

**Cleveland County Board of Commissioners**  
**April 19, 2016:**

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

**PRESENT:** Jason Falls, Chairman  
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chair  
Susan Allen, Commissioner  
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Bonnie Reece, Register of Deeds  
Jeff Richardson, County Manager  
Tim Moore, 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

**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.

**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.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**PROCLAMATION FOR RETIRING REGISTER OF DEEDS BONNIE REECE:** Commissioner Falls stated that this was going to be easily his favorite part of the night. Current Register of Deeds Bonnie Reece is set to retire on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and tonight we get to honor her time and service. Chairman Falls asked the clerk to read the following proclamation:

**03-2016**

**PROCLAMATION HONORING RETIRING REGISTER OF DEEDS BONNIE REECE**

**WHEREAS,** Cleveland County Register of Deeds Bonnie Reece will be retiring from Cleveland County on April 30, 2016; and,

**WHEREAS,** Bonnie has been a full time employee of Cleveland County since August 1989 beginning first in the finance department until being appointed Register of Deeds in June 1995 and being elected Register of Deeds in November of 1996; and,

**WHEREAS,** during her tenure as Register of Deeds Bonnie was awarded the Eunice Ayers Distinguished Service Award on September 11, 2001, and the Shining Star Award in 2012 for consistently going above and beyond the call of duty for the Association and for Cleveland County; and,

**WHEREAS,** Bonnie's greatest achievement came in completing her Bachelor of Science degree from Gardner-Webb's GOAL program in August of 1988 while working full time and raising a family; and,

**WHEREAS,** Cleveland County is extremely fortunate to have had Bonnie as the Register of Deeds. She has earned the admiration, respect and friendship of those that have had the pleasure of serving with her.

**NOW THEREFORE,** the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners commends Bonnie Reece for her years of service to Cleveland County and wish her many years of health and happiness as she moves into life's next adventure.

*ADOPTED THIS THE 19th DAY OF APRIL 2016.*

After the proclamation was read Chairman Falls invited Bonnie Reece and her husband up to the front to take pictures with the Commissioners.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

**ENTREPRENEUR EXPO AND CLEVELAND COUNTY JOB FAIR:** Chairman Falls Steve Padgett, Small Business Center director, to the podium. Mr. Padgett thanked the Commissioners for the Small Business Incentive Program and their willingness to go above and beyond to make Cleveland County Business friendly. The entrepreneur expo, scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>, is for people who want to start a new business and want to learn how and to learn from those who have done it and the things to do and not do when starting a business. Mr. Padgett then introduced Chad Chastain, who spoke about the Cleveland County Job Fair. Mr. Chastain said the job fair will have over 50 vendors and over 200 jobs that need filling. Mr. Chastain invited the commissioners to attend and to help them spread the word. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Padgett and Mr. Chastain for the work they're doing.

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

- No one signed up to speak.

**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 March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 public hearing and the April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 regular meeting were presented and approved as written.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION:** As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016, 96.46% of taxes have been collected for fiscal year 2015-2016.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION:** For March 2016, Abatements were \$7,377.61 and Supplements were \$7,292.60.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** BNA #059

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.538.4.800.00	MISCELLA REVENUE	\$300.00	
012.538.5.211.00	CONTROLLED PROPERTY	\$300.00	

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget funds received from Gardner-Webb University to be used in purchasing wheelchair scales for Maternal Health.*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** BNA #060

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.532.4.310.00	FEDERAL GOV'T GRANT	\$49.00	
012.532.5.230.00	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$49.00	

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget additional DHHS STD prevention funds to purchase medical supplies.*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** BNA #061

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.530.4.810.30	DONATIONS-EYE GLASSES	\$60.00	
012.538.5.211.00	DONATIONS-EYE GLASSES	\$60.00	

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget donations for eye exams.*

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** BNA #062

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
011.504.4.310.00	FEDERAL GRANTS	\$10,812.00	
012.538.5.211.00	SALARIES	\$10,812.00	

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget Title XX funds to offset FY 2015-2016 salaries.*

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES:** BNA #063

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.437.4.310.00	FEDERAL GOV. GRANTS	\$11,147.00	
010.437.5.910.00	CAPITAL EQUIPMENT	\$11,147.00	

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget funds received from NC Department of Public Safety to be used to help purchase rapid deployment sheltering systems.*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** The planning department requested to set the public hearing for May 3<sup>rd</sup> to hear a proposed zoning map amendment from restricted residential to residential at 203 Farris Road.

**PLANNING:** The planning department requested to set the public hearing for May 3<sup>rd</sup> to hear a proposed zoning map amendment from restricted residential to neighborhood business at 401 Milsap Road.

**REGISTER OF DEEDS:** With the retirement of Bonnie Reece, pursuant to NC General Statute 161-5, the County Political Party of the retiring register of deeds is allowed to make a recommendation to fill the interim slot. The Cleveland County Democratic Party recommended Debra Mull Harrill to fulfill that role until the November 2016 election. The County Commission so appointed Debra Mull Harrill to the Register of Deeds upon the retirement of Ms. Reece.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

**FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING:** County Finance Director Brian Epley came to the podium. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row Cleveland County has been awarded the GFOA award for meeting certain benchmarks in financial reporting and for being transparent in reporting. Due to fiscal foresight by the Board of Commissioners the County's credit rating from Moody's and Standard and Poor's has gone up two levels from an A rating to an AA rating. Mr. Epley thanked the Board for their foresight in helping the finance department modernize their operations and to make uniform policy moves. Commissioner Holbrook thanked Mr. Epley and the finance staff for their work and congratulated them on their achievement. Commissioner Falls asked Mr. Epley if they could achieve the top level of AAA and Mr. Epley said there are certain socioeconomic standards that can only come through a vibrant local economy and Cleveland County, through the Board's guidance, is on its way to that point.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**Commissioner Hawkins:** Was very excited to have so many students over a 4.0 in Cleveland County that the 4.0 award day at Legrand has to be 2 days this year. The two dates are May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Allen:** The legislative breakfast was well attended and informative. The fire commission was Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Hutchins:** Clifford's Army had an event on the 9<sup>th</sup> and Hazardous Waste Collection Day was the 16<sup>th</sup>. The Ribbon Cutting of the shooting complex was today and it was a great day, thanks to everyone for being there.

**Commissioner Holbrook:** Steve and Chad thank you for your work, and thanks to Brian and Jeff for your work with the county's finances, thanks to Johnny and Tim for getting the range together. I commend and congratulate everyone for being involved in all of this.

**Chairman Falls:** The scholarship that is generated locally for all kids over a 4.0 is incredible. Every child gets \$500. Staff did an excellent job with the gun range opening.

**ADJOURN**

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 Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 in the Commissioner's Chamber.