MINUTES

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS December 14, 2009 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Transylvania County met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the large courtroom of the Transylvania County Courthouse.

Commissioners present were Lynn Bullock, Chairman Jason Chappell, Mike Hawkins, Daryle Hogsed, and Vice-Chairman Kelvin Phillips. Also present were County Manager Artie Wilson, County Attorney David Neumann, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Media: *Hendersonville Times News* – Leigh Kelley *Transylvania Times* – Mark Todd

There were approximately 40 people in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jason Chappell presiding called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m.

WELCOME

Chairman Chappell welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the members of the audience for participating in their County government.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At the first regular meeting in December of each odd-numbered year the first order of business shall be the approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Upon motion by Commissioner Bullock and seconded by Commissioner Phillips, the following Minutes were approved:

October 12, 2009 Regular Meeting October 26, 2009 Regular Meeting (Joint Meeting with the Town of Rosman) November 9, 2009 Regular Meeting November 23, 2009 Regular Meeting December 7, 2009 Special Meeting – Public Hearing

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the first regular meeting in December of each odd-numbered year the second order of business shall be the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year, per NCGS 153A-39.

Commissioner Phillips moved to nominate Commissioner Jason Chappell as Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Commissioner Chappell was elected as Chairman by a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Hogsed voting against.

Chairman Chappell moved to nominate Commissioner Kelvin Phillips as Vice-Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Bullock. Commissioner Phillips was elected as Vice-Chairman by a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Hogsed voting against.

PUBLIC COMMENT

<u>Richard Irey</u>: Mr. Irey inquired about the County's policies and processes for attracting businesses and employers to the County. He specifically inquired about the County's incentive policies. The Manager stated that staff is currently developing its new Economic Development Strategic Plan. He informed Mr. Irey that incentive policies are limited and regulated by North Carolina General Statutes. Transylvania County's manufacturing incentive policy is tied to jobs and investment.

Lisa Landis: Ms. Landis said that the public notice advertisement for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing stated the purpose of the hearing was to solicit public input and the purpose of the grant was to enable the County to expand economic opportunities principally for low to moderate income persons. She inquired about the grant requirements and how the funds will help low to moderate income persons. Ms. Landis also asked why Gaia Herbs qualified to receive grant funds and for explanation on the loan agreement. Since this item will be discussed later in the meeting under Old Business, Chairman Chappell requested to defer a response until that time.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

The following modifications were made to the Agenda: Items under Presentations/Recognitions were moved ahead of the Public Hearing for Qualified School Construction Bonds. Item VIII-C Resolution 59-09 In Recognition of Jimmy Harris and Harris Ace Hardware under Presentations/Recognitions was removed from the Agenda. This item will be placed on an Agenda in January 2010.

Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the revised Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

RESOLUTION 56-09 IN RECOGNITION OF ROSMAN HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Commissioners recognized Rosman High School Volleyball Coach Mildred Powell and members of the volleyball team for recently finishing first runner up in the State championship game in Raleigh.

Commissioner Bullock moved to approve Resolution 56-09 In Recognition of the Rosman High School Volleyball Team, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

(Resolution 56-09 In Recognition of the Rosman High School Volleyball Team is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

RESOLUTION 57-09 IN RECOGNITION OF SHEILA NORMAN

Commissioners recognized Board of Education member Sheila Norman for recently being elected to the North Carolina School Boards Association Board of Directors.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve Resolution 57-09 In Recognition of Sheila Norman, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

Ms. Norman stated that the NCSBA recognizes a Board of Commissioners at their annual conference and she hopes she will be able to nominate the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners in recognition of their support of Transylvania County Schools.

(Resolution 57-09 In Recognition of Sheila Norman is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

RESOLUTION 60-09 IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN TAYLOR AS ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

Commissioners recognized John Taylor, owner of OP Taylor's and other stores in downtown Brevard, as the recipient of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Commissioner Phillips moved to approve Resolution 60-09 In Recognition of John Taylor as Entrepreneur of the Year, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

(Resolution 60-09 In Recognition of John Taylor as Entrepreneur of the Year is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

RESOLUTION 62-09 IN RECOGNITION OF KATINA AND JOHN HANSEN AND BLUE RIDGE BAKERY AS RECIPIENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE AWARD Commissioners recognized Katina and John Hansen, owners of Blue Ridge Bakery, as recipients of the Chairman's Choice Award.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve Resolution 62-09 In Recognition of Katina and John Hansen and Blue Ridge Bakery as Recipients of the Chairman's Choice Award, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

(Resolution 62-09 In Recognition of Katina and John Hansen and Blue Ridge Bakery as Recipients of the Chairman's Choice Award is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

<u>RESOLUTION 63-09 IN RECOGNITION OF THE SENIOR RESOURCE NETWORK AS</u> <u>RECIPIENTS OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE</u> On October 30, 2009, the Transylvania County Senior Resource Network (SRN) was awarded the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service, the highest designation of appreciation for volunteer service in the State.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve Resolution 63-09 In Recognition of the Senior Resource Network As Recipients of the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

Commissioners presented the Resolution to Bill Layton. Mr. Layton thanked and recognized Planning and Economic Development Director Mark Burrows for his work in creating the Senior Resource Network. He reported that the SRN continues to serve an increasing number of clients each month. He thanked Commissioners for their support. Chairman Chappell asked to see the dollar totals for the services the SRN provides which otherwise would have to be paid by individuals and businesses. Mr. Burrows said he would provide those figures at a future meeting.

(Resolution 63-09 In Recognition of the Senior Resource Network as Recipients of the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Bullock moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

The following items were approved:

FACILITIES USE REQUESTS

The use of Varsity Street Parking by the Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County on Wednesdays in 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Sundays in 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon was approved.

The use of the Parks and Recreation facility by Smart Start of Transylvania County for a fundraiser for Imagination Library on April 24, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. was approved.

<u>CLOSING OF COUNTY OFFICES FOR EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON</u> The closing of County Offices on December 18, 2009 from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. for the Employee Christmas Luncheon was approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BONDS

Staff has been working with BB&T to secure financing in the amount of \$1,297,778.45 for the construction of a Career and Technical Education Center at Rosman High School. BB&T was the only bank out of nine interested in financing the project via the use of Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB). BB&T has proposed the following terms and conditions:

- 12-year term with interest rate of 2.09% (supplemental coupon rate)
- Payments shall be level principal annually in arrears
- Interest rate is valid until February 8, 2010
- Closing is contingent upon completing documentation acceptable to BB&T and upon acceptable real property to BB&T
- The QSCB shall be a non pre-payable transaction due to the tax credit derived by BB&T

In addition, BB&T will charge \$19,500 in fees to consummate the transaction, leaving \$1,278,278 for use towards the construction of the building. Over the life of the loan, \$176,303.37 will be paid back in interest.

The County is required to hold a public hearing on the financing per NCGS 160A-20.

Chairman Chappell declared the Public Hearing open at 7:55 p.m.

<u>Anela McMahan</u>: Ms. McMahan, a Transylvania County school teacher, said the Career and Technical Education Center at Rosman High School serves approximately 99% of its students. She noted the current building is over 50 years old, run down, not well heated or ventilated and was originally constructed to accommodate two classrooms. The building is now overcrowded. Ms. McMahan said a new facility is long overdue. She urged Commissioners to approve the funding for a new facility and thanked them for their support over the years.

<u>Chris Whitmire</u>: Mr. Whitmire, Chairman of the Transylvania County Board of Education, said while there are many needs in the County, the school system is at the mercy of the County since it has no taxing authority. He said the Career and Technical Education encompasses a wide variety of programs that are critical to the education of students and prepares students for college and the workforce.

<u>Jackie Hovey</u>: Ms. Hovey said she hopes there are no stumbling blocks that can not be overcome because the students deserve a new modern facility.

<u>Jeff McDaris</u>: Dr. McDaris, Superintendent of Transylvania County Schools, echoed the other comments and said a new facility will be in an investment in the economic development of Transylvania County. One of the Economic Development Strategic Plan's goals is to attract diverse industries, such as Gaia Herbs. Career and Technical Education programs include agriculture education, environment and natural resources, etc. He believes it will be important for industries locating to Transylvania County to understand how the students are being educated as it will affect their future workforce.

There being no further comments from the public, **Chairman Chappell declared the Public Hearing closed at 8:10 p.m.**

APPOINTMENTS

BREVARD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEAL

Commissioner Hogsed moved to reappoint Carl Brown to serve as an alternate member, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Planning and Economic Development Director Mark Burrows said that earlier in the year staff became aware of the availability of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that could be used to up-fit an existing building, as well as grants for other specific purposes. The first of two required Public Hearings was held on July 13, 2009 for the purposes of informing the public of the availability of CDBG funds being offered through the North Carolina Department of Commerce. The grant funds must be used for supporting new job creation. The second Public Hearing was held on December 7, 2009 for the purposes of soliciting public input on the CDBG 2009 Building Reuse Grant Application for Gaia Herbs. Gaia Herbs became aware of the availability of CDBG funds as a result of the first Public Hearing.

Gaia Herbs has requested to pursue a Building Reuse Program grant in order to up-fit a building off of Railroad Avenue consisting of 17,000 square feet, which has been vacant for more than 30 days, in which to receive bulk products from their main facility for shipping purposes. In turn this will free up space at their Island Ford Road location so they can increase their production capacity. The Building Reuse Program grant totals \$100,000. The cost to up-fit the building

could cost up to \$200,000. Gaia Herbs will provide the additional matching funds and will be responsible for the contractual relationship with the Land of Sky Regional Council for administration of the grant. Gaia Herbs will create one job per \$20,000 used from the grant funds, potentially creating up to five jobs. They must create jobs that are primarily for low to moderate income persons. Transylvania County will be the recipient of the grant funds and Gaia Herbs will borrow the funds from the County. The loan would be secured through the real property on the site and the loan amount would be forgiven annually by 20% for a period of five years. Over the period of five years, if Gaia Herbs still employs five employees and the business remains in operation, the \$100,000 loan (grant) from the County is forgiven. Mr. Burrows explained that if Gaia Herbs remains in operation for three years with the five new employees, the loan would be forgiven by 60% and they would owe the County the balance of 40%. The County would get to keep most of the money but it must be used for economic development purposes. Mr. Burrows explained this process in detail to answer questions posed by Ms. Landis earlier in the meeting. Mr. Burrows noted staff is working with two other businesses that are interested in CDBG funds as well.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to approve the grant application for Gaia Herbs for a \$100,000 building retrofit grant assuming the necessary legal documents are satisfactory to the County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

FINANCING FOR QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BONDS (QSCB)

In July 2009 Commissioners authorized the Board of Education to apply for funding via Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) in the amount of approximately \$1.3 million to construct a new Career and Technical Education facility at Rosman High School, based on the premise that the bonds would be issued at zero percent interest with a payback over 12 years. The Manager noted that many counties are having difficulties issuing the QSCB's and as such, due to the exorbitant cost of bond issuance, the Local Government Commission recommends that Transylvania County use an Installment Financing Agreement method to finance the project. Finance Director Gay Poor has interviewed local banks and only one bank is interested in financing the bonds at this time, which is BB&T.

Manager said staff also explored the open market and the lowest interest rate offered was 4.15%. The 2.09% being offered by BB&T is clearly a better deal. The Manager does not believe the County can borrow money any cheaper but the question remains whether or not the facility can be constructed for \$1,297,000. He noted that the \$19,500 in closing costs will be deducted from the amount of the loan. If approved by the Board, staff is prepared to send an application to the Local Government Commission by the end of December so it can be presented at their January meeting and voted on during their February meeting.

The Manager offered three scenarios for the Board's consideration:

- 1. The County pays 50% of the principal assuming zero interest and the Schools pay the remainder of the cost including the interest. County: \$54,074.10; Schools: \$81,457.22 the first year and then the Schools' amount goes down after that as the amount of the interest on the outstanding balance decreases each year. The total interest paid by the School System would be \$176,303.497 over the 12 year period.
- 2. The County and the Schools split 50% of the cost. County and Schools: \$67,655.56 each for the first year and then the amount goes down. This averages \$61,490.27 for each per

year. Both parties' share of interest over the 12 year period would be \$88,994.25 or \$7,416.19 per year on average.

3. Delay the project until more information and funding sources are available.

Commissioner Hawkins inquired about the total cost of the project. Dr. McDaris responded that the Board of Education is still moving forward with plans that are based on the loan amount and accepting bids based on that amount. He said if bids come in at a higher amount, they will find ways to reduce costs.

Chairman Chappell asked how the reduction of the loan in the amount of the closing costs affects their project. Dr. McDaris said a reduction of the loan in the amount of \$19,500 would be problematic because it was not anticipated.

Commissioner Phillips noted the interest rate increases the total cost of the project by approximately 11%.

Chris Whitmire emphasized the essential need of the new facility and said moving forward with the loan and the construction of the facility now is a cheaper alternative than having to construct a facility in an emergency situation. Commissioner Hawkins expressed concern that this facility was never submitted to the County as a capital outlay project by the Board of Education and was first brought forth and discussed in July of this year. He said the interest payment significantly adds to the cost of the project. The key for him originally was the ability to access these funds at zero percent interest and now that situation has changed. Mr. Whitmire pointed out that the Board of Education does not have the ability to raise its own revenue and further that they have always done their best to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. He also pointed out that the Board of Education reduced their capital outlay for FY 2009-2010 in order to save jobs.

Chairman Chappell agreed with Commissioner Hawkins that the situation has changed, although he understands the need for the facility. He said the County must do its due diligence and not rush into a decision using taxpayer dollars no matter how the interest amount is paid or split between the two Boards.

Dr. McDaris said the Board of Education must submit a capital outlay plan to the County which lists their immediate priorities; however he said the list is constantly changing so it creates an appearance that only certain items are a priority to them. He noted the Board of Education has created a master facilities plan which includes all their needs along with the estimated costs and lists those priorities in no particular order.

The Manager said the Board of Education has a regular meeting scheduled for December 21 and suggested both Boards meet jointly on December 28 to discuss this issue further. He noted the interest rate being offered by BB&T is good until February 8; however the application must be received by BB&T by December 31 if Commissioners decide to move forward and thus meet the Local Government Commission's schedule as well. He further noted that BB&T is not authorized to offer the County the same interest rate or enter into this type of agreement in 2010.

Finance Director Gay Poor added that BB&T may offer an extension if necessary. BB&T requested to be notified regarding whether they would receive the County's business within 15 days of the date of the proposal which is December 23.

Commissioner Hogsed said the interest rate does not change the need for a new facility at Rosman High School and he does not think the County will get a better deal.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to authorize Scenario 2 in which the County and the Schools split 50% of the cost. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullock. For clarification purposes, Chairman Chappell pointed out that the County and Schools would pay an average payment over the course of 12 years of \$61,420 each, for a total each of \$737,040.72 in interest and principal. Commissioner Hawkins asked if the 50% split is based on the loan amount or the total cost of the project. Commissioner Hogsed clarified that his motion is based on the proposal from BB&T and the loan amount of \$1,297,778. In response to a question from Commissioner Phillips, the Manager said the amount of usable funds available to the Board of Education is the loan amount minus the closing costs of \$19,500.

A lengthy discussion ensued and the Board allowed dialogue with members of the Board of Education who were in attendance.

Commissioner Hawkins said the Commissioners' original proposal to pay 50% of the cost of a zero interest loan was very generous and he is hesitant to commit to paying 50% of the interest as well. Chairman Chappell agreed saying it is important that the Board of Education meet and discuss the proposals first and then both Boards can meet and discuss the issue further on December 28.

Mr. Whitmire said he believes Scenario 2 is the best choice, pointing out again that the Board of Education has no taxing authority and has no other choice but to ask for funds from the County. The Board of Education plans to discuss this further at their next meeting but they would like some direction from the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Hawkins emphasized that the interest rate adds a significant amount to the loan. He noted that Dr. McDaris had expressed earlier that absorbing the closing costs would be problematic so it is important that the Board of Education review their budget and determine what they can realistically do then both Boards can come to an agreement during the meeting on December 28. Mr. Whitmire said the Board of Education will not know anything further until bids come back on the project. He believes they can make the project work, but he is hesitant about having to cut corners. He also feels the interest rate is good and divided equally over the 12 year period is doable.

Commissioner Phillips agreed with Commissioner Hawkins, saying that no matter how the payments are divided, it still involves taxpayer dollars. He also agreed that the Board of Education should review their budget and determine what they can do. Commissioner Phillips said he does not want to be put in a situation during the budget process of having to cut the Schools' capital in order to meet this obligation. He also agreed with Commissioner Hawkins that the County was very generous in agreeing to split the cost of the principle. While he knows this facility is needed, he said he does not want to place any additional burdens on the taxpayers.

Chairman Chappell said it is appropriate for the Board of Education to take some action so the two boards will have something to discuss and work towards since the parameters are different than what was proposed at the joint meeting in July.

Commissioner Hogsed believes Scenario 2 is the best outcome the Board of Education can receive from the County and said Commissioners should make a decision and then allow the Board of Education to determine whether this option is doable for them.

The motion failed by a vote of 2 to 3. Chairman Chappell and Commissioners Hawkins and Phillips voted against the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

ROSMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Rosman Fire Rescue is in the process of purchasing a 2007 Pierce Fire Engine and equipment for \$529,000. They plan to enter into a 15 year loan agreement with an annual debt payment of \$47,000. The Manager reported that the FY 2009-10 Budget includes \$37,500 for a down payment on the replacement of the engine in FY 2011. An additional \$9,500 is needed for the debt payment. Rosman Fire Rescue has indicated they would reduce their expenditures in FY 2011 to cover the additional expense. Rosman Fire Rescue is requesting that the Chairman sign a letter to United Financial of North Carolina, Inc. that states they are a qualified volunteer fire department and that the County has no objection to this transaction.

Rosman Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Terry Crowe said with the addition of the fire truck and other equipment, the department's debt load will increase to \$34 above their FY 2008-2009 debt load of \$103,864. The department does not anticipate any additional debt or a tax increase on their citizens. He also said that with some additional changes to the specifications, the fire truck will meet 99% of the department's needs and solve some issues that are somewhat unique to the department.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter to United Financial of North Carolina, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously approved.

Mr. Crowe noted the department had originally proposed a \$47,000 annual payment, but by paying \$11,500 per quarter instead the department will save \$12,000 over the life of the loan.

RESOLUTION 58-09 REQUEST TO ADD MORGAN DRIVE TO STATE MAINTAINED ROAD SYSTEM

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has received a petition from property owners of Little River Ranch Subdivision to add Morgan Drive to the NCDOT State road system. In order for the NCDOT to move forward, Commissioners must approve a resolution asking the NCDOT to review Morgan Road and take over the road maintenance if it meets established standards and criteria.

Commissioner Hawkins moved to approve Resolution 58-09 Request to Add Morgan Drive to State Maintained Road System, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

(Resolution 58-09 Request to Add Morgan Drive to State Maintained Road System is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.)

REFUND OF EXCISE TAX

The Manager reported that an attorney paid the wrong amount of excise tax on a deed recorded on November 16, 2009. When the error was discovered, a second check was written to the Register of Deeds on November 24, 2009 for the correct amount. Per NCGS 105-228.37 the refund must be approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Phillips moved to authorize a refund in Excise Tax to Henson & Black, PLLC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Commissioner Hogsed offered an amendment to the motion asking that staff send a letter of apology to the attorney's office for the error. Commissioner Bullock seconded the motion to amend. The Manager said the error was made by the attorney, not by County staff. Commissioner Hogsed withdrew his motion to amend the main motion. The main motion was unanimously approved.

POSITION REALLOCATION REQUEST SOCIAL SERVICES

With a recent retirement and a vacant Program Manager Position, Stoney Blevins, Social Services Director, has requested to replace a Program Manager Position (IMC II) with two new front line positions. These positions would be a Child Support Agent 1 and an Income Maintenance Caseworker II position. With the downturn in the economy, Food and Nutrition Service caseloads have increased dramatically (23%) over the past year. In addition, both in Transylvania County and across the state, Family Medicaid cases are rising as well. Currently the Child Support Supervisor carries a direct caseload. By adding a Child Support Agent position, the supervisor can be freed up to provide more leadership capacity across the agency. With no foreseeable major upturn in available employment for citizens over the next calendar year, the Manager said it is imperative to move resources where they are most needed. The annual cost difference between adding two front line positions and deleting the Program Manager position is \$3,032; however, this will essentially be offset by the difference in pay when replacing a recent retirement.

Chairman Chappell moved to approve the deletion of the Program Manager position and the addition of a Child Support Agent I position and Income Maintenance Case Worker II position and no budget changes to the FY 2011 Budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and unanimously approved.

ADDITIONAL FLU VACCINE TO THE FREE CLINIC

Health Director Steve Smith has requested to provide an additional 100 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine to the Free Clinic. The additional provisions of vaccine will have a minimal impact on the County's projected revenues and can be offset through other revenues.

Commissioner Hawkins moved to approve 100 additional doses of seasonal flu vaccine to be given to the Free Clinic, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager reported the following:

• Reminded Commissioners of the Special Joint Meeting with the Transylvania County Planning Board at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 in the Community Services Building Conference Room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Bullock said he has received some phone calls from concerned citizens asking why the County is drilling a well at the Calvert site. The Manager said no well drilling has taken place on the property. There are two existing wells on the property and staff is working to determine the condition of those wells and whether or not they are usable.

Chairman Chappell moved to enter into Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the performance evaluations of the County Manager and Tax Administrator, after a 5 minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the performance evaluations of the County Manager and Tax Administrator, closed session was entered into at 9:35 p.m. Present were Chairman Chappell, Commissioners Bullock, Hawkins, Hogsed and Phillips, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Commissioners met to discuss and evaluate the performance of the County Manager and Tax Administrator and instructed the Chairman on how to proceed.

Chairman Chappell moved to leave Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

Chairman Chappell moved to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Jason R. Chappell, Chairman Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Trisha M. Hogan Clerk to the Board