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Carter County Commission

Minutes of:

Health & Welfare Committee

June 4, 2019 6:00 PM

Members:

Chairman Dr. Robert Acuff	Aaron Frazier
Vice Chairwoman Layla Ward	Ronnie Trivett
Mike Hill	Randal Jenkins – absent
Brad Johnson - absent	Kelley Collins
Jerry Proffitt	

I. Call to Order

The Health & Welfare Committee was called to order by Chairman Dr. Robert Acuff at 6:12 pm.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Acuff asked to add two items to New Business, The Forensic Pathology Report from Mayor Barnett and a resolution brought by County Attorney Hardin for the recognition of Jerry Griffin. A motion to approve the agenda by Mike Hill second by Jerry Proffitt. Motion to approve the agenda with the additions was unanimously approved.

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May meeting by Mike Hill second by Layla Ward. Mr. Frazier and Ms. Collins abstained to vote on the approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved.

V. Sick Leave Bank for Carter County Employees

Each department and elected official have been contacted and several offices have declined. Mike Hill made a motion to show that there isn't enough interest to pursue. Aaron Frazier second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Consideration of the following potential Resolution:

a. Second Amendment Sanctuary County

Mike Hill was approached by Joe Miller of Roan Mountain asking that the county be made a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County. Several counties in the state have a resolution on the books. Attorney Hardin has a copy of the resolution. Mr. Trivett made a motion that the committee accepts the resolution. Second by Mike Hill.

Roll Call:

Mr. Hill – Yes	Mr. Proffitt – Yes
Dr. Acuff – Yes	Mr. Trivett – Yes
Ms. Collins – Yes	Mr. Frazier – Yes
Ms. Ward – Yes	

The motion to go before the full commission was unanimously approved.

b. Follow-up on VFDs, EMS, First Responders Regarding a Committee to Explore Partnerships and Working Together.

Mayor Barnett had a meeting with all departments and spoke to them about their needs and wants, fundraising and extra training. The idea came up to have an Expo with all parties and showcase the equipment and use the opportunity to recruit. Possibility a safety Holiday? June is National Safety Month. July is National Firework Safety Month. July would be opportunistic because most fire departments sell fireworks for the 4th. Mayor Barnett will follow up with Chief Jones.

Mayor Barnett also suggested that it be looked at to add a substation somewhere between Hampton and Roan Mountain. That would be beneficial to both communities.

Mr. Proffitt spoke about contacting Tom Jordan about obtaining military equipment for the fire departments. A motion to invite Mr. Jordan about attending a meeting for discussion, second by Mr. Hill. Motion approved unanimously.

VII. Health and Welfare Issues Facing our County – Updates

a. Opioid Epidemic

On June 10, Judge Rice and Judge Street are having a day long class on the Opioid Epidemic, starting at 9:30 a.m. with an open house starting at 4:30 – 6 at the office across from the Veterans walk.

b. Food Accessibility for Kids and families – Second Harvest, June 14, 2019, 8-9:30 am

There is an invitation to the elected official's breakfast is at the Second Harvest Food Bank at 1020 Jerrico Drive, Kingsport, the old Sam's building on I-81.

Dr. Acuff did meet with Dr. Diana Bowers along with Judy Wright at Unaka Elementary to discuss the situation of the county school children arriving at school without breakfast and going home to no evening meal. Angie Odom's group TLC supplies 2000 + meals per year. Carter County schools did a pilot program last summer, but he hasn't heard if they were going to do it again this year. Mr. Hill mentioned the Lunch and Literacy program that will be in the old Cloudland Gym. Dr. Acuff also mentioned the Elizabethton / Carter County Boys and Girls Club who provide meals for students during the summer.

VIII. New Business

a. Forensic Pathology Report

See attachment.

Mayor Barnett has the ashes of a county resident that passed and had no family or anyone to claim his remains. The county paid \$500 and Sycamore Shoals paid \$700 to have him cremated. The county must hold the remains for 90 days. The county needs options for situations such as this. Mr. Trivett mentioned an organization called Restore Life USA. This is a full body donation facility. There is no cost to the family.

c. Resolution: Jerry Griffin

Attorney Hardin brought to the committee a resolution recommendation from the Park and Rec board wanting to honor whitewater enthusiast Jerry Griffin for the work he has done to promote whitewater rafting in the county. A motion for Attorney Hardin to write and to send this resolution to the full committee was made by Mr. Hill.

Roll Call:
Mr. Hill – Yes
Dr. Acuff – Yes
Ms. Collins – Yes

Ms. Ward – Yes
Mr. Proffitt – Yes
Mr. Trivett – No
Mr. Frazier - Yes

Motion passes with one No.

IX. Old Business

Attorney Hardin brought to Dr. Acuff's attention that the litter grant is due at the TDOT. Highway, Health and Welfare and Landfill are going to have a joint meeting. Chairwoman Culler is going to set a date for that meeting. Mr. Lyons at the Landfill should have the ability to take containers to communities even if it is on private property or its in the right of way, free of charge. There has been discussion about Mr. Lyons having to charge for containers that have been donated in the past. Discussion ensued about how the grant should be used and that volunteers working to clean up the community should not have to pay for the containers to clean up the roadways and waterways. A motion was made by Mr. Trivett for the grant to be written, second by Ms. Ward.

Mr. Hill – Yes
Dr. Acuff – Yes
Ms. Collins – Yes
Ms. Ward – Yes

Mr. Proffitt – Yes
Mr. Trivett – Yes
Mr. Frazier – Yes

Motion was unanimously approved. Grant will be submitted June 17.

Mayor Barnett reached out to a couple of broadband people. Tony Treadway, marketer, reached out to the mayor about Points Broadband. Also spoke to Sky Best, Brent Keith, and he gave contact information for who he needed to speak to about internet. Dr. Acuff suggested bringing representatives to a committee meeting. Hill informed the committee that the grant deadline is in October and could be put off till the August meeting. The Mayor, Dr. Acuff and Mr. Hill will all continue to try to reach them for a meeting. Mayor Barnett is concerned that the Landfill does not have internet. Informed the committee that he has a meeting with the City Manager about the county getting the city trash. Internet is a necessity to make transactions more efficient.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Aaron Frazier, second by Mr. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.