

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
APRIL 16, 2024**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on April 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m., Justice and Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

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

Chairman Letson called the meeting to order.

(1) **AGENDA**: Chairman Letson requested to remove two items: Military Order of Purple Heart Proclamation and Fontana Regional Library. Commissioner Jones moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Smith seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(2) **MINUTES**: Commissioner Smith moved to approve the minutes of a Regular Meeting of April 02, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

(3) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**: Chairman Letson stated he had been in contact with Representative Chuck Edwards about funding possibilities for the county. He was hopeful to get funding to help with the completion of some projects.

(4) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**: None.

(5) **COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**: Mr. King reported:

(a) **Canada Volunteer Fire Department/Community Center**: He and Chad Parker, Public Works Director, recently visited the Canada Volunteer Fire Department and Community Center. \$50,000 had been set aside for architectural work for the project. NEO Corp. would also be involved to look at a few issues with the building.

(b) **Opioid Planning Process**: The Southwestern Commission had been engaged in a regional planning approach. When that was completed, they would begin a local planning process. At that point, they could engage stakeholders and begin moving forward decide how to spend the funds.

(6) **INFORMAL COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC**: Bob Thomas asked if it was legal for a county fire department to sell a fire truck to a private citizen. Also, what happened to Southwestern Child Development? He heard conflicting stories of why the doors closed. He requested support for a pedestrian bridge at the high school for students to cross 107. Where was the county at on Drexel?

(7) CONSENT AGENDA:

(a) Darlene Fox, Finance Director, presented the Finance Report for March, 2024 and one Budget Ordinance Amendments for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for approval.

(b) Brandi Henson, Tax Collector, presented the Tax Collector and Refund Reports for March, 2024, for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(8) CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SPECIALTY PLAN: Mr. King stated this item was presented by Shelly Foreman of Vaya Health and discussed at the work session. He presented a requested letter in support for Vaya Health to become the statewide administrator of the Children and Families Specialty Plan, in collaboration with Partners Health Management.

Motion: Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Children and Families Specialty Plan Letter of Support, as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(9) CANEY FORK COMMUNITY CENTER: Mr. King stated a request was presented to the Board at the work session for the Caney Fork Community Center in the amount of \$6,000. He recommended approval of the request with the funds coming from the Community Development Fund.

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Caney Fork Community Center request of \$6,000, as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(10) COUNCIL ON AGING: A recommendation was submitted by Eddie Wells, Department on Aging Director.

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved to reappoint Laura Chapman to serve an additional three-year term on the Council on Aging. Commissioner Smith seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(11) PLANNING BOARD: A recommendation was submitted by the Planning Board.

Motion: Commissioner Smith moved to appoint Nathan Shepherd to serve as Chair of the Planning Board. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

(12) PRESS CONFERENCE: None.

There being no further business, Commissioner Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Mark A. Letson, Chairman