

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 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2008. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chairman Jason R. Jones
- Vice Chairman Theron McCabe
- Commissioner Perry L. Morris
- Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
- Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
- Commissioner Steve Tyson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen

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
- Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of August 18, 2008 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Tyson requested that one item, subdivision approval, be removed from the consent agenda due to the financial interest of his wife.

Tax Releases and Refunds

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

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET#	AMOUNT
ADVANCE STORES COMPANY INC CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0000350	\$69.88
ANDERSON, CHRISTOPHER LANE MILITARY – HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-MO ECC-10/18/2010	2008-0001091	\$48.34
ANDERSON, CHRISTOPHER LANE MILITARY – HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES – MO ECC-10/18/2010	2007-0001057	\$54.33
BARKER, DENNIS RAY & JUDY POPE DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #73678	2008-0002793	\$55.21
BARNES, LEWIS DANIEL & BARNES CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0002882	\$7.13
BARTHOLMEW, SIDNEY J JR UNCOLLECTABLE – DECEASED	2005-0002885	\$22.18

BARTHOLMEW, SIDNEY J JR UNCOLLECTABLE – DECEASED	2006-0002901	\$19.06
BARTHOLMEW, SIDNEY J JR DID NOT OWN 01/01/2007	2007-0003029	\$15.56
BARTHOLMEW, SIDNEY J JR DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0003107	\$13.49
BEASLEY, CRAIG L & SHANNON N MILITARY – HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES – FL ECC-NONE (CW02)	2008-0003631	\$22.40
BLOOMBER, CHARLES BRENT DOUBLE BILLED ON ACCT #72828	2008-0005082	\$171.87
BODY, JOHN STANLEY TRANSIT – NOT TAXABLE IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2008-0005245	\$752.19
BOTTS, RONALD J & CAROL A CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0005549	\$.37
BOURDEAU, MARK ALAN INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 6F	2008-0005579	\$77.13
BRANCH BANKING & TRUST CO CORRECTING MAPPING ERROR	2006-0005730	\$85.16
BROWN, DANETTA ALEXANDER & MOBILE HOME MOVED FROM CRAVEN CO BEFORE 07/01/2008	2008-0006746	\$36.00
BRUNO, FRANK LOUIS INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 8R	2008-0007094	\$476.23
BURLESON, JAMES PAUL DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0007909	\$46.71
CAROLINA CREEK LLC DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0008966	\$356.85
CARTER, DORCAS ELIZABETH PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0009400	\$36.00
CAVU4US LLC CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0009765	\$57.06
CHANDLER, TIMOTHY A & TERESA J DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0010022	\$555.72
CHID MARKETING LLC NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN COUNTY 01/01/2008	2008-0010290	\$130.89
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011229	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011230	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011231	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011232	\$43.68

COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011233	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011234	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011235	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011236	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011237	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011238	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011239	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011240	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011241	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011242	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011243	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011244	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011245	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011246	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011247	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011248	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011249	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011250	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011251	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011252	\$43.68

COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011253	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011254	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011255	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011256	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011257	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011258	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011259	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011260	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011261	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011262	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011263	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011264	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011265	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011266	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011267	\$43.68
COASTAL MARKETING & DEV CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011268	\$43.68
COLEMAN, BARBARA DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT#74482	2008-0011493	\$586.45
COMPASSIONATE CARE COMMUNITY NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2008	2008-0090354	\$36.84
CONWAY, JOHN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0011902	\$11.04
COURTNEY, HOBART ALLEN DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0012388	\$1,079.79
COURTNEY, HOBART ALLEN & MICHE DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0012389	\$807.55

COX, HARVEY ALTON JR CORRECTING MAPPING ERROR	2008-0012621	\$70.24
COX, HARVEY ALTON JR CORRECTING MAPPING ERROR	2008-0012620	\$55.12
COX, HARVEY ALTON JR CORRECTING MAPPING ERROR	2008-0012622	\$358.03
COX, KATHLEEN DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0012639	\$57.09
CPI IMAGES LLC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0012737	\$1.36
CRAVEN COUNTY & NEW BERN-CITY PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0012833	\$36.00
DAIL, ASA B & BEVERLY C CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0013630	\$713.60
DAVIS, ALTON LEE SCE REMOVED IN ERROR	2008-0014101	\$200.12
DAVIS, JAMES R JR EXECUTOR PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0014240	\$36.00
DAWSON, PEGGY MORGAN & BANKS HOUSE WAS DEMOLISHED IN 2007	2008-0014565	\$94.51
DJ'S LTD LLC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0015596	\$6.76
ELLIOTT, SUSAN DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0017349	\$136.24
FIRST FLIGHT FEDERAL CREDIT UN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0018701	\$218.17
FOUNTAIN, JOSEPH K & ELIZABETH CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0019440	\$36.00
FRAZIER, ETHEAL DID NOT OWN 01/01/08	2008-0019750	\$2.20
GEARITY, JOHN F DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0021289	\$340.52
GILLETTE, TERRY GENE INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 2A	2008-0021753	\$56.67
GOODWIN, ALAN SCOTT INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 8T	2008-0022305	\$59.88
GORE, PAMELA CLARK CORRECTING MAPPING ERROR	2008-0022342	\$178.99
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER EXEMPT PER GS 105-278.6(E)	2008-0023550	\$31.72

HANKINS, COLE V CORRECTED APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0024018	\$64.38
HUNLEY, RANDY DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0028284	\$122.71
HURT, RAYMOND HENRY & LAURA LI DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0028384	\$780.93
J L HENDERSON CO LLC NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2008	2008-0090529	\$69.99
JACKSON, CHARLES E NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2008	2008-0090532	\$6.71
JEWELL, PATSY JOHNSON SCE REMOVED IN ERROR	2008-0029670	\$249.47
KARAM, CAROL W DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0031096	\$120.23
KEITH WILLIAMS INSURANCE CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090549	\$156.56
KLEBER, STEVEN R & KAREN D BOAT IN TRANSIT – NOT TAXABLE IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2008-0032031	\$671.00
LEA, FRANK DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0033395	\$86.56
LOPEZ, BRUNO DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #4015488	2008-0034783	\$42.53
LOVELACE, WILLIAM & ASHLIN NOT TAXABLE IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2008-0034837	\$670.13
MACK, ALBERT G & TERESA M & CO CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0035432	\$226.02
MACK, ALBERT G & TERESA M & CO CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0035433	\$164.29
MACK, ALBERT G & TERESA M & CO CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0035434	\$41.93
MACK, ALBERT G & TERESA M & CO CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090597	\$58.70
MACENZIE, JUDY LYNN & RODERIC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0035457	\$1.92
MAHER, RAYMOND P & SANDRA F DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0090604	\$10.61
MASTEC NORTH AMERICA INC CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0036420	\$1,130.36
MCCOY, WINFRED SCOTT DOUBLE LISTED WITH PARCEL #4-026-3000	2008-0037213	\$69.38
MOBILE MINI INC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0039225	\$4.88

MOBILE MINI INC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0039224	\$.61
MOBILE MINI INC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0039223	\$30.53
MOBILE MINI INC LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0039222	\$14.24
MORRISON, BRUCE AUSTIN ADJUSTING VALUE OF BOAT PER CONDITION	2008-0040398	\$62.32
MURPHY, CHRISTOPHER WALTER INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 7-G	2008-0040719	\$51.81
NEIL, RUSS DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0041172	\$1,043.96
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041556	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041554	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041553	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041555	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041557	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041559	\$36.00
NEW BERN – CITY OF PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0041558	\$36.00
NICHOLS, LEE VINTON NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/08	2008-0041745	\$385.66
PARKER DOROTHY BLOUNT PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0043198	\$36.00
PATE, VIOLET S & WOOLARD, JAME DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0043466	\$703.74
PRIESTER LIVING TRUST-ANE CAHI DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0045471	\$8,650.59
REITER, WILLIAM J CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090815	\$36.94
SANTORE, JOHN F & GRACE L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0049088	\$510.39
SCHWARZ, ROBERT JR & SARAH H INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE CARTERET COUNTY	2008-0049552	\$2,225.25

SMITH, LINDA & SCOTT, JOHN EDW CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0051411	\$527.33
SMITH, WAYNE INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 2A	2008-0051645	\$276.02
SOLE, MARGARET NOEL VALUE ADJUSTED PER BILL OF SALE	2008-0051798	\$205.39
STONE, CHARITY F NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2008	2008-0090887	\$6.59
SWIFT CREEK PLANTATION LLC DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0053779	\$2,026.30
THE LEWIS LAW FIRM PA CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090917	\$135.37
TILLMAN, BETH CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0055263	\$999.98
VINCENT, MYRA SCE REMOVED IN ERROR	2008-0057230	\$194.33
WETHERINGTON, ELIZABETH ANN MC INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 5E	2008-0058969	\$191.41
WOOD, JAMES RUDOLPH JR CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0061761	\$144.44
	139 – CREDIT MEMO(S)	\$33,528.44

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 McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Env Health/Asthma

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-3140-336-05-00 United Way	\$3,730.00	101-3140-420-40-50 Contract Employee	\$3,730.00
TOTAL	\$3,730.00	TOTAL	\$3,730.00

Justification: An additional \$3,730 was received from the United Way of Coastal Carolinas to be allocated to wages during the 08/09 fiscal year which is a 46% increase.

Health/Random Moment Study

101-5003-349-00-00 State revenue	\$30,362.00	101-5003-440-73-02 C/O Other Improvements	\$29,162.00
		101-5003-440-73-21 C/O \$500-\$4,999	\$1,200.00
TOTAL	\$30,362.00	TOTAL	\$30,362.00

Justification: When budget was originally submitted, it was unknown that the state would distribute funds based upon the Random Moment Time Study (RMTS). These

funds will be used to purchase two Doppler’s (\$600 each), Clinic Doors (\$16,000) and the remaining \$13,162 will be used for Broad Band Network.

DSS 7291 Mandated

101-7291-349-32-00	\$40,363.00	101-7291-450-23-04	\$40,363.00
Energy CIP, CP&L		Energy CIP	
TOTAL	\$40,363.00	TOTAL	\$40,363.00

Justification: Second allocation has been received for the Crisis Intervention Program. There is no County match, funds are 100% Federal.

Recreation

101-0000-399-01-00	\$5,600.00	101-8001-460-73-02	\$5,600.00
Fund Balance		Other Imp	
TOTAL	\$5,600.00	TOTAL	\$5,600.00

Justification: Ditch cleanout at Creekside.

Adjustment to EMS Rates

The EMS Advisory Council recommended that the following rates be adjusted for EMS (ambulance) services in order to recoup the maximum amount of revenue due to Medicare rate increases. Commissioner Sampson moved to adjust the following rates, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

- BLS (basic life support) from \$300 to \$315
- ALS (advanced life support) from \$510 to \$540
- Mileage rate from \$9.25 to \$10.00 per mile

Offer to Purchase Real Property (6634 Old US 70; Parcel 9-045-042)

The County previously received and accepted an offer of \$5,900 for the property located at 6634 Old US 70 and directed the County Attorney to undertake the process to sell the property. A number of bids were submitted with a final bid of \$7,300 being the final successful high bid. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the final bid of \$7,300 and to authorize the sale of the property, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Offer to Purchase Real Property (Lot 967 Pembroke; 8-040-057)

The County previously received and accepted an offer for the property identified as Lot 967, Pembroke, in the amount of \$1,319, and directed the County Attorney to undertake the process to sell the property. No upset bids were received. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the offer of \$1,319 and to authorize sale of the property, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

SUBDIVISIONS FOR APPROVAL

Commissioner Sampson moved to allow Commissioner Tyson to abstain, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Morris moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe.

Falcon Bridge PUD – Final (re-recording w/changes: The property, owned by Jerry Pounds Construction and engineered by Pete Chiles, is located within Twp. 7 off of Hwy

70 E. The subdivision contains 124 lots on 27.53 acres. The lots will be served by community water and sewer.

Robert D. Willhoit – Final: The property, owned by William & Joseph Moody, C/O Deborah Willhoit and surveyed by Richard Allen Maye, Jr. of Mayo and Associates, is located within Twp. 9 off of Spring Garden Road (SR 1401). The subdivision contains 1 lot on 1.091 acres and is currently served by existing community water and an individual septic system.

Hazel C. Mills – Final: The property, owned by Hazel C. Mills and surveyed by Terry Wheeler, PE, PLS, is located within Twp. 1 off of Piney Neck Road (SR 1444). The lot is currently served by existing community water and an individual septic system.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MATTERS

With no objection from the Board, the Chairman recognized Ray Wood, member of the Craven County Board of Elections. Mr. Wood Advised the Commissioners that the Board of Elections had filed an application with the State Board of Elections for grant funds in the amount of \$79,000. If approved, the funds will provide for two additional one-stop locations, on a one-time basis, to be placed at Grantham 1A and Cove City. He stated that the Board of Elections had received considerable bi-partisan input at its special meeting on August 27, 2008, which was called for the purpose of deciding if an application should be filed. Commissioner Morris initiated discussion concerning possible relocation of the one-stop site at West Craven High School. Mr. Wood indicated that it had been considered but determined not to be feasible at this time. He stated that ideally, the site would be moved to the new Vanceboro Fire Station. Commissioner Tyson inquired if the grant funds would provide for advertising. In response, Mr. Wood stated that the Elections budget would likely need to be increased to cover advertising.

CREEKSIDE PARK DRAINAGE DITCH

During the Board of Commissioners August 4, 2008 meeting, Commissioner Tyson advised the Board of the need to address sediment and vegetation in a drainage ditch located on the Creekside Park property. County staff inspected this ditch and recommended improvements to the ditch to allow better flow of water. The Recreation & Parks Department received three quotes to clean out the ditch to an average depth of 4’ with a 1:1 slope, grade any spoil that is removed from the ditch along the sides, hydro-seed the ditch and areas alongside the ditch where spoil has been graded and move any debris to a spot on the park property as designated by the park staff. The Board was advised that the Soil and Water Conservation Department provided a plan to properly clean out the ditch as per their best practices. The three quotes are as follows:

Coastal Dragline Service	\$8,200
Jimmie Morris & Sons	\$6,300
Pete Rollins	\$5,600

Staff recommended that the Board of Commissioners approve a contract with Pete Rollins to complete this work. Commissioner Sisk moved to approve award of the contract to Pete Rollins in the amount of \$5,600, to come from Fund Balance, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

UPDATE REGARDING ZONING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCEDURES

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, updated the Board on changes in the North Carolina General Statutes that require those wishing to speak at quasi-judicial public hearings to be sworn in. This requirement will apply to conditional use permit public hearings. In addition, staff may present the facts, but may not make recommendations. Any appeals of decisions made must be processed by the court system.

APPOINTMENTS

Regional Aging Advisory Committee

The Board received notification that the term of Gertha Williams is due to expire. Commissioner Sampson nominated Ms. Williams for reappointment. There were no other nominees and she was reappointed by acclamation.

Criminal Justice Advisory Board

The Board was advised that the terms of Clement Brown, Dan Potter and James Ragan are expiring. Commissioner Sampson nominated all for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, they were reappointed by acclamation.

Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees

The term of Dred Mitchell was due to expire. Commissioner Morris nominated him for reappointment. There were no other nominees, and Mr. Mitchell was reappointed by acclamation.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, reported on an offer in the amount of \$1,000 received for the parcel located at 534 West NC 55 (Tax parcel 8-218-073), which was made by an adjacent property owner. The 45' X 211' property, which is jointly owned by the County and the City of New Bern, has a tax value of \$3,120. Delinquent County taxes total \$1,855.85. Mr. Hicks advised that, due to the size of the parcel, it has little value to anyone other than an adjacent property owner. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the offer, pending the City's action, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Sampson thanked well-wishers during his recent illness, announced the upcoming DUFFEST and urged citizens to continue working together for the benefit of the County, and to bring pressure to legislative delegations to find ways to curb escalating gas prices.

Commissioner Sisk emphasized the importance of parents walking young children to their school bus stops and waiting there with them to minimize risks from passing traffic.

Commissioner Morris reported on his recent visit to New Bern High School, where things are going better with an all-licensed staff.

Commissioner Tyson commented on the exhibits at the recent NCACC Conference that were placed in the Heritage Hall at the Convention Center. He expressed hope that the exhibit hall, which was a part of the original design, may become a reality in order to compliment new hotel capacity under development.

Commissioner Jones cited many positive comments that were heard about the NCACC Conference held here recently, particularly concerning the friendliness and hospitality shown by County employees. He also commented on the need for the exhibit hall as well as additional parking at the Convention Center. He announced a new Bio Tech Entrepreneurship program starting at the Craven Community College Small Business Center, which is being offered over five weeks at no cost, and encouraged citizens to take advantage of this opportunity.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board