

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED SESSION – JUNE 29, 2015**

ASSEMBLY

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in adjourned session on Monday, June 29, 2015, at 11:30 a.m., Commission Board Room of the County Administration Building, 60 East Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David N. Walker, Chairman; Barry McPeters, Vice Chairman; Tony Brown; Matthew Crawford; and Van “Randy” Hollifield.

OTHERS PRESENT

Ashley Wooten, Assistant to the County Manager; Alison Morgan, Finance Officer; and William Kehler, Emergency Services Director.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND UPDATE

Mr. Wooten mentioned to the Board that there were several routine items that would be covered during the meeting, including end of year budget amendments. Ms. Morgan provided a review of the amendments.

GF62 - This amendment allocates \$3,000 in cable revenue for the County channel.

GF63 - This amendment allocates donations and grant revenues for the emergency medical services.

GF64 - This amendment allocates estimated paper executions revenue for the Sheriff’s Department.

GF65 - This amendment allocates DMV tag revenue to cover salaries due to the personnel and training changes that occurred in the spring.

GF66 - This amendment allocates carried over State funds from Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

GF67 - This amendment allocates program revenue in the Recreation Department.

GF68 - This amendment allocates additional donations made to the Senior Center.

GF69 - This amendment transfers funds between line items due to recreation salary/benefits overage (Part-time additional hours) and travel to cover the senior representative from our area.

SP1 - This amendment authorizes a new line item in the School Project Fund. The School Board requests the use of Lottery funds for roofing at Nebo Elementary.

ENT4 - Transfers the budget between line items in the Waste Disposal Enterprise Fund.

UENT3 - Transfers the budget between line items in the Universal Enterprise Fund.

S14 - Allocates additional revenue in the medical insurance fund.

Project Ordinance Amendment - Kate B Reynolds Old Fort Center - Transfers between ball fields and swimming pool.

Commissioner McPeters motioned, with a second by Commissioner Crawford, to approve amendments and project budget amendments. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

Ms. Morgan also provided a review of several of the revenues for the year. She noted that several of the property tax collection items would end up lower than anticipated. She also pointed out that the final sales tax numbers would not be known for several months.

A general discussion of the county's financial status followed.

Mr. Wooten noted that the county had originally anticipated financing the sale of property on Forest Lake Heights to Mr. Steve Gentry. Mr. Wooten indicated that Mr. Gentry had requested more time to secure the property. Mr. Wooten recommended giving Mr. Gentry more time to secure the purchase since there had not been any other bidders for the property.

Commissioner Brown motioned, with a second by Commissioner Hollifield, to give Mr. Gentry until the end of August to close on the property with the condition that he pay an additional 2% towards the purchase price. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF MARION

Emergency Services Director William Kehler presented the Board with a revised Interlocal Agreement regarding the placement of the 911 Center in the basement of the Marion Police Department. Mr. Kehler noted that the major change to the agreement concerned the installation of fiber Internet service for the building.

Mr. Kehler informed the Board that the current cable Internet is not sufficient for the demand of the 911 Center and the Police Department. He added that any additional technological upgrades for the Center would not be possible without the improvement of the service.

Mr. Kehler stated that the additional cost each month would be shared with the City of Marion. The amendment to the Interlocal Agreement would cover the shared cost.

Commissioner McPeters motioned, with a second by Commissioner Hollifield to approve the amendment to the *Interlocal Agreement for Dispatching Services Between the City of Marion, North Carolina and the County of McDowell*. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

CROOKED CREEK CONVENIENCE CENTER UPDATE

Mr. Wooten provided the Board a brief update on the Crooked Creek Convenience Center project. He noted that the work would begin on July 1 and should take several weeks to complete. He reminded the Board that the site of the Crook Creek Convenience store would operate as a temporary convenience center until the work is complete.

STAFF TRANSITION UPDATE

Mr. Wooten also brought the Board up to date on the staff transitions that are occurring in the county organization. He stated that the new Clerk to the Board Cheryl Mitchell would be sworn in on July 1. He also noted that staff is planning a retirement reception for Carrie Padgett for a date in late July.

Mr. Wooten reviewed the Employment Agreement between McDowell County and Ashley Wooten. He stated that the agreement was based on a model provided by the International City/County Managers Association, and was consistent with the agreement in place with Mr. Abernathy.

After a brief discussion of some of the points of the agreement, Commissioner Hollifield motioned with a second by Commissioner McPeters, to approve the Employment Agreement between McDowell County and Ashley Wooten. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Wooten informed the Board that there were several board vacancies including one slot on the McDowell Tech Board of Trustees, four slots on the Focal Point Advisory Committee, one slot for the Jury Commission and a voting delegate for the NC Association of County Commissioners Annual Conference.

Commissioner Brown motioned, with a second by Commissioner Hollifield, to reappoint Darren Waugh to the McDowell Tech Board of Trustees. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

Commissioner Crawford motioned, with a second by Commissioner McPeters, to appoint Billy Martin, Linda Mystic, Robert Creekmore, and Marie Ledford to the Focal Point Advisory Committee. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

Commissioner McPeters motioned, with a second by Commissioner Crawford, to appoint Larry Lytle to the Jury Commission. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

The consensus of the Board was to appoint Randy Hollifield as the voting delegate for the upcoming NCACC Annual Conference.

TAX MATTERS

Mr. Wooten presented the monthly tax releases, rebills, and refunds.

A summary of the tax matters:

Releases Over \$100.00 Released amount of \$104.23

Releases Under \$100.00 Released amount of \$217.68

The NCVTS Pending Refund report showed a refund total of \$1,236.99

Commissioner McPeters motioned, with a second by Commissioner Hollifield, to approve the releases, rebills, and refunds. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact at this time, upon motion by Commissioner McPeters and a second by Commissioner Hollifield, the meeting was adjourned.

DAVID N. WALKER
CHAIRMAN

ASHLEY R. WOOTEN
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD