

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION – DECEMBER 3, 2018**

ASSEMBLY

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building, 60 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David N. Walker; Barry McPeters; Tony Brown; Lynn Greene; and Brenda Vaughn

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Ashley Wooten, County Manager; Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Commissioner Brown, followed by the pledge of allegiance, led by Commissioner Greene.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair McPeters made a motion, second by Commissioner Vaughn, to approve the November 19, 2018 Regular Session minutes as presented. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Vice Chair McPeters. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Chair Walker noted the first item of business required by NCGS 153A-39 was the selection of a Chair and Vice-Chair. Chair Walker turned the meeting over to the Clerk for this purpose.

Ms. Mitchell asked for nominations for Chair. Commissioner McPeters nominated Commissioner Walker. Commissioner Greene made a motion to cease nominations, second by Commissioner McPeters, all in favor to cease nominations.

Vote for Commissioner Walker for Chair:

Commissioner Greene; Commissioner Brown; Commissioner McPeters and Commissioner Vaughn. Commissioner Walker did not vote.

The Clerk took nominations for Vice-Chair. Commissioner McPeters nominated Commissioner Brown. Commissioner Greene made a motion to cease nominations, second by Commissioner McPeters. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Vote for Commissioner Brown for Vice-Chair: Commissioner Greene; Chair Walker; Commissioner McPeters; Commissioner Vaughn. Commissioner Brown did not vote.

Recognition of 4-H Participants

Chad Ray, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent, gave an update on youth programming in Horse, Shooting Sports, and Livestock Judging. The youth in attendance were:

Chloe Lytle- Horse-Grand Champion Saddle Seat Division

Sarah McPeters; Drew Bryan-Shooting Sports-2018 NC 4-H Shooting Sports Team
Sarah-Smallbore Pistol; Drew-Recurve Archery

Alyson Biddix; Hannah Ellis-Livestock Judging Team: 1st place overall Senior Team
Hannah-1st place Individual; Alyson also competes in Horse and Shooting Sports

Route 70 Cruisers Update

Phillip Poe gave an update on the Route 70 Cruisers a local non-profit agency. The group holds two fundraisers a year in Old Fort, and since 2009 they have donated \$52,788.84 back into the community.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to give \$1,000 to the club, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Administrative Items

Mr. Wooten presented a request for approval of a resolution designating William Kehler and Alison Bell as agents to work with FEMA and NC Emergency Management for storm reimbursements.

Commissioner McPeters made a motion to approve *Resolution Designation of Applicant's Agent*, second by Vice Chair Brown. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Wooten presented a request for the donation of service badge and purchase of service sidearm for Deputy Jackie Turner, Jr.

Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve *Resolution Authorizing Sale of County Owned Property*, second by Vice Chair Brown. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Approximately 15 years ago, the county purchased 65.82 acres in Forest Lake Heights for \$171,000, for use as a water treatment plant. The site was deemed unsuitable for that purpose due to lake level restrictions instituted by Duke Energy after the purchase.

Staff received an offer of \$110,000 for the property, and asked direction from the Board for this and any future offers on this property.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion that \$175,000 would be the lowest acceptable bid, second by Commissioner McPeters. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Pilot Club of Marion Update

Karin Conley, President of the Pilot Club, gave an update on Project Lifesaver. Project Lifesaver provides a system for the sheriff's office to track individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia or autism in the event they wander away from their caregivers. If someone has an armband and becomes lost, a radio signal is emitted that can be tracked using special equipment. The cost of an arm band is \$300.

The Pilot Club's only fundraiser is the Christmas tree lighting- donors purchase a light in honor/memory of a loved one.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to purchase three armbands for the Project Lifesaver program, second by Commissioner Greene. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Region C Economic Development District

The Region C-Isothermal Planning and Development Commission request endorsement of designation as an Economic Development District. The designation would help bring additional economic development funds to the region.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to approve the *Resolution Supporting Designation of the Four County Isothermal Region as an Economic Development District*, second by Commissioner McPeters. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

Mr. Wooten informed the Board members of the county schedule for the holidays. The county will follow the state schedule of closing Monday, December 24th through 26th, and also Tuesday, January 1st, 2019.

No Wake Zone Request

The No Wake Zone request around the Olde Wildlife Club area was tabled at the last Board meeting for members to visit the area for a better understanding of the request. Vice Chair Brown noted he had received several complaints about the No Wake Zone and would like to hold another public hearing.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to hold another public hearing to give opportunity to hear more comments at the January 14 Regular Session meeting, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Shooting Range Update

The federal funding for the range requires a non-federal match. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission asked for a donation of a portion of the property in order to count that

value toward the required match. NCWRC will have an appraiser on site within the next few weeks to complete an appraisal.

Stacy Hill Road Water Project Update

Mr. Wooten gave an update on the project with a projected January, 2019 completion date. Once completed, the customers east of the new meter will transfer from the city to county billing. Information of how residents can connect to the water line had been provided by the staff.

Transit Update/Approvals

Randall Conley, Transit Director, presented a recommended fix route for review and approval. He presented the 2018-2019 Transit System Safety Plan for approval also.

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to approve the fixed route and the System Safety Plan, second by Commissioner Greene. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Citizen Comment

No one present wished to speak.

Greetings from Board and Staff

Commissioner McPeters read the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke. Each Commissioner and staff gave Christmas greetings.

Commissioner McPeters made a motion to adjourn to Monday, December 10, second by Commissioner Greene. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

DAVID N. WALKER
CHAIRMAN

CHERYL L. MITCHELL
CLERK TO THE BOARD