



Fannin County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Jury Assembly Room  
June 12, 2018 at 5:15pm

**OPENING REGULAR MEETING**

Chairman Helton called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.  
The invocation was led by Robert Graham and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Helton made a motion to approve minutes from the May 23, 2018 and May 29, 2018 meetings. Commissioner Johnson made second. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton made a motion to add Robert Graham of EMA to the agenda. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Ralph Garner addressed the Board Concerning a budget overrun on the new Public Safety Complex. Chairman Helton asked Garner if he would like to sit down and compare number to clarify any differences. Commissioner Johnson reiterated to Garner that the county is not over budget on the project. Garner stated he would send in the News Observers articles to the Board.

Public Commentary was closed at 5:23pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Robert Graham of EMA addressed the Board concerning an ambulance that was totaled. Graham stated the box of the truck, where a patient would be, was not damaged and could be reattached to a new chassis and be practically a brand-new ambulance. Graham received a quote from the remount company in the amount of \$98,111. This amount would be to remount box to a 2018 Chevy 4-wheel drive chassis and would include a few safety add-ons and to refurbish the box. Graham went on to say that they would be receiving \$62,186.00 from insurance on the wrecked ambulance and had an additional \$20,720 in the budget due to the cost under run on the last ambulance purchase. Graham stated the balance needed would be \$15,205 and delivery would be in approximately 120 days. Commissioner Johnson stated it would not bother him if funds came out of the fund balance. Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to approve the remount of ambulance. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by Serene Mountain Properties to place a home 44-feet from the center of Upper Rocky Face Rd., to include decks. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve variance. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by Kristine Kunka and Robert Morris to place a garage 23-feet from the center of Rocky Face Rd. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve variance. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by Zachary Leach to place a barn 15-feet from the edge on a private road. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve variance. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Agent Contract for Family Connections was next on the agenda. Chairman Helton stated it was a renewal of an annual contract that the County has with Family Connections. Contract would be July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to approve contract. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Robin Gazaway, CFO spoke to the Board concerning the renewal of the general insurance for the County. Gazaway stated that the County received a discount of \$32,711.00 on the County's premiums. This requires the County to participate in some safety meetings, distributing safety flyers to all employees to be signed and returned to ACCG.

Gazaway stated that the health insurance plan had been renewed with no changes for employees. However, the premiums did go up but the County will absorb the difference. Commissioner Johnson reiterated that the County was absorbing the amount that the premiums went up. Chairman Helton stated that contract would run from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve contract. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Gazaway also reminded everyone about the BCYCLE event that will be held on June 23, 2018 at the Senior Center.

Dawn Cochran addressed the Board concerning her line item of Maps and Aerials. Cochran stated that due to the department paying out of a \$24,000 budget \$8,000 for Qpublic, \$22,000 for Eagleview (maps), and \$1,000. Lidar it had left the line item at a negative \$7,000. Cochran went on to explain that \$12,513.55 was to come from payments of \$2,502.71 from the following departments: EMA, Fire, EMS, 911, Public Works and Development Authority as well as Tri State, Blue Ridge, Mccaysville, and Morganton. Cochran explained that \$13,021.68 should be the balance in the Maps budget line item.

Chairman Helton stated that the Assessors overall budget was in good shape and the line item should not be reason for concern. Chairman Helton went on to explain that revenues could not be used to offset expenditures, that this is improper procedures. Chairman Helton stated to Cochran that Mrs. Gazaway needed to be invited to the Assessors Board meeting to help explain the accounting procedures. Cochran agreed to do so.

Troy Junnier came to the front with Cochran to explain the view that the Assessors Board. Junnier stated that the Department was taking the full brunt of the purchase when the other departments were to contribute to the purchase. Commissioner Sosebee stated that the Assessor's budget exactly where it needed to be. Chairman Helton stated that the problem could have been handled much easier by just inviting Gazaway to Board of Assessor's Board meeting.

Commissioner Johnson stated he would advise to stop using email to address the issues. He also commented that he was tired of the friction between the Commissioner's office and the Assessor's office. Johnson stated he was tired and took offense to reading about issues in the newspapers and Fetch You News instead of Cochran addressing the Board directly.

Cochran stated that the newspaper had not been given any information other than what was said in the Assessors' Meetings. Junnier thanked the Board of Commissioners for clarification.

Chairman Helton stated for some time he had expressed his concern with the budget of the Tax Assessors office. Chairman Helton said he had received a proposal from a company call Georgia Mass Appraisal Service. Chairman Helton explained that it was a three-year contract and he quoted the higher of the quotes as follows: Contract amount for year one and two would be \$223,000.00 and the third year would be \$338,000.00. Chairman said he thought this would save the tax payers

Commissioner Johnson asked for clarification if the quote was for all parcels in the County for \$784,000. Chairman Helton stated it was correct, however he did think that we would need to keep some personnel in office here and a Board of Assessors to oversee.

Commissioner Johnson asked what the yearly budget was for the Assessor's office and Gazaway stated it was \$848,000.00 which would make the three-year budget \$2.8 million (amount includes employee insurance costs). Commissioner Johnson stated he was all for anything that would save money.

Chairman Helton asked the Posts if they thought it was worth considering. Both agreed and wanted to look over the material more in depth.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Helton stated that executive session was needed to go over a real estate matter. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to go into executive session. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

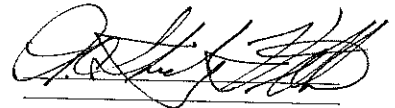
Chairman Helton made motion to come out of executive session. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton stated no decision was made but stated that a motion needed to be made. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to sell the surplus property on Bullen Gap. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton also stated a personnel matter. County Clerk and Assistant Finance Director, Karen Jones will be getting married and moving to North Carolina and her last day will be July 13, 2018.

**CLOSING**

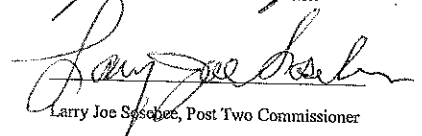
Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Johnson made the second. Motion passed unanimously.



Stan Helton, Chairman

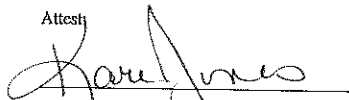


Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Larry Joe Sosebee, Post Two Commissioner

Attest

  
Karen Jones, County Clerk