

BUDGET COMMITTEE

October 12, 2020

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:	Willie Campbell, Patty Wooby, Charles VonCannon, Austin Jaynes, Ross Garland, Travis Hill, Aaron Frazier and Robin McKamey
ABSENT:	None
CALL TO ORDER:	Ross Garland, Chairman
ROLL CALL:	Quorum Present

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was held electronically to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

AGENDA: Dr. Acuff requested the matter of a reserve account for the homeless be added to the agenda and Supt. Colbaugh requested a refund from the Department of Agriculture to the Highway Department be added. Chairman Garland also added a discussion by Aaron Frazier on Economic Development to the agenda. Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Patty Woodby to approve the agenda with the amendments. By voice roll call vote, motion carried.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: Aaron Frazier nominated Travis Hill and Charles VonCannon nominated Ross Garland. Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Patty Woodby to cease nominations and by a voice roll call, motion carried. As the roll was called, the voting was as follows:

Ross Garland: Charles VonCannon and Ross Garland.

Travis Hill: Willie Campbell, Patty Woodby, Austin Jaynes, Travis Hill, Aaron Frazier & Robin McKamey
Travis Hill was duly elected Chairman of the Budget Committee for 2020-2021

Robin McKamey nominated Austin Jaynes as Vice-Chairman. Motion was made by Patty Woodby, seconded by Willie Campbell to cease nominations. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried. Austin Jaynes was elected by acclamation as Vice-Chairman of the Budget Committee for 2020-2021.

MINUTES: Ross Garland stated the minutes of the previous meeting had incorrectly stated that he said the money in question in the Planning Department Budget was taken from the Foreman line item. He stated he actually said a line item was completely removed from their budget and distributed between all the full time employees and the \$2,500 in the Forman line item was moved to the Director's line item as compensation for the extra work placed on him because no foreman was in place. Motion was made by Ros Garland, seconded by Willie Campbell to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with this clarification. By a roll call vote of 7 ayes and 1 abstaining vote from Austin Jaynes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Highway Supt. Colbaugh addressed the committee stating the Highway Department Committee had approved asking the Budget Committee for \$285,000 for the purchase of four (4) F550 vehicles for the Highway Department. He stated they were ideal for snow/ice removal and discussed all the "perks" of this purchase which included the fact they could be set up with snow plows and salt spreaders. After much discussion, motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Robin McKamey to put \$142,500 in the heavy duty equipment line item 68000-714 in the Highway Department's Budget to purchase two (2) of the vehicles requested with the funds coming from the Governor's Grant. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.



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@ 12:43 pm

Supt. Colbaugh informed the committee he had received a reimbursement check from the state in the amount of \$144,836.36 for the Swimming Pool Road project. He stated the Highway Department was in need of mowing equipment and requested these funds be put into the heavy equipment line item in his budget. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Willie Campbell to approve Supt. Colbaugh's request. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

After additional discussion and clarification, motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Ross Garland to approve the Planning Department's budget and leave it as is. By a roll all vote of 7 ayes and 1 abstaining vote from Charles VonCannon, motion carried.

Finance Director, Brad Burke, stated the county was presently working with two (2) grants, the Governor's Grant and the Cares Act funds. He gave the amounts left in each fund but said these amounts did not reflect the requests granted at this meeting to come from these funds. He said the Cares Act balance was presently \$688,941.36. He recommended that \$50,00 stay in reserve in the Cares Act funds for true COVID-19 related expenditures. He explained that in the beginning the Cares Act requirements were very restrictive but had since become more lenient. He said that presently the county could claim reimbursement for payroll expenses already paid by the county as well as hazard pay for certain public safety/health employees. He said the county had to put in a request for at least 30% of the remaining funds by last Friday and he had filed for reimbursement for salaries already paid on that date. He stated that he had discussed this with Chief Parrish and he had submitted a spread sheet outlining the amount the Sheriff's Department could claim for hazard pay in the amount of approximately \$393,000. Chief Parrish read the justification correspondence from the state and discussed how the funds had been approved and would be used. As November 1, 2020, is the deadline to request the remaining funds from the Cares Act, motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Aaron Frazier to claim the remaining funds for reimbursement of salaries already paid by the county to be put in the General Fund Unassigned Fund balance to be used as the county sees fit. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Austin Jaynes addressed the committee regarding the purchasing of three (3) vehicles for the Assessor's\Reappraisal Offices. Two would be to replace the ones presently being used by the Tax Assessor's office and one new vehicle for the Reappraisal Office. He stated the Budget Committee had set aside \$50,000 at their last meeting for these vehicles but at that time they did not have quotes. He said they would need additional funding in the amount of \$2,683 for the Tax Assessor's vehicle and \$2,683 for the Reappraisal Office's vehicle. He said they were asking for \$34,730 to also be put in the Reappraisal Office's budget for the purchase of a new Dodge Durango. He stated this vehicle could be used for county officials to travel to meetings and such. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Patty Woodby to give the Assessor's/Reappraisal offices funds in the amount of \$40,096. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Robert Acuff informed the committee he had been contacted by several people in the County wanting to donate toward the homeless effort and the Task Force. He stated he had talked with the County Attorney Josh Hardin, Finance Director Burke and Ross Garland and was asking the Budget Committee to create a budget line item for donations to the homeless according to the rules and regulations set out by Director Burke. Dr. Acuff stated the funds so far were less than \$15,000 but felt that would increase one the Task Force convenes under the direction of Brandon Young. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Aaron Frazier to set up a reserve account for homeless activities. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Brad Burke stated that it was time to renew the Water Filtration System contract at the Workforce Development complex. He said the contract was for five (5) years at the rate of \$135 per month. Motion was made by Patty Woodby, seconded by Willie Campbell to approval the renewal of the contract. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

At this time Aaron Frazier gave an overview of Economic Development. The items he discussed is attached to these minutes for information purposes.

Chief Deputy Parrish requested the Budget Committee and the County Commission to consider paying for a much needed system to accurately reflect the Sheriff's Office timekeeping management system from the Governor's Grant monies. He said the time management system would be compatible with their financial database Skyward and work with the twenty-eight day pay cycle used by the Sheriff's Office. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Robin McKamy to approve their request for \$24,001 to purchase the time management system. Patty Woodby amendment the motion asking the monies be put in a reserve account for the use of purchasing the system only. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Asking for the approval of the committee, Chief Parrish presented a contract for four (4) grants the state had approved for the Sheriff's Department. These were a State grant for \$87,759 for the Mental Health Transport Program, Cares Act funds in the amount of \$19,930 for jail COVID response, Cares Act funds in the amount of \$9,940 for local court COVID response and Cares Act funds in the amount of \$9,920 for local law enforcement COVID response. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Ross Garland to approve the grants. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Dr. McAbee with the school department requested \$125,000 for paving at Happy Valley Highschool, Happy Valley Middle School and Unaka Highschool to come from the Governor's grant. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Patty Woodby to approve the request and the funds be directly put in the Highway Budget to be used for paving at these schools. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Austin Jaynes presented a quote of \$7,885 to rework the cubicles in the Trustee's Office to provide more security. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Willie Campbell to approve the quote with the funds coming from Unassigned Fund balance. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Austin Jaynes requested \$50,000 be taken from the Governor's grant and distributed among the Volunteer Fire Departments. He stated due to being unable to have many fund raisers their reserve was way down. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Robin McKamey to approve this request. Ross Garland stated there were seven (7) fire departments and if they took \$52,500 it would give them each \$7,500. Austin Jaynes agreed to Mr. Garland's amendment if the funds were distributed to each fire department according to the number of calls they responded to. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Sonja Culler, representing the Landfill, informed the committee of the need for a new baler. She presented a quote for the baler in the amount of \$373,389.48 and for the installation in the amount of \$29,500. She stated this purchase possibly would allow the Landfill to start making money and would pay for itself in time. Motion was made by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Patty Woodby to approve the purchase of a new baler for the Landfill with the funds coming from Unassigned Fund Balance. By a roll call vote of 7 ayes and 1 abstaining vote from Charles VonCannon, motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Ross Garland to approve General Fund #101, Budget Amendment #4 Items #1 thru #10 in the amount of \$29,715.86. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Willie Campbell to approve General Purpose School Fund #141, Budget Amendment #3, Items #1 thru #5 in the amount of \$334,304.17. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Ross Garland to approve General Purpose School Fund #141, Budget Amendment #3A, Item #1 in the amount of \$80,800. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Ross Garland, seconded by Patty Woodby to approve School Federal Projects Fund #142, Budget Amendment #3, Items #1 thru #5 in the amount of \$478,413.66. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Willie Campbell, seconded by Aaron Frazier to approve Head Start Fund #145, Item #1, in the amount of \$51,187. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Ross Garland, seconded by Willie Campbell to approve the donations for September 2020. These amounts are \$970 to the Animal Shelter, \$2,500 to the Sheriff's Department and \$380 to the Carter County Schools, a total of \$3,850. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Aaron Frazier, seconded by Austin Jaynes to approve the non-monetary donations to the Animal Shelter from Walmart for the month of September 2020, in the amount of \$665.02. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

On motion by Austin Jaynes, seconded by Willie Campbell, the meeting was adjourns.

Respectfully submitted,

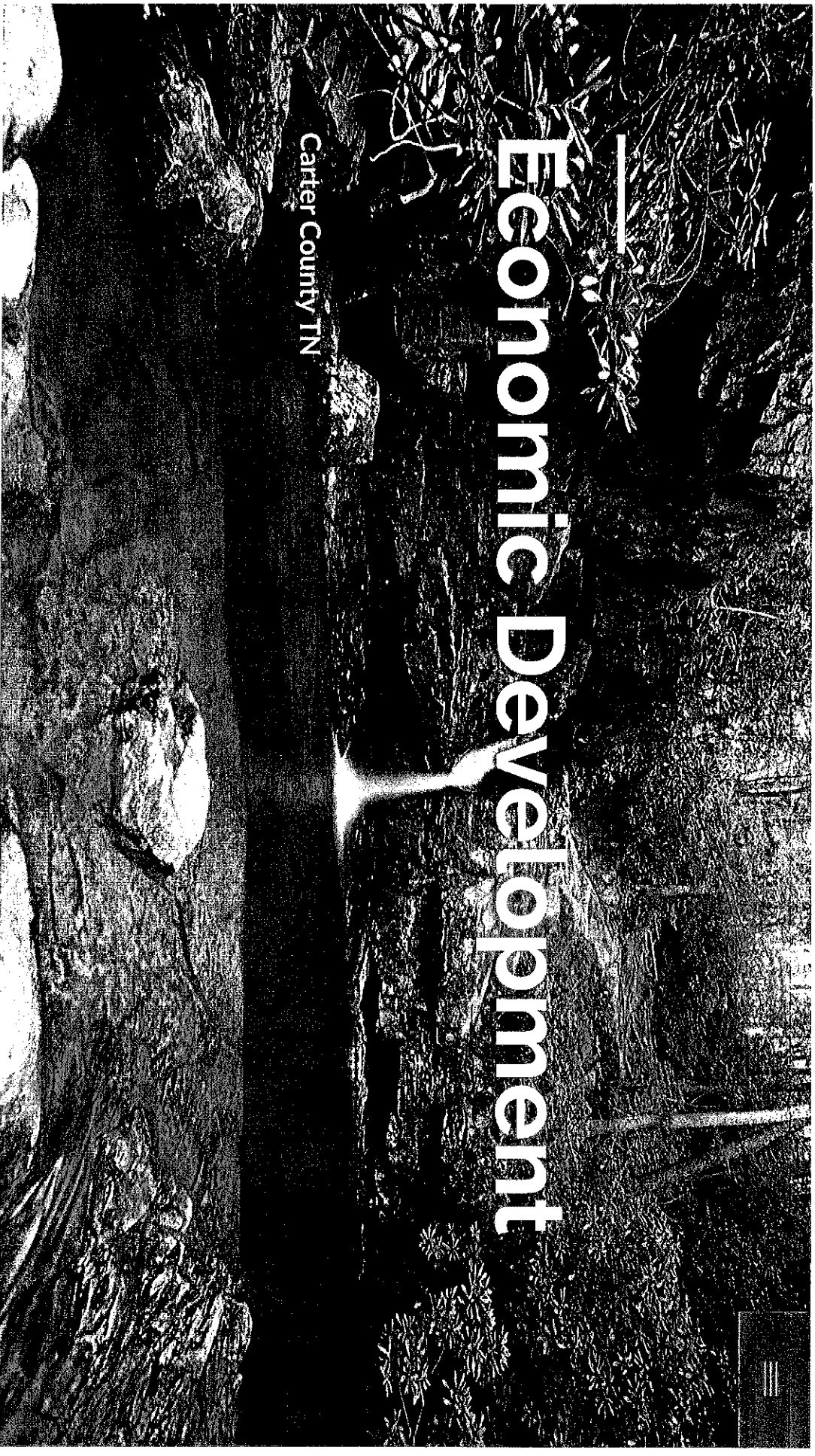
Suzi Wallace

Approved for entry:

Travis Hill, Chairman

Economic Development

Carter County TN



Overview

Problems to solve
Project objective
Moving Forward

Problems to Solve

1. Align County Economic development plan with regional plan set forth by NETREP
2. Single Point of Contact for RFPs
3. Catalog & market existing recreational assets
4. Aid in Development of businesses internally, home-grown entrepreneurship
5. Assist in expansion, innovation, and development of existing businesses through an Incubator
6. Bridge the gap between city and county for development of recreational assets
7. Seek and win grants to bolster eco-tourism
8. Educate public/businesses on need for conservation & environmental stewardship
9. Identify and assess potential recreational locations & projects
10. Market industrial & commercial, public & private real estate
11. Entice businesses using our assets & tier 4 state tax incentives
12. Managing update of existing outdated industrial, commercial & lodging establishments using PILOT opportunities
13. Aid in access to entrepreneurial classes at the high school level
14. Manage county building projects
15. Create and manage additional festivals and activities
16. Development of Event & Convention Center

The list goes on....

Project Objective

Creation of Carter County
Economic & Recreation
Development Department

Goal: 10,000 jobs over 10 years

Set in Reserve \$275,000 from
unassigned fund balance

HQ'd in Existing WFDC

Department Structure:

- Director/County Project Manager
- Incubator Director/Graphic Designer
- Grant & Proposal Writer
- Copywriter/Marketing

Overview for Recreational Development

