

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 7, 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

*Commissioner Harper arrived at 7:15 p.m.

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 Allen and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sisk moved to approve minutes of the May 17, 2004 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Samspon and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Set Public Hearing for FY 2002 CDBG-Concentrated Needs

The Board was requested to set a public hearing for July 6, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to review budgets and accomplishments of the County's FY 2002 CDBG grant. A public hearing is required in order for the County to close out this grant. Commissioner Sampson moved to set a public hearing for July 6, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. as requested, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Subdivisions & Mobile Home Park for Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions and mobile home park for the Board's approval. Commissioner Allen inquired if the recommendation of a bulkhead was a required condition for approval of Neuse Harbour Hills. County Manager, Harold Blizzard, stated that in his opinion it was a required condition; however, he indicated that he would get clarification. Commissioner Samspon moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Quarter Horse Estates, Section 3 – Final: The property, owned by Alice J. Bayer and engineered by Thomas Engineering, is located within Twp 6 off of Quarter Horse Run (Cherry Branch). The subdivision contains 6 lots on 3 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Home Place Estates, Section 2 – Final: The property, owned by Sheper-Sellhorn and engineered by Thomas Engineering, is located within Twp 7 off of SR 1004 (Brices Creek Road). The subdivision contains 18 lots on 32.53 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Neuse Harbour Hills – Final: The property, owned by Duane Seaman and surveyed by Robert Davis, is located within Twp 7 off of Neuse Harbour Blvd. The subdivision contains 13 lots on 24.5 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and sewer. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval with a recommendation that lots along the river have shoreline stabilization installed.

MH Properties – Final: The property, owned by Magnolia Investors, LLC and surveyed by Brad Suitt & Assoc., is located within Twp 7 off US 70 E. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 1.01 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and sewer. The Planning Board recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Charles M. Smith Division – Final: The property, owned by Ruby M. Smith and surveyed by Atlantic Surveying & Design, is located within Twp 3 off Old US Hwy 70. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 2.43 acres and is proposed to be served by an existing community water and individual septic system. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Chris and Meredith Decker Division – Final: The property, owned by Bobby and Carol Gaskins and surveyed by Bjerkeset Land Surveying, is located within Twp 1 off NC Hwy 118. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 1.37 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic system. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Baytree Landing Section II – Reapproval (Final): The property, owned by Land Resources Companies and surveyed by Alan Bell Surveying, is located within Twp 5 off of SR 1700 (Adams Creek Road). The subdivision contains 7 lots on 4.47 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for reapproval.

Craven County Gin & Cotton MHP – Final: The property, owned by Craven County Gin & Cotton Company and surveyed by H.C. Harris Engineering and Surveying, is located within Twp 1 off NC Hwy 43. The park contains 1 lot and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the park for final approval.

Budget Amendments

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sisk inquired as to whether or not the jail budget amendment in the amount of \$50,000 was to cover the entire year. County Manager, Harold Blizzard, responded that it was to cover projected expenses in that line item for the remainder of the current fiscal year. Commissioner Samspon moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Commissioners

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$50,000.00	101-0101-400-15-02 Legal	\$50,000.00
TOTAL	\$50,000.00	TOTAL	\$50,000.00

Justification: Legal expenses.

Health/Animal Control

101-2601-357-18-00	\$500.00	101-2601-410-40-43	\$500.00
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Animal Vaccination Fees

Vet, Contractual Services

TOTAL \$500.00

TOTAL \$500.00

Justification: We have received and are still receiving money above that which was budgeted. Need to increase the contractual line to pay the Veterinarians for the vaccinations.

Commissioners/Tax

101-0101-336-06-00 \$10,000.00
BRAC CDBG

101-0804-400-40-00 \$10,000.00
Cont Ser

TOTAL \$10,000.00

TOTAL \$10,000.00

Justification: Budget CDBG funds to enhance the GIS operating system and for software.

Health/Environmental

101-3101-349-92-00 \$500.00
State-Restaurant Heart Health Survey

101-3101-420-32-40 \$500.00
Other Supplies

TOTAL \$500.00

TOTAL \$500.00

Justification: Craven County Health Department participated in a restaurant Heart Health Survey and will be receiving a \$500.00 appreciation incentive for participating.

Health/Food and Lodging

101-3135-357-86-00 \$840.00
Food Service Management Course

101-3135-420-32-40 \$840.00
Other Supplies

TOTAL \$840.00

TOTAL \$840.00

Justification: We earned more than originally budgeted for the food course. Need to replace materials depleted from last training sessions.

Solid Waste

101-3235-335-00-00 \$24,000.00
Misc Income

101-3235-420-40-64 \$24,000.00
Conv Ctr Demolition

TOTAL \$24,000.00

TOTAL \$24,000.00

Justification: Budget misc income from sale of scrap metal to cover convenience center expense.

Multiple HCCBG

101-6504-348-58-00 \$(1,000.00)
Health
101-7295-377-16-00 \$(15,028.00)
Congregate
101-7295-377-18-0 \$(7,532.00)
Home Delivered
101-7221-349-27-00 \$21,560.00
DSS in home
101-7002-348-04-00 \$2,000.00
CARTS

101-6500-440-10-02 \$(1,000.00)
Salaries
101-7295-450-40-50 \$(22,560.00)
Cont Emps
101-7221-450-40-00 \$21,560.00
Cont Ser
101-7001-450-31-01 \$2,000.00
Vehicle Exp

TOTAL	\$0.00	TOTAL	\$0.00
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Justification: Realign HCCBG funds to ensure 100% spending.

Health Benefits

512-0321-329-00-00	\$750.00	512.0321-400-40-81	\$200,000.00
Interest		Health Claims	
512-321-335-00-0	\$3,700.00		
Misc			
512-321-354-31-0	\$78,500.00		
Claims Refunds			
512-321-357-62-0	\$(18,500.00)		
Employee Health Fees			
512-321-357-63-0	\$30,000.00		
Employer Health Fees			
512-321-357-92-0	\$4,000.00		
Employee Dental Fee			
512-321-399-01-0	\$101,550.00		
Fund Balance			
TOTAL	\$200,000.00	TOTAL	\$200,000.00

Justification: Budget fund balance and insurance related fees to cover the cost of Health Claims through year-end.

Sheriff-Jail

101-0000-399-01-00	\$50,000.00	101-2008-410-40-04	\$50,000.00
Fund Balance		Food Service	
TOTAL	\$50,000.00	TOTAL	\$50,000.00

Justification: Jail population has increased resulting in additional meals being served.

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 for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/1996	1996-0007402	\$71.80
CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/1997	1997-0007481	\$66.32
CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/1998	1998-0091727	\$56.62
CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/1999	1999-0007925	\$52.58
CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/2000	2000-0008078	\$46.97

CARTER, LORIETTA H DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2001-0091697	\$54.74
CHRISTENSEN HARDWARE CORP NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0009183	\$129.78
DIAMOND JIMS NIGHT CLUB INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090382	\$162.35
GARCIA, GUADALUPE MEDRANO & LI DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #13034	2002-0090711	\$259.61
GARCIA, GUADALUPE MEDRANO & LI DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #13034	2003-0018207	\$224.09
GURGANUS, HENRY ODELL VACANT PROPERTY	2003-0020889	\$36.65
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1999-0022300	\$225.85
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2000-0022935	\$433.28
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2001-0023126	\$208.10
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2002-0023415	\$233.49
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2003-0023563	\$210.13
LUMAN, IRIS M PROPERTY LISTED IN WAKE CO	2002-0090108	\$216.01
LUMAN, IRIS M PROPERTY LISTED IN WAKE CO	2003-0031374	\$172.84
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	1996-0090955	\$271.50
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	1997-0090761	\$232.73
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	1998-0092565	\$224.40
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	1999-0030126	\$200.02
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	2000-0030993	\$201.88
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	2001-0031288	\$201.78
MALLARD, TONY INCORRECT YEAR USED FOR BOAT VALUE	2002-0031663	\$177.94

MEEKS, BRADLEY R NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2003	2003-0090611	\$35.62
MEEKS, BRADLEY R NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2002	2002-0033968	\$40.06
MERRINER, MICKEY RAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0034368	\$133.41
MORRIS, MARK D DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0036278	\$12.41
MURPHY, NETTIE DAUGHETY DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #7965331	2002-0036420	\$102.28
MURPHY, NETTIE DAUGHETY DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #7965331	2003-0036696	\$89.46
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/1996	1996-0033631	\$7.09
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/1997	1997-0034161	\$6.69
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/1998	1998-0034229	\$6.24
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/1999	1999-0035864	\$6.84
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2000	2000-0036929	\$7.04
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2001	2001-0090647	\$6.82
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2002	2002-0037801	\$6.08
OATES, B H NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090675	\$5.42
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1994	1994-0032803	\$26.73
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1995	1995-0032996	\$10.10
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1996	1996-0033632	\$9.09
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1997	1997-0034162	\$8.17
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1998	1998-0034230	\$16.25
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/1999	1999-0035865	\$16.68

OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2000-0036930	\$15.34
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2001-0037295	\$14.58
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2002-0037802	\$12.80
OATES, B H JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0038093	\$11.46
PARKER-HAYNES NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0091269	\$33.01
PHELPS, DOROTHY NOT IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2003	2003-0039780	\$129.65
PHILLIPS, TONY R DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0039926	\$5.71
PIZZUTIELLO, ALBERT DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0040187	\$43.74
PIZZUTIELLO, ALBERT DID NOT OWN 1/1/2002	2002-0039866	\$48.44
PRICE, ROBERT RAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2003	2003-0040817	\$127.32
RASBERRY, RIGDON FREEMAN NOT IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2003	2003-0041602	\$59.33
RASBERRY, RIGDON FREEMAN NOT IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2001	2001-0040642	\$74.98
RASBERRY, RIGDON FREEMAN NOT IN CRAVEN CO 1/1/2002	2002-0041297	\$66.87
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1994-0039517	\$37.11
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1995-0039740	\$34.86
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1996-0040676	\$33.06
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1997-0041281	\$31.10
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1998-0041315	\$28.36
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1999-0043318	\$26.68
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2000-0044569	\$26.12

SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2001-0045002	\$24.35
SMITH, BRENDA JOYCE FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2003-0046163	\$31.71
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1994-0040445	\$135.84
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1995-0040676	\$127.42
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1996-0041668	\$120.94
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1997-0042245	\$72.98
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1998-0042272	\$68.35
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	1999-0044354	\$64.27
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2000-0045613	\$60.93
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2001-0046044	\$59.28
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2002-0046834	\$86.13
SPRUILL, HATTIE CHADWICK & FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2003-0047230	\$79.44
SQUIRES, CLARENCE DID NOT OWN PROPERTY 1/1/2003	2003-0091300	\$19.42
TITAN ROAC DIVISION 1 NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090845	\$4.43
WELLS FARGO BANK MINNESOTA DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #3756647	2003-0053180	\$253.62
	80 – CREDIT MEMO(S)	\$6,993.57

Refunds

TITAN ROAC DIVISION 1 NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2002-0049685	\$220.00
TITAN ROAC DIVISION 1 NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2003	2003-0090845	\$215.60
WHITFORD, LOUISE K & KENT, R H CORRECTING LISTING ERROR	2003-0054727	\$27.50
	3 – REFUND (S)	\$463.10

BLUEBERRY PROCLAMATION

Commissioner Allen moved to add to the agenda a request from Ennis Evans to adopt a proclamation for Blueberry Day in Craven County. Commissioner Sampson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Commissioner Morris moved to approve the following proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

***PROCLAMATION
OF BLUEBERRY DAY
IN CRAVEN COUNTY***

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgeton will be celebrating its Ninth Annual Blueberry Festival on June 12, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the blueberry is a predominant crop in our area; and

WHEREAS, significant economic impact in Craven County is generated by the cultivation and marketing of the blueberry.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Craven County Board of Commissioners is proud to proclaim Saturday, June 12, 2004 as Blueberry Day in Craven County, and extends to Bridgeton best wishes for a successful Blueberry Festival.

Adopted this 7th day of June, 2004.

FT. BARNWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Mr. Greg Milligan, Chief of the Ft. Barnwell Fire Department, requested that the Board approve a grant match in the amount of \$20,000 to allow them to proceed with the purchase of a new pumper/tanker fire apparatus. The total cost of the apparatus and all equipment is \$164,555. The requested match from the County will match two other grants which were awarded from the USDA Rural Development and the North Carolina Department of Insurance, totaling \$40,000. The remainder will be made available by a loan to be financed through the USDA Rural Development at 3.75% for twenty years, with an expected payoff in twelve years. There was discussion by the Board of the fact that this is the first time such a request has been considered from a fire department and County Manager, Harold Blizzard, raised caution that a precedent would be set for other fire departments by granting this request. Mr. Milligan explained that Ft. Barnwell is one of three departments in one fire district which usually is budgeted at approximately 25% less than the requested amount. Commissioner Allen stated that based on the merits of the situation he would support the request. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote. The Board was advised that the vote constitutes a commitment which will be paid from the FY 2004-2005 budget because the funds will be needed in sixty to ninety days.

MILITARY FAMILY OF THE QUARTER RESOLUTION

The Board considered the following resolution recognizing the family of Sergeant Clark A. Tidwell as the Military Family of the Quarter. Commissioner Allen moved for its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. Commissioner

Staton advised the Board that he would attend the recognition luncheon on June 10th to present the resolution.

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY OF
SERGEANT CLARK A. TIDWELL
AS MILITARY FAMILY OF THE QUARTER**

WHEREAS, Sergeant Clark A. Tidwell is attached to the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Marine Unit at MCAS Cherry Point; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Tidwell and his wife, Wendy, serve the community through their leadership and involvement with numerous activities at Brices Creek Bible Church in New Bern; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Tidwell is the volunteer Director of Junior Varsity Activities at Brices Creek Bible Church, which includes organizing meetings and activities for church youth groups, and he serves as the Assistant Minister of Music; and

WHEREAS, Wendy L. Tidwell serves as a mentor and counselor to 7th and 8th grade students at Brices Creek Bible Church in addition to providing treasurer and secretarial services in support of AWANA functions conducted by the church; and

WHEREAS, the Tidwells are the parents of three young children under the age of five: Clark (4), James (2), and Candice (6 months), and they donate their time to the youth even with the tremendous responsibility and time commitment to their own family.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Craven County Board of Commissioners commends Sergeant Clark A. Tidwell and Mrs. Wendy Tidwell for the fine example of community service that they are setting for their children and other youth who are influenced by them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that they be congratulated for being selected as the Military Family of the Quarter.

Adopted this 7th day of June, 2004.

APPOINTMENTS

Craven Community College Board of Trustees

The Board was advised at its previous meeting that the term of Kathleen Orringer was due to expire on the Craven Community College Board of Trustees. Letters of interest and resumes of several other citizens who were interested in appointment to this Board were presented. Commissioner Morris nominated Mrs. Kathleen Orringer for reappointment and there were no other nominees. Mrs. Orringer was therefore declared appointed by acclamation.

Tourism Development Authority

The Board was advised on May 17th that the term of Reg Poteat as an at large member to represent the hospitality interest was due to expire in June. Commissioner Allen nominated Mr. Poteat for appointment to his first full-term. There were no other nominations and Mr. Poteat was declared appointed by acclamation.

Planning Board

The Board was previously advised that the term of Jessie D. White was due to expire. Commissioner Sampson nominated Mrs. White for reappointment and she was declared appointed by acclamation, there being no other nominees.

ABC Board

The Board was advised at its previous meeting that the term of James Huff was due to expire. Letters and resumes of other interested citizens were presented to the Board. Commissioner Morris nominated Mr. Huff for reappointment. There being no other nominees, he was declared appointed by acclamation.

River Bend Board of Adjustment

The Board was apprised of the impending expiration of terms held by Kelly Forrest and Ralph Kilmer on the River Bend Board of Adjustment at its previous meeting. Commissioner Sisk nominated Ms. Forrest and Mr. Kilmer for reappointment. There being no additional nominations, they were both declared appointed by acclamation.

At 7:25 p.m. Commissioner Harper moved to recess, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

**7:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY 2004-2005
CRAVEN COUNTY BUDGET**

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m. At that time the Board was declared in public hearing, as advertised, to receive public input on the proposed FY 2004-2005 Craven County Budget by motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Morris. The Chairman advised that speakers would be limited to four minutes each. The following citizens spoke:

Sandra Hagan, 103 Boros Landing in New Bern, spoke on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club and appealed for an appropriation, stating that the monies requested would be used for programming.

Pat Naumann, 406 Wexford Place in Trent Woods, representing the Craven Arts Council reported on the accomplishments of the Council and asked for the County's continued support in consideration of approving its \$15,000 request.

Sherri Rettew, 7113 Winward Drive, speaking on behalf of the Community Coalition Against Family Violence, stated that the needs to which the organization responds are increasing, reporting that 62 victims were served last year, and 183 victims were served in the current year.

Beth Andrews, 800 College Court, representing the facility and staff of Craven Community College, requested favorable consideration for the supplement increase that was included in the community college's budget.

Joanne Straight, 207 King Street, representing the New Bern Craven County Library, stated that the library is seeking to expand it's collection, particularly in the areas of children and young adult's literature, large print, and foreign language collections.

At 7:55 p.m., there being no additional citizens who wished to speak, Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Harper commented on the recent news items pertaining to North Carolina's Eastern Region (Global Transpark).

Commissioner Sampson expressed continued frustration about gas prices and the need to bring pressure on the Congressional delegation to act in response to this crisis.

Commissioner Harper called for citizens to mount a gas protest during the month of July.

Commissioner Sisk thanked staff who worked to put together the County Employee's Picnic and fellow Commissioners for their work on the proposed budget. She cited the success of the River Bend Library, largely due to the continued efforts of volunteer, Audrey Mueller.

Commissioner Staton again expressed the need for a law enforcement presence at the eastern end of the County for traffic concerns and the need to police the area for litter. He conceded that part of the problem is the attitude of residents who need to be educated.

Commissioner Morris clarified for the public the Board's discussion in budget work session pertaining to suggestion of combining rescue squads. He stated that the Board has no intention of forcibly attempting to combine squads, but suggested that if squads wished to combine their efforts, that might be an option to further their resources.

Commissioner Allen noted the longevity of Solid Waste Director, Stuart Daniels, and stated that the public's input from the public hearing would be considered by the Board in finalizing the budget.

Commissioner Morris expressed appreciation to the management team and department heads for their work on the proposed budget.

By the consensus of the Board the next budget work session was scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on June 8th. Commissioner Sisk moved to recess to reconvene at that time, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

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

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board