

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 JULY 6, 2009. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.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
- Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
- Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
- Arey Grady, County Attorney Representative
- Aaron Arnett, County Attorney's Office

STAFF ABSENT:

- Ray Moser, Assistant County Manager

Following an invocation by Commissioner Tyson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of June 15, 2009 regular session and May 28, 2009 reconvened session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Budget Amendments

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Recreation

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$900.00	101-8001-460-32-40 other supplies	\$900.00
TOTAL	\$900.00	TOTAL	\$900.00

Justification: Carryover \$900 in donations from FY 2009. To purchase picnic tables for Creekside Park ball fields in FY 2010.

Fire/Special Service District

245-0000-369-74-00 From Twp. #6	\$2,418.00	245-2900-410-96-88 Special App from Twp. #6	\$2,418.00
246-0000-399-00-00 Fund balance	\$2,418.00	246-2900-410-97-84 to Twp. #5 Harlowe	\$2,418.00
TOTAL	\$4,836.00	TOTAL	\$4,836.00

Justification: Harlowe VFD will be servicing a portion of Twp #6 VFD district. Budget transfer of \$2,418 from Twp. #6 to Twp. #5 (Harlowe) which will be paid on a monthly basis.

Subdivisions for Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Janice W. Cannon "Hwy 43 Tract" – Final: The property, owned by Janis W. Cannon and surveyed by Kendall Gaskins, is located within Twp. 1 off NC Hwy. 43. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 0.84 acres and is proposed to be served by an existing private well and septic system.

Bradley Forrest "Hwy 43 Tract - Final: The property, owned by Bradley Forrest and surveyed by Kendall Gaskins, is located within Twp. 1 off NC Hwy. 43. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 2.53 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and an existing septic system.

Randolph Simmons Division – Final: The property, owned by Randolph Simmons and surveyed by George Chiles is located within Twp. 8 off of SR 1224 (Tuscarora Rhems Road). The subdivision contains 3 lots on 5.43 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems.

Road Addition Request

The Board received a request to add Tupelo Trail, Hyacinth Lane, Fern Court and Longleaf Lane to the state maintenance system in the Reedy Creek Subdivision located within Twp. 7, and to adopt a standard SR-2 Road Addition Resolution. Commissioner Sisk moved to add the requested roads to the state maintenance system, and to adopt a standard SR-2 Road Addition Resolution, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Request to Set Public Hearing for CDBG

The Board was requested to set a second public hearing for July 20, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. to hear citizens' comments related to the County's intention to apply for a FY 2009 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Grant, which is funded by the NC Division of Community Assistance. Commissioner Sisk moved to set a public hearing for July 20, 2009 at 8:30 a.m., as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Request to Set Public Hearing for CARTS

CARTS Director, Phyllis Toler, submitted a request to the Board to set a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. on August 3, 2009 for the Craven County/CARTS FY 2009-2010 ROAP Grant Application. Commissioner Sisk moved to set a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. on August 3, 2009, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Tax Releases and Refunds

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

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET#	AMOUNT
CANNON, SABRALENA DID NOT OWN 2007 SEE ACCT 714800	2007-0008473	\$5.60
CANNON, SABRALENA DID NOT OWN IN 2008 SEE ACCT 7104800	2008-00068609	\$97.80
CHECKPRO INC REPORTED BUSINESS NEVER STARTED 08	2008-0090333	\$184.39
ENGEL, PETER F MOVED TO PITT IN 2007	2008-0017533	\$75.37
HAMILTON, DANIEL ROBERT MIL-HIS NAME/LES-09/ECC-2/6/10 AR	2008-0023900	\$18.94
KELL, JOSHUA PAUL UNCOLLECTABLE/MILITARY/DECEASED	2008-0031250	\$23.75
KOTHEIMER, HEATHER IPOCK NEVER OWNED SEE ACCT 30988	2009-0090044	\$456.88
LONG, JOHNATHAN DOUBLE LISTED/SEE ACCT 75202	2009-0090047	\$41.66
MORRISON, ROBERT B & PAMELA K DID NOT OWN IN 2008	2008-0091285	\$8.30
MYERS, MARC D & AMBER RYANNE MIL-HIM ONLY/08/ECC-12/22/09 SC	2008-0091298	\$165.98
ORANTADO INC REPORTED BUSINESS NEVER STARTED	2008-0090852	\$106.41
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2002-0039578	\$72.02
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2003-0039876	\$66.24
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2004-0040429	\$61.14
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2005-0041621	\$58.02
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2006-0042285	\$53.18
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2007-0043689	\$53.39
PHILLIPS, JAMES E JR DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL ACCT #44318	2008-0092133	\$48.68
PHILLIPS, LESLIE DOUBLE LISTED ACCT #4120540	2009-0090049	\$246.77
	19 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$1,844.52

Refunds

CANNON, SABRALENA DID NOT OWN IN 2007 SEE ACCT #714800	2007-0008473	\$93.13
HAMILTON, DANIEL ROBERT MIL-HIS NAME /LES-09/ECC-2/6/10 AR	2007-0023456	\$11.28
HYMAN, ANTHONY M R ANNEXED INTO CITY OF NB 5/2009	2008-0028449	\$15.86
JOPLIN, DERONE W & JACQUELINE MIL-HIS NAME ONLY/09/ECC 8/29/13 TX	2008-0030873	\$46.70
TABOR, PAMELA S REBILL TO CORRECT OWNER ACCT #80336	2008-0053973	\$134.41
5 – REFUND (S)		\$301.38

Ratification Vote on Solid Waste Haulers Franchise Agreement

On June 15, 2009, the Board voted to approve new agreements with solid waste haulers for the County. A second, confirming vote was required in order to renew the franchise agreement. Commissioner Sisk moved to renew the franchise agreement with the solid waste haulers, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

John Jenkins requested to address the Board concerning his property; however, he was not present when called.

Charlie Simmons requested to address the Board in opposition to the location of the new Judicial Center, but was not present.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Cove City Fire Department Matching Grant Funds Request

Keith McCoy, President of the Cove City Fire Department, requested the County’s match of \$11,841.41 for a grant received from the North Carolina Department of Insurance of an equal amount. The stated use of grant funds is as follows: heat system for the bay, generator and hose.

Dover Fire Department Matching Funds Request

Dover Fire Department Chief, Brad White, came before the Board to request a grant match. The grant amount is \$5,725, requiring a match of \$5,725, for the following firefighting equipment: mobile radio, safety vests, gear bags and air packs.

Fort Barnwell Fire Department Matching Funds Request

Greg Milligan, Ft. Barnwell Fire Department Chief, came before the Board to request a match for a Department of Insurance grant received in the amount of \$9,792.24, requiring a match of \$9,792.24. He stated that the match was declined in the last fiscal year; however, this year it is needed to support the grant, to be used for the following: personal protective equipment, radios, pagers and hose.

Commissioner McCabe moved to approve grant matches for the Cove City, Dover and Ft. Barwell Fire Departments, as requested, totaling \$27,358.65 to come from fund balance, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Fire Depts.

244-0000-366-01-00	\$27,360.00	244-2901-410-96-99	\$11,842.00
Twp. #3 Transfer from General Fund		Cove City FD Matching Grant	
		244-2901-410-96-99	\$5,725.00
		Dover FD Matching Grant	
		244-2903-410-96-99	\$9,793.00
		Ft. Barnwell FD Matching Grant	
101-0000-399-01-00	\$27,360.00	101-0567-410-97-83	\$27,360.00
Fund Balance – General Fund		Transfer to FD’s Grant Match	

Justification: Appropriate match for DOI Grants for Twp. #4 Fire Departments.

PRESENTATION ON BEAR TOWN BEARS

Barbara Lubsen, Co-Chair of Bear Town Bears, made a presentation to the Board on the Bear Town Bears public art project, which is being launched in celebration of New Bern’s 300th Anniversary. She requested to place three of the public art pieces on County property, two at the Convention Center, and one at the courthouse. Two sponsors have agreed to buy and insure the bears on County property. The \$2,800 purchase price per bear is the cost of production and placement only. No revenue is built in for charity. Orders are needed by September for completion by “First Night” on December 31, 2009. The County Attorney was asked for his input. County Attorney representative, Arey Grady, suggested that the County be named as co-insurer. Commissioner Sampson moved to authorize the three locations, two at the Convention Center and one at the courthouse, and to have the County named as a co-insurer, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. During the discussion, County Manager, Harold Blizzard, stated that his only concern was precedent-setting. Commissioner Allen responded that any future requests should be considered on their own merits.

Mr. John Jenkins arrived to present his petition to the Board.

