

**Minutes of the 3 July 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 July 2012 meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners were Chairman Johnny Riddle, Commissioner Dale England, Commissioner Michele Presnell, Commissioner Marvin Holland, County Manager Nathan Bennett, Clerk to the Board Jason Robinson, County Attorney Donny Laws, Finance Director Lynne Hensley, members of the media, and members of the general public.

**Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order. He then asked Ms. Cora Mears to deliver the invocation. Chairman Riddle then 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 Presnell. The vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment A)

**Approval of the Minutes**

The Board next considered the minutes from the June 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve those minutes and it was seconded by Commissioner Presnell. The vote to approve was unanimous, with Commissioner England abstaining due to the fact that he was not present at the June meeting.

**Public Comment**

The first person to speak before the Board was Bill Grover. He spoke about the ruling by the US Supreme Court on the Health Care Law passed in 2009 and how they gave the government unlimited power to tax. He also once more denounced the American Bar Association as being the biggest threat to the Constitution and giving power to people behind the scenes. The next person to speak before the Board was Anthony Robinson who spoke about socialized medicine and about how the government wants everyone to move to "mega-cities" so that they can control the water, by putting fluoride in it to make people easy to control, and other services so that they can pass Agenda 21.

**Special Recognition**

The Board next recognized former Yancey County Commissioner, Billy Ray "B.R." Bailey who passed away on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Board shared memories of Mr. Bailey from their association with him or their family's association with him. All remembered him as a friend to everyone and someone that was well respected in the county. Chairman Riddle then asked the clerk to the board to read a resolution in honor of Mr. Bailey. After the reading of the resolution, Commissioner Presnell made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland and the vote to approve was unanimous (Attachment B).

**Special Presentation**

The Board next heard from Lucy Wilson with Friends Across North Carolina. Ms. Wilson is the organizer of Camp Funshine at Toe River Campground for one week in June. Ms. Wilson stated that she would like to express her gratitude to Yancey County Government for supporting the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Camp Funshine. Ms. Wilson gave a review of some of the activities from this year and reported that this was one of the most popular camps ever with 262 campers coming to the camp. Ms. Wilson also had a special friend, Hailey, who presented the Board with a plaque for their support in 2012.

**Special Presentation-MY Health-e-Schools Telemedicine Program**

The Board next heard from Amanda Martin with MY Health-e-Schools. Ms. Martin stated that she was coming before the Board to give a general overview of the MY Health-e-Schools program. Ms. Martin further stated that this program was developed to increase access for children, especially those children who do not have insurance. If a child has to use this program and does not have insurance then there is no charge for the services to the child or their family. Mrs. Martin gave the Board a general overview of how the program works. If a child is sick and they come to the school nurse or someone else in the school then the person in the school can call in to a central location. Using high definition monitors and equipment a nurse practitioner or a physician can examine and evaluate the child and determine a course of treatment. With the start of the new school year this year the program is set to be in 10 schools

in Yancey and Mitchell Counties. Ms. Martin advised that all medical privacy laws have to be followed and parents have to give their consent before a child can be seen. (Attachment C)

### **Finance Office Report-Personnel Policy Revisions**

The Board next heard from Finance Director Lynne Hensley concerning the personnel policy. Ms. Hensley stated that a few minor changes needed to be included in the personnel policy for clarification of some items. Upon looking at the noted changes to the policy and hearing from Ms. Hensley Commissioner England made a motion to accept the changes to the personnel policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland and the vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment D)

### **Yancey County Tax Officials Appointments**

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett concerning the expiration of the terms of the Tax Collector, Tax Assessor, and Deputy Tax Collector. Mr. Bennett stated that all of these officials were appointed to fill the unexpired term of their predecessors and they need to be reappointed for another four year term of their own. Mr. Bennett informed the Board that the Tax Department is doing a great job with a collection rate that is approaching 96% and Tax Assessor Jeff Boone has taken all of the required classes and is now fully certified as required by statute. Upon hearing from Mr. Bennett, Commissioner England made a motion to reappoint Fonda Thomas as Tax Collector for four years, Zach Pittman as Deputy Tax Collector for four years, and Jeff Boone as Tax Assessor for four years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland and the vote to approve was unanimous.

### **County Manager Business**

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett. Mr. Bennett first gave an update on the Comprehensive Recreation Grounds (CRG) that Phase 1 is now complete. The park is not ready to open but is close. According to Mr. Bennett at the present time some things are open at the park from daylight to dark. Commissioner England asked if there would be water testing at the park. Mr. Bennett stated that there are no plans to do water testing at the park unless the county is directed to do so for some reason. Commissioner Holland also stated that he would like to see if there could be four baseball fields at the park because it would have the potential to bring in revenue for the county through tournaments. Mr. Bennett stated that he would speak to the engineers to see if that concept was feasible. Mr. Bennett next informed the Board about a flash flood in the Little Creek community. Mr. Bennett stated that he had been in contact with North Carolina Emergency Management to ask about possible funds to repair some private property damage. He further stated that the officials from NC Emergency Management had been to look at the damage and it did not meet the threshold for any state money and without a declaration of a disaster area then there is no money from the federal government as well. Right now, Mr. Bennett informed the Board, he has been directing inquiries to the Yancey County Soil and Water office. Mr. Bennett also stated that the East Yancey Sewer project is about 35-40 percent complete on line construction. Mr. Bennett informed that Board that recently the Army Corp of Engineers has informed the county that they have some problems with the project and have issued a suspension of the stream crossing permit. Mr. Bennett stated that the engineers are working on this development and hopefully will have it resolved shortly. This suspension of the permit comes after issuing the permit twice for the project, once in 2005 and again in 2009, and having nothing to change about the project since the last time the permit was issued. Mr. Bennett also updated the Board about the GoldenLeaf grants. He stated that the GoldenLeaf Foundation has given almost \$2 million through the community assistance initiative for some worth projects in Yancey County. The recipients are: Yancey County Schools (\$697,000), Mayland Community College (\$100,000), Town of Burnsville (\$1.2 million). Mr. Bennett also reminded everyone about the fireworks display on July 7<sup>th</sup>, which is sponsored by Yancey County. Commissioner Presnell asked about the USDA funds for the Yancey County Senior Center. Mr. Bennett informed the Board that the process is about complete for the application for the funds from USDA and USDA is anxious for the funds to be given to the county because if the funds are not obligated then they will go back to Washington to be redistributed. Upon hearing from Mr. Bennett, Chairman Riddle thanked Mr. Bennett for the job that he does as county manager.

### **County Attorney Business**

County Attorney Donny Laws informed the Board that he had no business to bring before the Board for this month.

**Commissioner Business**

Chairman Riddle then asked any of the Board if they had any announcements or business. No commissioner had any business to report this month.

**Adjournment**

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

Approved and authenticated on this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2012.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Jason Robinson  
Clerk to the Board

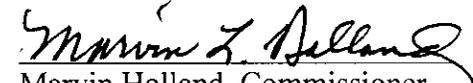
(county seal)



  
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Johnny Riddle, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale England, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michele Presnell, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marvin Holland, Commissioner

Attachment A

COUNTY MANAGER  
Nathan Bennett

COMMISSIONERS  
Jill Austin  
Dale England  
Marvin Holland  
Michele Presnell  
Johnny Riddle



# YANCEY COUNTY

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## AGENDA

### YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

July 3, 2012

7:00 P.M.

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Johnny Riddle
- II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comment
- VI. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**  
*Resolution in Memoriam of former Yancey County Commissioner Billy Ray “B.R.” Bailey*
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – Camp Funshine – Lucy Wilson, Friends Across N.C.
- VIII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – MY Health-e-Schools Telemedicine Program – Amanda Martin, Executive Director, Center for Rural Health Innovation
- IX. Finance Office Report – Lynne Hensley, Finance Director
  - a. Personnel Policy Revisions
- X. Board Appointments
  - a. Yancey County Tax Officials
- XI. County Manager Report
  - a. Special Projects Update
- XII. County Attorney Report
- XIII. Commissioner Reports
- XIV. Adjourn

*Attachment B*



## RESOLUTION

*IN MEMORIAM OF*

***THE HONORABLE BILLY RAY "B.R." BAILEY***  
***YANCEY COUNTY COMMISSIONER (1988-1996; 1998-2000)***

**WHEREAS**, Billy Ray "B.R." Bailey was duly elected by the citizens of Yancey County in November 1988 to the Office of Commissioner for Yancey County Board of County Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Bailey served in that capacity for five terms from 1988 until 1996 and again from 1998 until 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Bailey faithfully discharged the duties of his office; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Bailey was a friend to all Yancey County citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Bailey passed away on June 24, 2012.

**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 Billy Ray "B.R." Bailey to the People of Yancey County and honors his legacy and memory.

**ADOPTED** this the 3rd day of July 2012.



Attest:

*J. Jason Robinson*  
J. Jason Robinson, Clerk to the Board

*Johnny Riddle*  
Johnny Riddle, Chairman

*Jill Austin*  
Jill Austin, Vice-Chair

*Dale England*  
Dale England, Member

*Marvin Holland*  
Marvin Holland, Member

*Michele D. Presnell*  
Michele Presnell, Member

## Attachment C



The MY Health-e-Schools school-based telemedicine program uses technology based on high-definition videoconferencing, including specially equipped stethoscopes and cameras, to provide medical care to students in the schools. Using our network, a centrally located Nurse Practitioner can examine students at multiple schools without traveling. This program increases access to medical care for students, promotes school attendance, and reduces out-of-work, travel, and wait time for parents. We collaborate with primary care physicians to provide many services, including addressing acute issues such as the common ear ache or stomach ache, chronic disease management, medication management, well-child check-ups, sports physical, adolescent medicine consultations, and telepsychology / telebehavioral health. Following the visit, the Nurse Practitioner will talk to parents about the visit, determine if the child can remain in school, prescribe necessary medications, communicate with the child's primary care provider, and arrange for follow-up with either MY Health-e-Schools or the child's primary care provider.

MY Health-e-Schools telemedicine network does not replace the school nurse or the child's regular doctor. The service is available for children who require more medical care than the school nurse typically provides. For a student to be seen, parents must complete an enrollment packet that outlines the program and includes basic health information. No child will be seen without parental permission. Following each visit the nurse practitioner sends detailed information to the child's doctor. **MY Health-e-Schools services are free for children with no insurance**, and Medicaid or private insurance are accepted.

While the MY Health-e-Schools program is housed in the schools, it does not require any funding from the school systems or the counties. The program uses existing school bandwidth, existing school nurse offices, and existing staff positions. Grant funding is even provided for staff training and delivery of service. This is a win-win for the schools and counties.

Healthy children perform better academically. Children who utilize school-based health care have been found to have better attendance, fewer barriers to learning, and higher overall grade point averages compared to students who do not use school-based health care. Using telemedicine to connect children with medical providers, thereby creating school-based health care in rural areas is a unique and innovative concept that is now available to our local children, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Steve North. This program is attracting nationwide attention as a way to provide health care to children.

The MY Health-e-Schools telemedicine program is run by the Center for Rural Health Innovation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit in Mitchell and Yancey Counties with the overall mission of applying innovative technologies to improve access to health care in rural communities.

To date the MY Health-e-Schools network has been very successful in achieving grant funding for the equipment necessary to operate the network:

- \$670,000 for the purchase of all of the necessary equipment for the network from the Appalachian Regional Commission, the USDA-Rural Utilities Service, and the recent HRSA SBHC capital program.
- \$250,000 for operating funds from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of North Carolina and the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust.
- \$43,000 per year for the next three years from the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

MY Health-e-Schools will be providing services in 10 schools in Yancey and Mitchell County for the 2012-2013 academic year:

Yancey County

Bee Log Elementary  
Clearmont Elementary  
Micaville Elementary  
South Toe Elementary  
Mountain Heritage High

Mitchell County

Greenlee Primary  
Bowman Middle  
Harris Middle  
Mitchell High  
Mayland Early College

MY Health-e-Schools will soon expand to all of the schools in Mitchell and Yancey Counties, with the exception of East Yancey and Cane River Middle schools, which already have excellent school-based health centers.



*Attachment D*  
**YANCEY COUNTY FINANCE OFFICE**

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PHONE (828)682-3819 • FAX (828)682-4301

FINANCE DIRECTOR, LYNNE E. HENSLEY • lhensley@yanceycountync.gov

FINANCE OFFICER, BRANDI BURLESON • bburleson@yanceycountync.gov

ASST. FINANCE OFFICER, LISA MILLER • lmiller@yanceycountync.gov

July 3, 2012

REQUESTED CHANGES TO

**YANCEY COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICIES**

The Finance Office is requesting the Board's review and approval of the attached revisions to the Personnel Policies. These items are for clarification of current procedures (3.2 regarding the County's HSA contribution); for further clarification of FLSA computations (6.6 regarding holiday hours worked); and for protecting the employee from a large negative leave balance and thus a large one-time deduction for the overage.

The policies, as revised through this date, will be posted to the Yancey County website under the Finance Department for easy reference by all Department Heads and employees.

## YANCEY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

### Previous Policies, Revisions in red

#### 3.2 Group Health and Hospitalization Insurance

Yancey County will provide a percentage of the cost of individual hospitalization insurance for all employees as defined above. Employees may be enrolled in the group plan in accordance with the provisions of the insurance contracts on the first day of the calendar month following employment. All coverage is for the calendar month. Health insurance provided through Yancey County is pre-paid, and thus is deducted from payroll checks the month prior to the effective date. All employees will continue to have coverage for the calendar month following termination. Individuals employed after the beginning of the second pay period will be responsible for full payment (both employee and employer portion) of the first month's health insurance premium if they desire immediate health insurance coverage, or delay coverage until the next calendar month. **Employees hired between July 1 and December 31 and who choose the Health Savings Account (HSA) coverage will receive the full annual contribution from Yancey County; those hired between January 1 and June 30 will receive one-half the prevailing annual amount.**

#### 4.5 Vacation Leave

Vacation leave is paid time away from work earned during the working period. There is no provision for pay in lieu of paid time away from work.

For the purpose of earning and accruing vacation leave, the period of twelve (12) calendar months between January 1 and December 31 is established as the leave year.

- A. All permanent full- and part-time employees shall earn vacation leave. Permanent part-time employees working a minimum of thirty (30) hours per week shall be entitled to three-fourths the amount of vacation leave earned by a full-time employee. The following table will be used in calculating the accrual of vacation leave for a full-time employee:

	Hours Earned	Days Earned
	<u>Per Pay Period/Per Year</u>	<u>Per Year</u>
Less than 2 years	3.08	80.00 10
2 but less than 5 years	3.70	96.00 12
5 but less than 10 years	4.62	120.00 15
10 but less than 15 years	5.54	144.00 18
15 but less than 20 years	6.47	168.00 21
20 years or more	7.39	192.00 24

- B. Vacation leave may be accumulated without any applicable maximum until December 31 of each calendar year. However, if the employee separates from service through retirement, resignation, or other termination, payment for accumulated leave shall not exceed thirty (30) days or 240 hours. In the event of resignation, an employee must meet the requirements of Section 7 in order to be paid for accumulated vacation leave.  
  
Any advanced vacation leave shall be deducted from the employee's final compensation.
- C. On December 31, vacation leave balances in excess of thirty (30) days or 240 hours shall be carried forward to sick leave. **Conversely, an employee whose leave balance is a negative of three or more days (24 or more hours) at any point in the year shall have a monetary deduction equal to the amount of the negative on a subsequent payroll. The employee's leave balance will then be increased accordingly.**
- D. Vacation leave shall be taken with the prior approval of the employee's Department Head.
- E. Any employee who separates in good standing and is reinstated within three (3) years may receive credit for previous service for the purpose of accruing vacation leave. The total months of previous service will be recognized at the end of the new introductory period.
- F. The estate of an employee who dies while employed by the County shall be entitled to payment for all the accumulated vacation leave credited to the employee's account, not to exceed a maximum of thirty (30) days or 240 hours.
- G. Employees serving an introductory period following initial employment may accumulate vacation leave but may not be permitted to take vacation leave during the introductory period. Employees shall be allowed to use accumulated vacation leave after six (6) months of service.

## **6.6 Holiday Pay**

Yancey County permanent non-exempt employees working in various areas (such as law enforcement, E-911, parks and recreation, transportation, and convenience centers) are subject to being scheduled for work on holidays. Those employees will receive double their regular rate of pay for working on a holiday observed by Yancey County Government, **or double hours worked added to their compensatory time balance. However, time worked on a holiday will be counted hour for hour (not double time) for the purposes of reaching overtime status, which is actual time worked in excess of forty (40) hours in the designated work week (eighty-four in the work period for law enforcement and E-911) that results in compensatory leave (see Sections 4.6 and 6.19.)**