

## HAYWOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING – November 7, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mark S. Swanger convened the regular meeting of the Haywood County Board of Commissioners at 9:00 a.m. in the Historic Courtroom at the Haywood County Historic Courthouse, Waynesville, North Carolina, with Chairman Mark S. Swanger, Vice-Chairman J.W. “Kirk” Kirkpatrick III, Commissioners L. Kevin Ensley, Michael T. Sorrells and Bill L. Upton present. Staff members present were County Manager Ira Dove, County Attorney Leon M. “Chip” Killian, III, Finance Director, Julie Davis and Deputy Clerk Candace Way.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Swanger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION**

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick offered the invocation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/AGENCY REPORTS****VAYA Health Update – Shelly Foreman, Senior Director, County Relations**

Chairman Swanger recognized Shelly Foreman. Ms. Foreman started off by explaining that as the Smoky Mountain Center now serves more than the 23 counties, they felt it was time for a name change. The new name is now VAYA Health. She noted that despite the new name and website, their mission has not changed. She spoke of the significant cuts to their budget, and the impact that it has had on indigent care in Haywood County. This has amounted to \$35 million dollars over two years, which means a lot to their services. She talked about the veteran’s initiative, where they are able to help veterans with health or behavioral issues. Another program is the perinatal substance abuse program where they work with pregnant women dealing with substance abuse. She explained that the Balsam Center is expanding, which will better serve the community when needed. She said that VAYA has started preparing quarterly dashboard reports, and is preparing to do a year-end review, which will include a snapshot of what is happening in the organization.

Duncan Sumpter, Appalachian Community Services, addressed the Board and provided copies of the Consumer Services Review for the fiscal year 2015-2016. He gave the following statistics:

- Served 1,861 residents of Haywood County.
- 1,139 assessments were provided, some through the walk in clinic. The value of those services was \$158,153.
- Mobile crisis services served 431 individuals for a total value of \$109,569.
- Facility placed services served 150 individuals for a total value of \$668,950.
- Intensive outpatient substance abuse services, 3 hours per day, 3 days a week, served 24 people for a total value of \$27,327.
- Evergreen Foundation community support team keeps a person out of high level care, 18 were served for a total value of \$11,988.

Commissioner Upton noted that as a commissioner appointed to VAYA Health, he believes that the County is receiving services at or above for the money that is contributed each year. He commented that across the nation, there is increased substance abuse although funding to address it is decreasing. He said that he believes that it is recognized that it is truly a problem. It takes a long period of time to fix this, and months and years to recover.

Chairman Swanger commented that criminal recidivism is part of the issue, and the Sheriff has been very active in reducing these numbers. He stated that Counties cannot be expected to make up the difference with the cuts in state funding and asked Ms. Foreman if she thinks these cuts will end or will it continue.

Ms. Foreman responded that they know that after the election, and going into the next session, they will begin to advocate for services that are needed. She said that they believe the state Medicaid budget has stabilized and believes there is opportunities with waivers for all Medicaid services. She said that Mr. Dove and Commissioner Upton have put them in touch with the Pathways program, and they are looking at ways to wrap their services.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick explained that he and Mr. Dove had attended a meeting at the hospital, and mental health issues is one of the primary concerns across the state. He noted that as a county, we are fortunate to have VAYA, and also Mr. Dove as he is very educated on this and knows a lot of background information.

Commissioner Sorrells said that he appreciates the information and the efforts used to correct situations described today. His hope is that funding will be restored for these issues.

**VAYA Health Fiscal Monitoring Report – Finance Director, Julie Davis**

Chairman Swanger recognized Finance Director, Julie Davis. Ms. Davis explained that this is the quarterly report that is sent to her office, and as statutorily required, she is providing this report to the Board. She stated that September 30, 2016, revenues were \$93,615,505. Expenditures were \$90,930,377 and the net income was \$2,685,126.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

Chairman Swanger opened the public comment session. Comments are generally limited to three minutes per individual, unless the speaker is representing a group for which the comment period may be extended to five minutes.

There were no public comments.

**CONSTITUENT CONCERNS**

Commissioner Sorrells spoke of the dog rescue and commended the outstanding effort with all groups. He noted that Animal Services had been very busy with both the dogs and a hog issue.

Commissioner Ensley also thanked the County staff that was involved with the animal rescue. He commented that he had gone to the temporary shelter, and it seemed these dogs were very adoptable.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick said that as a follow up on the meeting that he attended at the hospital last week, it is a pleasure to see the moral at the hospital. He said that the attitudes are tremendous and in speaking with doctors, he sees how happy they are, He said they have told them that they are glad they stayed. He said that it is good to see the trust that the patients have in the facility. He said that it provides good quality healthcare and can tell that the new CEO is a hands on person.

Commissioner Upton agreed, noting that it did not take long to see how improved morale is. He said that the hospital provides \$1.7 million per month in public services.

**DISCUSSION / ADJUSTMENT TO AGENDA**

There was one adjustment to the agenda. Chairman Swanger recognized County Manager, Ira Dove. Mr. Dove explained that due to the situation with the dogs, the County shelter is full. He said that due to the efforts from different groups such as Sarges, Asheville Humane Society, Brother Wolf, Dukes, community support, and Mr. Kelly West providing the temporary facility, the operation ran smoothly. He stated that he is requesting approval for the County Manager, in conjunction with the Animal Services Director, to reduce or waive adoption fees for the dogs for the next 45 days.

There was no objection to add this to the Consent Agenda as item number 3.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Upton made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Ensley seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

1. Approval of October 17, 2016 regular meeting and special meeting minutes.
2. Budget Amendment – Julie Davis, Finance Director
  - a. General Fund - \$1,000 – Emergency Management  
Ms. Davis explained that this is a grant for Hazardous Material training for Emergency Management.

HAYWOOD COUNTY  
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

PER: \_\_\_\_\_  
JNL: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County that the following amendment be made to the budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be charged as follows:

Department	Account Number	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
Emergency Management				
Special Program Materials	11 4375 623130 (SEMP)	-	1,000	1,000

which will result in a net increase of \$ 1,000 in the expenditures of the General Fund.

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased as the money has been received:

Revenue	Acct. No.	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
Restricted Intergovernmental				
Emergency Management	11 8893 443750 (SEMP)	-	1,000	1,000

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this the 7 day of November 2016

*Mark Swartz*  
Chairman  
Haywood County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: *Jac. Jap*  
Clerk to the Board

Explanation: Money distributed via 2016 Tim 4 grant to counties for Local Emergency Planning Committee for funds to be used for hazardous materials emergency response training, planning, and related exercises.
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- b. General Fund - \$53,652 – Health & Human Services Agency – Child Care  
Ms. Davis explained that this is federal funding for the Work First program for the administration of funds for the Child Development Center.

HAYWOOD COUNTY  
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-17

PER: \_\_\_\_\_  
JNL: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County that the following amendment be made to the budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be charged as follows:

Department	Account Number	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
118372 Work First				
RWCDC Admin Cost	115172-476000	89,892	53,852	143,852

which will result in a net increase of \$ 53,852 in the expenditures of the General Fund.

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased as the money has been received:

Revenue	Acct. No.	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
110090 Restricted Intergovernmental				
Admin Items	110090-483400	4,896,819	53,852	4,950,671

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this the 7 day of November 2016.

*Mark Swartz*  
Chairman  
Haywood County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: *Jac. Jap*  
Clerk to the Board

Explanation: To recognize the federal allocation for service support for the Subsidized Child Care Program.
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- c. General Fund - \$15,000 – Health & Human Services Agency - MOW  
Ms. Davis explained that this is a United Way grant for the Meals on Wheels program.

HAYWOOD COUNTY  
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-17

PER: \_\_\_\_\_  
JNL: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County that the following amendment be made to the budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be charged as follows:

Department	Account Number	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
110300 Meals on Wheels				
Food & Provisions	110300-022000	65,000	15,000	79,000

which will result in a net increase of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 15,000 \_\_\_\_\_ in the expenditures of the General Fund.

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased as the money has been received:

Revenue	Acct. No.	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
110100 Miscellaneous				
MOW General Cook & Conators	110100-455840	50,000	15,000	65,000

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this the 7 day of December, 2016.

Mark Sworp  
Chairman  
Haywood County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Joe Davis  
Clerk to the Board

Explanation:
To recognize the grant awarded by United Way of Haywood County for program support for the Meals on Wheels program.
(ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR)

- d. General Fund - \$7,965 – Health & Human Services Agency - MOW  
Ms. Davis explained that this is reallocation of funds between two departments for reporting purposes to show what they are spending for Meals on Wheels.

HAYWOOD COUNTY  
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-17

PER: \_\_\_\_\_  
JNL: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County that the following amendment be made to the budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be charged as follows:

Department	Account Number	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
110310 O&M				
Salaries & Wages	110310-012100	4,913,954	(6,616)	4,907,338
Social Security Contributions	110310-018100	286,378	(811)	285,567
Retirement Contributions	110310-016200	261,865	(679)	261,186
Co Contribution 401K	110310-016204	89,881	(190)	89,691
110300 MOW				
Salaries & Wages	110300-012100	126,683	6,816	133,208
Social Security Contributions	110300-018100	3,790	911	4,701
Retirement Contributions	110300-016200	3,340	679	4,019
Co Contribution 401K	110300-016204	2,649	950	3,599

which will result in a net increase of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in the expenditures of the General Fund.

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased as the money has been received:

Revenue	Acct. No.	Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this the 7 day of December, 2016.

Mark Sworp  
Chairman  
Haywood County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Joe Davis  
Clerk to the Board

Explanation:
To reallocate funding to a different department within Human Services to cover reorganization and starting of the Meals on Wheels program to make the program more efficient and increase program participation.



Mr. Dove explained that there was a family in Canton that had approximately 140 dogs housed in their trailer, a small RV and in pens outside. He said that Animal Services is working with the family to surrender the animals. He said that on Friday, David Francis and Economic Development Director, Mark Clasby worked to find a place to house that many animals. County employees, including Dale Burris, Facilities & Maintenance, Emergency Management and community members worked to get the temporary shelter set up and the County was able to get emergency shelters from Jackson and Buncombe Counties. The dogs started arriving on Saturday, and are being processed, vaccinated and preparations made to have them adopted into homes. He said by allowing him to reduce or waive the fees, it will enable these animals to go to homes more quickly. He noted that most fees cover spay and neuter.

Commissioner Sorrells agreed that this situation needs to be addressed. He questioned if it happens again, is it something that he could not come back to the Board quickly about.

Mr. Dove responded that it might not be possible between meetings unless a special meeting was called and Chairman Swanger agreed.

Commissioner Ensley commented that he would approve waiving the fees through Christmas.

Commissioner Sorrells suggested that it could be added into the motion that it would have to be an unusual or particular circumstance. He commented that he may have an issue for a blanket agreement on this.

Commissioner Upton agreed that this situation could happen again and it could be at a time between meetings.

Commissioner Swanger stated that the County Manager would have to use the best judgement, and be trusted to recognize that there is a problem. He noted that if there was something found to be wrong with that authority in the future, it could be removed.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick noted that although it is good for this situation, he does not want to set up a precedent, and isn't sure what circumstance would warrant the waiver. His concern is that it will not always be the same Board or County Manager.

Chairman Swanger stated that provisions could be made to require a report be made to the Board, or give the County Manager authority to waive fees all of the time in an emergency situation.

Mr. Dove noted that the normal processes will be followed with the animals having the required shots and spay/neuter procedures. He noted that the capacity of the shelter would be the trigger for him to waive the fees.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick motioned to give the County Manager authority to reduce or waive adoption fees as circumstances dictate going forward. Commissioner Upton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Request approval of purchase of property for relocation of 209 convenience center**

Chairman Swanger recognized Tax/Solid Waste Administrator, David Francis.

Mr. Francis showed two slides of approximately two acres at the former Crabtree Elementary School site. He stated that the County has been looking for a site to relocate the 209 convenience center for over 8 years. This, by far, is the best site. It has been drilled and water was found in a couple of places. A sleeve pipe will be installed to prevent any future problems. Some soft dirt will be replaced, and the driveway will be expanded 60 feet. Going into the site, there will be rolled under concrete where compactors sit. This site will be able to grow with the community, with a 50 year build out. There are four places for containers and it will be landscaped and fenced. The septic system has to be moved and there will be heavier asphalt and concrete to accommodate the traffic and trucks that come into the center. The purchase price is \$100,000 plus closing costs. The total cost will be \$430,000.



Chairman Swanger noted that the County staff had done the majority of the work and the Board has a lot to look at.

Mr. Dove commented that the recommendation is down to preference of governance and local control. He noted that the costs are similar but they have different ways to govern. He stated that the Haywood Healthcare Foundation grew out of the old hospital, and has more local interests. He said that it does fund raising which the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina does not. He said that he feels that both have good financial management. Both have excellent work in Haywood County. He recommended that if the Board desires more governance and local control, it would be Haywood Healthcare Foundation.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick stated that Haywood Healthcare Foundation has been raising money for the hospital for a quite a while. He stated that they try to do a lot locally.

