

Minutes
Building and Grounds Committee
January 24, 2019
Cumberland Co. Fire Hall
Community Complex

Members Present

Sue York
Kyle Davis
Wendell Wilson
Jerry Cooper
Jim Blalock
Carl Macleod

Members Absent

Rebecca Stone
David Gibson
Jack Davis

Others Present

Nancy Hyder
Deborah Holbrook
Terry Lowe
Mark Baldwin
Mayor Allen Foster
Jill Davis
Conrad Welch
Trevor Kerley
Philip Burnett

Tour of the Main County Fire Hall:

County Fire Chief Trevor Kerley took us on a tour of the Main Fire Hall facilities. He told us about the different Fire trucks and their unique functions. He also told us about the background and history in the building of the Fire Stations within the County, how they originated and were funded, some through donations, some with work assistance from the fireman and TCAT. He reviewed the personnel and their quarters with a current 10 man crew who work the 7/24 with 3 shifts. He also stated he had 160 Volunteer Fireman who help make up the Cumberland County Fire Department.

- 1 Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Wendell Wilson. A quorum was present with the exception of Rebecca Stone, David Gibson and Jack Davis.
- 2 Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Kyle Davis made motion to approve the December 18, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Carl Macleod. Motion passed.
- 3 Election Commission Storage: Commissioner Jim Blalock showed us a drawing for a future floorplan and possible location for a new building to house all election equipment and the election office. The building would be about 6,600 square feet. This would stop the Election Commission from having 3 locations for election equipment to be housed and used during an election. The total footage for the 3 buildings now is around 3,229 sq. feet. The change from the main street location would help to eliminate the signage on the courthouse lawn, which is being discussed for some changes. This would allow for plenty of parking and help stop the over-crowded street congestion. Several Commissioners expressed their opinions and made some suggestions. A request was made to have Mr. Blalock to come back to the February meeting with more details and costs.

- 4 Red Cross Lease: The American Red Cross sent a notice to Mayor Foster that the lease between the County and them would be ending January 20, 2019 and they would vacate the building, but the Red Cross (Tenant) will continue to pay rent through March 8, 2019 to Cumberland County (Landlord). Greg King of American Red Cross will contact someone for walk-out inspection.
- 5 Signage Discussion for County Buildings-Attorney Philip Burnett: Attorney Burnett discussed the pros and cons of the signage problem on the courthouse grounds during the election. He handed out a resolution dated April 10, 2008 that the past committee approved but was never voted on by the 2008 full commission. Mr. Burnett outlined two options for the County. Option one was to ban all signs and allow none whatsoever. The second option is to name time, place, and matter and not to allow others. This allows the public to petition Mayor Foster to hold rallies, public charitable events but when the event is over to remove all signs. A lot of discussion was made by several of the building and grounds committee as to how to move forward to resolve the problem. A Resolution was presented from Mayor Foster and Attorney Burnett to send to the County Commission. Kyle Davis made a motion to approve the Resolution it was seconded by Jim Blalock and the vote was 4 in favor with 2 opposed. Chairman Wilson declared the motion passed but a point of order was given stating in Committee the vote must have 5 members voting in favor to pass. After further discussion Jerry Cooper moved to continue operating under the current policy until a resolution was considered further. However there was no second and the motion died. Mayor Foster addressed the committee and stated he had people filling out applications for events on the Courthouse lawn and he supported the Resolution and feels the County Commission needs to have something in place. Chairman Wilson asked if the committee would like to vote again and the prevailing side Committee members Cooper and Macleod stated yes. The Committee re-voted with Commissioner Cooper, changing his vote to yes to support the motion. It was approved in a 5 to 1 vote with Commissioner Macleod voting against. Attorney Burnett will continue to help with the proper way to address the change in language on the Resolution. The County Commission will vote on the Resolution at the February meeting.

With no other business a motion by Kyle Davis was made to adjourn. Seconded by Jerry Cooper. Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Next meeting will be February 26, 2019 at courthouse 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue York- Secretary, *sy*
Wendell Wilson- Chairman

