

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, FEBRUARY 21, 2005. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Bill Harper

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Director
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

STAFF ABSENT:

George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer

Following an invocation by Commissioner Morris and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sisk moved to defer approval of the February 7th minutes for revision, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Morris asked that the item relative to the salary grade for a Soil Scientist be removed from the consent agenda, and its consideration deferred.

State of the Child Conference Funding Request

As she advised during the February 7 meeting, Commissioner Sisk requested that the Board allocate \$500 toward the costs of the State of the Child Conference to be held on April 7, 2005. Commissioner Sampson moved to allocate \$500 toward the costs of the State of the Child Conference, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Tax Releases and Refunds

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

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
AMMAN, SEAN B MILITARY ½ VAL. SEAN 04 LES-MI ECC-08/30/08	2004-0000914	\$32.46
BOWERS, KENNETH RICHARD DID NOT OWN 01/01/2000	2000-0004960	\$249.63
BUCK, TAMMY L NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2004	2004-0090444	\$30.45

CANADY, ELIZABETH M DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0090324	\$316.87
CANNON, CALTON G III DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0090149	\$389.22
CDB PROPERTIES LLC DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0090469	\$34.08
COBLE, GREGORY NOT IN CRAVEN COUNTY 01/01/2002	2004-0091440	\$267.41
DANIELS, STUART W & JONI R SECOND DWELLING IN COUNTY	2004-0012388	\$32.88
FREEMAN, LEAMON E PROPERTY VACANT	2004-0017982	\$32.00
HARGETT, MIRAN L CORRECTING SIZE OF MOBILE HOME	2004-0091395	\$29.95
HARGETT, MIRAN L CORRECTING SIZE OF MOBILE HOME	2004-0091396	\$28.47
HARGETT, MIRAN L DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #18892	2004-0091491	\$134.54
HI-TECK WILDERNESS CONST. CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2004-0090707	\$2,079.89
KELLY, STEPHEN A MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 03 LES-LA	2003-0028231	\$115.25
KELLY, STEPHEN A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0028701	\$89.51
MATTHEWS, HOWARD A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2001	2001-0032053	\$145.85
MATTHEWS, HOWARD A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0032466	\$135.52
MATTHEWS, HOWARD A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0032730	\$118.12
MATTHEWS, HOWARD A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0033226	\$104.87
MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2000	2000-0090485	\$275.56
MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2001	2001-0035558	\$298.32
MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0035982	\$283.64
MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0036251	\$227.76

MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0036775	\$222.95
QUEEN, MICHAEL O & SANDRA DEE MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 05 LES-TX ECC-NONE (CWO2)	2004-0090265	\$51.66
SAVAGE, JEROME LEMARK & DONNA MILITARY-1/2 VAL. JEROME 04 LES-VA ECC-12/29/06	2004-0044994	\$69.99
STEWART, SUE ANN DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0048361	\$200.15

27 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$5,997.00

Refunds

ADAMS, CATHERINE F DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT. #38600	2004-0000128	\$129.10
GREENE, MELANIE E MILIT. ½ VAL. 05 LES-FL ECC-NONE	2004-0091485	\$458.15
MORRIS, KEITH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2000	2000-0090485	\$56.58

3 – REFUND (S) \$643.83

Budget Amendments

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

Non-Dept.

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$500.00	101-0190-450-96-11 State of Child Conf	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$500.00	TOTAL	\$500.00

Justification: Special appropriation for State of Child Conference – April 7, 2005.

Health/Family Planning

101-6400-349-12-00 State Revenue/Family Planning	\$2,847.00	101-6400-440-25-00 Health/Travel and Training	\$2,000.00
		101-6400-440-32-40 Supplies/Other Supplies	\$847.00
TOTAL	\$2,847.00	TOTAL	\$2,847.00

Justification: Additional funding from state for Family Planning expenses.

Health/Healthy Carolinians

101-6604-336-07-00 Donations/Contributions/Harold Bate Foundation	\$4,000.00	101-6604-440-40-00 Health/Contractual Services	\$4,000.00
TOTAL	\$4,000.00	TOTAL	\$4,000.00

Justification: New grant from Harold Bate Foundation for water safety – Grant #04-048. All money should be designated as Contractual Services, per Priscilla Miller.

