

**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, APRIL 21, 2003. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.  
 Vice Chairman Lee Kyle Allen  
 Commissioner George Brown  
 Commissioner Bill Harper  
 Commissioner Perry Morris  
 Commissioner M. Renée Sisk  
 Commissioner Leon C. Staton

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Harold Blizzard, County Manager  
 George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager  
 Richard F. Hemphill, Finance Officer  
 Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Officer  
 Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board  
 Arey Grady, III., County Attorney's Office

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sisk and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Brown moved to approve minutes of the April 7, 2003 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*Tax Releases and Refunds*

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following routine requests for tax releases and refunds. Commissioner Allen moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**Credits**

<b>TAXPAYER NAME</b>	<b>TICKET #</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
ALLEN, OWEN N JR VEHICLE TAGGED ON 1/1/2002	2002-0000686	\$ 24.53
AUSTIN, WILLIAM TERRY JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2002	2002-0001721	\$ 50.81
CRAVEN CRAB COMPANY INC DID NOT OWN 1/1/2002	2002-0011222	\$ 227.87
DURHAM, RODNEY E DOUBLE LISTED TO ACCT #850363	1999-0013872	\$ 223.37
DURHAM, RODNEY E DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #850363	1999-0090118	\$ 542.42
DURHAM, RODNEY E DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #850363	2000-0014197	\$ 183.64
IPOCK, JULIUS TIMOTHY MH BURNED IN 2000-DETERMINED WORTHLESS BY APPRAISAL	2001-0025227	\$ 250.73

IPOCK, JULIUS TIMOTHY MH BURNED IN 2000-DETERMINED WORTHLESS BY APPRAISAL	2002-0025575	\$ 124.15
SMITH, ELBERT JUNIOR DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #37341	2002-0045867	\$ 325.63
SMITH, ELBERT JUNIOR DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #37341	2001-0045096	\$ 350.13
10 – CREDIT MEMO (S)		\$ 2,303.28

***Refunds***

JONES, WILLIAM H PROPERTY VACANT	2001-0027239	\$ 36.24
JONES, WILLIAM H PROPERTY VACANT	2002-0027587	\$ 33.36
LUPTON ASSOCIATES INC CORRECTED APPRAISAL ERROR	2002-0031174	\$ 54.97
3 – REFUND(S)		\$ 124.57

***Budget Amendments***

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Allen moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

***Tax Collector***

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-301-01-00 Tax Current Year	\$ 838.00	101-0901-400-40-80 TMA Collections	\$ 838.00
TOTAL	\$ 838.00	TOTAL	\$ 838.00

**Justification:** Budget additional tax received due to discoveries by Tax Management Associates. Contract allows them a 35% fee.

Collections	\$2,391.71
Fee	\$ 837.08
County	\$1,554.63

***CARTS – General Pub Transportation***

101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$ 9,046.00	101-7026-450-33-02 Refund Jones Co	\$ 9,046.00
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$ 2,220.00	101-7026-450-33-02 Refund Craven Co.	\$ 2,220.00
TOTAL	\$11,266.00	TOTAL	\$11,266.00

**Justification:** Refund NC DOT for unspent General Public Transportation funds for FY 2002 Craven receives Jones County funds and they only used a small portion of their \$10,517 resulting in a refund of \$9,045.14. Craven needs to refund \$2,220.63 of their \$41,479.01 including interest.

***Health/Healthy Carolinians***

101-6604-399-08-00	\$ 3,000	101-6604-440-40-00	\$ 3,000
Carryover balance		Contractual services	
		\$ 750 Camp Seagull-Sea fare per child	
		\$ 150 CC Board of Education-Bus Serv	
		\$ 2,000 YMCA-Staff time	
		\$ 100 Arapahoe Charter-Bus Transp	
TOTAL	\$ 3,000	TOTAL	\$ 3,000

**Justification:** Harold Bates foundation awarded this money last year for the Water Safety program, money was received 4/9/02. This money was not expended, therefore needs to be carried over into FY 02/03 budget.

***Special Appropriation***

101-0000-399-01-00	\$25,000.00	101-0190-450-96-21	\$25,000.00
Fund Balance		USSI	
TOTAL	\$25,000.00	TOTAL	\$25,000.00

**Justification:** Special appropriation to USSI for remainder of FY 2003. Pay \$12,500 in May & June.

***Sheriff – Jail***

101-0000-399-01-00	\$85,785.00	101-2008-410-11-04	\$ 55.00
Fund Balance		W/C	
		101-2001-410-31-01	\$40,000.00
		Vehicle Exp	
		101-2008-410-26-02	\$30,000.00
		M/R Equip	
		101-2008-410-73-01	\$12,500.00
		C/O Equip	
		101-2008-410-10-02	\$ 2,843.00
		Salaries	
		101-2008-410-11-01	\$ 218.00
		Fica	
		101-2008-410-11-02	\$ 140.00
		Retirement	
		101-2008-410-11-03	\$ 29.00
		401K	
TOTAL	\$85,785.00	TOTAL	\$85,785.00

**Justification:** Sheriff gasoline line item has been depleted and \$10,000 a month is needed for the next 4 months. (\$40,000). Equipment at the jail has been breaking down and attempted breakouts have resulted in additional repairs/maintenance requirements (\$30,000). The Health Dept. has inspected the refrigerator and freezer at the jail and has strongly advised replacement (\$12,500). A jail employee is retiring and no lapsed salary funds are available. He will be paid in excess of 200 hours annual leave at a cost including fringe of \$3,285.

**TRANSFER**

*Solid Waste*

<i>TRANSFER FROM</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>TRANSFER TO</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>
101-3201-420-32-60 Purchase Stickers	\$ 7,000.00	101-3235-420-40-68	\$30,000.00
101-3201-420-40-60 Sticker Turn In	\$13,000.00		
101-3201-420-40-62 Recycling Cont Ser	\$10,000.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>

**Justification:** To pay contract for Pilot Leachate Management System Contract.

**TRYON PALACE REQUEST**

Nancy Mansfield, Tryon Palace Development Officer, presented a brief history of Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens and plans to develop the North Carolina Education Center at the site of the old Barbour Boatworks. The Board of Commissioners was requested to consider a contribution of \$500,000 over five years for the project. She stated that the center is expected to open in 2009 to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tryon Palace restoration. The Board was informed that funding is needed for preservation with \$3 million being sought from public sources and \$3 million from private sources. The future building project goal is to raise \$20 million in public funds and \$20 million in private funds. In addition, an endowment in the amount of \$4 million from private funds is a goal. Tryon Palace Commission member, Bob Mattocks, stated that, to date, contributions and commitments have been received from the State in the amount of \$3.08 million toward land purchase, as well as \$750,000 from the Kellenberger Foundation; \$1 million from Pepsi; \$1 million from the Clean Water Fund; \$250,000 from the Cannon Foundation; \$2.6 million from the Tryon Palace family, which includes First Citizens Bank, the Board of Trustees and Friends of Tryon Palace and \$125,000 from various other sources.

**SENIOR CITIZENS MATTERS**

*Senior Tarheel Legislature Report*

Ms. Carolyn Bland, Craven County’s representative to the North Carolina Senior Tarheel Legislature, provided a report on the status of the Legislature’s activities and its most recent session. She stated that during the March session of the legislature a representative of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners noted that several of the Association’s legislative goals are consistent with priorities of the Senior Tarheel Legislature. Ms. Bland informed the Board that funding for her current participation had been made available by the Legislature since Craven County had been unable to include it in the 2003 budget.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

The Board was requested to adopt the following proclamation in observance of May as Older Americans Month. The proclamation will be read on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Craven County Courthouse during the “kick-off” flag raising ceremony. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

**PROCLAMATION  
OF OLDER AMERICANS MONTH  
IN CRAVEN COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, Older Americans are becoming a larger segment and a greater force in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Craven County's population of older adults has not only increased in number, but has grown more significant in the contributions it is making to the local community; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing life spans and enhancements in health care have resulted in longer periods of productivity among older citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Craven County is appreciative of the contributions being made by its older citizens, and sensitive to the needs of an aging population.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Craven County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of "Making Our World A Good Place to Grow Old", and proclaims the month of May, 2003 Older Americans Month in Craven County.

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2003.

**UNITED SENIOR SERVICES REQUEST**

At its March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board received a request from United Senior Services, Inc. for an additional appropriation of \$50,000 for the current year. The Board tabled the request and asked for additional information. As a result of the information that was provided, the County Manager recommended that Craven County appropriate to United Senior Services, Inc. an additional \$25,000 that would be used for operational expenses in May and June. The Board was informed that USSI is expecting refunds from the State in the next thirty (30) days of approximately \$22,000, which should be used towards outstanding payables, allowing USSI to close the year. The Manager also requested permission to meet with Ms. Thelma Chadwick, Director of USSI, and their Board of Directors to discuss the 2004 budget and to analyze long range plans. Commissioner Staton moved to appropriate \$25,000 from fund balance for operations at USSI and to approve the County Manager's consultation with their Board and Director concerning future budgets and management plans. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES MATTERS**

*Tri-Community Fire Department Request*

Stanley Kite, Fire Marshal, presented a request on behalf of Robert Flanagan, President of the Tri-Community Fire Department, to purchase a triple combination pumper truck. The cost of the truck is \$165,345, which includes financing \$120,000 at 3.450% for five (5) years. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the request for the purchase of the new truck, as outlined, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

*Rhems Volunteer Fire Department Request*

Mr. Ray Hemphill, President of Rhems Volunteer Fire Department, requested the Board's endorsement of their intent to purchase a new truck and a new firehouse. The projected cost of the new building at 14,000 sq. feet is \$464,200 and the cost of the new truck, fully equipped, is projected at \$227,000. Mr. Hemphill informed the Board that the department is eligible for a low interest loan and they are seeking a fifteen (15) year loan

from First Citizens on the consolidated projects. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the request of the Rhems Volunteer Fire Department, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried.

#### **WEYERHAEUSER PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND RESOLUTION**

At its last meeting, the Board deferred a request by Weyerhaeuser for adoption of a resolution to support their proposed improvements at the intersection of Thurman Road and Highway 70 East. Mr. John Doughty of Weyerhaeuser Development Company addressed the Board to answer questions concerning the proposed project. The proposed improvements are for developing access at Weyerhaeuser's new Timberlands Development. Commissioner Harper moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

#### **Resolution In Support of Weyerhaeuser Petition**

**WHEREAS**, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Development Company is seeking adequate transportation access from US 70 to its proposed new development site between Thurman Road and Camp Kiro Road; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina Department of Transportation is willing to upgrade the portion of Thurman Road at the site of the proposed access; and

**WHEREAS**, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Development Company has agreed to share in other costs related to the proposed upgrade.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Craven County Board of Commissioners does register its support for upgrades to Thurman Road in the manner proposed.

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2003.

At 9:45 a.m. the Board was declared in recess and reconvened at 9:55 a.m.

#### **NEUSE CENTER BUSINESS PLAN**

Roy Wilson, Executive Director of Neuse Center for MH/DD/SAS, presented the proposed Business Plan for the next three years. He informed the Board that it needs to be submitted to the State by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Morris moved to adopt the proposed Business Plan, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried. The plan must be adopted by all of the participating counties.

#### **WORK FIRST PLAN MODIFICATION**

Craven County Social Services Director, Donn Gunderson, provided the Board a background on the County's Work First Plan, which was adopted by the previous Board in November of 2002 and submitted to the State. He explained that the State had requested a minor modification for the purpose of clarifying what constitutes an emergency in the Emergency Assistance section of the plan. Commissioner Sisk moved to modify the plan to include the required definition of an emergency, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried. The language that was added in the modification was as follows: Section A-3-"To be considered an emergency the household must be experiencing an emergency which is defined as a nonrecurring, unexpected change in circumstances where any children in the household are

experiencing, or are in danger of experiencing, a life threatening or health related crisis, and sufficient, timely and appropriate assistance is not available from any other source.”

### **FY 2002 CDBG-CONCENTRATED NEEDS PROJECT**

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, presented the recommendations resulting from a bid opening for the demolition of two (2) vacant units that was held on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. The recommended bids were Carolina Salvage for Unit #A-17 at 409 Old Cherry Point Road in the amount of \$695, and Everette George for Unit #A-2 at 512 Old Cherry Point Road in the amount of \$1,040. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the bid awards as recommend, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

### **SHERIFF’S REQEUST**

Capt. Bob Brown appeared on behalf of Sheriff Jerry Monette to request additional funding for the Jail and Sheriff’s Department, as follows:

- \$30,000 for unpaid bills
- \$12,500 for new refrigerator and freezer for the Jail’s kitchen
- \$3,650 for salary and fringe benefits for 240 hours of annual leave paid to a retiring jailer
- \$40,000 in the fuel line item, which is projected as needed to close the year, for a total of \$86,150.

Commissioner Harper moved to appropriate the \$86,150 from fund balance, which represents the total amount needed for the Sheriff’s Department to close the year, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### *Regional Aging Advisory Committee*

The Board was apprised of two (2) vacancies on the Regional Aging Advisory Committee created by the expiring terms of Ethel Staton and Mack Freeze. Commissioner Sisk nominated Earley Eugene Toon. Commissioner Staton moved to close the nominations on said name and defer appointment to the second vacancy. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPPORT**

Arey Grady, representing the County Attorney’s Office, announced that the Attorney’s Office is moving forward with the process concerning the demolition of the Fairfield Harbour home, but there is no further action needed from the Board.

### **COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT**

#### *EDC Request for Approval of Wirthwein Building Plan*

The Board was advised that the Industrial Park Building Plan Review Committee has reviewed and recommended the Wirthwein building plans for approval. Commissioner Morris moved to approve the plans that had been submitted, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

#### *Revised Interlocal Agreement*

The Board was presented a revised Interlocal Agreement for the NCACC Liability and Property Pool, and a Resolution to Adopt the Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AND TO JOIN  
THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES LIABILITY AND PROPERTY JOINT  
RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, Craven County desires to protect against liability claims and property losses and to provide for payment of claims or losses for which the County may be liable;

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Counties Liability and Property Joint Risk Management Agency d.b.a. NCACC Liability and Property Pool; hereafter called the Pool, has been established pursuant to G.S. §153A-445(a)(1) and G.S. §160-A-460 through §160A-464; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable for Craven County to join the Pool to provide a method of risk sharing and/or group purchase of coverage;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Craven County hereby adopts the interlocal agreement entitled “Interlocal Agreement for a Group Self-Insurance Fund for Liability and Property Risk Sharing or Group Purchase of Coverage” and thereby joins and agrees to participate in the NCACC Liability and Property Pool which has been formed to create a group fund to pay and service the liability claims and property losses of the counties and other local agencies joining the Pool.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Richard F. Hemphill is authorized to execute the application to join the NCACC Liability and Property Pool.

This the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2003.

*Bid Award for Pilot Leachate Management System at the Closed Craven County Landfill*

Assistant County Manager, George Sawyer, reported a problem at the closed landfill resulting from leachate seeping through the west side of the landfill. He outline measures that have been attempted; however, the seepage continues. Funds were included in the current year’s budget to work with Hazen and Sawyer Engineers to develop specifications for a collection system to be installed. The results of bids that were opened on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. are as follows:

Gary C. Davis Construction Company	\$98,145.00
Trader Construction Company	\$57,050.00

It was recommended that the bid be awarded to Trader Construction Company for \$57,050. The Board was further advised that only the bid by Trader Construction Company met the requirements of the bid. Commissioner Sisk moved to approve the bid award to Trader Construction Company, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

**COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS**

*Commissioner Harper* expressed pride in our troops and the President. He further stated his desire to see non-profit organizations seeking funds ensure that everything that is asked for is absolutely necessary.

*Commissioner Sisk* expressed the opinion that organizations seeking funds should be asked to provide a true detailed accounting of what the money is used for.

*Commissioner Staton* requested staff assistance in getting control of the mosquito problem before it is full blown. He also requested that a resolution be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation concerning the speed on a portion of Adams Creek Road. He thanked volunteers in his district who participated in a

community clean up. A motion was offered by Commissioner Staton to adopt a resolution to send to the Department of Transportation, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

*Commissioner Allen* commented on the fact that ADM funds and hold harmless funds have been included in the North Carolina House budget. He also submitted a request on behalf of Havelock Tourist Center to change the name of the facility to Havelock Tourist and Event Center, as recommended by the Tourism Director, Sandy Richardson, and adopted by the Havelock Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Allen offered a motion to approve the name change, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

*Commissioner Sampson* reported on the activities of the Weed and Seed program, and its success with children's academic performance and computer literacy training. He advised the Board that a federal grant in the amount of more than \$200,000, which has been received by Weed and Seed over five years, has now been withdrawn due to the decrease in the crime rate in the community served by Weed and Seed.

At 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

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Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk