

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN
RECONVENED ITS RECESSED REGULAR SESSION OF FEBRUARY 19, 2007
ON FEBRUARY 21, 2007 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF
THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN
STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Vice Chairman Jason R. Jones
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Theron McCabe
Commissioner Perry L. Morris
Commissioner Steve Tyson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk

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

Jail Project Bids

The stated purpose of the reconvened session was primarily to consider bids received at 2:00 p.m. for two phases of the Law Enforcement Center project. It was explained to the Board that the project is being bid in six phases, as follows:

1. Entrance road to the site (temporary road)
2. Rough grading and building pad
3. Main building construction (contractor will complete final road)
4. Mechanical equipment building
5. Technology systems
6. Furniture, fixtures and equipment

They were advised that bids were received for Phase I and Phase II. Engineer, Bob Chiles, emphasized that the portion of Phase I that was bid was Phase I, Part A. The bids were received as follows:

1.	Bordeaux Construction Company, Durham	\$109,536
2.	Jimmie L. Morris & Sons, Vanceboro	\$78,876.75
3.	Trader Construction, New Bern	\$141,576
4.	W.L. White, Grantsboro	\$81,031.25

There was discussion concerning the propriety of Commissioner Morris voting. He established that he has no connection with Jimmie L. Morris & Sons, and no financial benefit to gain. He was advised by counsel at the Institute of Government that he is obligated to vote. Staff recommended that the bid be awarded to Jimmie L. Morris & Sons, the low bid. Commissioner Allen moved to accept the low bid, subject to the conditions of the contract, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and carried in a roll call vote with four (4) "Ayes", there being one (1) "Nay" from Commissioner Jones.

Eric Chapman of Construction Control Corporation reported on the results of the bid opening for Phase II, as follows:

1.	Bordeaux Construction Company	\$796,500
2.	Ralph Hodge Construction	\$761,000
3.	Trader Construction	\$721,200

It was recommended that staff be allowed to negotiate with Trader Construction on cost savings, but to award the bid for an amount not to exceed \$721,200. Commissioner Allen moved to award the contract to Trader Construction, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and carried with four (4) "Ayes", there being one (1) "Nay" from Commissioner Jones. Mr. Chapman also reported that RFP's had been received for material testing and although a formal approval of a bid is not needed, it was requested that the Board approve the work being done by Terracon Consultants of Greenville. Commissioner Allen moved to accept the recommendation for Terracon Consultants to do the material testing, seconded by Commissioner Morris and carried with four (4) "Ayes", there being one (1) "Nay" from Commissioner Jones.

Health Board

Commissioner Allen indicated that he had identified a nominee for the engineering position on the Health Board and he nominated David Stevic. He moved to accept the nomination by acclamation, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

Schools' Projects

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, asked if there was any objection from the Board to proceed in seeking financing that would include \$8.1 million for the school's requested projects. Commissioner Morris indicated an objection for J.T. Barber and Grover C. Fields projects but no objection to the land purchase or the bus garage project. Commissioner Allen expressed no objection to seeking the funding but proposed the idea that the scope of the projects could be reduced after funds are secured. County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, advised the Board that the Local Government Commission, in order to approve the borrowing, must have certain details in place, such as plans, designs, permits, etc., which means there would have to be some level of commitment. There was discussion concerning an opportunity to tour the sites of the proposed projects and Commissioner McCabe moved to set a reconvened session at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 28 in order to conduct a tour, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried. Staff was requested to contact the Chairman, who was absent from the session, to determine his availability at the proposed time.

Commissioner Jones stated for the record that he does not oppose the construction of the new jail; however, his "no" votes relative to awarding of bids were a result of his disagreement with the location of the facility.

Commissioner McCabe moved to recess to 1:00 p.m. on February 28 to accommodate the Chairman's schedule, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board