

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014
8:30 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014 REGULAR SESSION

1. PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY12 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – SCATTERED SITE (CDBG – SS) CLOSE-OUT: Chip Bartlett, Holland Consulting Planners

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

2. TAX – RELEASES: Ronnie Antry, Tax Administrator
3. HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Scott Harrelson, Health Director
4. SOCIAL SERVICES
 - A. Budget Amendments: Alfreda Stout, Deputy Social Services Director
 - B. Weapons Ban Request: Kent Flowers, Social Services Director
5. PLANNING: Don Baumgardner, Planning Director
 - A. Hurricane Irene Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Demolition
 - B. Subdivision for Approval
6. HUMAN RESOURCES – REQUEST AMENEMENT TO PERSONNEL RESOLUTION: Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Timothy Downs, Economic Development Director
 - A. Approve Sale of Property
 - B. Request for Public Hearing for Project Global
 - C. Request Approval of Right of First Refusal

8. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN CRAVEN COUNTY COMMITTEE OF 100, CITY OF NEW BERN AND CITY OF HAVELOCK FOR JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO CRAVEN 100 ALLIANCE: Jack Veit, County Manager and Timothy Downs
9. APPOINTMENTS
10. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Jim Hicks
11. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit
12. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

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 NOVEMBER 17, 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
Aaron Arnette, County Attorney Associate

Following an invocation by Commissioner Taylor and the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Mark indicated that an additional appointment needs to be considered due to an impending resignation from the Community College Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the agenda, with the addition of the above noted appointment, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the minutes of November 3, 2014, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY12 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – SCATTERED SITE (CDBG – SS) CLOSE-OUT

A public hearing was scheduled to review the budget and activities that have been accomplished through the County's FY12 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Project. The program provided housing assistance to three (3) low-moderate income households located in the County.

Chip Bartlett of Holland Consulting Planners stated that two of the homes are located in Dover and one is in Harlowe, with a total budget of \$225,000. He advised that this is probably the last home grant for the foreseeable future.

At 8:36 a.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to go into public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. The following citizen spoke:

1. *Hal James, 305 Calico Drive*, spoke on behalf of the Coastal Carolina Taxpayer's Association, stating they are against this type of program and opposed to any program that forces the taxpayer to pay for other peoples' needs. He stated that the Bible and the Constitution do not give authority for these programs.

Mr. Bartlett reminded the Board that there are requirements in the program concerning income level and pre-employment. It was part loan and part grant and homeowners are required to pay back part of the funding.

At 8:39 a.m. Commissioner McCabe moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Dacey moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the close-out performance report and the certificate of completion, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: TAX – RELEASES

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, presented the following tax releases 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
ALT, RISA NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2014	2014-0091102	\$9.96
BONICELLI, RICHARD E CORRECTING BOAT VALUATION	2014-0005611	\$23.23
BUTLER, LEROY BRYANT MILITARY EXEMPTION	2014-0008381	\$185.83
CORBIN, JON PAUL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0091686	\$70.19
CORBIN, JON PAUL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0012012	\$62.22
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2014-0012295	\$160.59
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2014-0012296	\$217.32
COWAN, DOUGLAS E APPRAISAL ERROR CORRECTION	2014-0012294	\$204.05
CRAWFORD, TIMOTHY W AND PAME BILLING ERROR – TO BE REBILLED	2013-0090407	\$74.80
CRAWFORD, TIMOTHY W AND PAME BILLING ERROR - TO BE REBILLED	2014-0012736	\$67.34
CROOM, RODOLPH JR DOUBLE BILLED – SEE ACCT 100383	2014-0012950	\$54.63
DANIEL, CHARLIE E & CARRIE M DWELLING UNOCCUPIED SINCE 2005	2014-0013578	\$36.00
HAIRE, WILLIAM DAVID & AMY DIC OWNER ERROR – TO BE REBILLED	2014-0091411	\$40.34
HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2009	2009-0025325	\$54.23
HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0023099	\$57.58
HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0025605	\$53.84
HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0025468	\$49.62

HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092125	\$45.56
HARVEY, MARY ANN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0091480	\$41.82
HERNANDEZ, ANTONIO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0090646	\$128.33
HERNANDEZ, ANTONIO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0026450	\$114.91
HERNANDEZ, ANTONIO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090647	\$104.49
HERNANDEZ, JAIRO RAMOS DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0090501	\$32.72
HERNANDEZ, ROJO JAVIER DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0024003	\$67.35
HERNANDEZ, ROJO JAVIER DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0026603	\$62.19
HERNANDEZ, ROJO JAVIER DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0026476	\$56.82
HERNANDEZ, ROJO JAVIER DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0025540	\$52.16
JONES, WILLIE JERRY MOBILE HOME NOT LIVABLE/JUNK VALUE	2014-0091682	\$48.78
KLESZCZEWSKI, RICHARD A INCORRECT SITUS – TO BE REBILLED	2014-0091700	\$24.14
LEE, DALLAS JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0091754	\$70.34
LEE, DALLAS JR DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090743	\$77.09
LONG, ROBERT EARL & BONNIE LOU LATE LISTING CHARGED IN ERROR	2014-0091814	\$11.10
MARTINEZ, ADOLFO CABRERA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0036949	\$165.35
MARTINEZ, ADOLFO CABRERA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0036821	\$147.99
MARTINEZ, ADOLFO CABRERA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090793	\$134.68
MARTINEZ, EFREN MARTINEZ DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-00332211	\$181.58
MARTINEZ, EFREN MARTINEZ DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0036960	\$163.68
MARTINEZ, EFREN MARTINEZ DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0036832	\$146.28

MARTINEZ, EFREN MARTINEZ DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090797	\$133.22
MCCUMBEE, MARTHA G NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2013	2013-0094999	\$19.93
MCCUMBEE, MITCHELL NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2013	2013-0095000	\$9.30
MOCK, CURTIS L DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0040028	\$64.39
MOCK, CURTIS L DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0039930	\$58.82
MOCK, CURTIS L DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092868	\$54.03
MOORE, JOHN MCKINLEY III DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092886	\$40.87
MORENO, GILBERTO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0040803	\$152.83
MORENO, GILBERTO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0040703	\$136.86
MORENO, GILBERTO DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0090872	\$124.60
MURPHY, SCOTT ALAN DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092941	\$58.03
PARSON, SETH W DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0091001	\$36.61
PARSONS, SETH W DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0091007	\$12.81
PARSONS, SETH W DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0095095	\$11.22
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2005	2005-0042471	\$171.68
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2006	2006-0090649	\$160.64
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2007	2007-0090779	\$163.01
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2008	2008-0090791	\$151.57
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2009	2009-0090768	\$140.76
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2010	2010-0041776	\$123.18

PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2011	2011-0091036	\$113.73
PARTTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2012	2012-0091056	\$105.14
PRATTINUM ENTERPRISES INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2013	2013-0095124	\$96.53
PROFESSIONAL TREE NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2011	2011-0091046	\$83.75
PROFESSIONAL TREE NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2012	2012-0091064	\$77.50
PROFESSIONAL TREE NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2013	2013-0095130	\$79.76
ROWLAND, HAROLD C & HELEN V DOUBLE LISTED – RELEASED TO CARTERET	2014-0092145	\$14.48
STEWART, ALAN CHURCHILL BOAT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2014-0053321	\$97.66
SWAIN, DORIS VALUE CORRECTION PER BILL OF SALE	2014-0054250	\$91.05
TLC HOME HEALTH CARE INC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2013	2013-0094390	\$65.56
	68 – CREDIT MEMO (\$)	\$5,5948.65

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Craven County Health Director, Scott Harrelson, presented the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health/HIV/STD

101-6301-349-76-00	\$1,000.00	101-6301-440-32-40	\$1,000.00
HIV/STD State		Other Supplies	
TOTAL	\$1,000.00	TOTAL	\$1,000.00

Justification: Newly acquired state funds awarded to CCHD to ensure that patients receive supplementary patient educational materials to reduce the spread of HIV and STD’s. Funds will be spent to purchase educational brochures. Funds must be spent by 12/31/14.

Health/Immunization Action Plan

101-5802-349-61-00	\$27,359.00	101-5802-440-27-00	\$14,000.00
State Revenues		Advertising	
		101-5802-440-32-40	\$13,359.00
		Other Supplies	
TOTAL	\$27,359.00	TOTAL	\$27,359.00

Justification: CCHD was awarded one-time state funding in the amount of \$27,359 in order to develop a communication plan specifically intended to promote awareness of the new and revised immunization rules and requirements which become effective July 1, 2015.

Funds will be spent on a comprehensive media plan(broadcast, print and social media) to reach the audience as well as educational and outreach materials such as banners and flyers.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: SOCIAL SERVICES

Budget Amendments

Deputy Social Services Director, Alfreda Stout, presented the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval.

Senior 7295

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-7295-377-16-00	\$ 404.00	101-7295-450-40-00	\$19,607.00
USDA Congregate		Contractual Services	
101-7295-377-18-00	\$9,612.00		
USDA Home Delivered			
101-7295-377-22-00	\$ 771.00		
USDA Farm Caregiver			
101-0000-399-01-00	\$8,820.00		
Fund Balance			
TOTAL	\$19,607.00	TOTAL	\$19,607.00

Justification: HCCBG (Home Community Care Block Grant) budgeted amount was different than amount actually received. Revenue and expenditure must be brought into alignment. Also, budgeting additional revenue for USDA amount per meal, was originally calculated based on \$.60 per meal, and the correct rate is now \$.75 per meal.

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

DSS 7291 Mandated

101-7291-349-32-00	\$(13,847.00)	101-7291-450-23-07	\$(13,847.00)
Energy CIP, CP&L		Low Inc Energy Asst	
TOTAL	\$(13,847.00)	TOTAL	\$(13,847.00)

Justification: Funding authorization received for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program was slightly lower than original budget estimates indicated. There is no County match.

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

Weapons Ban

Social Services Director, Kent Flowers, presented a request by the Social Services Board that Commissioners consider a weapons ban in the County buildings. He stated that his staff is vulnerable having to deal with violent clients at times, but are not allowed to have weapons. Commissioner Dacey asked how many incidents have occurred. Mr. Flowers responded that there have been none other than parking lot incidents, but there have been scuffles in the lobby. Commissioner Tyson commented that an armed security guard may be a better option. Mr. Flowers stated that he is concerned and feels that some type of security measure needs to be put in place. Commissioner Tyson stated that it would be advisable to look into the cost associated with an armed security guard. Commissioner Dacey moved to direct the County Manager to study the matter further, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: PLANNING

Hurricane Irene Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGPO Demolition)

A bid opening for the demolition of one (1) property in the ongoing Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project was held on October 30, 2014. Bids were received by five contractors; Everette George, 4 Seasons Site & Demo, JE Dillahunt, LA Downey and Clint Blanton, as follows:

OCCUPANT	CONTRACTORS/BIDS				
1504 N Hills Ct. New Bern, NC	4 Seasons	Everette George	JE Dillahunt	LA Downey	Clint Blanton
	\$7,888	\$16,494	\$21,780	\$12,899	\$9,200

Chip Bartlett of Holland Consulting Planners presented a recommendation for award to the contractor submitting the lowest responsible bid, 4 Seasons Site & Demo. in the amount of \$7,888.

Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the contract award to the lowest responsible bidder, 4 Seasons Site & Demo in the amount of \$7,888, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

Subdivision for Approval

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, presented the following subdivision for the Board’s approval.

Myrtis T. Penny – Final: The property, owned by Myrtis T. Penny and surveyed by Newcomb Land Surveyors, LLC, is located within Twp. 5 on NC 101 Hwy; Parcel ID 5-015-019. The subdivision contains 1 lot on 1.59 acres of land and is proposed to be served by County water and an individual septic system.

Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the subdivision, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HUMAN RESOURCES – REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO PERSONNEL RESOLUTION

Human Resources Director, Amber Parker, requested amendment of the Personnel Resolution Article IV, Section 14, to include language in 14(a) clarifying eligibility for receiving Longevity Pay, which precludes such pay for part-time employees, and clarifying the time frame for distribution. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the amendment, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Approve Sale of Property

At the last meeting, a public hearing was held to receive public comment on the proposed conveyance of real property for economic development purposes. Commissioner McCabe moved to approve the sale of lots 13 and 14 in the Craven County Industrial Park at \$12,000 an acre, at a total amount of \$258,000, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

Request Public Hearing for Project Global

Economic Development Director, Timothy Downs, requested that the Board set a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on December 1, 2014 regarding incentives for Project Global for the purpose of industrial expansion and job creation. The specific purpose is to seek public input on a grant agreement discounting the purchase price for the property to be sold to the prospective buyer and seek public input on a grant agreement giving cash payments to the expanding industry.

