STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. due to the Labor Day Holiday. The meeting was held at the Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC.

Members Present:  Martha Hicks, Chair; Tim Phillips, Vice-Chair; Dennis Aldridge; Blake Vance; Wood Hall Young, Jr.

Members Absent:  None

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Cooper's Executive Order No.163 issued on September 1, 2020 limiting mass gatherings to no more than 25 people at a time, the public was not allowed to attend the meeting in person. The meeting was broadcast live and recorded on the Avery County Youtube Channel.

Call To Order
Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
Chair Hicks called the roll with all commissioners present.
Wood Hall Young, Jr. led prayer.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment
There were no public comments.

Vaya Health Presentation—Jessie Smathers
Jessie Smathers, Vaya Health Representative, explained that Vaya Health manages Medicaid and state funded mental health. Vaya Health provided services to 357 members in Avery County for the month of July 2020; 38 members received complex care management. Mr. Smathers stated that 500 cell phones had been purchased for high priority members to ensure they can access services via Telemedicine during the pandemic. Vaya offers Crisis Intervention Team training. Avery County Sheriff’s Office staff has completed the Crisis Intervention Team training. Vaya is offering a pilot program for Avery County Sheriff’s Office where laptops will be placed in the officer’s vehicles so that they can access telehealth out in the field.

Agreement—CDBG Revitalization Program
Phillip Barrier, Jr., County Manager, explained that the Agreement for Administration of the CDBG—Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant was an agreement between WAMY Community Action, Inc. and Avery County. Avery County received grant funding through the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program to provide for emergency home repairs to eligible citizens of Avery County. Avery County will pay WAMY the amount of $5,000.00 for the initial administration of the program with additional administration fees for each unit which receives funds, for a maximum sum of $49,500. The maximum reimbursement per unit of rehabilitation or repair will be $5,000.
Motion by Blake Vance and second by Wood Hall Young, Jr. to approve the Agreement for Administration of the CDBG—Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant and authorize the chair to sign. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

Tax Administrator Report – Bruce Daniels
Tax Collections Report
The Total Tax Collections for the month of August was $3,810,608.20.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Tim Phillips to approve the Tax Collections for the month of August as presented. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

Releases
The Releases for the month of August is $2,410.14.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Blake Vance to approve the releases for the month of August. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

Sales
There were 144 qualified sales for the month of August 2020 compared to 88 sales for the month of August 2019.

County Manager Updates – Phillip Barrier, Jr.
Covid 19 Update
There was a surge in cases last week; 68 of those are in a congregate setting.

Governor Cooper has gone to Phase 2.5. That means we are able to open the playground on Friday. The gym is now open by reservation only.

In the packet is a priority list for the Cares Act funding. This list includes a five year supply of Personal Protective Equipment; Emergency Management Storage Facility upfit for adequate storage for the PPE; virtual workplace/distance learning; Field Response/Testing/Vaccination trailer for emergency services and public health; EMS workforce training area for COVID-19; message board; Internet connectivity for virtual learning; refrigerator/generator for public health for vaccines.

Finance Officer Report – Ashley Ingwersen
Budget Amendment
The County received a payment from the Department of Health and Human Services. This is from the COVID-19 Recovery Act. This is to move the money forward from fiscal year 19/20 to fiscal year 20/21.

Motion by Wood Hall Young, Jr. and second by Tim Phillips to adopt the Budget Amendment in the amount of $504,406.76 with a debit of $504,406.76 to Cares
Relief (105250.3700) and a credit of $504,406.76 to Fund Balance—Appropriated (103990.0000). Motion unanimously approved Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

Budget Amendment
At the May 14, 2020 budget meeting it was discussed about the HVAC at Avery Middle School and Cranberry/Freedom Trail. The board agreed to pay up to $205,000.00. The Avery County School Board has requested 50% of the cost in regards to the HVAC at Avery Middle School.

Motion by Tim Phillips and second by Blake Vance to adopt the Budget Amendment in the amount of $30,075.00 with a debit of $30,075.00 to Avery County Schools Capital Outlay (107000.6115) and a credit of $30,075.00 to Fund Balance—Appropriated (103990.0000). Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

**AVERY COUNTY**
Coronavirus Relief PROJECT ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Avery County, North Carolina that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following project ordinance is hereby adopted:

SECTION 1

The project authorized is the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the CARES ACT.

SECTION 2

The officers of this county are hereby directed to proceed with the project within the terms of the budget contained herein.
SECTION 3

The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Expense</td>
<td>$ 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Supplies</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Expense</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Expense</td>
<td>307,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Banner Elk</td>
<td>63,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Beech Mountain</td>
<td>24,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Crossnore</td>
<td>7,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Elk Park</td>
<td>10,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Newland</td>
<td>20,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Seven Devils</td>
<td>14,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village of Sugar Mountain</td>
<td>79,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 976,403</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 4

The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief Fund Allocation</td>
<td>$ 876,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMA</td>
<td>$ 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 976,403</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 5

The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of any and all applicable requirements of North Carolina General Statutes.

SECTION 6

The Finance Officer is directed to report periodically on the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and on the total revenues received or claimed.

SECTION 7

The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this project in every budget submission made to this Board.
SECTION 8
Copies of this project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 8th day of September, 2020.

Motion by Dennis Aldridge and second by Tim Phillips to adopt the Coronavirus Relief Project Ordinance. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

County Attorney Report – Michnelle Poore
Ms. Poore stated there was nothing that needed the Board’s attention at this time.

Approval Of Minutes
Motion by Blake Vance and second by Dennis Aldridge to approve the June 23, 2020 Special Meeting; July 14, 2020 Special Meeting; July 14, 2020 Closed Session; July 15, 2020 Special Meeting; July 15, 2020 Closed Session; July 20, 2020 Special Meeting; July 20, 2020 Closed Session; July 27, 2020 Special Meeting; August 3, 2020 Regular Meeting; August 10, 2020 Special Meeting; August 17, 2020 Regular Meeting; August 17, 2020 Closed Session; August 24, 2020 Special Meeting. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

Agenda Consent Items
Adopted by Consensus of the Board.

Upcoming Meetings
The next Regular Meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. commented that at the last rural transportation advisory committee meeting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation was in the process of redoing the scoring for the roads and that it could benefit Avery County.
Adjourn
Motion by Blake Vance and second by Dennis Aldridge to adjourn this meeting at 4:37 p.m. Motion unanimously approved. Hicks—Aye; Phillips—Aye; Aldridge—Aye; Vance—Aye; Young—Aye.

____________________________________
Martha Hicks, Chair  
Avery County Board of Commissioners

Attest: ___________________________  
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk