

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
APRIL 03, 2017**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on April 03, 2017, 3:00 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian McMahan, Chairman
Charles Elders, Vice Chair
Boyce Deitz, Commissioner
Mickey Luker, Commissioner
Ron Mau, Commissioner

Don Adams, County Manager
Heather C. Baker, County Attorney
Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Chairman McMahan called the meeting to order.

(1) **PROCLAMATION FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**: Chairman McMahan read a Proclamation to proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Commissioner Elders moved to approve the Proclamation. Commissioner Luker seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(2) **AGENDA**: Commissioner Mau moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(3) **MINUTES**: Commissioner Elders moved to approve the minutes of a Public Hearing: Economic Development of March 20, 2017; a Regular Meeting of March 20, 2017; a Special Meeting: Work Session of March 22, 2017; and a Special Meeting: Consolidated Human Services of March 23, 2017. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(4) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**: Chairman McMahan congratulated the Smoky Mountain High School Show Choir, as it was recently awarded "Superior" in both its Motown Show Choir set and Mixed Chorus and "Best in Class" for Chorus Group, at the Festival Disney Competition. This was a great achievement for the local students and he was proud of them.

(5) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**:

- (a) Commissioner Mau also congratulated the Smoky Mountain High School Show Choir.
- (b) Commissioner Luker also congratulated the students of the Show Choir. He participated in the Meals on Wheels March on Main Street, which was well attended and a great event.
- (c) Commissioner Deitz stated he attended a Region A meeting and complimented Rich Price, Economic Development Director, on his presentation and for his leadership in the western counties.

(6) **COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**: Mr. Adams reported:

- (a) **Freedom Park**: The maintenance crew completed the Charters of Freedom monuments. The center monument contains a vault for a time capsule that would be opened on the 300th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, which was September 17, 2087. Foundation Forward, Inc. was collecting information to be placed in the time capsule, which would be sealed on May 15, 2017. A dedication would be scheduled in the upcoming weeks.

Commissioner McMahan requested a follow-up with Foundation Forward, Inc. regarding the condensation on the glass covering the monuments.

(b) Sylva Pool Renovations: Informal bids for the Sylva Pool renovations would be received on Tuesday, April 4th. The work included re-plastering the main swimming pool and wading pool, associated tile work and miscellaneous related improvements.

(c) Skyland Services Center Remodel: Architectural/engineering construction documents were near completion and would go to local code enforcement for final review. Depending upon final review, bid documents should be ready in April. He would be recommending a 30 day bid period, with potential award dates to occur in June.

(d) Skyland Drive Property (PIN #7642-52-3270): The offer to purchase and contract was executed effective February, 8th. The county had a 180 day due diligence period and an additional 45 days after the due diligence period ended to settle the contract.

- Due diligence items completed:
 - Survey on backfill as it related to base flood elevations was complete. It was concluded that the backfill was at or above base flood elevations.
 - Preliminary geotechnical exploration completed. The results of this exploration was being compiled. If satisfactory, then a limited phase II environmental assessment would be completed.
 - Met with Blue Ridge Southern Railroad on-site. It was determined the site was large enough to avoid constructing facilities within the 100' railroad easement. Although it would be necessary to formally request to place a parking lot in this area, the Blue Ridge Southern Railroad representative felt positive about the project moving forward.
- Due diligence items to be completed:
 - Phase II environmental assessment
 - Duke Energy Pole Connection
 - TWSA Connections
 - NCDOT Connections
 - Title Search

(e) Blue Ridge National Heritage Grant Award: The county was awarded \$10,000 from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area. These funds would be used to design and install interpretive wayside exhibits along the greenway.

(f) Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, April 11th – Commissioner Budget Work Session at 10:00 am. Note: There was a possibility that this meeting could be delayed to the regular start time of 1:00 pm.

Monday, April 17th – Regular Commissioner Meeting at 6:00 pm

Monday, May 1st – Regular Commissioner Meeting at 3:00 pm

(7) INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:

(a) Roger Clapp with the Watershed Association of the Tuckasegee River (WATR), stated that WATR understood the employment and economic benefits to the Town of Dillsboro with the adventure park. WATR realized that the use of the river, by county citizens and tourist, could promote appreciation and stewardship of the resource itself. WATR was interested in the task of implementation and assurances that regulations designed to protect fishing and other resident recreation uses and healthy water for people and aquatic life were met. One cautionary observation was that the scale and density of the project may be overwhelming. They recommended scaling down the project and install rain gardens and stabilize the stream banks.

