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2200 Camp Branch Road
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February 7, 2023

Subject: County Commissioners have forked over \$600K to Asheville Chamber of Commerce. WTF?

You can't make this stuff up.

Haywood County Commissioners have funneled \$600,000 to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce since 2018, for what? **David Francis** (pick a title) is behind all of this, convincing a bunch of idiots (**Bryant Morehead**, County Commissioners, **CeCe Hipps**, etc., etc., etc...) to pump money over to the Asheville Chamber in an attempt to get them to advertise the Jonathan Creek property, a.k.a **David Francis** Dirt Spreading Project, a.k.a. **James Weaver "Kirk" Kirkpatrick the III** Super Duper Sports Complex, as an industrial site. See on www.haywoodtp.net

WTF? Have county commissioners been pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars into the Economic Development Council (EDC) for five (5) years, going to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce to advertise the David Francis Dirt Spreading Project (J. Creek Property)? My title should be changed to "The Six-and-a-half Million Dollar Man"! 1/7/2023...

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/230106EDC-Site-Jonathan-Creek-2021.pdf>

Kristian Owen, Haywood County Finance Director, finally sent me yesterday directly (**Kristian Owen** has never emailed me anything directly before in her life) an .xlsx spread sheet containing funds that have been sent by Haywood County directly to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce!

Invoice	Inv Date	PO	Warrant	S	Check #	Amount	Use Tax		
141376	01/01/2023	230174	23-28FIN	P	482054	50,000.00		50k	
138573	07/01/2022	230174	23-03FIN	P	478180	50,000.00		100k	
133878	01/04/2022	220155	22-28FIN	P	473681	50,000.00			
129275	07/15/2021	220155	22-03FIN	P	469917	50,000.00		100k	
127900	04/01/2021	210283	21-49FIN	P	468883	25,000.00			
126419	01/01/2021	210283	21-27FIN	P	465270	25,000.00		50k	
CONSULTING FEE	07/28/2020	210283	21-04FIN	P	461994	50,000.00			
							Total		300k

(From **Kristian Owen**, Haywood County Finance Director)

This shows a "CONSULTING FEE" which I knew nothing about, of \$50K paid in 2020.

Then, \$100K for the next two (2) years, and now, a \$50K payment made on 1/1/2023, this year!

This totals \$300K, and if things go unchecked, the county will pay out another \$50K 7/1/2023, making a grand total of \$350K of our Tax Money going over directly to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce.

For what?

ROI (Return On Investment) = \$0.00 for Haywood County Taxpayers!

This is in addition to the already \$300K that was funneled over to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce in 2018, 2019, and 2020, as a pass thru by the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce, courtesy of **Bryant Morehead** and **CeCe Hipps**.

JAN 27 2023

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	YEAR	EFF DATE	AMOUNT	VDR NAME/ITEM DESC	COMMENTS
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2018	04/20/2018	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	4TH QTR FY 17-18 PMT HC CHAMBE
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2018	01/19/2018	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY18 3RD QRT
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2018	10/31/2017	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY18 2ND QRT FY17-18
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2018	07/14/2017	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY18 1ST QTR
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2019	04/26/2019	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY19
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2019	01/04/2019	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY19
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2019	10/26/2018	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY19
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2019	09/07/2018	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY19
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2020	05/01/2020	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY20
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2020	01/24/2020	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	MOU PLAN FY20
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2020	11/08/2019	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	FY19/20 QTR 2 OCT-DEC PER CONT
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2020	08/23/2019	55,764.75	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	PMT PER CONTRACT WITH HC FY19-
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2021	01/08/2021	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	FY21 RENEW MOU
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2021	07/31/2020	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	FY21 RENEW MOU
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2022	01/14/2022	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-HAYWOOD
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2022	07/23/2021	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-HAYWOOD
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2023	01/06/2023	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	HAYWOOD CTY CHAMB OF COMMERCE
11 -4920-569900-	OTHER CONTRIB GRANTS ETC	2023	07/22/2022	25,000.00	HAYWOOD CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	HAYWOOD CTY CHAMB OF COMMERCE

			<i>To Asheville Chamber</i>	
2018	223,059.00	→	100,000	}
2019	223,059.00	→	100,000	
2020	223,059.00	→	100,000	
2021	50,000			
2022	50,000			
2023	50,000			

(From **Kristian Owen**, Haywood County Finance Director)

Grand Total (included anticipated \$50K for 7/1/2023 payment to AVL Chamber) is:

\$650,000.00

For what? Nothing! Neither Chamber contributed at all for the following projects:

- Sale of J Creek property to a housing developer,
- Drake Software coming to Waynesville,
- New Harbor Freight coming to the old K Mart building.

My title keeps changing. Instead of the Six Million Dollar Man, it should now be amended to the \$6.65 Million Dollar Man.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer