

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, NOVEMBER 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 Bill Harper
- Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
- Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
- Commissioner Leon C. Staton

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 Sisk and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sisk moved to approve minutes of November 7, 2005, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Set CARTS Public Hearing for December 5

A request was made by CARTS that a public hearing be set for 7:00 p.m. on December 5 on the FY 2006-2007 Community Transportation Program (CTP) grant application. Commissioner Morris moved to set a public hearing for December 5 at 7:00 p.m., as requested, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Set Road Naming Public Hearing for December 5

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, requested that a public hearing be set for December 5, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. to hear comments regarding proposed changes to the Craven County Road Naming and Addressing Ordinance. Commissioner Morris moved to set a public hearing for December 5 at 7:00 p.m., as requested, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Budget Amendments

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

Register of Deeds

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00	\$72,563.00	101-1001-400-41-20	\$107,563.00
Fund Balance		10% Enhancement	
101-1001-357-67-0	\$35,000.00		
TOTAL	\$107,563.00	TOTAL	\$107,563.00

Justification: Budget 10% enhancement fund balance FY 2005 end \$89,381 less \$16,818 already budgeted for FY 2006 (\$72,563) and additional revenues to be received

in FY 2006 \$35,000 to cover cost of new Cott System. The County will loan the funds if necessary to the 10% enhancement fund pending receipt of those funds in the amount of approximately \$15,000.

Ft Barnwell Rescue

101-2827-357-51-00	\$5,000.00	101-2827-410-33-10	\$4,500.00
Ft Barnwell Rescue		90% Collection	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$500.00
		Collection Contract	
TOTAL	\$5,000.00	TOTAL	\$5,000.00

Justification: Budget additional revenue to be paid to Ft Barnwell Rescue(90%-\$4,500) and the collection fee (10%-\$500). Current budget of \$8,700 has been exceeded.

Cooperative Ext. – PAT

101-4242-348-59-00	\$11,993.00	101-4242-420-40-50	\$10,480.00
Parents as Teachers		Personnel	
		101-4242-420-32-40	\$625.00
		Other Supplies	
		101-4242-420-25-0	\$358.00
		Travel	
		101-4242-420-22-0	\$205.00
		Telephone	
		101-4242-420-24-0	\$200.00
		Meeting Exp	
		101-4242-420-25-15	\$100.00
		Training	
		101-4242-420-15-15	\$25.00
		Dues & Subs	
TOTAL	\$11,993.00	TOTAL	\$11,993.00

Justification: Smart Start approved full allocation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Health/Bates Foundation Grant

101-6609-346-02-00	\$(4,000.00)	101-6609-440-40-00	\$(4,000.00)
Bates Foundation		Contractual Serv	
TOTAL	\$(4,000.00)	TOTAL	\$(4,000.00)

Justification: Will not be receiving \$4,000 from the Bates Foundation this fiscal year.

DSS 7231 TANF

101-7231-349-23-00	\$(2,034.00)	101-7231-450-39-35	\$(2,034.00)
TANF Staff & Ovhd		TANF Domestic Viol.	
TOTAL	\$(2,034.00)	TOTAL	\$(2,034.00)

Justification: Total funding received from the State is less than original State estimates. Funds are 100% federal, no County match required.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$(494.00)	101-7291-450-23-03	\$(494.00)
Energy		CP&L	
TOTAL	\$(494.00)	TOTAL	\$(494.00)

Justification: Total funding received from the State is less than original State estimates. Funds are 100% State, no County match required.

DSS 7295 Senior

101-7295-377-55-00	\$(3,748.00)	101-7295-450-32-08	\$(4,164.00)
Title IIID		Title IIID Hlth Promo	
101-00-399-01-0	\$(416.00)		
Fund Balance			
TOTAL	\$(4,164.00)	TOTAL	\$(4,164.00)

Justification: Funds received for the Title IIID Health Promotion grant through the Area Agency on Aging were lower than estimated. Funds are 90% fed and state reimbursed, with a 10% County match.

Convention Center

JOURNAL ENTRY

371-0571-400-97-01	\$49,300.00	371-0000-101-00-00	\$49,300.00
To General Fd		Cash	
101-0000-101-00-00	\$49,300.00	101-8201-366-07-00	\$49,300.00

BUDGET AMENDMENT

371-0000-399-00-00	\$49,300.00	371-0571-400-97-01	\$49,300.00
Fund Balance		To General Fd	
101-8201-366-07-00	\$49,300.00	101-8201-430-73-01	\$49,300.00

Justification: Budget Convention Center reserve funds to cover the cost of a new chiller.

Tax Releases

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

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
BALLARD, PAUL ADOLPH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2005	2005-0002350	\$165.30
BELL, MICHAEL DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCOUNT #23956	1996-0091024	\$391.97
BELL, STEPHEN ALLEN DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCOUNT #38930	1999-0003530	\$228.01
BELL, STEPHEN ALLEN DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCOUNT #38903	2000-0003594	\$205.52
BELL, STEPHEN ALLEN DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCOUNT #38903	2001-0003611	\$203.35
BELL, STEPHEN ALLEN DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCOUNT #38903	2002-0003676	\$175.68
CRAYTON & COMPANY PROPERTY VACANT	2005-0012008	\$32.00

GASKINS, KEITH DALTON LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2005-0019754	\$19.14
GRIFFIN, ROBERT S & ELIZABETH DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #2935130	2005-0021723	\$168.76
HART, CHARLIE RAY DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #6258700	2005-0091168	\$212.07
HORAN, JERRY J JR MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 05 LES-IA ECC-07/23/05	2005-0026040	\$24.78
LIBBUS, AMELIA A PROPERTY VACANT	2005-0032161	\$32.00
MALONE, DANIEL SHANE INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE PITT CO.	2005-0091180	\$135.23
MCCOTTER, FRANCES E RELEASE RECYCLE FEE WHEN SCE REMOVED	2005-0091210	\$10.00
MCCUTCHEON, KEVIN T & CHRISTIN DID NOT OWN 01/01/2005	2005-0035077	\$325.50
MILLER, REDA H PROPERTY VACANT	2005-0036344	\$10.00
NORRIS, ANDREW HRS PROPERTY VACANT	2005-0039577	\$32.00
OSBORNE, DEXTER G & ANDERSON, T BOTH MILITARY-1998 LES FOR BOTH IS ATTACHED TO 199	1998-0093401	\$39.24
OSBORNE, DEXTER G & ANDERSON, T MIL. BOTH 1998 LES-VA/ECC-10/05/02 (DEX) LES-IL/ECC	1999-0036270	\$204.05
RYAN, JOHN MARK DID NOT OWN 01/01/2005	2005-0045831	\$409.97
WORLEY, GARLAND MCNEAL MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 05 LES-AL ECC-10/20/05	2005-0091115	\$45.07
WRIGHT, TAMMY DID NOT OWN 01/01/2000	2000-0090624	\$304.02

22 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$3,373.66

Request for Resolution

The Board received a request for the adoption of a resolution for Zelmyra Fisher (age 98 on December 10) and Herbert Fisher, Sr. (age 100), who have been married to each other for 81 years. The current Guinness Book world record is 82 years, set in July. Commissioner Morris moved for adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE MILESTONES
OF
ZELMYRA AND HERBERT FISHER, SR.**

WHEREAS, Zelmyra Fisher was born on December 10, 1907 and will celebrate her 98th birthday on December 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, her husband of more than 81 years, Herbert Fisher, Sr., was born on June 10, 1905 and has reached the milestone of having lived for 100 years; and

WHEREAS, the Fishers are lifelong residents of the James City community, where they successfully raised a family of five children; and

WHEREAS, the Fishers have fallen shy of the Guinness Book of World Records recognition for the longest marriage of a living couple by only ten months; and

WHEREAS, Craven County is proud to be home to Zelmyra & Herbert Fisher, Sr. as they have, for a lifetime, contributed greatly to the fabric of their community through their respective churches Jones Chapel A.M.E. Zion and Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist, their family, and their years of service through various community organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES to recognize and salute Zelmyra and Herbert Fisher, Sr. for their longevity and accomplishments as their family and friends gather to celebrate their lives and their marriage on November 25, 2005.

Adopted this 21st day of November, 2005.

PRESENTATION OF THE AUDIT REPORT

Lou Cannon of McGladrey & Pullen presented the annual Craven County audit report to the Board of Commissioners for the year ended June 30, 2005. Highlights of the presentation included comparisons with the previous year and with similar size counties and statewide averages. The property tax collected represented 41.9% of revenues, compared to 41.3% in the previous year. The tax rate for the year just ended was below the averages for the state and similar size counties, and the collection rate of 98.1% was higher than state and similar size county averages. Social Services remained the largest single area of expenditures, followed by education. Fund Balance decreased about \$400,000 from \$19.5 million to \$19.1 million, representing 16.44% of undesignated general fund. An unqualified opinion was rendered on the County’s compliance and financial statements. Commissioner Allen inquired if the minimum fund balance standard of 8% is legally required of school boards. Mr. Cannon responded that there is no legal requirement and that based on studies conducted by local government finance officers, there is solid support for the school system not needing substantial fund balance.

EAST CAROLINA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS UPDATE

Eastern Carolina Council of Governments Executive Director, Larry Moolenaar, provided the Board an update on the agency’s activities, and encouraged the County’s use of COG services when needed.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2005-2006 SECONDARY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Department of Transportation District Engineer, Aaron Everett, presented the status report on last year’s Secondary Road Construction Program. Division Engineer, Neil Lassiter, presented the 2005-2006 Secondary Road Program, as follows, with a request for approval. Commissioner Morris moved for its approval, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

Map No.	Priority No.	SR No.	Local Name	Length	From	To	Prop. Imp.	Estimated Cost
1	6-R(F)	1610	Walker Road	6.50	SR 1611	Cnty Ln	Grade, Drain, Stabilize & Pave	\$663,000.00
2		1224	Dry Monia Road	2.90	NC 55	US 70	Widen from 18’	\$352,000.00

				to 22' & strengthen	
3	US 17 Rhems VFD			Stabilize & Pave	\$12,500.00
4	US 17 Little Swift Creek VFD			Stabilize & Pave	\$12,500.00
5	1615 St. Delights Church Rd	1.00	SR 1600	SR 1614	Widen from 18' To 22' & Strengthen
	1616 Old Vanceboro Rd		US 17	SR 1600	
6.	1003 Aurora Road	9.00	US 17	CntyLine	Widen from 18' To 22' & Strengthen
	Maintenance Functions-Stabilization, Pipe Replacement & Paved Road Improvements				\$239,000.00
	Retained for Road Additions, Overdrafts, Countywide & Surveys & Contingencies				\$360,000.00

At 10:10 a.m. the Board was declared in recess.

At 10:20 a.m. the Board reconvened in regular session.

APPOINTMENTS

Highway 70 Corridor Committee

At its last meeting the Board deferred the appointment of three representatives and one alternate to the newly formed Highway 70 Corridor Committee. Commissioner Allen nominated Mike Avery, City Planner, City of New Bern. Commissioner Sampson nominated Harold Blizzard. Commissioner Sisk volunteered to serve as a member and Commissioner Sampson volunteered to serve as an alternate. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Harper with Mr. Avery, Mr. Blizzard, Commissioner Sisk and Commissioner Sampson being appointed by acclamation.

Tri-Community Fire Tax Commissioner

The Board was advised of a Tri-Community Fire Tax Commissioner vacancy due to the death of E.J. Carawon. Commissioner Morris nominated Kenneth Dunn. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Harper, with Mr. Dunn being appointed by acclamation.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, updated the Board on the status of sales and transfers of sale of properties previously approved by the Board, as follows:

- 900 ft. of Twp. 6 water line to City of Havelock completed;
- Transfer of storage tank and easements on Audrey Lane to Twp. 7 water district completed and deed recorded;
- Easement from Jimmie L. Morris for Little Swift Creek water line executed and ready to be recorded;
- Bid by Melvin J. and Judy Martin in the amount of \$2,269.45 for sale of parcel at 757 St. Delights Church Road was presented and accepted unanimously by motion of Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Allen;
- Lot #79 in the Tobago section, Fairfield Harbour, is scheduled for sale at public auction on November 23, 2005.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

Joint Meeting with the Board of Education

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, presented a request from the Board of Education for a joint meeting, proposed for Friday, December 9, 2005, for the

purpose of discussing new schools. It was the consensus of the Board to meet at 8:30 a.m. December 9 in the Commissioners' Room.

Closed Session

Mr. Blizzard requested to go into closed session to discuss property acquisition. The closed session was deferred to follow the Commissioners' reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Allen reported on his attendance at the NACo Health and Mental Health Conference.

Chairman Brown announced that the dedication of the Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Bridge had taken place. He congratulated Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Fisher, Sr. for their milestone celebration.

CLOSED SESSION

At 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Morris moved to go into closed session, as requested, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(5), seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

At 11:25 a.m. the Board reconvened in regular session. County Attorney, Jim Sugg, announced that property acquisition for siting the new jail had been discussed and that the Manager and Attorney had been further instructed relative to continuing negotiations.

At 11:26 a.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Chairman Perry L. Morris
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board