

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in a Joint Meeting with the Avery County Board of Education on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The purpose of this joint meeting was to discuss school related issues.

Members Present: Kenny Poteat, Chairman; Phyllis Forbes, Vice-Chair; Scott Heath; Martha Hicks; Glenn Johnson

Members Absent: None

Call To Order

Chairman Poteat called the Board of Commissioners back in session at 5:31 p.m. after a recess from the regular meeting.

John Greene, Chairman of the Avery County Board of Education, read an ethics statement.

Motion by Steve Smith and second by Keith Tutterow to approve the agenda for this meeting.

Keith Tutterow, Board of Education member, led prayer.

One-To-One Initiative

Avery County students spoke about the advantages of the One-To-One Initiative.

Avery County students demonstrated the iPads to the Board of Education members and Board of Commissioners members.

David Burlison, Avery County School Superintendent, and Dennis Brown, Avery County School IT Director, presented a power point presentation on the Avery One-To-One Initiative. Mr. Brown said this initiative plan would be a four year 0% interest lease; the total amount to be financed would be \$2,120,000. Mr. Brown stated that \$200,000 would be needed as a prepayment to get the project underway and then in July 2012 the first lease payment of \$530,000 would be due and then the fourth year in 2015 the payment would be \$330,000. Mr. Brown said that if something was to happen and the lease payment could not be continued Avery County Schools could step away from the lease. Mr. Burlison said that the \$200,000 would be the upfront monies and would be absorbed by the Board of Education from carry over textbook money that has accumulated over time. Mr. Brown stated that basically the window of time for this particular plan would be this week.

There was considerable discussion regarding the One-To-One Initiative Plan. Chairman Poteat stated that he did not feel the Board of Commissioners would be able to make a decision at this meeting but a special meeting would be scheduled to address this issue. During the time before the special meeting, the County Manager and Finance Officer would "crunch" some numbers. The Special Meeting will be scheduled for Thursday morning, September 22, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Board Room.

Robert Wiseman, County Manager, commented that not to expect anything more than a substantial tax increase next year. Avery County is looking at a new high school; commitments to the Fire Commission; courthouse renovation, etc. and we need to be cognizant of that.

Adjourn

Motion by Glenn Johnson and second by Martha Hicks to adjourn this meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Motion unanimously approved.

**Kenny Poteat, Chairman
Avery County Board of Commissioners**

ATTEST: _____
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk

