

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014
8:30 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2014 REGULAR SESSION

1. PUBLIC HEARING – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

2. TAX: Ronnie Antry, Tax Administrator
 - A. Annual Tax Collection Settlement
 - B. Charge to the Tax Collector
 - C. Tax Releases
3. RECREATION – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Eddie Games, Recreation Director
4. CARTS – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Gene Hodges, Interim Director
5. SHERIFF – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Jesse Pittman, Administrative Captain
6. PLANNING – HURRICANE IRENE HAZARD MITIGATION HMGP ELEVATION PROJECT AWARD: Chip Bartlett, Holland Consulting Planners
7. APPOINTMENTS
8. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Aaron Arnette, County Attorney Representative
9. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit

10. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

11. CLOSED SESSION

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 21, 2014. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Steve Tyson

STAFF PRESENT:

Jack B. Veit III, County Manager
Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager – Operations/Facilities
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Aaron Arnette, County Attorney Associate

Following an invocation by Commissioner Mark and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the minutes of July 7, 2014 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Dacey and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Per the requirements of General Statutes 158-7.1, a public hearing was held on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of discussing the sale of real property in the industrial park to Minges Building Account, LLC (Minges) for industrial expansion and job creation.

Economic Development Director, Timothy Downs, explained that Minges proposes to purchase Lot 30 in the Craven County Industrial Park (Parcel 8-217-5004), which is approximately 8 acres, where the company will build a warehouse/distribution facility to replace their existing facility on Dr. MLK Blvd in New Bern. The new facility is planned to be about 10,000 square feet of warehouse and 1,600 of office space. The facility is projected to cost approximately \$2,000,000 to construct.

Minges offered to purchase Lot 30 for \$93,000, or \$11,625 per acre. The County has determined that the fair market value of Lot 30 is \$160,000 or \$20,000 per acre.

In an effort to encourage the location and expansion of other industries within the County, and to reward Minges for its intended investment in the County, Craven County considered conveying and selling Lot 30 to Minges for \$93,000. This will provide to Minges an incentive of \$67,000 when compared to the fair market value.

Mr. Downs further stated that Minges will be retaining 23 employees and adding 28, with an average salary of \$19 per hour. He also stated that a fueling facility will be forth coming. Statutes provide for the County to hold back the incentive as a performance guarantee.

At 8:32 a.m. Commissioner McCabe moved to go into public hearing, as advertised, seconded by Commissioner Sampson. The following citizen spoke:

Hal James, 305 Calico Drive, New Bern, inquired if the fueling facility is just for the operation of their trucks. Mr. Downs replied that it was.

At 8:38 a.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the following resolution authorizing the sale of the real property, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APPROVING CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, Craven County (hereinafter "County") has determined that County has historically suffered a degree of economic and fiscal distress which can be remedied in part by the expansion of industries currently located in County and the location of new industries in County; and,

WHEREAS, the unemployment rate of County is greater than the state and national unemployment rates, deficiencies which can be remedied in part by the expansion and location of industries in County; and,

WHEREAS, furthermore, the median average wage for all insured industries in County is \$38,792.00, as determined by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security; and,

WHEREAS, the expansion and location of industries in County will benefit County and its citizens by increasing and diversifying both the personal property and real property ad valorem tax bases which will increase tax revenue, and resulting ancillary economic activity will increase sales tax revenues, all of which will make available to County more funds with which to improve the general health, safety and welfare of County's citizens; by providing a greater number of jobs with higher salaries and better benefits than are now available to citizens of County; by stimulating secondary economic activity which is directly beneficial to County and its citizens, including residential real estate development and the expansion of existing services and businesses; by increasing and improving the infrastructure of County; by increasing the economic opportunity available to County's citizens and by improving the general technical training of County's workforce; and,

WHEREAS, MINGES BUILDING ACCOUNT, LLC (hereinafter "Minges"), which provides facilities for the storage and distribution of soft drinks and related products, intends to construct in County a new facility consisting of a +/- 11,600 square foot building ("New Facility") to be constructed in late 2014 and early 2015, for use and occupancy immediately upon completion, such facility expected to be valued at \$2,000,000.00, and,

WHEREAS, Minges expects to make investments in new equipment and machinery valued at \$230,000.00 for said facility; and,

WHEREAS, based upon the construction of the New Facility, Minges expects to retain the employment of 23 individuals currently employed in County, and expects to expand its employment by hiring an additional 28 individuals; and,

WHEREAS, the average annual salary of all individuals to be employed by Minges at the New Facility shall be \$40,980.00; and,

WHEREAS, Minge's construction of the New Facility, Minge's retention of 23 existing jobs and Minges' creation of 28 new jobs will aid tremendously in remedying the previously identified economic and fiscal distresses suffered by County and its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, Minges has offered to purchase from County Lot 30 of the Craven County Industrial Park ("Lot 30") for a total purchase price of Ninety Three Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$93,000.00) (the "Purchase Price"), or Eleven Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Five and no/100 Dollars (\$11,625.00) per acre; and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that the fair market value of Lot 30 is Twenty Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$20,000.00) an acre, for a total value of One Hundred Sixty Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$160,000.00) (the "Fair Market Value"); and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that in an effort to encourage the location and expansion of other industries within County and to reward Minges for its intended investment in County, County should convey and sell to Minges Lot 30 for the Purchase Price, which will provide to Minges an incentive of Sixty Seven Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$67,000.00) when compared to the Fair Market Value; and,

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the transactions herein contemplated are more particularly described in the Agreement Conveying Real Property for Economic Development Purposes and the Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Estate, both attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1(a), local governments, including County, are authorized:

[T]o make appropriations for the purposes of aiding and encouraging the location of manufacturing enterprises, making industrial surveys and locating industrial and commercial plants in or near such city or in the county; encouraging the building of railroads or other purposes which, in the discretion of the governing body of the city or of the county commissioners of the county, will increase the population, taxable property, agricultural industries and business prospects of any city or county. These appropriations may be funded by the levy of property taxes pursuant to [G.S. 153A-149](#) and [160A-209](#) and by the allocation of other revenues whose use is not otherwise restricted by law.

Furthermore, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1(d) also permits local governments, including County, to convey property held for industrial or commercial use after notice to the public, a public hearing and a determination of the probably hourly wage to be paid by the prospective industry; and,

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1(d2) allows County in arriving at the value of the consideration that it receives for the conveyance of property held for economic development purposes to consider prospective tax revenues coming to the County for 10 years after the conveyance provided that County determines that the conveyance will stimulate the local economy, promote business and result in the creation of a substantial number of jobs that pay at or above the median average wage in County and further provided that County contractually binds the grantee of the property to construct the improvements expected to generate said tax revenues within 5 years; and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that the probable hourly average wage to be paid by Minges to its employees to be employed at the New Facility is \$19.70 for a weekly average hourly wage of \$788.08, which is a rate above County's median average wage for all insured industries of \$38,792.00, as determined by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security; and,

WHEREAS, based on Minges' construction of the New Facility, County has determined that County's ad valorem tax revenue from the New Facility (excluding the land value of Lot 30) will be approximately \$9,350.00 per year, for a total of \$93,500.00 over 10 years; and,

WHEREAS, Lot 30 has heretofore been owned for over 2 decades by County, thereby generating no ad valorem tax revenue for County, and upon transfer of Lot 30 to Minges, additional ad valorem tax revenue generated by Lot 30 will begin accruing to County; and,

WHEREAS, based on Minge's construction of New Facility, County has determined that County's prospective sales tax revenues from said construction will be \$_____.00; and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that the conveyance to Minges of Lot 30 herein described will stimulate the local economy, promote business, and result in the creation of a substantial number of jobs that pay at or above the average wages currently available in County; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Agreement Conveying Real Property for Economic Development Purposes between Minges and County contains a provision that if Minges does not construct and occupy by December 31, 2015 a substantially complete New Facility on Lot 30, County shall have the right to foreclose upon Lot 30 pursuant to a note and deed of trust to be executed and delivered by Minges, thereby securing the performance by Minges of its obligations as described herein; and,

WHEREAS, on July 21st, 2014, and after proper public notice, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1 the Board of Commissioners for County held a public hearing concerning its intent to convey and sell to Minges Lot 30, upon the terms and conditions herein described; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of County does desire to convey and grant to Minges Lot 30, by and through the Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property and the Agreement Conveying Real Property for Economic Development Purposes, both attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and does further desire that this RESOLUTION serve as a memorial of the actions taken by the Board of Commissioners on this matter.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

1. That the Agreement Conveying Real Property for Economic Development Purposes attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference is hereby approved in its entirety, and shall be executed and delivered by County at such appropriate time as advised by counsel to County.
2. That the Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference is hereby ratified and approved in its entirety.
3. That, pursuant to the aforesaid agreements, County shall execute and deliver such documents and instruments as may be necessary in the opinion of counsel to County to accomplish the purposes of said Agreements, including but not limited to the transfer and conveyance to Minges of Lot 30.
4. That the Chairman, Clerk to the Board, Manager, Assistant Managers, Economic Developer and such other officers and agents of County are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in the opinion of counsel to County to effectuate any of the transactions contemplated herein.
5. That this RESOLUTION be entered in the official minutes of the Board of Commissioners of County and that the Clerk to the Board certify copies of this RESOLUTION as may be necessary in the opinion of counsel to County.

This the ____ day of July, 2014.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: TAX

Annual Tax Collection Settlement

Before being charged with the collection for 2014, Tax Collector, Ronnie Antry, presented the settlement of the 2013 taxes.

Pursuant to GS 105-373, it was requested that the Board accept the settlement, as follows, and enter it into its minutes.

ANNUAL REPORT OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES

July 11, 2014

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	2,247,226.85
Fire District Original Levy		<u>95,029.51</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	2,342,256.36

Add:

Additions	59.55
Plus Adjustments	<u>-0-</u>

Total	\$	2,342,315.91
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Less:

Write-offs	- 14,713.70
Adjustments	-0-
Releases	<u>- 230,267.86</u>

Net Levy	\$	2,097,334.35
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Collected	\$	1,957,347.20
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Uncollected as of June 30, 2014	\$	139,987.15
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Percentage of 2013 taxes collected ----- 93.33

Net taxable valuation -- \$429,812,999

ANNUAL REPORT OF REAL PROPERTY, CERTIFIED VALUATION AND PERSONAL
PROPERTY OTHER THAN REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES

July 11, 2014

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	40,833,265.64
Fire District Original Levy		<u>1,608,243.12</u>

Total Levy	\$	42,441,508.76
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Add:

Afterlists	1,488,627.38
Plus Adjustments	-0-
Additions	<u>5,019.37</u>

Total	\$	43,935,155.51
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Less:

Write-offs	- 4,875.53
Adjustments	-0-
Releases	<u>- 67,129.06</u>

Net Levy	\$	43,863,150.92
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Collected	\$	43,420,201.07
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Uncollected as of June 30, 2014	\$	442,949.85
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Percentage of 2013 taxes collected ----- 98.99

Net taxable valuation -- \$9,013,445,113

July 11, 2014

The settlement of the Craven County Tax Collector for the tax year 2013 (Fiscal Year 2013-2014) is listed below. The settlement should be approved by motion of the Board before the charge is made for the current year's taxes.

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	43,080,492.49
Fire District Original Levy		<u>1,703,272.63</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	44,783,765.12
Add:		
Afterlists		1,488,627.38
Additions		5,078.92
Plus Adjustments		<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$	46,277,471.42
Less:		
Write-offs		- 19,589.23
Adjustments		-0-
Releases		<u>- 297,396.92</u>
Net Levy	\$	45,960,485.27
Collected	\$	45,377,548.27
Uncollected as of June 30, 2014	\$	582,937.00

Percentage of 2013 taxes collected ----- 98.73

Net taxable valuation -- \$9,443,258,112

In regards to the Annual Motor Vehicle Collection Report, the net levy is down from last year due to the transition to collection by the State. This is the last year that Mr. Antry will be reporting motor vehicles collection at this level, as the transition is completed. The real property collection rate is slightly higher than last year, as is the total levy. Commissioner Samspon moved to accept the settlement, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Charge to the Collector for 2014 Taxes

The Board was requested to adopt and enter into its minutes the following order that is required by NCGS 105-321(b).

2014 CHARGE TO THE CRAVEN COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Craven County Government**

TO THE TAX COLLECTOR OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN

You are hereby authorized, empowered and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Craven County Tax Collector and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Craven, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayer, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 21 day of July 2014.

Commissioner McCabe moved to direct the Tax Administrator to collect the 2014 taxes, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Tax Releases and Refunds

Mr. Antry presented the following requests for tax releases for the Board’s approval. Commissioner McCabe moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
BADOUR, RANDY JOE BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2012-0002288	\$63.58
BADOUR, RANDY JOE BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2013-0002236	\$55.39
BRITT, BENJAMIN JASON DID NOT OWN 1/1/13	2013-0090170	\$79.56
BROWN, GREG DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090197	\$107.46
BRUCE, AARON M BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2011-0007280	\$622.83
BRUCE, AARON M BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2012-0007301	\$548.77
BRUCE, AARON M BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2013-0090216	\$480.34
BRYANT, GREGORY MACRAY & YOL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090236	\$210.37
CAMARGO, CAESAR GARCIA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0008603	\$52.81
CAMARGO, CAESAR GARCIA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090281	\$48.51
CONTRERAS, JACINTO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0011886	\$57.59

KOFFARNUS, DAWN MARIE NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2013-0092599	\$181.89
MARSHALL, CLINT ROBERT MILITARY EXEMPTION	2013-0092751	\$31.36
STEPHENSON, DARLETHA SENIOR EXCLUSION BILLING CORRECTION	2014-0090151	\$12.00
WILLIAMS, CALVIN DUPLICATE BILLING ERROR	2014-0090158	\$6.62
WIRELESS SOLUTIONS GROUP DOUBLE BILLED – SEE ACCT 79444	2013-0095384	\$131.07
	16 – CREDIT MEMO(S)	\$2,690.15

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS – CRAVEN AREA RURAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CARTS): BUDGET AMENDMENT

CARTS Interim Director, Gene Hodges, presented the following budget amendment.

7001-CARTS Administration

101-7002-348-18-00 Section 18 Capital-St	\$41,493.00	101-7001-450-73-01 Over \$5,000	\$46,103.00
101-7002-335-05-00	\$ 4,610.00		
TOTAL	\$46,103.00	TOTAL	\$46,103.00

Justification: Line Item #101-7001-450-73-01, Capital Outlay over \$5,000 had an unencumbered balance of \$46,800 at the end of FY2014. One of the vehicles budgeted in FY 2014 was ordered but not delivered by June 30, 2014. The State approved a Period of Performance Extension, allowing the money allocated in the FY 2014 CTP Capital Grant to be available in FY 2015. CARTS is requesting a budget amendment to include the cost of purchasing the FY 2014 approved vehicles in FY 2015. Ninety percent of the cost of vehicles will be reimbursed by the State’. The 10% local match is anticipated to be covered by the sale of the vehicle being replaced.

Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the budget amendment, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS – RECREATION: BUDGET AMENDMENT

Recreation and Parks Director, Eddie Games, presented the following budget amendment:

Recreation & Parks

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$9,784.00	101-8001-460-40-00 Contractual Services	\$9,784.00
TOTAL	\$9,784.00	TOTAL	\$9,784.00

Justification: These funds are needed to complete the Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan by East Carolina University (ECU). The plan was started last fiscal year and will be completed within the next few months.

Mr. Games provided an update on the \$20,000 grant from the Community Transformation Grant (TFG) program to update the Recreation Master Plan, which is being developed by ECU. The master plan is approximately 75% finished and should be completed by late summer or early fall. Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS – SHERIFF: BUDGET AMENDMENT

Administrative Captain, Jesse Pittman, presented the following budget amendment:

Sheriff's 2001

101-0000-399-01-00	\$9,610.00	101-2001-410-32-40	\$9,610.00
General Fund		Other Supplies	
TOTAL	\$9,610.00	TOTAL	\$9,610.00

Justification: These are carryover funds from the FY 2013-2014 budget. In February 2014 a budget amendment was passed allowing a \$10,000 donation to be credited to the other supplies line item in the 2013/2014 FY budget. Only \$389.56 of the \$10,000 was spent last FY creating a carryover in the amount of \$9,610.44.

Captain Pittman stated that the intention is to use the funds to purchase additional supplies, such as ammunition for training rounds. Funds were donated by a private citizen.

Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS – PLANNING: HURRICANE IRENE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP) ELEVATION PROJECT AWARD

A bid opening for the elevation of four (4) repetitive loss structures in the Hurricane Irene HMGP Elevation Project was held on July 10, 2014. The following bids were received from four (4) contractors:

Case #	Address Occupant	Actual Bid (Tabulated)	Contractor	Recommended Award	Comments
1&2	Spencer Bailey 417 Riverside Dr. NB NC 28560	\$213,292	IMEC	X	Units 1 & 2 to be awarded to the lowest lump sum Bidder for both
		\$215,585	Paul Woolard		
	And				
	George C. Heath, Jr., & Rebecca Heath 415 Riverside Dr. New Bern, NC 28560	\$340,000	B&B Construction		
		\$240,000	Gilbert Everett		
3	Jolin Davis Metts 407 Harbor Drive New Bern NC 28560	\$85,729	IMEC		Low Bidder
		\$82,938	Paul Woolard	X	
		\$130,000	B&B Construction		
		\$83,000	Gilbert Everett		
4	James & Kathleen Kohler 103 Seafarer Court New Bern, NC 28562	\$93,515	IMEC	X	Low Bidder
		\$99,751	Paul Woolard		
		\$125,000	B&B Construction		
		\$98,000	Gilbert Everett		

The following recommendations for awards to the lowest bidders were presented by Chip Bartlett of Holland Consulting Planners:

<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1&2 *415 & 417 Riverside Dr. New Bern	IMEC Group, LLC	\$213,292	Lowest Lump Sum Bidder- units are adjacent to each other and were bid together.
3 *407 Harbor Dr. New Bern	Paul Woolard, Inc.	\$82,938	Low Bidder
4 *103 Seafarer Ct. New Bern	IMEC Group, LLC	\$93,515	Low Bidder

Commissioner Dacey reported that a citizen expressed concern that the program was only showing a benefit to a select community; however, he pointed out that the accompanying map demonstrates a broad geographic area covered within the County.

Commissioner Sampson moved to award the elevation work to IMEC Group, LLC and Paul Woolard, Inc, as recommended by the Planning Department, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Havelock Board of Adjustment

It was the consensus of the Board to defer this appointment.

New Bern Planning and Zoning Board

It was the consensus of the Board to defer this appointment.

Planning Board

Chairman Mark moved to appoint Tom Lelli to the Planning Board to fill the term of Matthew Spirko, who has resigned. Commissioner McCabe seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Adult Care Home Advisory Committee

Commissioner Dacey moved to appoint Rieko Evans to Adult Care Advisory Committee to fill the term of Molly Smith, who has resigned. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Upcoming Appointments

The Board was apprised of appointments due to expire on the following boards and committees:

August

- Adult Care Home Advisory Committee
- EMS Advisory Committee
- Fire Tax Commissions
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee

September

- Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- River Bend Planning Board
- Agricultural Advisory Board

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT*Offer to Purchase Real Property – 836 Howard Street (#8-003-069)*

County Attorney Associate, Aaron Arnette, reported that the County and City have received an offer in the amount of \$3,000.00 for property located at 836 Howard Street, which was acquired through a tax foreclosure. The total taxes and costs that were foreclosed on were \$3,467.89. The current tax value is \$6,000.00.

Commissioner Sampson moved to accept the offer and advertise for upset bids, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT*Joint Meeting with Board of Education*

County Manager, Jack Veit, announced that a joint meeting with the Board of Education has been confirmed for August 18 immediately following the regular meeting in the Commissioners' Room. He stated that they are still waiting for the State budget regarding schools' funding.

Boat Ramp

Mr. Veit reported that the Cowpen Landing boat ramp, remodeled with 100% funding by the State, is now complete. Improvements include new bulk heading, addition of a fishing pier and dual boat launch.

Economic Development

Mr. Veit reported on a site in Havelock that was identified by Duke Energy as an economic development site selection project to determine economic development potential and feasibility of its development. A presentation was made by McCallum Sweeney, site selection consultants, which provided an analysis of the site, as well as an overview of soil conditions and topography by O'Brien Atkins. The site was deemed to be feasible for development.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Dacey reported that on July 17, the City Manager of Havelock put together a luncheon for parties interested in Cherry Point's future to learn more about the Governor's Military Affairs Commission (NCMAC). Cornell Wilson, Ret. Lt. General, and Executive Director of NCMAC, presented challenges and advantages to MCAS Cherry Point. Commissioner Dacey asked that members of Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT), Civilian Military Community Council and elected officials be diligent in sharing information contained in the report with the community. The report will be available on the ACT website.

Commissioner McCabe reported on a recent trip to New York City and attendance at the sixth Annual Reunion of Queen Street High School in Beaufort.

Commissioner Sampson made the public aware of the upcoming Walt Bellamy Memorial Day at the Omega Center on July 26 at 1:00 p.m. He commented that gas prices are fluctuating, but gas prices near the new Walmart are remaining lower, while prices for groceries, auto and tractor parts continue to climb. He observed that people who are unemployed are having a difficult time finding assistance with high electric bills, and announced that a committee is organizing to help incarcerated people go back to work after their release.

Commissioner Taylor reported that he does not have a lot of meetings scheduled due to his job taking him away from his Commissioner duties for a few days. He commented that Helene Conklin, who works with the Red Cross at Greenbriar, reported that they collected 44 pints of blood in the past week and he thanked her for her volunteer efforts.

Chairman Mark stated that citizens' inquiries regarding the Board of Education will be addressed in due time.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board was requested to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) and (5) to discuss performance and qualifications of personnel and property acquisition.

The County needs to acquire a temporary, two year utility easement of approximately 40 feet by 50 feet for the Castle Hayne water project. The property is owned by Charles M. Eatmon.

At 9:27 a.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

At 9:57 a.m. the Board returned to regular session, with no action to report. Commissioner Dacey moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Chairman Thomas F. Mark
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board