

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN RECONVENED ITS RECESSED REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 19, 2008 ON MAY 27, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WAS TO CONDUCT A BUDGET WORK SESSION.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Jason R. Jones  
Vice Chairman Theron McCabe  
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen  
Commissioner Perry L. Morris  
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.  
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk  
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

Following an invocation by Commissioner Jones, County Manager, Harold Blizzard, confirmed with the Board a meeting time for a joint meeting with the Craven Pamlico Carteret Regional Library Board. The consensus was to hold the meeting at 10:30 a.m. on June 4<sup>th</sup> pending confirmation from the Library Board. There was discussion about how to proceed with the Library Board. Consensus was reached that the discussion should center around addressing questions previously posed to the Regional Library Director. Commissioners expressed concern about what is an honest report of the distribution of funds at the end of the year and whether or not Craven County taxpayers are subsidizing other county libraries.

**REVIEW OF PROPOSED FY 2008-2009 CRAVEN COUNTY BUDGET**

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, began the review of the proposed budget by summarizing some of the highlights. He stated that \$277,000 from fund balance was appropriated in the FY 07-08 budget in comparison to an appropriation of \$462,723 from fund balance, included in the FY 08-09 proposed budget, without any special appropriations. Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, explained that the FY 07-08 appropriation from fund balance may not be fully utilized and he projected adding to fund balance at the end of the current fiscal year. The capital reserve projection at end of the year is \$4 million. Review of the budget began at line item 101-0000-301-01-00 (Property Tax Revenues) and continued through line item 101-7100-73-21 (Veterans Services). A 5.9% increase in ad valorem tax revenue was projected above the FY 07-08 revenue. It was noted that an appropriation of \$1,000,000 made to the North Carolina History Education Center in the FY 07-08 budget has not yet been distributed, but will be placed in reserve on June 30 to be distributed when needed.

Mr. Blizzard explained that the recommended budget provides for a new Jail Operations Director position, a new Communications Director position, and transfer of Communications Operations to Emergency Services.

**REQUEST FOR PROCLAMATION**

The Board received a request for a proclamation recognizing J.T. Barber School for its history and recent historic designation, to be presented on July 4. Commissioner Allen moved that a proclamation be drafted and adopted as requested, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

At 3:25 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to recess until 9:00 a.m. on May 28, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

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Chairman Jason R. Jones  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board