

Haywood County “Toeprints”

October 5, 2010

Vol. #1 Issue #18 (Subject: * **SPECIAL EDITION** * **Health / Solid Waste Committee Meeting**)

What’s Happening?

This is a **SPECIAL EDITION** of Toeprints...

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Haywood County Taxpayers of what transpires at the bi-monthly County Commission Meetings. This newsletter will be written from the perspective of a casual observer, myself. Any opinions expressed will be mine.

Health / Solid Waste Committee Meeting.

A meeting of the Public Health and Solid Waste Awareness and Compliance Committee was held in the 2nd floor conference room at the old courthouse on October 4, 2010 at 1:30pm.

This committee has been tasked with the creation of an ordinance to deal with current public health and solid waste concerns to replace “**The Rule**” that was tabled by **Carmine Rocco’s** Health Board.

The following people attended the meeting:

- Terry Ramey [*]
- Bruce Gardner [*]
- **Mark Swanger**
- Chris Boyd
- Marty Stamey
- **Steven King**
- Jim Webb (sp?)
- **David Cotton**
- Chip Killian
- Monroe Miller [**]
- (Vikki Gribble was not in attendance.)

Note: [*] denotes **not** a county employee.
[**] not a committee member.

This was the second meeting of this group. A DRAFT of the ordinance from the first meeting had been circulated to members of this committee for review prior to this meeting.

Several of the members requested some changes in the DRAFT, which Chris Boyd implemented on the spot, which included creating a title for this ordinance:

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOLID WASTE AWARENESS AND COMPLIANCE

All members of the committee were in agreement with this DRAFT. The additions to be added from this point are more procedural than anything, the time period to respond to a complaint, for example. There will need to be another meeting to review these final additions.

The only **red flag** that popped up is that **Mark Swanger** proposed rushing the approval of this ordinance through the current commissioners before new commissioners are installed after the election in November.

Why the rush? That kind of thing always makes me nervous.

It would appear to me that this ordinance appears solid and would even have less problem passing a new set of commissioners than the current set of commissioners. **[Editors Note: Kirkpatrick - Swanger - Upton** voted at the commission meeting on October 4th to increase the Class designation on land classified at Forestry from a Class III to a Class II, from \$90 to \$185. Look for their convoluted reasoning in the next regular issue of Toeprints - re: recorder.]

There will be an accelerated effort to agree on a final approved ordinance, get it placed on the commission agenda to call for a Public Hearing, have the Public Hearing (this might be done during a special meeting), and then pass it at a regular commission meeting, all before new commissioners are installed.

Swanger recalled and told an interesting story at the meeting. It happened many years ago [around 1992 or so] and dealt with a change in the animal control ordinance. It had something to do with dogs, and people were up in arms [similar to the current proposed new animal control ordinance where it appears animal control wants to come into your house and inspect your windows if you have a vicious dog]. Contention was so bad, that the way it was finally resolved, was to have actual dog owners join the committee responsible for the creation of the animal control ordinance. Swanger recalled that everything was resolved and the animal control ordinance has withstood the test of time [until now].

Does this sound familiar? Like what just happened with “**The Rule**” and the creation of this committee?

Since there was genuine concern at the call to Public Hearing for the new Animal Control Ordinance, you would think the Commissioners would catch on, and reformulate whoever is pushing this animal control ordinance to include ordinary citizens on that committee before there is a public hearing , as Terry Ramey and Bruce Gardner (your every day ordinary citizens) were appointed to be on this Public Health and Solid Waste Awareness and Compliance Committee.

Since there had been great concern by citizens at the recent health board meetings regarding “**The Rule**”, it’s a good idea to present this DRAFT document to the public well in advance of any Public Hearing.

The DRAFT document has been posted on www.haywoodtp.net. All citizens are encouraged to view the DRAFT document, and if you spot any concerns, let any committee member know. The more people that take a look, the less chance of a mistake or potential problem getting passed. It is easier to make any changes before it gets passed than after it gets passed.

Updated Commissioner Voting Guide.

You can vote for three (3) county commissioners. This handy list will be expanded completely before voting day for your convenience.



(Toeprint Seal of Approval)

- Denny King
- David Bradley



(Not approved)

- **Kirk Kirkpatrick**
- **Bill Upton**
- Tom Freeman

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