The company, Moen, will develop a 200,000 square foot facility as a warehouse, and move their distribution center from Kinston to New Bern. The company plans to create 75 new job immediately, and projects further increases. The project is estimated at \$12M with an additional \$11M in equipment. This will create an approximated \$60,000 tax benefit to the County annually.

Request Approval of Right of First Refusal for Real Property in the Craven County Industrial Park

Mr. Downs presented a request by BSH Home Appliances, currently operating a distribution warehouse at the Craven County Industrial Park. BSH has expressed a potential interest in purchasing Lot 18/Parcel 8-217-10001 in the Park, which is approximately 23 acres. Craven County owns the lot and as such, BSH has asked for a Right of Refusal for the lot. Commissioner Taylor asked to be excused from deliberations and the vote. Commissioner Allen moved to excuse Commissioner Taylor, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Dacey and unanimously carried. Commissioner Tyson inquired if there is a time limit on the rights requested. Mr. Downs responded that there is a five year sunset clause included in the agreement. Commissioner Dacey moved to approve the granting of the Right of First Refusal to BSH for Lot #18, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried, with Commissioner Taylor having been excused.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN CRAVEN COUNTY, COMMITTEE OF 100, CITY OF NEW BERN AND CITY OF HAVELOCK FOR JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO CRAVEN 100 ALLIANCE

The 2013 Craven County Economic Development Strategic Plan recommended that Craven County develop a public-private economic development organization to allow for enhanced participation and investment from the private sector, and participation of the two largest municipalities: the City of Havelock and the City of New Bern.

To that end, Craven County staff and Commissioners have participated in meetings and committees related to this process, with discussions having developed a proposed memorandum of understanding, which includes the following:

- 21 Member Board of Directors (11 private members/10 public members)
- Craven County Government would receive four (4) dedicated public seats on the Board of Directors (1 – County Commissioner, 1- County Manager and 2 – At-Large Seats determined by the County Commissioners)
- 7 Member Executive Committee (4 private members/3 public members)
- Craven County Government would receive one (1) dedicated seat (Craven County Manager) on the Executive Committee
- Craven County would have an initial investment of \$25,000, and initial annual dues of \$49,181
- Our current Economic Development staff would remain employees of Craven County and would be loaned to the new economic development organization. County staff will remain under direction of the County Manager and the Craven County Personnel Policy
- The funding from the Eastern Region would remain as required by State Law with Craven County and used at the discretion of the Craven County Commissioners.

County staff recommended that the Board of Commissioners approve the proposed Memorandum of Understanding, and authorize the Chairman to execute all documents related to the creation of the new Economic Development Organization.

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding and to authorize the Chairman to sign and execute all documents related to the creation of the new Economic Development Organization.

APPOINTMENTS

Pending

Craven Community College Board of Trustees: Bill Naumann

The Board was apprised of the impending resignation of Bill Naumann from the Craven Community College Board of Trustees to be effective December 31. Commissioner Taylor moved to appoint Jennifer Dacey, effective January 1, 2015, to replace Mr. Naumann, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

Havelock Board of Adjustment: Nancy Webster

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

Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority: Fletcher Watts, Robert Lewis, Dell Ipock, Charles Dees, Gary Essex

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

Current

Economic Development Organization

Based on the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Economic Development Organization, the Board was requested to appoint four (4) representatives for the County as follows:

- 1 – County Commissioner
- 1 – County Manager
- 2 – At large representatives (one can be another locally elected official, not a County Commissioner)

Commissioner Taylor nominated Commissioner Tyson for the County Commissioner position. Commissioner Dacey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

County Manager, Jack Veit, was appointed by acclamation.

Commissioner Mark nominated Commissioner Taylor for an At-Large position, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

It was the consensus of the Board to defer the second At-Large position. County Manager, Jack Veit, recommended appointing a private citizen or elected official outside one of the partner municipalities.

Upcoming Appointments

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

December

- Commissioners' Appointments
- Clean Sweep Committee
- CRSWMA
- Health Board
- Cove City Library
- Regional Library

January

- Child Protection Team
- Clean Sweep Committee
- Planning Board

February

- Child Protection Team
- Clean Sweep Committee
- Firemen's Relief Fund
- Fire Tax Commissioners

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager, Jack Veit, reminded the Board of the groundbreaking at the new water plant being held at 11:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Allen commented that this would be his last meeting, but he will be present on December 1 to approve the minutes. He stated that he has served twenty years on this Board and 11 years on the Havelock Board of Commissioners and prior to that, he served on the Havelock Planning Board. He expressed his enjoyment serving with many fine folks, including the current Board, even though they have not always agreed. He also stated that he was the last Commissioner remaining who was elected countywide.

Commissioner Tyson stated that it has been an honor and a privilege to have served with Commissioners Allen and Taylor. He felt as though the recent election went as smoothly as could be desired and he commended the Elections Department staff on a job well done.

Commissioner Dacey announced that ACT will be moving forward in fundraising efforts. He stated that Legislative priorities are being developed for the counties and that he will be attending the upcoming NCACC Legislative Goals Committee meeting. He announced a Town Hall meeting in the County Administration building on November 21 from 2:30-3:30. He thanked Commissioner Allen for being a team player and expressed his appreciation for the sacrifices made by Commissioner Taylor and his family, as well as his diligence and oversight of the Economic Development efforts.

Commissioner McCabe expressed his enjoyment in working with Commissioner Allen for eight years and Commissioner Taylor for four years. He expressed his hopes that God will continue to bless them, and he encouraged them to continue to work outside the Board to benefit the community.

Commissioner Sampson thanked Commissioners Allen and Taylor and commented that they have not always agreed on every issue but that was the way it should be. He stated that he has worked with Commissioner Allen for six terms. He encouraged citizens to avail themselves of health insurance, and stated that the open enrollment period is soon approaching. He commented that on his recent trip to Wilmington, he saw gas prices higher than in this area. He speculated that fuel will be a problem during the winter and asked citizens for a commitment to help those who cannot help themselves.

Commissioner Taylor read the following statement:

Over the weekend, a statement was released by Mr. Hal James, Chairman of the Coastal Carolina Taxpayers Association:

Then we will hear consideration of approving a "First Right of Refusal" for BSH Home Appliances, to purchase property for "\$10 and other good and valuable consideration." Do they literally mean \$10? Why should the county do this? It will make it harder to find another buyer who will know that any offer they make can be topped by BSH by a small amount and they would lose out. **SURELY THIS COULD NOT BE A GOODBYE GIFT TO COMMISSIONER TAYLOR?**

Clearly, after 4 years of dedicated and transparent service, the CCTA does not know me at all or the workings of the county administration. Statements like this are not only reckless but hurtful. I will remind Mr. James that at no time in the last 4 years did I do anything that would benefit me personally or professionally. On the contrary, my role as commissioner meant that I was “locked in” to my current role at BSH and stifled my ability for advancement. Those of you who know me also realize that on days that required additional attention for the county, I actually took vacation from work to ensure my time with the county remained separate from that of BSH.

All I have is my reputation. Recently, I had to endure false allegations from my opposition and now prior to my departure this. I just could not allow that statement to stand.

This will be my final opportunity to have extended comments as a member of this board. I would just like to say that it has been a wonderful 4 years and as a board, we have accomplished much. I do appreciate your recognition of my work with economic development and for allowing me to continue to work in this area for the county as a board member of the C1A.

Another item, though not reported but of huge benefit to the town of Cove City, Craven County will begin selling them bulk water at the beginning of next fiscal year saving the town many thousands of dollars. Also, for Cove City, upon their request, we have relinquished control of the park located in Cove City which will allow the town to grow that park at a pace faster than we could have at the county level. I look forward to continue to find funding streams to allow them to expand that park.

Finally, I would like to say that I have enjoyed my time here and will miss the work. However, my family is very excited that they are gaining 30-40 more hours per week of my time.

Chairman Mark stated it has been a pleasure to work with Commissioner Allen for the last four years.

They had previously worked together during his presidency of the Republican Men’s Association. He appreciates his mentorship. He thanked Commissioner Taylor for his hard work and dedication on Economic Development.

At 9:45 a.m. Commissioner McCabe 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