(b) T.J. Walker of Dillsboro, stated he thought the proposed development was still in a state that needed assessment to try and plan in a good way. Concerns from neighbors were the traffic on North River Road, lighting, light pollution, noise and having a family friendly atmosphere. There was also a concern about compression brake noise from heavy trucks in the area. Through his research, he found that Maggie Valley had a compression brake ordinance. He was also concerned that NCDOT was not present and wanted NCDOT to use best management practice on the riverfront in Dillsboro to make the overall riverfront more visible from the 441 bridge.

(c) Valerie Harrison of Dillsboro, stated she was concerned about many safety issues with truckers on North River Road and thought some effort needed to be put into that.

(8) **FUNDING FOR CONSERVATION AT PANTHERTOWN:** Margaret Carton, Board President of Friends of Panthertown and Jason Kimenker, presented: Salt Rock property acquisition donations as of April 3, 2017:

Organization	# of Donors	Money Raised	Money with Match
Mainspring Conservation Trust	30	\$32,942	\$65,884
Friends of Panthertown	81	\$40,578	\$81,156
TOTAL	111	\$73,520	\$147,040
Property Acquisition Price			<u>\$195,000</u>
Remaining Balance Needed			\$47,960

Motion: Commissioner Luker moved to provide funds for the remaining balance needed to complete the Salt Rock property acquisition, in an amount up to \$47,960, from the Conservation Preservation Recreation Fund. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(9) **ANNUAL EXTENSION REPORT:** Rob Hawk, Extension Director, presented the 2016 Jackson County Program Impact Report Executive Summary:

The Cooperative Extension identified eleven major program areas to work in during 2016:

- Natural Resources Conservation and Environmental Sustainability
- Healthy Eating
- Physical Activity and Chronic Disease Risk Reduction
- Profitable and Sustainable Agriculture Systems
- Urban and Consumer Agriculture
- Safety and Security of Food and Farm Systems
- School to Career - youth and adults
- Volunteer Readiness
- Family Financial Management Skills
- Leadership Development and Community Development

Educational programs in these objectives led to significant impacts for the citizens of the county last year. In 2016, the Jackson County Extension Advisory Council met in April and November with the six members in attendance. The November meeting was a "Farm to City" type event called the "Friends of Extension Fall Festival", which included a nutritious dinner with local foods and informal presentations by some of the primary extension partners. The meetings provided an excellent time to allow the extension staff to share with the community leaders the extension work within the county over the past six months and looking ahead for the next six months regarding programming. Staff received feedback from the leaders of how the extension could further the educational programming and technical assistance. The council members stated that the extension was meeting the demands of the public with programming.

(a) Agriculture and Horticulture: Christy Bredenkamp, Agriculture and Horticulture Extension Agent, continued doing an outstanding job, providing 33 major educational programs, while also providing technical assistance in the following areas:

- Profitable and Sustainable Agriculture Systems
- Local Food Systems
- Safety and Security of Food and Farm Systems
- Urban and Consumer Agriculture

The programs in these areas impacted 2,147 (19,927 non-face to face) individuals directly by increasing their working knowledge of best agricultural and horticultural production practices. This increased net farm incomes and helped build the local food systems for the county, along with good horticulture practices. The numbers included 1,058 for profitable and sustainable agriculture system with a \$20,101 net income gain realized by the adoption of best management practices. Included in those practices related to nutrient management were conservation, production, cultivars, pest management, business management and marketing:

- 46 local food systems
- 92 safety and security of food and farm systems
- 559 urban and consumer agriculture - \$211,048 in value of produce grown for home consumption was estimated

Programs ranged from:

- Master Gardener (MG) – 15 certified or re-certified
- Christmas Trees
- Blueberry and grapes
- Beginner bee
- Home orchard
- Growing ginseng
- Pesticide certifications – 76 pesticide applicators trained
- Pests of trees and shrubs
- Composting
- Soil testing
- Fall gardening

Mr. Hawk provided six livestock educational programs, including Amazing Grazing and BQA training. Ms. Bredenkamp had eight MGs donate 234 hours for 726 clients valued at \$5,513. Cattle Equipment \$16,000+ from the TVA and Agriculture and Forestry Grant through the regional Resource Conservation and Development.

(b) Community Development: 145 community leaders gained assistance from the Extension Center, which included work through extension programs. In October, Savannah, Balsam, Caney Fork and Pumpkintown Community Development Clubs (CDCs) participated in the Annual Jackson CDC Awards program. A total of \$1,200 was granted to these four CDCs to help with their programming and building needs. The Extension Center worked closely with the CDCs to provide educational support as well. In Qualla, Customer Service and Hospitality certified 53 people, which included training at the Cherokee Transit and other businesses near the Cherokee Nation area.

(c) Natural Resources and Conservation: Natural Resources Conservation and Environmental Sustainability programs through the Extension Center impacted 1,344 residents, which was primarily 5th grade through educational programming during the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Field Days; Leopold Education Program Training; "Spruce It Up Conservation Christmas Tree"; and the Beaver Management Assistance program. These programs taught youth and teachers about conservation stewardship and how to appreciate and enjoy their natural environment, such as weather forecasting from field observations, which was part of the 5th Grade Core Curriculum.

(d) 4-H Youth Development: 4-H Agent Heather Gordon, provided many diverse programs (100+) under the "Leadership" philosophy of building youth to become effective citizens and community leaders for the future. Her programs directly provided leadership to 2,090 youths in the county. The 4-H program included:

- 4-H Cloverbuds
- 4-H Explorers Club
- Homeschool STEM
- Junior Chefs
- Equine Program with WCU Students as Volunteers
- Youth Leadership Council
- Camp Mimi Sewing Bee
- 4-H Summer Camp
- Step Back in Time Camp.

In 2016, Ms. Gordon had 171 volunteers donate 984 hours for 1,221 clients valued at \$23,183. Ms. Gordon managed WCU Parks and Recreation Students to provide wildlife education program for the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Field Day. The Mountain Youth Talent Contest was successful due to 4-H Agent's leadership and was the Lead 4-H Agent for the 4-H West District Activity Day that was held at WCU.

(e) Family and Consumer Science: Family and Consumer Science (FCS) Agent Sherrie Peeler worked with 1,956 individuals with:

- 636 individuals benefiting from programs on healthy eating, physical activity and chronic disease risk reduction
- 334 in family financial management
- 4 under school to career
- 316 in leadership development
- 670 for volunteer readiness/ECA

Ms. Peeler held 60+ programs ranging from: quilting, exercise, NC Safe Plates, 4-H sewing bee, cooking, sewing, ECA Clubs, food preservation, SNAP ED, recipes, family financial management and volunteer readiness. 65 ECA Volunteers donated 432 hours for 238 clients, for a total value of \$10,178, which was a major increase from 2015.

(f) Overall summary: Cooperative Extension made 163,146 total educational contacts in 2016, which included 6,905 face-to-face contacts and 156,241 non-face-to-face contacts. Over 400 extension educational programs came from the Extension Staff. Mass Media was a large part of the Extension educational process. Volunteer activity in 2016 included 260 volunteers with 1,683 volunteer hours benefiting 2,219 individuals totally a dollar value of \$39,651.

Informational item.

(10) AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE STATEWIDE MISDEMEANANT CONFINEMENT PROGRAM: Mr. Adams stated this agreement would allow Sheriff Hall to house inmates within the county jail that were serving for lower level state crimes. It was the intention to open five slots for the program. The program was easy to enter into and also easy to terminate. This would allow Sheriff Hall to house the inmates and make some revenue, but if a local need should arise, they could terminate the agreement to meet the local needs. Currently, Sheriff Hall was seeing an increased need for out-of-county housing for females. The intention would be to offset this additional cost with the funds from the misdemeanor program.

Sheriff Hall stated they had seen an increase in the last few years in their female housing. This program would allow them the opportunity to offset some of the costs. The capacity for male inmates was 64 and 8 for females. They ran an average of 12 female inmates daily and in the low 50's for males. He felt confident that by offering the state 5 beds, it would still allow the capacity they needed.

Motion: *Commissioner Luker moved to approve the Agreement for Participation in the Statewide Misdemeanant Confinement Program, as presented. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(11) MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH PLAN: Mr. Adams presented the Outreach Plan and Guidelines for Recruitment and Selection of Minority Businesses for Participation in Jackson County Building Construction or Repair Contracts. He stated that this was a mandated plan that all counties must look at when they were funding projects with \$100,000 or more of state funds or when projects were \$300,000 or more and only county funded. In these instances, the county must have a Minority Participation Plan or Historically Underutilized Business Participation Plan (HUB) and would be required to follow it. He recommended that the goal of the county be 10%, which matched the state requirement. The plan required the county to do outreach and advertise in areas to meet thresholds that would provide an opportunity to allow HUB businesses to participate.

Mr. Adams stated that in order for the plan to be considered for adoption, a public hearing would need to be held. He requested a public hearing be set for May 15th at 5:50 p.m.

Motion: *Commissioner Deitz moved to set a public hearing on May 15th at 5:50 p.m. to be held at the Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(12) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH WNC OUTDOOR DEVELOPMENT, LLC: Rich Price, Economic Development Director, stated that on behalf of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee and his office, they were pleased with the turnout at the public hearing. All of the questions and concerns expressed were valid and they were pleased that the Commissioners took those questions into consideration and submitted them to his office for responses.

Below was a summary of concerns or questions along with responses:

(a) Job Creation: Reference page eight of the agreement, it would be the responsibility of WNC Outdoor Development to create ten full-time positions that would be sustainable and be paid a minimum wage of \$14.08 per hour, which was developed by the Employment Security Commission with the North Carolina Department of Commerce. In this instance, although it was not required by the agreement or by the state, it was Mr. Custer's intent that those positions also be provided with full benefits.

Should Mr. Custer contract with another provider, operator or business entity, those providers would also be required to submit the appropriate information to Mr. Custer and to Mr. Price's office to determine the appropriate job creation. Mr. Custer would provide quarterly NC Wage and Salary forms that the county would track and any other providers would provide baseline employment information using forms from the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Commission. They felt that conditions that were in the agreement were clear and specific and gives the county the opportunity to measure the job creation and report it accurately and fairly.

(b) Restrictions on the property going forward: After review with Ms. Baker and Michael Poston, Planning Director, they felt confident that current ordinances that were in place, Solid Waste and Industrial Development, would prohibit any undesired uses after the expiration of the ten year agreement. The easements that would be created once the developer determined walking trails and paths, etc., would also serve to mitigate any different alternative uses. There would be not be a lot of uses for the property once it was developed and easements were in place for the greenway, etc.

Mr. Poston stated that the Industrial Development Ordinance had regulations for asphalt plants, heavy industry, junk yards, mining and things of that nature. All of those uses required a 1,320 linear foot setback from a myriad of different uses, including to the outer wall of any residential unit. Looking at the property there were many residential units within both sides of the river that would prohibit a lot of the more intensive uses that could possibly be located.

Mr. Price stated they also did not want to encumber the developer by placing unnecessary restrictions on the property. They felt the ordinances that were in place gave the county the appropriate amount of protection.

(c) Public Access: Reference page 7 of the agreement, when the site plan was completed and Mr. Custer and his developers had the property developed with trails, walkways, etc. and once water and sewer were in place, at that point they would work with Ms. Baker to go back and make sure the easements were designated on the deed. The agreement was specific as to access through the property and to the river in that there were no restrictions as to who may flow through the property to gain access to the river, whether it be a pedestrian or a competitor. This was done to promote river activity to a higher lever in the county.

Ms. Baker stated the agreement states that the company agreed to provide these easements and the deed itself would contain the easements. When the deed was ready for transfer, it would immediately contain easements for the greenway over the TWSA sewer and water easements, so it would contain public access from the beginning. They would need to come back later and clarify the paths and roads put in by the developer to add those specifically as greenway easements. They could not do that until those were determined, but there would be significant easement and public access reservations in the deed itself.

Mr. Adams stated the developer had five years to build out and within the five year period there was a reversionary clause. They would know what the specific easements would be in five years and the county had protections in place that would allow for the easements to be put in later.

(d) Traffic and Pedestrian: Mr. Price stated these were concerns for not only North River Road, but also Mockingbird Lane and 441 North and South. The concerns would require ongoing attention, not only from his office, but other county offices, NCDOT and the Town of Dillsboro, in order to find ways to mitigate and make traffic safer and make pedestrian mobility much safer.

In discussions with Jonathan Woodard from the NCDOT, as soon as Mr. Custer moved forward with requesting a driveway permit, for the primary site off of Mockingbird Lane, NCDOT would then proceed with the initial assessment of proposed traffic going in and out of the primary site and also traffic coming off of 441 from North or South and turning into Mockingbird Lane. There were a series of steps that NCDOT would go through once the project was initiated.

During the last 14 months, he and Mr. Poston along with members of the Dillsboro Board of Alderman and other Dillsboro business owners, had participated in a joint exercise with the NC Department of Commerce, relative to strategic planning for economic purposes for the Town of Dillsboro. In the planning, they had discussed various issues with traffic, parking and pedestrian mobility and how pedestrians could move from place to place, without vehicles and allowing them to move freely around Dillsboro. They were working towards final recommendations on how to move forward to create greenways, walkways and pathways that could move people in and around Dillsboro without the necessity of a vehicle. This was an ongoing concern and would continue to be a short term and long term goal to work out as Dillsboro becomes a more dynamic community.

Also, they were working with potential agencies through the state to determine how they could bridge Mockingbird Lane across over into North River Road and eventually down into the Dillsboro business district. They placed this in the County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan so that they may get assistance from, not only DOT, but there may also be other organizations and agencies they could reach out to in order to put together the funding. These were ongoing and continuing concerns that would take a lot of work to figure out how to mitigate with the additional traffic they assumed would be coming into Dillsboro.

Commissioner Deitz stated that some of the traffic and pedestrian issues brought up in the meeting were problems that had been in existence for a while. He thought things could be done with DOT to make them safer.

Commissioner Luker stated that in the past week he had heard from business owners in Dillsboro and the community that support the project, but there were still concerns of how to connect the two areas and bring them together.

Mr. Price stated he thought they started by putting a plan in place, realizing the desired outcome. For example, connecting Monteith Park to the business district in Dillsboro by walking trails or some type of device on the railroad rails and then up over the river to the new development. Mr. Custer was amenable to working with the Town of Dillsboro and maybe in the short term providing some type of a shuttle transit. Outside of that was continued planning and his office would be an advocate for that type of improvement.

(e) Drought and river levels: With this project, there were multiple revenue streams, including activities for passive flow of the river, such as kayaking. There were other components such as retail, food and beverage, camping and lodging. River levels would fluctuate and it was a risk that was inherent to this particular industry. Mr. Custer agrees to and accepts that and the county would be protected because of multiple revenue streams that would continue to sustain the operation, even if river levels happen to be shy at some point in time.

(f) River departure area: The primary departure area would be the public access area at Barker's Creek. They have looked at the possibility of an overcrowding issue and if that was the case, there was room to expand the area for additional parking. The operation would be at the departure area at set times and for short periods of time. He did not believe they would monopolize parking or access in that location. Mr. Custer also indicated that he had several other options for take-out areas, dependent upon the activity. More passing activities, such as tubing, could be above the project and take-out at the development site. There were multiple opportunities to mitigate congestion in the put-in and take-out areas.

(g) Environmental concerns: During the public hearing, it was specifically mentioned about the Blue Herrin. He spoke with Justin McVey of the North Carolina Wildlife Commission, about the Blue Herrin and any other species that were inhabitants of the river. Mr. McVey indicated that specifically, the Blue Herrin was not endangered and was classified as a species of "least concern" and had become fairly prominent in the county. It was his opinion that no activity that would commence with the project, could have any impact on, particularly the Blue Herrin or any other species.

Commissioner Luker inquired if rafting was greater above the project or downstream.

Mr. Price stated that rafting would go on downstream from the site. The passive flow kayaking could occur anywhere throughout the river, it did not have to be specific to the area.

Mr. Custer stated that out of respect for the fishermen, they would try to stay below until the river warmed up.

Mr. Price stated that they felt due diligence and extreme vetting had occurred for the project and it would greatly benefit the county because of the potential it had to create additional visitation, additional businesses in and around Dillsboro and perhaps other areas of the county. They felt it elevated the river activities to true destination activities and they felt they were being good stewards of county assets and the natural resources in the county.

On behalf of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee and his office, he encouraged the Commissioners to pass the resolution and look to convey the property under the Economic Development Agreement, as written.

Chairman McMahan thanked the staff that worked to provide detailed responses to the questions that the public asked. He had been asked “Why the Board would consider moving forward with the project?”. He thought they needed to think about what their goal was for this piece of property, what they were trying to accomplish by potentially entering into this type of agreement.

To him there were two clear answers:

- The county would be providing much greater access for recreational opportunities along that stretch of the river at a higher level, which was the number one goal.
- Second to that would be the economic impact this would have. Staff had been very conservative with projections. They could have looked at the indirect impact, but they did not factor that into the agreement. The impact this could have on the economy, to potentially spur economic development in the Dillsboro community and greater Jackson County was very significant.

Another question he had been asked was “Why the county did not build a park and operate it?”. That was a possibility, but it eliminates the opportunity for private citizens to be able to make a profit and spur the economy even more. This was an opportunity for the private sector to take a piece of property and turn it into a taxable piece of property and make an investment into the communities and for the communities to be able to grow economically.

Another question was “Why other organizations were not allowed to make proposals?”. The county would entertain any kind of proposal from any organization or individual. This proposal was not the first, the original came from the NOC some time back. Because that agreement fell through and did not happen there were opportunities for others to make proposals. They would be willing to entertain any proposals to enhance the county and create investment opportunities.

There would be ongoing review and response to questions and concerns. Through the course of the agreement they would take the opportunity to continually review and look at all of the various aspects making sure they were meeting the standards on all of the issues they had discussed. Water quality was a huge concern, especially having a lot of people in the river and they wanted to make sure the water was clean and he thought this would encourage them to be more diligent to look for ways to clean up the river. The county had invested money and they were working with the Town of Sylva on the Scotts Creek Watershed and he thought they should do other things to make sure water remains clean.

When looking at the overall investment and what the county had invested thus far in the project and what they would potentially invest, through water and sewer infrastructure and site prep, in the long term, when factoring in the impact from an economic standpoint, they would recoup every dollar. Even if the 10 jobs were taken out, the county would still make the money back. There were claw back provisions in place that were adequate, the public’s tax dollars had been secured in the investment and it was a good venture for the county to enter into. He was going to be fully supportive of it.

Commissioner Elders stated that he grew up in the backyard of Dillsboro and he watched that little town and he could remember when the river was black. Looking at all of the tourist traffic coming out of the south, Dillsboro was the gateway to the Casino, Bryson City and the Great National Park. Anything they could do to get Dillsboro back to being Dillsboro and get the travelers to stop off in Dillsboro, they had a good chance of building Dillsboro back up. He was supportive of the project.

Commissioner Luker stated he had no doubt, but he thought they needed to be mindful moving forward of how the development would impact folks that were there for their whole life and enjoyed the peacefulness of the area. Dillsboro was once thriving and how could they bring that economic drive back and how do they connect those pieces. They needed to work on that going forward. It not only benefits Mr. Custer, but the Town of Dillsboro and the county as a whole.

Commissioner Mau stated the questions he had were addressed and traffic would be an issue with any project no matter where it was located. In the CTP, North River Road was on the list to be modernized, so it was being discussed already in that document.

Mr. Poston stated that Mockingbird Lane was on that list as well.

Commissioner Mau stated that regarding water quality, with the extension of the sewer, that would help improve water quality as other residents may decide to hook up to the sewer as well.

Commissioner Deitz stated the waters and mountains were the resources that were most abundant in the county and many times, the ones they had not taken advantage of. He thought this was an opportunity to take advantage of these resources. He had faith in Mr. Custer and believed he would do a first class job with the project.

Motion: *Commissioner Deitz moved to approve the Economic Development Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding regarding Infrastructure and to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to sign the Agreement contingent upon the county receiving final notice of award for the three pending infrastructure grants: one in the amount of \$300,000 and two in the amount of \$50,000 each. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(13) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (R17-06):

Motion: *Commissioner Elders moved to adopt Resolution R17-06 authorizing the sale of real property for economic development upon full execution of the Economic Development Agreement approved even date herewith. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(14) PRESS CONFERENCE: None.

There being no further business, Commissioner Mau moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Elders seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman