

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED SESSION – MAY 30, 2014**

**ASSEMBLY**

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in special budget session on Friday, May 30, 2014, at 11:30 a.m., Commission Board Room of the County Administration Building, 60 East Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Van Randy Hollifield, Chairman; Joseph R. Kaylor, Vice-Chairman; and Michael Lavender; and Barry McPeters.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Charles R. Abernathy, County Manager; Ashley Wooten, Deputy Clerk to the Board; and Craig Walker, Deputy Director of Emergency Management.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Hollifield called the meeting to order.

**DYSARTSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST**

The County Manager recognized Mr. Washburn from the Dysartsville Fire Department. He stated that he is requesting an increase of 2 cents to raise the fire tax to 6 cents per \$100 to cover the increased cost of operating the fire department.

Mr. Washburn stated that the increase would primarily cover a paid position that would man the station Monday-Friday and would also work to lower the fire insurance rating for the district.

A general discussion of the fire department's operations response time and service area followed. Commissioner Kaylor asked Mr. Washburn about public support of the increase. Mr. Washburn stated that the people he spoke to were not happy about it, but they understood the need for the increase.

Mr. Washburn stated that the two cent increase would equate to about \$50,000 additional revenue per year. Mr. Walker stated that the increased tax bill would be offset by the lower home insurance rates.

Commissioner Kaylor motioned, with a second by Commissioner Walker, to authorize staff to increase the tax rate for Dysartsville Fire Department from 4 cents to 6 cents in the county's FY 2014-15 budget. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

**OTHER ITEMS**

Chairman Hollifield asked the County Manager to update the Board on any discussions on the McDowell Mission. Mr. Abernathy stated that he had spoken with the grant writer who stated that they could likely identify grants that would assist with the facility needs at the Mission.

Mr. Abernathy suggested to not increase the allotment unless the grant is not successful.

Commissioner McPeters suggested that the Mission look at resources such as the construction program at McDowell Tech to perform some of the needed work.

Commissioner Walker motioned, with a second by Commissioner Kaylor, to work with the Mission and the grant writer to identify projects at the facility for a grant, and if the grant is not successful, to allocate an additional \$5,000 to the organization in the FY2014-15 budget. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

The County Manager stated that he was aware of discussion involving School Board members and staff in order to increase the local supplement to a flat 3% of salaries for certified staff. The additional monies would amount to approximately \$120,000.

A general discussion of the supplement followed.

Commissioner Walker motioned, with a second by Commissioner McPeters to request that the School Board submit in writing a specific request to the Board of Commissioners for the local supplement increase. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

A brief discussion of the Register of Deeds salary request and the watershed commission request followed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to transact at this time, upon motion by Commissioner Walker to adjourn to June 9, 2014 at 4:00 pm to continue the budget discussions and a second by Commissioner Kaylor, the meeting was adjourned.

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VAN RANDY HOLLIFIELD  
CHAIRMAN

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ASHLEY R. WOOTEN  
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

