

**Minutes of the 3 January 2012
Regular Meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners
Held at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Yancey County Courtroom
Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, North Carolina**

Present at the 3 January 2012 meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners were Chairman Johnny Riddle, Commissioner Jill Austin, Commissioner Dale England, Commissioner Michele Presnell, Commissioner Marvin Holland, County Manager Nathan Bennett, Clerk to the Board Jason Robinson, County Attorney Donny Laws, Michelle Ball with High Country Council of Governments, Dean Russell with Country Cablevision, members of the media, and members of the general public.

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order, and then asked Commissioner Presnell to deliver the invocation. Commissioner England led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Riddle then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment A)

Approval of the Minutes

The Board next considered the minutes from the December 6th Regular Meeting. Commissioner England made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Commissioner Holland. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Special Recognition

The first order of business for the Board was the recognition of former Sheriff Clyde McIntosh who passed away in December. A resolution was read and presented to Sheriff McIntosh's family. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the resolution, and it was seconded by Commissioner Presnell. The vote to approve was unanimous (Attachment B).

Public Comment

The first person to speak before the Board was Bill Grover. He spoke about a new day dawning, this is no longer the day of Lord Pisces but is becoming the day of the Lord Aquarius. The next person to speak was Ray Fox who spoke about a possible way to have prayer at the County Commissioner meetings.

Community Development Block Grant-Scattered Site Housing Program

The Board next heard from Michelle Ball with the High Country Council of Governments to speak about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Scattered Site Housing Program. This is a three year program that every county in North Carolina gets an opportunity to apply for on a noncompetitive basis grant for \$400,000. Ms. Ball informed the Board that this program was for housing rehabilitation and replacement and outlined how families are selected based on established criteria and review by the local advisory board. Ms. Ball stated that she was before the Board to officially ask the county to apply for the grant, which is administered by the High Country Council of Governments. She also gave the Board a handout about the program (Attachment C) Chairman Riddle then opened the public hearing for the CDBG. Mr. Benny Riddle wanted to know how it is determined how the houses got into the condition that they are in and in need of repair. Ms. Ball stated that this is the job of the local advisory board because they know the community better than anyone and almost all areas of the community are represented. Someone else in the audience asked if these people could not just get loans. Ms. Ball responded that the people who qualified for this program could never get a loan because of their income level. Commissioner Holland also stated that \$400,000 would not even begin to touch the need that exists in Yancey County for improved housing. Chairman Riddle asked Ms. Ball if someone who had their home destroyed by fire would be eligible. Ms. Ball stated that she would have to check if someone like that would qualify. Concerns were again expressed about how it could be determined if a house was a possible former meth house or some other criminal activity at the house for it being in bad repair. Commissioner England stated that the advisory board was the ones who would be doing the checking and that was the reason the advisory board existed was to make sure that the houses met the criteria and didn't have a criminal past. Chairman Riddle then closed the public hearing and asked for a motion regarding the CDBG application. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the CDBG application for Yancey County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Presnell and vote to approve was unanimous.

Yancey-Mitchell Broadband Project Update

The Board next heard from Dean Russell, Project Manager for Country Cablevision's Broadband Stimulus Project. Mr. Russell gave the Board an update on the broadband project to date. Mr. Russell informed the Board that the Broadband Project was set to deliver fiber to the home to 97% of the homes in Yancey and Mitchell Counties. Up to this point 840 miles of fiber has been mapped, of that 40 miles has been underground and 800 miles has been aerial. As the fiber is placed to residences and businesses the lines will "go live" in sections. According to Mr. Russell the project will be completely finished by 2015.

WAMY Community Action---Community Service Block Grant

The Board was next scheduled to hear from WAMY Community Action about the Community Service Block Grant but due to questions from the Board it was a consensus decision to table the issue until February until someone from WAMY could attend the meeting and answer the Board's questions.

Board Appointments

The next order of business for the Board was two appointments each to the Joint Community Advisory Committee and the Avery, Mitchell, Yancey (AMY) Regional Library Board. County Manager Nathan Bennett informed the Board that two names had been submitted for the Joint Community Advisory Committee, those being Patricia Millen and Nina Hughes. Upon hearing from Mr. Bennett, Commissioner Holland made a motion to appoint Ms. Millen and Ms. Hughes to the Joint Community Advisory Committee for a three year term. The motion was seconded by Commissioner England and the vote to approve was unanimous (Attachment D). Mr. Bennett also informed the Board that the AMY Regional Library Board needs two new members. The chairperson of the local board, Ms. Jody Higgins, has recommended Ms. Gail Parker and Ms. Judy Bartlett for those two vacant seats. Upon hearing from Mr. Bennett, Commissioner Austin made a motion to appoint these two individuals to the seats on the AMY Regional Library Board and the motion was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to approve was unanimous (Attachment E).

County Manager Business

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett. Mr. Bennett gave the Board an update on the new DSS facility on Pensacola Road and stated that a Certificate of Occupancy had been issued and DSS staff should begin moving into the facility by the mid to late January. Mr. Bennett further stated that data had been collected about the tag office and he would like to have a special meeting to discuss the possibilities. He also stated that pre-construction conferences for the sewer project will be held in the following week.

Commissioner Business

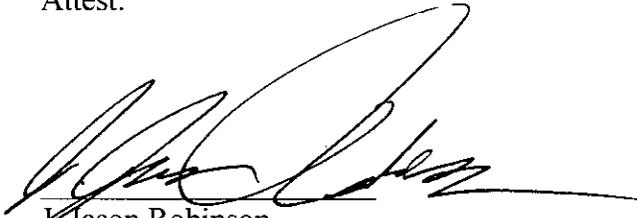
Commissioner Holland informed the Board that Graham Children's Health Services has asked him to present the Board with a certificate of appreciation for supporting the organization. Commissioner England also stated that he had been having a lot of complaints about Frontier Communication. He told the members of the public in attendance that he had an address if they would like to write a letter to Frontier to voice their concerns.

Adjournment

Having no further business Commissioner Holland made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Commissioner England. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Approved and authenticated on this the 7th day of February 2012.

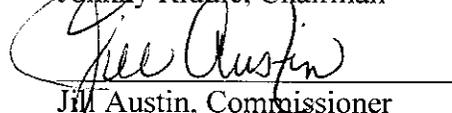
Attest:



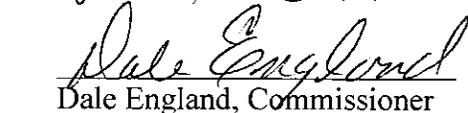
J. Jason Robinson
Clerk to the Board
(county seal)



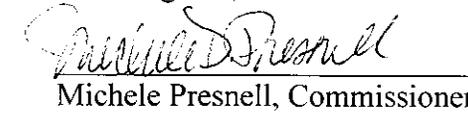
Johnny Riddle, Chairman



Jill Austin, Commissioner



Dale England, Commissioner



Michele Presnell, Commissioner



Marvin Holland, Commissioner

Attachment A

COUNTYMANAGER
Nathan Bennett



COMMISSIONERS
Jill Austin
Dale England
Marvin Holland
Michelle Presnell
Johnny Riddle

YANCEY COUNTY

110 Town Square, Room 11 • Burnsville, North Carolina 28714
PHONE: (828) 682-3971 • FAX: (828) 682-4301

AGENDA YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

January 3, 2012

7:00 P.M.

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Johnny Riddle
- II. Invocation – Rev. Wes Sharpe, Higgins United Methodist Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approval of the Agenda
- V. Approval of Minutes
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Community Development Block Grant – Scattered Site Housing Program – Michelle Ball, Regional Planner, HCCOG
 - a. Scattered Site Housing Program - Application
 - b. **PUBLIC HEARING** – Scattered Site Housing Program
- VIII. Yancey-Mitchell Broadband Project Update – Dean Russell, Project Manager, Country Cablevision
- IX. W.A.M.Y. Community Action – Community Services Block Grant Application
- X. Board Appointments
 - a. Long Term Care Committee (2 appointments)
 - b. AMY Regional Library Board (1 appointment)
- XI. County Manager Business
- XII. Commissioner’s Business
- XIII. Adjourn

Attachment B



RESOLUTION

IN MEMORIAM OF THE HONORABLE CLYDE McINTOSH SHERIFF OF YANCEY COUNTY (1986-1990)

WHEREAS, in November 1986 Clyde McIntosh was duly elected by the citizens of Yancey County to the Office of Sheriff of Yancey County; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh served in the capacity of Sheriff from 1986 to 1990; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh faithfully discharged the duties of his office; and

WHEREAS, in July 1999 Sheriff McIntosh again entered into public service to Yancey County when he was appointed to the Yancey County Department of Social Services Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh served on the Yancey County Department of Social Services Board of Directors, a portion of such time as Chairman, until 2005; and

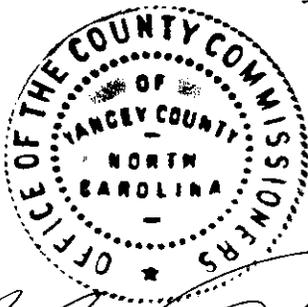
WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh was an active community volunteer for such organizations as the Lions Club, and the Yancey Camp of Gideon's International; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh was a friend to all Yancey County citizens; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff McIntosh passed away on December 16, 2011.

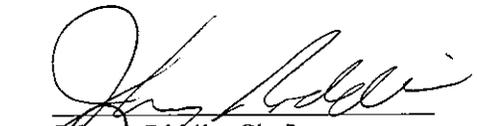
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Yancey County Board of Commissioners that the Board does hereby recognize the contributions and service of The Honorable Sheriff Clyde McIntosh to the People of Yancey County and honors his legacy and memory.

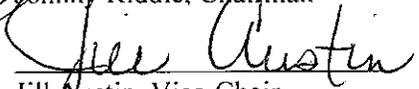
ADOPTED this the 3rd day of January 2012.



Attest:

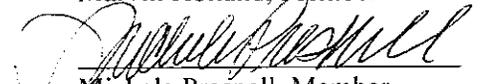

Jason Robinson, Clerk to the Board


Johnny Riddle, Chairman


Jill Austin, Vice Chair


Dale England, Member


Marvin Holland, Member


Michele Presnell, Member

Attachment C

Yancey County

CDBG Scattered Site Housing Rehabilitation Program



What is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Scattered Site Housing Program?

The CDBG program aims to make better communities by improving housing and providing a suitable living environment. County governments receive funding from North Carolina Community Investment & Assistance every three years to improve the housing conditions within the community. The money is used to make repairs to low-income, owner-occupied homes.

What types of repairs can be made to my house?

The goal of the CDBG Scattered Site Housing Program is to make all of the homes that participate in the project decent, safe, and sanitary. All homes that receive help will be brought up to North Carolina Housing Rehabilitation Standards. The work done on each house will be different because the needs of each house is different. Common repairs to homes on the program can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ◆ A new roof
- ◆ Replacement of broken and dilapidated windows
- ◆ Repairs to poor foundations
- ◆ New porches and steps
- ◆ Replacement of inadequate or unsafe heating
- ◆ Replacement of unsafe or outdated wiring
- ◆ Installation of septic systems
- ◆ New wells for homes with contaminated water or an exhausted water supply
- ◆ Installation of insulation

Am I eligible for the program?

To be considered eligible for the CDBG Scattered Site Housing Program homeowners must meet all of the following requirements:

- ✓ The property must be located in Yancey County.
- ✓ The property cannot be located in a floodplain.
If you think your property may be in the floodplain you may contact Yancey County Building Inspections Department at (828) 682-7833 for verification.
- ✓ Applicants must prove that they own and occupy the property full-time..
An occupant is considered a homeowner if a legal "life-estate" is in place or life-time occupancy rights are mentioned in the original Deed. However, all parties that have an interest in the property must agree to all repairs being done.
- ✓ The total gross income (before taxes are taken out) for everyone living in the home over the age of 18 may not exceed the income limits for Yancey County as determined by HUD. (see chart next page)



What happens next?

Those households selected to take part in the program will be informed of their advancement to this level of the of the project. The following requirements will be necessary to complete the application process:

1. Any outstanding County taxes must be paid in full.
2. The County Attorney will conduct a title search and deem the title clear.
3. The County will verify that your property is not in a floodplain.
4. Verification of household income (if not provided with the application).

Each home selected for the program will be repaired based on a priority list established by the Selection Committee. Each participant will receive assistance per this list as long as the program has funding.

When it's your turn per the list your home will be thoroughly inspected by the Program Administrator. The County Building Inspector may be asked to inspect the home with the Program Administrator to help determine complicated repairs. A detailed work write-up of the planned repairs will be prepared and sent to a list of qualified, licensed contractors. The contractors will then submit an itemized bid on the work included in the work write-up. The contract will be awarded to the contractor with the lowest and most reasonable bid.

What happens after the contractor is selected?

The Program Administrator will then arrange to meet with the homeowner and the contractor to conduct a Pre-Construction Conference and sign the required program documents, which include the following:

- * **Rehabilitation Agreement** – a legal document between the Homeowner and the County
- * **Rehabilitation Contract** – between the Homeowner and the Contractor
- * **Promissory Note** – detailing the terms of the grant.
- * **Deed of Trust** – to be filed with the County Register of Deeds.

