

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at A-B Tech, Madison Campus, Marshall, NC.

In attendance were Chairman Wayne Brigman, Vice-Chair Norris Gentry, Commissioner Bill Briggs, Commissioner Clayton Rice, Commissioner Matt Wechtel, County Manager Forrest Gilliam, Attorney Donny Laws and Clerk Darlyne Rhinehart.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brigman.

I.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented with the following deletion:

8-a. Tammy Cody, Health Director – Personnel – Communicable Disease Nurse

II.

The board heard from the following persons during public comment with their concerns regarding the request of the Spring Creek Volunteer Fire Department to increase the fire tax rate: Candida Askew (in opposition), Sue Keener (in opposition), Russ Sprague (in favor), Jeremy Trantham (in favor), Forrest Stavish (in favor), Laurie Bartling (in favor), and David McCrum (in favor).

The board also heard from Dan Margulis regarding the sale of the "old jail". Mr. Margulis encouraged the board to accept the final bid received and to use the funds for the renovation of the courthouse.

III.

Chairman Wayne Brigman discussed the hours of operation of the Landfill and the benefits he saw to the taxpayers of the extended Saturday hours.

Upon motion from Commissioner Rice, seconded by Commissioner Gentry, the board voted unanimously to operate the Landfill five and one-half days per week.

IV.

Forrest Gilliam, County Manager, presented the proposed 2017 Budget Ordinance. The ordinance maintains the current tax rate while dramatically reducing the amount of money appropriated from fund balance. Department spending is generally held at the same level as the current year; however there are increases in the cost of insurance, retirement, and inflationary costs included in certain contracts.

Chairman Brigman opened the floor for public comment regarding the proposed budget ordinance.

No comment was received.

Chairman Brigman closed the public comment period.

Upon motion of Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted 4 to 1 to approve the proposed 2017 Budget Ordinance. Voting in the affirmative were Chairman Brigman, Commissioner Gentry, Commissioner Rice, and Commissioner Wechtel. Voting in the negative was Commissioner Briggs.

V.

Melanie Morgan, Library Director, appeared before the board to recommend Teresa Ball for the vacant Circulation Assistant position within the library system. Upon motion from Commissioner Rice, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to approve Mrs. Morgan's recommendation.

Upon recommendation from Mrs. Morgan, and upon motion from Commissioner Wechtel, seconded by Commissioner Gentry, the board voted unanimously to appoint Stephanie Davis and Melanie Prater to serve three year terms on the Library Board of Trustees.

VI.

Tyler Ross, Soil Conservation Director, appeared before the board to seek approval of a contract between the Soil and Water Conservation District and the County to assist the Friends of the Madison County Library with installation and implementation of the contract its components in the form of oversight for the installation of a cistern to manage storm water and run-off from the impervious surfaces at the Library to where it will be stored and then utilized for irrigation on the gardens that are on-site.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to approve the contract.

VII.

Dr. Marianna Daly appeared before the board to present the annual Memorandum of Understanding between the Madison County Health Department, the Madison County Sheriff's Department and the Hot Springs Health Program for jail health care services for fiscal year 2016-2017 as required by G.S. 153A-225. This statute requires that each jail develop a plan for providing medical care to its inmate population. The plan must be reviewed each year, be approved by the local health director and approved by the governing body.

Upon motion from Commissioner Wechtel, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

VIII.

Ross Young, County Extension Director, appeared before the board to recommend Elizabeth Ayers to fill the vacant A&T State Agriculture Agent position within his department. The position is currently proposed at 42% county and 58% A&T cost share ratio. A&T University is requesting that a 50/50 ration be sought for the 2017-2018 budget year.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Young's recommendation.

IX.

Scott Greer, Emergency Management Director, appeared before the board to seek approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina, Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management and Madison County Emergency Management for grant funding in the amount of \$1,000.00. This grant supports the hazardous material preparedness of local emergency planning committees.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Agreement.

X.

Frank House, Tax Assessor, appeared before the board to present the April and May property tax releases and refunds.

Upon motion from Commissioner Rice, seconded by Commissioner Gentry, the board voted unanimously to approve the April and May reports as presented.

XI.

Donny Laws, County Attorney, presented his monthly update on property tax collections.

Upon recommendation of Attorney Laws, and upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign a Release between the County and Edith and Landon Carver; and Tira Rene Carver Metcalf and Michael Craig Carver. This Release only affects a Right of Way shown as shown on Plat recorded in Plat Book 8 at Page 120, Madison County Registry, as a "Proposed twenty (20) foot of right of way" over the Metcalf-Carver Property for access to the Jennings Property".

XII.

Forrest Gilliam, County Manager, presented the renewal contract with the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Correction – Prisons Inmate Labor Contract for fiscal year 2016-2017. The contract provides for three (3) laborers at \$1.00 per 8 hour work day for a total cost of \$780.00 per year.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve the contract as presented.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to approve a Resolution concerning the sale of certain real property commonly known as the Old Madison County Jail accepting the bid tendered by WRS Holdings, LLC, a North Carolina Limited Liability Company in the amount of \$99,800.00.

Mr. Gilliam also presented an update on the Courthouse renovations.

XIII.

The board received the May, 2016 Financial Report.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve Budget Amendment #11.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to authorize the expenditure of \$36,000 for a new vehicle for the Sheriff's Department, \$11,550.00 for the county share of a new vehicle for the Forest Service, and \$3,600.00 to Pisgah Legal Services for one year's office space lease. Monies for these expenditures to come from the contingency line item.

Upon motion from Commissioner Rice, seconded by Commissioner Gentry, the board voted unanimously to approve the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Plan for Madison County for fiscal year 2016-2017.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Rice, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2016-2017 Salary Plan as prepared by Marla Gouge, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator. The plan must be submitted to the State Human Resources Commission. The two departments subject to this plan are the Health Department and the Department of Social Services.

XIV.

Upon motion from Commissioner Rice, seconded by Commissioner Gentry, the board voted unanimously to enter into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11; personnel, attorney-client privilege, economic development, and real estate matters.

XV.

Upon motion from Commissioner Gentry, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.

XVI.

Upon motion from Commissioner Briggs, seconded by Commissioner Wechtel, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

This the 23rd day of June, 2016.

MADISON COUNTY

By: Wayne Brigman
Wayne Brigman, Chair

ATTEST:

Darlyne Rhinehart
Darlyne Rhinehart, Clerk