

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA ON MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2001. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman C.W. "Pete" Bland
Vice-Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner Lee K. Allen
Commissioner Donald Phillips
Commissioner J. Harold Talton
Commissioner Albert H. Toon
Commissioner Charles F. Tyson, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Allen and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2001, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Tyson requested that the FY 2000 HMGP Acquisition and Relocation Project Contract for Commercial Appraisal Services be removed from the consent agenda. The remainder of the consent agenda was considered and approved as follows:

Subdivisions and Mobile Home Parks for Approval

County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions and mobile home parks for the Board's approval.

The Oaks Phase Two – Final: The property, owned by S&T Land, LLC and surveyed by Robert Davis, is located within Twp 7 off of SR 1113 (Old Cherry Point Road). The subdivision contains 4 lots and is proposed to be served by community water and sewer. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Michael D. Hawkins/Janett Amerson Div. – Final: The property, owned by Magnolia Investors, LLC and surveyed by Brad Suitt & Associates, is located within Twp 7 off NC Hwy 70 E. The subdivision contains 1 lot and is proposed to be served by community water and sewer. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Lindsey C. Sugg Div. – Final: The property, owned by Rachel C. Sugg and surveyed by Terry K. Wheeler, is located within Twp 8 off of SR 1483 (Briarwood Lane). The subdivision contains 1 lot and is proposed to be served by City of New Bern water and sewer. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Solomito MHP – Final: The property, owned by James R. Solomito and surveyed by Mayo and Associates, is located within Twp 2 off of SR 1490 (Ridge Road). The park contains 2 lots and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the park for final approval.

Gracie Farms MH Community Phase V – Final: The property, owned by Gracie Farms MHP, LLC and surveyed by Atlantic Survey and Design, is located within Twp 8 off of SR 1481 (Gracie Farms Road). The park contains 48 lots and is proposed to be served by

New Bern water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the park for final approval.

Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the subdivisions and mobile home parks as recommended by the Planning Board, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

FY 00 Crisis Housing Assistance Contract Award

The Planning Board recommended a contract award to Styron Construction in the amount of \$1,950.00 for the demolition of a storm-damaged unit owned by Charles Simmons at 4607 Hwy 17 S., New Bern. The Board was informed that Styron Construction was the low bidder among three contractors that submitted quotes. Commissioner Tyson moved to award the bid as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Tax Releases

County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following routine requests for tax releases. Commissioner Tyson moved for their approval, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
ANDERSON, RUSSELL LEE & DORIS MOBILE HOME DOUBLE LISTED W/126340	2000-0001103	\$ 40.03
ROBINSON, CHIRSTOPHER WILLIAM DID NOT OWN MOBILE HOME 1-1-2000	2000-0041697	\$ 40.67
SPRUILL, HARVEY B JR BOAT DOUBLE LISTED W/6805905	2000-0045611	\$ 33.69
	3 – CREDIT MEMO(S)	\$ 114.39

Budget Amendments

The following budget amendments and ordinance updates were submitted by the Finance Officer for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Tyson moved for their approval as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Community College Bldg

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
381-8600-380-01-00 GO Bonds	\$ 1,800,000.00	381-8600-480-37-06 To Comm College	\$ 3,800,000.00
381-8600-380-04-00 State Bond Proceeds	\$ 2,000,000.00	381-8600-480-15-10 Admin Fees	\$ 40,000.00
381-8600-329-00-00 Interest	\$ 40,000.00		
TOTAL	\$ 3,840,000.00	TOTAL	\$ 3,840,000.00

Justification: Set up Craven Community College Bldg project.

Cooperative Ext-4H Summer Fun Program

101-4240-348-27-00	\$	5,329.00	101-4240-420-26-00	\$	300.00
NC State Univ			M/R Bldg Grounds		
			101-4240-420-32-40	\$	58.00
			Other Supplies		
			101-4240-420-24-00	\$	864.00
			Meeting Expense		
			101-4240-420-40-50	\$	4,107.00
			Cont Ser Emp		
TOTAL	\$	5,329.00	TOTAL	\$	5,329.00

Justification: Budget a portion of a \$10,000 grant to be received from NC State Univ for 4H Summer Fun Program. Balance of \$4,671 to be budgeted in FY 2002.

Sheriff

101-2005-377-03-00	\$	7,182.00	101-2005-410-32-40	\$	7,182.00
Fed Bullet Proof Vests			Other Supplies		

Justification: Budget Federal Grant awarded to Sheriff's Dept for the purchase of bulletproof vests CFDA 16-607

Admin Bldg

358-0000-329-00-00	\$	7,000.00	358-0201-400-76-00	\$	57,000.00
Interest			Const		
358-0000-366-07-00	\$	50,000.00			
From Fd 371 Reserve					
TOTAL	\$	57,000.00	TOTAL	\$	57,000.00

Justification: Budget interest and transfer from Reserve (already budgeted in reserve) to cover the Admin Bldg renovations.

ORDINANCES

CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUILDING

FUND 381

This ordinance is hereby approved in the following amounts for expenditures.

Expenditures:

To Community College	\$ 3,800,000.00
Administrative/Legal	\$ 40,000.00
Total	\$ 3,840,000.00

It is estimated the following revenues will be available to fund this project.

Revenues:

G O Bond Proceeds	\$ 1,800,000.00
State Bond Proceeds	\$ 2,000,000.00
Interest	\$ 40,000.00
Total	\$ 3,840,000.00

This ordinance is hereby approved this 4th day of June, 2001.

ADMIN BLDG RENOVATIONS

FUND 358

This ordinance is hereby approved in the following amounts for expenditures.

Expenditures:

Contractual Service – Architect	\$ 7,750.00
Construction	\$ 149,250.00
Total	\$ 157,000.00

It is estimated the following revenues will be available to fund this project.

Revenues:

From General Capital Reserve	\$ 150,000.00
Interest	\$ 7,000.00
Total	\$ 157,000.00

This ordinance is hereby amended this 4th day of June, 2001.

RED CROSS REQUEST

Carol Wentworth, Executive Director of Coastal Carolina Chapter, American Red Cross, presented a request for a mid-year emergency appropriation in the amount of \$10,000. She explained that the requested is to help the Red Cross meet a current financial crisis precipitated by increased aid to families in single family fires during the current year. The Board received the request from Red Cross; however, no action was taken.

PRESENTATION OF GLOBAL TRANSPARK COMMISSION FLEX GRANTS

Mr. Jim Davis, Executive Director of Craven County Economic Development Commission, presented for the Board’s approval two (2) flex grants in the amount of \$25,000 each, approved by the Global Transpark Commission for Craven County. These grants were made for the sole purpose of assisting in the development and/or expansion of two specific industries in Craven County, one being CargoLifter and the second being a company that has not yet announced. Both grants require a match and both contain the stipulation that the money would be returned to Global Transpark should the companies choose not to locate or expand in Craven County. It was also stipulated that the grant offers are effective for ninety days. There were inquiries from Commissioners concerning the initiation of the ninety day period and Mr. Davis indicated that the grant agreement must be executed within 20 days of the announcement by the company to locate in Craven County. He stated that in the case of CargoLifter, the match has been made by the County already in the form of engineering and legal fees that have been paid. He stated that the unannounced company has already made available the match for the second flex grant. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the two grants, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried.

At 7:25 p.m. the Board was declared in recess.

7:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON CARTS

The Board reconvened at 7:30 p.m. and was declared in public hearing concerning CARTS. The purpose of the public hearing, which was set for 7:30 p.m., was to receive local input regarding the sub-allocation of funds to be applied from the Rural Operating Assistance Program. CARTS Director, Johnny Purvis, explained to the Board that no local match would be required for these funds. There were no members of the public who spoke on the matter, and at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Talton moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, presented the following resolution concerning a public hearing that was requested for June 18th regarding the sale of 3.27 acres in the Industrial Park to NextMedia Group, LLC. The proposed sale is for the amount of \$30,000/acre. Commissioner Tyson moved to adopt the resolution, setting a public hearing for June 18th at 8:45 a.m., and to publish the resolution announcing the hearing, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE SALE OF A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 158 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, a public notice and public hearing are required to enable Craven County to sell a parcel of land in the Industrial Park. The public hearing must be held prior to said conveyance being approved by the County. The public hearing must be advertised at least ten days before the hearing is held.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that Craven County hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held on June 18, 2001 at 8:45 a.m. or as soon thereafter as possible regarding the sale of 3.27 acres more or less in the Craven County Industrial Park to NextMedia Group, LLC.

Done this 4th day of June, 2001.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON JUNE 18, 2001 REGARDING THE SALE OF 3.27 ACRES IN CRAVEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK

WHEREAS, NextMedia Group, LLC has made an offer to purchase 3.27 acres in the Industrial Park owned by Craven County; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Chapter 158 of the General Statutes of North Carolina require that prior to any property being conveyed by private negotiations in the Industrial Park, the conveyance must be approved by the County Board of Commissioners after a public hearing, which notice of public hearing must be published ten days before the public hearing.

Said real property is more particularly described as follows:

All that certain tract or parcel of land lying in Number Eight (8) Township, Craven County, North Carolina containing 3.25 acres more or less and being all of tract number 2 as depicted on a map entitled "Craven County Industrial Development Commission", dated March 6, 2000, prepared by The East Group, and recorded in Plat Cabinet G at slide 96-H, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County.

The offered purchase price of said property is \$30,000 per acre which price the County intends to approve and to convey the parcel subject to certain covenants, conditions and restrictions.

The probable average hourly wage to be paid to workers by the business to be located at the property shall be \$14.00.

The fair market value of the property is \$30,000 per acre.

The public is hereby notified that a public hearing will be held by the Craven County Board of Commissioners on June 18, 2001 at 8:45 a.m. or as soon thereafter as possible and following said hearing, the Craven Board of Commissioners intends to complete this transaction.

FY 00 HMGP ACQUISITION AND RELOCATION PROJECT CONTRACT FOR COMMERCIAL APPRAISAL SERVICES

The Board received a recommendation of a small purchase contract award to Realty Services of Eastern, NC for commercial appraisal services in the amount of \$3,600 to provide per unit appraisal reports for the Bricewood Creek Apartment Complex. This apartment complex is scheduled to be acquired under the County's HMGP Buyout Project. Commissioner Tyson asked that the fee of \$3,600 and that the definition of "per unit" be clarified. Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, explained that there are 52 units in the property and that a per unit appraisal is required; however, he advised the Board that the amount of \$3,600 is the total contract award amount. Commissioner Tyson moved to approve award of the contract to Realty Services of Eastern, NC in the amount of \$3,600, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

7:45 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING – SCHEDULE OF VALUES

At 7:45 p.m. the Board was declared in public hearing, as advertised, concerning the proposed schedule of values. Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, provided a brief explanation on the effect of the schedule of values over the next eight years and the reason for the schedule. Chief Appraiser, Phil Nelson, explained the process for establishing the schedules and the role of the Board of Equalization and Review. There were no members of the public who wished to speak and at 8:05 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 2001-2002 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

As the Board awaited the appointed hour for the 8:30 p.m. public hearing on the recommended FY 2001-2002 budget, the Chairman invited members of the public who had already assembled for the purpose of speaking and attending the public hearing to begin giving their input. He stated that the public hearing would be declared officially open at 8:30 p.m., and would include all who wished to speak. Having gotten the agreement of the members of the public who had assembled, the Board proceeded to receive comments and asked that they be limited to five minutes

1. *Mr. Jason Williams*, Staff Attorney for Pamlico Sound Legal Services, addressed the Board concerning funding disbursements of the Home and Community Care Block Grant. Pamlico Sound Legal Services did not receive HCCBG funds, and this would decrease the number of single seniors that could be served by the agency for preparation of legal documents and other legal services.
2. *Mr. Kellon McMillian*, representing the New Bern Area Improvement Association, asked that the Board consider its funding request for the purpose of improving the Jasper G. Hayes Center to enable the association to build a mentoring program.
3. *Ms. Rochelle Martin*, Executive Director of Craven County Council on Women, requested favorable consideration of the Council's budget request. She stated that 120 out of 129 of the victims who were provided service in the past year were from Craven County. She also indicated that the educational program would be a casualty of decreased funding.
4. *Mr. Bill Rivenbark*, Superintendent of Schools, requested that the Board, in adopting a budget, keep the children first in mind. In addition, he requested that the Board schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Education. He expressed a need for funding signing bonuses, teacher supplement increases, and school resource offices.
5. *Ms. Cheryl Kroger*, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters, explained expansion that is planned for the next academic year of the program from 35 participants to 150, and emphasized the need for funding.

6. *Mr. Eric Smith*, representing *Merci Clinic*, requested that the County consider continuing its appropriation to *Merci Clinic*, citing *Craven County* as the seventh highest in the number of uninsured citizens among *North Carolina* counties. These are the people who are served by *Merci Clinic*.

At 8:30 p.m. the public hearing was declared officially open, as advertised. There were additional speakers, as follows:

7. *Mr. Marvin Raines*, Chairman of the Board of *Swiss Bear*, cited the developments in downtown *New Bern* that have resulted from *Swiss Bear's* existence, and asked that their budget request be kept in consideration.
8. *Mr. Herb Rawls*, 3813 Old *Cherry Point Road*, spoke in opposition to a tax increase and suggested that a percentage decrease be applied to the entire budget.
9. *Mr. Ed Armtroug*, representing the *Library Board*, emphasized that the library has no other funding sources and cannot charge for services. He stated that the service delivery of the library is dependent upon the County. The only option, as a result of inadequate funding, would be reduction in the level of service.
10. *Ms. Nancy Chase*, Librarian of the *Cove City Library*, spoke to request adequate funding in order to expand the hours of the *Cove City Library* to Saturday hours and more evening hours.
11. *Ms. Lucille Potter*, *Ms. Jackie Potter-Randall*, and *Ms. Barbara Avery* also spoke in support of the *Cove City Library*.
12. *Mr. Robert Campbell* of 650 *Aurora Road*, *Ernul*, spoke on behalf of increased funding for the *Vanceboro Library*, in order to expand operating hours.
13. *Mr. Bill Harper*, 4625 Old *Cherry Point Road*, spoke in opposition to a tax increase.
14. *Mr. Robert Hennon* asked the Board that the library budget request be considered so that the *Kellenberger Room* hours could be restored and other services maintained at the current level. He expressed support for a modest tax increase in order to enable provision of adequate services.
15. *Ms. Oscara Roberts* spoke in support of the schools' funding request and urged the Board of Commissioners to work with the School Board in delivering the most excellent service possible to the students of *Craven County*.

At 8:55 p.m. Commissioner *Sampson* moved to close the public hearing on the budget, seconded by Commissioner *Talton* and unanimously carried.

At 9:05 p.m. the Board reconvened and considered appointments

APPOINTMENTS

Work Force Development Board

The Board considered the expiring terms of *Mr. Steve Hicks*, representing the private sector, and *Dr. Lewis S. Redd*, representing the education sector, on the *East Carolina Work Force Development Board*. Commissioner *Sampson* nominated *Mr. Hicks* and *Dr. Redd* for reappointment. Commissioner *Talton* moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner *Sampson*, with *Mr. Hicks* and *Dr. Redd* being appointed by acclamation.

Council on Women

The Council on Women requested the appointment of *Mr. James Russo* as an addition to their Board. Commissioner *Tyson* nominated *Mr. Russo*. Commissioner *Phillips* moved

to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried, with Mr. Russo being appointed by acclamation.

Global Transpark Commission

The Board was advised that the term of Mr. James Davis on the Global Transpark Commission was due to expire. Mr. Davis had indicated his willingness and interest in continuing to serve. Commissioner Talton nominated Mr. Davis for reappointment. Commissioner Toon moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried, with Mr. Davis being reappointed by acclamation.

Craven Community College

The Board considered filling the position of Mr. Earl Wright, due to expire on June 30, 2001. Commissioner Phillips nominated Mr. Wright for reappointment. Commissioner Talton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried, with Mr. Wright being reappointed by acclamation.

Tourism Development Authority

The Board considered the expiring term of Bobbie Stanley, who represents the Sheraton on the Tourism Development Authority. Commissioner Tyson nominated Ms. Stanley for reappointment, inasmuch as she has not yet served a full term. Commissioner Talton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Toon, with Ms. Stanley being appointed by acclamation.

ABC Board

The Board considered appointment to the term of Barbara Whiteman, which is due to expire. Commissioner Allen nominated Ms. Whiteman for reappointment. Commissioner Sampson nominated Jimmy Huff. Commissioner Talton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried. In a roll call vote, Mr. Huff received five (5) votes from Commissioners Bland, Sampson, Talton, Toon and Tyson, with there being two (2) votes from Commissioners Allen and Phillips for Ms. Whiteman.

Social Services Board

The Board was advised that the term of Mr. Michael Gorman will expire at the end of June and that he is not eligible to serve for another term. Commissioner Talton nominated Kirby Smith for appointment. Commissioner Toon moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson, with Mr. Smith being appointed by acclamation.

Area Agency on Aging

The Board further deferred an appointment to replace Ms. Mary Swartz on the Area Agency on Aging, who resigned. Commissioner Sampson nominated Rev. Billy Smith, whose term is due to expire, for reappointment. Commissioner Toon moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson, with Rev. Smith being reappointed by acclamation.

Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee

The Board was advised that the terms of Ruby Connor, Mary Ann Dunn, Kenneth Jones, and David Peele, are due to expire at the end of June. Commissioner Allen nominated Mr. Peele for reappointment. Commissioner Talton nominated all of the Board members for reappointment. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried, with Ms. Connor, Ms. Dunn, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Peele, being reappointed by acclamation.

Civilian Military Community Council

Commissioner Toon informed the Board that the Civilian Military Community Council has amended its by-laws to include the Mayors of the municipalities on a rotational basis for one year each. Each county will be able to appoint one Mayor to this commission for a term of one year. He nominated Mayor Toler of Bridgeton, who has expressed interest in participating in the CMCC. Commissioner Sampson moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried, with Mr. Toler being appointed by acclamation as Craven County's Mayoral representative to the CMCC for a one year period beginning July 1, 2001.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Sampson reported on a Christian parade that was held on June 2, 2001 and encouraged organizers to continue and expand.

At 9:20 p.m. Commissioner Talton moved to recess until 5:30 p.m. on June 5th in budget work session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

Chairman C.W. "Pete" Bland
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board