

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23, 2010 MINUTES

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 4:00 pm on Wednesday June 23, 2010. Commissioners present: Chairman George W. Ward, Jr., Vice-Chairman Kenneth D. Travis, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Jeremiah Jefferies, and Gordon G. Satterfield. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director, and Angela Evans, Caswell Messenger. Absent: Erik D. Battle. Matthew Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Ward opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer.

PROPOSED BUDGET WORK SESSION

Chairman Ward began the meeting by discussing options for the budget. Options discussed were letting someone go, furloughs, 2.5 cent tax increase, 3 cent tax increase, and proposed changes by the Sheriff to his budget. Discussions continued as Commissioner Travis asked Kevin Howard, County Manager and Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director about the needed ambulances. Commissioner Travis stated that as the budget stands the County will end up going into fund balance and buying a bunch of stuff because no one on the Board wants to cut someone. He continued by saying that the Board is going to have to cut more in departments that have more money than anybody else has instead of cutting each department the same. Commissioner Travis stated that the Board needs to cut whoever it needs to cut to keep services going without raising taxes as people cannot stand a 3 cent tax increase.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that he went back over the budget again and it bothers him that the Board takes money from citizens to build facilities like tennis courts and then the Board does not spend money to take care of the facilities. He ended with the fact that the County cannot keep neglecting stuff. Commissioner Hall stated that the Board is supposed to prepare a balanced budget and the Board is supposed to do it based on the anticipated needs of the county. Commissioner Hall said he looked back over the budgets from previous years and asked the Board how much did we raise taxes the year before or the year before? We need to pay the piper. Commissioner Hall stated that three cents is a hard pill to swallow. He stated that he firmly does not believe in furloughs as it balances the budget on the backs of the employees who do not have a vote on the Board. The approved budget is located in Table 1 on the next page.

Table 1: Approved Budget

Revenues	
3 Cent Tax Increase	\$ 9,117,292.00
Current proposed revenue	\$ 11,261,427.00
Approp Health Fund Bal	\$ 238,294.00
Beer & wine tax	\$ 60,108.00
Enhanced EMS Federal Medicaid	\$ 100,000.00
Medicaid Hold-Harmless	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 20,777,121.00
Expenditures	
Current proposed expenditures	\$ 20,775,278.00
1% Cut incl BOE & PCC	\$ (114,390.00)
Proposed capital/installment	\$ 95,057.00
Contingency	\$ 41,175.00
Additional/EMS Filtration	\$ 18,000.00
Sheriff's Proposals	
Reduction in capital outlay	\$ (11,844.00)
Reduction in bulletproof vests	\$ (9,155.00)
Reduction in drug fund	\$ (5,000.00)
Reduction in motor fuel	\$ (12,000.00)
Total Expenditures	\$ 20,777,121.00

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to go with a three cent tax increase and the proposed budget. Commissioner Travis stated that the Board needs to stop and look at some more cuts before they do this. Commissioner Satterfield stated that whatever's passed it would behoove this Board and Manager to look at travel more closely and be more selective on how we spend. He also stated that departments are not widely spending at the end of the year. The motion carried 4:2 with Chairman Ward and Commissioner Travis opposing.

Commissioner Satterfield asked if the budget was a line item budget as contingency as it was last year and it should be in the budget ordinance. Mr. Howard responded that this is a very tight budget and he advises against doing budget transfers so that staff can move money around as it is needed and not have to have the Board vote on every transfer.

RECESS

At 4:54 pm Chairman Ward recessed the meeting until June 30th, 2010 at 8 am.

Matthew W. Smith
Clerk to the Board

George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
