

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, FEBRUARY 7, 2011. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Steve Tyson
Vice Chairman Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Scott C. Dacey
Commissioner Thomas F. Mark
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner Jefferey S. Taylor

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
Jack B. Veit, III., Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Director
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Jim Hicks, County Attorney
Aaron Arnett, County Attorney Associate

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve minutes of the January 18, 2011 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Tyker Gonzalez, 125 Turkey Quarter Creek Rd., yielded her time to Jason Jones, 1745 Asbury Road, representing the agricultural community. He was appreciative of corrections to appraisal errors, but expressed frustration with the manner in which the Tax Department has handled the agricultural properties. He stated that the purpose of the present use value program is to preserve farmland, and quoted figures that highlighted the impact of agriculture to the state's economy. He asked that utilization of the present use value program be encouraged among potentially eligible property owners.

Anthony Bonnici requested to appear before the Board but cancelled.

Frank Kerr requested to appear before the Board but was a no show.

Charlie Simmons, 2218 Tuscarora Rhems Road, arrived later during the meeting and was permitted to address the Board. He stated that the Judicial Center has signage that says "Sheriff", "District Court" and "Magistrate", showing intent for all of those facilities to be located there. He feels that homes, land, and the community are at stake for becoming non-existent and thinks that citizens have been ignored. He stated that the majority of people in the area do not want Magistrates there and feel that if Magistrates go out there everything else will follow and property will become commercialized. Commissioner Taylor stated that he will visit Mr. Simmons with Ronnie Antry in the near future to take another look and discuss valuations in the area.

Stuart Smith, 629 Alexis Drive, appeared before the Board to discuss a neighborhood situation in which a family has 4-5 hunting dogs penned up, and cleaning of the pen is neglected. The resulting stench affects 7-8 families. Former Animal Shelter Director, Katherine Smith, visited the property, but said that the only remedy she could provide is within the rabies ordinance. Mr. Smith requested that something be put on the books to address this kind of problem. Commissioner McCabe stated that he would like to speak with the owner. Commissioner Tyson offered to provide the contact information. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, stated that the County does not have a nuisance ordinance that could be applied to this case.

Kim Talbot, briefed the Board on the programs and activities of Wellness City, a subsidiary of Recovery Innovations. She stated that Wellness City may be one of the programs that would feel the impact of budget cuts by the State. She would like to see what partnerships can be forged with community health services and the justice system that will strengthen the program for the upcoming year. She asked that funding continue on some level. She called upon Walter Schiebers who was a client and now works for the program to share his thoughts. She is considering grant sources and the use of volunteers. Commissioner Sampson stated it is a worthwhile effort working to help people help themselves, which can help avoid increases in the jail population. The agency does not receive a direct allocation from the County, but likely benefits from funds allocated to East Carolina Behavioral Health. ECBH receives \$3.12 per person based on the County's population.

Commissioner Taylor thanked those who appeared as petitioners and made the following comments. He stated that 1829 parcels are in Craven County's Use Value Program, amounting to a total value of \$207.3 million. He stated that only 13 of 24 hog farms identified are still in business, with one not eligible for the program, 10 that have filed for use value, and two with owners in Kinston and Clinton who have not responded to attempts to contact them.

Commissioner Taylor moved to extend the filing period for use value from January 31, 2011 to February 28, 2011, seconded by Commissioner Sampson. During discussion, Commissioner Allen inquired about the statutory authority for granting an extension. Mr. Antry explained that a provision exists in GS105-307(b)(1) which allows the County Commissioners to extend the listing period for 30 days. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, further explained that the provision is broad and will extend the period for all listings. Those which were late as of February 1 will no longer be considered late. Commissioner Dacey offered an amendment to the motion to substitute the word "listing" for the word "filing" to be consistent with the language of the statute, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. The amended motion by Commissioner Taylor carried unanimously.

NC EASTERN REGION BRIEFING

Mark Griffin, who was recently appointed as Craven County's representative on North Carolina's Eastern Region, provided an update. He reported on two main issues of concern from his perspective:

1. discussion of development of a central airport to be the primary jetport to the region, which he opposes; and
2. hiring of a lobbyist, which he opposes.

MILITARY GROWTH TASK FORCE BRIEFING

Mark Sutherland, Executive Director of the Military Growth Task Force (MGTF), provided an update to the Commissioners, stating that the MGTF will not seek additional funding from the County in the upcoming budget, and probably will not ask in the next year. The MGTF is still utilizing the \$32,000 allocated in 2007 and 2008. He reported that the region has absorbed a population increase of 55,605, approximately the size of Greenville's population, as a result of BRAC 2005 and the "Grow the Force" decision. There has been a 20% growth in military payroll regionally and 17% at MCAS, Cherry Point. The MGTF is set to go out of business midnight 12/31/13. At that time, any continuing activity in support of the counties will be taken on by Planning East, the regional planning partnership that is set to kick off on February 23 and 24.

The MGTF has secured funds to help the region with the preservation of agricultural lands, including agricultural land planning through the Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District program and a bio fuels project. Preservation of farmlands by adding value (bio diesel) is one goal.

CARTS REQUEST TO SET PUBLIC HEARING

CARTS Director, Phyllis Toler, requested that the Board set a public hearing for the March 7 meeting at 7:00 p.m., as required for the FY 2012 CTP Grant package. Commissioner Allen moved to set a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. March 7, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

TWP. 7 FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Travis Blaylock, Mike Rice and Ed Bader of the Township 7 Fire Department appeared before the Commissioners concerning the Department’s plans to purchase a ladder truck, as required by the contract with the County. The Department has studied their financial situation and determined this purchase would not necessitate an increase in the current fire tax rate for the next funding period. The new truck with a 75 foot ladder, will replace a 21 year old truck, which only has a 35 foot ladder. The tentative plan is to use the old vehicle as a reserve engine, which will improve the Department of Insurance rating, even after removing some of its equipment.

At 8:15 p.m. the Board went into recess.

At 8:25 p.m. the Board convened in regular session.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATION

Information Technology Director, Dennis Holton, provided an overview of his department, which detailed the operation relative to personnel, equipment, facilities and infrastructure. Commissioner Taylor expressed his appreciation for the support given by the IT Department with all the technology requests made by the Board.

TAX DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, presented the following routine requests for 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
BANKS, ALEEZE ARTHUR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0002458	\$169.81
BANKS, ALEEZE ARTHUR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0090198	\$1,098.25
BRANTON, JIMMY L & SHIRLEY CORRECTED APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0095632	\$12.54
COOKE, RANDY C & SHANNON L DOUBLE BILLED-ACCT 59258	2010-0098166	\$112.68
DAVIS, JOHN DOUBLE BILLED SEE ACCT 85130	2010-0012964	\$103.03
DIXON, JESSE JR & ELDINE G DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0014135	\$98.77
FIKE, ISAAH LEMONT MIL-1/2 VAL LES 10 ECC-6/19/12 IN	2010-0016976	\$113.97

FINLAYSON CONSULTING LLC APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0017072	\$103.56
FULCHER, GREGORY & STACEY APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2011-0090014	\$44.75
GEORGE, ANGANESE MICHELLE CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0019564	\$69.06
HALL, JOHN V DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0021748	\$62.52
ISLAND CREEK LAND COMPANY LLC APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0097557	\$625.67
J & H RENTALS INC APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0097109	\$1.89
JACKSON, ROSEZELLA FULMORE HOME NOT LIVABLE	2010-0026580	\$36.00
JENKINS GROUP LLC-THE STATE ACCEPTED ROADS 12/10/09	2010-0026865	\$28.72
LEWIS, JOE M APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0030931	\$6.43
LINKS AT PLANTATION HARBOR LLC CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0098064	\$4,807.58
MACK, PETER JR DOUBLE LISTED SEE-ACCT 69094	2010-0032365	\$1,196.68
MENDOLLA, TONY DOUBLE BILLED-SEE ACCT 66670	2010-0034935	\$14.03
MILLER, HENRY W JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0035370	\$106.34
MOORE, JOYCE W APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0093607	\$148.05
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN OUT OF BUSINESS	2010-0037441	\$6.68
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN OUT OF BUSINESS 1/1/2009	2009-0090708	\$9.34
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN OUT OF BUSINESS 1/1/2008	2008-0090722	\$10.06
MUSE, GREGORY DEAN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0037443	\$562.61
PARKER BUILDERS INC-AMOS APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0098227	\$183.78
PRIETO, DAVID CARBALLO & BLANC APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0093798	\$92.99

