The Avery County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and take any action necessary regarding the Fiscal Year Budget 2017/2018 and the design schematics of the Swimming Pool Project.

Members Present: Martha Hicks, Chair; Blake Vance, Vice-Chair; Faith Lacey; Tim Phillips; Wood Hall Young, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Call To Order
Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Tim Greene, County Manager, stated that this is the first budget workshop. At this budget workshop, we have handed out the budget notebook. We won’t actually get in depth into discussing the budget but just going over the format. On April 24th, we should be ready to get in depth into the budget. Mr. Greene explained each section of the budget notebook.

Mr. Greene stated that he did want to make a few comments on some things that had been added to the budget. We have turned three part time dispatchers into full time. We are working them more hours than we should be. We have added 2 ½ more part time positions to transportation. They are really in a bind out there. We have added two other positions, one in the agricultural department but this would be reimbursed 50%. This is an extension agent. We are down about 2 ½ agents. We have added a Social Worker Ill position and that is going to be 50% reimbursed by the state. The medical insurance has gone up and we have made a benefit change. We have added $100.00 deductible on the drug card for Tiers 2 through 4. We have increased the tipping fee from $45.00 to $55.00. We have also added $23,000 for the MAPPS Group to do a salary classification study. Periodically that is a good idea to make sure we are in line with the market.

Mr. Greene stated to take the budget notebooks home and be ready with questions at the April 24, 2017 Budget meeting.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. commented that he would like to consider putting in the budget playground equipment, picnic shelters, etc. at the old swimming pool property.

Recess
Recess for 2 minutes.

Chair Hicks declared the meeting to be back in session after a brief recess.

New Swimming Pool Project
Mary Isaacs, Architect, stated that at the last meeting we talked about the results of the community meeting. We also talked about the different layouts of the pool. Ultimately, most everyone agreed that the T shaped configuration really gave you the most bang for the buck and that is the way to go to have a pool to serve a variety of the people. With the exception of a community multipurpose and a concession stand, the rest of the spaces are needed whether the pool is enclosed or not. We used that as a starting point to look at different options. We had some conversations about a central control point to control the people going into the pool. Ms. Isaacs showed some examples of other pools at different locations.

There was discussion about the different site layout options. There was discussion regarding water runoff at the Recreation property.

At this point for an enclosed pool it would be at approximately 3.1 million.

Chair Hicks stated that there had been some good discussion today but that she felt there needed to be a workshop on the swimming pool. This will be scheduled in the near future.

Adjourn
Motion by Blake Vance and second by Tim Phillips to adjourn this meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.