The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 15th, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

**PRESENT:**

Jason Falls, Chairman  
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chairman  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Susan Allen, Commissioner  
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner  
Jeff Richardson, County Manager  
Henry Earle, County Clerk  
Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney  
Kerri Melton, Community Services Director  
Brian Epley, Finance Director  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director  
Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director  
Lorie Poston, Communications Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Falls called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Holbrook made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to adopt the agenda as presented by the County Clerk.
SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Commissioner Falls shared excitement over getting to recognize employee contributions. With the emphasis that Commissioners had put on education and being a competitive workplace for the future, it was time to reward those who had worked hard to get new degrees and take classes over the 2014-2015 fiscal year to enhance their skills and abilities. The Commissioners then honored the following individuals and departments:

- Kerri Melton: Local Government Fellows “Leading for Results” program at the UNC School of Government.
- Allison Mauney: Municipal and County Administration program at the UNC School of Government.
- Lorie Poston, Debi Harill, April Crotts: Leadership Cleveland County.
- Dayna Causby: Certified Elections/Registration Administrator Award.
- Tammy Mitchell: Master of Business Administration from Limestone College.
- Tammy Beam: Master of Counseling from Liberty University.
- Kerry Rice: Associate of Business Administration from Cleveland Community College.
- Perry Davis: Public Executive Leadership Academy from the UNC School of Government.
• Finance: Finance received the Government Finance Officers Association Award for Excellence in Financial Planning for the first time ever.
• Information Technology: The IT department completed a thorough audit of all Microsoft products installed since 1995.
• Local Government Federal Credit Union Excellence in Innovation Award: David Nicholson from the NCACC came to present the award to Allison Clark for the Sound the Alarm program, an initiative of the Department of Social Services aimed at raising awareness of child abuse in Cleveland County and beyond.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

VETERAN’S SERVICES: Chairman Falls called Debra Conn, director of Veteran’s services, to the podium. Mrs. Conn gave the Commissioners a presentation on the state of the Veteran’s Affairs office, highlighting the many activities they do throughout the year.

CEC PROGRAM: Chairman Falls called up Steve Padgett, director of the CEC program. Mr. Padgett spoke about the CEC program and how it is creating an atmosphere of small business friendliness to Cleveland County.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION
• Roland Allen: 2224 S. Lafayette Street in Shelby. Mr. Allen spoke about his concerns with solar farms and with the Commissioners discussing a text
amendment for solar farms he wanted to ensure that his concerns were heard.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to approve the following items:

**MINUTES:** There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the Minutes of the September 1st, 2015 regular meeting and were presented and approved as written.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION:** As of August 31st the tax office had collected 53.72% of taxes for fiscal year 2015-2016 year.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION:** For August 2015 abatements were in the amount of $22,504.12 and supplements in the amount of $12,065.85.

**SHERIFF’S OFFICE:** BNA #015

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget FY 16 NC Department of Agriculture Grant Funds for Pesticide Recycling

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** BNA #016

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Explanation of Revisions: Budgeting NC Humanities Council for Adult Programming Speakers Grant money for the “Let’s Talk About It” program.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BNA #017

Explanation of Revisions: Budgeting $1,897.00 for the Cleveland Cup contest.

PUBLIC HEARING
REZONING REQUEST NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS

CONDITIONAL DISTRICT (NBCU) TO RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL (RR) – 715 NALLEY DIVE: Chairman Falls called up Chris Martin, Zoning Administrator, to the podium. Mr. Martin informed the Commissioners that the owner, Richard Moore, was requesting to have his property rezoned back to restricted residential from Neighborhood Business Conditional Use. The property was originally intended to be developed as a recreational park but Mr. Moore stated that he had no intention to do so anymore and wished for it to be reverted. Section 12-324 allows recommendation from the planning board for reversion if construction of a project has not commenced.

The public hearing was opened at 6:53 and seeing no one speak, it was closed at 6:53.
ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that the property be rezoned to restricted residential from neighborhood business conditional use. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

CLEVELAND COUNTY JURY COMMISSION: Chairman Falls called on Henry Earle, Clerk to the Board. Mr. Earle stated that he had received a call from Mitzi Johnson, Clerk of Court, stating that it was time to make appointments for the Jury Commission. Mr. Earle said that Jeff Ames, the current commissioner appointment, had agreed to serve again if the Commissioners wished it and that he was the choice of the Clerk of Court as well.

ACTION: Commissioner Allen moved to reappoint Jeff Ames to the Jury Commission and it was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins. It was unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook moved that the Commissioners got into closed session via NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) to consider material terms on acquisition of real property. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.
While in session the Commissioners discussed with the County Manager and Assistant County Attorney regarding property that was being pursued by Cleveland County. Commissioners discussed the terms that were presented to them and came back into open session to vote on a purchase.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made a motion to come back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Holbrooke, and unanimously adopted by the Board.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to acquire the 5.88 acre property located at 706 Washburn Switch Road. It was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and unanimously approved by the Board.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**Commissioner Hawkins:** Commissioner Hawkins said that the county had failed to mention Andrea and that she was such a great asset to the county.

**Commissioner Allen:** Commissioner Allen enjoyed the 911 celebration that the City of Kings Mountain did.

**Commissioner Hutchins:** Lots of normal committee meetings over the last few weeks. Machine works has invited the Commissioners to tour their facility on October 2nd.

**Commissioner Holbrooke:** He wanted to thank everyone for making the tour of the gun range and health department go so well. Many big economic development
projects are underway so stay tuned and that Stuart Hair’s replacement should be brought forward soon.

County Manager Richardson:

**Commissioner Falls:** Commissioner Falls thanked Henry Earle for spearheading the Cleveland Cup, the first ever 5K event between Cleveland County, City of Shelby and City of Kings Mountain.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Falls entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Commissioner Holbrook, seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, October 6th, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Chambers.