

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
January 23, 2017

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, January 23, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, Honorable Marie Rice, Chairman, the Honorable Greg Lynch, County Mayor, Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, Doug Shults, Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Present”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Present”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Present”, Esq. Glenn White, “Present”, Esq. John Mosley, “Present”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Present”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Present”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Present”.

8- Present
1- Absent (Gene Wilson)

Esq. Paul Berry opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Jimmy Erwin.

Agenda Item #4
Approve Minutes of Prior Session

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Glenn White to approve the Minutes of Prior Session (November 28th, 2016). Correction so noted.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes
0-No
1- Absent (Gene Wilson)
Motion Approved (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #5
Recognize Visitors and Citizens

None

Agenda Item #6
Recognize David Boone-Bluegrass Festival

David Boone addressed the county commission of the upcoming Bluegrass Festival and stated he would keep them updated on the progress. We will be hitting the ground and running next week with our advertising campaign. “We need to raise quite of money”, David stated. We will be

looking for sponsorships; we cannot rely on tickets sales alone. I'm asking for \$1000 from the county, city and Town of Unicoi. David thanked the commission.
Esq. Chairman Marie Rice asked the county mayor if there are any funds. Mayor Greg Lynch stated there is about \$400.00 in the County Commission other funds and we could put money into that fund and relay it on to them. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated we only have \$500 in travel and if anyone was to travel there would be no funds. Esq. Todd Wilcox stated he was in support of funding the festival as long as it does not come from the fund balance. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated that her and Phyllis would sit down with the county commission budget and see where the funds could come from and put this on next month agenda as a budget amendment. Esq. Glenn White supported funding the whole amount.

Agenda Item #7
Adopt Resolution Setting County Commission Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2017

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Todd Wilcox to approve resolution setting county commission meeting schedule for calendar year 2017.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes
0-No
1- Absent (Gene Wilson)
Motion Approved (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #8
Quarterly Reports

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Esq. Kenneth Garland to approve the following quarterly reports: Highway Department, County Mayor, County Trustee, Medic One, Unicoi County Health Department and Unicoi County School Board.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes
0-No
1- Absent (Gene Wilson)
Motion Approved (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #9
New Business/Old Business

Chairman Marie Rice stated that the Sheriff had a lot of papers given out to you tonight and Sheriff Mike Hensley would like to address the commission.

Sheriff Mike Hensley stated he appreciated the opportunity coming and talking to you tonight. Back during the budget process you (the commission) said if I needed anything to come back to you. I hope I have given you enough material to look at and don't expect you to make a decision tonight. I am trying to keep comp time down to a minimum and I believe I have done that. I have

lost officers due to high insurance cost and lower wages. This personnel loss has coincided with an increase in the departments call volume. The Unicoi County Sheriff department staffs three officers per shift, but Mike stated that at least three more officers are needed to provide adequate coverage. Esq. Glenn White asked what the cost of a new officer was. Mike stated with benefits and all it's around \$40,000.

Esq. Kenneth Garland asked the sheriff why he trimmed two positions from his department and to explain how approximately \$100,000 used to fund these positions was utilized. Mike explained he had abandoned the two positions to prevent a county wide property tax increase. The money that funded these positions last year was used in the 2016-2017 fiscal year to boost the pay of UCSD employees in an effort to keep them from leaving the department for better wages.

Sheriff Mike Hensley stated in the documents that I have given you; enclosed are letters to the Constables, Circuit Court clerk, asking that all the papers possible be given to the Constable to serve, to ease the work load and a letter to the superintendent of Schools asking for financial help with the SRO officers. I've also met with the Town of Erwin and The Town of Unicoi to help with the offset with some of the cost. If you look at the papers to server and calls, I don't have enough deputies to serve these papers and answers the calls. Esq. Todd Wilcox stated he understood the sheriff budget and asked the sheriff if his budget had increased \$750,000, over a four year period. Mike stated he did not have those numbers with him tonight. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice asked the Sheriff if he had heard anything from the schools or the Towns. Mike stated should be hearing something next week. Esq. Kenneth Garland asked that we set a meeting on this matter and discuss it later. Esq. Glenn White asked what it would mean for the county if the UCSD current staff was unchanged. Sheriff Mike Hensley stated "You are putting lives in danger", you are putting the county in danger and putting my deputies in danger.

Sheriff Mike Hensley addressed the commission on taking money from the surplus sales and buying AED's for each officer on duty and the jail. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated that they would discuss this on addendum item one: military equipment on GovDeals.

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated at this point during the budget year, we are not sure where the money would come from and what our revenues are at this point to fund these positions. We need to look at options and I have discussed with the sheriff about looking at grants and options that are out there. "We need to discuss this more," Marie stated.

Esq. Kenneth Garland, Chairman of the Solid Waste committee brought in pictures of the Hoover site. (Pictures were paid for by Kenneth Garland) I check these sites at least once a week, Kenneth stated. The Hoover site is the most pitiful place. Between the fence and ramp there is enough trash to fill a container. I have taken the mayor over twice and nothing has been done. The boy has broken the contract 4 or 5 months ago. If something not done by the next week, I'm calling the state. Esq. Jason Harris asked if the commission could send him a letter stating to give him 30 days to clean it up and next meeting we can vote on it. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated for the mayor to send him a formal letter of a 30 day notice to clean it up and to keep it clean. Esq. Marie Rice also asked that Esq. Kenneth Garland to have a solid waste committee meeting before the next commission meeting. County Mayor Greg Lynch stated that our contract we have is vague and may end up in a law suit over this. "It's not a good process all around," Greg stated. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated we may need to strengthen our contract.