1. Target fields of ED
 - a. Cycling - Tweetsie Trail & Extension
 - b. Artificial River Rapid Creation on Watauga & Doe Rivers
 - c. Disc Golf - Milligan Scholarships
 - d. Mountain Biking - Creating a hub & feeding of regional attractions
 - i. Hampton Watershed, Tannery Knob, Asheville, Creeper Trail, Development of Bryant Ridge, etc
 - e. Adventure sports - Rock Climbing, Zip Lining, Hiking, river sports, lake sports, hunting, fishing
 - f. ATV /OHV park - Also designating areas for ATV/OHV usage
 - g. Shooting Park - Scholarship Opportunities (NSSF, NRA, GOA)
 - h. Skate Park - Draws kids away from downtown sidewalks
 - i. Softball Park - Quad Park similar to Winged Deer
 - j. Soccer Fields
 - k. Cabins/Tiny Homes
 - i. Hosted Experiences (quilting, make a wood bowl, canning
 - ii. Hosted Adventures (Appalachian Trail, Kayaking, cycling)
 - l. City of Watauga
 - m. Festivals & Concerts

Overview for Economic Development

- 1
 - Incubator/Accelerator/Co-Working Space/Maker Space
 - Reverse Pitch Engineering Mixer
 - Development of Event & Convention Center
 - Tradeshow hosting
 - Conventions
 - Concerts
 - Business Events
 - Festivals
- 2
 - Single Point of contact for RFPs
 - Call Centers
 - Microenterprise
 - Micromanufacturing
 - Distribution
 - Lodging
 - Tourism
- 3
 - Grant Writing for and marketing of county assets
 - Website creation of county recreation/business assets & marketing of the county tourism
 - Social Media Presence & Advertising
 - Liaise with existing EPR, JECDB & County P&R Board
 - Develop MOU's with City P&R
- 4
 - Focus on businesses that qualify for Tier 4 tax incentive, 25+ employees
 - Updating existing businesses using TIF & PILOT Programs
 - Create & maintain a business retention & expansion plan

**Thank you.
Questions?**

