The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on this date, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Offices.

**PRESENT:** Susan Allen, Chairman
Ronnie Whetstine, Vice-Chair
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner
Doug Bridges, Commissioner
Brian Epley, County Manager
Tim Moore, County Attorney
Phyllis Nowlen, Clerk to the Board
Kerri Melton, Assistant County Manager
Chris Green, Tax Administrator
Elliot Engstrom, Deputy County Attorney
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
Perry Davis, Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Director
Lorie Poston, E-911Communications Director
Katie Swanson, Social Services Director
Ryan Wilmoth, Emergency Medical Services Director
Scott Bowman, Maintenance Director
Jason Falls, LeGrand Center Director
Marty Gold, Information Technology Director
Daryl Sando, Electronic Maintenance Director
Sandra Orvig, Shooting Range Director
Betsy Harnage, Register of Deeds

**ABSENT:** Deb Hardin, Commissioner

**CALL TO ORDER**
Chairman Allen called the meeting to order and Commissioner Whetstine provided the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Bridges made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board to, approve the agenda as presented.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Resolution Honoring Mayor Hoyle: Chairman Allen called Belwood Mayor Rodney Willis to the podium to speak about outgoing Belwood Mayor Debbie Hoyle. Mayor Willis spoke about the many accomplishments achieved under Mayor Hoyle's leadership which included improvements to the recreational facilities in Belwood, enhancements to the Belwood Community Center and restroom facilities in the gymnasium and the establishment of solid working partnerships with other organizations who serve Belwood citizens. Commissioners then presented Mayor Hoyle with a resolution honoring her service to the community. They each took turns congratulating Mayor Hoyle on her retirement and gave well wishes for her future endeavors.
Certified Entrepreneurial Communities Update: Chairman Allen called Steve Padgett, Director of the Small Business Center to the podium to give an update on the Certified Entrepreneurial Communities (CEC) Program. Mr. Padgett continues to see an increase in the number of referrals and applications to the Small Business Center. He attended several summits and conferences and continues to work with organizations such as the Isothermal Planning and Development Commission (IPDC) and local Community College Rural Alliances to help grow the CEC program. Mr. Padgett sees Cleveland County as an entrepreneurial magnet for small businesses around the area which in turn will help build the county’s workforce and economy. He thanked the Board for their support and enthusiasm for the CEC program. The Board thanked Mr. Padgett for his continued vision and dedication in making the CEC a growing success.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

Debra Carpenter, 740 Winn Road, Shelby – spoke about her concerns for the lack of nurses in the elementary schools. There are concerns among staff members in grade schools for students who have medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, seizures, etc. Teachers and staff are not trained medical personnel who can handle medical emergencies. Mrs. Carpenter thanked the Board for their attention and any support they can give to put nurses in all Cleveland County Schools.
CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Clerk to the Board included the Minutes from the February 4, 2020 regular meeting, in board members packets.

ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and passed unanimously by the Board to, approve the minutes as written.

MONTHLY MANAGER’S REPORT

- The 2020-2021 budget preparation is underway. Finance will begin meeting with individual departments beginning in February through the month of March.

- The County’s Central Collections department has collected slightly over $1.9mm in EMS revenues through January of this fiscal year. This is an increase of approx. $300k when compared to prior year.

- The County has collected $540k in investment income through the month of January. Through strategic cash flow planning and forecasting the County has recognized increase of approx. $130k in investment income when compared to prior year.

- The County is experiencing a slight decrease in Local Option Sales Tax of approximately $35k when compared to prior year. This anticipated decrease is primarily driven by increased values of the municipalities throughout the County using the Ad Valorem Distribution method.

- Foothills Public Shooting Complex is trending well this fiscal year collecting nearly $200k in revenue though January for an increase of $40k over prior year.

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<th>DEPT NAME TO</th>
<th>DEPT NAME FROM</th>
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<td>Contingency Transfer funds for removal of old leaking tower at Delta Springs EMS Base</td>
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<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>EMS</td>
<td>Contingency Transfer funds for removal of old leaking tower at Delta Springs EMS Base</td>
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<td>EMS</td>
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<td>Maintenance</td>
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<td>Capital Proj Gen</td>
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<td>-72</td>
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<td>Capital Proj Gen</td>
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<td>EMS</td>
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<td>EOT</td>
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<td>Board of Elections</td>
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<td>1/29/2020</td>
<td>Board of Elections</td>
<td>Contingency Transfer funds to cover purchase of employee health drugs</td>
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<td>Board of Elections</td>
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<td>1/29/2020</td>
<td>Board of Elections</td>
<td>Contingency Transfer funds to cover purchase of employee health drugs</td>
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<td>1/29/2020</td>
<td>Board of Elections</td>
<td>Contingency Transfer funds to cover purchase of employee health drugs</td>
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<td>Board of Elections</td>
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<td>Board of Elections</td>
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<td>1/29/2020</td>
<td>Board of Elections</td>
<td>Contingency Transfer funds to cover purchase of employee health drugs</td>
<td>$9,256</td>
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TAX COLLECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT

The Tax Collector provided Commissioners with the following detailed written report regarding taxes collected during January 2020.
TAX ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS

The Tax Assessor provided Commissioners with a detailed written report regarding tax abatements and supplements during January 2020. The monthly grand total of tax abatements was listed as ($11,786.93) and monthly grand total for tax supplements was listed as $31,308.36.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Bridges made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to approve the Abatements and Supplements as submitted by the Tax Assessor.

**TAX COLLECTOR: ORDER TO ADVERTISE**

Per North Carolina General Statute 105-369, uncollected taxes for the current year that are a lien on real property, must be advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the taxing unit. Upon receipt of the Tax Collector’s report in February, the governing body must order the Tax Collector to advertise the tax liens.
ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board, authorize the tax collector to, on or about March 15, 2020, advertise tax liens on real property that remain unpaid as of March 7, 2020. Advertisement shall be made in the manner provided by N.C.G.S. 105-369.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #037)

ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board to, approve the following budget amendment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Project Code</th>
<th>Department/Account Name</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
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<tr>
<td>010.422.4.409.00</td>
<td>45310-LSTA20</td>
<td>Travel &amp; Tourism/Local Revenues</td>
<td>$1,110.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>010.422.5.510.00</td>
<td>45310-LSTA220</td>
<td>Travel &amp; Tourism/Events</td>
<td>$1,110.00</td>
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</table>

Explanation of Revisions: Budget allocation for $1,110.00 in funds received from the Cleveland County Chamber to offset expenses associated with the Livermush Festival & the Little Miss Livermush Pageant.

LIBRARY: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #038)

ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board to, approve the following budget amendment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Project Code</th>
<th>Department/Account Name</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
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<tr>
<td>010.611.4.310.00</td>
<td>45310-LSTA20</td>
<td>Library/Federal Govt Grants</td>
<td>$1,111.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>010.611.5.310.00</td>
<td>45310-LSTA220</td>
<td>Library/Travel-Training</td>
<td>$1,111.00</td>
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</table>

Explanation of Revisions: Budget allocation for $1,111.00 in grant funds received from the State Library of North Carolina. The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources funds will help pay for the Evergreen Conference which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #039)

ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board to, approve the following budget amendment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Project Code</th>
<th>Department/Account Name</th>
<th>Increase</th>
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<td>012.533.4.350.85</td>
<td>45310-LSTA20</td>
<td>Adult Health/State Govt Grants-BCCCP Scr</td>
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<td>012.533.5.490.00</td>
<td>45310-LSTA220</td>
<td>Adult Health/Professional Services</td>
<td>$4,875.00</td>
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</table>

Explanation of Revisions: Budget allocation for $4,875.00 in funds received from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) for additional Breast and Cervical Cancer Screenings. The state funds are to increase the screening targets for North Carolina Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program enrolled women. These funds will cover diagnostic testing provided by outside providers.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #040)

ACTION: Commissioner Bridges made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board to, approve the following budget amendment:

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<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Project Code</th>
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<td>012.539.5.132.00</td>
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<td>45310-LSTA220</td>
<td>Adult Health/State Travel-Training</td>
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</table>

Explanation of Revisions: Budget allocation for $2,011.32 in funds received from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety in reimbursement for Haley Bowman’s Salary/Fringe and travel expenses for deployment to a Columbus County Shelter during Hurricane Florence.
**SHERIFFS OFFICE: CANINE RETIREMENT**

Request to remove K-9 Shaw (county ID# 201389) from the K-9 program. Shaw, a six-year-old female bloodhound has been service with the Cleveland County Sheriff’s Office since 2017. The Sheriff’s Office is requesting to remove K-9 Shaw from county insurance and inventory and assign her to Deputy Kirk Smith who has offered to provide a good home and care for her for the remainder of her life. Deputy Smith assumes complete custody, control and liability of the canine.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Bridges made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve the request to retire K-9 Shaw from active service and assign to handler Deputy Kirk Smith.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**WASHINGTON OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Chairman Allen recognized Francis Webber, Executive Director of Washington Outreach Ministry, to update the Board on recent events and expansions at Washington Outreach Ministry (WOM). Mrs. Webber reviewed the following PowerPoint to Commissioners.
FROM BASEMENT TO 3,000 Square Ft. Building

Washington Outreach Ministry, Inc. (WOM)

- Partners with Feeding America and Second Harvest Food Bank of the Metrolina.
- Receives 55 pallets stacked two high on an eighteen-wheel trailer delivery from Charlotte, North Carolina to be shared with ten other partners.
- Receives two/two trucks weekly from Second Harvest Food Banks.
- NIng pickup items from Walmart and Food Lion weekly.
- Largest Emergency Food Pantry in Cleveland County.

OLD FACILITY CLIENTS - SHOPPING

Washington Outreach Ministry, Inc. (WOM)

- Serves 15,000 clients monthly through the Emergency Food Pantry.
- Allows clients to shop bi-monthly and as needed through the Food Pantry.
- Food Ministry partners with fifteen other faith based agencies to serve additional Cleveland County and surrounding clients.
- Provides a weekly Soup Kitchen/Meals-on-Wheels.
- Provides food in backpacks for individual students to take home over the weekend through our Backpack Ministry. Summer Feeding for youth.

NEW FACILITY - 8,500 Sq. Ft. March-2019
Board members thanked Mrs. Webber for the information and they thanked the volunteers who were in attendance for their hard work and determination to ensure the Washington Outreach Ministry is a growing success and the needs of those in the County are met.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT: TEXT AMENDMENT 19-12: RV PARK ORDINANCE

Chairman Allen called Chris Martin, Senior Planner, to the podium to present Text Amendment 19-12: RV Park Ordinance. RV Parks are currently permitted in the Rural Agricultural and Residential districts of the county with a Conditional Use Permit, in the General Business district and Corridor Protection overlay with a zoning permit, however, there are currently no standards in place for the development of these parks. There have been eight applications submitted for RV parks this year alone compared to only two applications for the previous two years. Due to the rise in applications for RV park permits, there has been a significant increase in comments and concerns from citizens to the Commissioners, Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment regarding these parks. As a result, the Board of Commissioners has asked staff and the Planning Board to create an ordinance to regulate and have standards to guide the orderly development of RV parks in Cleveland County. North Carolina General Statutes allow counties to have reasonable standards for development. Reasonable standards can include density, minimum acreage, landscape screening and setbacks. Staff has worked with the Planning Board and Emergency Management in drafting the ordinance. Ordinances from other counties were also reviewed. The purpose of the new ordinance is for new RV Parks to be compatible with their surrounding neighbors and to provide safety measures so that occupants within the RV Park can be reached during an emergency. The proposed ordinance, by the Planning Board, also addresses several standards including:

- Separation requirement between RV Parks
- 3-acre minimum lot size
- Density standards, 6 per acre and 3 per acre
- Setback requirements
- Size and spacing requirements for RV sites
- Landscape screening
- Access and road type requirements
- Conditional Use in Corridor Protection

and they recommend approving Text Amendment 19-12; RV Park Ordinance. Mr. Martin informed Commissioners the proposed ordinance is fluid and has a lot of moving parts. Staff is continuing to think through the ordinance and there are still several areas they want to evaluate which include:

- A maximum RV site size (acreage)
- The duration of occupancy. RV’s are not meant to be primary home dwellings.

Mr. Martin presented the following PowerPoint to Commissioners.
Recreational Vehicle Park Standards

Presentation to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners
February 18, 2020

Purpose

- Compatibility
  - Develop standards so that new RV parks are compatible with its surrounding area
- Safety
  - Standards will provide access for emergency services

Planning Board

- Reviewed in December and January
- Provides development standards so that compatibility is achieved while providing safety measures for occupants within the RV Park.
- Recommend Approval

Recereational Vehicle Parks

Section 12-20. – Definitions

Recreational vehicle (RV): A vehicle that is:

1. Built on a single axle;
2. Four hundred (400) square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
3. Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light-duty truck; and
4. Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but rather as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

Recreational vehicle park: A plot of land that is established or maintained for occupancy by recreational vehicles of the general public as temporary living quarters for recreation, vacation, or seasonal use.

Sec. 12-124. – Table of Permitted Uses

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<th>RM</th>
<th>NB</th>
<th>GB</th>
<th>CP</th>
<th>LI</th>
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<td>1</td>
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</table>

Sec. 12-161. – Recreational Vehicle Parks

A. The purpose of these regulations is to allow for the placement and growth of Recreational Vehicle Parks while maintaining the health, safety, and general welfare standards of established residential and commercial areas in Cleveland County.

B. Recreational Vehicle Parks shall be allowed pursuant to section 12-124 and are subject to the following standards:

1. No Recreational Vehicle Park shall exist on a single parcel that is less than three (3) acres in size.
2. New recreational vehicle parks shall be located at least one (1) mile from any existing recreational vehicle park.
3. Density
   - There shall be no more than six (6) recreational vehicle sites per acre within a single recreational vehicle park.
   - For Recreational Vehicle Parks within the Water supply overlay district, there shall be no more than three (3) recreational vehicle sites per one (1) acre.
Commissioner Hutchins expressed several of his concerns regarding RV parks which include the maximum amount of occupancy time, environmental health and emergency responder access into the RV sites. Commissioner Bridges stated a more defined explanation of duration occupation (temporary time) is needed in the ordinance. Other topics needing further attention include maximum site size, septic systems and occupancy taxes. Chairman Allen reminded the Board they asked staff and the Planning Board to draft a beginning plan to get an ordinance in place to help with the growing number of RV parks that are developing throughout the county. Commissioner Hutchins expressed his concerns of approving an ordinance that does not include all of the Commissioners concerns about RV parks such as environmental health and occupancy time. He suggested placing a thirty-day moratorium on RV permits to give staff and the Planning Board more time to develop a complete and thorough ordinance. Board members had an open discussion about the importance of implementation of an RV Park Ordinance.

Chairman Allen opened the Public Hearing at 6:58 pm for anyone wanting to speak for or against Text Amendment 19-12: RV Park Ordinance. (Legal Notice was published in the Shelby Star on Friday, February 7, 2020 and Friday, February 14, 2020).

Danny Blanton, 1827 Creekridge Road, Patterson Springs – spoke against Text Amendment 19-12; RV Park Ordinance. Mr. Blanton is currently in the process of developing an RV park on his property and feels the
public has not had enough time to review the proposed ordinance. He suggested the Board postpone their decision to give citizens more time to get informed about the RV Park ordinance.

Hearing no additional comments, Chairman Allen closed the Public Hearing at 7:03 pm.

Chairman Allen opened the floor to the Board for discussion and questions. Commissioner Hutchins asked Mr. Martin if the ordinance would affect just the county or would it include the municipalities as well. Mr. Martin advised, the ordinance would only pertain to citizens living in the county’s jurisdiction and not within the municipalities. He also reminded the Board the proposed ordinance would only affect development permits moving forward. It does not pertain to those applications that have already been submitted. The ordinance does have language that states developers must obtain environmental health permits to ensure proper procedures are being followed for septic tanks and waste disposal. Commissioner Whetstine expressed the importance of implementing the RV Park Ordinance so there are development standards in place. The ordinance can be modified/updated as needed later on. County Attorney Tim Moore advised the Board they do not have to take any action at this time; however, a moratorium cannot be issued as the proper statute guidelines have not been meet such as advertisement and a public hearing.

Commissioner Hutchins made a motion to table the RV Ordinance until the next Commissioners Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th to give Commissioners time to get more insight and input on the ordinance.

The motion died due to the lack of a second.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, and was adopted by the Board 3-1 (Commissioner Hutchins opposed), to approve Text Amendment 12-19: RV Park Ordinance.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Bridges – attended several political forums and events in the county. The First Lady of North Carolina recently visited Cleveland County.

Commissioner Hutchins – spoke about the Town Hall Department of Transportation (DOT) meeting held earlier today to talk about the re-opening of Airport Road. He also attended several board meetings in which he serves on.

Commissioner Whetstine – recently attended a tobacco and vaping forum and the healthcare foundation meeting held in Cleveland County.

Chairman Allen – also spoke about the Town Hall DOT meeting and the community boards she serves on.
**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Whetstine made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Chamber.**

__________________________
Susan Allen, Chairman
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners

_________________________
Phyllis Nowlen, Clerk to the Board
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners