

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014
8:30 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2014 REGULAR SESSION

1. DOVER REQUEST: Mayor John Wetherington
2. BATCHELOR CREEK DEBRIS SNAGGING BID AWARD: Patrick Baker, Soil & Water Conservation District; Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager, Facilities/Operations; Chad Strawn, Assistant Planning Director
3. CRAVEN COUNTY WATER PROJECT UPDATE: Jack Veit, County Manager and Rusty Hayes, Water Superintendent

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

4. TAX – RELEASES AND REFUNDS: Ronnie Antry, Tax Administrator
5. HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Scott Harrelson, Health Director
6. SHERIFF – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Jesse Pittman, Administrative Captain
7. PLANNING – HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP) DETERMINATION OF FAIR COMPENSATION: Chip Bartlett, Holland Consulting Planners
8. HUMAN RESOURCES – 2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
9. FINANCE – BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Rick Hemphill, Assistant County Manager, Finance/Administration

10. APPOINTMENTS
11. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Jim Hicks
12. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit
13. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

RECESS

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 AUGUST 18, 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.
- Commissioner Steve Tyson

STAFF PRESENT:

- Jack B. Veit III, County Manager
- Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager – Operations/Facilities
- Rick Hemphill, Assistant County Manager – Finance/Administration
- Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
- Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
- Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Dacey and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the agenda, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the minutes of August 4, 2014 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried

DOVER REQUEST

Commissioner Taylor moved to table this request until Mayor Wetherington arrives or until a later date, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

BACHELOR CREEK DEBRIS SNAGGING BID AWARD

The Board was requested to adopt the following budget amendment to approve funds and award the bid for the Batchelor Creek Snagging Project. Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Soil & Water

101-4104-348-33-00	\$40,826.00	101-4104-420-40-00	\$40,826.00
State Grant		Contract Services	
101-0000-399-01-00	\$ 5,000.00	101-4104-420-40-00	\$ 5,000.00
Fund Balance		Contract Services	
TOTAL	\$45,826.00	TOTAL	\$45 ,826.00

Justification: To budget grant and expenditure for snagging Bachelor Creek. Additionally, to take \$5,000 from Fund Balance to pay for removal of beaver dams.

CRAVEN COUNTY WATER PLANT PROJECT BID AWARD

County Manager, Jack Veit, requested that this item be tabled and discussed in closed session at the end of the meeting. Commissioner McCabe moved to table the discussion and add a closed session at the end of the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: TAX – RELEASES AND REFUNDS

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, presented 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
CHURCH – HAVELOCK COMMUNITY EXEMPT PROPERTY PER GS 105-278.3	2013-0010284	\$1,069.05
CHURCH – HAVELOCK COMMUNITY EXEMPT PROPERTY PER GS 105-278.3	2013-0010283	\$724.46
DIXON, SHELTON EARL DOUBLE BILLED – SEE ACCT 12080	2012-0015521	\$55.96
DIXON, SHELTON EARL DOUBLE BILLED – SEE ACCT 12080	2013-0090491	\$47.05
DIXON, STEPHANIE FRANKS DOUBLE BILLED – SEE ACCT 98136	2013-0090492	\$104.28
TIMMONS, ROBERT ALEXANDER DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0093632	\$29.70
WEST, PENNY & STRICKLAND, VIRG DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0091289	\$204.84
	7 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$2,235.34

Refunds

TYLER, JAY KID INCORRECT BOAT VALUE	2013-0093685	\$36.28
	1 – REFUND (S)	\$36.28

Mr. Antry announced that tax bills for 2014 will be going out the following week. Commissioner Tyson inquired if there is any possibility of discounting tax bills for early payment. Mr. Antry responded that Craven County has done that in the past but it has been at least 50 years, and long before his time with the County. He thinks that it would require local legislation, or at least a resolution, and the savings would be questionable.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Health Director, Scott Harrelson, presented the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval.

Health/Administration

101-0000-399-01-00	\$12,867.00	101-5001-440-40-00	\$12,867.00
Fund Balance		Contract Services	
TOTAL	\$12,867.00	TOTAL	\$12,867.00

Justification: Carryover of unspent funds from FY 2014 to cover expenses to Lorie Kaylor and Associates for the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Application.

Commissioner Dacey questions if the Board had ever given final approval to move forward. County Manager, Jack Veit, confirmed that it had been brought before the Board at least six months ago. Commissioner Dacey shared concerns about FQHC’s operation by counties, which was discussed at the recent Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. The idea was put for forth that it may be more advantageous to privatize them and allow counties to purchase slots.

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the foregoing budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and carried in a roll call vote with six (6) “ayes”, there being one (1) “nay” from Commissioner Dacey.

Health/Maternity/Child Health/Fam Planning

101-5700-370-08-00	\$8,500.00	101-5700-440-73-21	\$7,360.00
Maternity Medicaid		C/O \$500-\$4,999	
101-5800-370-18-00	\$8,500.00	101-5700-440-32-40	\$ 380.00
Child Health Medicaid		Other Supplies	
101-6400-370-07-00	\$8,500.00	101-5700-440-15-15	\$ 760.00
Fam Planning Medicaid		Dues/Subscriptions	
		101-5800-440-73-21	\$2,000.00
		C/O \$500-\$4,999	
		101-5800-440-40-00	\$6,500.00
		Contract Services	
		101-6400-440-73-21	\$4,035.00
		C/O \$500-\$4,999	
		101-6400-440-73-02	\$3,000.00
		Other Improvements	
		101-6400-440-32-40	\$1,290.00
		Other Supplies	
		101-6400-440-15-15	\$ 175.00
		Dues/Subscriptions	
TOTAL	\$25,500.00	TOTAL	\$25,500.00

Justification: CCHD has received Medicaid HER incentive payment of \$25,500 and requests to purchase six (6) Defibrilators and supplies related to the device (5 defibrilators will be donated to the County), one time charge for the Health Information Exchange and annual fee for Medical Director, 3 scanners for the billing office, an auto scrubber, replacement of carpet in vestibule, Comlite software in Child Health (per Dennis Holton), and scanning of medical records.

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

Health HIV/STD

101-6301-349-76-00	\$50.00	101-6301-440-32-08	\$50.00
HIV/STD State		Medical Supplies	
TOTAL	\$50.00	TOTAL	\$50.00

Justification: Newly acquired state funds awarded to CCHD for the purchase of condoms in order to reduce the spread of STD’s and HIV.

Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the budget amendment as presented, 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 for the Board’s approval.

Sheriff’s/Grants Dept #2022

101-2022-377-04-00	\$10,591.00	101-2022-410-32-40	\$8,019.00
Justice Asst. Grant		Other Supplies	
		101-2022-410-73-21	\$2,572.00
		C/O \$500-\$4,999	
TOTAL	\$10,591.00	TOTAL	\$10,591.00

Justification: This is carryover funds from FY 14 for Justice Assistance Grant number 2013-DJ-BX-0895.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if this was part of the grant funds that were already sought. Captain Pittman responded that it is a different type of munitions for less lethal force. Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: PLANNING – HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP) DETERMINATION OF FAIR COMPENSATION

Chip Bartlett with Holland Consulting Planners reported that Craven County has received funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to acquire two (2) residential structures that were included on the County’s list of Severe Repetitive Loss Properties.

The first property, located at 1504 N. Hills Ct., New Bern, was appraised by the program’s contracted appraiser, Miller Appraisal, on June 30, 2014. The appraisal valued the property at \$93,000 (current market value). The second property will be presented at a later date.

Mr. Bartlett stated that at this point in the process, the County must establish fair compensation for the property, which is based on the current appraisal.

He advised that the next step would be to prepare the 1st Written Purchase Offer which would be based on the compensation of \$93,000.

Commissioner Tyson stated that it doesn’t make sense to have a flooded property fixed up and then demolished. He stated that he is not sure what the Board can do to influence the approach of FEMA other than having the property assessed immediately after an event. He feels that the County may need to look into the mitigation of creeks and canals in this area, especially Jack Smith Creek.

Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the following Resolution of Just Compensation and Determination of Fair Compensation, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING JUST COMPENSATION FOR SELECTED REAL PROPERTY IN CRAVEN COUNTY’S HURRICANE IRENE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, it has been certified by **Eric Thomas Miller, CDA of Miller Appraisal**, as the county’s contract appraiser for the Hurricane Irene Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) that the property listed below has been appraised in accordance with State law, Uniform Standards for Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) guidelines, and HMGP program guidelines; and

WHEREAS the county has said appraisal report in its possession that has been reviewed and found to be accurate and reliable.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Just Compensation is hereby established by the Craven County Board of Commissioners, for the following parcel:

Owner Name	Parcel Identification Number (PIN) of Parcel to be Acquired	Street Address	Established Value
Ryan C. Spellman	8-063-033	1504 N. Hills Court New Bern NC	\$93,000

This 18th day of August, 2014.

**CRAVEN COUNTY HURRICANE IRENE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT
PROGRAM - ACQUISITION
Statement of Determination of Fair Compensation**

Location of property: 1504 North Hills Court, New Bern, NC

Address of property: 1504 North Hills Court, New Bern, NC

PIN: 8-063-033 Owner(s) of record: Ryan C. Spellman

Type of residence: Single Family
 Number of rooms: 3 Bedrooms 2 Baths
 Exterior (check one): Brick
 Size of residence: 1652 Square fee
 Size of lot: 0.52 acre
 Improvements: N/A

Amount of compensation: **\$93,000**

This amount is believed to be fair compensation for the property, and no less than its fair market value. The following benefits received for undocumented housing repairs will be deducted from the total value:

Flood Insurance Proceeds	\$0	Disaster Relief Fund	\$0
State SBA Grant	\$0	FEMA IHP	\$0
SBA Loan	\$0	Other: N/A	\$0

Appraisal Approach: Sales Comparison Approach

The amount of compensation disregards any possible increase of the fair market value, which might result from this property acquisition project. The fair market value of this property is estimated as of June 30, 2014. It does not reflect any economic depreciation as a result of that event. In the determination of compensation, fair market value is defined as, "the amount for which, in all probability, the property would be sold by a knowledgeable owner willing but obligated to sell to a knowledgeable purchaser who desired but is not obligated to pay." This property has been studied considering its tax roll value or highest and best use for its type.

DOVER REQUEST

Dover Mayor, John Wetherington, reported that the Town of Dover recently received a matching grant to upgrade the recreational facilities. He has tried to lease the playground to the County, including its ball field. The mayor stated that he would also like a walking track and thinks it could be accomplished for under \$8,500. He stated that the town is also in need of funding to put a new roof on the civic center so that it can effectively be used as an emergency shelter.

He also reported that the town has a dog problem and needs more help from animal control.

He commented that the town got a sewer grant approved and wishes to hook into the water system as well.

Chairman Mark inquired what Mayor Wetherington was requesting in his presentation.

Mayor Wetherington stated that today's priority was recreation. The town is in need of someone in the Recreation Department to come and assist, but a \$10,000 Bate Foundation Grant requires a \$10,000 match. These funds will be used for a walking track and ball field. He stated that Dover will also be contributing funds to repair the roof.

Commissioner Taylor noted that the grant funds are available over the next year. He stated that the County is awaiting a recreation survey being conducted by East Carolina University, and the draft is expected in the next few weeks, followed by a full presentation to the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to wait for that information and to allow the study to guide the budget for the next fiscal cycle. Commissioner Dacey emphasized that there is no guarantee, either policy wise or budget wise, that funds will be appropriated. The policy has been not to fund municipal services, and all municipalities should be treated equally.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HUMAN RESOURCES – 2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Human Resources Director, Amber Parker, presented the proposed Craven County 2015 Holiday Schedule for the Board's approval. The proposed 2015 Holiday Schedule grants twelve (12) holidays including one (1) floating holiday being observed on Friday, January 2, 2015 in conjunction with New Year's Day which occurs on Thursday, January 1, 2015.

The Craven County Personnel Resolution, Article VIII. Leave of Absence, Section 2. Paid Holidays Observed states, "The Floating Holiday will be used in conjunction with holidays observed on Tuesday or Thursday to extend the weekend and will only be used as such occurs from year to year".

The 2015 Holiday Schedule is the same as the State of North Carolina's 2015 Holiday Schedule with two exceptions. Craven County will provide a floating holiday on Friday, January 2, 2015 and the State of North Carolina will provide a third holiday for Christmas on Wednesday, December 23, 2015 that Craven County is not providing.

Commissioner Allen inquired how much a holiday costs the County and Ms. Parker agreed to gather that information. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the 2015 Holiday Schedule, as follows, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

CRAVEN COUNTY 2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Thursday, January 1, 2015

Friday, January 2, 2015 (Floating)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S BIRTHDAY

Monday, January 19, 2015

GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, April 3, 2015

MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 25, 2015

INDEPENDENCE DAY
Friday, July 3, 2015

LABOR DAY
Monday, September 7, 2015

VETERANS DAY
Wednesday, November 11, 2015

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 26, 2015
Friday, November 27, 2015

CHRISTMAS
Thursday, December 24, 2015
Friday, December 25, 2015

Approved by the Craven County Board of Commissioners at the August 18, 2014 regularly scheduled meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: FINANCE – BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Assistant County Manager of Finance/Administration, Rick Hemphill, presented the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval.

The NC Eastern Region Board agreed that any county withdrawing from the NCEast Alliance can request its portion of the unspent and unencumbered administrative/operating reserve funds to be returned to them and spent on economic development. Craven County requested its balance and has now received \$140,000 to be placed in Reserve for future economic development use. Mr. Hemphill stated that he will look into why a \$190,000 residual became a \$140,000 payment. County Manager, Jack Veit, stated that he will request a meeting to seek explanation.

Economic Development/County Reserve

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-0000-335-00-00 Misc Revenue	\$140,000.00	101-0567-400-96-16 Tmsfr County Reserve	\$140,000.00
JOURNAL ENTRY			
101-0567-400-98-16 To County Reserve	\$140,000.00	101-0000-101-00-00 Cash	\$140,000.00
370-0000-101-00-00 Cash	\$140,000.00	371-0000-366-01-00 From General Fund	\$140,000.00
TOTAL	\$420,000.00	TOTAL	\$420,000.00

Justification: Budget amendment needed to accept and place in reserve Craven’s portion of unspent and unencumbered admin/operating reserves from the NCEast Alliance.

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

Transfers

101-0000-399-01-00	\$1,000,000.00	101-0567-400-98-16	\$1,000,000.00
Fund Balance Current Year		Transfer to Reserve	

JOURNAL ENTRY

101-0567-400-98-16	\$1,000,000.00	101-0000-101-00-00	\$1,000,000.00
Transfer Reserve		Cash	

371-0000-101-00-00	\$1,000,000.00	371-0000-366-01-00	\$1,000,000.00
Cash		From Fund 101	

TOTAL	\$1,000,000.00	TOTAL	\$1,000,000.00
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Justification: Budget transfer to capital reserve of unanticipated revenues over expenditures for fiscal 2014. Amount will be used for future capital projects.

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

APPOINTMENTS

Havelock Board of Adjustment

It was the consensus of the Board that this appointment be deferred.

New Bern Planning and Zoning Board

It was the consensus of the Board that this appointment be deferred.

Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council

Commissioner Allen moved to reappoint Ronnie Weems to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

The appointment of a representative of the Law Enforcement Association was deferred, pending a recommendation from the Association.

Nursing Home Advisory Committee

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

Upcoming Appointments

The Board was apprised of the following upcoming appointments to boards and committees:

September

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

October

- Clean Sweep Committee
- Firemen’s Relief Fund Board of Trustees
- Fire Tax Commissioners
- Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, requested that the Board go into closed session immediately following the regular session meeting.

At 9:50 a.m. Commissioner McCabe requested to be excused from the meeting to attend a funeral. Commissioner Allen moved to excuse Commissioner McCabe, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT*CARTS Director*

County Manager, Jack Veit, introduced new CARTS Director, Roseann Christian, and thanked Assistant County Manager, Gene Hodges, for filling in as interim director.

New Bern Housing Authority

The committee that was appointed by the Chairman at the last meeting, along with the County Attorney, has determined that the County had no jurisdictional authority to issue a letter that was requested by the New Bern Housing Authority in support of their grant document for Craven Terrace renovations.

Letter to Department of Transportation (DOT)

Mr. Veit stated that he is concerned about the amount of grass growing on the sides of highways in Craven County and he feels that it is bad for tourism, bad for economic development and can be a hazard to motorists. He asked that a letter be drafted for the Chairman's signature to the Department of Transportation to address the issue. Commissioner Allen moved to allow staff to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature to D.O.T., seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Allen announced his attendance at the 107th NCCAC annual conference. He stated that interesting workshops were held and he will have a report to give at a later date.

Commissioner Tyson updated the Board on the Hunters Ridge Subdivision Section VI roads. He stated that the developer has done a lot of the work to bring the roads to standard. He is in the process of discussing with the Planning Board a way to minimize the chances of subdivision roads being left subpar by developers in the future.

Commissioner Dacey reported that the Craven-Pamlico-Carteret (CPC) Regional Library met last week with consultant, Dr. Bergen, who is conducting a system wide survey. The system currently has upwards of \$172,000 in Fund Balance, meeting the state standard. His suggestion that counties who contributed advance money to achieve this goal be reimbursed was not well received. Age limits for unaccompanied children at the libraries were also established.

Commissioner Sampson commented on food, gas and oil prices. He reported on incidents of people stealing gas. He reported on his attendance at the City of New Bern Board of Aldermen meeting for discussion of electric bills and he thinks the City will be trying to come up with a system for assisting citizens.

Chairman Mark stated that the common core curriculum issues spoken of at the last meeting seem to have been addressed by the Governor signing Bill 812 – re-writing standards of North Carolina schools. He read a letter from Craven Community College President, Catherine Chew, announcing her retirement at end of her current contract.

At 10:12 a.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Mark, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) attorney/client privilege.

At 10:35 a.m. the Board returned to regular session. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, announced that bids for the potable water project were rejected.

Commissioner Taylor moved to recess to reconvene with the Board of Education. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion.

At 11:00 a.m. the Board reconvened in joint session with the Board of Education.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Theron L. McCabe

STAFF PRESENT:

Jack B. Veit III, County Manager
 Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager – Operations/Facilities
 Rick Hemphill, Assistant County Manager – Finance/Administration
 Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
 Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Carr Ipock
 Ms. Frances Boomer
 Mr. David Hale
 Ms. Beatrice Smith
 Ms. Kimberly Smith

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vice Chairman, Linda Thomas
 Rev. Joseph Walton

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Lane Mills, Superintendent of Schools
 Denise Altman, Finance Officer
 Wayne Beasley, Assistant Superintendent – Accountability and Technology

Chairman Mark announced that no one would be recognized to speak other than participants seated at the table.

State Budget

Dr. Mills stated that the signed budget from the State was delivered late, which necessitated a late cycle for hiring and processing staff. Teachers will be back at school the week of August 18 and they will need to evaluate each staff member based on the new pay scale.

Chairman Mark commented that the local newspaper reported that the budget would be reviewed in the August 18th joint meeting; however, both boards have reached consensus to do it in September due to the complexity and lateness of the budget

Dr. Mills reviewed NCGS 115C-36 and NCGS 115C-40, which outline the responsibilities and authority of the Board of Education and statutory authority and responsibility of the Board of Commissioners.

Impact Aid Discussion

Mr. Ipock explained the difference between the on-line form and the pdf version of the Impact Aid application that caused a signature on the assurances page of the application not to be visible. The application was submitted a day prior to the deadline and receipt was confirmed. Notification that the signature was omitted was received the day after the deadline, and the form was promptly re-submitted. The Board of Education received information of a potential 10% penalty, but nothing definitive and actionable until a deduction was made from the first payment of the year. He has been in contact with the base liaison at Cherry Point and was put in contact with the lobbying firm that is working with Havelock. There was no need to notify anyone else at that point.

Commissioner Dacey stated that during the budget process, the Board of Education showed a shortfall in distribution. He expressed disappointment that there was no outreach to the County for assistance in Washington. The issue is better communication and best use of all assets available. He inquired why the application was submitted at the 11th hour. Finance Officer, Denise Altman, stated that data that is required for the application is collected from 14,000 plus students who take data cards home. This is a lengthy process, but all cards must be returned before the application can be completed. Mr. Ipock stated that low wealth funding was being reflected in the shortfall at budget time, as well as insurance increases.

Commissioner Tyson asked how many students in the system are military/federal dependents. Mr. Ipock responded that 26-28% are military/federal dependents.

Mr. Ipock explained that the timeline and detail that was provided to Congressman Jones' office, and which ignited the controversy, contained an erroneous statement concerning the reduction of funds, which has been resolved.

Vocational Education Discussion

This item has been deferred until the next joint meeting.

Teacher Supplement Discussions

This item will be continued at the Board's next joint meeting.

Communications

Chairman Mark commented that it is important that the two boards get together other than at budget time, as has been done in past years.

Commissioner Dacey stated that 12¢ of the County's 47¢ tax rate goes to schools. For that 12¢ the County has accountability to its citizens notwithstanding the School Board's sole authority on policy matters. He commented on concerns about timeliness of response to inquiries regarding the 3rd grade reading program. Mr. Ipock stated that the response has been delayed as the Board of Education is awaiting state level information, which will be shared after it is presented to the Board of Education. Dr. Mills expects to present some information to the Board on August 19.

Commissioner Sampson commented that he is especially interested in vocational education, which will be discussed at a later date.

At 1:45 p.m. Commissioner Allen 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