

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, MAY 3, 2004. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
 Vice Chairman Leon C. Staton
 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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen

Following an invocation by Commissioner Brown and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of the April 19, 2004 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Releases and Refunds

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

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
CANNON, NATHAN THOMAS DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #3362450	2003-0007816	\$76.47
JONES, HATTIE HEIRS HOUSE MOVED IN 1997	2003-0027338	\$113.46
JONES, HATTIE HEIRS HOUSE MOVED IN 1997	2002-0027153	\$125.77
JONES, HATTIE HEIRS HOUSE MOVED IN 1997	2001-0026828	\$141.66
JONES, KENNIE LEWIS DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0027474	\$98.09
5 – CREDIT MEMO (S)		\$555.45

Refunds

BRYANT, PEARLIE MAE DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #973600	2003-0006815	\$32.00
BRYANT, PEARLIE MAE DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT.#973600	2002-0006794	\$32.00
BRYANT, PEARLIE MAE DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #973600	2001-0006693	\$32.00
BRYANT, PEARLIE MAE DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #973600	2000-0006617	\$24.00
BRYANT, PEARLIE MAE DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #973600	1999-0006448	\$24.00
	5 – REFUND (S)	\$144.00

Budget Amendments

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

E911

TRANSFER FROM	AMOUNT	TRANSFER TO	AMOUNT
101-2501-410-15-15 Dues	\$20.00	101-2501-410-73-01 C/O Equip	\$9,845.00
101-2501-410-26-02 M/R Equip	\$2,337.00		
101-2501-410-27-0 Advertising	\$161.00		
101-2501-410-32-01 Office Supplies	\$137.00		
101-2501-410-32-30 Signs	\$6,190.00		
101-2501-410-32-40	\$1,000.00		
TOTAL	\$9,845.00	TOTAL	\$9,845.00

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$39,681.00	101-2501-410-73-01 C/O Equip	\$114,577.00
101-2501-399-01-0 Fund Balance FY 03	\$74,896.00		
101-2511-399-01-00 Fund Balance FY 03	\$82,948.00	101-2511-410-73-01 C/O Equip	\$82,948.00
Wireless 40% of purchase			
TOTAL	\$197,252.00	TOTAL	\$197,525.00

Justification: Upgrade to E911 system @ communications \$207,370.

DSS 7221 Adult Services

101-7221-349-78-00	\$(5,000.00)	101-7221-450-39-18	\$(5,715.00)
Adult Day Care		Adult Day Care	
101-00-399-01-0	\$(715.00)		
TOTAL	\$(5,715.00)	TOTAL	\$(5,715.00)

Justification: Allocation reduced by the State. Funds are 87.5% Fed & State, and 12.5% County match.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$4,000.00	101-7291-450-23-05	\$4,000.00
Energy		Utilities NCNG	
TOTAL	\$4,000.00	TOTAL	\$4,000.00

Justification: Funds donated from North Carolina Natural Gas to help with the energy program, to relieve heating/cooling crisis for qualified recipients. There is no county match required.

Pass Through/CARTS/DSS

101-0564-348-30-00	\$1,236.00	101-0564-450-91-23	\$1,236.00
Senior Companion		HCCBG Senior Companion	
101-7221-349-27-00	\$1,236.00	101-7221-450-40-00	\$1,236.00
DSS In Home		Cont. Ser	
101-7002-348-04-00	\$1,236.00	101-7002-450-31-01	\$1,236.00
CARTS		Reg Auto	
TOTAL	\$3,708.00	TOTAL	\$3,708.00

Justification: Additional HCCBG funds received in the amount of \$3,708 are being split 3 ways: DSS in Home - \$1,236, CARTS - \$1,236, match already budgeted, Senior Comp - \$1,236, match in house.

Sheriff

101-0000-399-01-00	\$14,960.00	101-2001-410-10-02	\$12,534.00
Fund Balance		Salaries	
		101-2001-410-11-01	\$959.00
		FICA	
		101-2001-410-11-02	\$600.00
		Retirement	
		101-2001-410-11-05	\$627.00
		LEO 401k	
		101-2001-410-11-03	\$240.00
		W/C	
TOTAL	\$14,960.00	TOTAL	\$14,960.00

Justification: Bondley terminating 04-23-2004
 Annual leave hours – 237.58
 Holiday – 502.25
 Comp hours – 144.25
 Using to 04-20-04 – (24.00)
 Total hours to be paid – 860.08

Tax Collections

101-0000-301-01-00	\$8,050.00	101-0901-400-40-80	\$8,050.00
Current Yr Collections		Tax Management Assoc	
TOTAL	\$8,050.00	TOTAL	\$8,050.00

Justification: Budget excess collections to cover cost of payments to Tax Management Associates for discoveries.

Approval of Audit Contract

The Board was asked to authorize the Chairman and the Finance Officer to execute a contract with McGladrey & Pullen, LLP for the audit of the current year at a contract price of \$70,000. The contract amount was negotiated down from \$76,000 for year ending June 30, 2003 due to less work required by the auditor after the initial year of GASB 34. Commissioner Sampson moved to authorize the Chairman and the Finance Officer to execute a contract with McGladrey & Pullen, LLP for the current year’s audit at a contract price of \$70,000, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

FY 2002 CDBG Demolition Contract Award

A bid opening for the demolition of one (1) unit in the 2002 CDBG project was held on April 22, 2004. Bids were received from three contractors; Styron Construction, Todd Swindell and Everette George.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ellen G. Spivey Hrs. 300 Elder Street New Bern	Everette George	\$2,850

Commissioner Samspon moved to award the contract to the low bidder, Everette George in the amount of \$2,850, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

MHP for Final Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following mobile home park for the Board’s approval.

River Landing MHP Section II – Final: The property, owned by Levy D. and Michelle D. Haddock and surveyed by Kirby R. Braxton, is located within Twp 1 off of SR 1441 (Cow Pen Landing Rd.). The park contains 4 lots each 10,000 sq. ft. and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the park for final approval. Commissioner Samspon moved for it’s approval, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

PETITION OF CITIZEN

Ms. Regina Kemble of the Mediation Center, representing Teen Court, introduced Teen Court volunteers, Mr. Eric Peale from Havelock High School and Miss Jamie Bullock of Saint Paul’s Education Center. They provided highlights of the Teen Court program and cited a 97% success rate to date. The Board was advised that the success rate is determined by measurement of repeat offenses while in the program which extends approximately 60 days and repeat offenses after program completion. The Board was advised that the program is no longer eligible for the Governor’s Crime Commission Grant, having been funded for three years in a cycle that was intended for two years.

CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUDGET REQUEST

Dr. Scott Ralls, President of Craven Community College, reviewed the year just ending, citing Craven Community College's designation as a superior performing campus as one of nineteen in the state, and receipt of state recognition for two consecutive years. The institution is ranked 3rd among 58 institutions in successful transference of students to four-year colleges. In the past year the accomplishments have included the opening of the new Havelock facility, the Institute of Aeronautical Technology, expansion of small business offerings, partnering with NC State for an engineering degree and greater than ten percent (10%) growth in the full-time enrollment for the second consecutive year. He also stated, however, that Craven Community College is last in the south and among the bottom five nationally in instructor salary. The \$2,731,023.00 FY 2004-05 County budget request is approximately \$363,000, or 15% over the FY 2003-04 budget allocation. He stated that the increase reflects a full year of security and upkeep of the Havelock Campus and library (47%), increase in County supplement to staff (30%), utility cost increases (15%), and a match for a proposed raise in state paid positions for County paid positions (8%).