SALTER, ANITA L SELLARS APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0095253	\$1.92
SPRINGSTON, JAMES N & CYNTHIA DID NOT OWN 1-1-2010	2010-0090113	\$6.49
T & H PROPERTIES OF NEW BERN L APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0050034	\$1,521.04
TRADER, EDWARD D DWELLING UNOCCUPIED SINCE 2008	2010-0051778	\$36.99
TRIPP, JOYCE R & MOORE, CRYSTA CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0094131	\$29.53
WARD, LINDA DIXON MOBILE HOMES LISTED AS REAL PROPERTY	2010-0053859	\$165.82
WARD, STEPHEN T & NINA HIGGINS APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0053909	\$31.50
WETHERINGTON, GLORIA WIGGINS APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2011-0090031	\$6.77
WETHERINGTON, GEROGE E & TINA S APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0054956	\$68.00
36 – CREDIT MEMO (S)		\$11,693.85

Refunds

BRADLEY, THOMAS P JR & DEBORAH APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0005515	\$33.53
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0096978	\$63.92
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0096980	\$41.60
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0096979	\$44.64
CRARY, HAYES G JR & OLGA M APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0092663	\$14.97
CRAWFORD, WILLIAM HUNTER APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0011720	\$27.08
CUSHMAN, AUDREY SWIFT DOUBLE BILLED-SEE ACCT 78782	2010-0012274	\$41.93
DANIELS, JIMMIE E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0012567	\$39.24
DOUGHTY, JOHN M & JANET H CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0090582	\$180.83
GASKINS, GARY A & SHIRLEY H DWELLINGS VACANT SINCE 2009	2010-0019141	\$72.00

GEDULIG, ROBERT APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0019493	\$49.80
GODETTE, LILA F APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0020118	\$7.35
GOFAS, JUDITH APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0020220	\$18.51
GORMLEY, JOSEPH V & KATHLEEN E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0020454	\$131.43
GUDAITIS, JOHN P & JENNIFER L CORRECTED APPRAISAL ERROR	2010-0098044	\$455.67
HARDY, WINNIE EDWARDS MOBILE HOME MOVED TO REAL	2010-0022257	\$164.12
HCH BUILDERS LLC APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0023499	\$41.64
HOLLAND, CLIFTON & VIRGINIA BARN REMOVED FROM PARCEL	2010-0096069	\$13.54
HOLLOWS, WILLIAM H & NANCY S APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0096072	\$88.41
HOLLOWS, WILLIAM H & NANCY S APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0096074	\$65.43
IPOCK, MARY ELIZABETH I APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0093238	\$22.30
JONES, CATHY HOLLAND APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0027596	\$125.75
JONES, IRIS MARIE SMITH APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0027734	\$998.24
JONES, IRIS MARIE SMITH APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0027735	\$625.99
JONES, WARREN CARSON APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0097123	\$127.29
LRH DEVELOPMENT LLC APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0031847	\$7.55
MOELLER, PHILLIP L & LISA A INCORRECT BILLING/SB 6H NOT 8N	2010-0035962	\$142.31
NEWTON, JESSE EARL & LINDA LEE ORDERED BY BOARD OF E & R ON 12-14-2010	2010-0038266	\$113.06
NOTO, JOHN A & HEATHER B APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0098075	\$535.49
SCOTT, DEWEY & LANA SUE SANDER APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0093926	\$239.66
SKINNER, JEFFERY B APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0047155	\$8.55

SMITH, CHRISTY DOUBLE BILLED-SEE ACCT 80787	2010-0090086	\$116.04
SMITH, JAMES R & DENISE L APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0047535	\$53.96
SMITH, PHILIP LONDAY III & PEG APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0047744	\$6.75
STALLINGS, DANIEL L & BARBARA APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0090993	\$1,342.39
THOMAS, LEE ROY JR APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0098098	\$695.68
WARJAS, MICHAEL B APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2010-0098107	\$43.65
WELLER, DONNA GASKINS MOBILE HOME MOVED TO PID 1 028 3002	2010-0054520	\$428.21
WILSON, TROY E DOUBLE LISTED	2009-0091400	\$8.51
WILSON, TROY E DOUBLE LISTED	2010-0057138	\$5.72
	40 REFUND (S)	\$7,242.74

Report of Unpaid 2010 Taxes

Mr. Antry presented to the Board the amount of \$2,517,934.73 2010 taxes that remain unpaid, which are a lien upon real estate.

The statute required the Board to order the Tax Collector to advertise in a newspaper of general circulation in the County the tax liens for 2010. Commissioner McCabe moved to order the Tax Collector to advertise the 2010 liens in The Sun Journal on April 11, 2011, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Mr. Antry reported that at this time last year, for 2009 \$1.7 million unpaid taxes was outstanding, which was the largest balance it has been, but the levy is also higher each year. The collection rate to date is 93.72%. Last year at the same time is was 94.91%. Mr. Antry clarified for the Board that the County’s tax year goes from July 1, to June 30. This is approximately the middle of the tax year. The Tax Department has not yet mailed delinquent notices, but will do so by the coming week, which gives taxpayers until the end of February to pay before collection remedies are applied. Penalties still apply (2% for the 1st month after January 1 and ¾ of a percent each month thereafter. Commissioner Taylor expressed appreciation for the responsiveness of the Tax Department in resolving claims.

RECYCLING AGREEMENT AND CONVENIENCE CENTERS HAULING AGREEMENT

Solid Waste Director, Rusy Cotton, reported that the County’s Recycling Franchise Agreement and Convenience Centers Hauling Agreement will expire June 30, 2011. Republic Services/GDS is currently under contract for these two services which originated July 5, 2005. Craven County has the option to renew the term for an additional five (5) year period and negotiate future terms and conditions of the agreement. The Craven County Solid Waste Department has been very pleased with the level of service Republic Services/GDS has provided Craven County residents during the past six years.

Under the current Agreement, effective July 1 of each Fiscal Year the compensation rate payable to GDS is adjusted to reflect the amount of increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), All Urban Consumers, South Region, All Items as measured by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Craven County residents are currently charged \$36.00 per year for the recycling service which is placed on their yearly tax notice. Under the Recycling Franchise Agreement, Craven County compensates Republic Services/GDS \$35.89 for this service.

Under the Convenience Centers Hauling Agreement, Craven County compensates Republic Services/GDS \$122.86 per roll – off container hauled from each Convenience Center.

Mr. Cotton reported that other Recycle/Waste Management companies have indicated a favorable climate for reducing costs by bidding this process out and that Republic Services/GDS has verbally agreed to forgo any CPI adjustments for FY 2011/2012 if the contract is renewed. By forgoing a CPI adjustment next FY Craven County could potentially save a large amount of revenue over the life time of a five year renewal.

Commissioner Mark recommended putting the contract out to bid with a provision that any future service must equal the level of current service. Assistant County Manager, Jack Veit, stated that the County has had the recycling contract with GDS since 2001 and the convenience center contract since 1996, with the company operating under a different name. Commissioner Sampson stated that he has been satisfied with GDS service. A new contractor will require a learning curve. Commissioner Dacey inquired if other contractors have indicated an interest in bidding. Mr. Veit responded that there are several, possibly four, who are interested in providing service to surrounding counties as well. Commissioner Mark moved that the contract be put out for bid, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and carried with six (6) “Ayes”, there being one (1) “Nay” from Commissioner Sampson.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Subdivisions for Approval

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, presented the following subdivisions for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Lot 3 Purnell Division – Final: The property, owned by Patricia & Vaughn Purnell and surveyed by Atlantic Survey & Design, P.A., is located within Twp. 2 off of Saints Delight Church Rd. (SR 1615), parcel ID 2-033-051. The subdivision contains one lot on 1.839 acres and is proposed to be served by an individual septic system and community water.

Ethan M. Pitts Subdivision – Final: The property, owned by Lottie Warren and surveyed by Atlantic Surveying, P.A., is located within Twp. 3 off of Daugherty Rd. (SR 1272), parcel ID 3-056-015. The subdivision contains one lot on 2.69 acres and is proposed to be served by an individual septic system and community water.

Road Addition Resolutions

Petitions for the following roads to be turned over to the State of North Carolina for maintenance were presented. Commissioner McCabe moved for adoption of the Road Addition Resolutions, seconded by Commissioner Dacey and unanimously carried.

- Wadkins Boulevard, Mickelson Drive in the Oak Creek Estates at Carolina Pines in Township 6
- Duval Lane, Didrikson Drive in the River Edge Estates at Carolina Pines In Township 6
- Joyner Drive in the Waterways Edge subdivision in Township 5

FY08 CDBG-CR Program Contract Award Recommendations

New Construction to Replace Two Deteriorated Homes:

A bid opening for the construction of two (2) replacement homes (733 sq ft, 2 Br, 1 Bath) was held on January 18, 2011. Sealed bids were received from eight (8) contractors: United Builders; Neil Weeks; Ben Hager; B&B Construction; Bruin Builders; Williams Services; HCR, Inc.; and Clint Blanton, as follows:

Occupant	Address	Actual Bid	Contractor
New Construction/Maria Williams	310 John St., New Bern	\$66,800	United Builders
		\$79,320	Neil Weeks
		\$66,589	Ben Hager
		\$87,850	B&B Const.
		\$70,000	Bruin Builders
		NA	Robert Malone
		\$74,800	Williams Services
		\$135,900	HCR Inc.
		\$66,250	Clint Blanton
New Const/Georgia Foye	307 Kennedy Dr., New Bern	\$66,800	United Builders
		\$79,320	Neil Weeks
		\$66,589	Ben Hager
		\$87,850	B&B Const.
		\$70,000	Bruin Const.
		NA	Robert Malone
		\$74,800	Williams Serv.
		\$136,900	HCR Inc.
		\$66,250	Clint Blanton

A contract award recommendation for the contractor submitting the lowest responsible bid was presented by Mr. Baumgardner.

Unit #6: 310 John Street Clint Blanton \$66,250 (Low Bid)
Unit #9: 307 Kennedy Drive Clint Blanton \$66,250 (Low Bid)

Commissioner Dacey inquired what the restrictions are with this type of funding. Mr. Baumgardner responded that funding can be used for anything that can be done to bring the community up to standard (homes, streets, etc). There is no flexibility for it to be used to subsidize loan repayment. Commissioner Dacey stated that he would like to work with Mr. Baumgardner to find other ways to use these kinds of funds, other than constructing homes for individuals. Commissioner McCabe moved to award the contract to Clint Blanton Construction for \$66,250, as recommended for both units, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Rehabilitation (Rebid):

A rebid for the rehabilitation of one (1) existing frame-built home was held on January 18, 2011. Sealed bids were received from three (3) contractors: United Builders, Neil Weeks, and Clint Blanton, as follows:

REHABILITATION

OCCUPANT	ADDRESS	ACTUAL BID	CONTRACTOR
Elvin Heidelberg	304 Kennedy Dr. New Bern	\$42,368	United Builders
		\$42,420	Neil Weeks
		\$56,655	Clint Blanton

A contract award recommendation for the contractor submitting the lowest responsible bid was presented as follows:

- Unit #12: 304 Kennedy Drive **United Builders \$42,368 (Low Bid)**

Commissioner Sampson moved to award the contract to United Builders in the amount of \$42,368, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

DEMOLATION AND LOT CLEARING

A bid opening for the clearance of six (6) lots containing debris and/or structures in the CDBG target area was held on January 11, 2011. Sealed bids were received from nine (9) contractors: Everette George; Roger Russell; Hassell Construction; Coastal Dragline; Williams Service Company; Armstrong, Inc.; T.G. Garner; Ray Langley; and United Builders, as follows:

<u>OWNER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ACTUAL LUMP SUM BID</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR</u>
Shirlene Foye	302 John Street	\$19,100	Roger Russell
Thomas Howard	304 John Street	\$11,500	Hassell Const.
Maria Williams	310 John Street	\$20,200	Coastal Dragline
Cora Foye	312 John Street	\$25,980	Williams Service
Georgia Foye	307 Kennedy Drive	\$18,800	Everette George
Valerie Brown	306 Kennedy Dr.	\$21,800	Armstrong, Inc.
		\$12,500	T.G. Garner
		\$20,000	Ray Langley
		\$65,000	United Builders, LLC

A contract award recommendation for the contractor submitting the lowest responsible lump sum bid was as follows:

Units

- 302 John Street
- 304 John Street
- 310 John Street **Hassell Construction \$11,500 (Low Lump Sum Bid)**
- 312 John Street
- 307 Kennedy Drive
- 306 Kennedy Drive

Commissioner Allen moved to award the contract to Hassell Construction in the amount of \$11,500, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Asbestos Abatement:

A bid opening for the removal of asbestos present within two (2) housing units was held on January 11, 2011. Sealed bids were received by four (4) contractors: Environmental Assessment East, EME Industrial Services, Eastern Environmental, and Davis Company, as follows:

ASBESTOS

<u>OCCUPANT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ACTUAL LUMP SUM BID</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR</u>
Vacant	302 John St. New Bern	\$3,000	Enviro Assess East
Georgia Foye	307 Kennedy Dr. New Bern	\$3,438	EME Industrial Serv.
		\$3,325	Eastern Environmental
		\$4,152	David Company

A contract award recommendation for the contractor submitting the lowest responsible lump sum bid is as follows:

Units

- 302 John Street
- 307 Kennedy Drive **Environmental Assessment East \$3,000 (Low Lump Sum Bid)**

Commissioner Allen moved to award the contract to Environmental Assessment East in the amount of \$3,000, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried

FINANCE MATTERS

Audit Contract

Finance Director, Rick Hemphill presented an arrangement letter and contract from McGladrey & Pullen to conduct the County’s audit for fiscal years 2011 through 2013. The proposed amount was \$71,000 per year for three years, the same amount paid for the past fiscal year audit. Commissioner Dacy inquired about the merits to seeking alternative vendors. Mr. Hemphill responded that possibly a lower price could be found; however, he stated that regionally there are only a couple of accounting firms that would be capable of handling Craven County’s audit. He stated that it is very technical, and there are very few firms that would inspire his confidence. One in the western part of the state does a significant amount of work in the region, but it all occurs at the same time of year, creating a large workload. Commissioner Dacey posed the possibility that the amount of money saved would be outweighed by an additional burden on staff, and he inquired how long it would take to bid the contract. Mr. Hemphill responded that it would take approximately six weeks to get bids out and get back. Commissioner Allen moved to accept McGladrey & Pullen’s proposal, seconded by Commissioner McCabe, but the motion failed, there being three (3) “Ayes”, and four (4) “Nays” from Commissioners Tyson, Dacey, Taylor and Mark. Commissioner Dacey moved to solicit additional bids, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and carried with four (4) “Ayes”, there being three (3) “Nays” from Commissioners McCabe, Sampson and Allen.

Budget Amendment

County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendment for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Allen moved for its approval, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health/Home Health & Hospice

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-6500-371-01-00	\$100,630.00	101-6500-440-12-00	\$ 6,084.00
		Unemployment	
		101-6500-440-40-20	\$73,186.00
		Therapists	
		101-6502-440-40-20	\$ 2,000.00
		Therapists	
		101-6500-440-40-50	\$19,360.00
		Contract Employees	
TOTAL	\$100,630.00	TOTAL	\$100,630.00

Justification: Based on the high volume of patients and visits, Medicare revenue for six months is \$759,071 with a budgeted amount of only \$990,000. (Estimated year end Medicare revenue will be over 1.5 million). The increase in revenue has also increased expenditures. Request increase in funds to cover Therapists and Contract Employees in Home Health & Hospice so that services can continue and \$6,084 will cover current shortage in Unemployment for the year ending 7/31/10.

APPOINTMENTS

Health Board

The Board considered the deferred appointment of a veterinarian to the Health Board. Commissioner Allen nominated Si Seymour, as a Veterinarian has not been found to serve, and the Health Board rules allow appointment of a member at large until a Veterinarian willing to serve can be identified. There were no additional nominees and Mr. Seymour was appointed by acclamation.

Nursing Home Advisory Committee

The Board considered an appointment to the Nursing Home Advisory Committee to replace Kathleen Sbarra. Commissioner Dacey nominated Terry Sharp. There being no additional nominees, Ms. Sbarra was appointed by acclamation.

Farmers' Market Board

The Board considered the expiring term of Larry Ipock. The Farmers' Market Board recommended him for reappointment. Commissioner Mark nominated Mr. Ipock for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Ipock was appointed by acclamation.

Craven Aging Planning Board

The Board considered a request for two appointments to the Craven Aging Planning Board. Commissioner Dacey nominated B.J. Ipock. There being no additional nominees, Ms. Ipock was appointed by acclamation. The second vacancy will need to be placed on the Board's next agenda.

Fire Tax Commission

The Board considered the following expiring terms on the Fire Tax Commission: Benjamin Broadway, Kenneth Dunn, Archie White (Tri-Community); Clarence Edwards, Larry Paul (Twp. 6); Luther Gaskins, William Stilley, Joseph Wetherington (Swift Creek); Reuben Hart, Alton Riggs (Twp. 7); James Jackson, Milton McCoy (Twp. 9); Grover Lancaster, Curtis Morris (Twp. 1); Mike Lucas, Steve Redd (West New Bern); Casessell Martin, Roy McCabe (Twp. 5); William Matthews, James Smith (Twp. 3); Bobby McLawhorn, Clarence Simpson (Rhems).

Commissioner Mark nominated Kenneth Dunn for reappointment and Walter Kerner and Wilfred "Chip" Chagnon for appointments representing Tri-Community. There being no additional nominees, all were appointed by acclamation. Commissioner McCabe nominated Casessell Martin and Roy McCabe for reappointment representing Twp. 5. There being no additional nominees, both were appointed by acclamation. Commissioner McCabe nominated all other members of the Fire Tax Commission to remain in place pending confirmation of their willingness to be reappointed.

Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees

The Board considered the following expiring terms on the Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees: George Brown, Raymond White (Twp. 9); Joey Haddock, Jack Parker (West New Bern); James Johnson, Ralph Roeland (Twp. 6); Theron McCabe (Harlowe); John McCollum, Richard Peterson (Tri-Community); Johnny Midgette (Twp. 1); Harvey Phillips, Graham Williams (Twp. 7); Warren Richardson, Douglas Whitford (Swift Creek); Clarence Simpson (Rhems); Arthur Thompson (Ft. Barnwell); Duward White (Dover).

Commissioner Dacey nominated Joey Haddock for reappointment and Billy Joyner for appointment representing West of New Bern. There were no additional nominees and both were appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Dacey nominated Theron McCabe for reappointment representing Harlowe. There were no additional nominees and Commissioner McCabe was appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Allen nominated George Brown and Raymond White for reappointment representing Twp. 9. There being no additional nominees, both were appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Allen nominated all others for reappointment pending confirmation of their willingness to continue serving.

Economic Development Commission

The expiring term of Catherine Chew, representing Craven Community College was considered. Commissioner Allen nominated Dr. Chew for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, Dr. Chew was appointed by acclamation.

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Craven County was requested to appoint a Commissioner to serve on this Board, to replace Renée Sisk, who served previously. Commissioner Taylor nominated Commissioner Scott Dacey. There being no additional nominees, Commissioner Dacey was appointed by acclamation.

Military Growth Task Force

The Military Growth Task Force asked that the Commissioners designate which one of Craven County's appointees should serve on the Executive Committee. Commissioner Dacey nominated Danny Walsh. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Walsh was appointed by acclamation.

New Bern Planning Board

The City of New Bern requested that the Board appoint an ETJ member to the City's Planning Board. Commissioner Dacey moved to defer this appointment, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, reported that the County received an offer from Clovis, Inc. in the amount of \$4,434.80 for property located at 1206 Walt Bellamy Drive, New Bern, which is owned jointly with the City of New Bern. The total taxes that were foreclosed on for this property, both County and City was \$4,434.80. The tax value is \$3,900.

Commissioner Dacey moved to accept the offer, pending the City of New Bern's action, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. If the City of New Bern also accepts this offer, the property will be advertised for upset bids in accordance with the General Statutes. Once no further upset bids are timely received, the County and City may accept or reject the final bid.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STUDY

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, explained that until now, emergency medical services (EMS) have been provided through a combination of hospital service and several separate contracted non-profit and municipal EMS service providers. State requirements for EMS certification have become increasingly demanding, resulting in the reduction of the volunteer base and forcing providers to rely more on paid staff. The cost to the County has grown dramatically in recent years and there are multiple organizational, manpower and funding issues which have become problematic and must be addressed through a comprehensive service delivery plan. He presented a proposal by VFIS Consulting to analyze and make recommendations on EMS in Craven County, which may be useful in the upcoming budget development process, and he indicated that staff recommended the County contract for Phases I and II, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. Commissioner Dacey moved to approve staff's recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner McCabe read parts of a letter from Charlie Simmons regarding the tax valuation increases in his area and asked that it be looked into. He announced that he held a community meeting in his district regarding a recent rash of break-ins, which was attended by all law enforcement agencies that were invited. It was also well attended by

citizens who showed great interest. He is encouraging organization of a community watch program in his district. He thanked the media for their coverage.

Commissioner Sampson commented on the continuing rise in gas and electric prices. He stated that he has received several complaints about Meals on Wheels' delivery of frozen meals in outlying parts of the County. He stated that he would not vote to renew the current contract. He commented on the crime problem that exists in his community.

Commissioner Mark thanked the media for coverage of County news, which helps notify citizens of public listening sessions scheduled in several communities, including Bridgeton, Fairfield Harbour and Ernul. He commented on recent reports of dog maulings, and the need for the Board to consider the issues of non-restrained animals.

Commissioner Taylor announced that BSH is shutting down the laundry factory and asked any companies that are hiring to contact BSH Human Resources Department.

Commissioner Dacey announced that he had held a listening session earlier in the day. He is still hearing from citizens concerned about their tax valuations. He stated that he will continue to educate the public and help them through the process. There was discussion about how the budget is being done. There was also discussion about animal control methods. He indicated that he has also heard complaints about frozen meals being delivered by Meals on Wheels. He has asked the Craven Aging Planning Board to put together a budget that would provide for all routes to be hot routes.

Commissioner Allen reported on the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference.

Chairman Tyson read a letter received from Carteret County regarding a proposed Sea-Level Rise Policy. He stated his intention to respond and that he would like to see Craven County support Carteret County on this issue. Commissioner Dacey requested that the letter in response be put on the website.

Commissioner Sampson announced that the East Carolina Workforce Development Board has met with BSH on options for displaced employees.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board was requested to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) as a matter for attorney-client privilege. At 9:32 p.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. At 10:56 p.m. the Board was declared back in regular session. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, reported that it had come to the attention of the County that there are certain individuals and individuals who had businesses on board MCAS Cherry Point who have, in the past, listed and paid taxes unnecessarily. Conversely there are some businesses and individuals who have not paid that should have.

Identification of affected taxpayers is underway, with the assistance of the Marine Corps. The burden is on the taxpayers to apply for relief for refunds up to five years back.

At 11:01 p.m. Commissioner McCabe moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Chairman Steve Tyson
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board