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

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
October 11, 2010**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Meeting on October 11, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., Cashiers Community Center, Cashiers, North Carolina.

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

Chairman McMahan called the meeting to order.

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

MINUTES: Commissioner Massie moved to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of September 20, 2010 with a change in Paragraph (19), i.e., "McCarley" to "John McCarley". Commissioner Shelton seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:

- (a) Bill Armgard of Cashiers stated he lives in a restricted community but barking dogs are a big problem and requested assistance with the issue.
- (b) Jim Mueller of Glenville stated the southern end of the county should be allowed to elect their commissioner. He requested clarification of two totals stated in the current budget - \$68 million and \$59 million.
- (c) Sandy Hardy, President of the Cashiers Valley Community Council, stated it is her understanding that about four years ago the county made an agreement that in exchange for funds generated by the council for operation of the center, a recreation center would be built.
- (d) Carol Odom of Cullowhee requested a copy of county salaries. She stated it was her opinion that it is not the Board's job to stimulate economic development, but to collect taxes and apply those monies to law enforcement and infrastructure. She stated her disagreement with funds expended opposing Duke Energy and the Tuckasegee Mills Bldg. tenant issues. She requested a copy of the earmark issues given to Congressman Heath Shuler and inquired about the status of the recreation center. She suggested that county government be turned over to private industry as was done in Sandy Springs, Georgia.
- (d) Mike Benitez of Cashiers stated that as a business owner one of the main problems is how to best utilize the capacity of the existing sewer system. He requested the county work with TWSA to revise the current restrictive sewer policies which affect economic growth in the community.

(1) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman McMahan reported he represented the county at the meeting of the NCDOT Board in Sylva last Wednesday.

(2) COMMISSIONERS REPORTS: Commissioner Massie reported that two weeks ago he attended Mountain Resource Commission meeting and Cherokee Preservation Foundation meeting at which several million dollars were awarded to the Reservation, Jackson County and surrounding counties.

(3) COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Westmoreland reported:

(a) Tuckasee Mills Bldg.: a new roof and sprinkler system should be completed within seven to ten days; the exterior has been painted; site work (removal of trees, etc.) has been completed by county staff and interior bathrooms overhauled. The improvements are within the budget. The only issue remaining is the design and construction of a loading dock.

(b) In response to a citizen's question, the \$68 million figure is the aggregate budget which includes all funds. The \$58 million is the general fund.

(c) The Glenville CDC has not made application to the finance department for the past four years and appears to be an isolated case. County policy is that at the end of the budget year, all unexpended funds revert to the general fund.

(4) CASHIERS REC CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT STATUS:

Victor Lofquist, Engineer, stated the original project which included the building pad, additional road/parking area, and infrastructure are nearing completion. The underground drainage and water/sewer systems are in place. The primary issue remaining is the storm water treatment/maintenance system. A change order was issued for the road extension connection to Frank Allen Road. The only issue remaining is the fire pump station which will provide water for the future rec center sprinkler system. All site work projects should be completed by mid-November.

(5) CASHIERS AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT STUDY and SEWER NEEDS SURVEY:

Forrest Westall of McGill & Assoc. stated the current sewer facility 200,000 gallon capacity is now at 90% and cannot be expanded. After evaluation of several alternatives to meet the wastewater facilities needs for the Cashiers area, the stakeholders recommend that TWSA proceed with a full evaluation of a new discharging wastewater treatment facility. All feasible site locations and discharge points should be considered specifically sites in Horsepasture or Whitewater river basins which provide some regulatory provision for considering a discharge and are located near the central part of the Cashiers Community. Alternatives discussed were connection to existing facilities (Town of Highlands and CWS Utilities, Inc.), reuse irrigation system, and discharge to surface waters. The survey identified 866 properties; letters were mailed with a 38% response rate. The general indication reflects a high level of interest; however, an evaluation of all responses has not been completed as of today. The general estimate is a 400,000–1 million gallon facility is needed; however, the permitting process is extremely difficult and the land cost would be expensive. The current phase will be completed by the end of this calendar year. The estimate for the next phase is about one year. A more detailed evaluation is recommended in order to determine the appropriate capacity and location of a proposed facility.

(6) PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENT: Carry over.

CLOSED SESSION: Chairman McMahan stated there is a need for the board to go into closed session pursuant to G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Legal (Stanton & Stanton and Jackson Paper tax); G. S. 143-318.11(a)(5) Real Property (Webster Baptist Church).

Motion: *Commissioner Massie moved that the Board go into closed session. Commissioner Shelton seconded the Motion. Motion carried.*

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

There being no further business, Commissioner Massie moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Shelton seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Evelyn B. Baker, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman