

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
FEBRUARY 06, 2024**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on February 06, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Justice and Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present:	Mark A. Letson, Chairman	Darlene Fox, Interim County Manager
	Todd Bryson, Vice Chair	John Kubis, Interim County Attorney (Via Zoom)
	Mark Jones, Commissioner	Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to the Board
	Tom Stribling, Commissioner (Via Zoom)	
Absent:	John W. Smith	

Chairman Letson called the meeting to order.

(1) **AGENDA**: Commissioner Jones moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bryson seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(2) **MINUTES**: Commissioner Bryson moved to approve the minutes of a Work Session of January 09, 2024; a Regular Meeting of January 16, 2024; a Special Called Meeting of January 18, 2024; and a Special Called Meeting of January 19, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(3) **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**: Chairman Letson reported he would be visiting Emergency Management on Wednesday and meeting with Todd Dillard, Emergency Management Director, to look at the facility and operations.

(4) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**: Commissioner Jones stated he attended the Animal Shelter Open House on Saturday. Staff provided him with a tour of the facility and he was very impressed. This was a project he and former Commissioner Vicki Greene started 12 years ago. It was nice to see the project come together. The county was fortunate to have this facility.

(5) **COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**: None.

(6) **INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC**:

(a) Keith Blaine stated the libraries were assets in the counties and he appreciated the Fontana Regional Library (FRL). He read the FRL agreement and thought it was well written. He supported all of the proposed amendments to the agreement.

(b) Nelia Waldrum brought back up her concern about the county owned Galik property near the library. She continued to see the property utilized in a vicarious way. It appeared to her to be a potential liability for the county. She requested the Board consider clearing out the building to make it a safer space.

(c) Demarcus Staton stated he had been part of the county since 2003 and started a nonprofit “Reflection of Inspiration”. They helped the Department of Justice, Domestic Peace and other domestic violence programs in the area. They were continuing to develop different programs within the community. He requested time to discuss how to collaborate and help the community.

(7) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH - PRIVATE PERMITTING ONSITE FEES:

Anna Lippard, Interim Health Director, stated she was seeking approval for the new Environmental Health Fees for onsite and wastewater for private permitting options. The fees were based on North Carolina Session Law 2023-90, which had multiple changes that affected the wastewater industry. The state provided local health departments guidance on how to establish the fees and what was allowable compared to current fees.

She provided the Private Permitting Quick Summary:

Private Permitting Option	Completeness Review?	Fees Allowed (compared to normal LHD fees)	Effective Date of Fee Changes
(a2) IP/CA	Yes- 5 days	IP: up to 100%; CA: up to 40%; IP+CA: up to 40%	9/1/2023
EOP	No	Up to \$35	9/1/2023
AOWE	No	Up to \$35	9/1/2023

General discussions were held.

Ms. Lippard requested approval to implement the new Environmental Health Fees.

Motion: *Commissioner Jones moved to approve the new Environmental Health Fees, as presented. Commissioner Bryson seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(8) BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Ms. Fox presented a Budget Ordinance Amendment for Administration - Retirement Expense in the amount of \$169,206.26.

Motion: *Commissioner Bryson moved to approve the Budget Ordinance Amendment, as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

(9) PLANNING BOARD: Carry over.

(10) PRESS CONFERENCE: None.

There being no further business, Commissioner Bryson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Mark A. Letson, Chairman