

Approved and unsealed by the Board of Commissioners 02/25/2008.

**SEALED MINUTES
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CLOSED SESSION MEEETING- FEBRUARY 26, 2007**

Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (5), to discuss the negotiation of a contract, closed session was entered at 9:35 p.m. Chairman Chappell, Commissioners Bullock, Guice, Hogsed and Phillips, Manager Wilson, Attorney Jeanne Hall and Clerk to the Board were present.

The Manager asked for direction from the Board of Commissioners in negotiating a contract with the American Legion Hall for the use of their facility for voting. He stated that Staff has prepared some estimates for the costs of doing some renovations to the building. The cost of doing the needed renovations is approximately \$24,000, which includes \$3,500 for wireless capabilities and \$1,000 for a room divider. The Manager said the Board of Elections eventually wants all their operations in the same building and a 6-year contract with the American Legion would give the Board time to work on those issues. He is proposing a 6-year contract with the American Legion Hall.

The Manager noted that the American Legion Hall would be used for voting for 6 days in the odd years and 54 days in the even years. In a 6-year period, the American Legion Hall would be used for voting for a total of 180 days. The cost of construction divided by the number of days used is approximately \$180 per day to use the facility.

The Manager asked the Commissioners if a contract of this nature is enough to attract the American Legion. He added that in the even years when the facility is used for 54 days, the County could pay them \$1,000 for the cost of utilities, etc. He said the County and the community will both benefit from the use of this building.

The Manager noted that if a contract is agreed upon, the County can make the necessary renovations in about two weeks. He asked for direction from the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Guice stated that he thought the Board of Elections' preference was to use the Community Service Conference Room since the room is going to be expanded. He said he does not want to move ahead with a contract with the American Legion if the Board of Elections will not be happy with it. Commissioner Bullock concurred with Commissioner Guice about the Board of Elections' desire to use the Community Service Conference Room and added that they have an interest in moving to the old detention facility after the completion of the new Public Safety Facility.

The Manager said he needs some direction from the Commissioners in order to begin negotiations with the American Legion or proceed with renovations to the Community Services Conference Room.

Commissioner Phillips stated he would like to have the option to extend the contract for 2 years in case other options are not available to the Board of Elections in 6 years. Attorney Jeanne Hall stated the contract should include the right of first refusal.

After further discussion, Commissioners agreed to direct the Manager to ask the Board of Elections which facility they prefer to use. They noted that these options have been discussed with the Board of Elections and time is of the essence.

Chairman Chappell moved to leave closed session and reconvene open session, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

Jason R. Chappell, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Trisha D. McLeod
Clerk to the Board