

May 10, 2018– Regular Session

The Swain County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Session on May 10, 2018 Present were Chairman Carson, Vice-Chair Bushyhead, Commissioner Burns, and Commissioner Parton. Commissioner Parsons was absent.

Chairman Carson called the regular session to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjust Agenda

Commissioner Burns made a motion to adjust the agenda as needed. Vice-Chair Bushyhead seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to approve minutes of the April 12 regular session, April 26 public hearing and April 26 work session. Commissioner Parton seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Tax Collector’s Report

Kevin King read the Tax Collector’s report to the Board for the month of April 2018. Ad-Valorem tax receivable was reported at \$5,659,956.28. There was \$139,907.45 collected for the month. Total collections year to date were \$6,330,745.56. The tax collection percentage year to date was 102.40%. Total releases were \$5,057.11, total discoveries were \$6,391.28 and total refunds were \$4,547.34. Commissioner Burns made a motion to approve the Tax Collector’s report as presented. Vice-Chair Bushyhead seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Finance Officer's Report

Dean Kowal presented the Finance Officer’s report for April 2018. Revenues for the month were \$772,362.72. Total revenue year to date is \$12,630,398.17. We have approximately 75.89% of revenues for 2017/2018 fiscal year. Expenditures for the month were \$994,599.10. Year to date we have expended \$12,075,855.46. We have paid out approximately 72.56% of the General Fund appropriations for 2017/2018 fiscal year. Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to approve the Finance Officer’s Report as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

EMS/Emergency Management/E911 Report: David Breedlove presented the following:
Swain County Emergency Services Quarterly Report: April 2018
Submitted by: David Breedlove

E911

Dispatched agency calls: January-March 2018

EMS	600
Police Department	626
Sheriff’s Department	2446
Rescue Squad	42
West Swain VFD	39
Alarka VFD	52
Bryson City VFD	106
NCFS	12
Other(Safe, DSS,SHP,WIA)	532
Total number of dispatched calls	4455
Total Calls into dispatch	7254
Last Quarter(Oct-Dec 2017)	7329
Oct-Dec 2017 total dispatched calls	4270

Emergency Management

During April we have provided 2 emergency training exercises for Emergency Services, Nantahala Outdoor Center, and the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad. The exercises were funded by a grant from Homeland Security.

EMS

EMS volume continues to increase: 541 calls January through March in 2017
600 calls January Through March in 2018

Action Items

Rec. Park Master Plan: Commissioner Burns made a motion to approve the plan. Vice-Chair Bushyhead seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Rec. Park Commission Appointments: Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to appoint Phil Carson, Danny Burns, Kenneth Parton and Kevin King. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

The Town of Bryson City appointed Heidi Woodard, Tom Sutton and Regina Mathis.

Disabled American Veterans' Request for Funds: The DAV Chapter 89 noted if funds are approved, they will be used during the next fiscal year to assist disabled veterans and their families, provide assistance to any veteran with claims they wish to pursue with the VA as well as assist with acquiring copies of their DD-214 and other military records. Each veteran in the nursing homes in Swain County were each given a special \$50.00 gift card for Christmas last year to help with their needs. Some veterans having difficulty paying their electric, fuel or rental bills may also be covered depending on the immediate needs of disabled veterans.

Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to approve \$1300.00. Commissioner Parton seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Plan and Certification: Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to approve these documents as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Sales Tax Referendum: Commissioner Burns made a motion to approve the following:



Resolution # 900-2018-3

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SWAIN**

RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ADVISORY REFERENDUM FOR LEVY OF A ONE-QUARTER CENT (1/4¢) COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX

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

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly has enacted a “One-Quarter Cent (1/4¢) County Sales and Use Tax Act”, more specifically outlined as Article 46 of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Article 46 of Chapter 105 authorizes county governments to enact a local sales and use tax upon conducting a special advisory referendum on the question of whether to levy a local sales and use tax; and

WHEREAS, the advisory referendum shall be held in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes § 163-287; and

WHEREAS, the Swain County Board of Education has requested that the Board of Commissioners consider holding a referendum to levy a quarter cent (1/4¢) sales and use tax for the benefit of public education in Swain County; and

WHEREAS, the Swain County Board of Education has further demonstrated a financial need for current and future capital and current expenses due to decreased funding from state and federal sources; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Swain County desires to request the voters of Swain County in an advisory referendum pursuant to and authorized by North Carolina General Statutes § 163-287;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Swain County Board of Commissioners:

Section 1. A referendum is hereby called during the general election on November 6, 2018, at which there will be submitted to the voters of Swain County the question stated in Section 4 of this resolution.

Section 2. The Swain County Board of Commissioners hereby states that the intent of the revenues from the Article 46 one-quarter (1/4¢) county sales and use tax, if approved by the voters of Swain County, will be for current expense and capital needs of the Swain County Public School System and will not supplant any current appropriations.

Section 3. The Swain County Board of Elections is hereby directed to conduct said referendum in accordance with the provisions set forth in North Carolina General Statutes § 163-287.

Section 4. The form of the question to appear on the ballots and in the instruction to voters for said referendum shall be as follow:

[] FOR [] AGAINST

Local sales and use tax at the rate of one-quarter (0.25%) in addition to all other state and local sales and use taxes.

Adopted this the 10st day of May, 2018.

Phillip B. Carson, Sr.
Chairman of the Swain County
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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

Commissioner Parton seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Brush Creek Road Gate: The NC Wildlife Resources Commission asked the Board to consider a proposed gate and parking area at the swinging bridge of Brush Creek Church Road. Vice-Chair Bushyhead made a motion to decline this request. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

New Business

-Mike Clampitt discussed the need for a needle exchange program to help with the opioid crisis and shared the NC Case Study and House Bills supporting this effort. Mr. Clampitt asked the Board to consider appropriating \$10,000 for the Health Department's budget to purchase a mobile unit van for a needle exchange program.

Closed Session

None

Informal Discussion:

-Budget work session dates: May 15th and 22nd

-Assembly Day: May 30th

-Kevin King spoke with Dan Harbaugh about possible consolidation of the Whittier Sanitary District. Mr. Harbaugh will be on the May 24th work session agenda for updates.

-Mr. King clarified \$35,000 was received from the State of North Carolina thru the Department of Commerce toward the Island Street Project.

-One picnic table and trash can has been placed on the New Road at the first pull off.

-Chairman Phil Carson noted \$8,000 was spent last year to replace green 911 road signs due to theft and encouraged citizens to report any incidents so they can get put back up for safety.

Public Comments: None

Adjournment

Commissioner Burns made a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chair Bushyhead 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