

**MINUTES**  
**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**June 24, 2013 – REGULAR MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners of Transylvania County met in regular session on Monday, June 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the large courtroom of the Transylvania County Courthouse.

Commissioners present were Vice-Chairman Larry Chapman, Jason Chappell, Chairman Mike Hawkins, Daryle Hogsted and Page Lemel. Also present were County Manager Artie Wilson, County Attorney Tony Dalton, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Media: *The Mountain Voice* – Lynn Peters  
*The Transylvania Times* – John Lanier

There were approximately 80 people in the audience.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mike Hawkins presiding called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**WELCOME**

Chairman Hawkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the members of the audience for participating in their County government. He introduced the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**FY 2013-2014 BUDGET**

The Manager presented the FY 2013-2014 Budget proposal for the public hearing. He reported that the total General Fund amounts to \$44,499,235. Other Funds total \$9,864,892. Also included in the Budget are Inter-Fund and Intra-Fund Transfers equaling \$4,399,808. The total General Fund plus Other Funds gives the County a FY 2013-2014 Budget total of \$49,964,319.

The FY 2013-2014 Budget proposal includes an increase in the ad valorem tax rate of 4.2 cents/per \$100 valuation. Also included are the following fire district tax rates:

<i>Fire Service District</i>	<i>Tax/\$100</i>
Brevard	\$0.0338
Rosman	\$0.0756
Little River	\$0.0675
Connestee Falls	\$0.0551
Cedar Mountain	\$0.0957
Lake Toxaway	\$0.0328
Balsam Grove	\$0.1248
North Transylvania	\$0.1116

Additionally included in the FY 2013-2014 Budget is the Home and Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults. The total funding for this grant equals \$298,995 and is broken down as follows:

<i>Services</i>	<i>Block Grant Funding</i>
Adult Day Care	\$24,254
Adult Day Health	\$39,000
In Home Aide 1	\$22,500
In Home Aide 2	\$76,675
General Transport	\$12,628
MED-Drive	\$ 3,056
Congregate Meals	\$82,306
Home Delivered Meals	\$12,837
Senior Companion	\$15,359
Information & Assistance	\$ 3,834
Pisgah Legal	\$ 6,546

These funds are pass-through monies. The funds come to the County from the State and they are passed along to the above-listed organizations.

**Chairman Hawkins declared the public hearing open at 7:10 p.m.**

Don Surrrette: Mr. Surrrette is a resident of the North Transylvania Fire District. He offered ideas about the use of sales tax income, most of which comes from the City of Brevard. Mr. Surrrette suggested the County, the City of Brevard and Town of Rosman use sales tax revenues in a joint effort to develop programs to bring in more people to buy more things, which in turn increases sales tax revenues and takes the burden off of property owners.

Larry Wilson: Mr. Wilson spoke on behalf of elderly citizens in the County. While he understands from time to time the County must find ways to increase revenues, he wondered if Commissioners could look elsewhere without putting the burden on senior citizens who are on fixed incomes or may have lost a spouse. Everyone seems to be working harder and longer these days to make ends meet.

Ann Holshouser: Dr. Holshouser is a local veterinarian. She said the community is anxiously awaiting the opening of the new animal shelter, made possible by the taxpayers of the County and the generous donations of many people. Because the new animal shelter will house more animals and demand more resources to operate, Dr. Holshouser noted that the many animal advocacy groups in this County have offered their ongoing support for adoption assistance once the new shelter opens. The opening of the new shelter will also relieve some of the tremendous pressure that has been put on these groups over the last few years. She stated that County leaders, staff and citizens will want the new facility to be run properly, efficiently, and with compassion. To accomplish this, the animal shelter should be managed by an experienced and qualified animal shelter manager. Dr. Holshouser encouraged Commissioners to support the funding of the animal shelter manager in the FY 2014 Budget.

Kim Provost: Ms. Provost asked Commissioners to consider the original budget proposal submitted by the County Manager and staff. While she understands the idea of raising taxes causes Commissioners a lot of anxiety, she pointed out that it has been a long time since Transylvania County has had a property tax rate increase. She believes now is the time to raise taxes. Ms. Provost said the County has been providing the best services as possible, as cheaply as possible, for a long time. She believes Commissioners should allocate funds to provide services the County and its citizens can be proud of and can move the County forward. Ms. Provost asked Commissioners to consider the original budget proposal which includes a 5.92 cents tax increase so Commissioners won't have to agonize over another tax increase next year. Ms. Provost believes the original budget will take care of some much needed capital improvements, enhance recreational opportunities, and properly fund the animal shelter, etc. which will move the County forward.

Peter Chaveas: Mr. Chaveas has been a full time resident of Transylvania County for almost five years. He has attended various Commission meetings over the last few years and on more than one occasion he has heard Commissioners address their concerns about the less fortunate people in this County. However, far too often, he has heard Commissioners say no to fully resourcing schools, no to providing adequate staffing levels for County services that are most needed by the poorest in the community, no to competitive salaries for hard working County employees, no to forward-looking thinking that would allow the County to compete for more and better jobs, and no to additional resources for County government. Mr. Chaveas commented that the result of Commissioners saying no to all these things has not contributed to a growing economy that would benefit all citizens. He believes the budget Commissioners are considering tonight is a step in the right direction, but he agreed with the previous speaker that the original budget proposal is a better budget. Mr. Chaveas urged Commissioners to support the budget.

Terry Nicholson: Mr. Nicholson said he respects the views of Commissioners who prefer low taxes and small government; however he believes there are many items Commissioners can vote for in the budget proposal before them. He believes this is the first budget in 10 years that seriously addresses economic development which is essential to the County; therefore he asked Commissioners to pass the budget unanimously. Mr. Nicholson stated that a united community effort is needed to make this possible.

Spud Ayers: Mr. Ayers is a local business owner and said he and many others are working hard just to make ends meet. He does not believe now is the time to raise property taxes and asked Commissioners to pull monies from fund balance to meet the budget needs. Mr. Ayers cited several local statistics about the large number of foreclosures, households on food stamps and welfare, elderly on fixed incomes, etc. He asked Commissioners to take care of what is here now, not what they hope might be coming in the future. Mr. Ayers said he hopes Commissioners will make the right decision and not raise taxes on the citizens of Transylvania County.

John Dillon: Mr. Dillon is a resident of Pisgah Forest. He expressed support for replacing old and outdated computers for County employees; however, he is not in favor of raising taxes. He also suggested selling the old Library as income, instead of spending much more to renovate it. With regards to taxes, he said he personally feels like he is a slave to all levels of government rather than a citizen. Mr. Dillon said he works real hard for his money and he feels he pays enough taxes already.

Lee McMinn: Mr. McMinn supported the original budget submitted by the Manager which included the 5.92 cents increase in the property tax rate. He believes the original proposal was a considerate and forward-looking budget proposal. However, he believes the current proposal which includes a 4.2 cents tax increase is a workable budget. While he lives on a fixed income, he believes the County should be able to provide the services needed by citizens, as well as an environment for jobs and infrastructure that he believes the County Commission has been ignoring. Mr. McMinn urged Commissioners to adopt the original budget proposal.

Tommy Owen: Mr. Owen is a native of Transylvania County. In the ministry he has tried to help those with problems in their lives. While he understands some people are more capable of paying a tax increase, he is not. Mr. Owen is supportive of helping those in need, more so than caring for animals in the animal shelter.

Bill Briggs: Mr. Briggs believes that in order for more revenues to come into the County, Commissioners have two choices: 1) raise taxes, or 2) bring in more industry and business. More business equals more tax revenue and more jobs. While he understands it may be important at this time to raise taxes, he thinks all Commissioners and citizens working together to bring in more industry which will positively impact the County's economy.

**Chairman Hawkins declared the public hearing closed at 7:40p.m.**

Commissioners will meet in special session on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in this same location to vote on the FY 2014 Budget. No other business will be discussed. The meeting is open to the public.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

#### **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were no agenda modifications.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Commissioner Chappell moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel.** Commissioner Lemel noted that the cover page for the June Discovery and Release Report had the wrong date on it. The Clerk will get a corrected cover page from the Tax Office. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

The following items were approved:

#### MINUTES

The minutes of the May 28, 2013 regular meeting, budget workshop and sealed closed session, and the May 29 and 30, 2013 budget workshops were approved.

#### DISCOVERY AND RELEASE REPORT

The Discovery and Release Reports for May 2013 and June 1-24, 2013 were approved. Total tax dollars released for May was \$2,849.93. Refunds totaled \$161.43. Total tax dollars released from June 1-24 was \$4,542.66. Refunds totaled \$308.28.

#### UNSEALED CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Commissioners unsealed the March 25, 2013 closed session minutes and made them available for public inspection.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### JOINT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Jeanne Pedler recently resigned from the Joint Historic Preservation Commission. Her term is set to expire May 2014. There is one eligible application on file.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint Jeffrey Mills to fill the vacancy on the Joint Historic Preservation Commission with his initial term to expire May 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.**

#### SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

The term of Kathy Beddingfield expires at the end of June. She does not wish to be reappointed.

**Commissioner Lemel nominated and moved to appoint Judith West to the upcoming vacancy on the Social Services Board, seconded by Commissioner Chapman and unanimously approved.**

#### COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM & CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION TEAM

At the last combined team meeting of the Community Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Teams, the membership roster was reviewed and the following recommendations are provided for the Commissioners' consideration:

- Reappoint Kim Bailey for 3-year term (Expires June 2016) (EMS provider or firefighter)
- Appoint Kimberly Nichols for 3-year term (Expires June 2016) (Parent of a child who died before reaching age of 18)
- Reappoint Amanda Lambert for 3-year term (Expires June 2016) (Elective Member)
- Reappoint Vivienne Lendway for 3-year term (Expires June 2016)
- Appoint Sharon Cameron for 3-year term (Expires June 2016) (Elective Member – Ms. Cameron serves as the Coordinator for CFPT)
- Allow elective member terms of Linda Schieve and Alice Wellborn to expire. Future recommendations will likely be made concerning these membership slots. The statutes do not require these elective membership positions.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint members to the combined Community Child Protective and Child Fatality Prevention Teams as recommended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell.** For the benefit of the public, Social Services Director Stoney Blevins explained the duties and responsibilities of these combined teams. Their responsibilities involve case reviews of abuse and neglect of children and case reviews of child deaths. The overall intent is to address systemic issues to ultimately improve children's welfare and to prevent child deaths. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### PARKS COMMISSION

The terms of Kevin Bryan Smith and Edward Marchini expire at the end of June. Mr. Smith is eligible to serve a full term. Mr. Marchini is not eligible to serve another term and he has moved to Henderson County. The Clerk advertised recently for the upcoming vacancy and received no applications. It is also the responsibility of Commissioners to appoint the chairman. Mr. Marchini is the current chairman.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to reappoint Kevin Bryan Smith to a three-year term, leave Mr. Marchini's seat vacant for the time being and advertise for the citizens of Transylvania County to apply, and appoint Maryann Mickewicz as chairman of the Parks Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.**

#### JURY COMMISSION

The Board of Commissioners appoints one member to the Jury Commission. Gay Phillips is eligible and willing to serve another term. There are no other applications on file. It is the recommendation of Clerk of Court Rita Ashe to reappoint Ms. Phillips to another term.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to reappoint Gay Phillips to the Jury Commission for another two-year term, seconded by Commissioner Chapman and unanimously approved.**

#### JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

There are several upcoming appointments on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), including a few resignations as well. It is the recommendation of the JCPC nominating committee to appoint the following slate of members:

1. Appoint Sammy Kicklighter to replace Maurice Jones who resigned effective May 17 (Member of Business)
2. Reappoint Thomas Bradley (Commissioner Appointee)
3. Reappoint Angela Garner (Mental Health Director or Designee)
4. Reappoint Stoney Blevins (Director of Social Services)
5. Appoint Barbara Belli to replace James Heffel who has moved to another county (Commissioner Appointee)
6. Appoint Candace Katilyn Petit to replace Brenna Phillips (Student)
7. Reappoint Alan Justice (Local School Superintendent or Designee)
8. Reappoint Greg Stroup (Sheriff or Designee)
9. Reappoint Ricky James (Commissioner Appointee)
10. Reappoint James Felty (Member of Faith Community)
11. Reappoint Susan Matthews (Director of Mental Health or Designee)
12. Reappoint Larry Chapman (County Commissioner)
13. Reappoint Steve Pulliam (United Way/Nonprofit)
14. Reappoint Rodney Wesson (Chief Court Counselor or Designee)
15. Appoint Sandi Hosey to replace Elizabeth McTeer who does not wish to be reappointed (Commissioner Appointee)
16. Reappoint Gay Poor (County Manager or Designee)
17. Appoint Bill Westbrook (Substance Abuse Professional)

The Chief of Police or designee position is vacant at this time. Chief Harris should be making a recommendation to the JCPC in the near future. There is also one student vacancy to be filled when school starts back in the Fall.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint the slate of members to the JCPC as recommended above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell.** Commissioner Chapman commented that if another Commissioner wishes to serve in his place, he would step aside. He commented that this is a very important council and he thanked all those involved who care about the youth of this County. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### HIGH IMPACT LAND USES ORDINANCE

Over the past several years citizens have brought forth their concerns to the Board of Commissioners about high impact land uses which have interfered with the quiet enjoyment of their property. Just recently citizens have raised concerns regarding the public health, safety and general welfare of a proposed electricity generating facility using municipal solid waste as its feedstock in the Penrose community. This proposed ordinance addresses the following high impact land uses that the County has had issues with or could potentially be faced with in the future:

1. Airfields /Airstrips
2. Asphalt Plants
3. Bulk Inflammables, Chemicals, and Explosives Manufacturers or Storage Facilities
4. Chip Mills (Wood Grinding Operations)
5. Commercial Incinerators
6. Concrete Suppliers
7. Electricity Generating Facilities
8. Helicopter Sightseeing Operations
9. Medical Waste Facilities
10. Mining and Extraction Operation and Quarries

11. Motor Sports Activities
12. Sawmills
13. Slaughtering and Processing Plants
14. Solid Waste Management Facilities (Nongovernmental)

The Manager and County Attorney have drafted an ordinance for consideration by Commissioners, similar to ordinances in many other counties, specifically Macon County. The Manager recommended Commissioners refer the proposed ordinance to the Planning Board for review and recommendation. This step was also recommended by the School of Government. Once the Planning Board makes it report to Commissioners, a public hearing can be scheduled to receive public input on the proposed ordinance.

**Commissioner Chapman moved to refer the proposed ordinance to the Planning Board for review and recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel.** The Manager recommended the Planning Board have 30 days to complete this task, although Commissioners could allow for more time if they desire. The Planning Board may need to hold a public hearing as well. Commissioner Chapman supported the 30-day time frame and suggested the Planning Board also hold a public hearing. He believes it is important for the County to move forward. Planning and Economic Development Director Mark Burrows believes the Planning Board can have a recommendation back to Commissioners for the first meeting in August.

Commissioner Chappell expressed some concerns about the proposed ordinance. He understands there is a fine line between private property rights and public health. While he understands the recommendation, he believes the County is moving too fast on this process. He expressed concern over any type of ordinance that regulates a property owner's use of his/her land.

Commissioner Lemel said the proposed ordinance does not preclude any of these types of industries from coming into the County. The proposed ordinance is intended to allow additional scrutiny and consideration before these high impact industries are allowed to build in Transylvania County or before Commissioners can make a commitment to support such industry in Transylvania County. She believes the ordinance is structured similarly to the Pisgah Forest Community Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Chappell noted that the Pisgah Forest Community Zoning Ordinance was enacted at the request of citizens who live in the Pisgah Forest community.

Commissioner Hogsed commented that he served as the Commissioner Representative to the committee studying the issue of zoning in Pisgah Forest. He agreed with Commissioner Chappell's statement that the Ordinance was requested by those citizens in order to protect their personal property rights as County residents.

Commissioner Lemel feels the issue is similar and justifiable in that citizens have come forward seeking assistance from the County.

Commissioner Hogsed shared some of the same concerns as Commissioner Chappell; however, he said there needs to be something in place to protect citizens from unwanted neighbors. He believes moving forward with this process will give Commissioners the ability to better assess that and allow for community input, whereas now that is not an option. There were no further comments and **the motion passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Chappell voting against.**

#### BIO-MASS FACILITY USING SOLID WASTE AS A FEEDSTOCK MORATORIUM

Over the past several years citizens have brought forth their concerns to the Board of Commissioners about high impact land uses which have interfered with the quiet enjoyment of their property. Just recently citizens have raised concerns regarding the public health, safety and general welfare of a

proposed electricity generating facility using municipal solid waste as its feedstock in the Penrose community. The Manager proposed Commissioners enact a moratorium on the bio-mass facility. The moratorium would be for a 12-month period and allow sufficient time to gather and review information regarding the proposed facility's impact on public health and safety. During the moratorium the developer will have to work with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources to supply information regarding air quality, the incineration/pyrolysis process using municipal solid waste as a feedstock, and the residuals from the process. The Manager expects it will take at least nine months to furnish and analyze the data.

A public hearing must be held on the moratorium before it can be enacted. The Manager asked Commissioners to authorize staff to proceed with advertising a public hearing for the next regular meeting on July 8, 2013. The Manager noted that he has been working with the School of Government to ensure the County is following the proper process. After the public hearing, the item will be placed on the agenda for the July 22, 2013 meeting for consideration by Commissioners.

For the benefit of the public, Chairman Hawkins read the draft moratorium ordinance. After the reading, the County Attorney noted a mistake in the NC General Statute number in a particular section. The Clerk will make the correction.

**Commissioner Chapman moved to authorize staff to advertise a public hearing on the proposed moratorium for the July 8, 2013 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously approved.**

#### BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Finance Director Gay Poor submitted the following budget amendments for consideration by the Board of Commissioners:

#110: To budget \$571 for revenues and expenditures associated with providing transportation services for students at Brevard Music Center for two Saturdays in June

#111: To record receipt of a \$3,100 Nourishing North Carolina Grant to be administered by Co-Operative Extension

#112: To apply \$2,078 in insurance proceeds for auto repairs for two vehicles in the Sheriff's Office involved in accidents

#113: To record estimated insurance proceeds of \$4,983 to repair damages to the Community Services Building and equipment resulting from vandalism

#114: To apply \$2,933 in insurance proceeds to repairs to the Pisgah Forest Collection Site after a car ran into the fence and a roll-off box

#115: To record a \$100,000 transfer from unassigned fund balance to the Capital Projects Fund to cover the City's commitment of \$100,000 for the new animal shelter, payable over a 5-year period, and to transfer back \$20,000 to the General Fund for the City's first installment payment

#116: To appropriate \$40,026 from unassigned fund balance to cover back pay and benefits for Detention Center employees

#117: To appropriate an additional \$18,882 in revenues received by the Sheriff's Office from fees for concealed handgun permits and housing inmates from other counties to costs related to these revenues

#118: To appropriate \$38,394 from the Fund Balance assigned for Compensated Absences for vacations cashed out in lieu of time off (\$15,886) and paid out upon termination of employment (\$22,508), during the period February 21, 2013 through June 20, 2013

#119: To budget \$45,248 for proceeds from the capital lease for EMS cots and recognize the full cost of asset in the first year of the lease

If approved, these budget amendments will increase the FY 2013 General Fund budget by \$253,282, the Solid Waste budget by \$4,746, and the Emergency Phone Fund budget by \$1,325. Ms. Poor mentioned that included in the Commissioners' agenda packets is a summary of the changes in the FY 2013 Budget. The amendments presented tonight would bring the total of amendments up to \$596,207 for the fourth quarter, bringing the revised budget for FY 2013 to \$41.4 million.

**Commissioner Lemel moved to approve budget amendments as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed.** Commissioner Chapman asked if the payback for Detention Center employees relieves the County of any future liability. The Manager said the issue has been cleared up by the County as best as possible. The policy in the Detention Center has been changed. Commissioner Lemel expressed her opposition to providing transportation to students at Brevard Music Center. The Manager noted that the City is providing the funding for the transportation. Chairman Hawkins asked for clarification on the budget amendment for the City's portion of the funding for the animal shelter. Ms. Poor provided clarification. The Manager noted that Brevard City Council will be reviewing the contract with the County at a meeting in July. Commissioner Chapman commented that the City may be rethinking their commitment to the animal shelter. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Wilson: Once again Mr. Wilson spoke on behalf of those in the County who are elderly and handicapped. He reported that his church recently installed a handicap ramp to accommodate members of the church. He said he realized a permit would be needed to install the ramp; however he did not realize the church would actually have to pay for the permit. Mr. Wilson asked Commissioners to consider a waiver of the building permit because most of the work is being done by volunteer efforts. He noted too that the church had to pay for a permit to locate the septic tank on the property.

Kevin Glenn: Mr. Glenn spoke about the moratorium on the biomass facility. While he believes Commissioners have taken a noble step in drafting a moratorium and holding a public hearing, he believes the wording is too narrow and should be broader in scope because municipal solid waste is not the only feedstock the biomass facility could use.

Ned Doyle: Mr. Doyle thanked Commissioners for moving forward on the process for a moratorium on the biomass facility, as well as the high impact land use ordinance. He agreed with the previous speaker that the wording should be much broader in scope. Mr. Doyle said this is not about just stopping a really bad idea; it opens the door to better business and clean industry. He announced that those opposed to burning biomass and garbage are holding a forum on Thursday night of this week at the Library on sustainable economic development and he invited Commissioners to attend. Mr. Doyle said it is important to understand that the high impact land use ordinance does not just prevent bad things from happening but it also invites other industries into the County that have a higher standard and that will be looking for places with a high quality of life. Mr. Doyle said having an ordinance of this nature will be far more positive for the County than not.

George Frank: Mr. Frank asked Commissioners if the County funds a shelter manager for the Haven, the local homeless shelter. The Manager responded no. Mr. Frank then asked Commissioners to confirm that the County intends to fund a shelter manager for the new animal shelter. It was confirmed.

### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Chappell announced that Native Eyewear held a locals-only contest on FaceBook over the last couple of weeks. Four or five small towns were selected to participate. Brevard was the only town on the east coast participating. For the city or town that wins the contest, Native Eyewear will do a massive marketing campaign about that particular place. They hire only locals to write the story of the city or town. Today Commissioner Chappell learned that Brevard won. Native Eyewear will now work to create a marketing catalog on Brevard. More information is forthcoming.

Commissioner Chapman thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting tonight. He said the Board has tough decisions to make on a number of issues. He wanted to clear up his position on the old Library. He believes something needs to be done, either renovate it, tear it down or sell it, but it cannot just sit there. Commissioner Chapman commented that taxes are not an easy thing to discuss. He knows many people are hurting and receiving assistance so he does not take the decision on taxes lightly. He said that spending and taxes generate nothing but bigger government. He closed by saying he represents everyone in the community, not just those who can afford to pay taxes.

Commissioner Lemel responded to the criticism of the narrow language on the moratorium ordinance. She said many hours went into framing the moratorium, including consultation with the School of Government. There is very specific guidance that had to be followed. The narrowness of the ordinance is another reason for the high impact land use ordinance, which is why they are being worked on concurrently. Commissioner Lemel stated that the County is doing the very best it can to avoid a lawsuit. She has great confidence in the steps the County is taking to move forward.

Commissioner Hogsed asked that the County Manager provide Commissioners with a list of fees that Larry Wilson asked to be waived. He also thanked everyone for participating this evening and encouraged their participation moving forward.

Commissioner Lemel reminded the members of the audience there is an opening on the Parks Commission and she encouraged all those interested to apply.

Chairman Hawkins responded to comments about tax increases being a burden on elderly people. He informed the members of the public that there are programs available to provide tax relief for the elderly. The Manager added that those eligible for this assistance should contact the Tax Office. He also noted that the Tax Office can help citizens set up a payment plan to pay their taxes. The Tax Office will work with citizens in any way possible to help them pay their taxes.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Commissioner Chapman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously carried.**

ATTEST:

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Mike Hawkins, Chair  
Transylvania County Board of Commissioners

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Trisha M. Hogan  
Clerk to the Board