

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 5, 2004. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of March 15, 2004 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following routine tax releases and refunds for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
ANGEL, DONNA J DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #21048	2003-0091369	\$114.41
BRYSON, DAVID DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0090288	\$30.55
CORLEY, HOWARD G II & DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0010701	\$46.56
GRADY, BENJAMIN F JR BILLED IN ERROR-REBILLED TO CORRECT OWNER	2004-0090028	\$51.84
GREEN, CLARENCE JR MILI. ½ VAL 04 LES-TX ECC-05/14/05	2002-0090999	\$163.48
GREEN, CLARENCE JR MILI. ½ VAL 04 LES-TX ECC-05/14/05	2003-0020334	\$54.68
JONES, JOHNNY JR ET AL CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR-REBILLED	2003-0027439	\$104.35

KENNEALLY, CHRISTOPHER SEAN LISTED AS REAL ON #11049	2003-0028266	\$194.77
LOCKLEAR, BRENDA SMITH DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0031049	\$168.31
LOCKLEAR, BRENDA SMITH DID NOT OWN 1/1/2002	2002-0030825	\$194.35
LOCKLEAR, BRENDA SMITH DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2001-0030454	\$224.84
LONG, MYRA J FEMA PROPERTY-NOT TAXABLE	2003-0031173	\$174.03
MOYE, ANTHONY C & TERESA A DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL AND PERSONAL	2003-0036483	\$337.81
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0090643	\$175.20
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0090644	\$45.68
NATCO MANAGEMENT INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090647	\$148.47
NORRIS, BETTY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0037872	\$48.41
OLDFIELD, AMY LYNN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0038281	\$179.68
PATE, CLIFTON & SUTHERLAND, ME VACANT PROPERTY	2003-0039139	\$33.12
RAWLS, CHRISTOPHER M & DAWN Y CORRECTING BILLING ERROR	2003-0090730	\$183.33
REESE, EMMA BELIN DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #40716	2003-0041848	\$244.12
RILEY, RONALD R & BARBARA NOT IN CRAVEN COUNTY 1/1/2003	2003-0042601	\$8.22
SHEPARD, JIMMIE L PROPERTY DESTROYED BY FLOOD	2003-0045325	\$61.50
SUTTON, BESSIE KILPATRICK & DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #37438	2000-0046845	\$74.99
TAYLOR, EDWARD R & KAREN INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE LENOIR CO.	2003-0091417	\$63.69
UMBA, DENNIS W NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090859	\$9.56
UMBA, DENNIS W NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2002	2002-0050918	\$10.74

UTILITIES INC DOUBLE BILLED ON TICKET #91142	2003-0090864	\$14.90
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YEZARSKI, JAMES PROPERTY VACANT	2003-0056921	\$33.12
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29 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$3,194.71

Refunds

AMERICAN HONDA LATE PENALTY CHARGED IN ERROR	2003-0000857	\$12.67
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AMERSON, GARY B NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2003-0091366	\$194.64
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AMERSON, GARY B NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2003-0091427	\$222.57
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GREEN, CLARENCE JR MILI. ½ VAL 04 LES-TX ECC-05/14/05	2003-0020334	\$72.47
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JACKSON, JEFFREY DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #3731250	2003-0026090	\$68.32
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LONG, MYRA J MOBILE HOME FLOODED-LISTED IN ERROR	2001-0030573	\$100.37
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LONG, MYRA J MOBILE HOME FLOODED-LISTED IN ERROR	2000-0030273	\$108.88
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LONG, MYRA J FEMA PROPERTY-NOT TAXABLE	2002-0090782	\$189.26
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MOYE, ANTHONY C & TERESA A DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL AND PERSONAL	2002-0036214	\$352.91
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MOYE, ANTHONY C & TERESA A DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL AND PERSONAL	2001-0035789	\$357.20
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PATE, CLIFTON & SUTHERLAND, ME VACANT PROPERTY	2002-0038840	\$33.36
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PATE, CLIFTON & SUTHERLAND, ME VACANT PROPERTY	2001-0038305	\$32.00
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PATE, CLIFTON & SUTHERLAND, ME VACANT PROPERTY	2000-0037942	\$24.84
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REESE, EMMA BELIN DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #40716	2001-0091660	\$227.10
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REESE, EMMA BELIN DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #40716	2002-0041504	\$254.26
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SHEPARD, JIMMIE L PROPERTY DESTROYED BY FLOOD	2000-0043764	\$55.59
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SHEPARD, JIMMIE L PROPERTY DESTROYED BY FLOOD	2001-0044186	\$65.19
SHEPARD, JIMMIE L PROPERTY DESTROYED IN FLOOD	2002-0044928	\$59.35
STANONIS, STANLEY JR & DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #4178965	2003-0047450	\$502.00
TAYLOR, EDWARD R & KAREN INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE LENOIR CO.	2003-0091458	\$65.62

20 – REFUND (S) \$2,998.60

Budget Amendments and Ordinance Updates

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

Sheriff

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-2001-348-02-00 West Craven High	\$11,479.00	101-2001-410-31-01 Vehicle Exp	\$1,908.00
		101-2001-410-11-08 Life	\$6.00
		101-2001-410-11-09 Disability	\$8.00
		101-2001-410-10-02 Salaries	\$7,235.00
		101-2001-410-11-01 FICA	\$554.00
		101-2001-410-11-02 Retirement	\$346.00
		101-2001-410-11-04 W/C	\$139.00
		101-2001-410-11-05 LEO 401K	\$362.00
		101-2001-410-11-06 Health Ins	\$846.00
		101-2001-410-11-07 Dental	\$75.00
TOTAL	\$11,479.00	TOTAL	\$11,479.00

Justification: New Resource Officer position as requested by schools for West Craven High School effective 03-17-04 through 06-15-04 (FY 2004). Schools contract was signed by Sheriff Monette and returned to the school system.

Health/Family Planning

101-6400-349-12-00 Family Planning-State	\$1,802.00	101-6400-440-32-08 Medical Supplies	\$1,802.00
TOTAL	\$1,802.00	TOTAL	\$1,802.00

Justification: Additional funds to be received from the State. These funds will be used to purchase Thin Prep in Family Planning.

CC Crisis Housing

261-0000-348-13-00	\$(2,902,333.00)	261-4091-430-76-21	\$(576,180.00)
State		Relocation	
		261-4091-430-76-22	\$(364,901.00)
		Rehab Dwellings	
		261-4091-430-76-52	\$(1,961,252.00)
		Replacement	
TOTAL	\$(2,902,333.00)	TOTAL	\$(2,902,333.00)

Justification: Close out CC Crisis Housing Project. All available funds have been expended.

Hazard Mit Fd 263

Journal Entry

263-4065-348-00-00	\$13,649.31	263-4063-348-00-00	\$13,649.31
State 4292-0061		State 4292-0062	
TOTAL	\$13,649.31	TOTAL	\$13,649.31

Budget Amendment

263-4063-348-00-00	\$(559,385.00)	263-4063-430-33-02	\$6,340.00
State 4292-0062		Refund	
		263-4063-430-15-02	\$(13,391.00)
		Legal	
		263-4063-430-15-10	\$(21,504.00)
		Admin	
		263-4063-430-76-39	\$(530,830.00)
		Acquisition	
263-4065-348-00-00	\$(419,774.00)	263-4065-430-15-02	\$(13,458.00)
State 4292-0061		Legal	
		263-4065-430-15-10	\$(19,398.00)
		Admin	
		263-4065-430-76-39	(386,918.00)
		Acquisition	
TOTAL	\$(979,159.00)	TOTAL	\$(979,159.00)

Justification: Close out Hazard Mitigation HFPAR 1292-0061/0062

STRA Fund 270

Journal Entry

270-4068-348-41-00	\$55.60	270-4070-348-52-00	\$13.90
State		State	
		270-4070-377-88-0	\$41.70
		Federal	

Properly code previously received revenue

TOTAL	\$55.60	TOTAL	\$55.60
Budget Amendment			
270-4068-348-41-00	\$(89,757.00)	270-4068-430-40-48	\$(3,920.00)
State		Moving Exp	
270-4068-348-48-00	\$(4,320.00)	270-4068-430-40-85	\$(4,320.00)
STRA Service Del		Service Delivery	
		270-4068-430-40-90	\$(85,990.00)
		Rental Assistance	
270-4070-348-52-00	\$(264,458.00)	270-4068-430-33-02	\$153.00
HMGP Acquisition Grant		Refund	
270-4070-348-63-00	\$(15,484.00)	270-4070-430-15-10	\$(28,372.00)
HMGP Acquisition		Admin	
270-4070-377-88-00	\$(793,376.00)	270-4070-430-76-39	\$(1,029,462.00)
Federal		Acquisition	
		270-4070-430-76-70	\$(15,484.00)
		Admin	
TOTAL	\$(1,167,395.00)	TOTAL	\$(1,167,395.00)

Justification: Close out Hazard Mitigation HMGP/STRA 1292-0039-0045

Library

101-0000-399-01-00	\$21,690.00	101-8149-460-96-60	\$9,566.00
Fund Balance		New Bern Library	
		101-8150-460-96-60	\$12,124.00
		Havelock Library	
TOTAL	\$21,690.00	TOTAL	\$21,690.00

Justification: To appropriate additional sums to libraries for repairs, etc.

ORDINANCES:

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM HFPAR

This ordinance is hereby amended in the following amounts.

EXPENDITURES:
HFPAR 4292-0062

Acquisition	\$536,071.00
Appraisal/Legal/Survey Asbestos	\$10,009.00
General Administration	\$33,011.00
State Refund	\$6,340.00

HFPAR 4292-0061

Acquisition	\$111,722.00
Appraisal/Legal/Survey/Asbestos	\$6,042.00
General Administration	\$8,946.00

TOTAL	\$712,141.00
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The following revenues are hereby amended for the Hazard Mitigation HFPAR Grant.

REVENUES:

Supplemental Acquisition Funds 4292-0062	\$585,431.00
Supplemental Acquisition Funds 4292-0061	\$126,710.00
TOTAL	\$712,141.00

This ordinance is hereby amended this 5th day of April, 2004.

CRAVEN COUNTY CRISIS HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANT

This ordinance is hereby amended in the following amounts.

EXPENDITURES:

Replacement	\$3,398,747.00
Rehabilitation	\$1,560,100.00
Owner Relocation	\$255,012.00
TOTAL	\$5,213,859.00

The following revenues are hereby approved for the Crisis Housing Assistance Grant.

REVENUES:

State-Crisis Housing Assistance Grant	\$5,213,859.00
TOTAL	\$5,213,859.00

This ordinance is hereby amended this 5th day of April, 2004.

HMGP/STRA 1292-0039/0045

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

EXPENDITURES:

STRA	
Rental Assistance	\$50,410.00
Moving Expense	\$13,080.00
Service Delivery	\$11,020.00
State Refund	\$153.00
HMGP	
Acquisition	\$1,199,220.00
Prof Ser-Admin	\$12,577.00
General Administration	\$18,212.00
TOTAL	\$1,304,672.00

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

REVENUES:

STRA	
State	\$63,643.00
State Service Delivery	\$11,020.00
HMGP	
Federal	\$908,848.00
State	\$302,949.00
State Admin	\$18,212.00
TOTAL	\$1,304,672.00

This ordinance is hereby approved this 4th day of April, 2004.

Subdivision for Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivision for approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for its approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Earl and Deborah Gaskins Division – Final: The property, owned by Earl W. and Deborah L. Gaskins and surveyed by Rivers and Associates, Inc., is located within Twp 1 off of SR 1469 (Pitt County Line Rd). The subdivision contains 1 lot on 1.40 acres and is proposed to be served by an existing well and individual septic system. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

FY 2002 CDBG Concentrated Needs Award Recommendation

A bid opening was held on March 15, 2004 for the installation of a septic/pump system for one unit in the 2002 CDBG-CN project. Bids were received from two contractors: W.J. Foreman & Sons and Ralph Provost.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jim Scott 1317 Tuscarora Rhems Road New Bern	W.J. Foreman & Sons (low bidder)	\$9,460

A request was made by the Planning Board to award this contract to W.J. Foreman & Sons in the amount of \$9,460. Commissioner Sisk moved to award the contract to W.J. Foreman & Sons for \$9,460, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Billy Connolly and Shawn McCarthy were scheduled to address the Board; however, neither one was present.

LIBRARY REQUEST

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, discussed with the Board the request submitted by the Director of the Craven Pamlico Carteret Regional Library for allocations to cover cleaning and repair of the HVAC system at New Bern; repair, replacement and painting of windows, exterior doors and fascia boards in New Bern; and for moving expenses and costs of wiring and cabling at the new facility in Havelock. Mr. Blizzard explained that based on the report of the Regional Librarian, as of the date of its last meeting on March 15th, it appeared that the fund balances remaining were \$48,000 and \$100,000 in Havelock and New Bern, respectively. However, he advised the Board that those balances have been transferred from the respective libraries to the regional library to fund technology upgrades. Commissioner Allen moved to appropriate the requested amount, totaling \$21,690.00 from fund balance, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, advised the Board that Better Health Ambulance Services, whose franchise was due to expire at the end of 2003, had not applied for an extension and had not responded to numerous attempts to establish contact. He stated that the service is no longer doing business according to the State Office of EMS eastern office. He recommended that the Board officially discontinue the Better Health franchise and grant the franchise to a new applicant, Tarheel Ambulance Service, for a one-year period. Commissioner Sisk moved to approve both recommendations as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. It was noted

that the granting of the franchise to Tarheel Ambulance Service would need to be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda for ratification.

APPOINTMENTS

Cove City Library Board

Commissioner Sampson nominated Paul Avery to replace Shearrin McCoy who has resigned. Commissioner Harper moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried, with Paul Avery being appointed by acclamation.

Workforce Development Board

The Board was advised at its last meeting of the resignation of Steve Hicks from the Workforce Development Board; however, an appointment was deferred. Commissioner Sisk moved to further defer appointment to this Board, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

Nursing Home Advisory Committee

The Board received a resignation submitted by Jason Jones from the Nursing Home Advisory Committee, as well as letters of interest in this committee from Mr. William Jones and Ms. Ella Flynn. Commissioner Allen nominated Ella Flynn for appointment. Commissioner Staton nominated William Jones for appointment. Commissioner Sisk moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Harper. Ms. Flynn was elected by four (4) votes from Commissioners Allen, Sampson, Sisk and Staton, there being three (3) votes for Mr. Jones from Commissioners Harper, Morris and Brown.

New Bern Electric Advisory Board

Commissioner Sampson shared with the Board that there are two (2) vacancies on the New Bern Electric Advisory Board from District 6 and District 7, and he asked that the Board consider recommending his nominee, John W. Wood for the District 7 vacancy. He explained that the County would need to submit two (2) additional names for this vacancy. It was the consensus of the Board to defer this matter until the next meeting.

