

## Clay County Commissioners

### Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Chairman Logan called to order the regular scheduled meeting at 7:00PM. Those present where: Clay Logan, Chairman, Robert Cline Penland, Commissioner, Randy Nichols, Commissioner, Ed Roach, Commissioner, Dr. Rob Peck, Commissioner, Merinda Woody, County Attorney and the press and general public.

Mrs. Woody requested that the Board consider a motion to appoint her as the Interim Clerk to the Board since Mr. Paul Leek had served as the County Manager and the Clerk to the Board. Since Mr. Leek had resigned, no one had been appointed to serve as Clerk to the Board. Mr. Roach made a motion to appoint Mrs. Woody as Interim Clerk to the Board to serve until the Board appoints a Clerk to the Board. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Logan announced to the public that he had met with the US Forest Service and that the US Forest Service was encouraging counties to come to meetings and have input. If anyone is interested in attending these meeting they should let Chairman Logan know or contact the US Forest Service Office in Murphy, NC

- Item 1. Chairman Logan opened the meeting for public Comment.
- a. Mr. Tommy Davis encouraged the Commissioners to vet the applications for County Manager and wanted to know if the destruction at the tax office included delinquent tax records (he was informed that it did not, only those documents that the state requires to be purged from time to time). Mr. Davis also addressed the request made by employees at the Transfer Station to close on Mondays. He indicated that he was in favor of them closing on Mondays.
  - b. Ms. Sandy Zimmerman gave the Commissioners an update of different events and activities taking place in Hayesville; ie "Airing of the Quilts; painting quilt squares to place on businesses for walking trail and farmers market now opening on Fridays, starting May 12, 2017.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

5.4.2017

Page 2

Item 2. Chairman Logan then requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Commissioner Penland made a motion to approve, Commissioner Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Chairman Logan requested a motion to approve the budget amendments, Commissioner Nichols made a motion, Commissioner Roach seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4. Mr. Robert Caldwell, Chairman of the Clay County Board of Education discussed the following:

- a. Professional Development Day where local teachers conducted the teachers training and supervising of others;
- b. The Aviation and Robotic programs at school;
- c. The problem with "Bullying in the Schools" and how the school system is attempting to address the problem. One of avenues implemented by the school is through its IT program which is aggressively addressing the "bullying" problem through filtering students email accounts and their email account.

Commissioner Roach questioned Mr. Caldwell about the availability of AP (advanced placement) courses to which Mr. Caldwell responded that in order to acquire staff to teach AP courses requires state funding which is not available presently.

Commissioner Roach advised Mr. Caldwell that the County is having a property re-evaluation and the County will have to adjust the tax rate. If the school wants to implement these AP programs then the School Board should let the county know how much it needs to fund AP programs.

Commissioner Roach stated that "our students are the greatest natural resource that our county has."

Mr. Caldwell advised that Hayesville High School graduation is set for June 2, 2017 at 6 pm in the HHS gym.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

5.4.2017

Page 3

Item 5. Mr. Brian Hedden presented the Science Technology Engineering Aviation Mathematics (STEAM) Initiative for HHS. Due to engineering and problem solving having fell by the wayside, there is a push by the government to implement this program. STEAM jobs are growing at a faster rate than non-Steam jobs. HHS has a flight simulator and is presently competing in 2017 National Aviation Design Challenge. The STEAM Initiative is requesting funds enhance their program.

Commissioner Roach inquired as to whether local funding could be used to enhance programs by funding training, etc. Mr. Caldwell advised that he thought that positions had to be funded with state dollars but would find out for sure and get some solid answers for the Commissioners.

Item 6. A no-wake zone from the High Bridge to the mouth of Shooting Creek has been approved by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.

Item 7. Commissioner Roach made a motion to appoint Paul Hedden and Annette Cook as members of the Community Advisory Committee for Long Term Car (CAC-LCT). Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 8. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Southwestern Commission AAA as the lead agency for processing the Home and Community Care Block Grant Program for Aging Services for FY 2018 (HCCBC) and the Clay County Senior Center as the primary contact agency. Commissioner Penland seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 9. Commissioner Penland made a motion to appoint the list of nominees to the Aging Planning Committee. Commissioner Roach seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

5.4.2017

Page 4

Item 10. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Tony Wiegold as a board member of the Clay county Rural Development Authority Board. Commissioner Penland seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 11. Commissioner Penland made a motion to destroy certain tax records in accordance with the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule for tax records. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 12. Commissioner Penland made a motion to refund the tax payments as attached hereto. Commissioner Roach seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 13. Commissioner Penland made a motion to approve Shawn S. Long, CPA as the accounting firm for the 2016-2017 audit. Commissioner Peck seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 14. Commissioner Penland made a motion to approve the Service Contract for the Clay County Detention Center, as attached hereto. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Discussion. Motion passed unanimous.

Item 15. Commissioner Peck made a motion to approve the drawing for the replacement concession stand (the original stand was destroyed by fire) for the recreational field. Commissioner Nichols seconded the motion. Discussion. Commissioner Peck thanked Commissioner Penland for all his hard work on this project. Motion passed unanimous.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

5.4.2017

Page 5

Item 16: Old Business:

- a. Commissioner Peck made a motion to accept the formal written contract, attached hereto, for the employment of Jackie Sellers, as an independent contractor for the interim manager position for the County. Commissioner Penland seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimous.
- b. Mrs. Woody announced the memorandum that Mrs. Renee Talley, Clay County Tax Collector had sent to the commissioners which is attached hereto.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Commissioner Roach moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board. Commissioner Penland seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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Chairman, Clay Logan

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Commissioner, Ed Roach

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Commissioner, Robert Cline Penland

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Commissioner, Randy Nichols

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Commissioner, Dr. Rob Peck

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Attested: Clerk to Board

