

BPSD Regular Meeting Minutes

May 28th, 2022

Directors Present: David Black, Bart Hamburg, Linda Hughes, Terry Miller, Tiffany Williams, and Jerry Pezzella.

Directors Absent: Lydia Kennedy

Management Present: Mitch Price

Call to Order: Chairman David Black called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was then conducted.

Introduction and Presentation: Newly elected Cherokee County Sheriff Dustin Smith addressed the audience briefly to introduce himself and encourage all to contact his office with any questions or concerns about law enforcement in Cherokee County North Carolina.

Fire Chief Chad McNabb with the Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department addressed the audience to talk about the First Responder program in Bear Paw and also to recruit volunteers for the fire department. Chief McNabb stated that an individual does not necessarily have to be capable of performing the physical duties of a fire fighter to volunteer their service because there are plenty of support functions needed. Chief McNabb concluded his address at 9:14 a.m.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Secretary Terry Miller made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the March 26th, 2022 regular meeting. Director Jerry Pezzella seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried.

Financial Report: Acting Finance Officer Linda Hughes presented the Finance Officer's Report and discussed the actuals vs. budget for the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year as of May 26, 2022. Ms. Hughes explained that the current forecast developed in conjunction with the property manager of expenses to be incurred through June 30, 2022 would put us over budget by \$10,275. Ms. Hughes stated that we would need to transfer funds from the Prior Year Fund Balance in order to balance the budget. After addressing various questions from those in attendance about the current budget and its expenditures, acting Finance Officer Linda Hughes made a motion to approve transferring up to \$15,000 from the Prior Year Fund Balance but not to exceed the actual amount needed to balance the budget for 2021-2022. The motion was seconded by Secretary Terry Miller. After some further discussion, there being no objections, the motion carried.

Acting FO Hughes then addressed the topic of creation of a "special projects fund" on the budget report needed to reconcile the donations and legal expenses for the broadband initiative as well as any other special project that might be needed in the future. This will help clarify the existing budget expenditures with regard to related income and donations. Linda Hughes then made a motion to create this fund. Terry Miller seconded the motion. After addressing some clarification questions by the audience and the Board with no objections, the motion carried.

Acting FO Linda Hughes then made a motion to approve the millage rate of .38 for the new fiscal year which is the same millage rate as last year. Director Jerry Pezzella seconded the motion. There being no discussion or objections, the motion carried.

Acting FO Linda Hughes then presented the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 which was reviewed at the budget hearing. Ms. Hughes stated that the only change from the budget that was reviewed was the modification to include additional income based on the new property assessed values received from Cherokee County and made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 budget. The motion was seconded by Terry Miller. There being no discussion or objections, the motion carried.

Acting FO Linda Hughes then presented the "Contract to Audit Accounts" for fiscal year 2021-2022 from Turner CPAs, the state auditor for the Bear Paw Service District, to be approved and signed. The contract fee amount did not change from the previous year and remains at \$5,250.00. Ms. Hughes then made a motion to accept the contract. The motion was seconded by Terry Miller. There being no discussion or objections, the motion carried.

Manager's Report: Mitch Price presented the Manager's Report. Mr. Price noted that Emily Bryant has moved to Louisiana and is no longer employed by the Service District. Mr. Price also noted that the front gate arm is scheduled for repair and that he is soliciting input on the road repairs needed as he plans for the 2022-2023 road maintenance. Mr. Price noted the new homes under construction and that the pool has passed the county inspection and is now open until Tuesday September 6, 2022, for the summer season.

The last item on the Manager's report dealt with two concrete bollards placed by TVA on their Primrose Lane easement near the shoreline. Motorized access to that area has been a topic of discussion in the past. A passionate discussion by Service District residents then ensued regarding the Primrose Lane area. Mr. Black confirmed that the Service District has no position on what TVA can do with the property they control via their easement.

Other Business/Discussion: Resident Steve Jones was called upon to update the community on the broadband initiative for Bear Paw. Mr. Jones stated that a company called "The Cable Company" has included Bear Paw Service District in their grant application. Mr. Smith from The Cable Company expects to hear if his company is awarded the grant by late June or early July.

Resident Trish Swiger presented artwork for Bear Paw T-shirts which will soon be available. There was also some discussion about the Bear Paw website which is currently being redesigned for free by a Bear Paw resident who owns a graphic arts and website design company.

Discussion and clarification was had about the long-arm mowing for the community and the cost and schedule thereof.

The topic of a dispute between two lot owners having to do with an easement issue was mentioned. Chairman David Black stated that the topic could not be discussed in front of the Board of Directors because the Bear Paw Service District Board of Directors is the same as the Service District Zoning Board of Adjustment and cannot be prejudiced. The topic was not discussed.

A resident asked if there is currently any money allocated for the improvement of the tennis courts. Resident Steve Jones stated that a forum is provided for any and all budgetary considerations at the annual budget hearing. This year, that hearing took place on May 14th. Mr. Jones encouraged everyone

to be aware of and to participate in this process for which notification is given.

Concern was expressed that the meeting minutes have not been posted lately on the website.

Adjournment: There being no further topics for discussion, Chairman David Black made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jerry Pezzella. With no objections or further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Bob Cowdrick

Secretary Print Name



Secretary Signature

Date: July 2, 2022