At 7:15 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to recess to convene the meeting of the Water and Sewer Board of Directors, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

At 7:20 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to reconvene the regular session, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Position Reclassification

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, presented a request that the Board reclassify the position of Facility Operations Coordinator at the Convention Center from a grade 66, step 5, at an annual salary of \$34,111, to a grade 64, step 2, at an annual salary of \$28,939. The Board was advised that since the Convention Center's opening three and a half years ago, Director, Sandy Richardson, has studied the demands on this position, and concluded that the maintenance requirements are of a routine, on-going nature, to the extent that they can be handled by the County's Central Maintenance staff. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the requested reclassification of this position from a grade 66, step 5, to a grade 64, step 2, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

Minimal Tax Bills

Mr. Blizzard reported that as a result of the County's policy not to attempt to collect tax bills below \$3.00; 3,291 bills are created on the system, but not mailed. He reported that the withheld tax bills result in \$6,676.50 in taxes not being collected by the County and \$240 of taxes to municipalities. He stated that the total amount of taxes that would be excluded should the threshold be raised to \$4.00, is \$9,100 and \$15,500 should the threshold be raised to \$5.00. At the recommendation of Commissioner Allen, it was the Board's consensus to receive the information from the County Manager and reserve consideration of raising the threshold until budget deliberations.

At 7:28 p.m. the Board was declared in recess and reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CARTS Rural Operating Assistance Program Grant

The Board was declared in public hearing, as advertised, to receive public input concerning the County's application for a Rural Operating Assistance Grant. There were no speakers from the public. Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. Commissioner Allen moved to authorize the grant application, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Planning Department Concentrated Needs Project

The Board was declared in public hearing, as advertised, to receive input from citizens regarding the completed and proposed activities for the Concentrated Needs Project. There were no citizens from the public who spoke and Commissioner Sampson moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

Proposed Zoning and Expansion Near MCAS Cherry Point

The Board was declared in public hearing, as advertised, to hear comments on the proposed zoning expansion near MCAS, Cherry Point. Following a brief presentation by Stephanie Currier to clarify the proposal, the following citizens spoke:

1. *Ed Carter* of 104 Fireside Road, Greenville, NC expressed objections to the zoning proposal and asked that the military meet with the citizens in District 5 who will be affected by the proposed zoning. He expressed the opinion that affected citizens are not being treated fairly, and not having their concerns taken seriously.
2. *Frank Sheffield* of Ward & Smith, P.A. spoke representing Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow. He reminded those present that the facility is under intense review in the upcoming round of base realignments and closings and stated that incompatible encroachment is a major area of focus in the study. He urged the citizens and the County to show community support of the military environment and demonstrate a serious effort to prevent additional encroachment. He spoke in support of the Board's extension of existing zoning requirements and urged not to delay the zoning but recommended seeking abrogation easement funds from the federal government to compensate the affected citizens for limits on the usage of their property as a result of the zoning.
3. *Jerry Venable* of 1570 Hwy 101 in Havelock, expressed opposition to the zoning ordinance amendment and stated that he did not understand the rationale for zoning parcels for low density development that are not perceived as a threat due to limited infrastructure capacity. He repeated rumors that rights to larger tracts are already being negotiated according to rumor.

4. *Alvin West* of Hwy 101 in Havelock expressed the opinion that the citizens of the area are not being treated fairly.
5. *Bob Crawford* of 805 Taberna Circle stated that the mission of the Economic Development Commission is to enhance the County's well being through employment and urged the citizens, local and federal government to find and achieve a middle ground. He also encouraged full disclosure and advocated formation of an interim work group for handling concerns of the citizens. He stated that Craven County should avoid having this issue linked with the controversy surrounding opposition to the outlying landing field.
6. *Mr. Carter* spoke again and stated that he supports the position of the Economic Development Commission, and he emphasized the importance of the citizens being fully informed and included in the process.
7. *Mr. Venable* spoke again to emphasize his points.
8. *Joe Riley*, Base Development Officer at MCAS, Cherry Point, was asked by Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, to explain the process of acquisition of rights by the military. Mr. Riley indicated that in the past there had been two initiatives, in 1989 and 1990 for acquisition of title interest relative to property on the Hwy 101 corridor and Cahoogue Creek. Approximately 40 restrictive easements and 11-12 fee simple interests were acquired by congressionally authorized condemnation and taking of title interest based on an hierarchy of priority, as follows: 1) The highest priority is the clear zone at the end of the runway where there is the highest probability of accidents. It is preferable that these interests be owned in fee simple. 2) The next level of priority is the Transition Zone or APZ's (Accident Potential Zones). 3) The last level is the noise zones where there is no authorization for acquisition of fee simple in this category. Commissioner Sisk asked if there is any substantiation of rumors that the military has already begun negotiation for acquisition of interests relative to the current ordinance proposal. Mr. Riley responded that there is not and this has only occurred in 1989 and 1990, in an instance very different from the current circumstances, which only involve a noise zone.