The Unicoi County Commission took a 5 minute break.

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice called the meeting back in session.

Agenda Item #10

Unicoi County Gas Utility Board Appointment-Mayor Greg Lynch (no vote needed)

So Noted, Unicoi County Gas Utility Appointment of Bernie Jones for a four year term, expiring 2021 and Glenn White for a four year term expiring 2021.

Agenda Item #11
Approve County Road List

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve the 2017 County road list. With Corrections on page 15 Tilson Rd. should be Worley Tilson Rd. and page 17 Tilson Rd., (911 has it as Clear Branch).

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes

0-No

1- Absent (Absent)

Motion approved (copy in file)

Agenda Item #12
Approve Resolution to Request Unclaimed balance of Accounts Remitted to State Under Unclaimed Property Acts

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White, said motion seconded by Esq. Todd Wilcox to approve the resolution to request unclaimed balance of accounts remitted to State under Unclaimed Property Acts.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes

0-No

1- Absent (Absent)

Motion approved (copy in file)

Agenda #13
Approve Fain Bennett to Unicoi County Audit Committee to fill Term of James Mickey Hatcher

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Esq. Kenneth Garland to approve Fain Bennett to Unicoi County Audit Committee. (Until 2020 to finish the four year term)

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes

0-No

1- Absent (Absent)
Motion approved (copy in file)

Agenda #14
Budget Amendments

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley said motion seconded by Jason Harris to approve the following Budget Amendments:

County Building: Debit 39900 Fund Balance \$9,500.00 and Credit 51800-335 Maintenance-Building \$9,500.00, **Total \$9,500.00**

County Clerk: Debit 34515 Restricted for Finance \$1, 000.00 and credit 52500-719 Office Equipment \$1,000.00, **Total \$1,000.00.**

Sheriff's Department: Debit 47680 Forest Service \$9,170.52 and Credit 54210-189 Other Salaries and Wages \$6,572.02, 54110-425 Gasoline \$2,598.50
Debit 34525 Restricted for Public Safety (Sexual Offender) \$1,018.90 and credit 54210-355 Travel \$319.90, 54110-431 Law Enforcement Supplies \$699.00
Debit 54110-425 Gasoline \$4,000.00 and credit 54220-413 Custodial Supplies \$2,000.00, 54210-413 Custodial Supplies \$2,000.00
Debit Restricted for Public Safety (Data Processing) \$2,300.00 and credit 54110-716 Law Enforcement Supplies \$2,300.00
Debit 49700 Insurance Recovery \$3,815.5 and credit 54110-338 Vehicle Maintenance \$3,815.50
Total Sheriff Department: \$20,304.92

Property Assessor: Debit 52300-302 Audit Service \$5,000.00 and credit 52300-337 Maintenance and Repair \$5,000.00, **Total \$5,000.00**

Chancery Court: Debit 53400-411 Data Processing Supplies \$200.00 and debit 34520 Restricted-Administration of Justice \$300.00 and credit 53400-169 Part Time Personnel \$500.00.
Total \$ 500.00

Preservation of Records: Debit 51910-435 Office Supplies \$20.00 and credit 51910-320 Dues and Memberships \$20.00, **Total: \$20.00**

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters "Yes", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Glenn White, "Yes", Esq. John Mosley, "Yes", Esq. Todd Wilcox, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Absent", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes".

8- Yes
0-No
1- Absent (Absent)
Motion approved (copy in file)

Addendum to the Agenda: #1
Approve list of military equipment to sell on GovDeals

Esq. Loren Thomas exited the meeting.

Discussion on the AED'S will be brought back before the County Commission at next month meeting as a budget amendment.

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland said motion seconded by John Mosley to approve the military equipment to sell on GovDeals. (Take the Fork Lift Yellow (page two) off the list until County Attorney Doug Shults gets back with the mayor)

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

7- Yes

0-No

2- Absent (Absent)

Motion approved (copy in file)

Addendum to the Agenda: #2
Approve 2017-2018 Budget Timeline

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley said motion seconded by Glenn White to approve 2017-2018 Budget Timeline.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

7- Yes

0-No

2- Absent (Absent)

Motion approved (copy in file)

Agenda #22
Elect Notaries

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris said motion seconded by Bridgett Peters to approve the following notaries: Amanda V. Edwards, Tamera Kaye Engle, Teresa Metcalf, Teresa Mitchell, April Simmons, Seven M. Smith and Edward W Yarwood.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “Yes”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

7- Yes

0-No

2- Absent (Absent)

Motion approved (copy in file)

Agenda #23
Motion for Adjournment

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley said motion seconded by Todd Wilcox to adjourn the January 23, 2017 County Commission Meeting.

MARIE RICE, CHAIRMAN

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK