

MINUTES
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 27, 2014 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Transylvania County met in regular session on Monday, January 27, 2014 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 Hogsed and Page Lemel. Also present were County Manager Artie Wilson, County Attorney Tony Dalton, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Media: *The Daily Waterfall* – Kevin Brian Smith
The Transylvania Times – Jeremiah Reed

There were approximately 60 people in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Hawkins presiding called the meeting to order at 7:04 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 COMMENT

David Morrow: Mr. Morrow thanked Commissioners for their service to the County. He noted that the County will begin its budget process soon, as well as begin working with Brevard and Rosman on determining and justifying future water needs, and start a visioning process to help guide the County into the future. He said while there is no humor in government, sometimes a little humor can help keep the sanity. He gave Commissioners a “wireless crystal ball” that he designed to help Commissioners and Department Heads when they are faced with tough questions about the future.

Kevin Glenn: Mr. Glenn thanked Commissioners for their service. He believes the future of Transylvania County is in the hands of Commissioners tonight with their nominations to the Planning Board. He has been attending their meetings and believes that there should be new members appointed to the Planning Board.

Linda Stadnick: Ms. Stadnick elected to defer her comments to the end of the meeting.

Kathleen Barnes: Ms. Barnes serves as the President of the Cantrell Mountain Road Association. On their behalf, she urged Commissioners to place a freeze on the acceptance of any new applications for telecommunications towers until all proposed revisions to the Telecommunications Tower Ordinance are acted upon, however it long it takes.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

The Manager reported on the agenda modifications. He requested to add Item V.B Presentation-Artificial Turf under Presentations/Recognitions, Item VIII.C Potential Moratorium on Telecommunications Tower Ordinance under New Business, and move the Manager's Report to Item D.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve the agenda as modified, seconded by Commissioner Chapman and unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.

The following items were approved:

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 12, 2013 regular meeting and the November 25, 2013 regular meeting and two sealed closed sessions were approved.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY FOR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Sheriff Mahoney requests the Board of Commissioners adopt Resolution 03-2014 to allow the Sheriff to enter into mutual assistance agreements with other law enforcement agencies in accordance with reasonable arrangements, terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the respective heads of the law enforcement agencies. A resolution was first approved by Commissioners on January 26, 2009 and according to the minutes should be approved annually. The Board last approved such a policy on January 28, 2013. Commissioners approved Resolution 03-2014 Adopting a Policy for Mutual Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies.

(Resolution 03-2014 Adopting a Policy for Mutual Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.)

2013 DELINQUENT TAX LIST

Advertisement of delinquent taxes is required per NC General Statute 105-369(a). Commissioners must approve the list before it is advertised. Any delinquent taxes paid prior to the date of advertisement will not be advertised. Commissioners approved the 2013 Delinquent Taxpayer List and ordered Tax Administrator David Reid to advertise the list per NC General Statute 105-369(a)

DONATION OF UNSOLD SURPLUS ITEMS

The Fall 2013 surplus auction was very successful with the exception of some unsold office furniture. The pieces consist of desks made of particle board or metal, conference tables, media carts, and fabric-upholstered conference-style chairs. These items were initially deemed surplus by the County Manager because of their inability to be used any longer due to condition, age, or need. It is unlikely that the items will be sold during future surplus auctions. Donation of these items is more desirable than disposal. NC General Statute 160A-280 allows the County to donate any surplus personal property to a nonprofit organization incorporated in the United States. Prior to the donation, the County must post a public notice of its intent to donate the property and then adopt a resolution donating the property at another meeting. Commissioners authorized the posting of a notice of the Board of Commissioners' intent to donate the surplus items to local nonprofit organizations in Transylvania County.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING COOPERATION EXTENSION

Along with many other counties in North Carolina, Commissioners recognized Cooperative Extension's role in Transylvania County as part of the Centennial celebration of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914. Chairman Hawkins read the resolution for the benefit of the public.

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve Resolution 04-2014 In Support of North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, Transylvania County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Commissioners thanked County Extension Director Eric Caldwell and his staff for the essential services, knowledge and expertise they provide to the citizens of Transylvania County. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

(Resolution 04-2014 In Support of North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, Transylvania County is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.)

PRESENTATION-ARTIFICIAL TURF

For the last several years there has been an effort to secure funding to resurface the Brevard High School football field with artificial turf due to the numerous activities held on the field during the year. The Board of Education recently heard a presentation from the Brevard High School Athletic Director regarding artificial turf. Superintendent Dr. Jeff McDaris shared parts of that presentation with the Board of Commissioners via Power Point.

Dr. McDaris reported that the Brevard High School Stadium is used extensively by a lot of groups on a yearly basis. In a typical year, the cost of paint and seed is approximately \$10,000. This does not include spring sports. There are several machines required to maintain the field and the machines require maintenance as well. Those machines include paint machines, two mowers, a tractor, and gang reels. Top dressing is recommended every two years and costs between \$8,000 and \$9,000. Sprigging the field costs approximately \$7,000 and is also recommended every two years or on heavily used areas. About 20 hours is spent each week maintaining the field. The School System also spends about \$450 on irrigation costs and replaces two or three irrigation heads each year at \$150 each. In 2009, because of excessive rain events, an additional \$19,200 was spent repairing and maintaining the field.

In a standard year, an average of 79 contests or activities is performed on the Brevard High School field. This is despite selective and protective scheduling of events.

Artificial turf is being installed at more schools in Western North Carolina. Besides the colleges and universities, several high schools have installed artificial turf.

With the proper foundation, only the "skin" surface of a turf field needs to be replaced over time. Artificial turf fields do not typically wear out easily due to use. The life expectancy of a turf "skin" is 10-13 years.

Artificial turf allows more usage of the field without having to allow time for grass to grow back. Some examples are band competitions, soccer tournaments, outdoor concerts, pre-season football jamborees, 7-on-7 tourneys, a safe and durable surface allowing practice for football, band, physical education classes, soccer, track, and other activities, Brevard College activities, events and contests, and stability and safety regardless of weather.

Dr. McDaris stated that some of the positive impacts of artificial turf are economic opportunities, a safe and durable surface, increased pride in facilities, improved recruiting for Brevard College, events despite weather, and other new opportunities.

Commissioner Chapman asked what an artificial turf field might cost. Dr. McDaris said the price of artificial turf has come down over time while the technology of the product has actually improved. Cost estimates are around \$500,000.

Commissioner Chapman asked if there has been any input from Brevard College. Dr. McDaris said Brevard College is interested in having artificial turf installed on the field being that their football team uses the field. Brevard College is a great partner with the School System. They have been very gracious in allowing the School System to use their tennis courts and track.

Commissioner Chapman wondered about the possibility of putting in a new track around the field. Dr. McDaris said the current track is oddly shaped. If a turf field is installed, there is not enough room to install a regulation track. The School System will continue using the track at Brevard College.

There were no further comments and questions. Chairman Hawkins thanked Dr. McDaris for his presentation. Commissioners will hold a joint meeting with the Board of Education tomorrow night.

APPOINTMENTS

NURSING & ADULT CARE HOME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There are two vacancies on the Nursing & Adult Care Home Advisory Committee. The Clerk has advertised these vacancies several times and just recently received two applications. The applications were forwarded to Terry Collins, Regional Ombudsman with the Land-of-Sky Regional Council and she recommends the appointment of Kay Hunter and Linda Novosel to the Nursing & Adult Care Home Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint Kay Hunter and Linda Novosel to fill the vacancies on the Nursing & Adult Care Home Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Commissioners recently voted to fill a vacancy on the Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees but the appointee was unable to accept the appointment. There are four applications on file.

Commissioner Lemel nominated and moved to appoint David Clavier to fill the vacancy on the Blue Ridge College Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell.

Commissioner Chappell commented that PARI is one of the County's greatest underutilized gems in the County and it is one that no one else has. The appointment of Mr. Clavier is a great opportunity to forge partnerships between Blue Ridge Community College and Transylvania County to better maximize resources. Commissioner Lemel supported the appointment of Mr. Clavier because he has the technical experience and expertise to serve on this board. (Mr. Clavier is the Vice-President of Administration and Development for the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute in Balsam Grove.) **The motion was unanimously approved.**

HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

There are two vacancies on the Human Relations Council. The Clerk has been advertising for these vacancies for some time. There are three applications currently on file. Because of the high turnover rate on this council, the Human Relations Council chairman invites applicants to first attend a meeting before

committing to serving. As of this date, only one applicant has attended a meeting and expressed a serious interest about serving.

Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint Greg Holden to fill one of the vacancies on the Human Relations Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell. Commissioner Chapman agreed that applicants should attend meetings to fully understand what the committee does before making a commitment. Commissioner Lemel commended the chairman for the new level to which he has raised the Human Relations Council. He and other members are very invested in making the Human Relations Council successful. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

Former Parks and Recreation Director Rick Pangle retired from the County and his position on the Council on Aging needs to be filled. New Parks and Recreation Director Carleen Hansom is ready and willing to fill the spot on the Council on Aging.

Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint Carleen Hanscom to replace Rick Pangle on the Transylvania County Council on Aging. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed and unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE INITIATIVE

Barbara Belli recently resigned from the Community Appearance Initiative because she is moving back to Florida. There are no current applications on file; however, there is an old application on file for Rosie Craig because she currently serves on the Joint Historic Preservation Commission. The Clerk made contact with her via email and Ms. Craig expressed an interest in serving on the Community Appearance Initiative.

Commissioner Lemel moved to appoint Rosie Craig to fill the vacancy on the Community Appearance Initiative. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Commissioner Chapman commented that Ms. Craig is heavily involved in the community and will be an excellent addition. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

PLANNING BOARD

The terms of Wayne Hennie, Scott McCall, Mark Parker, and Larry Wilson expire at the end of January. All are eligible for reappointment; however, Mark Parker and Larry Wilson have requested not to be reappointed. There are 15 applications on file. Commissioners Chapman and Lemel conducted interviews with the applicants and there is information in the Commissioners' agenda packets from those interviews. It is also the responsibility of the Board of Commissioners to appoint the chairman.

Commissioner Chapman commented that he enjoyed the interview process and hopes Commissioners will participate even more in that process to appoint good applicants to all the County's boards and committees. Commissioner Lemel agreed and added that it is important for the County to have a balance of voices represented on the County's citizen advisory committees.

Chairman Hawkins called for nominations.

Commissioner Chapman nominated and moved to reappoint Wayne Hennie. Commissioner Chapman reported that Mr. Hennie has served a partial term on the Planning Board and that he has an excellent business background and is heavily involved in the community. **The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed.**

Commissioner Lemel nominated and moved to appoint Maureen Copelof. Commissioner Lemel stated that she has an extensive background in military service in the US Navy and has impressive qualifications. **The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman.**

Commissioner Hogsed nominated and moved to reappoint Scott McCall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell. Commissioner Chappell stated that he has done an outstanding job serving on the Planning Board, not just as a member, but also as its chairman.

Commissioner Hogsed nominated and moved to appoint Kelvin Phillips. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell. Commissioner Chappell noted that prior to his service on the Board of Commissioners, he served on the Planning Board so he would bring much experience to this Board.

Commissioner Chapman nominated and moved to appoint Jackie Whitmire. Commissioner Chapman stated that she has served on the Planning Board in the past and she will provide input from a business and agricultural standpoint. **The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel.**

Commissioner Chappell nominated and moved to appoint Jake Dalton. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed. Commissioner Chappell reported that he is a small business owner in Rosman and is very involved in his community.

