

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF McDOWELL  
ADJOURNED MEETING-May 21, 2013**

**ASSEMBLY**

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in an adjourned meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2013 in the Commissioners Board Room of the County Administration Building, for the purpose of continuing budget deliberations for the annual 2013-14 budget.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

David N. Walker, Chairman; Michael K. Lavender; Randy Hollifield; and Joseph R. (Joe) Kaylor.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Charles R. Abernathy, County Manager; Ashley Wooten, Assistant to the County Manager; Phyllis Ryan, Tax Collector; Keith Renfro, Tax Assessor; Keith Buchanon, Computer Consultant, additional tax department employees, Danny Hampton, Freedom Ministries; Bill Warren, McDowell Mission, and various Board Members of the McDowell Mission.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order and noted that the purpose of the meeting was to continue meetings addressing the 2013-14 annual budget.

**BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

Representatives from the two tax departments appeared before the Board primarily to discuss the need for a new computer system. The current system is over 20 years of age and in desperate need of replacement. The County Manager introduced the topic by stating that a workshop had been held previously and \$15,000 was budgeted which would handle the conversion. Keith Renfro reviewed the need for the system, Phyllis Ryan reviewed the new proposal which would provide the new system for no cost and Keith Buchanon recommended the proposal. The proposal included a "Cloud" based environment that would be the first system in the Bi-Tek system to be used. The Board was impressed with the proposal and a motion was made by Michael Lavender and seconded by Joe Kaylor and unanimously approved to implement the contract with Bi-Tek and convert the current system. The motion passed unanimously.

The next matter to come before the Board was presented by Pastor Danny Hampton and the Freedom Life Ministries. This new program is a prison ministry program that also will serve the inmates in the County jail. This ministry is currently taking place within the

McDowell Mission organization and will form it's own non-profit status. A motion was made by Joe Kaylor and seconded by Michael Lavender to include the requested \$6,000 in the 2013-14 budget.

The final presentation was made by Bill Warren of the McDowell Mission. Bill thanked the Board for all of the support over the past few years including the assistance with a contracted grant writer that resulted in substantial capital funding for the Mission. Bill Warren provided an overview of the services offered by the Mission and the struggles administering to the homeless and the destitute. The Board asked several questions and expressed their appreciation to the Mission. The Board members stated that they would get back to the members.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board agreed to adjourn the budget meeting to Friday, May 24, 2013 to continue the deliberations at 11:30.

---

David Walker, Chairman

---

Charles R. Abernathy  
Acting Clerk