Mr. Jenkins appeared before the Board stating that a ditch that runs from SR 1400 to SR 1484 to the Vanceboro Highway is not cleared. He stated that the ditch along his property is clean, but the other portion is littered with trees. Commissioner Morris stated that this is not a county ditch.

Secondly, Mr. Jenkins stated that West Craven Mobile Home Park, owned by him, complies with elevation requirements; however Mr. Jenkins contends that the regulations are being unfairly applied to him. The Chairman stated that he will meet with Mr. Jenkins and Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, at the site to review Mr. Jenkins’ claim.

NACo DRUG CARD PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Health Director, Scott Harrelson, explained the process for implementing the NACo Prescription Drug Card program, beginning with the Commissioners’ approval to submit the contract to the NACo office. The County seal will subsequently be sent to be imprinted on the cards. In eight to ten weeks after the contract is submitted, the cards and a promotional kit to market the program will be received. Health Education staff at the Health Department will place the cards in high traffic areas throughout the County and market the program through local media outlets. Most of the pharmacies in the County will accept this card. During his analysis of the contract, the County Attorney recommended that a pre-audit clause be added. Commissioner Allen moved to execute the contract with the County Attorney’s recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Sisk, there being six (6) “Ayes, and one (1) “Nay” from Commissioner Morris.

APPOINTMENTS

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

The Board received a letter from the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board requesting consideration of Ron Knight, who represents organized labor, for re-appointment. Commissioner Allen nominated Mr. Knight for re-appointment, as recommended. There being no other nominations, Mr. Knight was re-appointed by acclamation.

Eastern Carolina Council of Governments

The Board was advised that the term of James Jackson on the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments was due to expire. Commissioner Sampson nominated Mr. Jackson for re-appointment. There being no other nominations, Mr. Jackson was re-appointed by acclamation.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, updated the Board on the Judicial Center Project, and reported that the construction phase is quickly coming to an end. The cabinet work and flagpole installation are two major items that remain to be completed. The Health and Inspections Departments still must sign off on the project. He reported a problem that has been discovered with the adequacy of the water source for the fire sprinkler system, which is being addressed. He stated that the contractor is aiming for substantial completion by the end of July to begin the conversion stage of handing over the facility to the County. Furniture delivery is currently in progress and will continue over the next four to five weeks. The Sheriff's projected move-in date is scheduled for August/September, with the jail & magistrates' move in late in September/October. The courtroom was initially intended for handling inmates for first appearances, but the concept was expanded to include potential other uses. District Attorney, Scott Thomas, raised the issue that in order for the courtroom to be utilized outside the County seat, action will be needed by the General Assembly. The Board will need to solicit help of the legislative delegation in order to pursue this required action. Mr. Blizzard stated that the Board may wish to consider a public dedication or open house before the facility is inhabited. Sheriff Jerry Monette appealed to the Board to press for legislative action to allow the courtroom to be used, as it is an integral part of the design and planned operation of the facility.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Sampson commented on the high fuel prices. He asked the public to be mindful of water conservation. He also thanked New Bern for the new public swimming pool.

Commissioner Allen shared activities association with Havelock's 50 Year Anniversary celebration.

Commissioner Sisk thanked the Commissioners who joined the River Bend 4th of July Parade. She mentioned an article in *The Sun Journal* spotlighting her daughter-in-law, a recently sworn in United States citizen.

Commissioner Morris commented that flood elevation is an issue in his area of the County. He also commented that West Craven Park is overflowing with citizens using the facility.

Commissioner Tyson announced that on Thursday, July 16, the Highway 70 Corridor Committee will be providing an update at the Convention Center.

Commissioner McCabe announced that DOT has started working on NC Highway 101 and should be finished by the beginning of August. He stated that he has received complaints from citizens concerning a turn lane on 101 onto Ferry Road. He stated that

he is also working on raising the bridge on Adams Creek Road. Other pending issues are the widening of Wards Lane and D.O.T. take over of Pine Cliff Road.

In reporting on his recent activities, *Commissioner Jones* mentioned Board members who attended the ribbon cutting at the Highway 43 Connector, and stated that he represented the County at an opening of the Stein Company. He noted that he interviewed with Phil Knight, who commended the Board for not raising taxes. He attended Pilgrim Chapel for pastor recognition. He commended Dr. Catherine Chew, President, Craven Community College and Larry Moser, Superintendent, Craven County Schools for their efforts to remain in communication with the Board. He also announced that on August 8 a Household Electronics Recycling event will be held at the Cooperative Extension site.

At 8:30 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board