

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, MAY 3, 2010. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chairman Perry Morris
- Vice Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
- Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
- Commissioner Jason R. Jones
- Commissioner Theron McCabe
- 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
- Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sisk and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of April 19, 2010 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Tyson requested to pull Subdivisions for approval from the consent agenda.

Health Fee Adjustments

At its meeting of April 12, 2010, the Board of Health recommended the following schedule of adjustments to fees in various clinics in order that charges be equal to or greater than the rates by Medicaid and Medicare to receive full reimbursement for services. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the following recommended fee adjustments, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Procedure Code/Description	Medicaid Rate	Proposed Rate
<u>Child Health Immunizations</u>		
90649/Gardasil	\$135.73	\$136.00
90734/Menactra	\$101.65	\$102.00
90715/TDAP	\$33.87	\$34.00

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
KELLEY, SCOTT A SOLD BOAT IN 2008	2009-0031329	\$6.90
MORRIS, J BRADLEY CREDIT FOR ELDERLY EXCLUSION	2010-0090139	\$24.00

WILLIAMS, CHRISTOPHER D	2010-0090094	\$133.87
MIL EXEMPTION – ½ VALUE-BOTH NAMES		
3 – CREDIT MEMO (\$)		\$164.77

Refunds

CROOMS, EMMA HRS	2009-0013096	\$317.37
DOUBLE BILLED SEE 5-020-009.1		
NORTON, MICHAEL T	2006-0040360	\$36.00
DOUBLE BILLED-APT UNOCCUPIED 7 YEARS		
NORTON, MICHAEL T	2007-0041696	\$36.00
DOUBLE BILLED-APT UNOCCUPIED 7 YEARS		
NORTON, MICHAEL T	2008-0042263	\$36.00
DOUBLE BILLED-APT UNOCCUPIED 7 YEARS		
NORTON, MICHAEL T	2009-0042532	\$36.00
DOUBLE BILLED-APT UNOCCUPIED 7 YEARS		
SALTER, ROBERT DALE	2009-0091166	\$55.08
CORRECTED SIZE OF MOBILE HOME		
6 – REFUND(S)		\$516.45

Budget Amendments

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.

Rescue Squads

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-2827-357-51-00	\$10,000.00	101-2827-410-33-10	\$ 9,000.00
Ft. Barnwell Rescue Fee		Ft. Barnwell 90% coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$ 1,000.00
		Collection Cost	
101-2828-357-49-00	\$17,000.00	101-2828-410-33-10	\$15,300.00
Bridgeton Rescue Fee		Bridgeton 90% Coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$ 1,700.00
		Collection Cost	
101-2829-357-50-00	\$20,000.00	101-2829-410-33-10	\$18,000.00
Vanceboro Rescue Fee		Vanceboro 90% Coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$ 2,000.00
		Collection Cost	
101-2830-357-52-00	\$14,000.00	101-2830-410-33-10	\$12,600.00
Cove City Rescue Fee		Cove City 90% Coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$ 1,400.00
		Collection Cost	
101-2831-357-56-00	\$110,000.00	101-2831-410-33-10	\$99,000.00
Twp. #7 Rescue Fee		Twp. #7 90% Coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$11,000.00
		Collection Cost	
101-2825-357-53-00	\$ 5,000.00	101-2825-410-33-10	\$ 4,500.00
NB/Craven Rescue Fee		NB/Craven 90% Coll	
		101-2801-410-40-03	\$ 500.00
		Collection Cost	

TOTAL	\$176,000.00	TOTAL	\$176,000.00
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Justification: Ambulance billing fees exceeding amount budgeted. Need to budget increase to pay squads 90%.

DSS 7291 Mandated

101-7291-349-32-00	\$693.00	101-7291-450-23-03	\$693.00
Energy CIP, CP&L		Energy CP&L	
TOTAL	\$693.00	TOTAL	\$693.00

Justification: Additional funding received for the Progress Energy-Energy Neighbor (CP&L). There is no County match, funds are 100% Federal.

DSS 7291 Mandated

101-7291-349-32-00	\$10,000.00	101-7291-450-23-04	\$10,000.00
Energy CIP, CP&L		Energy CIP	
TOTAL	\$10,000.00	TOTAL	\$10,000.00

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

Sheriff's

114-0000-399-01-00	\$600.00	114-2011-410-22-00	\$600.00
Fund Balance		Telephone	
TOTAL	\$600.00	TOTAL	\$600.00

Justification: To cover expenses related to wireless internet and cell phones for Narc units through the end of the fiscal year.

CARTS Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy

The original CARTS Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy was adopted on December 18, 1995, effective January 1, 1996. Through the years there have been several federally required revisions in the policy. The Board was requested to adopt the following policy revisions to the CARTS Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy:

1. Section C. Definitions (pages 2-7),
2. Section I. Drug Testing Procedures (pages 11-13) Items 4, 6, and 8
3. Section U. System Contacts (pages 27-28).
4. Attachment A Safety Sensitive Function (page 29).

Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the revisions to the CARTS Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

SUBDIVISIONS FOR APPROVAL

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions for the Board's approval. Commissioner Tyson asked Mr. Baumgardner about the exact location of John Hardee Section II Division and would like to know what usage is being proposed. It was the consensus of the Board to defer this subdivision until the Board's next meeting. Commissioner Allen moved to approve Rex Dale Lilly Division and Bobby D. Thorn Division, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

John Hardee Section II Division – Final: The property, owned by John Hardee and surveyed by Terry Wheeler, is located within Twp. 7 off of SR 1111 (Old Airport Road). The subdivision contains 1 lot on 2.5 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and New Bern sewer.

Rex Dale Lilly Division – Final: The property, owned by Velma Morris and surveyed by Gaskins Land Surveying, is located within Twp. 1 off of SR 1448 (Bear Hole Road). The subdivision contains 1 lot on 0.74 acres and is proposed to be served by existing county water and an existing individual septic system.

Bobby D. Thorn Division – Final: The property, owned by Bobby D. Thorn and surveyed by Gaskins Land Surveying, is located within Twp. 1 along US Hwy 17. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 2.18 acres and is proposed to be served by existing county water and an existing individual septic system.

PUBLIC HEARING TO MAKE A CHANGE TO THE ROAD NAMING AND ADDRESSING ORDINANCE

A public hearing was scheduled to hear comments regarding a proposed addition to the official road list (Craven County Road Naming and Addressing Ordinance). The addition includes the naming of a private drive, Nellie McCoy Road, located within Twp. 3 off of SR 1253 (Quinn Road). Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, advised the Board that the proposed name was in compliance with the ordinance and the final petition, although not unanimous, was signed by 83% of the landowners on the road, with one owner dissenting. The ordinance requires at least 75% of the landowners to agree to officially name a private drive. At 7:07 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to go into public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. There were no citizens from the public who wished to speak and at 7:08 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. Commissioner Allen moved to adopt the proposed name, Nellie McCoy Road, seconded by Commissioner Jones and unanimously carried. Commissioner Morris inquired how many citizens responded to the petition and Mr. Baumgardner stated 100% had responded. Commissioner Jones commented that the individual who started the process originally had proposed a different name.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

The Chairman announced a four minute time limit allotted to all petitioners.

David French

Mr. French, who represents the Families of New Bern and Craven County group, presented information concerning the group’s quest to have a monument placed to honor people of New Bern and Craven County during New Bern’s 300th anniversary year. He requested that the Board adopt a resolution of support. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION
BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
COUNTY OF CRAVEN**

A Monument to Honor, Remember and Celebrate
All of the People of New Bern and Craven County
from the Early Times to the Present
and to Commemorate
the 300th Anniversary of the Founding of New Bern (1710 - 2010)
and
the 300th Anniversary of the Founding of Craven County (1712 - 2012)

Whereas, New Bern in the Province of North Carolina was founded in 1710 and will celebrate the 300th Anniversary of its founding in 2010 as a City in the State of

North Carolina; and

Whereas, Craven County in the Province of North Carolina was founded in 1712 and will celebrate the 300th Anniversary of its founding in 2012 as a County in the State of North Carolina; and

Whereas, the people of New Bern, Craven County and Eastern North Carolina are joined together by family, friendship and history; and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group seek to honor all of the people with a connection to the area from the early times to the present including:
 the Native Americans (Slave and Free),
 the Early Settlers (English, French Huguenots, Scots and Irish),
 the 1710 German Palatines and Swiss Settlers,
 the Later Settlers (Jewish, Lebanese and other Nationalities),
 the Native Africans and the African Americans (Slave and Free),
 the Recent Settlers (Latin Americans, Asian Americans and other Nationalities);
 and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group seek to commemorate the 300th Anniversaries of the founding of both New Bern & Craven County aforementioned; and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group seeks to honor, remember and celebrate all of the people with a connection to the area with a monument to be placed in Downtown New Bern; and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group agrees to conduct a campaign to raise the necessary funds so that a gift of the monument can be presented to the people of New Bern, Craven County and Eastern North Carolina; and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group anticipates that funds will be raised for the monument so that a dedication may occur before or during 2012; and

Whereas, *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group agrees to adhere to all City of New Bern, County of Craven and State of North Carolina procedures and regulations concerning the monument; and

Whereas, the County of Craven and the Board of Commissioners endorse *The Families of New Bern & Craven County* group in their endeavor to realize a monument to honor, remember and celebrate all of the people of New Bern and Craven County from the early times to the present; and

Now, Therefore, be it further resolved, by virtue of this Resolution before all those present that the County of Craven and the Board of Commissioners approve the foregoing items.

Adopted this 3rd day of May 2010 at New Bern, Craven County, North Carolina.

Jesse Garman, 913 Hearthsides Ct., Fairfield Harbor

Mr. Garman addressed the Board concerning the mill rate (tax rate) for property taxes and inquired if the Board is planning to lower the tax rate to a revenue neutral level.

Ralph Potter, 204 McCoy Ave., Cove City

Mr. Potter spoke about earlier plans to construct an interstate highway to Morehead. He is seeking a resolution to support continued research and action to promote this concept. Commissioner Tyson encouraged Mr. Potter to attend Hwy 70 Corridor Committee meetings. Mr. Blizzard was asked to include him on a notification list.

Nancy Masters-Pils, 224 E. Palmer Drive, Carolina Pines

Ms. Masters-Pils spoke to the Board concerning the County's Animal Control Ordinance. She expressed complaints against the 2008 Dangerous Dog Ordinance, and stated that dog owners would like a meeting with the Board, based on itemized complaints and a list of wants, as detailed in the packets presented to the Board.

Charlie Simmons, 2218 Tuscarora Rhems Road

Mr. Simmons spoke to the Board about taxes and road construction. He commented that the tax assessment statement only shows current value, but not the previous value and percentage of increase. He asked that the Board please take into consideration adding this information on valuation notices. He inquired if the headquarters of the Sheriff is at 1100 Clarks Road and stated that people in the community do not want it there and need guarantees in writing that the property won't be taken or the City won't extend.

Will Taylor

Mr. Taylor addressed the Board stating that he sells life insurance for a living, which requires a license. He objected to the fact that Tax Department employees have a certification, not a license.

CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUDGET REQUEST

Craven Community College President, Dr. Catherine Chew, presented the proposed FY 2010-2011 budget and the funding request for the College to the County. Commissioner McCabe stated that he would like for the Commissioners to visit Craven Community College and observe the needs firsthand. Staff was directed to make the arrangements.

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET REQUEST

Superintendent of Schools, Larry Moser, presented the proposed Board of Education budget for FY 2010-2011 and the schools' funding request to the County. He reported the highest test scores since the implementation of the ABC program. He announced that he did not fill 40 teacher positions and other specialty and administrative positions were eliminated by attrition.

He stated that the same operating budget is being submitted as the current operating budget, which does not include the state's percentage. An increase in teacher supplements is not included in the request. The Board was advised that the supply and travel expense line items reflect decreases; however, Mr. Moser asked if consideration could be given to increasing these areas in the event adequate funding becomes available. The requested capital budget reflects an increase of \$874,000. Priority capital projects include replacement of roof shingles at Gurganus School.

At 8:20 p.m. the Board was declared in recess.

At 8:35 the Board reconvened in regular session.

TEEN COURT PRESENTATION

Brenda Harris, Coordinator, and the Assistant Coordinator of the Mediation Center provided a review of Teen Court activities throughout the last year, and introduced participants, Tyree Lindsay and Mat Case, youth attorneys, who shared their perceptions of the program.

Ms. Harris thanked Craven County for their confidence in Teen Court. She stated there is a 55% juvenile re-offense rate in North Carolina, but only 6.2% recidivism for Craven County, among juvenile offenders. She stated that Teen Court was intended to serve 85 youth, but has served 125 juvenile offenders.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN UPDATE

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, presented an update to the County’s Emergency Services Plan for review at the Board’s last meeting. The Board was requested to adopt the updated plan. Commissioner Allen moved to adopt the plan update and to authorize the Chairman’s signature, seconded by Commissioner Jones and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Zoning Board of Adjustment

At the last meeting, the Board deferred the appointment of an alternate to replace Alvin West, who was appointed as a full member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, indicated that an appointee from Twp. 6 or 7 would be desirable. Lee Burton, 100 Cona Ct., New Bern, was nominated by Commissioner McCabe. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Burton was appointed by acclamation. Mr. Baumgardner stated that Davis Sugg, who was appointed as a full member to replace Bruce Johnson, lives just outside the zoned area, and is not eligible to serve. He stated that he will supply a list of eligible residents within the zoned area for the Board to consider in making an appointment.

Carolina East Health Systems

The Board deferred a request at its last meeting for reappointment of Norman Kellum and Charles Wethington and appointment of Mark Wertman to the Chief-of-Staff position on the Board. Commissioner Sampson nominated the recommended names. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Kellum, Mr. Wethington and Mr. Wertman were reappointed by acclamation.

Craven Community College

The Board was advised that the term of Bill Nauman was due to expire, and the Community College requested that he be considered for reappointment. Commissioner Allen nominated Mr. Nauman for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Nauman was reappointed by acclamation.

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

The Board was advised that the terms of Tom Taylor, representing the private sector, and Kimsey Welch, representing vocational rehabilitation, were due to expire. Commissioner Sampson nominated Mr. Taylor and Mr. Welch for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, both were reappointed by acclamation.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

St. Luke’s Building

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, presented the Board an overview of preliminary plans and cost estimates to renovate the St. Luke’s building, which is being proposed to house some state agencies as required by the state, as well as a former state program the County will assume beginning July 1.

Annual Rental Space for the Agencies is Projected as:

- Child Support \$ 62,140
 - Adult Intensive Probation \$ 57,647
 - Adult/Juvenile Prob. & Guardian Ad Litem \$ 24,829
- \$144,616/year

Cost of Proposed Renovations:

- Proposed Renovations \$300,000 (approximately)
- Phase I – Child Support \$ 96,500
- Phase II – Probation and \$202,500 (largely HVAC)

Guardian Ad Litem

Mr. Blizzard estimated approximately \$90,000 annual operating expense, with approximately \$50,000 annual savings by renovating the St. Luke’s Building to house all three programs, as opposed to renting space. The renovation costs were projected to be at a break-even point in approximately five years. In addition, there may be an opportunity to sell the Board Street building, which currently houses Adult/Juvenile Probation and the Guardian Ad Litem agencies. Commissioner Jones moved to adopt a budget amendment, as follows, to begin the renovation, as proposed. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

Court Facilities

354-0000-366-01-00	\$300,000.00	354-1310-410-75-01	\$5,000.00
From General Fund		Architect	
		354-1310-410-76-01	\$295,000.00
		Construction	

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

101-0560-410-96-20	\$100,000.00	101-0567-410-97-64	\$300,000.00
LEC Contingency		Transfer to St. Luke’s Bldg.	
101-1201-400-23-0	\$120,000.00		
Public Bldg utilities			
101-1205-400-73-02	\$ 31,000.00		
Public Bldg other improvements			
101-1301-400-23-0	\$ 40,000.00		
Court facility utilities			
101-1301-400-73-02	\$ 9,000.00		
Court facility other improvements			

JOURNAL ENTRY

101-0567-410-97-64	\$300,000.00	101-0000-101-00-00	\$300,000.00
Transfer to St. Luke’s Bldg.		Cash	
354-0000-101-00-00	\$300,000.00	354-0000-366-01-00	\$300,000.00
Cash		From General Fund	
TOTAL	\$1,200,000.00	TOTAL	\$1,200,000.00

Justification: Renovate St. Luke’s building to house intensive probation agency and child support enforcement program.

Education Capital Projects

Mr. Blizzard presented ideas for discussion concerning potential financing opportunities for capital projects proposed by both the Board of Education and the Community College. Qualified school construction bonds from stimulus funds in the amount of \$2,196,300 allocated to Craven were turned down the previous year; however, BB&T is now interested in purchasing the bonds. The bonds are taxable and the County would be able to apply for reimbursement of interest from the federal government. Mr. Blizzard asked the Board to conceptually approve the bond issue for schools projects, which have a June 15 deadline. The deadline for Community College projects is later. Commissioner Jones stated that there should be caution in putting school facilities before school personnel during this period of lean funding, considering an anticipated reduction in state funding in support of schools’ operations. Commissioner Tyson inquired about the County’s current borrowing capacity. Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, responded that the County is near it’s debt service load capacity, which is a different situation. Commissioner Sampson moved to go ahead and pursue this opportunity with the Board of Education and ask them to present a proposal for projects if they are interested in

moving ahead. There was a second by Commissioners Sisk, and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Allen reported on the retirement celebration of Dr. Chenowith and the Board's resolution of recognition, which he presented.

Commissioner Tyson commented that the Board faces a large challenge on the next budget.

Commissioner Jones commented that he attended and spoke at a banquet for Craven County "A Team" seniors.

Commissioner Sisk commended Trent Woods on their May 2 open house.

Commissioner McCabe recognized Mr. and Mrs. Norris from his district in attendance at the meeting. He encouraged other constituents to attend.

Commissioner Sampson commented on rising gas prices. He stated that DUFFEST, which was held on May 1, was very successful and he thanked the CDBG Director for the hard work on getting the grant for James City.

Commissioner Morris reported on a successful Relay for Life, Swiss Bear anniversary celebration and Strawberry Festival weekend. He reminded citizens that Wednesday, May 5 is the deadline for revaluation appeals.

The Board recognized reporter Sue Book on her last night of covering the County for the Sun Journal.

At 9:40 p.m. Commissioner McCabe moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Chairman Perry Morris
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board