

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Meeting on Friday, January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The Commissioners met with Boomerang Design Architects to discuss and take any action necessary regarding the design elements of the Agricultural Extension Building.

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 10:00 a.m.  
Chair Hicks read the Special Meeting Notice.

Tim Greene, County Manager, stated that the Board engaged Boomerang Designs to draw the Agricultural Building. At the community input meeting, we got the design elements that the community would like incorporated. We met back with Boomerang Design and said here are some of the thoughts of the community and here is the “wish list” and Boomerang has come up with some floor plans based upon what we have told them at this point.

Robert Johnson, Boomerang Designs, had a power point presentation showing designs and explaining different aspects of the designs.

Discussion regarding the different schematic options. Jerry Moody, Agricultural Extension Director, pointed out changes that needed to be made to the schematics.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. stated that his concern was that Avery County does not have an unlimited budget. Mr. Young questioned how many full time employees are at the Agricultural office. Jerry Moody stated eight right now and nine eventually.

Blake Vance commented that he was an advocate for a large community room but our budget is not unlimited so if we have to make cuts that is one of the first places we would have to look at. I am pretty torn on this because I see the need for the large facility. We have committed to do the Agricultural building, swimming pool and the high school needs to be fixed and we are facing a 2.4 million dollar budget deficit.

Jerry Moody suggested that one option might be to let him write grants for one year and then if we don't get the grants cut back the size of the building.

Chair Hicks stated that when we started this project we knew that we needed the offices and we put back 1 million dollars for it.

Tim Greene, County Manager, stated that when we were originally looking at this we said it was going to take about 5000 square feet for offices and 2500 square feet for storage. Initially we were saying 7500 square foot metal building. Then we had a community meeting and different groups thought a community room would be good to have.

**Recess**

Chair Hicks called for a brief recess.

Chair Hicks called the meeting back in session after a brief recess.

There was discussion regarding sewer and water. Tim Greene, County Manager, stated that the engineers have felt like it would take around \$150,000 to have private sewer and water and I assume that number is ok with the Board.

Mr. Greene suggested that Mr. Johnson make some changes to the floor plan with what Tami and Jerry has said about how that needs to be arranged. In the meantime, the Board can be deciding on a 4500 square foot community room, a 2250 square foot community room, no community room, or just 2500 square foot storage room.

Rob Johnson with Boomerang stated that he would do a plan 3 and get the comments incorporated and then get back together and get the Board's blessings on that. Then from that we can build the system materials and then get this to an estimator.

Blake Vance suggested that the Board have a workshop to talk all this out in the meantime while Boomerang is working on this.

**Adjourn**

**Chair Hicks adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.**

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**Martha Hicks, Chair  
Avery County Board of Commissioners**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk