County of Madison

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the Madison County Public Library Marshall Branch, 1335 N. Main Street, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Vice-Chairman Craig Goforth, Commissioner/Interim County Manager Norris Gentry, Commissioner Michael Garrison, Clerk Mandy Bradley.

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Goforth.

Upon motion by Commissioner Gentry and second by Commissioner Garrison, the Board voted unanimously to recess the meeting to the Agricultural Extension Office at 4:45 p.m. due to conditions beyond our control at 4:08 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Goforth returned the meeting to open session on August 24, 2021 at 4:45 p.m. at the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Office-Madison County Center, 258 Carolina Lane, Marshall, North Carolina. In attendance were Vice-Chairman Goforth, Commissioner/Interim County Manager Norris Gentry, Commissioner Matt Wechtel, Commissioner Michael Garrison, and Clerk Mandy Bradley.

Item 1: Geographical Information Systems Map

Jeff Hyder, Geographical Information Systems Coordinator presented a power point presentation and discussed mapping of County owned property with the Board as well as answered questions from Board members. Information discussed included how the program assesses data, how to navigate the program, how the system works, how properties are listed, and statistics of the properties currently owned by the County. Commissioner Gentry opened the floor to questions from members of the audience who discussed the information with Mr. Hyder.

County Attorney Donny Laws entered the meeting at 4:56 p.m. Discussion was had by the Board regarding the mapping system.

Item 2: Property Insurance Coverage

Commissioner Gentry presented and discussed flood insurance policies for County owned property with the Board. Information included the North Carolina Association of County Commissioner Risk Management Pool and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Pool as well as County owned property that may be in a flood zone.

County Attorney Donny Laws discussed the recent transfer of the Hot Springs Library property from the Friends of the Library to the County and noted that the building could be covered under the policy that the Friends of the Library had it insured with as well as the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Risk Management Pool if the Board so chose.

Discussion regarding policy premiums and policy coverage as well as the National Flood Insurance Program was had by the Board, Attorney Laws, and Finance Officer Kary Ledford with Attorney Laws recommending follow up with the North Carolina Department of Insurance.

Item 3: Budget Amendment #2

Finance Officer Kary Ledford presented and discussed Budget Amendment #2 with the Board as well as answered questions.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrison and second by Commissioner Gentry, the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Attachment 3.1)

Item 4: Overtime and Compensatory Policy and Pay

Commissioner Gentry recommended in the absence of one of the Board members that the item be tabled until the next meeting. Discussion was had by the Board. Commissioner Gentry presented updated information regarding overtime pay for the Health Department for COVID specific overtime noting that the last information presented to the Board included other overtime as well.

Discussion was had by the Board with counsel provided by County Attorney Laws.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wechtel and second by Commissioner Garrison, the Board voted unanimously to go ahead and authorize the payment of \$5,967.15 for overtime for non-exempt employees at the Health Department.

Item 5: County Development Planning Consideration

Commissioner Gentry discussed funds from the American Rescue Plan Act that would be coming to the County and other funding that would be available. He noted that the strategic decisions that need to be made to use the money includes priorities, consultants to hire, and property to develop. Discussion was had by the Board regarding issues in the County and how to maximize funding.

Discussion was had by the Board regarding holding meetings of the Board of Commissioners at different locations of the County and how that could be achieved.

Item 6: Golden Leaf Project Review

Commissioner Gentry discussed three projects to be presented for review by the Board for consideration of Golden Leaf funding. He noted that the projects include expansion of the Value Added Kitchen at the Cooperative Extension Office, renovation of the Spring Creek Community Center, and expansion of the High School Career and Technical Education Program. Discussion was had by the Board regarding Golden Leaf funding.

Item 7: Big Indie Alpha, Inc. Agreement

Commissioner Gentry discussed the request from Big Indie Alpha Inc. to use the fairgrounds for emergency parking in the event of flooding during the company's lease of Blannahassett Island in Marshall and also how recent flooding in Marshall may impact the project.

Item 8: Personnel, Item 9: Attorney Client Privilege

Commissioner Gentry discussed a proposal for the consolidation of a Development Services Department. Human Resources Director Brooke Ledford discussed the opening of the Economic Development position and that other counties have consolidated Economic Development with GIS, Planning and Zoning, and Inspections departments to create a Development Services Department to streamline the processes and have one Director over the department. Commissioner Gentry noted that it would be more efficient and provide better services for residents as well as add additional help to the department.

Commissioner Gentry discussed the Child Support Department and the County's Ordinance creating the Child Support Office as well as the structure of other Child Support Offices in the State within Departments of Social Services.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Goforth and second by Commissioner Gentry, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) and 143-318.11 (a) (1) at 6:02 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrison and second by Commissioner Gentry, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 7:06 p.m.

Human Resources Director Brooke Ledford requested on behalf of the Animal Shelter, the hire of Robert Crisci as an Animal Shelter Technician. Upon motion by Commissioner Gentry and second by Commissioner Wechtel, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Item 10: Adjournment

Upon motion by Commissioner Wechtel and second by Commissioner Gentry, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:08 p.m.

This the 24th day of August, 2021.

MADISON COUNTY

Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Mandy Bradley, Cle