

Unsealed by the Board of Commissioners on 02/12/2024.

**MINUTES**  
**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 10, 2021 – CLOSED SESSION**

Per North Carolina General Statute § 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged, closed session was entered into at 8:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Chappell, Commissioners Chapman, Dalton, Guice and McCall, County Manager Jaime Laughter, County Attorneys Julie Hooten and Jim Stanly, Robert Van Camp with Great Scenic Railway Journeys, and Clerk to the Board Trisha Hogan.

During this closed session, the Board heard a brief proposal from Robert Van Camp with Great Scenic Railway Journeys. Mr. Van Camp informed the Board about the potential for applying for an abandonment exemption that would serve to preserve the rail line for a possible dual purpose, both as freight (cargo and people) and a trail.

If there was interest from the Board, Mr. Van Camp offered to serve as a consultant to engage the Board with the appropriate agencies and assist with next steps. First, the Board would need to consult with their County Attorney and staff on how best to proceed should they have an interest in pursuing this any further. If directed to do so, the County Attorney would explore the options and determine if any of them had merit for potential negotiation for proposing dual use of the rail line.

Commissioners did not express an interest in pursuing Mr. Van Camp's proposal and thus did not direct the County Attorney or staff to follow up.

**Chairman Chappell moved to leave closed session, seconded by Commissioner McCall and unanimously carried.**

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Jason R. Chappell, Chairman  
 Transylvania County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Trisha M. Hogan, Clerk to the Board