

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION  
OF  
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE

JANUARY 26, 2009

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commission met in the Unicoi County Courthouse, in Erwin, Tennessee, in a regular session meeting on Monday, January 26, 2009, at 6:00pm. Present and presiding , the Honorable David Boone, Chairman, Doug Shults, County Attorney, Greg Lynch, County Mayor, Ruby H. McLaughlin, County Clerk, and the following commissioners:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, "yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "yes", Esq. Rick Butler, "yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "yes", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "yes", Esq. David Boone, "yes", Esq. Ron Arnold, "yes".

9-present

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Esq. Mickey Hatcher, opened the meeting with prayer, and Esq. Rick Butler led the pledge to the flag.

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Motion made by Esq. Rick Butler, said motion seconded by Esq. Mickey Hatcher that the minutes of November 24, 2008 and the special call session of December 18, 2008, with the following corrections that Esq. Sue Jean Wilson addressed the commission concerning the Animal Control Board and the spelling of the word veterinarian.

Motion unanimously approved.

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Chairman, David Boone addressed visitors and citizens.

Mr. Lee Brown addressed the Commission concerning water lines to the welcome center and turned the discussion over to Mr. Wayne Robertson who assured the citizens of Unicoi County that there would be an 8 inch water line installed with the storage tank. Mr. Robertson also said there would be a second sewer line back to Erwin with gravity flow from a 4 inch forced main. Mr. Robertson also said customers will need a pump system installed with costs being up to Erwin Utilities.

Mr. Brown, with Erwin Utilities said the approximate costs would be around \$4000.00 to \$5,800.00.

Across the County it is required that homeowners whose property abuts a sewer line that is in service, connect to the line or pay a fee. The commission plans to look into the possibility of waiving that fee for this line only.

Road Superintendent, Terry Haynes addressed the Commission concerning the only 2 wooden bridges in Unicoi County, which his department has maintenance responsibility might have to be closed to vehicular traffic this week or the State of Tennessee might strip some of its funding because they don't meet state and federal regulations.

Mr. Haynes estimated the costs to replace these wooden bridges with a concrete version would be \$400,000.00 of which the State would be eligible to pay \$280,000.00. He said he could tap some of his departments 2 million reserves to pay the \$120,000.00 costs the county would have to pay, but would ask the Commission to reimburse part of the money.

Another option the County has would to build a new road to the houses.

This matter was then referred to the Road Committee.

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Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Mitzi Bowen to approve the following Quarterly Reports: Unicoi County Health Department, Chamber of Commerce, Trustee, School Board, Highway Department, County Mayors Office, and the Agricultural Extension Office. Motion unanimously approved.

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Morgan Sommerville, Regional Director addressed the Commission regarding the Appalachian Trail Community Partners Program. Mr. Sommerville said this was a non profit organization run by volunteers with no costs for Unicoi County to participate. He discussed benefits, criteria, and process of selection.

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Mickey Hatcher for Unicoi County to participate in this program. Motion unanimously approved.

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Item #8 on the agenda to consider instituting legal action against prior Circuit Court Clerk and bonding company was tabled until further notice.

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Item #9 on the agenda to recognize Tony Clark was also tabled until a meeting could be set up with Mr. Clark.

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Motion made by Esq. Ron Arnold, said motion seconded by Esq. Doug Bowman to approve the Resolution concerning the Unicoi County Legislative Body to Authorize The County Mayor to Make and Sign An Application For Community Development Block Grant Funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 to assist the sewer line extension near Harris, Belmont, Williams, Gentry, Spring, East, Masters, Parsley, and Sycamore Street in the Evergreen Community through First Tennessee Development. Motion unanimously approved.

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Item #11 on the agenda to consider Resolution concerning unfunded state legislation was tabled.

County Mayor Greg Lynch said it had been discussed but was unsure if Resolution had been prepared, if not County Attorney Doug Shults would prepare the Resolution.

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Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Rick Butler to approve the Resolution regarding transfer of the cable franchise from Rapid Communications to an affiliate of Zito Media, LP.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, "yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "yes", Esq. Rick Butler, "yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "no" Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "yes", Esq. David Boone, "no", Esq. Ron Arnold, "yes".

7-yes

2-no

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Motion made by Esq. Jimmy Erwin, said motion seconded by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, to approve the Election of Jeff Linville to the Unicoi County Water Utility District.

Motion unanimously approved.

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Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the Budget Amendments to the Sheriff's Department, Assessor of Property, and Circuit Court Clerk.

Then Esq. Hatcher and Esq. Gene Wilson withdrew their motions.

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the Budget Amendment for Assessor of Property.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, "yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "yes", Esq. Rick Butler, "yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "yes", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "yes", Esq. David Boone, "no", Esq. Ron Arnold, "yes".

8-yes

1-no

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Jimmy Erwin to approve the Budget Amendment for the Circuit Court Clerk's Office.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, "yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "no", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "no", Esq. Rick Butler, "yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "no", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "no", Esq. David Boone, "no", Esq. Ron Arnold, "yes".

4-yes

5-no

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Ron Arnold to approve the Budget Amendment for the Sheriff's Department.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, "yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "yes", Esq. Rick Butler, "yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "yes", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "yes", Esq. David Boone, "no", Esq. Ron Arnold, "yes".

8-yes

1-no

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Esq. Doug Bowman announced a recommendation from the jail committee for a rebid on the proposal for a project manager which will be presented to the jail committee for consideration when it is

completed. Some local contractors had expressed interest in the project.

Esq. Sue Jean Wilson informed the commission on an upcoming birthday party at the Unicoi County Animal Shelter on February 21, 2009 on their one year anniversary.

Esq. Ron Arnold expressed his thanks to the Sheriff and Inmates for their work at the Hoover dumpsite and impending work to be performed at the Unicoi dumpsite.

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Motion made by Esq. Rick Butler, said motion seconded by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson to approve the following people as notary publics: Asa B. Adams, Julie Ann Bradford, Matthew Jones Gilbert, Kimberly J. Gouge, Shannon J. Higginbotham, Ted Hopson, Christopher L. Laughren, Sandy L. Lingerfelt, James A. McLellan, Elaine Miller, and Steven M. Smith.  
Motion unanimously approved.

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Motion made by Esq. Rick Arnold, said motion seconded by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson that the Commission meeting of January 26, 2009 be adjourned.  
Motion unanimously approved.

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GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

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DAVID BOONE, CHAIRMAN

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RUBY MCLAUGHLIN, COUNTY CLERK