Inspections will be made several times during the project by the Program Administrator to check on the contractor's progress and to verify that each item of the work write-up is finished before payment is issued. Contractors are normally paid in installments throughout the work on each home, with the final payment being withheld until everything is completed to the satisfaction of both the homeowner the Program Administrator.



What if the work on my home is deemed beyond repair?

If it is determined from the initial inspection that the home cannot feasibly be brought up to CDBG Rehabilitation standards then the homeowner may be asked to consider a replacement home. In other words, the existing home would be demolished and a double-wide mobile home on a permanent foundation would be brought in to replace it.

Selected participants living in mobile homes will automatically be given the option to receive replacement housing. Per program guidelines we cannot use program funds to repair a mobile home more than 8 years old

YANCEY COUNTY SCATTERED SITE HOUSING PROGRAM

HOMEOWNER APPLICATION

Name of Applicant(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

911 Address (if different): _____

Phone: Home: (____) _____ Work: (____) _____

Persons Living in Household (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Relationship to Applicant</u>	<u>Disabled</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>Applicant</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Household Income: Please list total **gross** income (before taxes are withheld) for everyone living in the house over the age of 18. This includes employment wages, Social Security, SSI, Veterans benefits, disability benefits, public assistance, alimony, child support, interest earnings, etc. Please be aware that this information will be verified by the proper agency.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Source(s) of Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
_____	_____	_____ per _____
_____	_____	_____ per _____
_____	_____	_____ per _____
_____	_____	_____ per _____

Total Household Income: \$ _____

Energy

- Unacceptable insulation in walls, floors, and/or ceiling
- Window in need of repair
- Exterior doors in need of repair

HVAC

Current Heat System in home (circle one):

Monitor Heat Pump Furnace Heater Stove None Other _____

Fuel Source

Kerosene Propane Electric Wood

- Heating system unable to heat habitable rooms and bathroom to 60°F

Other Housing Repairs Needed:

Include photos of needed repairs. (Not required)

***** Please Note *****

By signing this application I give permission for High Country Council of Governments, or Yancey County to access any information needed to verify the contents of this application and to facilitate the repair of my home.

I certify that the information given in this application is true and accurate. I understand that any false or misleading information provided in this application will result in my disqualification from the program.

Applicant's
Signature _____ Date _____

The deadline for all applications is Tuesday, January 31, 2012.
 Mail your completed application and requested information to **Michelle Ball, High Country Council of Governments, 468 New Market Blvd., Boone, NC 28607.**

Attachment D

E-Mail Address: jwiggins@regiond.org



Gary D. Blevins
Chairman of the Board

Robert Johnson
Vice-Chairman

Brenda Lyerly
Secretary

Danny McIntosh
Treasurer

Rick Herndon
Executive Director

December 6, 2011

Jason Robinson
Clerk to the Board
110 Town Square, Room 11
Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

Dear Mr. Robinson:

The term of appointment of Patricia Millen to the Yancey County Joint Community Advisory Committee expired effective August 16, 2011. She has indicated her desire to be reappointed for an additional three-year term.

Please submit Ms. Patricia Millen's name to the Commissioners for their consideration and let me know their decision at your earliest convenience. The request for renomination is attached.

Sincerely,

Julie Wiggins
Regional Ombudsman

Enclosure

468 New Market Blvd.
Boone, NC 28607

Phone: 828-265-5434
Fax: 828-265-5439
TTY: 1-800-735-2962
Voice: 1-800-735-8262

Web: www.regiond.org

RENOMINATION FORM
LONG TERM CARE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nominee Background Information

Name PATRICIA ELY MILLEN

Home Address 8 HANEY CREEK RD Phone(H) 828-682-9000

BURNSVILLE, NC Zip Cod. 28714-6874

Business Address 496 ALTAPASS HWY Phone (W) 828 765-0170

SPRUCE PINE, NC Zip Code 28777

Email Address PEMILLEN@FRONTIER.COM

Occupation MEDICAL RECORDS CLERK; WAS PREVIOUSLY WITH HONEYWELL

Number of hours available per month for this position 10 BUT CAN STRETCH IF NEEDED

Education H.S., SOME COLLEGE, MANY TRAINING CLASSES ON PEOPLE SKILLS, COMPUTERS ETC THROUGH EMPLOYERS

Business and civic experience and skills HONEYWELL 32 YEARS, VOLUNTEER

BRMC-BURNSVILLE 5 YRS, 5 YRS EMPLOYMENT BRMC, CARE VOLUNTEER 7 YRS

Areas of expertise and interest/skills I enjoy people & have developed

great compassion for the elderly through working with this committee. My participation has been a gift to me

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ARE EXCLUDED BY LEGISLATION FROM SERVING ON THE COMMITTEE:

1. Persons or immediate family member of persons with a financial interest in a home served by a committee.
2. An employee or governing board member or immediate family member of an employee or governing board member of a home served by a committee. (A person paid by a home as a consultant is considered an employee).
3. The immediate family member of a patient in a home served by a committee. An "immediate family member" is defined as mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, child, grandmother, grandfather, and in-laws for the above.

I CERTIFY THAT NONE OF THE EXCLUSIONS LISTED ABOVE APPLY TO ME. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST NOTIFY THE OMBUDSMAN IMMEDIATELY IF MY SITUATION CHANGES WITH RESPECT TO THE ABOVE EXCLUSIONS.

Patricia E. Miller
 Signature of Applicant

Date 12/05/11

Nomination form submitted by Julie Huggins, Ombudsman

as I now understand many things I didn't know years ago. we hope to be able to continue on the committee & do all I can to help our community.

E-Mail Address: jwiggins@regiond.org



Gary D. Blevins
Chairman of the Board

Robert Johnson
Vice-Chairman

Brenda Lyerly
Secretary

Danny McIntosh
Treasurer

Rick Herndon
Executive Director

December 19, 2011

Jason Robinson
Clerk to the Board
110 Town Square, Room 11
Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

Dear Mr. Robinson:

The term of appointment of Ms. Nina Hughes to the Yancey County Joint Community Advisory Committee will expire effective March 2, 2012. She has indicated her desire to be reappointed for an additional three-year term.

Please submit Ms. Hughes' name to the Commissioners for their consideration and let me know their decision at your earliest convenience. The request for renomination is attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Julie'.

Julie Wiggins
Regional Ombudsman

Enclosure

468 New Market Blvd.
Boone, NC 28607

Phone: 828-265-5434
Fax: 828-265-5439
TTY: 1-800-735-2962
Voice: 1-800-735-8262

Web: www.regiond.org

RENOMINATION FORM

LONG TERM CARE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nominee Background Information

Name Nina Hughes

Home Address 1924 Bakers Oak Rd
Burnsville NC

Phone(H) 284-4464

Zip Code 28714

Business Address PO Box 546
Burnsville NC

Phone (W) 682-6011 ext. 12

Zip Code 28714

Email Address nhughes.vansctr@frontier.com

Occupation Secretary

Number of hours available per month for this position 8h.

Education H.S. Diploma; Senior Ctr. Mgmt. Certification; various classes MCC;

Business and civic experience and skills Accts. Payable Supervisor; Accounting; Secretarial; Medical Records; Sen. Ctr. Director (T.N.S.)

Areas of expertise and interest/skills WAMY Board of Directors; T.N.S. Advisory Board; CAC; CTA Board;

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ARE EXCLUDED BY LEGISLATION FROM SERVING ON THE COMMITTEE:

1. Persons or immediate family member of persons with a financial interest in a home served by a committee.
2. An employee or governing board member or immediate family member of an employee or governing board member of a home served by a committee. (A person paid by a home as a consultant is considered an employee).
3. The immediate family member of a patient in a home served by a committee. An "immediate family member" is defined as mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, child, grandmother, grandfather, and in-laws for the above.

I CERTIFY THAT NONE OF THE EXCLUSIONS LISTED ABOVE APPLY TO ME. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST NOTIFY THE OMBUDSMAN IMMEDIATELY IF MY SITUATION CHANGES WITH RESPECT TO THE ABOVE EXCLUSIONS.

Nina Hughes

Signature of Applicant

Date 12-15-11

Nomination form submitted by William Hooper

Attachment E

December 30, 2011

Yancey County Board of Commissioners

We respectfully request that at your January regular meeting you appoint Yancey Public Library Board Member Gail Parker to serve on the AMY Regional Library Board for a term of three years beginning Jan. 2012 and ending Jan. 2015.

In October 2011, commissioners appointed Gail Parker and Alan Larkins to serve two-year terms on the Yancey Public Library Board. The terms have been changed to three years as stated in our bylaws to coincide with the term length for Regional Board. So, those two appointments would run October 2011 – October 2015 for the local board.

Sincerely,

Jody Higgins, chair
Yancey Library Board