Mr. Killian stated that both have been well vetted and studied. He said that the proposals were both responsive and submitted in good faith.

Commissioner Upton said that he feels that it keeps coming back to two things. He said that the Board would like to have representation on their board, plus when they go outside of the County, there isn't the local influence.

Commissioner Ensley stated that when this first started, the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina has a lot of investments in our community. He feels that the Board needs to look for stability and to maximize the investment that it is making. He said that the local group seemed to be beneficial for our county, they have helped the hospital benefit itself, and will do fund raising. He feels the Haywood Healthcare Foundation has the heart for the community and having the fund raising component and also having commissioners placed on their Board, makes the local group a better choice.

Commissioner Sorrells thanked both groups for their presentations. He noted that most thoughts and opinions were to have as much local control as possible. He said that the Haywood group met more of the Boards ideas. His concern is to preserve the asset. He said that it also needs to utilize the interest or what it can earn for our county for health related issues. The largest concern was the cost and how to get it managed. He noted that Haywood Healthcare was very interested in what the county needs and they will try to do.

Commissioner Swanger stated that this decision is not a reflection in the work that the Community Foundation does. He noted that they are excellent in what they do, but when thinking about what needs to be done, you have to look at what is the best fit for the county.

Commissioner Sorrells motioned to authorize the County Manager to negotiate a contract with Haywood Healthcare Foundation for the use of the funds from the sale of the Haywood Regional Medical Center to Duke Lifepoint. Commissioner Ensley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Swanger noted that Mr. Dove and Mr. Killian will work with Haywood Healthcare Foundation and recognized several members of the Foundation that were in the audience.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Request approval of 2017 Personal Property Depreciation Schedule**

Chairman Swanger recognized Tax Administrator, David Francis.

Mr. Francis explained that this is done annually, and listed what is on the schedule. He stated that some items are governed by depreciation schedules by the Department of Revenue. After going to the vehicle tax system, lost was the ability to price antique vehicles. He said that last year, the assessor's office came up with a minimum value. After going through the process, they did not feel like it was the best plan. The new plan specifies that a vehicle 35 years and older is considered an antique. They are using a pricing guide that gives a vehicle condition scale of one to six, which is the best to worst. They chose to use the pricing schedule of 4 for antique vehicles because they would be driving it for this scale. It is the first category for considered drivable. Their office can still do site visits to reduce the value of the vehicle if the owner feels it is assessed too high.

Commissioner Ensley asked about farm trucks and Mr. Francis responded that it would be under a different schedule.

Commissioner Sorrells reiterated that anyone can come in and have an assessor look at their vehicle if they are not satisfied with the assessment.

Chairman Swanger stated that this pertains to real property also. If there is something that the public feels is overvalued, they can call and make an appointment to come in. If they cannot reach an agreement suitable to them in the informal process, they can go before the Board of Equalization and Review.

Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick noted that sometimes people forget technically under the statute, they have to list the property they have each year. The goal is to have the property listed and to be taxed fairly.

Commissioner Upton made a motion to approve the 2017 Personal Property Depreciation Schedule. Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Request approval of appointments to the Health & Human Services Agency Board**

Chairman Swanger recognized County Manager, Ira Dove. Mr. Dove stated that Dan Schultz will be filling the unexpired term of Tony Beaman for the licensed clinical Social Worker position that will expire in 2019. John Stoeckel will fill the public member position for a four year term. Both were approved by the Health & Human Services Board.

Commissioner Upton made a motion to approve the appointments of Dan Schultz and John Stoeckel to the Health and Human Services Agency Board. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick and passed unanimously.

**Request approval of re-appointment to the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee for Long Term Care**

Chairman Swanger recognized County Manager, Ira Dove. Mr. Dove explained that Kathie Johnson was recommended for re-appointment to the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee for a three year term.

Commissioner Sorrells made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Kathie Johnson to the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee for Long Term Care. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ensley and passed unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Ensley made a motion to enter into Closed Session for:  
Attorney/Client Privilege – G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3)  
Personnel – G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6)

Commissioner Upton seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The Board returned from Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Swanger asked if there was any further business.

With no further business, Commissioner Upton made a motion to adjourn the regular Board meeting. Vice-Chairman Kirkpatrick seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

The time of adjournment was 11:41 a.m. The DVD is attached by reference to the minutes.

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CLERK

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CHAIRMAN

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