

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN RECONVENED ITS RECESSED SESSION OF JULY 15, 2013 AT 9:20 A.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chairman Scott C. Dacey – withdrew from the meeting, unexcused (without vote), to represent the County concerning other business, with the Vice Chairman presiding

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
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
Jim Hicks, County Attorney

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Craven County Health Director, Scott Harrelson, presented a Public Health Cost Containment Plan. He stated that County funding for health has been reduced as primary care clinic revenues have increased. The County's local funding of health services is lower than the state average, except with Medicaid/Medicare. He requested the Board's support for a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) application, which could, if granted, have the following impacts:

- Defined service area could keep undesirable FQHCs out of our area
- Would provide cost settlement for Medicare services
- Would ensure Medicaid cost settlement if our state system deteriorates
- Federal student loan repayment as a recruitment enhancement for medical staff
- 340 B drug pricing
- Base funding of \$650,000

Mr. Harrelson stated that the FQHC would not compete with the private sector, but would serve people not served in private practice.

In order to move forward, the following steps are needed:

- Approval of application for Federal Grant, with \$22,000 appropriated for grant writing team
- Establishment of a 501(c) (3) organization as co-applicant for the public entity application
- Partnership with Health Foundation
- Letter of recommendation from the Board

Commissioner Allen moved to grant the request of the Health Director to prepare and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of recommendation and to provide \$22,000 for grant writing service, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Mr. Harrelson stated that there are no additional staffing or facility needs.

County Manager, Jack Veit, agreed to return to the Board once the decision is made on the application.

Commissioner Tyson inquired if an FQHC will negatively affect Merci Clinic. Mr. Harrelson responded that there are opportunities for collaboration with Merci Clinic.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Kyle Talente of RKG Associates presented the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan. In an overview, he outlined the mission, background and approach used in development of the plan. Goals were established as follows:

- To diversify the County's industry base
- To target industries that match the labor pool
- To increase civilian job opportunities
- To be more competitive statewide for business attraction
- To encourage the creation of jobs earning about \$40,000
- To create a business climate that minimizes regulatory obstacles
- To encourage unity of purpose to achieve common objectives
- To provide a quality workforce and workforce/education programs
- To enhance the sustainability of local military operations
- To grow existing businesses
- To foster entrepreneurialism

The plan includes organization, identification of target industry clusters, industry recruitment process, workforce and asset development, market development, marketing strategy, assessment of regulatory environment and outreach initiatives.

Mr. Talente stressed the necessity of collaboration and the importance of building relationships that foster the establishment of partnerships. He outlined action points as next steps, including:

- Creation of a development site inventory
- Implementation of a business needs survey
- Identification and training of ambassadors
- Creation of a 501(c) (3) implementation entity
- Engagement in support for port expansions in Morehead City
- Communication with F-35 contractors on space and workforce needs
- Building of strategic relationships with private sector implementation partners

At 10:20 a.m. Commissioner Tyson moved to recess to reconvene at 6:00 p.m. at the Convention Center, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Chairman Scott C. Dacey
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board