

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
September 26, 2016

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, September 26th , 2016, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, 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, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Present”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Present”.

8- Present
1- Absent (Loren Thomas)

Esq. Glenn White opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. Marie Rice.

Agenda Item #4
Elect FY 2016-2017 Unicoi County Commission Chairman

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Kenneth Garland to nominate Marie Rice for FY 2016-2017 Unicoi County Chairman.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Abstain”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “No”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

6- Yes
1-No
1- Absent (Loren Thomas)
1-Abstain (Marie Rice)
Motion Approved

County Clerk, Mitzi Bowen Congratulates Marie Rice, as the new chairman.

Agenda Item #5
Elect FY 2016-2017 Unicoi County Commission Vice-Chairman

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Jason Harris to nominate Bridget Peters for FY 2016-2017 Unicoi County Vice-Chairman.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bridget Peters “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Glenn White, “Yes”, Esq. John Mosley, “No”, Esq. Todd Wilcox, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

7- Yes
1-No (John Mosley)
1- Absent (Loren Thomas)
Motion Approved

Agenda Item #6
Recognize Visitors and Citizens

None

Agenda Item #7
Approve the Minutes of Prior Session

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve Unicoi County Commission Meeting minutes August 22, 2016. With correction so noted.

Motion unanimously approved
(Copy in file)

Agenda Item #8
Recognize David Boone (Bluegrass Festival)

David Boone, President of the Boone Family Reunion Bluegrass Festival addressed the commission on the upcoming bluegrass event on May 26th and May 27th 2017 located at the UCHS track and field. Mr. Boone handed out documents on the event and ask for the county commission support. Mr. Boone stated that the festival is a new and exciting event dedicated to the purpose of providing the region with local as well as nationally known bluegrass entertainment, while providing a method to support some of the funding needs for the UCHS Bluegrass Band and their program of instruction.

Agenda Item #9
Old Business

Terry Haynes, road superintendent addressed the commission on the need for new equipment to be purchased this year. Mr. Haynes introduced Greg from NJPA (National Joint Powers Alliance located out of Minnesota. Greg stated that it's a program instead county, state whatever it may be taking their time working with vendor to get equipment, and we solicit the bids for you. We own contracts for 6 states, including Tennessee. Greg stated that the brochure has everything in it to explain the process.

Esq. Gene Wilson asked what does the state auditors think about this. Greg stated that question never filters down to me, most counties will consult their attorney.

County Attorney Doug Shults stated there are two statues in there and I'm not sure where you got that, but it's not in the Tennessee Code Annotated and perhaps you're out of date on the law. There is a statue that allows two governmental entities to come together as a co-op. I assume that is what this is. Terry can bid through the state, Doug stated. I can see why auditors would have concerns.

Esq. Gene Wilson asked Greg what their commission was. Greg stated 4 percent. Esq. Gene Wilson stated that he realized that Terry need equipment but this just doesn't seem right. Terry Haynes stated we can go back to the original bids like we have always done. Esq. Marie Rice stated that the Bank of Tennessee would try to be a good community partner and give us a better rate. Terry stated that 5year period on \$400,000.00 would be \$29,040.00 interest rate. The equipment \$389,733.00 but that does not include the bush hog, so \$92,000.00 would come off of that. Esq. Glenn White stated that we should stay local.

Agenda Item #10

New Business

None

Agenda Item #11

Vote to approve Clerk and Master Bid on Behalf of Unicoi County on the Various Delinquent Tax Sale Parcels in the October 26th, 2016 Tax Sale-Teresa Simerly

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the tax sale properties that Teresa Simerly is not to bid on the parcel assessed to Ernest Collins, ET UX Pamela and Robert Harris, Shannon Engle, Janie Ray and James Steven Tester, due to possible environmental hazard, and that in the event she should be required, pursuant to statute, to bid on any other parcel and authorize either Mayor Lynch or Paul Berry, Trustee, to issue a check to Teresa Simerly on October 26, 2016, to cover any such bid.

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, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes".

8- Yes

0-No

1- Absent (Loren Thomas)

Motion approved

(Copy in File)

Agenda Item #12

Approval of Construction of New Bridge Located at Bear Wallow Flats-Terry Haynes

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve the construction of new bridge located at Bear Wallow Flats

Terry Haynes said the bridge can be replaced with a concrete bridge in about two days.

Motion unanimously approved

(Copy in File)

Agenda #13

Resolution of Collaborative and Support between Rocky Fork State Park and Unicoi County Commission –Greg Lynch

Park Manager Jesse Germeraad said the agreement was requested by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and is something that is being done in state park communities across Tennessee. The agreement stipulates the county and the park will work together to develop and promote park events and activities that will enhance the health and well-being of both residents of the county and park visitors from outside the area

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve Resolution of Collaborative and Support between Rocky Fork State Park and Unicoi County Commission

Motion unanimously approved
(Copy in File)

Agenda #14

Discuss Jail-Sewage/Waste Situation, Cost Projections, Collateral Damage Appropriation of Funds Beyond Building Maintenance Budget if Necessary

County Mayor Greg Lynch stated to the commission, the county does not yet have a final estimate on the cost of the repairs because of the evolving manner in which the emergency developed. An unknown portion of the cost will be covered by insurance. According to County Mayor Greg Lynch, while the county did receive an initial estimate of \$6,000 for the replacement of the more than 40-year-old main sewer line beneath the jail, additional problems with the jail's water line were discovered as work on the sewer line began.

County Mayor Greg Lynch said a plumbing company attempting to clear what first appeared to be a simple grease clog in the sewer discovered the pipes had deteriorated to the point that they were crumbling and would have to be replaced. As work to replace the old iron sewer pipes with plastic piping began, water line leaks that were apparently dumping into the sewer lines caused sewage to flood the jail's lower level and ultimately forced an evacuation of all 63 inmates housed at the jail.

County Mayor Greg Lynch told the commission that it is his understanding insurance coverage will kick in at the point of the sewage flooding. An insurance adjuster is scheduled to visit the jail and survey the damage tomorrow. The new sewer line was in place, workers were cleaning up and drying out the flooded area and work on water lines located elsewhere in the jail was underway.

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland said motion seconded by Gene Wilson to table until next month meeting, when we more information.

Motion unanimously approved

Agenda #15

Notification of intent to exceed Bid Threshold in Emergency Situation

County Mayor Greg Lynch addressed the County Commission and gave notice, that emergency repairs to the jail's sewer and water lines may exceed the \$10,000 threshold that may require bidding for contracts. County Attorney Doug Shults said the notice was in keeping with the county's internal control policies and would be followed by a subsequent report from County Mayor Greg Lynch to the commission on the actual cost of the repairs.

Agenda #16

Discuss RFP Process for Jail Healthcare Services and Vote to Allow Sheriff and Mayor Offices to Proceed

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White said motion seconded by Todd Wilcox to proceed with the RFP process for jail healthcare services and to allow Chairman Marie Rice to be a part of the RFP.

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, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”.

8- Yes

0-No

1- Absent (Loren Thomas)

Motion approved

Sheriff Mike Hensley addressed the commission that the jail is experiencing serious problems with the lack of availability of the doctor employed by the Rogersville-based Rural Health Company currently under contract with the jail. Sheriff Mike Hensley said the Rural Health doctor has taken a second job, and on several occasions the jail nurse has been unable to contact him regarding medicine and other serious health care needs on several occasions. Sheriff Mike Hensley said after speaking with several other local sheriffs who are no longer contracting with Rural Health.

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice asked Mike if he had contacted Rural Health in Rogersville to see if they could provide another doctor. Sheriff Mike Hensley stated, no.

Esq. Todd Wilcox stated to bid without a pool to benefit from it.

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated it would be nice to meet with the bidders.

Agenda #17

Consider Approval of Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement with Holston Homes for Elderly (vote needed) - Greg Lynch

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley said motion seconded by Glenn White to approve payment in lieu of tax agreement with Holston Homes for Elderly.

Motion unanimously approved

(Copy in File)

Kenneth Garland left the meeting at 7:18pm

Agenda #18

Resolution to Authorize the Unicoi County Sheriff Michael Hensley to Award an Officer his/her Service Weapon upon Retirement

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley said motion seconded by Bridget Peters to approve Unicoi County Sheriff Michael Hensley to award Ronnie Adkins his service weapon and to revisit the wording of the resolution next month.

Motion unanimously approved

Agenda #19

Approve Unicoi County Tax Assessor, Teresa Kinsler Bond

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson said motion seconded by John Mosley to approve Unicoi County Tax Assessor, Teresa Kinsler bond.

Motion unanimously approved
(Copy in File)

Agenda #20

Present Inter-Loan Documents, including report on debt obligation (no vote needed)

So Noted (Copy in File)

Agenda #21

Budget Amendments

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

Register of Deeds: Debit 51600-719 Office Equipment \$4,300.00 and Credit \$51600-709 Data Processing Equipment \$4,300.00, Debit 51600-435 Office Supplies \$700.00 and credit 51600-411 Data Processing Supplies \$700.00. **Total \$5,000.00**

Unicoi County Highway Department: Debit Bridge Construction 68000-705 \$24,266.75 and credit 62000-402 Asphalt \$24,266.75, **Total \$24,266.75.**

Motion unanimously approved
(Copy in File)

Agenda #22

Elect Notaries

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White said motion seconded by Bridget Peters to approve the following notaries: Elsie Lonon and Charlie White

Motion unanimously approved
(Copy in File)

Agenda #23

Motion for Adjournment

Motion made by Esq. Todd Wilcox said motion seconded by Jason Harris to adjourn the September 26, 2016 County Commission Meeting.

MARIE RICE, CHAIRMAN

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK