

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT THE HARLOWE COMMUNITY CENTER, 125 GODETTE SCHOOL ROAD, HAVELOCK, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vice Chairman Scott C. Dacey

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jack B. Veit III., County Manager  
Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager-Operations/Facilities  
Richard F. Hemphill, Assistant County Manager – Finance/Administration  
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board  
Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for any correction to the minutes. There being none, the minutes of March 19, 2012 regular session were accepted as presented.

**CHAIRMAN'S PRIVILEGE**

The Chairman yielded to Commissioner McCabe, whose district was hosting the meeting.

Commissioner McCabe recognized Wilbur Becton, Vice President of the Harlowe Community Center; Helen Godette, Site Manager of the Senior Center; Ed Dozier, Treasurer, former Commissioner Leon Staton and Board of Education member, Joseph Walton, all who were in attendance. He stated that the Community Center Secretary, Natalie Taylor was to have provided a brief history of Harlowe, but she was unable to attend. He also acknowledged the late Albert H. Toon, former Commissioner.

**PETITIONS OF CITIZENS**

*Alura McIlwean, 175 Clubfoot Creek Road*, addressed the Board concerning a leash law. She stated that dogs in the area have slaughtered her family's show goats and other livestock. She proposed that a leash law be established with working dog exceptions for hunters. She will provide copies of documentation of her quest regarding this issue to County Administration.

*Tony Michalek, 106 Sumter Court, Havelock*, commended the Planning Department for their assistance after Hurricane Irene. He stated that he received no help from FEMA because there was no statute in place to recommend that his house be raised following repeated flooding.

He reported on the 911 Memorial in Havelock and stated that bricks are available for the public to purchase at \$75 each as dedication pavers to help Havelock defray the cost.

*Jerry Schill, 6550 NC Hwy West*, representing the Craven-Pamlico Christian Coalition, presented a resolution in support of the NC Marriage Protection Amendment that will be on the ballot for the May primary, and which establishes the definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman. Commissioner Tyson moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. During discussion Commissioner Taylor inquired if this would constitute improper advocacy. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, stated that he has not researched it. In a roll call vote, there were

four (4) “ayes” from Commissioners Allen, Mark, Taylor and Tyson, there being two (2) “nays” from Commissioners McCabe and Sampson.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE  
NC MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT**

Respectfully submitted by Jerry Schill, on behalf of the  
Craven-Pamlico Christian Coalition  
to the Craven County Board of Commissioners

**WHEREAS**, marriage as the union of one man and one woman has served as the foundation of our society since before North Carolina was a state; and

**WHEREAS**, marriage, is not merely a private contract, but a social institution of great public value and concern, benefitting the married couple, their children, our economy, and the State as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, attempts by politicians and a lawsuit to redefine marriage are currently underway in NC which might result in the re-definition of marriage to make it genderless; and

**WHEREAS**, the NC Marriage Protection Amendment simply allows voters to protect our state’s current definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman by putting it into the Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is the only state in the South that has not protected marriage in its constitution, even though every state that has allowed the people to vote, 30 in all, has protected marriage in their state constitutions as the union of one man and one woman; and

**WHEREAS**, The Marriage Protection Amendment reads, *“Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State. This section does not prohibit a private party from entering into contracts with another private party; nor does this section prohibit courts from adjudicating the rights of private parties pursuant to such contracts”*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Craven County BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS encourages the people of Craven County and North Carolina to voice their opinion by exercising their right to vote to protect marriage on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Craven County BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS endorses the Marriage Protection Amendment to the North Carolina Constitution which states that the only domestic legal union that is valid or recognized in North Carolina is marriage between one man and one woman.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Craven County BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS encourages voter participation on this important issue to be voted upon on May 8, 2012.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2012.

*Ray Griffin. 1981 Vanceboro*, spoke to the Board regarding prayer.

**TAX RELEASES AND REFUNDS**

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

*Credits*

<b>TAXPAYER NAME</b>	<b>TICKET#</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
DIESEL DRAUGHT HAUS INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2011	2011-0090474	\$1,555.31

LAWRENCE, JOHN W APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2012-0090029	\$124.29
ROUSE, DOUGLAS CORRECTING INCORRECT VALUE	2007-0047531	\$11.28
ROUSE, DOUGLAS CORRECTING INCORRECT VALUE	2008-0091765	\$10.67
ROUSE, DOUGLAS CORRECTING INCORRECT VALUE	2009-0048738	\$10.19
ROUSE, DOUGLAS CORRECTING INCORRECT VALUE	2010-0044562	\$7.44
ROUSE, DOUGLAS CORRECTING INCORRECT VALUE	2011-0049604	\$7.06
SENNHOLZ, ROBERT MILITARY EXEMPTION	2012-0090038	\$109.61
TURLEY, JAMES MILITARY EXEMPTION	2011-0058146	\$39.01
WEBB, THOMAS APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2011-0091863	\$1,787.04
	10 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$3,661.90

**Refunds**

BRYANT, JOAN S DWELLING UNOCCUPIED – STORAGE ONLY	2009-0091204	\$36.00
BRYANT, JOAN S DWELLING UNOCCUPIED – STORAGE ONLY	2010-0006887	\$36.00
BRYANT, JOAN S DWELLING UNOCCUPIED – STORAGE ONLY	2011-0007621	\$36.00
GASKINS, SARAH TOLER APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2011-0021318	\$164.52
	4 – REFUND (S)	\$272.52

**REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION FOR CREATION OF CRAVEN COUNTY TARTAN**

This item was deferred until the Board’s next meeting.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO SET A CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 08 CDBG –JAMES CITY “ADD-ON”**

The Planning Department requested that the Board set a required closeout public hearing for April 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. to review the budget and activities that have been accomplished through the County’s FY 08 CDBG – James City “Add-on” Program. There being no objection from the Board, the Chairman directed that a public hearing be set for April 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Assistant Planning Director, Chad Strawn, reported on behalf of Chief Inspector, Shelton Toler, that the 2012 residential code was published on March 28, 2012. All permit applications submitted before March 1, 2012 will be reviewed according to the old code.

### APPOINTMENTS

#### *Craven County Clean Sweep Committee*

It was the consensus of the Board that these appointments be deferred.

#### *Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority*

It was the consensus of the Board that these appointments be deferred.

#### *Board of Equalization & Review*

Commissioner Sampson nominated Jimmy E. Dillahunt for appointment to the Board of Equalization & Review to replace Jerry Stapleford. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Dillahunt was appointed by acclamation. The Board noted that additional appointments to replace longstanding members of the Board of Equalization and Review will be deferred until next year in order to preserve the continuity on this body.

#### *Agricultural Advisory Committee*

It was the consensus of the Board that these appointments be deferred.

#### *Zoning Board of Adjustment*

The Board was apprised of the expiring terms of John Brazelton, Gerald Teel and Alvin West on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Commissioner McCabe nominated all for reappointment. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Brazelton, Mr. Teel and Mr. West were appointed by acclamation.

#### *Upcoming Appointments*

The Board was advised of the following upcoming appointments due to expire:

#### **May**

- Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

#### **June**

- ABC Board
- Eastern Carolina Council of Governments
- Economic Development Commission
- North Carolina Eastern Region
- Planning Board
- Recreation Advisory Committee
- Coastal Carolina Regional Airport Authority
- Tourism Development Authority

### COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

#### *1125 Church Street Property*

On March 9, 2012 the property located at 1125 Church Street, New Bern, was acquired jointly with the City of New Bern through a foreclosure for taxes and abatement liens. The amount of taxes due to Craven County is \$1,984.54. The lot is approximately 0.04 acres.

The dwelling on the property is dilapidated, and the City will be demolishing it under its ordinances. The estimated cost of demolition and disposal is \$8,350.00. The County has an option to pay its prorated cost for demolition (approximately \$4,780), or in the

alternative to donate its interest to the City. The property value is about \$13,000 after demolition, with the County's interest being 57%.

The County Attorney recommended that the County donate its interests in the property to the City of New Bern, inasmuch as it is unlikely that the County would recover its portion of the demolition cost subsequent to any sale of the cleared parcel. Commissioner Sampson moved to donate the County's interest to the City of New Bern, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Mark and unanimously carried.

*Time Warner Cable*

Mr. Hicks presented a Time Warner Cable notification of a new subsidiary which will be operating this franchise. No action was required and there was no objection from the Board.

*817 West Street*

Mr. Hicks announced that the City of New Bern declined to sell the property located at 817 West Street, which is jointly owned with the County, to United Baptist Church.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

*Commissioner Mark* thanked the community for coming out to the meeting.

*Commissioner Taylor* called for volunteers for the 8 Days of Hope that will be here from May 26 – June 2. He announced that the contact website is [8daysofhope.com](http://8daysofhope.com).

*Commissioner Tyson* congratulated the Township 6 Fire Department on the celebration of their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*Commissioner McCabe* thanked constituents for coming out to show their support. He announced a Coastal Coalition on Substance Abuse meeting and distributed information. He commended the Department of Transportation for their work in District 5 on the resurfacing and widening of Blades Road. He stated that the resurfacing of Fishertown Road, Temples Point Road and Ward Lane are coming up soon and the D.O.T. will also be taking over Pinecliff Road.

*Commissioner Sampson* thanked citizens of Harlowe and commented on high gas prices.

*Chairman Allen* thanked citizens and staff. He commented on an ACT meeting that he attended earlier in the day.

At 8:17 p.m. Commissioner Tyson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Taylor.

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Chairman Lee Kyle Allen  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan  
Clerk to the Board