

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
JUNE 19, 2017**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on June 19, 2017, at 5:50 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 public hearing to order and stated the purpose of the public hearing was to receive public input concerning the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update.

Michael Poston, Planning Director, stated that in 2014 the county established the Comprehensive Land Use Plan/Transportation Plan Steering Committee to guide the process of updating both the County's Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The Steering Committee members, all volunteers, spent countless hours in researching and discussing all of the elements that factor into how the county would develop over the next 25 years. The two and a half year process included the development of the vision statement, public survey, research and discussion of planning elements, formation of goals and objectives for the ten planning elements, development of an Action Plan, public meetings to gain community input, and incorporating the community's comments into a final draft.

The final draft was recommended by the Steering Committee to the Planning Board at their March 1, 2017 meeting. The Planning Board was presented with and discussed the final draft at their April 13, 2017 meeting. That discussion led to a recommendation from the Planning Board that the Commissioners consider adopting the updated Jackson County Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Eric Myers of Sylva, stated he had read the plan and thought it was well done, but had a couple of items to speak about. He was currently the Chair of the Greenway Committee and he was happy to see support and direction for greenways and trails in the plan. Also, it appeared it was extremely difficult to find sites for student housing at WCU, which was necessary as they lowered tuition in an effort to increase enrollment. Also, he would like to add transportation and utilities as well and include TWSA in the conversation. Lastly, the intersection of Highway 107 and South River Road was very hazardous and had poor visibility for anyone turning in either direction. He was hopeful they could find ways to make recommendations to improve that intersection, perhaps a deceleration lane.

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

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman