

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
APRIL 02, 2015**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on April 02, 2015, 2:00 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, 401 Grindstaff Cove Rd., Room A201, 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

Tony Elders, Code Enforcement Director
Rich Price, Economic Development Director
Chad Parker, Public Works Director
Todd Dillard, Emergency Management Director
Michael Forbis, Fire Marshal
Rob Hawk, Cooperative Extension Director
Joe Ward, Drexel Committee
Nick Breedlove, Press

Chairman McMahan called the meeting to order and stated the purpose of the Special Meeting is to tour the Drexel Building in Whittier, NC.

(a) **Drexel Site:** There had been several meetings to discuss possible options for the building and site. During this process it was determined that a master plan was needed. The community identified several ideas for reuse:

- Agricultural activities and events
- Recreational facilities
- Business development
- Event/activity center

Next steps in the master plan include an assessment of the condition of the building. The existing building is approximately 50 years old and has some roof leaks. It is in need of mechanical, electrical and plumbing upgrades. It would be advisable, if the building is to be restored, to do so in phases. It is estimated that a new roof will be \$800,000 - \$1,000,000. The skeleton of the building appears to be in good shape. The building and site has unlimited possibilities, but will have a large cost to update and clean-up.

One possibility for one end of the building would be to place a cattle load-out. The Drexel Committee will place temporary stakes where they envision the cattle load-out would be located. County staff will then determine if the cattle load-out will be possible with the flood shadow, etc.

(b) **Barker's Creek River Access**: The Commissioners stopped to tour the completed Barker's Creek River Access Area.

(c) **Dillsboro River Property**: The Commissioners stopped to tour the Dillsboro River property that was acquired from the Town of Dillsboro.

Chairman McMahan adjourned the Special Meeting at 4:22 pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman