

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
February 11, 2023

Subject: Request for Public Information - Jennifer Best violating North Carolina Open Meeting Laws?

During the five (5) hour county commission meeting on 2/6/2023, re: the \$75,735 grant approval discussion, **Jennifer Best** was called out during the two hour public comment period by Sherry Morgan about not doing her research on Terry Ramey's tax payment situation. **Jennifer Best** responded during the Constituent Concern portion of the meeting to respond to Sherry Morgan's comments, whipped out her cell phone and referenced an email sent to her by the Tax Collector indicating that Terry Ramey was delinquent in paying his taxes. That resulted in **Jennifer Best** having to provide that email. See on www.haywoodtp.net -

[Jennifer Best smears Terry Ramey at 2/6/2023 county commission meeting, re: "delinquent taxes". Full email dialog between Jennifer Best and Sebastian Cothran where Cothran states that: "So, yes Mr. Ramey is delinquent, however he has a payment plan and is good standing with our office." 2/6/2023. 2/8/2023...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/230208BestTrashesRameyEmailsCothran.pdf>

Also see:

[Vol #14, Issue # 6: Feb 05, 2023 "Our Views"!](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubTP/T230205.pdf>

Jennifer Best screwed up in her emails to Sebastian Cothran, and inadvertently opened Pandora's Box when she said on January 11, 2023:

"I have a new questions today. I am responding to a request from a media source about property taxes and the information will be part of my response."

That opened the door for me to request any and all emails between the following people:

- **Jennifer Best**
- **Brandon Rogers**
- **Tommy Long**
- **Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley**
- **Cory Vaillancourt**

The question is when these people conspired to stab Terry Ramey in the back, did they potentially violate all kinds of North Carolina Open Meeting Laws (**Cory Villancooter** excepted, not a public guy, only a snake in the grass)? See on www.haywoodtp.net

[Email Dialog - Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley and Cory Vaillancourt, colorized! Cory Vaillancourt is one sick S.O.B. and a snake in the grass. 1/20/2023 1/22/2023...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/230120EnsleyVaillancourtEmailDialog.pdf>

The following is my new Request for Public Information, initially directed to Amy Stevens, but then she redirected it to **Joey Webb**.

It is yet to be seen if County Attorney **Frank Queen** will obstruct and or block any of these emails, as he did when I requested **Rick Marvin's** emails from **Joey Webb**, and was completely stonewalled.

Tell you what. Let's see what **Joey Webb** and **Frank Queen** decide to do. If blocked, this whole thing, including the unaccountable \$6M and everything else that is going on, is going straight to Dale Folwell, NC State Treasurer. I would expect that he might ride into town (just like NCDOI did putting yellow tape around the Fairgrounds Arena Building and shutting it down for **Bruce Crawford's** approving a temporary Certificate of Occupancy for six years without toilets and ADA components, and **Johnny Glace's** failure to inspect the sprinkler system) and put this whole county in receivership.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

Very PO'ed Haywood County Taxpayer.

Subject: Request for Public Information - Jennifer Best-Cory Vaillancourt - county commission emails

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 2023 14:09:51 -0500

From: Monroe Miller

To: Amy L. Stevens <Amy.Stevens@haywoodcountync.gov>

CC: Bryant Morehead <Bryant.Morehead@haywoodcountync.gov>, Frank Queen <Frank.Queen@haywoodcountync.gov>, Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>, Joey Webb <joey.webb@haywoodcountync.gov>, Jennifer Best <jennifer.best@haywoodcountync.gov>, Terry Ramey <terry.ramey@haywoodcountync.gov>, Tommy Long <Tommy.Long@haywoodcountync.gov>, Brandon Rogers <brandon.rogers@haywoodcountync.gov>, Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Scott McLeod <info@smokymountainnews.com>, Greg Boothroyd <ads@smokymountainnews.com>, Kyle Perrotti <kyle.p@smokymountainnews.com>

Mr. Stevens,

Upon review of the email dialog you supplied this morning between Jennifer Best and Sebastian Cothran, Jennifer Best has opened Pandora's Box, when she said on Jan 11, 2023:

"I have a new questions today. I am responding to a request from a media source about property taxes and the information will be part of my response."

This is supposedly prompted by Cory Vaillancourt which coincides with the article written in the smn tabloid stabbing Terry Ramey in the back.

Email Dialog - Kevin "Adjudication" Ensley and Cory Vaillancourt, colorized! Cory Vaillancourt is one sick S.O.B. and a snake in the grass. 1/20/2023 1/22/2023...

Therefore,

This is a Request for Public Information, prompted by Jennifer Best's emails, asking for all communication/emails between Jennifer Best - Tommy Long - Brandon Rogers - Kevin Ensley and Cory Vaillancourt between January 6, 2023 through January 15, 2023.

Thank you,

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

Subject: RE: Request for Public Information - Jennifer Best-Cory Vaillancourt - county commission emails
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 2023 16:49:01 +0000
From: Amy L. Stevens <Amy.Stevens@haywoodcountync.gov>
To: Monroe Miller
CC: Bryant Morehead <Bryant.Morehead@haywoodcountync.gov>, Frank Queen <Frank.Queen@haywoodcountync.gov>, Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>, Joey Webb <joey.webb@haywoodcountync.gov>, vhyatt@themountaineer.com <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, bjohnson@themountaineer.com <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Scott McLeod <info@smokymountainnews.com>, Greg Boothroyd <ads@smokymountainnews.com>, Kyle Perrotti <kyle.p@smokymountainnews.com>

Good Morning:

The Full BOC is blind copied on this email. Thank you for your inquiry. I will make sure that Joey Webb is aware of your request.

Amy L. Stevens, Clerk to Board of County Commissioners
Haywood County Administration
215 N. Main Street
Waynesville, NC 28786
Phone: 828-452-6625
Fax: 828-452-6715
Internal extension: 2600
e-mail: amy.stevens@haywoodcountync.gov

Subject: Re: Request for Public Information - Jennifer Best-Cory Vaillancourt - county commission emails
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 2023 11:52:40 -0500
From: Monroe Miller
To: Amy L. Stevens <Amy.Stevens@haywoodcountync.gov>
CC: Bryant Morehead <Bryant.Morehead@haywoodcountync.gov>, Frank Queen <Frank.Queen@haywoodcountync.gov>, Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>, Joey Webb <joey.webb@haywoodcountync.gov>, vhyatt@themountaineer.com <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, bjohnson@themountaineer.com <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Scott McLeod <info@smokymountainnews.com>, Greg Boothroyd <ads@smokymountainnews.com>, Kyle Perrotti <kyle.p@smokymountainnews.com>, Kris Boyd <Kris.Boyd@haywoodcountync.gov>, Tommy Long <Tommy.Long@haywoodcountync.gov>, Brandon Rogers <brandon.rogers@haywoodcountync.gov>, Jennifer Best <jennifer.best@haywoodcountync.gov>, Terry Ramey <terry.ramey@haywoodcountync.gov>

Ms. Stevens,

I have also directly-copied most of the BOC, excepting Kevin Ensley, + most of the local media on this email.

Thank you.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

[Editor's Note: repeating, the following is from my original Request for Public Information to Amy Stevens.]

So, here is the email string between Jennifer Best and Sebastian Cothran...

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Best <Jennifer.Best@haywoodcountync.gov>
Date: January 12, 2023 at 9:06:38 AM EST
To: Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>
Subject: Re: Foreclosure sale

Thank you so much ~ enjoy today!

Jennifer M. Best

On Jan 12, 2023, at 8:11 AM, Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov> wrote:

Yes, technically bills are still considered delinquent after a payment plan has been signed. So, yes Mr. Ramey is delinquent, however he has a payment plan and is good standing with our office.

Sebastian Cothran
Haywood County Tax Collector
828-452-6643

From: Jennifer Best <Jennifer.Best@haywoodcountync.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 4:28 PM
To: Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>
Subject: Re: Foreclosure sale

For a deeper dive, are bills considered delinquent even when on a payment plan that is current per the plan schedule?

And let me simply ask ~ is Terry Eugene Ramey currently delinquent on any tax bills?

Jennifer M. Best

On Jan 11, 2023, at 3:38 PM, Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov> wrote:

Hello. There are currently 63,920 bills on our records, there are less taxpayers, but it is hard to get an exact number because of businesses, people with multiple bills, etc. There are approximately 100 payment plans outstanding on the 2022 bills. There are a few pending that got mailed to customers and we are awaiting signatures. I can't give a specific answer for the default question because many people with balances have payment plans, and bills went delinquent on the 5th, so the number changes every few minutes as someone pays there bills. Let me know if you have any other questions. Thanks.

Sebastian Cothran
Haywood County Tax Collector
828-452-6643

From: Jennifer Best <Jennifer.Best@haywoodcountync.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 1:29 PM
To: Sebastian Cothran <Sebastian.Cothran@haywoodcountync.gov>
Subject: Re: Foreclosure sale

Good afternoon Sebastian. I was unable to attend the foreclosure sale I'll try to make the next one.

I have a new questions today. I am responding to a request from a media source about property taxes and the information will be part of my response.

How many unique taxpayers for Haywood County?
How many payment plans?
How many payers are in default?

Jennifer M. Best

On Jan 5, 2023, at 11:35 AM, Jennifer Best <Jennifer.Best@haywoodcountync.gov> wrote:

Hello sir.

Tuesday you mentioned an upcoming Foreclosure Sale. Will you remind me of the date/time?
Hope your week of collecting has run smoothly.

Jennifer M. Best
215 N. Main St.
Waynesville NC 28786
828-508-0858