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:**
- Eddie Holbrook, Chairman
- Susan Allen, Vice-Chair
- Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner
- Ronnie Whetstine, Commissioner
- Doug Bridges, Commissioner
- Brian Epley, County Manager
- Tim Moore, County Attorney
- Phyllis Nowlen, Clerk to the Board
- Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
- Chris Green, Tax Administrator
- Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director/Fire Marshall
- Marty Gold, Information Technology Director
- Lorie Poston, E-911 Communications Director
- Betsy Harnage, Register of Deeds

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Holbrook called the meeting to order and Commissioner Bridges provided the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

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

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

Julie Waseman, Mountainside Drive, Kings Mountain – spoke about the County’s road paving assessment policy. Mrs. Waseman stated the new proposed policy will require 100% of the property owners abutting the road to sign the petition for the County to finance the cost of the road improvement. The current policy only requires 75% of the abutting property owners to sign the petition. N.C.G.S 153-205 states 75% of the abutting property owners must sign the petition for the road improvement and the North Carolina Administrative Code SR-19 requires at least 75% of the property owners to dedicate a right of way for road construction. Ms. Waseman concluded by stating the County’s current road paving policy, N.C.G.S 153-205 and North Carolina Administrative Code SR-19 have set a condition requiring only 75% of property owners to agree for road improvements and respectfully asked the Board proceed with the set precedence of requiring only 75% of the property owners to sign for the road paving assessment policy.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Clerk to the Board included the Minutes of the **June 5 and June 19, 2018 regular meetings**, in Board Members packets.
**ACTION:** Commissioner Allen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, and passed unanimously by the Board to, **approve the minutes as written.**

**TAX COLLECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT**

The Tax Collector provided Commissioners with the following detailed written report regarding taxes collected during *June 2018*.

**TAX ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS AND PENDING REFUNDS/RELEASES**

The Tax Assessor provided Commissioners with a detailed written report regarding tax abatements and supplements during *June 2018*. The monthly grand total of tax abatements was listed as ($0.00) and monthly grand total for tax supplements was listed as $98,229.64.
ACTION: Commissioner Allen made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, and unanimously adopted by the Board, \textit{to approve the Abatements and Supplements and Pending Refunds/Releases as submitted by the Tax Assessor.}

REGULAR AGENDA

\textbf{ROAD PAVING ASSESSMENT POLICY}

Chairman Holbrook recognized Senior Planner Chris Martin to present the Road Paving Assessment Policy. Mr. Martin stated staff has recently received several requests from County citizens for help to improve their private road. Private roads which were approved and recorded with the Register of Deeds after September 30, 1975 are not eligible for improvement by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). North Carolina General Statute §153A-205 allows counties to finance the cost of improvements by assessment of property owners. Private roads must be brought up to NCDOT standards for maintenance to become the responsibility of the NCDOT. Cleveland County has a policy in place regarding road assessments with a number of roads that have taken advantage of the County’s ability to finance however; it has been approximately ten years since the last project was approved and completed. Staff has revised the policy to bring it up to date due to recent citizen interest. Several recommendations are:

- A more descriptive policy and petition so the citizens have all the information concerning the requirements and project cost when they sign the petition.
- Require 100% of the land owners abutting the project to sign the petition.
- The cost of any project cannot exceed the assessed value of the properties abutting the project.
- The County will only manage one improvement project at a time. Should the county receive more than one petition, the Planning Board shall prioritize which project is to be completed first.

Chairman Holbrook opened the floor to the Board for any questions and discussion. Commissioner Whetstine stated he was troubled with the new policy requiring 100% of the abutting property owners to sign the petition and the completion of only one project at a time. This implementation would stretch the completion of the numerous roads out for many years. He added there are a number of roads that are in desperate need of repair now and feels the policy should be reviewed in more detail before the Board makes a decision. Commissioner Hutchins advised there are currently over twenty unpaved private roads, with most affecting subdivisions, in Cleveland County. This issue has been brought up several times during the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meetings to try and obtain assistance from the NCDOT to subsidize part of the costs, but with no avail. He continued by stating due to the number of roads that are needing repairs, the County cannot afford to finance all of them. Commissioner Hutchins advised the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) meets next month and during that conference the Association is asking for goals from the counties. He would like to submit a goal to the NCACC to ask for help from the NCDOT for funding the road paving projects.
RECOMMENDATION #6
FUNDING
“Fire Departments operating under the county service district as well as the fire departments operating under independent districts should have the same contract for service and the same auditing requirements should be applied equally to all. All funds collected by the County for fire protection should be treated equitably with regards to accountability.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board to, postpone a decision on the revised road paving assessment policy to a later date; the current policy and procedure is to remain in effect.

Direction was given to Mr. Martin to compose a resolution and bring back before the Board at the August 7, 2018 regular meeting, asking the NCDOT to start budgeting to pave the private roads.

FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTS
Chairman Holbrook recognized Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director/Fire Marshall to update the Board on the fire protection contracts. Strategic plan recommendation #6 states contracts should be updated to include auditing requirements for all volunteer fire department’s receiving county tax dollars. To complete the recommendation, all twelve volunteer fire departments have completed the signing of updated contracts to include the annual audit/testing requirements. Each of the twelve contracting departments currently operate under a contract that has no verbiage requiring them to submit financial data annually to ensure fiscal accountability. The updated contract now includes this language to requiring submittal of financial information for review each calendar year. The approval of the contracts would be in compliance with N.C.G.S. 55A-16-24, which gives local governments the authority to request financial records.

Chairman Holbrook opened the floor to the Board for any questions and discussion. The Board thanked Mr. Davis, the volunteer firefighters and chiefs for their hard work, dedication and service to the citizens of Cleveland County.
THANK YOU BOARD AND COUNTY MANAGEMENT!

On behalf of the fire service, thank you for your continued support of the strategic plan and the forward thinking to allow progression of our fire service, as other counties in the state have serious issues regarding recruitment and retention. Cleveland County currently is not faced with those same issues and continues to be able to maintain service delivery to our citizens.

QUESTIONS ???

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine and unanimously approved by the Board to, approve the fire protection contracts with all twelve volunteer fire departments.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

REGION C WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Whetstine, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to appoint Nick Wielbelhaus to serve as a member of this board, for a period of three-years, scheduled to conclude June 30, 2021.

SHOOTING RANGE ADVISORY BOARD

ACTION: Commissioner Allen made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, appoint Chip Camp to serve as a member of this board, to fill the unexpired term of Alan Norman, scheduled to conclude June 30, 2019.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Bridges – stated the Archery Team from Pinnacle Classical Academy placed second in the National Archery Team competition that was held in Illinois. He also updated the Board on the progress of the airport renovations and expansion project.

Commissioner Whetstine – spoke about the upcoming banquet honoring women in the community that will be hosted by the Commission for Women. Carson Brown, a junior at Burns High School, has qualified to attend the 70th Anniversary National High School Rodeo that will be held in Rock Springs, Wyoming later this year.

Commissioner Hutchins – talked about the improvements at the Senior Centers and Life Enrichment Centers in Cleveland County. He also attended several board meetings to include the Council of Aging and MPO.

Commissioner Allen – meet with the Director of Marketing for the Tryon Equestrian Center. They are gearing up for the upcoming equestrian games that will be held in September and are in need of several thousand volunteers.

Chairman Holbrook – spoke about the planning and prepping for the approaching American Legion World Series games and events.
ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Hutchins made the 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, August 7, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Chamber.

Eddie Holbrook, Chairman
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners

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

FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTS

**Clerk’s Note: All approved contracts have the same language. The original contracts are filed with the Clerk in the Manager’s Office.

BETHELHEM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
WACO COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

ATTEST

Cleveland County

Name: Kitty Hulme

Voted to be executed by the Chief and Secretary, the day and year that
above written.

Approved at the July 17, 2013

Cleveland County Board Meeting

WACO COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE

DEPARTMENT, INC.

Name: John B. Bader

ND: 467-0036-T259, s 8