

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
April 27, 2015

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, April 27, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, the Honorable Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, Doug Shults, County Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

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

8- Present
1-Absent (Gene Wilson)

Loren Thomas opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by John Mosley.

Agenda Item #4
Approve Minutes

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve the minutes of February 23, 2015, County Commission Meeting. (Corrections So Noted)

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

8- Present
1- Absent
Motion approved. (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #5
Recognize Visitors and Citizens

Carter Powers from Unicoi County High School and President of the Student Council read a letter concerning the National Student Council Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico set for this summer. This year we are fortunate to have 10 students who wish to be part of Tennessee’s State Delegation, and showcase, not only the leadership of Tennessee, but Unicoi County as well. As you can imagine this is a very costly trip. We estimate the cost to each student to be \$950. Unless the Student council raises a large portion of that, the group will simply not be able to afford the trip. We are asking you, the business and government officials of Unicoi County, to make a monetary donation to our council so that they are able to participate in this learning experience of a lifetime.

Bill Gaines addressed the commission on behalf of Rene Arwood for the job of Unicoi County Assessor of Property. Mr. Gaines provided the commission a copy of recommendation, assessment summary and election totals. Mr. Gaines also stated Rene was the best person qualified for this position and former Assessor of Property Patsy Bennett supports Rene.

Jim Lengel a resident of Unicoi County addressed the county commission with two concerns. I spoke to Mayor Lynch about this the other day, we are currently being sued by four law suits and it appears that another one may be on the way. So my concern was do we have a cap or would the county have to pick that up? Concern two, how will that impact Unicoi County's ability to get an insurance carrier next year?

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice asked County Mayor if he has addressed this with Mr. Lengel. Mayor Greg Lynch stated that he had addressed this with Mr. Lengel at the Ruritan meeting and we are ok.

County Attorney Doug Shults stated that we have no cap. You have the liability with your insurance and deductible that will come out of pocket. It is basically within our insurance limits.

Agenda Item #6
Recognize Andy Frazier-Summer Food Program

Andy Frazier a youth minister at First Christian Church here in Erwin addressed the commission on the summer food program. This is a program that began in 2011 with the mission of "sharing food with Unicoi County students in the summer months." Over 400 local students have received a total of more than \$40,000 of food. Each participating student receives a total of \$ 100 worth of food spread out through five deliveries to their homes during the summer. 100% of the money donated to the program is used for the purchase of food for students.

Esq. Kenneth Garland asked that this be discussed during the budget process.

Agenda Item # 7
Recognize Unicoi County 4H GIS Group-State Champions

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Walter Garland to approve the resolution honoring Unicoi County 4H GIS Group-State Champions

Each team member: Allen Hicks, Amanda Huggins, Ben Hensley, Dara Carney-Nedelman, Dylan Roberts, Elizabeth Moughn, Max Clouse and Wyatt Luther was recognized and given a copy of the resolution by Esq. Chairman Marie Rice

(Motion unanimously approved)

(Copy in File)

Agenda Item #8
Recognize Unicoi County HOSA-State Champions

Motion made by Esq. Walter Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve the resolution recognizing Unicoi County HOSA-State Champions

Each student: Victoria Bailey and Chelsea Harness was recognized and given a copy of the resolution by Esq. Chairman Marie Rice

(Motion unanimously approved)

(Copy in File)

Agenda Item #9

Vote on Land Acquisition for Upper Higgins Creek Bridge Project-Recognize Jim Pate

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve land acquisition for Upper Higgins Creek Bridge project

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

8-Yes

0-No

1-Absent

Motion approved. (Copy in File)

County Attorney Doug Shults address Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stating for benefit of the Clerk and Auditors can we say exactly what was approved. There were things discussed in the work session that auditor and clerk will need, to be put into the minutes. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated that the total dollar amount on this project is \$55,000.00. The 2% cost for the county would be \$1100.00 that would be traded out for any in kind work that Mr. Haynes would be doing to help with that project, for the bridge and widening of the road at the Upper Higgins Creek section. The total \$55,000.00 breaks down, the \$50,000.00 to the Carver family and the relocation fee and rental supplement for Mr. Baublitz is \$5000.00. County Mayor Greg Lynch stated that this will come from the Highway Department budget and the State will reimburse them. Esq. Chairman Marie Rice stated that the State will be reimbursing their percentage from the legal fees, attorney fees and architect fees with the whole project cost to the county of 2%. The State will Pay 98% to 2% County.

