

MINUTES - THURSDAY JULY 15, 2010

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in special session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 5:00 pm on Thursday July 15, 2010. Commissioners present: Chairman George W. Ward, Jr., William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Jeremiah Jefferies, and Gordon G. Satterfield. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager and Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director. Century Link: Bill Reynolds, Frank Fulcher, Steve Brewer and Larry R. Liles. Absent: Vice-Chairman Kenneth D. Travis and Erik D. Battle. Matthew Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Jefferies called the meeting to order.

CENTURYLINK PRESENTATION

Century Link sent their dream team in to update the County on what they are doing with broadband in the area. Century Link stated that if a business wants to locate here Century Link will work with them to get acclimated. They want to help pull in business for the County. Century Link looked at what businesses were here and who was here to buy their service. Century Link mentioned putting their service in and then drawing in new customers. They shared with the Board where their services were available.

Commissioner Hall stated that he did not see any line or maps for his district which is south of Yanceyville. Is there any cooperation or services that can be done? There are just no services available. Commissioner Satterfield stated he thought BellSouth had that area. Century Link stated that they still have a lot of work to do on extending the area of DSL availability.

Commissioner Hall asked if Century Link had a marketing director in this area. Century Link responded with a yes.

Commissioner Satterfield suggested that the best way to reach new customers would be through the school system. A lot of people are not aware of what is available. Commissioner Satterfield stated that its education or lack thereof keeping the rate of customers down.

Commissioner Carter suggested getting information to the fire departments since there are ten in the County. Commissioner Satterfield noted that two of the ten are not in Century Link's service area.

County Manager, Kevin Howard suggested that Century Link should bring their information to the Bright Leaf Hoedown in September and the Providence Spring Fling.

Commissioner Ward asked about the services and repairs. When Mebtel first came to the County they talked about running DSL lines on the northern end of the County at the 388 Exchange. I was paying \$40.00 per month through Comcast. I switched over to DSL on the Shady Grove. Service got slower and I called in the problems repeatedly. I changed back to

Comcast. What is going to be done to prevent this from happening again? Century Link responded that the issues never get to the right level. Commissioner Ward stated that he would rather be with Century Link but the reasons given are the reason why he is not.

Commissioner Satterfield stated his area had similar problems but they have been corrected. He was told the problem was from the former provider and the wires were a mess.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that the County needs to have one provider, until that happens a lot of citizens will be left out of certain services. We need to find out what the process is to get everyone in the County to be local to one another.

Commissioner Hall stated that everyone in the County should be allowed to call the County Seat and it be a local call. That is not the case in this County.

The Board thanked Century Link for coming and presenting their information.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 6:17 p.m. Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to adjourn the special meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Matthew Smith
Clerk to the Board

George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
