

**MITCHELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**MAY 7, 2007**

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**MITCHELL COUNTY**

The Mitchell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 7, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom, Mitchell County Courthouse, Bakersville, NC. Those present for the meeting were Phil Byrd, Chairman; Lisa Sparks, Vice-Chairman; Mike Hensley, Member; Patrick Phillips, Member; Jim Saylor, Member; Phil Castro, Interim County Manager and Kathy Young, Clerk to the Board. Also present were Hal Harrison, County Attorney; Mavis Parsley, Finance Officer; Donny Wisor, Reporter with the Mitchell News-Journal and Steve Murphy, Reporter with WKYK/WTOE Radio Station.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Byrd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **INVOCATION** – Commissioner Saylor gave the invocation.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Commissioner Sparks led the Pledge of allegiance.
4. **ADDITIONS OR CHANGED TO THE AGENDA** - None
5. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Commissioner Sparks moved to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hensley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
6. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS** - None
7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Commissioner Hensley moved to approve the Minutes for January 18, 2007, February 5, 2007, February 20, 2007, March 5, 2007, April 2, 2007 and April 25, 2007. Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS**
  - A. **Scattered Housing Site Grant Application** – Chairman Byrd called the Public Hearing for the Scattered Housing Site Grant Application to order at 6:07 p.m. No written or public comments were received. Chairman Byrd closed the Public Hearing at 6:09 p.m.
  - B. **Budget Meeting** – By consensus the Board will meet on May 22, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Conference Room.
  - C. **Tri-County Board Meeting at Mayland Community College** – By consensus the Board will meet at Mayland Community College on May 17, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.
9. **RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ORDINANCES**
  - A. **Preservation Month Proclamation** – Commissioner Saylor moved to adopt the Preservation Month Proclamation (a copy is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes). Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- B. Resolution Requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the Agriculture and Agri-Business Industries of Mitchell County** – Commissioner Sparks moved to adopt the Resolution Requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the Agriculture and Agri-Business Industries of Mitchell County (a copy is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes). Commissioner Saylor seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**10. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Mitchell County Public Library Renovations** – Commissioner Hensley moved to approve the renovations at the Mitchell County Library (a copy of the letter outlining the renovations is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes). Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- B. Update on Historic Courthouse** – A copy of Dr. Barron’s power point presentation is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes.

- 11. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Don Baucom addressed the Board concerning a bridge that has been burned and fallen into the Toe River. He stated the bridge had become a safety issue. Mr. Baucom requested the Boards support in getting the bridge removed before there was a loss of life or flooding. He asked that the Board to have the County Manager write letters to any agency that might be able to help in the removal of the bridge. Mr. Baucom stated that Toe River Valley Watch had requested that Mr. George A. from the Community Foundation in Haywood County to come and make a presentation to them at Higgins Memorial Methodist Church on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. His work is being recognized as some of the most effective as far as community organization.

Dr. James Carroll informed the Board that Toe River Valley Watch had started a water quality program. They were doing water testing in various streams in the two county area to protect water quality. He stated he wanted to address the general issues of leadership and planning for the county. Dr. Carroll stated there was a consensus in the county based on comments he has heard, that the county needs to do some planning. He asked if the money needed to do this would be included in the budget or would someone write a grant for the funding to do the study. Dr. Carroll also addressed the need for a county manager to provide the leadership on the study.

Don Baucom asked the Board to make a motion to show their support toward the removal of the bridge. Commissioner Hensley moved to address a letter to the appropriate agencies concerning the removal of the bridge from the Toe River. Commissioner Saylor seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**12. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. United States Cellular** – By consensus the Board agreed to table this item until they had the opportunity to review the information.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Designation of Maintenance of Effort Funds** – Commissioner Hensley moved to designate Mitchell County Maintenance of Effort Funds in the amount of \$18,000 to Alpha Omega. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 14. CONSENT AGENDA** – Commissioner Hensley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented (a copy of each item is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes):

- Amendment #1 for Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims
- Contract # K61186 Mitchell County Transportation Authority
- Contract # K61187 Mitchell County Transportation Authority

- Contract # K61188 Mitchell County Transportation Authority
- Contract # K61189 Harrison and Poore
- Contract # K61190 Mitchell County Safe Place
- Contract # K61191 Shirley Lovelace
- Contract # K61192 Shirley Lovelace
- Contract # K61193 Lisa Kneen
- Contract # K61194 Rosa Sistare
- Mitchell County JCPC Continuum Building 2007-2008
- JCPC Program Agreement with HorsePower
- JCPC Program Agreement with Juvenile Mediation
- JCPC Program Agreement with Parenting Adventures
- JCPC Program Agreement with Student Support System
- JCPC Program Agreement with Mitchell County 4-H Discovery
- JCPC Program Agreement with Project Challenge
- Criminal Justice Partnership Program Contractual Service
- Appointments to E-911 Advisory Committee
- Designation of Lead Agency/Appointment of H&CCBG Advisory Committee
- Appointment to the High Country Workforce Development Board
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Western Highlands Network's Fiscal Monitoring Report
- Renewal of the Revaluation Certificate of Deposit
- Inter-local Agreement
- Releases/Refunds

Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

15. **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT** – Interim County Manager Castro updated the Board on the County Assembly Day in Raleigh, Land Transfer Tax; moving of the Tax Office and the budget process.
16. **BOARD COMMENTS** - None
17. **ADJOURNMENT** – Commissioner Hensley moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

MITCHELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Phil Byrd, Chairman

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Lisa Sparks, Vice-Chairman

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Mike Hensley, Member

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Patrick Phillips, Member

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Jim Saylor, Member

ATTEST:

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Kathy Young, Clerk to the Board