

November 14, 2011– Regular Session

The Swain County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Session on November 14, 2011. Present were Chairman Carson, Vice-Chair White, Commissioner Moon, Commissioner Dixon and Commissioner Monteith.

Chairman Carson called the regular session to order. Commissioner Moon led with prayer and the pledge.

Adjust Agenda

Commissioner Moon made a motion to adjust the agenda to better facilitate the meeting. A vote was unanimous.

Minutes

Commissioner Moon made a motion to approve minutes of the October 10 public hearing, October 10 work session, October 10 regular session, October 25 public hearing, October 25 special session and October 25 work session. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Tax Collector's Report

Peggy Hyde presented a report to the Board for the month of October, 2011. Ad-Valorem tax receivable was reported at \$4,453,017.95. There was \$393,885.17 collected for the month. Total collections year to date were \$2,176,686.37. The tax collection percentage year to date was 40.32%. Total releases were \$4,136.90, total discoveries were \$2,049.57 and total refunds were \$226.23. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the Tax Collector's report as presented. Commissioner Monteith seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Finance Officer's Report

Dean Kowal, Finance Officer, presented a report to the Board for October, 2011. Mrs. Kowal report revenues for the month were \$1,172,839.93. Total revenue year to date is \$5,283,386.95. We have approximately 35.47% of revenues for 2011/2012 fiscal year. Expenditures for the month were \$953,489.52. Year to date we have expended \$4,934,889.09. We have paid out approximately 33.13% of the General Fund appropriations for 2011/2012 fiscal year. Commissioner Moon made a motion to approve the Finance Report as presented. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

NCDOT Plan Socio-Economic Data Forecasting Methodology: Commissioner Monteith made a motion to approve the 30 year plan as presented. Vice-Chair White seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

JCPC Appointment: Commissioner Dixon made a motion to appoint Eric Stiles to serve on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council with his term to expire June 30, 2014. Commissioner Monteith seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Approval of Rec. park Master Plan: Commissioner Monteith made a motion to approve the Rec. Park Master Plan as presented. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Resolution – Mountains to Seas: Commissioner Dixon made a motion to adopt the following resolution:



Resolution # 900-2011-16

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SWAIN**

The Swain County Board of Commissioners hereby resolves the following at a regularly assembled meeting:

WHEREAS, Swain and Jackson counties have extraordinary natural, rural and cultural features such as the Tuckasegee River, entrances to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway and Nantahala National Forest, mountain farms and rural crossroad communities, Western Carolina University, and the vibrant towns of Bryson City, Dillsboro and Sylva;

WHEREAS, Swain and Jackson counties have adopted greenway plans to highlight these natural, rural and cultural features for the enjoyment and health of their citizens and visitors;

WHEREAS, the Mountains-to-Sea Trail runs 1000 miles from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks to showcase North Carolina's natural, rural and cultural features;

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail is a unit of the State Park System created and maintained in partnership with local, state and federal governments and citizen groups;

WHEREAS, more and more people are completing the entire Mountains-to-Sea Trail to experience the beauty and diversity of North Carolina;

WHEREAS, an official route for the Mountains-to-Sea Trail between the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and Balsam Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway has never been designated since the trail was first proposed in 1977;

WHEREAS, recently the NC Division of State Parks has been discussing establishing an official route for the trail from Clingmans Dome in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park to Balsam Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway which would be extremely difficult for most hikers because it would run almost 80 miles over very steep terrain (total ascent of 15,800 feet and total descent of 19,000 feet) before hikers would be able to resupply in a town or store;

WHEREAS, a beautiful and interesting trail route that is approximately 40 miles long over gentler terrain (total ascent of 5,100 feet and total descent of 8,400 feet) with multiple opportunities for resupply could be established through Swain and Jackson counties that would leave the Great Smoky Mountain National Park at Deep Creek Campground, follow proposed greenways through Swain and Jackson counties, and use forest roads in the Nantahala National Forest to reach the Blue Ridge Parkway at Balsam Gap;

WHEREAS, the **Swain County Board of Commissioners** is eager to help Swain and Jackson counties partner with the NC Division of Parks and Recreation and other local, state, and federal governments and citizen groups to build, maintain and promote a trail route which meets the needs of MST hikers and showcases the beauty of Swain and Jackson counties;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that **Swain County Board of Commissioners** requests that the NC Division of Parks and Recreation, the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and the Nantahala National Forest, adopt a primary planned route for the Mountains-to-Sea Trail through Swain and Jackson counties. This resolution's sole purpose, as stated above, does not include any agency's request for other use. Any unauthorized use, including buffering, will automatically rescind this resolution.

Adopted this the 14th day of November, 2011.

Phil Carson, Chairman
Swain County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Cindi C. Woodard, Clerk to the Board
Swain County Commissioners

Commissioner Monteith seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Acceptance of Easement – NOC: Vice-Chair White made a motion to accept the right of way easement needed to construct, maintain and operate a wave shaper water structure on the Nantahala River granted by the NC Department of Administration for the 2013 International Kayak Championship. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Budget Amendment: Commissioner Moon made a motion to approve the following budget amendment:

SWAIN COUNTY - BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the County of Swain, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of amending the adopted budget to reflect the following changes:

<u>Description</u>	Inc. Expenditures or Dec. Revenues	Inc. Revenues or Dec. Exp.
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General Fund

Building and Grounds		
Capital Outlay	65,000	
Chamber of Commerce		
Lease Payable	6,000	
Special Appropriations		
Transfer to Sanitation	106,000	

General Fund Revenues

ARC Grant		65,000
Insurance Claim Payment		56,000
Appropriated Fund Balance		<u>56,000</u>
Total	<u>177,000</u>	177,000

As Clerk of the Board, I certify this budget amendment was approved by the Swain County Board of Commissioners in a Regular Session on November 14, 2011

Cindi Woodard, Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Lease for Island Street Property: Commissioner Moon made a motion to approve a lease agreement with a non profit organization located on Island Street including a house, barn and river front property, approximately 2.5 acres for \$6,000.00 per year. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Informal Discussion: Kevin King announced there would be a mediation with Graham County on December 19th for anyone who could go.

Public Comments: Richard Allison – history/ timeline of Swain County

Adjournment

Commissioner Monteith made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindi C. Woodard,
Clerk to the Board
Swain County Commissioners

Phil Carson,
Chairman
Swain County Commissioners