Commissioner Lemel nominated and moved to appoint Kris Hovey. Commissioner Lemel reported that he has previous experience in local government from another state and will bring exceptional knowledge and experience to this board. **The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman.**

Commissioner Chapman moved that nominations be closed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously approved.

Commissioners voted on each of the nominees in alphabetical order.

The motion to appoint Maureen Copelof passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.

The motion to appoint Jake Dalton failed by a vote of 2 to 3, with Commissioners Chapman, Hawkins and Lemel voting against.

The motion to reappoint Wayne Hennie was unanimous.

The motion to appoint Kris Hovey passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.

The motion to reappoint Scott McCall failed by a vote of 2 to 3, with Commissioners Chapman, Hawkins and Lemel voting against.

The motion to appoint Kelvin Phillips failed by a vote of 2 to 3, with Commissioners Chapman, Hawkins and Lemel voting against.

The motion to appoint Jackie Whitmire passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.

Maureen Copelof, Wayne Hennie, Kris Hovey and Jackie Whitmire were appointed to the Planning Board.

Chairman Hawkins moved to table the appointment of the chairman to a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel. Commissioner Chapman commented that the vice-chairman should be able to fill in as chairman if there is a need. **The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Hogsed voting against.**

NEW BUSINESS

APPLICATION ASHEVILLE REGIONAL HOUSING CONSORTIUM

Western Carolina Community Action, in concert with the HAVEN and the Homeless Coalition of Transylvania County, has requested to apply for grant funds totaling \$60,192 through the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium in order to provide up to six months of tenant-based rental assistance to move individuals/families from homelessness to stable, permanent housing. These funds will be used in conjunction with the Emergency Services Grant currently being administered by the HAVEN which provides funds for case management services. In 2013, the Homeless Coalition of Transylvania County conducted a point in time count of homeless individuals in this community. The point in time count identified 212 individuals as being homeless. This grant is targeted to end homelessness for 24 families and enable them to move into stable, permanent rental housing. The grant does not require any County funding.

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve Western Carolina Community Action's application to the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium for tenant-based rental assistance, with the understanding that no County funds are required. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman and unanimously approved.

RENOVATION OF THE OLD LIBRARY FOR NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Advertisements seeking bids for the renovation of the old Library were published in *The Transylvania Times* beginning December 2. Bids were due on January 14. Five companies submitted bids on the project. The bids ranged from \$1,020,000 to \$1,184,950. The lowest responsible bidder was Cooper Construction. Finance staff has thoroughly reviewed the bids and recommends awarding the bid to Cooper Construction. The Manager recommended a total project budget of \$1,584,064, which includes equipment, furniture and equipment totaling \$383,400, architectural and professional fees at \$91,000, and 6% contingency.

The Manager recommended the project be funded by using \$500,000 from the Assigned Fund Balance which is designated for space needs, \$200,000 from the Information Technology Capital Reserve, \$716,450 from the Capital Reserve, and \$167,614 from the Unassigned General Fund Balance. He asked Commissioners to award the bid to Cooper Construction, approve the project budget along with the appropriate budget amendments, and authorize him to oversee any change orders on the project.

Commissioner Lemel moved to award the construction bid for renovation of the old Library to Cooper Construction for \$1,020,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve the project budget of \$1,584,064 for the entire renovation project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel. Commissioner Chapman said he views this project as an economic development project because the current Administration Building is unattractive, has no audio/visual capabilities and a small conference room. He believes this project will go a long way in upgrading the image of the County. Commissioner Lemel noted that this project is a great opportunity to help the County address major space needs issues. Employees in the current building are stacked on top of each other and are drowning in paper. There is also a need for additional meeting space/conference rooms. Commissioner Hogsed added that Commissioners have delayed this project for

some time. The old Library is an historic building and he would have preferred it be donated to the museum; however, it would have been a challenge for them financially to renovate it. Therefore, he is ready to move this project forward. Commissioner Chappell said he is happy this project is finally moving forward. It will help Commissioners begin to address other needs in the court system as well. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Lemel moved to authorize the use of funds as follows:

- a) **Approve a budget amendment to transfer \$500,000 from Assigned Fund Balance to the Capital Project Fund for renovation of the old Library**
- b) **Approve a budget amendment moving \$200,000 from the Information Technology Capital Reserve to the Capital Project Fund for the renovation of the old Library to be used for technology improvements in the renovation project.**
- c) **Approve a budget amendment transferring \$167,614 from Unassigned Fund Balance from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund for renovation of the old Library.**
- d) **Authorize the County Manager to oversee the project and approve all change orders as long as the total cost stays within the approved project budget. All change orders will be reported to the Board of Commissioners on a monthly basis.**

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell. Chairman Hawkins thanked staff and all those who worked to put this proposal together. He also thanked previous Boards of Commissioners for having the foresight to set funds aside over the years to fund this project. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

POTENTIAL MORATORIUM ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER ORDINANCE

The Planning Board just completed a review of the Transylvania County Telecommunications Tower Ordinance. Commissioners have a scheduled a public hearing to receive public input on the proposed changes during a regular meeting on February 10. Since then there have been several concerns raised by property owners about the location of telecommunications towers around the County. They have requested that the revised ordinance prohibit towers from being constructed in certain areas.

At the previous meeting, there was some discussion about a possible moratorium, but no action was taken. The Manager contacted the School of Government and was advised that the only method available for putting a freeze on any new applications for telecommunications towers is to enact a moratorium. The Manager reviewed this information with Chairman Hawkins and at his directive, placed this item on the agenda tonight for discussion and possible action. Upon Commissioners' approval, staff will advertise and schedule a public hearing for the February 10 meeting. A draft ordinance was included in Commissioners' packets for their review. It was noted that there have been no cell tower applications filed.

In response to a question from Commissioner Lemel, the Manager stated that Commissioners can enact a moratorium at the same meeting at which the public hearing is held; however, Commissioners normally wait to hear all comments and take action at a subsequent meeting.

Commissioner Chapman moved to instruct staff to advertise and schedule a public hearing for a potential moratorium on the Transylvania County Telecommunications Tower Ordinance for the February 10 Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel. Commissioner Chappell expressed concern about the draft moratorium being submitted as an item this evening without Commissioners having a lot of time to read and understand the request. He is also concerned about enacting such a moratorium because the existing cell tower ordinance that has been in place for many years has worked well. Commissioner Hogsed added that moratoriums are not the answer to everything. He understands the concerns of the citizens; however, the changes being recommended for

the cell tower ordinance can help address those concerns and can be enacted just as quickly as a moratorium. Commissioner Hogsed is also concerned about the message this sends to anyone wanting to do business in Transylvania County. He said he would be willing to support a moratorium on new applications only until the Telecommunications Tower Ordinance revisions have been complete. Commissioner Chapman read the draft moratorium aloud for the benefit of the public. He believes the moratorium allows staff more time for research and to gather more input from citizens. Chairman Hawkins agreed with Commissioner Chappell's comments and said it was oversight on his part that the item was not placed on the agenda until this evening. He believes the County needs to fully understand the future of the telecommunications industry and then craft a policy that reflects those realities. Chairman Hawkins suspects Commissioners will be sending the ordinance back to the Planning Board for further review after public input is received and a moratorium allows time for them to conduct their work and address the concerns of many citizens. **The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.**

MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager reported the following:

1. Work continues on NC 215. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28 with officials from the US Forest Service to discuss whether or not the proposed routes are viable alternatives.
2. Held meetings with individual stakeholders on the potential expansion of the courthouse. Moseley Architects is working on this project and should have a report for Commissioners in May.
3. Staff reviewed the revised plans for Phase III of the Community Park near Rosman. Changes are being made and when complete staff will go out to bid on the project. Parks and Recreation Director Carleen Hanscom and staff are working to prioritize the items in Phase III since it appears there will not be sufficient funds available to complete all of the items.
4. A new County logo has been developed. The new logo will be used on signage, vehicles and letterhead.
5. Met with Transylvania County Schools Superintendent Jeff McDaris and Brevard College President David Joyce regarding the possibility of installing synthetic turf at Brevard High School. Discussions are ongoing.
6. Discussion with Senator Hagan's office on the use of Title III Funds (Secure Rural School Funds) and trying to get authority to use all of the funds for school purposes. These funds are so tightly restricted that it is difficult to find appropriate use of these funds. Title III Funds total more than \$80,000.
7. Sent an email to the NC Association of County Commissioners today to address NC Fast and the food stamp system. There is a possibility of food stamp funding being cutoff. This affects all counties in North Carolina.

Commissioner Lemel noted that some constituents have expressed concerns to her about the funding for Phase III of the community park in Rosman. She asked if Commissioners will be able to examine some alternatives for what it might cost if Commissioners decided to complete Phase III after the PARTF funds are expended. The Manager stated that he has asked staff to prioritize those items that will get the most use by the citizens. He will provide a total project cost to Commissioners. PARTF funds and matching dollars total \$360,000 so that is the only monies designated for the project at this time, which is not enough to complete all the items as planned for Phase III.

The Manager announced his retirement as County Manager effective September 1, 2014. He thanked Commissioners and staff for the opportunity to serve this community for more than 22 years. His announcement was met with much applause from the audience and Commissioners and everyone stood to show great respect for him. Chairman Hawkins read aloud a letter from

Commissioners to the Manager thanking him for his service and commitment to Transylvania County. Each Commissioner, including the Clerk and County Attorney, publicly thanked the Manager for this service to the County and for what he has meant to each of them over the last several years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Stadnick: Ms. Stadnick lives in a community where there is the possibility of a new cell tower being built in the near future. She believes the placement of cell towers has the potential to have far reaching impact on residents as a whole so she urged Commissioners to enact a moratorium on accepting all applications for cell towers in order to allow additional time to receive public input.

Kevin Glenn: Mr. Glenn reminded Commissioners that as soon as changes are approved to the cell tower ordinance; the moratorium can be vacated, therefore potentially shortening the length of the moratorium. Mr. Glenn also commented about the renovation of the old library and asked Commissioners to include a prompt payment clause for subcontractors. Finally, he thanked the Manager for this service to the County all these years.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Chapman commented that the decisions made at this meeting tonight demonstrates how the system of government works. He expressed appreciation to his fellow Commissioners for the work they do for the County. He also thanked all those in attendance and encouraged them to continue coming to meetings. He reminded everyone of the joint meeting with the Board of Education tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. in the Rogow Room at the Library where there will be discussion about the budget. Commissioner Chapman also announced that there is a public meeting on economic development on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Rogow Room at the Library. This is the first public presentation by the Independent Economic Development Task Force and it will focus on their recommendations of how the County should move forward on developing an organizational structure to address economic development needs. For those that cannot make that meeting, it will be streamed live.

Commissioner Lemel echoed Commissioner Chapman's comments about the public being in attendance. She reminded the members of the public that it is their business that Commissioners are conducting. She also thanked those remaining for staying for the entire meeting because County business is more than just one issue.

Commissioner Hogsed thanked those in attendance for being at the meeting tonight. He responded to comments made by Kevin Glenn during the Public Comment period. He said his comments about the moratorium are correct; however, that is not the way the moratorium was worded. Commissioner Hogsed also expressed disappointment in the Board for not reappointing Scott McCall to the Planning Board because he has served very diligently and has done a fantastic job as chairman.

Chairman Hawkins shared that at a meeting in February Commissioners will select an advisory firm to begin the search for a new County Manager. The search process may take 90 to 120 days.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mike Hawkins, Chair
Transylvania County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Trisha M. Hogan, Clerk to the Board