

Cleveland County Board of Commissioners
January 19, 2016:

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 19th at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

PRESENT: Jason Falls, Chairman
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chairman
Susan Allen, Commissioner
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner
Jeff Richardson, County Manager
Tim Moore, County Attorney
Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney
Henry Earle, Clerk
Brian Epley, Finance Director
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
Chris Green, Tax Administrator
Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director
Kristin Reese, Economic Development Director

ABSENT: Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jason Falls called the meeting to order and Vice-Chair Eddie Holbrook led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

AGENDA ADOPTION

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

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

- Roland Allen: 2224 South Lafayette Street Shelby, NC. Mr. Allen spoke about a proposed solar farm that will be across the street from his property. Mr. Allen was concerned with the potential noise levels with this project and the impact that continued solar farm growth would have on the aesthetic value of the county as a whole.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MINUTES: There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the Minutes of the January 5th, 2016 regular meeting were presented and approved as written.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: As of December 31st, 2015, 81.61% of taxes had been collected for fiscal year 2015-2016.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: For December 2015 Abatements were \$387.93 and supplements were \$14,942.87 with no pending refunds or releases.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: Donna Mellon is being appointed as a tax review officer, joining Ronald Jordan and Jan Deviney.

FINANCE: The finance department presented a resolution that allowed all county departments, when applicable, to participate in the NC debt set off program.

REGULAR AGENDA

2014-2015 AUDIT PRESENTATION: Chairman Falls called Brian Epley, Finance Director, to the podium. Mr. Epley introduced Justin Knight, auditor from Martin Starnes and Associates. Mr. Knight reviewed the audit with Commissioners, finding no internal control issues and giving an unmodified opinion. Collection rate was the highest it has ever been. The only suggestion the auditor had was that an IT update on finance software was in order to better streamline processes.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved to accept the auditor's report as created by the Martin Starnes. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

SOLID WASTE REVENUE POLICY: Mr. Epley presented a revenue collection policy from the Board of Health for Solid Waste. This policy mirrored the revenue policies that had been presented at the 1/5/16 Board of Commissioners meeting for EMS and Building Inspections.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that the policy be approved as presented by the Board of Health. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT UPDATES: Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director came to the podium. Mr. Davis said that VFD contracts for Cleveland County had not been updated since the 1970's and needed to be updated to reflect an updated scope of work that VFD's do in Cleveland County.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that the contracts be accepted as presented by the EM director. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

LATE APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION: Tax Administrator Chris Green came to the podium and presented untimely applications for exemption. He stated that each of those presented met the criteria for exemption.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that the applications for exemption be approved. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

SHOOTING RANGE BYLAWS AND OPERATIONS MANUAL APPROVAL: County Manager Jeff Richardson presented the shooting range bylaws and operations manual and he asked the Board for their approval of these items. Mr. Richardson reminded the Board that these items were required, under their Memorandum of Understanding, to go before the NC Wildlife Commission for approval as well.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that the Operations Manual and Bylaws be approved and be sent to the NC Wildlife Commission for approval. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously adopted by the Board.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Veteran’s Advisory Council

Veteran's Council

Applicant	Address	Occupation
Jennifer Drum	1011 Caldwell Drive-Shelby	DOC-Veteran Employee Consultant
Gordon Spencer	1554 Timberlake Drive-Shelby	Machine Operator-SouthCo
Tina Pruitt	534 Casar Belwood Rd-Lawndale	Site Manager-CC employee
Charles Webber	1018 Mark Drive-Shelby	Pastor-Mt. Olive Baptist
Paul Aulbach	221 Gantt Road-Vale	J&P Electrical Solutions
Jeff Aderholdt	113 Shadowgate Drive-Shelby	IMC Metals-Maintenance
Elizabeth Thomas	1106 Henrick Lake Road	Ingles
Shirley Thompson	2978 Laura Road-Shelby	NCDOT-Office Manager-retired

Terms:
Appoint One
Three Year Term
Term Expires 12/31/2018

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved that Charles Webber be appointed to the Veteran’s Advisory Council. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION:

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook moved to go into closed session pursuant to NC GS 143-318.11(a)(3), (4), and (5). It was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioners discussed three items in closed session, an economic development project, to obtain guidance on the county’s position on the acquisition of real property.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved to come out of closed session. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved to approve the actions taken in closed session pertain to negotiations on pending litigation pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5). It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

ACTION: Commissioner Allen moved to direct staff to negotiate price and terms of real property. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Falls entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Hawkins, 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, February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner’s Chamber.