

**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 20, 2006. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:**

- Harold Blizzard, County Manager
- Ray H. Moser, Assistant County Manager
- Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
- Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
- James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Morris and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the minutes of November 2, 2006 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Sisk 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 Allen moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**Credits**

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET#	AMOUNT
CHUMISO, KAREN L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2006	2006-0007977	\$290.21
ECENBARGER, CHARLES W VALUE ADJUSTED PER BILL OF SALE	2006-0091496	\$127.14
GUAY, ANTHONY M DID NOT OWN 01/01/2006	2006-0091542	\$180.07
HARMATUK, WILLIAM P & DONNA M CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR – WILL BE REBILLED	2006-0023478	\$746.36
HARMATUK, WILLIAM P & DONNA M CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR – WILL BE REBILLED	2006-0023479	\$963.43
MELKONIAN, CHARLES STEVEN & EL CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2006-0036358	\$526.96
MYATT, THOMAS & TIA MILITARY-1/2 VAL-TIARAE 06 LES-KS ECC. 12/15/09	2006-0039099	\$73.85
ROUND, WILLIAM D DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #33766	2006-0091458	\$789.00

ROUND, WILLIAM D DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #33766	2006-0091353	\$178.20
SELLHORN, RICHARD D & VIRGINIA DOUBLE LISTED ON SAME ACCT.	2006-0091459	\$331.34
STAHL, DAVID NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2006	2006-0091558	\$627.39
TAYLOR, HENRY J III NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO. 01/01/2006	2006-0091561	\$632.75
TAYLOR, JOHN W DID NOT OWN 01/01/1998	1998-0092861	\$.36
WEST, JAMIE LEIGH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0053326	\$44.11
WEST, JAMIE LEIGH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0053956	\$39.15
WEST, JAMIE LEIGH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2006	2005-0090975	\$39.36
WEST, JAMIE LEIGH DID NOT OWN 01/01/2006	2006-0056420	\$35.16
WHITE, FLOYD E JR & BRENDA C CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2006-0057169	\$23.98
	18 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$5,648.82

***Refunds***

CHUMISO, KAREN L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2005	2005-0091278	\$303.80
CRAVEN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY I2006-0012088 EXEMPT PER GS 105-278.6(A) (4)		\$124.00
GRIFFITH, DAVID L & JUDITH A CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2006-0021995	\$91.81
HARMATUK, WILLIAM P & DONNA M CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR – WILL BE REBILLED	2006-0023479	\$417.06
	4 – REFUND (S)	\$936.89

***Budget Amendment***

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendment for the Board’s approval.

***Pass Through***

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0564-348-77-00 ASAP 06 AJ 167	\$7,177.00	101-0564-450-91-77 ASAP 06 AJ 167	\$7,177.00
101-0564-348-97-00 ASAP 04 AJ 166	\$53,599.00	101-0564-450-91-97 ASAP 05 AJ 166	\$53,599.00



TOTAL	\$60,776.00	TOTAL	\$60,776.00
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**Justification:** Budget 2006 JJDP Pass Through Grant for After School Arts Program – Mighty Tau – in the amount of \$7,176.58

Budget 2005 JJDP Pass Through Grant for After School Arts Program – Mighty Tau – in the amount of \$53,598.16, 10-01-06 through 09-30-07.

**FY 2005-2006 AUDIT REPORT**

Lou Cannon of McGladrey & Pullen presented the report of the audit of the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2006. He explained minimum requirements for basic financial statements and provided an overview of Craven County’s status, involving forty funds, as follows:

- Tax rate is less than similar size counties and significantly less then the state average
- Collection rate at 98.14% of levy, surpasses the averages for the state and similar size counties
- Fund balance, at 18.98%, has increased from the previous year and is lower than similar size and statewide averages; demonstrating efficiency of operations.

An unqualified opinion was rendered, which reflects the highest level of assurance.

**UPCOMING APPOINTMENTS – DECEMBER**

Appointments to expiring terms on CRSWMA, the Adult Care Home Advisory Committee, Health Board, New Bern Library Board, Neuse River Development Authority and Planning Board were deferred.

**COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT**

*St. Luke’s Building*

County Manager, Harold Blizzard reported to the Board that the County has no need for the old St. Luke’s building, which the County owns and which was recently vacated by Neuse Center. He advised that the building has need of some repairs, but also has some historical significance. It was recommended that the Board approve the disposal of the property by one of the following applicable methods:

- public auction
- privately negotiated sale
- advertisement for sealed bids
- negotiated offer, advertisement and upset bid
- exchange (with another governmental entity)

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, recommended disposal of the property by advertisement for sealed bids. Commissioner Allen moved to approve disposal of the old St. Luke’s building by advertisement for sealed bids, seconded by Commissioner Sampson. During discussion, Commissioner Tyson indicated a desire to receive input from the historical society concerning the building’s historical significance prior to making a decision. Commissioner Staton put forth an amendment to the motion to table the matter until input can be received from the historical society, and the new Board is seated. Commissioner Tyson seconded the amended motion, which carried unanimously.

*Broadway House*

Mr. Blizzard recommended disposal of the Broadway House, which is situated on land acquired for Creekside Park, by sealed bid, with a provision for its removal after the purchase. Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the County Manager’s recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY' REPORT**

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, asked that the Board officially terminate the County's lease with Neuse Center for use of the old St. Luke's building. Commissioner Sisk moved for approval of the following agreement, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried.

NORTH CAROLINA

CRAVEN COUNTY

**THIS AGREEMENT** entered into this 20 day of November, 2006, by and between CRAVEN COUNTY, a body politic and corporate (hereinafter "County"), and the NEUSE CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION/SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, an area authority duly organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 122C of the North Carolina General Statutes (hereinafter "Neuse Center").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, County is the owner of a parcel of land in the City of New Bern, North Carolina upon which has been erected certain improvements known as St. Luke's Hospital Building, and which parcel is described particularly in Exhibit A, which Exhibit A is annexed hereto and is incorporated herein by reference hereinafter referred to as the "real estate;"

WHEREAS, the real estate has heretofore been used by County for the operation of the Department of Social Services and has been leased and used by Neuse Center as its main offices; and

WHEREAS, County is authorized under the laws of the State of North Carolina to lease the real property to the Neuse Center for purposes set forth in a certain agreement between the parties as recorded in Book 1222 at Page 133 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County; and

WHEREAS, County and Neuse Center are desirous of terminating said lease agreement and any extensions or modifications, if any, in all respects.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and in consideration of the mutual promises hereinafter set forth, County and Neuse Center do hereby terminate said lease agreement entered into between the parties and recorded in Book 1222 at Page 133 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County and Neuse Center relinquishes any rights in said building arising because of said lease or any extensions or modifications of said lease to said building, and County agrees that it relinquishes and releases Neuse Center from any and all liability of whatsoever nature arising out of the lease of the same, and that neither party shall have any further rights, objections or responsibilities to each other arising out of the lease of said building.

IN TESTIMONEY WHEREOF, County has caused this instrument to be executed in its name by the Chairman of its Board of Commissioners, and its seal to be hereto affixed and attested to by its Clerk, and Neuse Center has caused the same to be

executed by its Chairman, attested to by its Secretary and its seal affixed hereto, all on the day and year first above written.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

*Commissioner Brown* congratulated the newly elected Commissioners and expressed appreciation to the citizens for having allowed him to serve, and to staff for their cooperation.

*Commissioner Sisk* thanked citizens who exercised their right to vote, and presented a Memorandum of Understanding for the Board's review, which was requested by the Highway 70 Corridor Committee.

*Commissioner Allen* thanked voters and reported on his attendance at a NACo Leadership Conference recently held in Phoenix.

*Commissioner Sampson* thanked voters and asked that citizens continue to protest rising gas prices. He announced an evening community forum on pandemic flu.

*Commissioner Morris* commended citizens who voted early, and stated that the County will continue to monitor the "One-Stop" voting process to determine future needs.

At 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

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Chairman Perry L. Morris  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan  
Clerk to the Board