At 9:43 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried. Mr. Riley continued reiterating that the military has not made any offers for purchase because Congress has not yet authorized such. Commissioner Sampson stated that in his opinion the decision to adopt the ordinance amendment should not be made at the current meeting as residents in the affected area are still confused. He recommended that the command be requested to meet with the property owners and moved that the decision be deferred until after such time. Commissioner Staton seconded the motion. Commissioner Allen offered an amendment to the motion that the Board proceed with the adoption of the zoning ordinance and then as legislation develops, consider compensation should it be available. Commissioner Sisk seconded the amended motion which was withdrawn after discussion. The original motion was defeated with six (6) "Nays", there being one (1) "Aye" from Commissioner Sampson. Commissioner Allen then offered a motion to proceed with the adoption of the zoning ordinance, which was seconded by Commissioner Sisk and carried with five (5) "Ayes", there being two (2) "Nays" from Commissioners Sampson and Staton.

At 10:00 p.m. the Board was declared in recess and reconvened at 10:10 p.m.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REQUEST

School Resource Officer

Sheriff Jerry Monette advised the Board that the School Board is requesting that the Sheriff's Department provide an additional School Resource Officer for West Craven High School, with the contract period being from the present to July 1, 2004. Commissioner Sisk moved to create a position for a second School Resource Officer at

West Craven High School at a grade 64, step 2, with an annual salary of \$37,838, which the School Board traditionally pays. Commissioner Sampson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Budget Amendment

The Sheriff requested a budget amendment for the Travel/Training line item, as follows:

Sheriff

101-0000-399-01-00	\$6,000.00	101-2001-410-25-00	\$6,000.00
Fund Balance		Travel/Training	
TOTAL	\$6,000.00	TOTAL	\$6,000.00

Justification: Additional travel

Commissioner Morris moved to approve the additional amount to the Sheriff's Travel/Training line of \$6,000 from fund balance, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
CONTRACT FOR THE JAIL PROJECT**

Mr. Lee McClure of Construction Control Corporation in Columbia, S.C., presented his company's proposal for the construction management contract for the new jail project. The County Manager had advised the Board that the scope of siting, designing and overseeing the construction of a new jail in Craven County is greater than staff and resources available. As a result, a recommendation was made that the County utilize the services of a professional construction management firm. Three firms responded to a request for proposals. Two of the firms were considered undesirable, one which was a new firm with no experience in North Carolina and a second firm which has ties with a construction company and a partnership with an architectural firm. The third proposal was received from Construction Control Corporation for a cost of approximately \$490,000. At the end of the presentation Commissioner Sisk moved that staff be allowed to proceed with negotiating a contract with Construction Control Corporation, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Harper commented on correspondence from the North Carolina Communities Coalition and expressed his opposition to the County's involvement with this organization.

Commissioner Sampson reported on a recent conference that he attended with the City of New Bern during which the New Bern Police Department was recognized.

Commissioner Sisk inquired if a response had been received from Governor Easley concerning her correspondence relative to improvements to Highway 17. There was no response noted; however, Commissioner Sampson indicated that there was some information available from the Rural Planning Organization that may be of interest.

Commissioner Morris announced his plans to hold a meeting with the rescue squads concerning the upcoming year's budget on Thursday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Allen stated that he wished to nominate a citizen, Dennis Walton, to be considered for appointment to the New Bern Electric Board.

At 11:00 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk