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2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
~~October 4, 2017~~
October 18, 2017

UPDATE

A regular Board meeting of the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency was held yesterday at the Paragon Parkway Training room. See:

http://haywoodnc.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2520:hchhsa-board-meeting-agenda-for-october-17-2017&catid=1:latest-news

I spoke during the public comment period requesting the Statutory Authority Paul Turner used to throw Terry Ramey and me out of a Public Committee meeting, directing the question to our Assistant County Manager, Stonewall Blevins. During the meeting, Paul Turner responded to my public comment and revealed that they all had a meeting about this. Paul Turner then publicly apologized to me for throwing Terry and me out of a public meeting. He said he was wrong. The path is now clear for any Haywood County Taxpayer to attend any HHS committee meeting, unless it has been designated as a closed session by NC General Statutes.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer

Subject: Open Letter to Ira Dove, re: Paul Turner declaring a HSS committee meeting “PRIVATE”.

Subject: Ramey said he has been thrown out of better bars than this place.

Date: Tue, 3 Oct 2017 20:01:34 -0400

From: Monroe Miller <monroemillerjr@bellsouth.net>

To: Ira Dove <idove@haywoodnc.net>, Stonewall Blevins <tsblevins@haywoodnc.net>, Terry Ramey

CC: Leon Killian <chip.killian@nelsonmullins.com>, KIRK KIRKPATRICK <kirk@jwklaw.net>, Bill Upton <billupton@bellsouth.net>, Michael Sorrells <sorrells@cbvno.com>, KEVIN ENSLEY <lkensley@bellsouth.net>, Brandon Rogers <bcrogers@haywoodnc.net>, Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Cory Vaillancourt <cory@smokymountainnews.com>

Mr. Dove,

Terry Ramey and I were minding our own business, and decided to go to this evenings Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency Board - Public Relations and Advocacy Committee meeting. I had discover(ed) this meeting on www.haywoodnc.net website, and in particular, the following public announcement: <http://haywoodnc.net/downloads/hchhsa/2017/Agenda%2010-3-17.pdf>

This was a committee meeting, not a board meeting of HHS.

We arrived at 5:25pm, and were the only ones there. I had asked Amy Stevens, who was helping set up, will we be allowed to ask a question in this committee meeting. She did not know the answer, as no one from the public had ever attended one of these committee meetings. She said she would have to look it up, and ran off back to the bowels of HHS. (We never saw her again).

A lady entered the room around 5:30 pm, and apologized to us, thinking she was in the wrong room. No, no, you are in the right room, I said.

Another guy came in, who I had recognized from the previous HHS Board meeting. They started discussing the agenda. Very short, the guy lamented. She said she did not have an agenda, so I offered her to look at mine. (Why did I have an agenda, and she did not?)

She said, this is the same stuff we discussed at the last meeting, about 6 months ago. The only agenda items were:

New Business

A. Review and assess what we want to do as a committee

B. Review and assess what we have done as a committee

Clearly, no secret rocket science here.

Food was in a bag marked Dicky's BBQ. I was looking forward to some delicious BBQ.

About that time, Paul Turner and Stonewall Blevins came into the room. Paul came over to me, looking a little perturbed, and I promptly introduced him to Terry Ramey. Yeah, I've heard of you, he said.

Then Paul went on some kind of rant saying this was not a public meeting. It was Private, and we could not stay.

What?, I asked. How can a committee meeting be private. If this was not a public meeting, why did the county put the meeting notice on their website? No response.

Rather than waiting to be thrown out by another set of Sheriff Deputies, I suggested we excuse ourselves.

Paul Turner was turning quite red about this time.

So, Ira, my question is, WTF? I would like to see the North Carolina General Statute which say that a committee that Paul Turner created now becomes a closed session, excluding public scrutiny.

By the way, all I had was a simple question to ask. Now that I have splattered 17CVS422 on my website and made it available to the known universe, what is this Public Relations and Advocacy Committee going to do about it. Never got to ask the question.

Terry had a question relating to our (Terry and I) meeting on 8/18/2017 with the meeting with Stonewall Blevins, Topic: Lying [re: recorder].

Please let me know what statute Turner and Blevins were using.

Monroe Miller

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