County Clerk Mitzi Bowen asked Esq. Jason Harris and Esq. John Mosley if they agreed for their motion to include this, both agreed.

Agenda Item #10

Discuss and Approve Method For Appointing Interim Tax Assessor

Esq. Jason Harris stated that we do this like the last time, we have three and vote the lowest one is out and vote again.

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice asked if we want to open the floor at this time for nominations.

Attorney Doug Shults advised the commission that they could go ahead and take nominations.

Esq. Walter Garland stated Wayne Peterson and Rene Arwood both want this job. I have talked to both of them and the person who has the most training is who I am going to recommend, and I would be nominating Rene.

Esq. Marie Rice stated that at this time we would open the floor for nomination for people that are interested in the job of Tax Assessor of Unicoi County.

Esq. Jason Harris nominated Wayne Peterson

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley, said motion seconded by Glen White to take each individually and vote each individually alphabetically

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

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

Agenda Item #11
Approve Interim Unicoi County Tax Assessor

Voting on Rene Arwood (Nominated by Walter Garland) for Tax Assessor of Unicoi County

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

3-Yes
5-No
1-Absent

Voting Wayne Peterson (Nominated by Jason Harris) for Tax Assessor of Unicoi County

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

5-Yes
3-No
1-Absent

Agenda Item #12
Consider Litter Grant Resolution (Unicoi County Sheriff’s Dept)

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Jason Harris to approve the Littler Grant Resolution

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

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent
Motion approved (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #13
Discuss and Vote on Payment of Unicoi County Sheriff's Department Legal Fees From County Legal Fee Line Item-\$858.20

Esq. Chairman Marie Rice informed the commission that Sheriff has taken care of this in his budget. County Mayor Greg Lynch stated that a budget amendment would be in the future.

Agenda Item #14
Recognize John Mosley-Concerning use of I-Pads in County Commission Meetings

Esq. John Mosley stated that he feels that this should go to a vote to use the I-Pads. We have already paid for them and they are in storage somewhere and were not using them. We have paid for them so why not use them.
Esq. Chairman Marie Rice informed John that it could not go to a vote since last month meeting we recognized Mr. White and was unable to make a motion.
County Clerk Mitzi Bowen asked that the commission to schedule a training session so they could see how easy it is to operate I-Pads. The Commission decided to train on Monday May 4th at 4pm before their budget meeting.

Agenda Item #15
Review Ambulance Provider Contract (No Vote Needed)

(Copy in File)

Agenda Item #16
Report on Debt Obligation for Refunding of Bonds (No Vote Needed)

(Copy in File)

Agenda Item #17
Budget Amendments: County Mayor \$500.00, Property Assessor \$1300.00, County Coroner \$100.00, Health Department \$45,500.00, Sheriff Department \$19,897.00, Sheriff's Department \$1500.00 and Highway Department \$35,505.94

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve resolution for the following budget amendments: County Mayor \$500.00, Property Assessor \$1300.00, County Coroner \$100.00, Health Department \$45,500.00, Sheriff Department \$19,897.00, Sheriff's Department \$1500.00 and Highway Department \$35,505.94.

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

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent
Motion approved (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #18
Quarterly Reports

Motion made by Esq. Glenn White, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve the following Quarterly Reports: Unicoi Mayor, Unicoi County Highway Department, Unicoi County Schools, Unicoi County Health Department and Medic One.

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

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent
Motion approved (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #19
Elect Notaries

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Kenneth Garland to approve the following notaries Leanne S Bowen, Susan C Chambers, Doreen Parkey and Agnes O Ramsey.

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

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent
Motion Approved (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #20
Motion for Adjournment

Motion made by Esq. Walter Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to adjourn the April 27th, 2015 County Commission meeting.

(Motion unanimously approved)

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK

MARIE RICE, CHAIRMAN