

MINUTES
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 4, 2014 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Transylvania County met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rogow Room at the Transylvania County Library. The meeting was rescheduled from August 11, 2014.

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 Transylvania Times* – Jeremiah Reed
WLOS News
WSQL Radio

There were approximately 220 people in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Hawkins presiding called the meeting to order at 7:07 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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

The Manager requested to move Item X.D Resolution Calling for an Alcoholic Beverage Election to the beginning of the meeting after the Public Comment period. He also requested to remove Item VIII.A Social Services Board under Appointments and delay this item to the next meeting.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public comment period was extended to allow citizens an opportunity to speak on the item dealing with the alcohol referendum.

Larry Wilson: Mr. Wilson pleaded with those supporting the alcohol referendum to reconsider their stance based on a personal story he shared about his family being affected by alcohol. He said the dangers of alcohol are hard to comprehend and County alcohol sales will do nothing to improve anyone's situation. Mr. Wilson urged Commissioners to vote against the referendum.

Stanley Owen: Mr. Owen asked Commissioners to act in their manner as a representative government and vote against allowing the referendum for alcohol sales. He believes alcohol is a sin and Commissioners should be held responsible for the decline of the County. He also believes domestic violence and child abuse and even worse cases will increase as a result of more alcohol being consumed.

Gayla Phillips: Ms. Phillips is a native of Transylvania County. She spoke on behalf of her young grandchildren and their future and what the County may look like if County alcohol sales are allowed. She believes if passed more people's lives will be in danger and that it will take more tax dollars to deal with the ramifications of alcohol, i.e. law enforcement, etc. Ms. Phillips begged Commissioners to vote against the referendum and stand up for families and children over money.

Tommy Morrow: Tommy Morrow, Pastor of Rosman Baptist Tabernacle, shared a personal story about how alcohol negatively affected his family and tragically affected personal friends. He said as a pastor he deals with family issues that most people do not normally witness. Pastor Morrow said alcohol is not going to benefit this County or families living here and people should turn toward their faith to help them get them through life. He closed by saying it is time for this County to say no to alcohol period.

Kelvin Phillips: Mr. Phillips spoke out against the alcohol referendum. He believes the issue of alcohol sales is a moral issue and one that can be harmful and potentially deadly. He recalled several people he knew over the course of his life that lost their lives to alcohol. He has also experienced property damage due to alcohol. Mr. Phillips believes making alcohol more accessible will only increase these problems. He begged Commissioners not to put this forth to a referendum and to look for other ways to help businesses who say their business is suffering due to not being able to sell alcohol.

Lori Swank: Ms. Swank spoke about the Transylvania Natural Resource Council's request for funding for their water conference. She is concerned the County will be endorsing a conference that will not be fair and balanced and will only go toward supporting Agenda 21 and the decline of private property rights.

Jim Lorenz: Mr. Lorenz owns the Sapphire Country Store and has operated it for almost 20 years. He feels the use of alcohol is a personal decision and it is unfortunate that some have problems with alcohol. He said there are stores and restaurants near his store that are able to sell alcohol but he cannot because of the law. He is a retailer and in business to make money. Mr. Lorenz said this is a fairness issue and allowing a couple of additional stores in the County to sell alcohol is not going to change the face of the County. Mr. Lorenz asked Commissioners to give the people the constitutional right to vote on this issue.

Jim Meyer: Mr. Meyer gave a brief history about why he decided to move to Transylvania County. He believes increased alcohol sales in the County will cause the need for additional public safety officers and will make these mountain roads even more dangerous to travel on. He also reminded Commissioners that our system of government is a constitutional republic, not a democracy, and citizens must look to their elected officials for protection of personal rights.

Pastor Randy Barton: Pastor Barton said he learned Commissioners would be discussing the issue of alcohol sales at the same time that he heard about local law enforcement officers dealing with alcohol related fights at local establishments as a result of too much alcohol and also about the death of a teenager who was killed in a drunk driving related accident. He believes alcohol has divided the County. Pastor Barton urged Commissioners to vote against the referendum and not allow this County to be further liberalized.

Ken Johnson: Mr. Johnson said while he understands many people are responsible users of alcohol, many are not. He has seen firsthand the dangers of alcohol and he does not want to see the County further deteriorate with higher crime rates and other negative effects of alcohol use. Mr. Johnson also does not believe additional alcohol sales will contribute to economic growth and he urged Commissioners not to allow this to go forward to a vote.

Bryan Grosvenor: Mr. Grosvenor is the owner of Key Falls Inn. He believes alcohol sales would increase the success of his business and that he should be able to conduct business in the same way as other

businesses. While he does not expect to change the minds of others in this room tonight, he hopes Commissioners will vote to allow a referendum to allow the people to decide on whether or not they want alcohol sales in the County. Mr. Grosvenor said he would be satisfied with the outcome of the vote no matter if it is for or against.

Karen Wolf: Ms. Wolf is the owner of Cedar Mountain Quick Stop. She believes it is unfair that nearby businesses and country clubs are able to sell alcohol while she cannot. She also thinks it is unfair that people must drive several miles from Cedar Mountain to Brevard if they wish to purchase alcohol. She asked Commissioners to give citizens the right to vote on this issue and pointed out this is the first time since 1949 that the County has had the opportunity to vote on beer and wine sales.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ELECTION

The Manager reported that over the last year several business owners have expressed a desire for the Board of Commissioners to allow a referendum on the sale of alcohol in the County. Currently only resort areas and satellite annexed areas can sell alcoholic beverages. The last alcoholic beverage election was held in 1949. North Carolina General Statute 18B-601 and 602 allow a referendum to be called by the Board of County Commissioners or the City Council on the following

1. Malt beverages, NCGS 18B-602 (a) (1), (a) (2), (a) (3), and (a) (4)
2. Unfortified wines, NCGS 18B-602 (d) (1), (d) (2), and (d) (3)
3. ABC Store, NCGS 18B-602 (g)
4. Mixed beverages, NCGS 18B-602 (h)

A malt beverage is defined as beer, lager, malt liquor, ale, porter, or any other brewed or fermented beverage except wine, containing at least one half of 1% and not more than 15% of alcohol by volume. A malt beverage election would ask for or against: 1) to permit the “on-premises” and “off-premises” sale of malt beverages, 2) to permit the “on-premises” sale only of malt beverages, 3) to permit the “off-premises” sale only of malt beverages, and 4) to permit the “on-premises” sale of malt beverages by Class A hotels, motels, and restaurants only; and to permit “off-premises: sales by other permittees.

Unfortified wine is defined as any wine of 16% or less alcohol by volume. An unfortified wine election would ask for or against: 1)) to permit the “on-premises” and “off-premises” sale of unfortified wine, 2) to permit the “on-premises” sale only of unfortified wine, and 3) to permit the “off-premises” sale only of unfortified wine.

Another item to consider is to permit or not permit the operation of ABC Stores. The last item for the Board to consider is to permit or not permit the sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theatres, and convention centers.

Commissioners can choose all, some or none of these items to put forth on a referendum.

There are two ways for this to be brought forth to a vote of the people. The first is by approval of the Board of Commissioners. The other is for a group of people to get a petition of 35% of the voters. Time is of the essence and should this be put on the ballot it must be approved prior to August 11.

Commissioner Lemel moved for approval of a resolution calling for an election of the sale of malt beverages and unfortified wines. Commissioner Lemel said she has not heard any requests for an ABC Store or the desire to sell mixed beverages so she is not supportive of moving in that direction. **The motion was seconded by Chairman Hawkins.** Board of Elections Director Karen Brinson pointed out

that in order for this to be placed on the ballot, the motion must be specific as to what Commissioners want to be placed on the ballot. **Commissioner Lemel amended her motion to call for an election for the sale of malt beverages under NCGS 18B-602 (a) (1), (a) (2), (a) (3), and (a) (4) and unfortified wines under NCGS 18B-602 (d) (1), (d) (2), and (d) (3). Chairman Hawkins seconded the amended motion.**

Commissioner Chapman thanked everyone for their comments tonight. He believes this issue needs to go to a vote of the people and it is about fairness to both business owners and people in the County. The law is written to allow the people to have a say so in this matter. Commissioner Hogsed said the people have spoken here tonight that they do not want this on the ballot. While he understands business owners want to be treated the same as other businesses; he said that cannot happen because businesses within City limits already have to adhere to stricter regulations than most County businesses. Furthermore, if it is the will of the people for this item to be placed on the ballot for a vote, then the people would have been able to get the necessary signatures on a petition as required by law. Commissioner Hogsed does not believe this is good for Transylvania County and he will not support it. Commissioner Chappell said his vote will be based on his faith and convictions and what he feels is best for the citizens of Transylvania County. He also believes if there was overwhelming support for this by the people that the petition process would have been successful. He is taking a stance against this election because he does not believe the sale of alcoholic beverages is good for Transylvania County. Commissioner Lemel said she feels a great burden to make the best decisions for the citizens of the County. On this issue she does not feel she should make this decision for the citizens because it is a moral and personal decision and she hopes citizens will exercise their right to vote and let every citizen weigh in on this subject; therefore she is in favor of moving forward with the referendum. Chairman Hawkins understands this is a divisive issue, but said alcohol is a legal product and right now there are different rules for different businesses. He believes this is an issue of fairness and he supports asking citizens to vote on whether or not they want it. He said he has faith in the voters of Transylvania County and given full information they will make the right decision. Commissioner Hogsed added that by moving forward with a referendum this Board will be bypassing a method in which people can actually petition the government for a referendum for what they want. He said unfortunately one Commissioner will cast the deciding vote here tonight to authorize a referendum instead of allowing the petition process to occur. Commissioner Chapman said people are making the assumption this is going to pass and they seem to be making the assumption that citizens cannot make responsible decisions for themselves. He said the people will speak in November which is the right they have been granted by those who fought for that right. He encouraged those in attendance to present their case to the people of this community, either for or against. **The amended motion and main motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.**

(Resolution 27-2014 Requesting the Board of Elections of Transylvania County to Hold an Alcoholic Beverage Election is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.)

Chairman Hawkins moved to enter into closed session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (5) to establish or instruct staff concerning the negotiation of the amount of compensation or other terms of an employment contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (5) to establish or instruct staff concerning the negotiation of the amount of compensation or other others of an employment contract, closed session was entered into at 8:32 p.m. Present were Chairman Hawkins, Commissioners Chapman, Chappell, Hogsed and Lemel, County Manager Artie Wilson, County Attorney Tony Dalton, Human Resources Director Sheila Cozart, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Commissioners met in closed session to agree on the final parameters of a contract to offer their candidate of choice to become the new County Manager upon the retirement of current Manager Artie Wilson. They were all in agreement and intend to make the announcement to the public when they leave closed session.

Commissioner Lemel moved to leave closed session, seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION/NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNTY MANAGER

Commissioner Chapman moved to approve the terms of a contract as presented and appoint Ms. Jaime Laughter as the new Transylvania County Manager effective October 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel. Commissioner Chapman stated that the manager search process has produced an excellent candidate. He believes Ms. Laughter will be an asset to the County and he welcomes her with open arms. Commissioner Lemel said the County will benefit by her being here because she understands mountain values and is familiar with Transylvania County. She has accomplished a lot during her time in Mills River and she embodies everything this Board has talked about wanting Transylvania County to be. She is thrilled Ms. Laughter is joining the staff here in Transylvania County as its County Manager. Commissioner Chappell believes Ms. Laughter is a good fit for Transylvania County. She has an excellent background and a familiarity and love of this community. She also has a fantastic work ethic and is known by her peers regionally. Commissioner Hogsed said she was by far the most outstanding candidate and she brings a lot to the table already having such familiarity with the region. She also brings her contacts through successful economic development efforts to the County from Mills River. Chairman Hawkins stated that Ms. Laughter was a top candidate from the beginning of the search process. She has the ability to break down barriers and bring people together. She has all the good qualities a good leader must have. He has the utmost confidence in her ability to lead the County. Chairman Hawkins thanked Commissioners for going through this process and others who assisted as well. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

The Manager welcomed Ms. Laughter in her role as new County Manager. He stated the County is fortunate to have her and he knows she will do a great job.

Ms. Laughter addressed Commissioners and the members of the public and stated that she very much looks forward to being the new Transylvania County Manager. She thanked Commissioners for their confidence in her. She also thanked Commissioners for their dedication to Transylvania County. She hopes to continue the legacy left by Manager Wilson. Ms. Laughter said she looks forward to serving in her role. She thanked Commissioners and everyone for the warm welcome and expressed excitement about her new role.

Chairman Hawkins moved for a 15 minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously carried. During the recess, those in attendance got an opportunity to meet Ms. Laughter and enjoy light refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed and unanimously approved.

The following items were approved:

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 12, 2014 regular meeting were approved.

DISCOVERY, RELEASE AND MONTHLY SETTLEMENT REPORT

The Discovery, Release and Monthly Settlement Report for July 2014 was approved. Total tax dollars released was \$2,659.54. Refunds totaled \$1,109.30.

PROCLAMATION – JOB CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

This year is the 50th Anniversary of Job Corps. Center Director Tammy Wentland has requested a proclamation from both Brevard City Council and the Board of Commissioners expressing support for designation of the week of August 18-22, 2014 as "Celebrate Job Corps 50 Week". The Pisgah Forest Job Corps will be celebrating the week of August 18 with an open house, graduation ceremony, and other events. The main celebration will occur on August 22 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Administration Building. From 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. there will be a tree planting dedication, a speech by Dr. Schenck (impersonator), an appearance by Smokey the Bear, and the local media and other guests will be in attendance as well. Open house tours will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by a buffet luncheon and a graduation ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Commissioners approved Proclamation 28-2014 Job Corps 50th Anniversary expressing support for designation of August 18-22, 2014 as "Celebrate Job Corps 50 Week".

(Proclamation 28-2014 Job Corps 50th Anniversary is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.)

OLD BUSINESSREQUEST FROM TRANSYLVANIA NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL

As a follow up to the workshop "Balancing Nature and Commerce in Transylvania County", the Transylvania Natural Resources Council (TNRC) has scheduled a workshop to discuss water. The purpose of the conference is to develop a common understanding of water rights and responsibilities of the current and future economic impact of the County's water resources and consider how best to safeguard these resources. The TNRC estimates the total cost of the conference to range between \$8,000 and \$10,000. The Pisgah Group of the Sierra Club has contributed \$1,000 and the TNRC is seeking other pledges. The TNRC is requesting the County contribute \$4,000 toward this conference.

This item was considered at the July 28, 2014 Board of Commissioners' meeting but failed by a 2-2 vote. Chairman Hawkins was out of the country and unable to attend that meeting.

There were citizens in the audience who requested to speak during this item.

Charles Blunt: Mr. Blunt said he does not trust the intentions of the conference; however, if it is allowed to go forward, he respectfully requested there be some conservative voices on the panel.

Don Surette: Mr. Surette is involved with planning the conference. He said the mission of the TNRC is to educate the public on the County's natural resources and this conference intends to do just that. It will be a full day conference that is open to the public. There will be a panel of speakers to discuss different aspects of water issues. He hopes Commissioners will support the conference. He noted that it does cost money to host such an event and the TNRC is seeking funds from several sources, both public and private.

Eric Caldwell: Mr. Caldwell is the County's Extension Director. He said the conference is intended to be strictly educational and there will be discussions about policy already in place. He pointed out that water

has always been important in this County but there is information about water supply and water sheds that everyone needs to have an understanding about.

Susan Brown: Ms. Brown is the Chair of the TNRC. She reminded Commissioners that last year the TNRC gave a report to the Board based on survey results that involved various aspects of the local economy. Water was one of the main topics of interest because it is important to business and land owners. She said the conference will involve a very large representation of citizens, including experts on this subject. The intent of the conference is for education purposes.

After the conference, the TNRC plans to continue its education efforts within the community. This conference is meant to begin the process.

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve the \$4,000 request from the Transylvania Natural Resources Council to go towards the "Whose Water Is It Anyway" Conference scheduled for November 15, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Commissioner Lemel said she finds this to be an extremely important conference given all the focus there is on water right now. She is particularly interested in helping citizens understand the laws that are already on the books and how those laws impact their personal property rights. She expressed full support of the conference. Commissioner Chappell said he still has concerns about spending \$4,000 in taxpayer dollars for marketing and food. Commissioner Hogsed asked if a conservative voice or expert would be able to participate in the panel discussions if Mr. Blunt were to get someone here from a particular organization. Ms. Brown explained the format of the conference and she feels everyone will be able to engage with other speakers. Chairman Hawkins noted the importance of all citizens being engaged in water discussions. He said water is a remarkable asset and the community needs to be educated. He thinks it is worth allocating the money because the educational component is so important. **The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioners Chappell and Hogsed voting against.**

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ESTABLISHING A JOINT PARKS AND RECREATION STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE

The Manager reported that last year when Commissioners began their strategic planning process recreation was one of the key items of discussion. The FY 2015 budget included funds for the development of a Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan. Parks and Recreation Director Carleen Hanscom has been working with the City of Brevard to begin the process of a joint study. She and City Planning Director Josh Freeman jointly drafted a resolution for consideration by Commissioners and City Council. Ms. Hanscom said the committee will begin to meet soon. She asked the Board of Commissioners to appoint a Commissioner to serve on the Joint Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning Task Force. The appointment can be made at their next meeting. She pointed out the goal of the task force will be to complete their assignment by the end of the fiscal year.

Commissioner Lemel moved to approve Resolution 26-2014 Establishing a Joint Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning Task Force for Transylvania County and the City of Brevard, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell. Commissioner Chapman asked if the makeup of the committee is open to discussion. Ms. Hanscom replied yes and noted there will be others involved in the planning process other than the task force members. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

(Resolution 26-2014 Establishing a Joint Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning Task Force for Transylvania County and the City of Brevard is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.)

POSITION REQUEST IN SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has been working on a new integrated computer system for a couple of years. There have been several issues with the new system which has resulted in a significant demand on staff. In the next few months, Medicaid, the largest public assistance program, will be added to NC FAST. Currently the Income Maintenance Lead Worker handles welfare fraud cases and serves as the troubleshooter for NC FAST issues. The issues with this program are becoming more than one person can handle. With the full implementation of Medicaid, the task will be impossible. Potential delays in medical coverage stand to negatively impact citizens much more than the delays with the food stamp program.

Social Services Director Stoney Blevins is requesting an additional position to help his department work through the many issues expected with the addition of Medicaid to the NC FAST system, thus allowing timely service of these programs to the citizens of Transylvania County. He said this was unforeseen, otherwise he would have requested the position during the budget. The cost of the additional position on an annual basis is \$49,132. There will be a onetime cost of \$2,150 for a computer and software. The County is expecting at least 50% reimbursement from the State, possibly 75%.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Blevins for his work in this area. They feel Transylvania County is much better off than other counties and they fully supported his request. Commissioners asked Mr. Blevins to continue providing updates to the Board.

Commissioner Hogsed moved to authorize the addition of an Income Maintenance Lead Worker position, at a cost of \$43,093 for FY 2015 with funds to come from the General Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Mr. Blevins said he intends to fill this position by promoting from within the department. Commissioners commended Mr. Blevins for being such a strong advocate for Transylvania County. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

FUNDS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (EDO)

The Board of Commissioners agreed to move forward with the establishment of an 11-member Board of Directors for a new Economic Development Organization (EDO) that will be responsible for the oversight of economic development in the County. The new EDO Board of Directors is requesting up to \$30,000 in funds be made available to them to hire a consulting firm to help identify candidates for the executive director position and help facilitate the EDO as it develops its organizational structure. The FY 2015 Budget includes \$500,000 in funds for economic development purposes. If approved, the funds being requested would come from this budgeted item.

Commissioner Lemel moved to authorize the use of \$30,000 in Economic Development Funds to go towards the hiring of a consulting firm to help identify candidates for the Executive Director position for the EDO and help facilitate discussion as the EDO develops its organizational structure. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hogsed. Commissioner Chapman noted one of the key parts of this process is the development of a job description. The Manager agreed and added that these funds will help facilitate the search process as well. Commissioner Chappell said he is hesitant to move forward when the Board of Commissioners has yet to give direction and expectations to the EDO. The Manager said the organizational structure of the EDO remains undetermined. The EDO needs help to develop the organizational structure. These funds could go toward hiring someone to help facilitate that process. He believes the expectations and direction from this Board would come in the form of a contract with the EDO. The EDO does not have funding at this time because the Transylvania Partnership has not yet decided on its future. Chairman Hawkins pointed out that these funds are left over from funds not used by the Independent Economic Development Task Force. He agreed with Commissioner Chappell's concerns. Transylvania County is the customer so until the County conveys to them what the County wants it is hard to get into much detail, but he believes they can move forward with

determining an organizational structure. The Manager pointed out that most of the EDO members have full time jobs so they need someone to help them bring the organization together and help perform these tasks. Then the Board of Commissioners can schedule a meeting with the EDO to discuss the desired outcomes of the organization and a contract can be agreed upon for funding the organization as well. Commissioner Chapman commented that the success of the organization depends on the quality of the leader. He agreed with Commissioner Chappell that Commissioners need to know what they intend to ask for but he thinks the EDO is looking for a strong leader in economic development and finding the right person can help get this moving forward. **The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Chappell voting against.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike West: Mr. West said when people look to their government one of the things they look for is consistency and process. In terms of consistency, he said the last time there was a controversial issue, Commissioners listened to the people, but they did not do that tonight with regards to the alcohol referendum. With regards to process, this Board, serving in a republic form of government, abdicated its responsibility and put it back to the people. They have in a sense changed their form of government to a democracy and now every issue that comes before them should go to a vote of the people.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments from Commissioners.

Chairman Hawkins moved to enter into closed session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, after a 5-minute recess. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, closed session was entered into at 10:15 p.m. Present were Chairman Hawkins, Commissioners Chapman, Chappell, Hogsed and Lemel, County Manager Artie Wilson, Human Resources Director Sheila Cozart, Tax Administrator David Reid, Assistant Tax Administrator Annette Raines, County Attorney Tony Dalton and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

Commissioners discussed a personnel matter and directed staff on how to proceed.

Chairman Hawkins moved to leave closed session, seconded by Commissioner Lemel and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

Chairman Hawkins moved to seal the minutes of the closed session until such time that opening the minutes does not frustrate the purpose of the closed session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappell and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Chairman Hawkins 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