DSS Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$724.00	101-7291-450-23-03	\$724.00
Energy		CP&L	
TOTAL	\$724.00	TOTAL	\$724.00

Justification: Increase in funding for Carolina Power & Light received from the State. Funds are 100% State, no County match required.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$5,046.00	101-7291-450-23-04	\$5,046.00
Energy		CIP	
TOTAL	\$5,046.00	TOTAL	\$5,046.00

Justification: Additional funds received from the State for Crisis Intervention Program. Funds are 100% Federal, no match.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$12,252.00	101-7291-450-23-04	\$12,252.00
Energy		CIP	
TOTAL	\$12,252.00	TOTAL	\$12,252.00

Justification: Additional funds received from the state for Crisis Intervention Program. Funds are 100% Federal, no match.

DSS 7295 Senior Program

101-0000-399-01-00	\$7,709.00	101-7295-450-32-08	\$7,709.00
Fund Balance		Medical Supplies	
TOTAL	\$7,709.00	TOTAL	\$7,709.00

Justification: Incorrect amount in expenditure from budget process. This is the Title IIID grant and the correct revenue is already budgeted. Total expenditure should be \$12,709, currently there is a budget of \$5,000. The County’s match is 10%, already budgeted.

DSS 7295 Senior Program

101-7295-336-39-00	\$550.00	101-7295-450-40-00	\$500.00
Donations General		Contr. Services	
		101-7295-450-32-31	\$50.00
		Donation Senior	
TOTAL	\$550.00	TOTAL	\$550.00

Justification: Funds collected because DSS is sponsoring Yoga classes at Fairfield for seniors under 60 (participants pay fee), also fees paid by participants at George Street yoga who are under 60. DSS will pay the instructor’s contract (\$500) from this amount. Any fees collected over the contract amount are donated funds to the Senior Program.

Set Public Hearing – FY 2003 Community Development Small Cities Close-Out

The Planning Department requested that the Board set a public hearing for 8:30 a.m. March 21, 2005 to review the budget and activities that have been accomplished through the Town's FY 03 CDBG Scattered Site Grant, which is ready for close-out. Commissioner Sampson moved to set a public hearing for 8:30 a.m. on March 21, 2005, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**PRESENTATION CONCERNING PROPOSAL TO CLOSE MIDDLE STREET
IN BRIDGETON**

Robert Rowe of the Bridgeton Heights area presented his reasoning why the Board should not consider closing Middle Street between Purifoy Street and the Neuse River in Bridgeton Heights. He stated that he and his father had taken care of the land on the right-of-way since 1942 and that he had been responsible for improvements to enhance the entrance to Bridgeton Heights area when the bridge was recently removed. He stated that he did not realize that there was an effort to get the street closed. The Board advised Mr. Rowe that a public hearing on the matter would be held on March 21 and that would be his opportunity to officially register his opposition.

PRESENTATION ON CLUBFOOT CREEK STUDY

Judy Hills, Planner for Eastern Carolina Council of Government, made a presentation to the Board which was previously given to residents of the Clubfoot Creek area. The study shows that fecal coliform is a major contaminant of the creek and adjacent waterways. It was also stated that other issues involve appliances dumped into the creek and straight pipes emptying into the creek. The stated objective resulting from the study is to develop a plan to address the factors which would involve the County's Planning, Health and Solid Waste Departments, in addition to Animal Control. At the community meeting it was recommended that the community form a group to address the issues. Ms. Hills outlined issues which the Commissioners may wish to consider in their planning, as follows:

- straight pipes entering into the creeks
- habitable housing
- status and sufficiency of the "pay-as-you-throw" system
- status of septic systems
- adequacy and enforcement of the Litter and Solid Waste Control Ordinance
- adequacy and enforcement of the Junked Motor Vehicle Ordinance
- debris which collects in the creeks
- clarification of jurisdiction issues over pollution of public trust waters
- a leash law
- proper treatment of pet waste
- land uses
- storm water treatment
- continued water quality education

APPOINTMENT – CRAVEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

At its previous meeting, the Board accepted a letter of resignation from Dr. Catherine Everett from the Craven Regional Medical Center Board as the immediate past Chief-of-Staff. A recommendation was submitted by the President of Craven Regional Medical Center that Dr. Kenneth Wilkins, Jr. be appointed to this vacancy. Commissioner Allen nominated Dr. Wilkins, as requested. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations and appoint Dr. Wilkins by acclamation, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

ACT Request

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, presented a letter from Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT) President, Jimmy Sanders, requesting that Craven County fund the organization an additional \$25,000 in the next sixty days. He reminded the Board that the County appropriated \$50,000 in the current year's budget for this purpose. Commissioner Allen moved that consideration of the disbursement be deferred until the Board's March 21 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

New Bern Historical Society Request

A request was presented by New Bern Historical Society Executive Director, Newsom Williams, that the Board allow the use of \$2,167 remaining from a 1988 appropriation for support of the agency's activities relative to the 300th anniversary of New Bern's observance. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Morris. During discussion, Commissioner Sisk stated that she would not be in favor of making the appropriation, explaining that if the funds were not needed in the last fifteen years she did not agree to appropriate them now. County Manager, Harold Blizzard, explained that the funds have already been dispersed and that they are already in possession of the Historical Society, not in the fund balance. Commissioner Allen stated that he would approve the request if this was all the funding that would be sought by the Historical Society in conjunction with the 300th Anniversary of New Bern. In a roll call vote the motion to grant the request carried unanimously.

March 7 Commissioners' Meeting

Mr. Blizzard reminded the Board that the Commissioners will be out of town attending the NACo Legislative Conference at the time of the next scheduled regular session on March 7. Commissioner Allen moved to cancel the March 7 meeting and to schedule a special meeting if any urgent business should arise prior to the March 21 regular meeting. Commissioner Sampson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Blizzard stated that the removal of an item from the agenda relative to the B/S/H request for conveyance of real property may necessitate a special meeting prior to March 21.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Sampson made a presentation of a trophy for two first place awards for the Eastern Classic in kickboxing to T. J. Taylor, a student from Stanley White Recreation Center. Commissioner Sampson commented on the recent death of Attorney Reginald Frazier, recognizing his contributions to the civil rights movement in the New Bern area.

Commissioner Sisk reported on her attendance at the dedication of the helicopter pad at Weyerhaeuser Company and thanked the companies that participated in the funding of this project. She emphasized that the development of this helicopter pad did not involve any cost to the County. She reported that during the State of the Child Conference on April 7 awards will be presented to child advocates in the following areas: 1) family friendly business, 2) advocate from the religious community, 3) advocate from the child care industry, and 4) general advocacy. She stated that nominations are being accepted.

Commissioner Staton expressed appreciation to volunteers in Craven County for the contribution of nearly 7,000 volunteer hours valued at \$118,716. He stated that this represents a cost savings to local government for services provided without charge. He expressed appreciation to the military community, which is also making great contributions to the local area, along with businesses and volunteers.

Commissioner Allen commented on the importance of the military/business service center at the Havelock campus of Craven Community College and the fact that it is likely to enhance the position of MCAS, Cherry Point in the next round of BRAC.

Commissioner Morris recognized the principal of J T Barber Elementary School, Gerald Johnson, and teacher at J W Smith Elementary School, Wendy Johnson, for their recognition as Principal of the Year and Teacher of the Year, respectively, for the Southeast Region. He also stated that five students at West Craven Middle School had been selected for the all district band, out of 900 students vying for 180 slots. He advised the Board that he had spoken with Mr. Milt Gold following the Board's meeting on February 7 and that Mr. Gold had asked that his apologies to the Board be relayed if the Board was offended by his comments. Commissioner Morris reported that he has received inquiries concerning the closed caption capability for airing of the Commissioners' meetings and asked that the cable company be contacted to inquire about this.

Commissioner Allen commented that Mr. Gold's comments to the Board had occurred in a public forum and suggested that he should apologize in the public forum.

At 9:50 a.m. Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

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

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board