

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC.

Members Present: Martha Hicks, Chair; Blake Vance, Vice-Chair; Dennis Aldridge; Tim Phillips; Wood Hall Young, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Call To Order

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Blake Vance led prayer.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Proclamations and Awards

Celebrate County Government

Phillip Barrier, Jr. was recognized for 21 years of service to Avery County.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Board Appointments

JCPC Appointment

Eva Trivette Clark has applied for appointment to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. This application has been reviewed.

Motion by Blake Vance and second by Dennis Aldridge to appoint Eva Trivette Clark to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Review of Economic Development Advisory Committee Applicants

There are four applications to review for two positions on the Economic Development Advisory Committee; Mike Reese; Kate Gavenus; Keith Hoilman; Kirk Holdcroft. There were two resignations from that committee recently. These applicants will be considered at the next regular meeting.

Oasis Update

Tiffany Moon, Oasis Director for Avery County, reported that Oasis had served 159 clients in 2018; provided court advocacy 107 times for 57 different cases; provided crisis related services 347 times for 108 clients and provided shelter for 13 adults and 12 children. Oasis has moved into a new office right beside of the Blue Ridge Partnership for Children in front of the Avery County Sheriff's office. The goal for Oasis in the upcoming year is to broaden the Outreach, Education and Advocacy services in Avery

County for victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and to support prevention efforts to stop the cycle of violence within the homes and community. Oasis works closely with Cannon Hospital, Avery Sheriff's Office, Clerk of Court, District Attorney's office, Avery County Department of Social Services, Lees McRae College, various nonprofit agencies, and Daymark Recovery Services. Ms. Moon explained some of the events that Oasis had organized or participated in over the last year. These included several presentations, a grant from the High Country Charitable Foundation and a scholarship to attend a conference regarding services for sexual assault survivors.

Chair Hicks thanked Ms. Moon for her presentation.

Tax Administrator Report – Bruce Daniels

Tax Collections

The Total Tax Collections for the month of December 2018 is \$5,824,346.48.

Motion by Blake Vance and second by Wood Hall Young, Jr. to approve the Total Tax Collections for the month of December 2018 as presented. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Releases

The Total Releases for the month of December 2018 is \$116.89.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Tim Phillips to approve the Releases for the month of December 2018 as presented. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Sales Statistics

Total Sales for December 2018 is 56 at 93%. Last December the total sales were 69 sales at 105%.

Refunds

There were three refunds for the month of December 2018.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Tim Phillips to approve the refund of \$156.03 as presented. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Blake Vance to approve the refund of \$528.54 as presented. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Motion by Tim Phillips and second by Blake Vance to approve the refund of \$1016.10 as presented. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

County Manager Updates – Phillip Barrier, Jr.

Swimming Pool Update

The roof is on. The pool is filled with water during the winter to prevent frost heave as recommended by the pool consultant. At the last construction meeting it was decided to place the pool heater inside instead of outside. The next construction meeting will be January 24, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Avery Cares Building

Saturday was the first meeting at the Avery Cares Building which was a Recovery in the High Country meeting. There were some attendees. We will be having another Drug Crisis Roundtable on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

5 year Strategic Plan

Mr. Barrier stated that he plans on visiting council meetings and other organizations around the county to talk about a 5 year strategic plan for Avery County. He will be asking citizens for their suggestions.

Charter Communications

Mr. Barrier stated that he had met with Charter Communications and that he has asked Charter to expand a mile a year in Avery County.

Naming Contest for the Pool

This is the children and people's pool. Robbie and I decided to let the children of the county name the pool. Each home room in the middle schools and the elementary schools will name the pool. We will pick from those the winner from each school and then we will pick the overall winner. The class with the winning name will get a pizza party.

Restore Our Parks

Mr. Barrier stated that over a year ago a resolution was signed to support a bill that the government would take care of the maintenance on the parks. With the government shutdown, this bill has stalled. There is 194 miles of Blue Ridge Parkway paving that is 30 years or older. It is going to take 155 million dollars to repave the parkway.

Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant

Avery County received \$610,000 for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. This should help 9 families with replacement, rehabilitation and urgent repair of their homes.

Finance Officer Report – Tim Greene

Budget Amendment

The Agricultural Extension office has received a \$5,000.00 grant from the Carolina Farm Credit Corporate Mission Fund to purchase a livestock trailer.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Tim Phillips to adopt the budget amendment for a \$5,000.00 grant to purchase a livestock trailer with a debit of \$5,000.00 to Capital Outlay (106050.7400) and a credit of \$5,000.00 to Farm Credit Grant (103811.0000). Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Budget Amendment

The Sheriff's Department has received an insurance reimbursement for a 2011 Dodge Durango settlement.

Motion by Tim Phillips and second by Dennis Aldridge to adopt a budget amendment for insurance reimbursement of \$1,403.00 with a debit of \$1,403.00 to Auto Supplies (105100.3100) and a credit of \$1,403.00 to Insurance Reimbursements (103340.0000). Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Budget Amendment

The Transportation Department has received a private party reimbursement for a van accident.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Blake Vance to adopt a budget amendment for reimbursement from a private party involved in a van accident with a debit of \$845.00 to Auto Supplies (106300.3100) and a credit of \$845.00 to Insurance Reimbursements (103340.0000). Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

County Attorney Report – Michaelle Poore

Ms. Poore did not have anything that required the Board's attention.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Blake Vance to approve the December 3, 2018 Regular Session Minutes. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Agenda Consent Items

Adopted by Consensus of the Board.

Upcoming Meetings

There will be a Joint Meeting with the Board of Education on January 15, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room. The next Regular meeting will be February 4, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room.

Adjourn

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Blake Vance to adjourn this meeting at 4:09 p.m. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Martha Hicks, Chair
Avery County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk

