

**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, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.**

**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  
 Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Morris and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Morris moved to approve minutes of September 2, 2008 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*Tax Releases and Refunds*

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following routine 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*

<b>TAXPAYER NAME</b>	<b>TICKET#</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
ABELL, JAMES E JR OR ABELL, YU ANNEXED INTO CITY OF BRIDGETON – RELEASED 1 MONTH	2008-0091020	\$1.15
AC COMMUNICATIONS INC DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0090247	\$134.87
ADAMS, WILLIAM BERT NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2008	2008-0000279	\$51.81
ADAMS, WILLIAM BERT NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2007	2007-0000266	\$29.70
ADAMS, WILLIAM BERT NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2006	2006-0000259	\$36.19
ADAMS, WILLIAM BERT NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2005	2005-0000274	\$42.67
AMERICAN EAGLE RENTALS LLC CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0000951	\$189.10

BARFIELD, ERMA M ET AL CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0002769	\$217.22
BAUCHERT, DARRYLL JR & LAURA M DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0003403	\$1,070.14
BENDER, JOHN BERRY & MELISSA C INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 7-G	2008-0004146	\$233.31
BENITEZ, MARTHA LATE FEE CHARGED IN ERROR	2008-0004197	\$4.85
BIRCH, CONYARD SAMUEL UNCOLLECTABLE-DECEASED	2004-0004319	\$361.56
BIRCH, CONYARD SAMUEL UNCOLLECTABLE – DECEASED	2005-0004470	\$375.98
BOWDLE, ALEXANDER III & JUDITH ANNEXED INTO BRIDGETON-RELEASING 1 MONTH	2008-0091025	\$.56
BRABBLE, DWAYNE D INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 2A	2008-0005857	\$274.50
BRATCHER, RICHARD DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #35982	2008-0090302	\$174.35
BRIDGEWATER, CAROLE ANN L VACANT PROPERTY	2008-0090304	\$108.00
BUCKL, WERNER A INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 2A	2008-0007623	\$884.50
BUCKL, WERNER A & MARY JO INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 2A	2008-0007626	\$102.62
BUHL, MICHAEL GEORGE NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN COUNTY 01/01/08	2008-0007692	\$48.43
BUTEL, DAMIEN MICHAEL MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-MI ECC-NONE (1 <sup>ST</sup> LT)	2008-0008042	\$39.25
CAROLINA AVIATION SERVICES LLC DOUBLE LISTED ON #76942	2008-0008824	\$32.18
CAROLINA NEUROLOGICAL TRIALS P DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0090326	\$134.20
CHURCH-CLARKS METHODIST CHUR EXEMPT PER GS 105-278.3	2008-0010418	\$72.39
CLARK, DANIELLE CAROL INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 9L	2008-0010867	\$86.76
DANJCZEK, CYNTHIA J NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2008	2008-0013902	\$58.21
DONNELLY, H DAVID NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2008	2008-0015716	\$277.73
DRESSEN, TAKEKO SCE REMOVED – DECEASED AUGUST 2007, REBILLING FOR FUL	2008-0016049	\$381.47

DWYER, ERIC NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO 01/01/2008	2008-0016607	\$33.14
ELLISON, GARLAND PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0017441	\$36.00
ELSON, CHARLES R JR VALUE ADJUSTED PER BILL OF SALE	2008-0017472	\$42.57
FORTE, RODNEY KEITH MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-GA ECC-07/31/08	2008-0019373	\$108.15
GAGNE, ROLAND UNCOLLECTABLE – DECEASED	1999-0090916	\$468.21
GRAHAM, DONALD B CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0022499	\$50.72
GREENBERG, CAROLE A & EDWARD DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT #39007	2008-0022856	\$103.33
HART, OLIN J IV & SONJA S MILITARY ½ VAL OLIN 08 LES-NY ECC-02/26/2012	2008-0025137	\$40.25
HENDRICKS, JAMES T DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0026129	\$15.88
JELINSKI, JOSEPH BOAT IN TRANSIT – NOT TAXABLE IN CRAVEN COUNTY	2008-0029416	\$949.47
JOHNSON, DAVID P NOT IN CRAVEN COUNTY 01/01/2008	2008-0029812	\$7.89
JOHNSTON, KENNETH JAMES & YVON CORRECTING LISTING ERROR	2008-0030115	\$1,929.18
KENNEDY, GURMAN G DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0031399	\$43.69
LABRADOR DEV GROUP LLC NOT LOCATED INC RAVEN COUNTY 01/01/2008	2008-0090564	\$184.20
LAWHORN, BARBARA W CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0033262	\$272.59
LAWHORN, JEREMIAH F & LAWHORN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0033268	\$86.88
LINGGI, JOSEPH B & CHRISTY L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2008	2008-0034292	\$11.83
MCFARLAND, JEFFREY R MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-PA ECC-09/13/2012	2008-0090672	\$119.01
MEDLIN, JEFFREY L & JENNIFER L INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 8T	2008-0038094	\$81.40
MONETTE, SHARON H CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0039373	\$46.09

MORGAN, JEFFREY ALAN MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-NE ECC-11/10/2010	2008-0040000	\$47.88
NEW BERN GYMNASTICS INC INCORRECT TOWNSHIP-SHOULD BE 7G	2008-0090738	\$275.17
NORGARD, CARRIE MILITARY-HER NAME ONLY 08 LES-IA ECC-05/24/09	2008-0042051	\$328.80
POWERS, RALPH E NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2008	2008-0090788	\$7.18
PRAFKE, BRADLEY A & HOLLY C CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0045258	\$31.70
ORAZIANO, DAVID MATTHEW MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-NY ECC-01/01/2010	2008-0022680	\$151.25
RICHARDS, FREDERIC P CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090820	\$15.68
RODRIGUEZ, STEVEN E & LISA ANN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0047924	\$308.66
ROUND, KENNETY D & DENISE M MILITARY -HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-FL ECC-06/28/2010	2008-0048222	\$136.69
SAWYER, GEORGE BLAND & SUSAN A CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0049229	\$720.41
SOUTHERN PEARL LLC NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN COUNTY 01/01/2008	2008-0051916	\$460.55
TRESCHAN, HELMUT CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0055883	\$60.21
TRESCHAN, HELMUT CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0055884	\$63.75
UMANZOR-BENITEZ, MARTHA C DOUBLE BILLED ON ACCT #72708	2008-0056661	\$84.57
WILLIAMS, VANESSA PROPERTY VACANT	2008-0061040	\$36.00

63 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$12,782.68

***Refunds***

ABELL, JAMES E JR OR ABELL, YU INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 2 2	2007-0000048	\$156.51
BOWDLE, ALEXANDER III & JUDITH INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 2 2	2007-0005484	\$72.66
BPNC LLC ANNEXED – 1 MO TAXES REFUND	2007-0005719	\$2.00
BRIDGEWATER, CAROLE ANN L VACANT PROPERTY	2007-0090271	\$36.00

BRIDGEWATER, CAROLA ANN L VACANT PROPERTY	2006-0005953	\$36.00
BRIDGEWATER, CAROLE ANN L VACANT PROPERTY	2005-0005910	\$36.00
CORNWELL, GORDON LEE INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 7 G	2008-0012217	\$141.30
ELKS, DALE L & KATHRYN L INCORRECT SITUS – SHOULD BE 7G	2008-0017288	\$77.26
ELLISON, GARLAND PROPERTY VACANT	2006-0016534	\$32.00
ELLISON, GARLAND PROPERTY VACANT	2007-0017029	\$36.00
GURGANIOUS, WILLIAM M & HELEN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0023428	\$497.46
MCFARLAND, JEFFREY R MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-PA ECC-09/13/2012	2006-0091750	\$129.11
MIZELLE, CHRISTOPHER BRENT INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 8N	2008-0039194	\$226.52
ROTH, ROBERT A & CAROLYN H INCORRECT SITUS-SHOULD BE 8R	2008-0048212	\$58.30
ROUND, KENNETH D & DENISE M MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 07 LES-FL ECC-06/28/2010	2007-0047488	\$139.70
WHITEHURST, SAMUEL LATHAM CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090082	\$1,112.46
WHITEHURST, SAMUEL LATHAM CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2008-0090081	\$341.60
	17 – REFUND (S)	\$3,130.88

*Service Person of the Quarter Resolution*

The Board was requested to adopt a resolution recognizing Petty Officer Dalton C. Askew as Area Service Person of the Quarter. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the following resolution, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING PETTY OFFICER DALTON C. ASKEW  
AS AREA SERVICE PERSON OF THE QUARTER**

**WHEREAS**, Petty Officer Dalton C. Askew serves as the Vice President of Township 7 Emergency Medical Services and as a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician; and

**WHEREAS**, Petty Officer Dalton, despite his already hectic work schedule as a Navy Hospital Corpsman, unselfishly volunteers hours of his personal time providing medical assistance to citizens of James City and New Bern; and

**WHEREAS**, he further supports his community by providing volunteer medical coverage for softball tournaments, the New Bern Grizzly's football team, as well as local marathon events; and

**WHEREAS**, Petty Officer Dalton's ability to act decisively in critical situations has earned him the utmost respect from his fellow emergency response co-workers and is an inspiration to other Hospital Corpsman assigned to this command.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Craven County Board of Commissioner recognizes Petty Officer Dalton C. Askew for his technical expertise, devotion to duty and steadfast leadership to the citizens of Craven County.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Craven County Board of Commissioners congratulates him on being selected Area Service Person of the Quarter.

Adopted this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

*Health Fee Adjustments*

The Craven County Board of Health recommended that the following fee adjustments in Child Health and Adult Health be made so that charges are equal to or greater than the rates paid by Medicaid and Medicare in order to receive full reimbursement for services. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the recommended fee adjustments, as follows, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

<u>Procedure Code/Description</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Medicaid Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
<b><u>Child Health</u></b>			
J0530/LA Bicillin 0.6	\$13.00	\$13.41	\$14.00
J0540/LA Bicillin 1.2	\$25.00	\$32.90	\$33.00
97802/Initial Medical Nutrition Therapy	\$16.70	\$24.39	\$24.00
<b><u>Adult Health Immunization</u></b>			
90632/Hepatitis A-Adult (Flat Fee)	\$43.00	\$45.81	\$46.00
90732/Pneumococcal (Flat Fee)	\$25.00	\$27.03	\$27.00
90733/Memomune Vaccine (Flat Fee)	\$83.00	\$89.43	\$90.00

*Resolution Supporting Request to Legislative Delegation*

The Board was requested to adopt a resolution to support the County's petition to members of the Craven County's State legislative delegation for discretionary funds that will provide for installation of turning lanes at West Craven High School. Commissioner Sampson moved for adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF  
FUNDING FOR INSTALLATION OF TURNING LANES  
AT WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL  
IN CRAVEN COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, funding has been approved from the Secondary Road Funding Program to construct turning lanes on Streets Ferry Road at West Craven Park; and

**WHEREAS**, turning lanes are also needed at West Craven High School, with an estimated additional cost of \$300,000; and

**WHEREAS**, extending the West Craven Park project further in the direction of West Craven High School would result in a seamless improvement to the road to serve both facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, joining the two projects is expected to result in cost savings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division 2 Transportation Board Member has identified and committed \$200,000 toward the extension.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Craven County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that its North Carolina legislative delegation designate discretionary funding in the amount of \$100,000 to extend the project to include turning lanes at West Craven High School.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

*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.

*Emergency Services*

101-2301-377-14-00	\$4,900.00	101-2301-410-40-31	\$4,900.00
Haz Mat Prep		LEPC	
TOTAL	\$4,900.00	TOTAL	\$4,900.00

**Justification:** Grant from Dept of Crime Control to cover cost of highway management emergency plans.

*Childhood Lead*

101-3133-399-08-00	\$2,818.00	101-3133-420-40-50	\$2,818.00
Carryover Fund Balance		Contract Employees	
TOTAL	\$2,818.00	TOTAL	\$2,818.00

**Justification:** When budget was originally submitted, it was unknown that all miscellaneous donations would not be expended by fiscal year end. Carryover balance is a combination of unspent miscellaneous donations and last year's carryover balance.

*Health/Child Health*

101-5811-399-00-00	\$13,022.00	101-5811-440-15-27	\$13,022.00
CCPEC Mental Hlth Grant		Medical Consultant	
TOTAL	\$13,022.00	TOTAL	\$13,022.00

**Justification:** When budget was originally submitted, it was unknown that all funds would not be expended by fiscal year end. The remaining grant money will be used to pay a behavioral health professional to come to the clinic once or twice per month to see children and review cases with the nurse practitioners.

*Health/Home Health/Hospice*

101-6500-371-01-00	\$30,000.00	101-6500-440-40-50	\$30,000.00
Home Health Medicare		Contract Employees	
101-6502-371-02-00	\$15,000.00	101-6502-440-40-50	\$15,000.00
Hospice Medicare		Contract Employees	
TOTAL	\$45,000.00	TOTAL	\$45,000.00

**Justification:** Budget preparation did not adequately project the use of this line. Beyond filling workload of vacant positions, this line funds required services of a Chaplin (required for Hospice) and allows efficient accommodation of peaks in workload and coverage for staff on leave.

**Health/Bates Foundation (YMCA)**

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

**Justification:** When the budget was originally submitted, it was unknown that a \$4,000 grant would be awarded this year for the YMCA Water Safety Program. Funds will cover the cost of transportation by bus and cost of using the YMCA pool.

**DSS 7291 Mandated**

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

**Justification:** Additional funding received for Crisis Intervention Program (CIP). There is no County match, funds are 100% federal.

**DSS 7221 Adult Services**

101-7221-349-22-0	\$(1,477.00)		
Adult Serv Staff and Overhead			
101-00-399-01-0	\$1,477.00		
Fund Balance			
101-7221-349-22-00	\$1,849.00	101-7201-450-40-50	\$1,849.00
Adult Serv Staff & Overhead		Contract Employees	
TOTAL	\$1,849.00	TOTAL	\$1,849.00

**Justification:** Funding authorization for SSBG (Social Services Block Grant) decreased from State estimates (funds staff salary & benefits). Funding authorization for Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) increased from State estimates (funds temporary workers to help administer the LIEAP program), original LIEAP Admin amount was \$19,080. All funds are 100% federal.

**DSS 7231 TANF**

101-7231-349-23-00	\$(878.00)	101-7231-450-39-35	\$(878.00)
TANF Staff & Overhead		TANF Domestic Violence	
101-7231-349-23-0	\$(3,862.00)		
TANF Staff & Overhead			
101-00-399-01-0	\$3,862.00		
Fund Balance			
101-7231-349-23-0	\$1,477.00		
TANF Staff & Overhead			
101-00-399-00-0	\$(1,477.00)		
TOTAL	\$(878.00)	TOTAL	\$(878.00)

**Justification:** Funding authorization for TANF Domestic Violence: Decrease \$878 from original State estimates. Funding authorization for TANF WF Block Grant (for staff salary & benefits codes to WFBG): Decrease of \$3,862 from original State estimates. Funding authorization for TANF transfer to SSBG (for staff & benefits coded to TANF to SSBG): Increase of \$1,477 from original State estimates. All three TANF funds are 100% federal.

**DSS 7291 Mandated/DSS 7231 TANF**

101-7291-349-16-00	\$(91,275.00)	101-7291-450-39-17	\$(91,275.00)
Day Care Smart Start		Day Care Smart Start	
101-7231-349-38-0	\$(8,049.00)		
Smart Start Admin			
101-00-399-00-0	\$8,049.00		
Fund Balance			
101-7291-349-10-00	\$137,519.00	101-7291-450-39-26	\$137,519.00
Day Care Combined		Day Care Combined	
101-7231-450-26-0	\$4,732.00		
CCDF Admin			
101-00-399-00-0	\$(4,732.00)		
Fund Balance			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$46,244.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$46,244.00</b>

**Justification:** Funding authorization from the Division of Child Development; allocation for Smart Start Subsidy and Admin funding less than budget estimates; allocation for Regular Subsidy Day Care funding is more than original budget estimates.

**Convention Center**

101-8201-369-36-00	\$20,000.00	101-8201-430-96-58	\$40,000.00
TDA Fund 801		Governor's Conference on Tourism	
101-8201-369-28-0	\$20,000.00		
300 Tricentennial Committee			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>

**Justification:** Hosing Governor's Conference on Tourism in March 2010 – Many expenditures will be accrued in FY-2009 and 2010.

**TOWN OF BRIDGETOWN MATTERS**

The Town of Bridgeton Mayor, Rodman Williams, addressed the Board concerning the town's desire to enforce the State Building Code within its corporate limits and with its own personnel. To date, Craven County has provided this service. The agreement in place provides that two years advance notice to terminate the service must be given; however, Mayor Williams indicated that the town would be interested in beginning its own inspections on September 22, 2008. The Mayor expressed appreciation for the County's support thus far and praised the County staff for the services that have been provided. He stated that Bridgeton would be willing to execute a hold harmless agreement during transition. Owners whose inspections are pending will be given a choice to have their service completed by Craven County or to transition to the Town of Bridgeton. For those who choose to transition to Bridgeton the County would be held harmless for work completed thus far, and the town would be responsible for any legal fees that may arise. Commissioner Sampson inquired if there is any impropriety in the County Attorney's advising and representing the County on this matter inasmuch as he also serves as the Town Attorney for Bridgeton. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, indicated that should any adversarial situations arise in the future, the law firm would recuse itself and help both parties to find other counsel. It was the consensus of the Board that it would not be necessary for Mr. Hicks to step aside at this point. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the release of the Town of Bridgeton from the current inspection agreement, with the County to be held harmless during the transition, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

**WORK FIRST BLOCK GRANT PLAN**

Social Services Director, Kent Flowers, presented the Work First Block Grant Plan, which is required every two years. The recommendation of Mr. Flowers and the Social

Services Board was for the County to remain a Standard County. He explained that prior advantages to Electing County status have diminished since the inception of the optional program. The Board was requested to determine its status preference, appoint a member of the Board of Commissioners to the Craven County Planning Committee, to adopt a proposed slate for the Craven County Planning Committee and to accept the proposed Work First Planning Timeline. Commissioner Sampson moved that Craven County remain a Standard County, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried. Commissioner Sisk moved that Commissioners Allen and Sampson be appointed as representatives of the Board of Commissioners, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and carried with six (6) "Ayes", there being one (1) "Nay" from Commissioner Allen. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the list of appointees to the Craven County Planning Committee, as follows, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Mr. Rex Bennett, DSS Board  
 Ms. Mary Brown, NC Employment Security Commission  
 Ms. Kathy Crow, NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
 Ms. Jennettia Drake, DSS Board  
 Mr. Kent Flowers, Jr., DSS Director  
 Ms. Renee Harrell, Craven Literacy Program  
 Ms. Bobbie Hewlett, Religious Community Service  
 Ms. Sharki Humphrey, WF IMC I, WF Recipient Representative  
 Mr. Larry Moser, Superintendent, Craven County Schools  
 Mr. Joseph Parker, DSS Board Member  
 Ms. Pat Purnell, Executive Director, Craven Co. Partnership for Children  
 Mr. Kevin Roberts, Executive Vice President, New Bern Chamber of Commerce  
 Ms. Wanda Sandel , Craven County Health Director  
 Mr. George Sawyer, Vice Chairman, DSS Board  
 Ms. Alfreda Stout, DSS Deputy Director  
 Ms. Phyllis Toler, Craven Area Rural Transit System  
 Ms. Edith Travers, Executive Director, Coastal Community Action, Inc.  
 Ms. Dorothea White, Chairman, DSS Board  
 Dr. Thomas E. Williams, Craven Community College  
 Mr. Roy Wilson, Director, Neuse Mental Health

Commissioner Morris moved to accept the proposed Work First Block Grant Planning Timeline, as follows, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

- Call potential members – Beverly McCoy, Program Manager  
 Craven County Department of Social Services
- Put Work First Block Grant on Commissioner’s Agenda 9/15/08  
 Vote Standard of Electing County  
 Vote on proposed Craven County Planning Committee members  
 Vote on proposed Work First Planning Timeline
- Letter to members with rough draft of plan 9/30/08
- Committee meets at Craven County DSS 5:00 p.m.
- Public comment period 10/3/08-10/16/08
- Put on Commissioners’ agenda public hearing &  
 draft of plan 10/13/08
- Commissioner’s public hearing & request for approval of plan 10/20/08
- Send plan to State 10/22/08

## TAX MATTERS

### *Settlement of 2007 Taxes*

Before being charged with collection of the taxes for 2008, the Tax Collector presented the settlement of the 2007 taxes, as follows. Commissioner Morris moved to accept the settlement, pursuant to NCGS 105-373, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. Mr. Antry noted that the 2007 collection rate was 4/100 of a percent higher than the previous year.

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	40,976,798.78
Fire District Original Levy		<u>1,506,406.23</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	42,483,205.01
Add:		
Afterlists		813,655.49
Additions		6,479.34
Plus Adjustments		<u>1.61</u>
Total	\$	43,303,341.45
Less:		
Write-offs		26,673.09
Adjustments		-0-
Releases		<u>871,540.67</u>
Net Levy	\$	42,405,127.69
Collected	\$	41,654,681.62
Uncollected as of June 30, 2008	\$	750,446.07

**Percentage of 2007 taxes collected ----- 98.23**

Net taxable valuation -- \$6,693,478,551

**ANNUAL REPORT OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES**

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	5,535,553.12
Fire District Original Levy		<u>213,438.00</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	5,748,991.12
Add:		
Additions		542.43
Plus Adjustments		<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$	5,749,533.55
Less:		
Write-offs		22,935.30
Adjustments		-0-
Releases		<u>601,579.68</u>
Net Levy	\$	5,125,018.57

Collected	\$	4,625,396.04
Uncollected as of June 30, 2008	\$	499,622.53

**Percentage of 2007 taxes collected ----- 90.25**

Net taxable valuation -- \$809,723,097

**ANNUAL REPORT OF REAL PROPERTY, CERTIFIED VALUATION AND  
PERSONAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES**

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	35,441,245.66
Fire District Original Levy		<u>1,292,968.23</u>
Total Levy	\$	36,734,213.89

Add:

Afterlists		813,655.49
Plus Adjustments		1.61
Additions		<u>5,936.91</u>

Total	\$	37,553,807.90
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Less:

Writeoffs		3,737.79
Adjustments		-0-
Releases		<u>269,960.99</u>

Net Levy	\$	37,280,109.12
Collected	\$	37,029,285.58
Uncollected as of June 30, 2008	\$	250,823.54

**Percentage of 2007 taxes collected ----- 99.33**

Net taxable valuation -- \$5,883,755,454

*Legislative Update*

Mr. Antry presented relevant updates to legislation during the last two sessions of the NC General Assembly. He stated that although several laws that affect the property tax in North Carolina have been enacted, he would only highlight those that will potentially have an impact on Craven County, as follows:

- G.S. 105-277.15 – Taxation of Wildlife Conservation Land: Provides use value system for wildlife conservation land; effective July 1, 2010. Not expected to have a significant negative impact on Craven County's tax base.

- G.S. 105-277.1C – Provides a Property Tax Exclusion for Honorably Discharged Disabled Veterans and Their Surviving Spouses: Excludes first \$45,000 of appraised value. Effective July 1, 2009. Potential impact on Craven County's tax base but to what degree is uncertain. Notice of this exclusion will be mailed with abstracts in January. Notice will also be given through publication and Veterans Services offices.
- G.S. 105-330 – Combined Motor Vehicle Registration and Property Tax System Changes: Provides that unregistered motor vehicles are subject to a discovery pursuant to G.S. 105-312, unless taxed as a registered vehicle for the current year. Effective January 1, 2001. Expected to result in improved motor vehicle collection rate.
- G.S. 153A-156.1 – Heavy Equipment Gross Receipts Tax in lieu of Property Tax: Allows a county by resolution to impose a gross receipt tax on the rate of one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) on the gross receipts from the short-term lease or rental of heavy equipment; effective August 1, 2008. The potential impact on Craven County's tax base is unclear; however, at least one business that rents heavy equipment was identified. Mr. Antry indicated that he will confer with the County Manager and County Attorney and return for the Board to consider if adoption of such a resolution would be desirable.
- G.S. 105-277.16 – Taxation of Low-Income Housing Property: Requires the assessor to use the income approach as the method of valuation and requires the assessor to take into consideration rent restrictions that apply to the property. Effective July 1, 2009. Expected to produce a lower valuation on affected properties. Tax staff is still identifying properties in Craven County that are Section 42 properties.
- G.S. 105-286 – Time for General Reappraisal of Real Property: Changes the schedule for general reappraisal of real property for counties whose population is 75,000 or greater. No expected impact on Craven County; however, it was suggested by the County Manager that the Board may wish to re-visit consideration of changing the revaluation time frame in Craven County. Staff was asked to study the options and develop a list of pro's and con's.
- G.S. 105-277.1B – Property Tax Homestead Circuit Breaker: Provides tax deferment on agricultural/horticultural property with permanent residence occupied by husband and wife, whose income is above \$25,600 but no more than \$38,400. Effective July 1, 2008.

*Charge to Tax Collector*

Commissioner Sisk moved that Craven County Tax Collector, Ronnie Antry, be charged to collect the 2008 taxes by adoption of the following order, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

**2008 CHARGE TO THE CRAVEN COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR**

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF CRAVEN**

**TO THE TAX COLLECTOR OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN**

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Craven County Tax Collector and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Craven, and this order shall be a full and

sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayer, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

Joe Thomas, Chairman of the Craven County Economic Development Commission, asked that the Board approve a request by the North Carolina Department of Transportation to acquire .97 acres of Industrial Park property to be included in the right-of-way for the proposed US 17 bypass. He stated that the EDC Board has considered the request and has determined that the area in question and its location relative to the Industrial Park is of no consequence. NCDOT agreed to pay \$22,500 for the parcel. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the request to dispose of the .97 acres in the Industrial Park to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the sum of \$22,500, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

### **AIRPORT REQUEST**

Airport Director, Tom Braaten, requested the Board's approval for acceptance of an FAA grant in the amount of \$295,644. Mr. Braaten indicated that the initial intentions for use of the grant was to do a construction project to address runway obstruction; however, due to the delay in adoption of a federal budget, the time will not permit use of the funds in such a manner. Therefore, it is the intention of the Airport Authority to utilize the grant funds as part of its payment to the County to include in repayment a \$550,000 loan in June, 2009. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the grant, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

### **SHERIFF'S PRESENTATION CONCERNING HOUSE ARREST**

Capt. Pittman and Lt. Lee Thomas made a presentation concerning the Sheriff's consideration of a house arrest program in Craven County. Details of the electronic offender monitoring program being considered by the Sheriff's Department were explained. It is anticipated that the program will relieve some of the costs associated with incarceration. For example, costs associated with medical conditions while in the program are the responsibility of the offender, not the County. The Sheriff recommended that a delegation of staff go to Pitt County to view the electronic monitoring program that is in place there, and Commissioners were invited to go. Commissioners Morris, Allen, McCabe and Sampson indicated interest in going with the Sheriff and staff to Pitt County.

At 10:00 a.m. the Board was declared in recess. The Board reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

### **US 70 CORRIDOR ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE**

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, informed the Board that a draft ordinance has been prepared for the US Hwy 70 East Corridor; however, there are sections of the ordinance that need further clarification. He stated that staff is currently reviewing sections of the ordinance for further review with the Planning Board, as follows:

- Section 10 Landscaping Plan and Buffer Requirements
- Section 11 Parking Infrastructure
  - Part 1. Off-Street Parking and Off-Street Loading Requirements
  - Part II. Transportation/Street Objectives
  - Part III. Outdoor Lighting
- Section 12 Sign Regulations
- Section 13 Telecommunication Facilities

Mr. Baumgardner explained to the Board that the more complicated the ordinance, the greater challenge enforceability would be. Commissioner Tyson commented that the main objective of the ordinance, in his opinion, was to protect residential property owners from business encroachment and items such as landscaping, outdoor lighting, sign regulations, and off street parking issues would be more appropriate in a city ordinance.

Commissioner McCabe brought to attention units that are being developed on Godette School Road in his district, which have resulted in the reversal of water flow in the area. He indicated a desire to make sure that water is not backing up on residents across the road. Mr. Baumgarnder assured Commissioner McCabe that he would investigate the matter. He stated that in approximately two months he would return to the Board with an update on the ordinance development.

### **NEUSE HARBOUR ROAD PROJECT**

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, presented the following resolution for adoption and to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation requesting acceptance of roads in Neuse Harbour Phase Two. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

### **RESOLUTION OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING CERTAIN ROADS IN NEUSE HARBOUR PHASE TWO SUBDIVISION BE INCLUDED IN THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, Craven County is assessing property owners within Neuse Harbour Phase Two Subdivision for all or part of the cost of constructing, reconstructing, paving and otherwise building and improving certain streets in Neuse Harbour Phase Two Subdivision; and

**WHEREAS**, the final assessment roll shall be adopted after a public hearing regarding the assessment on October 20, 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the roads in said subdivision that are being requested to be placed on the state highway system have been brought up to state standards and otherwise meet standards prescribed by the Department of Transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, Craven County requests that the Department of Transportation place said roads within Neuse Harbour Phase Two Subdivision, Craven County, State of North Carolina on the highway system for maintenance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Craven County Board of Commissioners that the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Division of Highways place certain streets located within Neuse Harbour Phase Two Subdivision, Craven County, North Carolina, that meet the requirements of the State of North Carolina for maintenance on the state system for maintenance.

Done this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

### **UPCOMING APPOINTMENTS – OCTOBER**

The Board was advised of appointments due to expire on the Fire Tax Commission, Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority and the Jury Commission. These appointments were deferred until the Board's next meeting.

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

*Commissioner Allen* commented on gang violence that is emerging in Craven County.

*Commissioner Sampson* encouraged citizens to continue voicing protest against exorbitant gas prices. He urged also the community to adopt a posture of mutual aide even in the absence of disasters.

*Commissioner Morris* announced that September 19 is Hall of Fame night at West Craven High School and asked that the Board adopt a proclamation for the Band Classic that is to be held at West Craven High School on September 27. Commissioner Morris

moved to adopt a proclamation of recognition, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

*Commissioner Sisk* thanked County staff for being vigilant during tropical storm Hanna and keeping the Board updated.

*Commissioner McCabe* commented in protest to the escalating gas prices.

*Commissioner Jones* read into the record a Resolution of Appreciation from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, as follows:

### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has resulted in wonderful attendance and opportunities to meet with officials from around the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of the 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference depends on the efforts of many dedicated individuals and organizations, and our appreciation should be expressed to those who have worked so hard in behalf of this Annual Conference.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners expresses its sincere appreciation to the following:

- The Craven County Board of Commissioners, especially Chair Jason Jones and all the Craven County staff, for hosting the conference and providing special assistance and fundraising over the past few months, with special thanks to Harold Blizzard, Craven County Manager and Gwen Bryan, Craven County Clerk to the Board;
- The Craven County volunteers who helped with registration, door prizes, spouse events and the Horn O' Plenty, with special thanks to Joan Harrell, Human Resources Director;
- The Craven County Conference Planning Committee, including Ray Moser, Rick Hemphill, and Megan Kulowiec;
- The supportive corporate groups and organizations who contributed to our 2008 Annual Conference who are recognized on the attached list;
- Those affiliated with the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, especially Convention Center Director, Sandy Chamberlin, Tarshi McCoy and Mary Harris;
- Karen Pierson of Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens;
- The staff of the Sheraton New Bern, with special thanks to General Manager Owen Parker and Sales Manager Melissa Riggle;
- Reg Poeteat, the general manager of the Comfort Suites New Bern;
- Julie Schaffer, with the New Bern Hampton Inn;
- Gary Curry, sales manager of the BridgePointe Hotel and Marina;
- Barbara Ballard of New Bern Tours;
- Craven County Maintenance and our caterer, The Flame;
- The many fine organizations and agencies that participated in the 2008 Exhibit Show;

- The program speakers and moderators;
- The door prize donors and the county officials who solicited those door prizes and brought them to the Annual Conference.

Adopted this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August of 2008 in Craven County, North Carolina.

Commissioner Jones also presented a request from the Craven County Junior Livestock Show Committee who have asked for the County's financial support. He stated that residents of Cove City and Dover have voiced support of the request, and advised that funding commitments have also been secured through private fundraising. He stated that he has determined from the County Manager and the County Attorney that it would be legal to appropriate funds for this purpose and asked for an appropriation of \$200.00 from fund balance. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the request of \$200.00 from fund balance, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

***Special Appropriations***

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$200.00	101-0190-420-96-90 Special App – Junior Livestock Show	\$200.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>

**Justification:** Junior Livestock Show in Cove City – Donation of \$200.

Commissioner Jones noted on the passing of Mr. McNeil Ipock, father-in-law of Commissioner Morris.

Assistant County Manager, Ray Moser, presented communication that had been received from the Governor's office declaring a state of abnormal market disruption in regard to the skyrocketing gas prices. A number for reporting suspicious activity in gas pricing was provided, as follows, 877-5-NO-SCAM (877-566-7226).

At 10:55 a.m., there being no additional business, Commissioner Morris moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCabe 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