

MINUTES
WILKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 7, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ECONOMIC INVESTMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WILKES COUNTY AND PROJECT FLOW – Chairman Eddie Settle stated the Public Hearing on the proposed Economic Investment Agreement between Wilkes County and Project Flow has been cancelled.

PUBLIC HEARING – ROAD NAME REQUEST – TEABERRY LANE, WILKESBORO TOWNSHIP – Chairman Eddie Settle declared the Public Hearing open regarding the Road Name Request at 6:02 P.M. on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 with the following members present: Chairman Eddie Settle, Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton, Commissioner Keith Elmore, Commissioner David Gambill, and Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson.

Also present were Tony Triplett, County Attorney; John Yates, County Manager; W.C. Scroggs, Planner; and Sarah Call, Clerk to the Board.

Chairman Settle asked if anyone would like to speak in regards to the road name request for the private drive, Teaberry Lane located off Old Moravian Falls Road (SR1101) in the Wilkesboro Township. Hearing no comments Chairman Settle declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:03 P.M.

The Wilkes County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:03 P.M. with the following members present: Chairman Eddie Settle, Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton, Commissioner Keith Elmore, Commissioner David Gambill, and Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson.

Also present for the meeting were Tony Triplett, County Attorney; John Yates, County Manager; and Sarah Call, Clerk to the Board.

Chairman Eddie Settle welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION – Commissioner David Gambill led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chairman Settle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion was made by Commissioner Elmore, seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and unanimously adopted to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 17, 2021.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS/TRANSFERS – Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill to approve Budget Amendment No. 1 (General – Social Services – CSE Incentive of \$30,321 FFY 19 Settlement received in May along with monthly CSE Incentive of \$4,683 in

May and \$4,683 in June. This has been offset by \$15,154.33 in May and \$15,154.33 in June (Sheriff Costs) on 1571 State Reporting. Remainder is being carried over to Fiscal Year 2021-2022. No County Funds Required); and Budget Amendment No. 2 (General – Wilkes County received grant of \$150,000 from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality. The funds will be used to cover Carter Falls Bridge Expenses. Wilkes County Parks and Recreation received \$39,000 from the Carson Foundation in FY 2021. The funds were to be used to provide lighting for the soccer fields (\$35,000) and construction of a volleyball court (\$4,000). These funds were unable to be spent due to scheduling and the end of the county's fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year these unspent funds became fund balance); and Budget Amendment No. 3 (Health Programs – Wilkes Health received \$1,400 from Project Lazarus. These funds will be used to prevent substance abuse for Wilkes County residents. No County money involved. Wilkes Health received \$33,333 from the state for MESH COVID funding. These funds support increased staffing hours to assist COVID recovery activities including screening, testing, vaccinations, tracking, follow-up and COVID education. No County money involved. Wilkes Health received \$655,796 from the state for COVID funding. These funds support enhanced laboratory, surveillance, informatics and other workforce capacity as well as strengthen community lab testing, support advance electronic data exchange at public health labs, improve surveillance and reporting of electronic health data, enhance investigation, response, and prevention for COVID-19 and to partner with NCDPH to establish and/or enhance testing for COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2. No county money involved. Wilkes Health received \$225,222 from the state for COVID funding. These funds will be utilized to continue activities that focus on removing the barriers to accessing the vaccine, increasing vaccine confidence, coordinating COVID-19 vaccine services, and expanding its COVID-19 vaccination program, emphasizing reaching high risk and underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minorities, and all others disproportionately affected by COVID-19. No county money involved). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson and unanimously approved.

BLUE RIDGE OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (BROC):

1. HOME AND COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT FINAL FY 2021 BUDGET – Chairman Settle recognized Nicole Hiegl, High Country Area Agency on Aging Director and Ms. Mary Edna Faw. Ms. Hiegl thanked the Board and stated Dare Stromer asked them to step in as interim to help with this process while BROC is going through transitions. She added in the packets the Board has the breakout for the Home and Community Block Grant funding by service provider. She failed to include the summary that combines all three together and handed them out at this time. Ms. Hiegl went through the summary for FY 2020-2021 and the final budget revisions for the three Aging Agencies at this time. She added the first three are the services provided by BROC, the next six services are provided by Wilkes Senior Resources, the last is Adult Daycare provided by Ruby Pardue Blackburn Adult Daycare. The total Block Grant for FY 2021 was \$556,237; local match of \$61,804; total \$618,041; Nutrition subsidy \$27,116; total funding through the N.C. Division of Aging Adult Services was \$645,157; total clients served 452; and total units 51,177. Chairman Settle asked if the units are services. Ms. Hiegl replied yes. Commissioner Elmore asked if Suzanne Hanlin is back at the Senior Center. Ms. Hiegl replied yes. Chairman Elmore asked if the County paid the match. Mr. Yates replied yes, it was for last fiscal year. Ms. Heigl added the state requires them to get approval for the final

budget for 2021 because it changed from when it was first approved. The second item is the new budget for 2022, the state requires them to get signatures of where they start and where they finish.

Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to approve the Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission Home and Community Block Grant Final FY 2020-2021 Budget as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and unanimously approved.

2. HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT FY 2022 BUDGET –

Ms. Hiegl stated this is the Home and Community Care Block Grant FY 2022 Budget for next fiscal year. She added they provided all the same services from the same providers as last year. The total is \$543,867; local match required of \$60,430 which is 10%; total budget \$604,296; projected subsidy of \$38,698; grand total of \$642,994; projected units 56,492; projected 676 clients served in the county; 88,095 total units projected. Chairman Settle stated this is the current budget. Ms. Hiegl replied yes. Commissioner Gambill said they have not requested any money from the County at this time. Ms. Hiegl replied correct. Commissioner Elmore asked what if it changes. Ms. Hiegl replied they would approve it again at the end of the year, and it very likely it will change. Ms. Faw stated this is all money coming to the county and not going anywhere else. Commissioner Elmore added it is all basically going to the meals on wheels program. Ms. Hiegl replied correct. Ms. Faw added everyone that gets the Home and Community Care Block Grant has to have the local match or the funds will not come into Wilkes County.

Commissioner Gambill stated BROCC is in good hands now, and asked if the action they took earlier to hold the funds until it is needed is still in effect by approving the budget. He added they do not want the money disbursed until the case is concluded, but if they need it they want them to ask for it. Mr. Triplett replied that cannot change until they vote to change what they did. He added a vote to approve the budget presented does not change what the Board approved which was to hold funding.

Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to approve the Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission Home and Community Block Grant FY 2021-2022 Budget as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gambill and unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – UPDATE – Chairman Settle recognized John Blevins, DSS Director. Mr. Blevins said he has a few updates for the Board before they go over the reports. They have had 14 employees go out for Covid or quarantine it is spread out through the agency so it has not affected their service. He added all have recovered and the ones still out are doing fine, which is good. Chairman Settle asked the vaccination rate. Mr. Blevins replied he is not sure, he has not asked. Chairman Settle asked the County vaccination rate average. Ms. Rachel Willard replied 37% fully vaccinated, 42% partially vaccinated. Mr. Blevins added he believes his staff is above this average.

Mr. Blevins said the State has Cares Act funding they received of \$24,205. They have to incur it by end of September and send in how they will spend it by October. The approved uses include getting back all county expenses for children that come into care like hotel stays, PPE and things like this that goes back to January 2020. They hope to recoup a lot of that and spend as much as they can of these funds which requires no match. The Family First Preventing Services Act begins October 1st which he has mentioned before. The IV-E reimbursement will be limited to 14 days for congregate care and could affect their budget. He added one facility in the county is working on getting qualified for QRTP status. They can still claim administrative costs and any child in their care as of October 1st will be grandfathered in. Mr. Blevins said any new kids coming in will have these limits. They hope after 14 days they can switch to state funding which is 50/50, but they are not sure if they can. This is a big change, they are trying to prevent kids from going into foster care which is good. He is worried, the state has said there will be a 2-year glide period. Year one the state will pick up the extra cost, year 2 will be 50/50 to help with transitions.

Mr. Blevins said they hope to increase the number of licensed foster family homes and kinship placement, which will not be restricted to 14 days. They are working on this and how to increase foster families, they had many restrictions and cancellations due to Covid that affected them the past 18 months. He added they have made internal changes to staffing and have added another worker to do licensing which will double the capacity. Mr. Blevins said the Supervisor will be trained to help with licensing as well. He said in the past this team helped when they brought kids in to care and they did all the calling. They changed this so they have more time to recruit families and do the licensing they hope will help increase this. Mr. Blevins said they have promotional merchandise to help get the word out to advertise, and hope to work some of the festivals coming up. They are looking to develop a foster home website, run ads on 3WC Radio, a new billboard, and maybe ads on WXII if they can afford it. He added they get money from the adoptions and the good job they do. It has to be spent on specific things and there are no county funds.

Mr. Blevins provided the Commissioners with handouts for July. He briefly went over the monthly caseload report, Foster Care financial report, Adoption Services financial report, Child Development and Subsidized Child Care financial report. He also went through the CPS Foster Care monthly reports for July. Mr. Blevins thanked the Board for approving the upfit at Curtis Bridge Road, APS has moved in and it is working very well.

The Board thanked Mr. Blevins for his update.

TAX DEPARTMENT – TAX RELEASES – LISTINGS – Chairman Settle recognized Will Lankford, Tax Administrator and asked how things are going on the tax department. Mr. Lankford stated things are going well, it has been very busy and a lot of folks coming in. They have already collected about \$1 million more than this time last year. He added July and August is their busiest time due to the bills going out. Mr. Lankford asked the Board to approve tax releases for listings in the amount of \$42,331.74, this request was amended from the first in their packet with 13 being removed. The bills and parcels were correct They were direct transfers prior to 2021 and the ownership name did not get transferred correctly. When the list was

presented to the Clerk for the packets these payments had not been received, but were received before the end of the month. Commissioner Elmore asked about # 43-45 and if two years are missing. Mr. Lankford replied it was removed from the system for 2 years and then it was added back and it was a system issue that has just now come to their attention. Commissioner Gambill asked about # 16. Mr. Lankford said it is being released and they will rebill it in the correct ownership, it's like the 13 he mentioned earlier, except this payment was not received. Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to approve the tax releases for listings in the amount of \$42,331.74 as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and unanimously approved.

A detailed listing of tax releases is maintained in the Wilkes County Tax Administrator's office.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT – ROAD NAME REQUEST – TEABERRY LANE – WILKESBORO TOWNSHIP – Chairman Settle recognized W.C. Scroggs, Planner. Mr. Scroggs stated the Wilkes County Planning Department has received a petition to name a private road off Old Moravian Falls Road in the Wilkesboro Township of Wilkes County. The name chosen by Petition is Teaberry Lane. He added this request meets the requirements of the Wilkes County Road Naming Ordinance. Mr. Scroggs said pursuant to the Wilkes County Road Naming Ordinance a Public Hearing and ten-day notification period has been met and it is for the Boards consideration. A Public Hearing was held to receive public input on the proposed Road Name Request for Teaberry Lane, with no opposition.

Commissioner David Gambill a motion to approve the Road Name Request for Teaberry Lane as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and unanimously approved.

DESIGN-BUILD PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT – WILKES COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX PROJECT – County Attorney Tony Triplett stated this is the first contract since the Board awarded the Design-Build project on the Wilkes Governmental Complex to Vannoy. He added they have been meeting with them for several months for this first contract in this process. Design-Build is not something the Board has done before, this is the first time going through it. Mr. Triplett said Design-Build required they first have a preliminary agreement, which is the design part of the process and what they will furnish to the county and design on this particular project. He added this is a 3 phase project, Emergency Services Center, County Office, and phase 3 has not been decided yet by the Board. Mr. Triplett said the agreement before the Board calls for them to be employed as the Design-Builder and gives them the greenlight to start design services for the Emergency Services Center. The Board will have the option to proceed with the next two phases. This contract only locks the Board into paying the amount in the contract for Vannoy to design an Emergency Services Center on the Call property. He added this is all that is before the Board tonight.

Chairman Settle asked if this locks them into phase 2. Mr. Triplett replied phase 2 is included in the contract if the Board decides to proceed as well as phase 3. He added the price in the contract is a total of \$485,000 divided into three parts as listed on page 5 and all they are locked into. If the Board decides to move forward on the County Office Building phase 2 they will

come back with an amended contract with the price and time line to design that building. The same for phase 3 when and if they reach that point.

Commissioner Elmore asked about the 21,380 sq. ft. with a price of \$8 million, is this for the EMS building. Mr. Triplett said replied that is in the prosed letter and is an estimate. Mr. Yates added that is only an estimate, Part C of the agreement is the "GMP" which is the guaranteed maximum price which Vannoy will be working on. Chairman Settle stated all they are approving tonight is the \$385K for the planning. Mr. Triplett replied yes. Commissioner Gambill stated this is all they are locked into. Commissioner Elmore stated not the \$8 million. Mr. Yates replied correct, that will come back to them for approval. Mr. Triplett added that will be approved by the Board in another contract once they get to that point.

Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to approve the Design-Build Preliminary Agreement between Wilkes County and James R. Vannoy & Sons Construction Co., Inc. for the Wilkes County Governmental Complex Project Phase One as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gambill and unanimously approved.

SET PUBLIC HEARING – THE BLOCK/AMZ AMUSEMENTS, LCC – ECONOMIC INVESTEMENT AGREEMENT – County Attorney Tony Triplett stated this was discussed in closed session and now it is time for the Board to reveal the name and set a public hearing. He added the Board will hear public comment on a proposed contact with The Block/AMZ Amusements, LLC located in the Melody Square Building in North Wilkesboro. All the Board needs to do tonight is set a Public Hearing for the first meeting in October to allow time to run the notice.

Motion was made by Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson to set the public hearing for Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at 5:50 PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the County Office Building, pursuant to G.S. §158-7.1, for comment on a proposed Economic Investment Agreement in connection with the economic development project for The Block/AMZ Amusements, LLC. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING SALE OF COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY:

1. WILKESBORO TOWNSHIP – PARCEL ID NO. 22-01098 – Mr. Triplett stated this is a follow up to the offer received from Mr. Ray Boone. The Board authorized him to advertise this offer which was \$5,730.81. He added the advertisement ran and there were no upset bids and the 10 days have run out. Mr. Triplett stated if the Board wishes to approve the offer there is a Resolution in the packets that the Board needs to approve.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Brain S. Minton to approve and adopt the Resolution Authorizing Sale of County-owned Property in Wilkesboro Township as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION

*AUTHORIZING SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY*

WHEREAS, the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting of August 3, 2021, authorized advertisement for sale of a tract of land owned by Wilkes County (hereinafter "the County") located in Wilkesboro Township, Wilkes County, North Carolina, consisting of Lot 21 in Block B, Section A, as shown and described on a plat of the subdivision known as Foxtrot Subdivision, recorded in Map Book 7, Page 68, Wilkes County Registry, said property having been acquired by the County under Commissioner's Deed dated June 25, 2021, and recorded in Book 1333, Page 123, Wilkes County Registry, pursuant to the tax foreclosure sale in that action captioned "Wilkes County vs. McLean Property Development, LLC, et al.," File No. 19 CVD 1022, Wilkes County Clerk of Superior Court's Office, and being identified on the records of the Wilkes County Tax Mapping office as PIN # 3866-39-9862, Parcel ID No. 22-01098;

AND WHEREAS, said sale is by negotiated offer, advertisement, and upset bid pursuant to G.S. §160A-269;

AND WHEREAS, the County received an initial offer from Herbert Ray Boone of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, for the purchase of said tract, in the total amount of \$5,730.81 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and recording costs;

AND WHEREAS, said offer was duly advertised in the Wilkes Journal-Patriot on August 11, 2021, as required under G.S. §160A-269;

AND WHEREAS, no upset bids have been received, and the time has expired in which an upset bid may be submitted;

AND WHEREAS, the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners desires to accept said high bid of \$5,730.81 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and recording costs, and desires to authorize sale of the property pursuant to said bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to G.S. §160A-269, that the bid of \$5,730.81 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and recording costs received from Herbert Ray Boone of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, is hereby approved, and upon payment of said purchase price, a Special Warranty Deed shall be executed by the County and conveyed to Herbert Ray Boone or his assignee for the above referenced property.

This the 7th day of September, 2021.

WILKES COUNTY

By: _____
*Eddie D. Settle, Chairman,
Wilkes County Board of Commissioners*

ATTEST:

Sarah D. Call, Clerk

2. WILKESBORO TOWNSHIP – PARCEL ID NO. 22-06715 – Mr. Triplett stated this is the adjoining track and the Board authorized him to advertise the offer from Mr. Rip Rollins who is here tonight. Mr. Rollins offered \$7,778.68. This has been advertised and there were no upset bids and the 10 days have run out. Mr. Triplett stated if the Board wishes to approve the offer there is a Resolution that the Board needs approve for this offer. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton to approve and adopt the Resolution Authorizing Sale of County-owned Property in Wilkesboro Township as presented at tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting of August 3, 2021, authorized advertisement for sale of a tract of land owned by Wilkes County (hereinafter "the County") located in Wilkesboro Township, Wilkes County, North Carolina, consisting 2.72 acres, more or less, adjacent to Foxtrot Subdivision, the same having been acquired by the County under Commissioner's Deed dated June 25, 2021, and recorded in Book 1333, Page 124, Wilkes County Registry, pursuant to the tax foreclosure sale in that action captioned "Wilkes County vs. McLean Property Development, LLC, et al.," File No. 19 CVD 1025, Wilkes County Clerk of Superior Court's Office, and being identified on the records of the Wilkes County Tax Mapping office as PIN # 3866-39-7609, Parcel ID No. 22-06715;

AND WHEREAS, said sale is by negotiated offer, advertisement, and upset bid pursuant to G.S. §160A-269;

AND WHEREAS, the County received an initial offer from Rip R. Rollins, Jr., of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, for the purchase of said tract, in the total amount of \$7,778.68 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and recording costs;

AND WHEREAS, said offer was duly advertised in the Wilkes Journal-Patriot on August 11, 2021, as required under G.S. §160A-269;

AND WHEREAS, no upset bids have been received, and the time has expired in which an upset bid may be submitted;

AND WHEREAS, the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners desires to accept said high bid of \$7,778.68 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and recording costs, and desires to authorize sale of the property pursuant to said bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to G.S. §160A-269, that the bid of \$7,778.68 plus the cost of publication for the required public notice, Deed preparation, and

recording costs received from Rip R. Rollins, Jr., of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, is hereby approved, and upon payment of said purchase price, a Special Warranty Deed shall be executed by the County and conveyed to Rip R. Rollins, Jr., or his assignee for the above referenced property.

This the 7th day of September, 2021.

WILKES COUNTY

By: _____

Eddie D. Settle, Chairman,

Wilkes County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Sarah D. Call, Clerk

PURCHASE OF COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTIES – BOOMER TOWNSHIP – County Attorney Tony Triplett stated this is a new offer received from Mr. Thomas S. Felts from Moravian Falls to purchase two tracks of county-owned property. These properties were acquired through tax foreclosure sale and was formally owned by Heirs of Lena Barnes. He added there is also a map included in the packets of the property. It is located on Hwy 18 South in the Boomer community. Mr. Triplett said there are two parcels and two separate tax foreclosures, but they do adjoin and Mr. Felts owns property that adjoins them. He made an offer of \$300 per parcel or \$600 total which is substantially below what the County has in the property. Mr. Triplett said if the Board wishes to proceed all that is before the Board is to advertise it and see if they get any upset bids. He added he and Mr. Yates talked about placing signs on the property. Mr. Yates said they can ask Mr. Barnes to place signs on the property. Mr. Triplett said there is a depilated home on the larger track and it does not appear to be in good shape. That track is land locked and has no legal access to Hwy 18 which does affect its value and why they need to sale both of them together. He added Mr. Felts contacted him with these offers that is why he is presenting it to the Board to decide to advertise or place for sale signs.

Chairman Settle stated they need to place signs and asked the cost to advertise. Mr. Triplett said over \$100 is what he thinks, it will be a single advertisement in the Journal-Patriot one time. Commissioner Elmore said they need to save the money and place signs at this property. Commissioner Gambill said he would like it to be advertised in the paper and place signs both. Commissioner Elmore said maybe they need to wait and get more information and come back at the next meeting. Commissioner Gambill agreed, he is good with the signs, and asked what they have in the property. Mr. Yates replied \$5,538.81.

Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to table the offer to purchase County-owned property in Boomer Township until the next meeting on September 21, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gambill and unanimously approved.

TOWN OF NORTH WILKESBORO – ETJ MEMBER PLANNING BOARD – Chairman Settle sated this was tabled at the last meeting and is a request from the North Wilkesboro to appoint an ETJ Member to their Planning Board.

Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill to appoint Mr. Jerrell Suddreth as ETJ Member to the North Wilkesboro Planning Board for a 3-year term, as requested. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton and passed unanimously.

PROCLAMATION FOR CONSTITUTION WEEK – Chairman Settle asked Ms. JoAnn Caudill to come forward. She is with the Daughters of the American Revolution and has a Proclamation for Constitution Week. Ms. Caudill stated she is the Regent of the Rendezvous Mountain DAR Chapter which has been in Wilkes County for 93 years. She thanked the Board for adding Constitution Week to the Agenda. Ms. Caudill said Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political women’s service organization. She added there three major goals are to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. With these goals in mind she asked Chairman Settle if he would sign a Proclamation for Constitution week which is September 17-23. Ms. Caudill stated she will read the Proclamation, and it will be on display with a copy of the Constitution in the Wilkes County Library for the next couple weeks.

Chairman Settle stated he likes the part that states “embody the principals of limited government”. It seems they have too much government these days limiting their freedoms and what they can and cannot do. He added in 1780 as stated in the minutes at Roaring River Baptist it says they were sending brother such and such to Kings Mountain to see about the matter, which they did. Chairman Settle said they appreciate this and it is important to this Board.

Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton made a motion to approve the Proclamation for Constitution Week as requested and presented at tonight’s meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson and unanimously approved.

PROCLAMATION FOR CONSTITUTION WEEK

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our Liberties, embodies the principles of limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

WHEREAS: September 17, 2021 marks the two hundred and thirty-fourth anniversary of the fanning of the Constitution of the United States od American by the Constitution Convention; and

WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate it; and

WHEREAS: Public Law 915 guaranteed the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,

NOW, THEREFORE, I Chairman Eddie Settle by virtue of the authority vested in me as Commissioner of the County of Wilkes do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as CONSTITUTION WEEK and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the

Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this 7th day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand twenty one.

WILKES COUNTY

By: _____

Eddie D. Settle, Chairman,

Wilkes County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Sarah D. Call, Clerk

OLD BUSINESS – Commissioner Elmore said Hwy 268 is finally four-landed.

NEW BUSINESS – County Manager John Yates stated last week he was contacted by Brian Pierce from the N.C. National Guard and they would like to set up a meeting with the County Commissioners. He said the Board needs to change the start time of the next meeting on Tuesday September 21, 2021 to 5:00 P.M. for a presentation from N.C. National Guard on the Readiness Center.

Commissioner David Gambill made a motion to change the time of the Board of Commissioner Meeting set for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 to begin at 5:00 P.M. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Wilkes County Office Building, 110 North Street, Wilkesboro, NC 28697. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson and unanimously approved.

CLOSED SESSION – Motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton to go into closed session under Section 143-318.11(a)(3) of the North Carolina General Statute and to consult with and give instructions to the Board's attorneys regarding the Opioid Litigation currently pending in which the County is a Plaintiff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Casey Joe Johnson and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and by unanimous vote adopted to adjourn back into regular session. No action was taken in the closed session.

ADJOURN – Motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian S. Minton, seconded by Chairman Eddie Settle and by unanimous vote adopted to adjourn the meeting of the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners at 8:18 P.M.

MINUTES
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Sarah D. Call, Clerk

Eddie Settle, Chairman

WILKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approved: September 21, 2021