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET REQUEST

Superintendent, William Rivenbark, called upon Assistant Superintendent, David Clifton, to present a request to the Board concerning utilization of remaining unused roofing appropriations. Mr. Clifton presented a request on behalf of the Board of Education that \$497,000.00 remaining in the available budget from the Havelock High and Havelock Middle School roofing projects be utilized to repair roofs at four elementary schools. The original request had been that the remaining appropriation be partially applied to an expected shortfall on the Grover C. Fields renovations; however, it was determined, after bids were opened, that the amount available would be inadequate to accomplish the project. The four elementary schools to be included are Ben D. Quinn, J.W. Smith, Roger R. Bell and W.J. Gurganus. Included in the request was authorization to utilize any remaining funds after these four school roofs are addressed to apply to the CETC building for roof repairs, as the Board of Education plans to convert the CETC facility into a maintenance facility. The Chairman restated consensus from the April 22, 2004 joint meeting between the two Boards that roofing money should be used for roofing projects. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the requested use of the remaining budget, seconded by Commissioner Staton and carried in a roll call vote with five (5) "Ayes" from Commissioners Morris, Sampson, Sisk, Staton and Brown, there being one (1) "Nay" from Commissioner Harper.

Mr. Rivenbark continued by stating that the Craven County school system ranks among the highest systems in the state's 2003 assessment. The requested allocation from the County reflects approximately \$3.1 million for capital outlay, and approximately \$15.4 million in the current expense fund. The increase in the budget request to the County includes a 3% increase in salary and related benefits for locally paid personnel, increased funding of school based nurses, increased energy costs, growing technology needs, and completion of the teacher assistant pay scale. Increases in capital outlay are to fund school renovations projects, school roofing projects, three new activity buses, and several replacement maintenance vehicles.

7:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF THE UPDATED FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE

At 7:30 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to go into public hearing, as advertised, to hear public input on adoption of the updated Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, presented preliminary remarks and introduced Tammy Riddle from the North Carolina Office of Emergency Management in Kinston, North Carolina, who handles flood insurance in the eastern section of the state. Ms. Riddle was available for questions and clarifications. The following citizens spoke:

1. *Ms. Marie Fulcher* inquired how the updated ordinance would affect mobile home parks. It was explained that the ordinance would cover new and existing mobile home parks; however, the Board of Commissioners would have the authority to draft the ordinance so that existing mobile homes would be exempt from the freeboard provision.
2. *Virginia Gaddy* inquired if flood insurance would still be available if such an exemption were included in the ordinance.
3. *Mr. Charles Simmons* inquired about the elevation of septic tanks in flood prone areas.

At 8:10 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to close the public hearing there being no additional members of the public who wished to speak. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PLANNING MATTERS

Resolution to Adopt the Prioritization Plan

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, requested that the Board approve the following resolution to adopt the Prioritization Plan for Voluntary Structural Elevation Activities under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) in Craven County, North Carolina. Commissioner Sisk moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, Craven County and its constituent municipalities were severely damaged by flood waters associated with Hurricane Isabel in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Craven County is in the process of developing a Hurricane Isabel related HMGP grant application for the purpose of elevating flood-prone structures to address the widespread flooding problem in the County; and

WHEREAS, the HMGP is administered by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCDEM); and

WHEREAS, NCDEM requires that all applicants for HMGP funds adopt a Prioritization Plan to rank the order in which potential elevation projects will be conducted; and

WHEREAS, NCDEM and the County find that exposure to the risk of future flooding is a reasonable method of determining priority for elevation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners of Craven County hereby approves the use of the following methodology to prioritize homeowners who have expressed an interest in participating in the proposed voluntary HMGP structural elevation project in the County.

METHODOLOGY

The depth of flooding at the 100-year flood event will establish the priority of each structure to be evaluated for elevation. The structure with the greatest depth of flooding at the 100-year flood event will be evaluated for elevation first, with other structures following in a descending order. Structures will be evaluated for elevation in priority order, but may be deferred for elevation due to undisclosed structural damage or bid and elevated in a slightly modified order due to structural feasibility concerns and/or the needs to the elevation and foundation retrofitting contractor.

This resolution adopted this the 3rd day of May, 2004.

Resolution for the Designation of Applicant's Agent

Mr. Baumgardner requested that the Board adopt the resolution designating Applicant's Agent for Hurricane Isabel Hazard Mitigation Project. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried, designating Mr. Baumgardner as agent and County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill as secondary agent.

Request for Adoption of Updated Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

The Board was given an opportunity to consider the proposed updated Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance for adoption. The planning staff was instructed to add language that would include the mobile home park exemption issue discussed during the public hearing. Commissioner Morris moved to adopt the ordinance with the amendment, as directed, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried. The Board was advised that the ordinance would require a second vote due to the lack of a full Board voting. A simple majority will be sufficient to adopt the ordinance on a second vote.

APPOINTMENTS

Craven Regional Medical Authority

The Board was advised on April 19th that the terms of Norman Kellum and Charles Wethington on the Craven Regional Medical Authority will expire at the end of May. Commissioner Sampson nominated Mr. Kellum and Mr. Wethington for reappointment. Commissioner Staton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried, with Mr. Kellum and Mr. Wethington being reappointed by acclamation.

EMS Advisory Council

On April 19th the Board was advised that the term of Michael Paul is due to expire on the EMS Advisory Council. The Emergency Services Department recommended Mr. Paul for reappointment and Commissioner Sisk moved to reappoint him, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried, there being no additional nominations.

Fire Tax Commissioner

The Board was previously advised that the term of Mr. William Laughinghouse as Fire Tax Commissioner in Township 7 is expiring. Commissioner Sisk moved to reappoint Mr. Laughinghouse, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried, with Mr. Laughinghouse being appointed by acclamation.

Adult Care Home Advisory Committee

The Board considered the expiring terms of Francis Walker and Willie Wiggins on the Adult Care Home Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sisk moved to reappoint Ms. Walker and Ms. Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried, with Ms. Walker and Ms. Wiggins being appointed by acclamation.

Social Services Board

The Board considered the expiring term of Kirby Smith as a County appointee on the Craven County DSS Board and of Virginia Murray who is an appointee of the Social Services Commission. Commissioner Sampson nominated Kirby Smith for reappointment and recommended Virginia Murray for reappointment by the Social Services Commission. There were no additional nominations for the County's appointee and Mr. Smith was reappointed by acclamation.

COUNTY MANAGER' S REPORT

Assistant County Manager, George Sawyer, advised the Board that since the George Street Center, owned by the City of New Bern, has been in continual use as the senior center for activities and Meals on Wheels, the County has determined that the location should continue to serve as the site for senior programs. He presented the City's offer to deed the building to the County for this limited purpose, with a reversion clause. The Board was asked to authorize the Chairman to write a letter to Mayor Tom Bayliss requesting that the City of New Bern deed the property over to Craven County. Commissioner Sampson moved to authorize the Chairman to write to Mayor Bayliss, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Harper complimented the management team.

Commissioner Samspon stated that staff and volunteers are very valuable components to the County. He also advised the public of impending mandated decreases in water usage.

Commissioner Staton made comments addressed to potential volunteers and reminded citizens that resumes are kept on file for the Board's consideration in making appointments to Boards and Committees.

Commissioner Morris reminded the Board of the beaver dam demolition demonstration scheduled to take place at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7th. The Food Lion parking lot in Bridgeton was designated as the meeting place.

Commissioner Brown introduced a letter which he had drafted to be sent to Secretary of Transportation, Lyndo Tippet, addressing concerns of Greenbrier residents relative to the Hwy 43 connector that is being planned. Commissioner Sampson moved to authorize the Chairman to send the letter to Secretary Tippet on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Sisk seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At 8:35 p.m. Commissioner Morris moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

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

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board