Department on Aging for their preparedness last week in getting out all of the emergency kits in anticipation of possible flooding from the hurricane.

(5) **COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**: Mr. Adams reported:

(a) **Community Services Center / Health Department / One Stop Center**: McMillan / Pazden /Smith started their work on the project and county staff was actively seeking temporary space for operations during construction. The initial timeline submitted from the architect projected completion in April, 2020.

**(b) Green Energy Park Campus:** Withers Ravenel was contracted to provide the county with a site master plan. They would be ready to present public presentations in January, 2019. A kickoff meeting was held on August 16, 2018.

**(c) Southwestern Community College Health Sciences Building:** Now that the EDA grant had been awarded, the Health Sciences Building could proceed forward with bidding. It was anticipated that bid documents would be available in October, 2018 and a bid opening would take place in November, 2018. The estimated timeline would be subject to change based on EDA guidelines. A conference call with EDA was scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2018.

**(d) Savannah Community Park:** The Savannah Community Park construction contract was executed with Buchanan and Sons, Inc. on August 2, 2018. The project had been issued a Land Development Permit from the Permitting and Code Enforcement Office.

**(e) Document Shred Day:** A document shredding truck would be available to all on Friday, October 19, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the lower parking lot of the Justice Center.

**(f) Upcoming Meetings:**

Monday, October 1, 2018- Public Hearing on Human Services Agency and Board at 2:30 p.m.

Monday, October 1, 2018 – Regular Commissioner Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 – Work Session at 1:00 p.m.

Monday, October 15, 2018 – Regular Commissioner Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**(6) INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:**

**(a)** Peter Young of Sylva stated that he owned three lots in Dogwood Acres. The previous owner had the lots combined into one. He wanted to have the lots divided back out again. Also, in the past he had made a formal complaint on the assessed value for the property. He requested to restore the original lot lines.

**(b)** Dick Darnall requested that the walls along the road going to the library be pressure washed and cleaned.

**(c)** Debbie Stanley stated that she wanted to speak on a controversial issue in the county of combining DSS and the Health Department. She read an article in the newspaper that Buncombe County saved approximately \$367,000 by combining the two departments. She was on the DSS Board for over a year and then she was on the combined board until it was dissolved. She did not understand why someone would be reluctant to save the county \$360,000 plus and add a salary of roughly \$74,000. It would be a better deal for the county and an opportunity for the two departments to combine to help the people of the county and give better service for the community.

**(d)** Henry Dowling stated there was controversy about consolidation because there was not really any problem, at least published, as to why consolidation occurred in the first place. When the new board wanted to know why they were formed and they asked questions of the Commissioners, they were not given any answers. They had gotten a lot of vague answers, but never anything concrete. He really wanted to see it succeed because of his past experience, primarily with DSS. There was a great board put together, but why would they need a position of \$140,000 to add an extra layer of bureaucracy. That was the controversy, it was not animosity against any one person.

**(7) CONSENT AGENDA:**

**(a)** Darlene Fox, Finance Director, presented the Finance Report for August, 2018, one Budget Ordinance Amendment and one Project Ordinance Amendment for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, for approval.

**(b)** Brandi Henson, Tax Collector, presented the Tax Collector and Refund Reports for August, 2018, for approval.

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

**(8) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GRANT AWARD:** Ms. Fox stated that the county received the EDA Grant for the SCC Health Sciences Building. The amount of the grant was \$2,015,395 and the total project was \$18,843,659. She requested the Board accept the grant and authorize her to sign the grant documents.

***Motion:*** Commissioner Luker moved to accept the EDA Grant and authorize Ms. Fox to sign the grant documents. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**(9) TRANSIT 5311 AND CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRAM GRANTS:** Ms. Baker requested that a public hearing be set for October 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:50 p.m.

***Motion:*** Commissioner Elders moved to set a public hearing on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:50 p.m. to be held at the Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**(10) BARKERS CREEK COMMUNITY BUILDING:** Mr. Adams stated this was an item from the work session. The request was to authorize the expenditure of \$7,475 to replace the Barkers Creek Community Building roof. The funds would come from the Community Development Fund.

***Motion:*** Commissioner Elders moved to authorize the expenditure in the amount of \$7,475, from the Community Development Fund to replace the Barkers Creek Community Building Roof, as requested. Commissioner Luker seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**(11) DEPARTMENT ON AGING SENIOR CENTER:** Mr. Adams stated this was an item from the work session. The request was to authorize the project cost of \$17,000-\$18,500 to hire a contractor to re-stain the exterior of the Senior Center. The funds would come from contingency.

***Motion:*** Commissioner Luker moved to provide funding in the estimated amount of \$17,000-\$18,500, from contingency, as requested. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**(12) BLUE RIDGE SCHOOL WATER AND SEWER ENGINEERING AGREEMENT:** Mr. Adams stated this was also an item discussed at the work session. He presented the Professional Services Agreement for Jackson County for CDBG-I Blue Ridge School Water and Sewer System Improvements Engineering Services. The total was \$107,250.

***Motion:*** Commissioner Elders moved to approve the contract, approve the federal conditions and authorize the Chairman to execute the documents, as presented. Commissioner Luker seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**(13) IMMUNIZATION FEE INCREASE:** Shelley Carraway, Health Director, stated that every year in January, a comprehensive fee schedule was presented, discussed and approved for all fees at the Health Department. In January, 2018, the Board of Health approved a new fee setting methodology and fee schedule that was incorporated into the current approved budget. The only fee that was approved in the schedule, but subject to change, was the fee for the influenza vaccine. The cost of the vaccine was not known until September of each year when shipments were received. The Health Department recently received the shipment of the flu vaccine. As Health Director, she came to the Board of Commissioners as the new Board of Health to approve an increase in the Health Department flu vaccine fee that would come into compliance with the approved methodology as well as account for an increased cost in the vaccines.

They were offering two types of flu vaccine: Quadrivalent (Quad) flu vaccine and Fluzone High-Dose (specifically for people 65 years and older). Last year, they charged \$30 for the Quad and \$50 for the High-Dose. The request to the Board was to approve a fee of \$35 for the Quad and \$60 for the High-Dose.

***Motion:*** *Commissioner Deitz moved to approve the fee increases as requested. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

**(14) RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD:**

***Motion:*** *Commissioner Mau moved to reappoint Jim Nichols and Annette Kesgan to serve additional three year terms on the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, terms to expire December 31, 2021. Commissioner Luker seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

**(15) PRESS CONFERENCE:** None.

**(16) CLOSED SESSION:**

***Motion:*** *Commissioner Mau moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to G.S.143-318.11(a)(3) Legal for one item and G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel for one item. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried.*

Chairman McMahan called the regular meeting back to order and stated that no action was taken in closed session except the approval of the minutes.

There being no further business, Commissioner Mau moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

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Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman