Cleveland County Board of Commissioners
August 2, 2016

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 2nd at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

PRESENT:  
Jason Falls, Chairman  
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chair  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Susan Allen, Commissioner  
Jeff Richardson, County Manager  
Justin Brackett, Associate County Attorney  
Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney  
Henry Earle, Clerk to the Board  
Kerri Melton, Community Services Director  
Brian Epley, Finance Director  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director  
Chris Green, Tax Administrator  
Debi Harrill, Interim Register of Deeds  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director  
Bill McCarter, Planning Director  
Dorothea Wyant, Health Director  
Sam Lockridge, Foothills Shooting Range Administrator

ABSENT:  
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Jason Falls called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting. Commissioner Allen introduced her special guest, Essence Erving, who is the Youth of the Year for the Cleveland County Boys and Girls Club and will be attending the NCACC Youth Summit.

AGENDA ADOPTION

ACTION:  Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH 4-H:  Chairman Falls introduced Laurel Hanks, a Cleveland County student involved in 4-H. Ms. Hanks thanked Commissioners for the opportunity to speak and stated that she was present on behalf of 4-H and how it empowers students in Cleveland County. Ms. Hanks said that 4-H gives students resources and allows them to reach for more and become more than they would on their own. Students work really hard to succeed but the program has mentors who help the students get to do what they need to do to succeed. 4-H offers students the ability to travel to various camps and conferences and to connect with students from around the country and encounter other local 4-H programs, as well as state and national programs. Ms. Hanks ended her speech by asking Commissioners to continue their support of the program so that students like her can achieve more.

Commissioners each thanked Ms. Hanks for her words and congratulated her on all she achieved. They invited her, her father, and her mentor up to the podium and took pictures with her.
Commissioner Hutchins then asked Essence Erving come to the front and speak about the BEST program from Gardner-Webb. Ms. Erving stated that the program was designed to give students information and direction on being an entrepreneur, as well as creating skills within students. Ms. Erving took a picture with Commissioners.

**UPTOWN SHELBY ASSOCIATION UPDATE:** Chairman Falls introduced Audrey Whetten, Executive Director of the Uptown Shelby Association. Ms. Whetten thanked Commissioners for the opportunity to speak and introduced Fred Blackley, the Uptown Shelby Association president. Ms. Whetten stated that the mission of Uptown Shelby is to advocate, celebrate, and enhance Uptown Shelby. She stated that the public knows Uptown Shelby for its events but there are other items like marketing, grants, and business development. Uptown Shelby is using the Main Street Approach, which is design, economic vitality, promotion and organization. There are lots of events coming up through the year like Second Saturdays, Costume Crawl, Small Business Saturday, Carriage Rides and Seeds to Silverware. The 2017 NC Main Street Conference is scheduled to be held in Uptown Shelby March 14-16 and is expecting at least 500 registrants. Ms. Whetten ended by thanking the Commissioners for their emphasis on keeping the Court Square beautiful. She said it was a centerpiece and was vital to the success of Uptown Shelby. Commissioner Holbrook said that he often heard Ms. Whetten’s name when in discussion with business owners in Uptown Shelby and that everyone is impressed with her.

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

- No one registered to speak during citizen recognition.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MINUTES:** There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the Minutes of the July 19th, 2016 regular meeting were presented.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to adopt the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously adopted by the Board.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:** The first manager’s report of the 2016-2017 fiscal year was presented to Commissioners. Being the first month of the new fiscal year there were no budget transfers but it did include a year-end financial summary, including resource investment into strategic goal and focus areas as well as a financial snapshot at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to approve the Manager’s Report. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously adopted by the Board.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION:** The Tax Collector’s Settlement Report was presented, stating that 98.14% of taxes were collected for fiscal year 2015-2016.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to accept the Tax Collector’s report as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.
TAX ADMINISTRATION: The Tax Collector’s Office submitted the annual Order to Collect, asking Commissioners to grant authority to Cleveland County Tax Collector Necole Richard to collect taxes for fiscal year 2016-2017.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to approve the Tax Collector’s Order to Collect, granting Necole Richard the authority to collect taxes for fiscal year 2016-2017. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

PLANNING: The Planning Department requested that Commissioners set a public hearing date for September 6th, 2016, for Zoning Map Amendment Case 16-06 at 1608 Lithia Springs Road.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to set the public hearing for September 6th, 2016 for Zoning Map Amendment Case 16-06. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

SHERIFF’S OFFICE: BNA #002

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget donation for the purchase of K-9 vests.

ACTION: Commissioner Allen Hutchins moved to approve Budget Amendment #002. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BNA #003

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget DHHS Ebola Preparedness & Response funds for public awareness campaign of the Ebola and Zika viruses.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve Budget Amendment #003. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCE: BNA #004

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget revenue from the City of Shelby for the sale of Shell Building #2 at the Foothills Commerce Center. The majority of proceeds will be used to pay off the debt on the loan obtained from the NC Department of Commerce for construction and the remaining funds will be placed into the economic development fund.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve Budget Amendment #004 with the remaining fund balance appropriation to be placed in general economic development fund. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.
LIBRARY: BNA #005

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Explanation of Revisions: Budget LSTA-EZ Edge Technology Grant award funds from the State Library of NC to cover the purchase of 12 ipads and software applications.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve Budget Amendment #005. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

REGULAR AGENDA

ANIMAL CONTROL ENFORCEMENT INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CASAR: Chairman Falls invited Dorothea Wyant, Cleveland County Health Director, to the podium. Ms. Wyant stated that, on Tuesday, June 14th, Casar Mayor Eddie Walker came to the Board of Health meeting, asking Cleveland County Animal Control to enter into an Inter-local agreement with the Town of Casar for enforcement of the Animal Control ordinance. The Board of Health unanimously approved the inter-local agreement and was asking the Commissioners for their consideration.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to accept the inter-local agreement between the Town of Casar and Cleveland County Animal Control. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

MINIMUM HOUSING CODE VIOLATION AT 116 HIGHFIELD COURT: Chairman Falls invited Bill McCarter, Planning Director, to the podium. Mr. McCarter stated that this item was postponed at the July 19th, 2016 meeting due to the property owner wishing to be present. Mr. McCarter stated that the unit in question was a single wide trailer and the original complaint was in November of 2014. The property owner had asked for an extension originally but had not done work to the property.

Chairman Falls asked if anyone wanted to speak about the property. The property owner came to the podium and stated that he wanted to bring the property up to compliance.

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook made the motion to ask Mr. McCarter to meet with the property owner and to tell him what he needed to do to bring the property into compliance and to report to the Board in 30 days. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

CASH AND INVESTMENT POLICY: Chairman Falls invited Brian Epley, Finance Director, to the podium. Mr. Epley presented an update to the Cash and Investment Policy for Commissioners to consider.

Mr. Epley stated that the policy had not been updated since 1991 and will modernize the County’s cash and investment strategy. Updating the policy will help the County be more compliant and strong moving forward.
ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the updated Cash and Investment Policy. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

DESIGNATION OF DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICERS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES. Chairman Falls called Mr. Epley back to the podium. Mr. Epley stated that the Department of Social Services acts in a fiduciary manner for various clients that receive Social Security money but are unable to manage their own funds. It was time to update the policy via resolution that deputizes the Social Services Director, Assistant Director, and Operations Manager to allow them to have check writing authority for that account.

ACTION: Commissioner Allen moved to approve the resolution to reappoint the Director, Assistant Director, and Operations Manager as Deputy Finance Officers, having check signing authority over the social security accounts at Social Services. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Epley then introduced Langston Ramseur, the new budget analyst in the finance department. Mr. Ramseur is a native of Cleveland County and graduated with a Master of Public Administration from UNC Wilmington. Mr. Ramseur thanked the Board for their support and said he was glad to be back home and to be able to contribute to the betterment of Cleveland County.
RESOLUTION TO CANCEL THE AUGUST 16TH, 2016 REGULAR AGENDA MEETING:

Chairman Falls stated that the next Commissioner’s meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, August 16th, which was during the American Legion World Series. The Clerk presented a resolution to cancel the August 16th meeting, stating that the regular schedule would resume on Tuesday, September 6th.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the Resolution to cancel the August 16th, 2016 meeting. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously adopted by the Board.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Allen: Commissioner Allen thanked everyone for coming today and encouraged everyone to get involved civically in Cleveland County.

Commissioner Hutchins: Commissioner Hutchins stated that he and Bill McCarter had been busy with MPO projects and he hoped that the MPO was not going to be further regionalized. This would more than likely force them into a cohort with Mecklenburg County.

Commissioner Holbrook: Commissioner Holbrook said there would be a great video on military appreciation day of the World Series and he stated that there had been a tagline on ESPN promoting the World Series games.
County Manager Richardson: Mr. Richardson stated that he, the Health Director, and the Animal Control Director had been working hard over the last two weeks in trying to respond to the concerns the CARE group presented at the July 19th meeting.

Chairman Falls: Chairman Falls thanked the Commissioners for their hard work over the summer months and was looking forward to ALWS baseball. He felt it was the true kickoff to the school year.

**ADJOURN**

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