The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 1st, 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
- Tim Moore, County Attorney
- Henry Earle, Clerk
- Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney
- Kerri Melton, Community Services Director
- Brian Epley, Finance Director
- Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
- Chris Green, Tax Administrator
- Dayna Causby, Elections Director
- Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

County Manager Jeff Richardson called the meeting to order and Community Services Director Kerri Melton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

**SELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR**

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook recognized the outstanding job that current Chairman Jason Falls did while being chair and nominated him to be the chair for 2016. It was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and unanimously adopted by the Board. *Commissioner Falls abstained from voting*

**SELECTION OF COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR**

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins recognized the outstanding job that current Vice-Chair Eddie Holbrook did and nominated him to be the vice chair for 2016. It was seconded by Chairman Falls and unanimously adopted by the Board. *Commissioner Holbrook abstained from voting*

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

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

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

- No one present

**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 November 17th, 2015 regular meeting were presented and approved as written.
**SHERIFF’S OFFICE**: The Sheriff’s Office requested to retire the service weapon for Major Gary Gold, who is retiring on December 31st, 2015. The service weapon to be removed from county inventory is a Glock, Model 30, .45, serial number SEE-191 and county asset number 200860.

**SHERIFF’S OFFICE**: BNA #032

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget funds from federal forfeiture to purchase a Chevrolet Tahoe for the K9 Division. This price will include tags, titles, siren, radio, lights, painting and lettering.

**SHERIFF’S OFFICE**: BNA #033

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget funds from the Dept of Justice Edward Byrne grant for the purchase of ammunition.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**: BNA #034

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget dental revenue for purchase of five x-ray machines and support software.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**FEDERAL LAND ACCESS PROGRAM: GATEWAY TRAIL PHASE 5**: Chairman Falls called Bill McCarter, Planning Director, to the podium. Mr. McCarter stated that the county had been awarded a grant for $500,000 from the federal government to complete the gateway trail phase 5 project. Mr. McCarter said after speaking with a consultant regarding fees and management charges, he surmised that the county could be left with $125K in extra expenses over top of the federal grant allotment. Mr. McCarter’s recommendation was for the Commissioners to deny the grant.

**ACTION**: Commissioner Hutchins moved to deny the grant award and it was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook. It was unanimously passed by the Board.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF TOBACCO POLICY STUDY COMMISSION**: Chairman Falls called on County Manager Jeff Richardson. Mr. Richardson stated that on October 13th, the Board of Health unanimously approved a request for the Commissioners to put together a tobacco policy study commission to look at tobacco policies for county owned buildings and campuses. The committee would be required to evaluate policies in Cleveland County and look at other municipalities and counties across the state. The committee would be required to come back at the 2nd meeting in January to give
recommendations to coincide with the opening of the new health and human services campus in February 2016. The committee’s composition would be the health director, social services director, human resources director and a public safety representative.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hawkins moved that the county manager be instructed to create the study commission and to have that commission come back to the board with recommendations at the 2nd January meeting. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**Commissioner Hawkins:** Has worked 27 years on the school board and with the County Commissioners and is thrilled to be a part of this current team, his favorite team, therefore he is happy to be running for a fifth term as Commissioner.

**Commissioner Allen:** Thanked everyone for their hard work and she is happy to be running for a second term.

**Commissioner Hutchins:** Echoed Commissioner Hawkins’ statement about being on the best board he’s ever served on and is happy to be filing for his third term as well.

**Commissioner Holbrook:** Busy calendar with lots of events and meetings and holiday parades coming up.

**County Manager Richardson:** The County will miss Major Gary Gold. He is a quiet leader who always gets the job done and will leave a strong legacy behind him.

**Commissioner Falls:** He is so happy to work with this Board because they find ways to get things done, and he is honored and humbled to serve at the chair once again.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Falls entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Hutchins, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners will be on Tuesday, December 15th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner’s Chamber.