

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
JUNE 02, 2016**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on June 02, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian McMahan, Chairman
Mark Jones, Vice Chair
Charles Elders, Commissioner
Vicki Greene, Commissioner
Boyce Deitz, Commissioner

Chuck Wooten, County Manager
Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board
Heather C. Baker, County Attorney

Chairman McMahan called the public hearing to order and stated the purpose was to receive public input for consideration of the proposed FY16-17 Budget. He stated written comments could be sent to Commissioners and there would be additional opportunities for public comment prior to the adoption of the budget. He then opened the floor for public comment:

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Pam Sterka of Cullowhee stated she owned a business in Sylva. She felt it was inappropriate for the county and the town to schedule their public hearings at the same time. She urged the Commissioners to not accept the current budget and go back and try to bring the tax rate down. Families had to look at their budgets and make adjustments and she requested the elected officials do the same.

Chairman McMahan apologized that the town and county public hearings had been scheduled at the same time, he was unaware of the conflict. Citizens would have additional opportunity to make comments before the county budget would be considered for adoption.

Commissioner Jones stated he had a budget request for the Caney Fork Community Center for upcoming projects. The request came in on May 31st and he was not suggesting any action be taken at that time, but would make a recommendation after July 1st to move forward on the request.

Mr. Wooten stated that they did allow \$25,000 in the Commissioners' account for potential requests that they would receive through the upcoming year. It was conceivable that those funds could be used to address the items Commissioner Jones mentioned.

Commissioner Greene stated that she had changed her basic attitude on the funding of non-profits. Having worked throughout the region and seeing what other counties did for non-profits, she believed they were making donations that improved communities, making healthier communities and it was a good investment.

There being no further public comments, Commissioner Greene moved that the public hearing be adjourned. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman