

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DSS REGULAR SESSION – SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

**Assembly**

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session with the DSS on Monday, September 16, 2019, at 11:30a.m., at the Department of Social Services (DSS), 145 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

**Members Present**

Tony Brown, Vice-Chair; Lynn Greene; Brenda Vaughn

**Members Absent**

David N. Walker, Chair; Barry McPeters

**Others Present**

Ashley Wooten, County Manager; Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board; Lisa Sprouse, Director of Social Services

**Agency Update**

Ms. Sprouse advised there was a lot of turnover in the Child Welfare Dept. They are currently 3-4 employees short. Some have gone to Burke County to work, and some had left due to having to work in the FAST program. Ms. Sprouse acknowledged the FAST program was very labor intensive and made it harder for the employees to have enough time to do field work. She has been granted the state's permission to return to the old system on October 1<sup>st</sup>. McDowell is one of 16 counties in the state using the FAST program for intake and investigation. All surrounding counties are in the old system.

Rep. Josh Dobson visited Ms. Sprouse recently and she had expressed her concerns over the FAST program, and how the employees were not able to do what needed to be done to protect the children and families.

**Group Home Plans**

Rev. Phillip Wishon of Catawba Falls Baptist Church in Old Fort advised the church had purchased 10 acres several years ago for the purpose of building a children's home. There is a septic system on the property. He stated the Church was willing to donate the property to an established Baptist Children's Home for them to have as a satellite location.

Vice Chairman Brown advised county staff would be willing to assist with seeing what options are available to start a children's home.

Commissioner Greene suggested contacting Oxford Orphanage affiliated with the Masons.

Rev. Phillip Wishon expressed his appreciation to Ms. Sprouse for a letter of support for the project.

### **Tax Revaluation Resolution**

Mr. Wooten presented a resolution for going to the four year tax revaluation.

#### **RESOLUTION ADVANCING THE SCHEDULED OCTENNIAL REAPPRAISAL AND ADOPTING A NEW REAPPRAISAL CYCLE**

**Whereas**, pursuant to G.S. 105-286, McDowell County has been following an octennial schedule of reappraisal of real property for ad valorem assessments, and is currently scheduled to adopt new values on January 1, 2027; and

**Whereas**, G.S. 105-286, provides that any county desiring to conduct a reappraisal of real property earlier than required by this subsection may do so upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners of a resolution so providing; and

**Whereas**, the continued commercial and residential development in McDowell County is causing a rapid appreciation of real property values; and

**Whereas**, the Board of County Commissioners are of the opinion that it is in the best interest of the citizens and residents of McDowell County to conduct a general reappraisal of real property earlier than the next scheduled reappraisal; and

**Whereas**, the Board of County Commissioners are of the opinion that an earlier reappraisal than the reappraisal scheduled for 2027 will establish greater equity in property assessments, and will more nearly equalize assessments of all real property in McDowell County; and

**Whereas**, the Board of County Commissioners desire to advance the next reappraisal of real property to be effective as of January 1, 2023 and to designate and establish a new four-year reappraisal cycle.

**Now Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Board of County Commissioners do hereby advance its scheduled octennial of all real property in McDowell County to January 1, 2023, and every fourth year following, and directs the Clerk to promptly forward a copy of this Resolution to the NC Department of Revenue.

Adopted this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

*ATTEST:*

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Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk

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Tony Brown, Vice Chairman

Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve the resolution, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By a vote of 3-0 the motion passed.

## **Building Safety**

Ms. Sprouse noted Public Services had received estimates for adding reflective film for the reception area and receptionist window for approximately \$900. Estimates had also been received on replacing five doors with electronic entry system and electrical wiring. The Board asked for another estimate.

### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Greene made a motion to adjourn at 12:22pm, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By a vote of 3-0 the motion passed.

Attest:

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Tony Brown  
Vice Chairman

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Cheryl L. Mitchell  
Clerk to the Board