

**AGENDA  
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016  
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

1. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS
2. CONSENT AGENDA
  - A. Minutes of February 15, 2016
  - B. Tax Releases and Refunds
  - C. Military Family of the Quarter
  - D. CARTS Budget Amendment
3. POTABLE WATER PROJECT UPDATE: Chris Windley, McKim & Creed

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

4. CARTS: Kelly Walker, Transportation Director
  - A. 5339 Resolution
  - B. Drug and Alcohol Policy Approval
5. RECREATION – AWARD PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION BID:  
Eddie Games, Recreation Director
6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Timothy Downs, Economic Development Director
  - A. Resolution Authorizing Sale of Real Property in Industrial Park
  - B. Update on Economic Development Activities
7. FINANCE – BUDGET AMENDMENTS & ORDINANCE UPDATE: Craig Warren,  
Finance Director
  - A. Schools
  - B. CDBG – FY12
8. APPOINTMENTS

9. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Jim Hicks
10. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit
11. 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 MARCH 7, 2016. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman George S. Liner  
Vice Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.  
Commissioner Scott C. Dacey  
Commissioner Jason R. Jones  
Commissioner Thomas F. Mark  
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe  
Commissioner Steve Tyson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF ABSENT:**

Craig Warren, Finance Director

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the agenda, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

**PETITIONS OF CITIZENS**

*Syd Rodenbarger, 534 Joyner Drive, Havelock*, HOA President of Waterways Edge, stated that residents have been notified that their water is in violation of contaminant levels due to being at the end of the physical line of the water system. He inquired about the projected date for completion of the new filtration system and asked if there is any recommendation on home filtration systems that should be considered in the interim.

*Ray Griffin, 1981 Streets Ferry Road, Vanceboro*, spoke about the deteriorating political, moral and spiritual condition of the country.

*Johnny Clark, 5560 Hwy. 55 W., Cove City*, stated that Jesus never tolerated sin and that morals are not being taught anymore.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*Minutes of February 15, 2016*

Commissioner Mark moved to approve the minutes of February 15, 2016 regular session, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

*Tax Releases and Refunds*

Commissioner Mark moved to approve the following tax releases and refunds, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

*Credits*

<b>TAXPAYER NAME</b>	<b>TICKET #</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
ABBOTT, RICH CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROPERTY VALUE	2015-0090910	\$635.12
ALI SMITH DESIGNS LLC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2014	2014-0091100	\$80.87
ALI SMITH DESIGNS LLC NOT IN BUSINESS 1/1/2015	2015-0090551	\$74.39
AMERSON, JESSE ROBERT SENIOR EXCLUSION REMOVED IN ERROR	2015-0001084	\$401.30
ATLANTIC WINGS LLC ORDERED BY BOARD OF E & R 02-16-16	2015-0091860	\$3,510.28
ATLANTIC WINGS LLC DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT 0108269	2015-0091772	\$2,151.89
ATLANTIC WINGS LLC & JOES TOYS ORDERED BY BOARD OF E & R 02-16-16	2015-0091861	\$1,053.08
AUGUST, JOHN L & ADELAIEDE F MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0002017	\$191.92
BARWICK, PATSY DAUGHERTY DWELLING VACANT SINCE 2010	2015-0003269	\$36.99
BATTISTA, TOM NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0003467	\$277.71
BOWER, PAUL EDGAR MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0091604	\$227.35
BROWN, ELIJAH B JR DWELLING VACANT SINCE 2012	2015-0007032	\$36.99
CARUTHERS, JACKIE LEE JR MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0009554	\$71.54
COUTU, RAY & SARA DID NOT OWN 1/1/2015	2015-0012145	\$83.17
DICKENS, DAVID D JR CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROPERTY VALUE	2015-0090039	\$1,436.34
DOUGHTY, MATTHEW CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROPERTY VALUE	2015-0015586	\$13.98
EDWARDS, LARRY W JR & KELLY A DID NOT OWN 1/1/2015	2015-0016920	\$12.57
FIFTH THIRD BANK NO TAX SITUS IN CRAVEN CO FOR 2014	2015-0090163	\$32.14
GONZALEZ, ERNESTO NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0091078	\$319.35

HALL, RUBEN HRS DWELLING DID NOT EXIST 1-1-2015	2015-0023933	\$73.33
HALL, RUBEN HRS DWELLING DID NOT EXIST 1-1-2015	2014-0023809	\$83.25
HARRELL, CHARLES RUSSELL II DID NOT OWN 1/1/2015	2015-0024882	\$79.61
HOFF, JUSTIN THOMAS MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0027314	\$151.49
HOWARD, DUSTIN JAMES DID NOT OWN 1/1/2015	2015-0027992	\$106.95
JACKSON, ANTHONY BRYAN MILITARY EXEMPTION	2014-0091585	\$271.23
JACKSON, ANTHONY BRYAN MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0029283	\$276.83
JONES, CASEY DONALD MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0030553	\$15.90
KILBURY, RANDY E NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0031930	\$210.84
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2010	2010-0029194	\$74.55
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2011	2011-0032410	\$68.79
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2012	2012-0032308	\$63.56
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092588	\$58.58
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0091698	\$54.26
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY DID NOT OWN 1/1/2015	2015-0032392	\$49.70
KITE, JESSICA LINDSAY NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0033043	\$71.74
LARSON, CHRISTOPHER E & HEATHE MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0091665	\$104.28
LOCKLEAR, TIMOTHY AND CAROL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2013	2013-0092701	\$52.43
LOVELACE, CAROL A REBILLED SENIOR EXCLUSION FOR 2015	2016-0090047	\$12.00
LOWE, RUBY H & LOWE SANDY ELIZ FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2013-0033994	\$503.78
LOWE, RUBY H & LOWE SANDY ELIZ FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2014-0034722	\$466.22

LOWE, RUBY H & LOWE SANDY ELIZ FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2015-0035381	\$424.46
PARSONS, HALLOTT M DOUBLE BILLED – ACCT 105891	2015-0023973	\$64.09
PHELPS, JOHN DUANE & RHEADAWN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2014-0092004	\$9.86
PHELPS, JOHN DUANE & RHEADAWN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0045557	\$8.91
PHELPS, RHEA DWAN & JOHN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2012-0045276	\$128.60
PHELPS, RHEA DAWN & JOHN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2013-0043507	\$91.86
PHELPS, RHEA DAWN & JOHN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2014-0092006	\$104.00
PHELPS, RHEA DAWN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0045562	\$85.84
PLUMMER, ANDREW DEAN MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0046009	\$28.27
POE, DUSTIN MICHAEL MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0046044	\$67.51
ROBINSON, CHRISTOPHER G & MARG MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0049260	\$20.09
ROCCO, MICHAEL DANIEL MILITAR EXEMPT	2015-0049359	\$12.94
ROSETTI, JOHN MILLER NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0049696	\$10.87
RUNDUS, FRANK C & JENA M MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0050084	\$20.45
SATTERFIELD LARRY LEE MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0091697	\$208.81
SMITH-MAYFIELD, ROSA MARIE DWELLING RAIZED IN 2014	2015-0052800	\$81.78
TURNER, WILLIS AND DEBRA CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROEPRTY VALUE	2015-0090468	\$308.59
VENEGAS, RAMON AND COOPER, BET CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROPERTY VALUE	2015-0091534	\$180.81
WALTON, MICHAEL & CASI R MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0059997	\$75.67
WARD, LYDIA RENEE WETHERINGTON DWELLING NOT OCCUPIED SINCE 2001	2015-0060162	\$36.99

WARD, NEIL & CRYSTAL MILITARY EXEMPTION	2011-0059905	\$21.97
WARD, NEIL & CRYSTAL MILITARY EXEMPTION	2015-0060170	\$16.65
WELLS, MATTHEW DOUBLE BILLED SAME ACCOUNT	2013-0094414	\$55.29
WOODRINS, JAMES % BRIDGE POINT NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2015-0091580	\$2,479.49
	64 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$18,040.10

*Refunds*

FOYE, CHARLOTTE S DWELLING UNOCCUPIED SINCE 2010	2015-0019482	\$36.00
HOWARD, DUSTIN JAMES DID NOT OWN 1/1/2014	2014-0092351	\$184.06
ROCCO, MICHAEL DANIEL MILITARY EXEMPT	2014-0048163	\$10.39
VITOLS, WILBUR M CLERICAL ERROR IN VALUATION	2015-0059420	\$39.21
	4 – REFUND (S)	\$269.66

*Military Family of the Quarter Resolution*

The Board was requested to adopt the following resolution recognizing the family of Master Sergeant Timothy Newhouse as Military Family of the Quarter. A luncheon will be held at noon on March 10 at the New Bern Golf and Country Club in their honor. Commissioner Mark moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY  
OF MASTER SERGEANT TIMOTHY NEWHOUSE  
AS MILITARY FAMILY OF THE QUARTER**

**WHEREAS**, Master Sergeant Timothy Newhouse is currently stationed aboard MCAS Cherry Point with the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT), along with his wife Tracey and their children Connor (10) and Emily (6); and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his time at MCAS Cherry Point, MSgt Newhouse has deployed twice to Afghanistan, once with VMA-223 and second with MALS-14 as the Avionics Chief, dedicating countless hours in support of his units’ success and instructing his Marines on the importance of good community relations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newhouse family has volunteered many hours at New Song United Methodist Church in New Bern by decorating the sanctuary for holiday services, assisting with the youth and children’s classrooms and are committed every Sunday to serving on the First Impressions team serving refreshments. They also volunteer at the local horse stables, serving as the stable manager, responsible for the care of 17 horses during the recent cold weather, as well as readily assisting in the sweeping and cleaning of the horse stalls. These gracious acts of community service have also been witnessed and taught to their children; and

**WHEREAS**, MSgt Newhouse has also dedicated his off-duty time to Creekside Elementary School, assisting in several class field trips and was requested by a New Bern High School Senior to serve as his mentor as he completed his JRROTC Senior project on gun and range safety.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** recognizes the family of Master Sergeant Timothy Newhouse for their strong leadership, mentorship and dedicated service to their community and to the continued success of military members around them.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** congratulates them on being selected Military Family of the Quarter.

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

*CARTS Budget Amendment*

Commissioner Mark moved to adopt the following budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

*CARTS Rural Admin*

101-7002-369-54-00	\$1,836.00	101-7001-450-31-01	\$1,836.00
Jones Co HCCBG		Fuel	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,836.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,836.00</b>

**Justification:** Jones County was allocated \$1,652 in additional HCCBG funding. Jones County decided to spend the additional funding, plus their local match with CARTS. Providing transportation to these passengers will require additional money to be spent in fuel.

**POTABLE WATER PROJECT UPDATE**

Chris Windley of McKim and Creed updated the Board with a presentation concerning the progress of the potable water project.

He reported that the project is approximately 75% complete, with the following scheduled completion dates:

- Division I – July 2016 target date
- Division II – March 31 2016
- Division III – April 30 2016

He stated that the startup and commissioning is projected for late July to early September, including testing. The project should be finished and operational by October.

Mr. Windley stated that contaminant limitations at Waterways Edge are back into compliance. The monitoring is ongoing, along with quarterly flushing of the line to avoid accumulation of contaminants at the end of the line.

The Chairman requested that staff get together after the meeting to address residents’ concerns in the interim until the plant is operational.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: CARTS**

*5339 Resolution*

CARTS Director, Kelly Walker, presented a resolution granting permission for CARTS to apply for 5339 funding, which the North Carolina Board of Transportation (NCBOT) has approved for CARTS to purchase three vehicles. This is federal funding coming through the North Carolina Department of Transportation/Public Transportation Division (NCDOT/PTD).

These vehicles will be used in the urbanized area and will replace vehicles that were previously purchased with rural money and have met useful life. Originally, CARTS included these vehicles as part of the FY 2017 5311 Community Transportation Program (CTP) capital grant request. The 5311 grant request for these vehicles will be denied by NCDOT/PTD because they have been approved for 5339 funding. Ms. Walker stated, that although a public hearing is not required for this request, permission to apply is required.

Commissioner Dacey inquired if there are new obligations to which the County will be subjected. Ms. Walker replied that there are none. Chairman Liner questioned the accuracy of the match total, and Ms. Walker acknowledged that the total amount needs correction.

Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the resolution, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

#### *Drug and Alcohol Policy Approval*

Ms. Walker advised the Board that as a result of the drug and alcohol compliance review conducted by RLS Associates, CARTS is required to update its drug and alcohol policy. She stated that the zero tolerance drug and alcohol policy presented is based on a template provided by RLS Associates and has passed approval by RLS Associates as meeting all federal requirements except adoption by the Board. Commissioner McCabe moved to adopt the zero tolerance Drug and Alcohol Policy, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

### **DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: RECREATION – AWARD PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION BID**

Recreation and Parks Director, Eddie Games, presented a recommendation that Primus Contracting from Newport, NC, be awarded the construction bid to build the inclusive playground at Creekside Park. The plans for this project were engineered and designed by Rivers & Associates of Greenville. Of the five (5) bids submitted for this project, Primus was the responsible low bidder at \$917,989.00. Mr. Games explained that even as the lowest bidder, this bid came in over budget but staff was successful in negotiating ways to meet the budget, and Primus was able to propose VE (value engineered) cost savings to get the project under budget. Based on the performance of Primus, which is currently working with Craven County on another project, and discussions with them on this project, award of the bid was recommended.

Commissioner McCabe moved to award the contract to Primus Contracting, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

### **DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### *Resolution Authorizing Sale of Real Property in Industrial Park*

Economic Development Director, Timothy Downs, presented an offer from BSH to purchase Lot 18 (also known as Parcel 2) in the Craven County Industrial Park. The County has determined that the fair market value of Lot 18 is \$460,000, or \$20,000 per acre. On October 19, 2015, and after proper public notice, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing concerning its intent to convey and sell to BSH Lot 18. In an effort to encourage the location and expansion of other industries within the County and to reward BSH for its intended investment in the County, the Board considered conveying and selling Lot 18 to BSH for \$23,000 or \$1,000 per acre, which will provide BSH an incentive of \$437,000 when compared to the fair market value; however, after the close of the public hearing in October the Board did not deliberate the sale of the industrial park property. BSH is now ready to move forward with the real estate transaction and has come forward with an offer to purchase the parcel for \$23,000, or \$1,000 per acre. The Board was requested to consider authorizing the sale and the execution of documents, necessary to effectuate this economic development project.

Commissioner Jones expressed his concerns about the graveyard on the parcel. Mr. Downs stated that originally BSH was to take on the obligation of the cemetery. They have since renegotiated and in the proposed plan, the cemetery will not be conveyed to BSH and will now have a dedicated access.

Commissioner Tyson moved to authorize the resolution, agreement for purchase and sale of real property and agreement conveying real property for economic development purposes, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

*Update on Economic Development Activities*

Mr. Downs presented an update on economic development activities in the County over the last quarter. He shared a new poster for the upcoming “Craven Works” event and stated that the Craven 100 Alliance is discussing improvements to the industrial park. He stated that the County has received an Electricities grant for site analysis and marketing for the out-parcels at the airport. He reported that there have been 15 site requests since October and that Project Harness, from South Africa, has made a final site visit. They are currently in the decision phase. A French company is also investigating the area. He reported that the Moen building is complete and they are currently moving in equipment. The BSH project is progressing and they are expected to be in the building by this time next year. There are discussions of a new engineering and logistics building for FRC east. Mr. Downs stated that the “Craven Works” job fair is scheduled for April 12 and there are currently 23 employers who have signed up, but an equal number of additional registrants is expected.

Commissioner Tyson inquired about the status of the incubator building. Mr. Downs stated that to date \$85,000 has been secured in grants: \$65,000 from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and \$20,000 from the Harold Bate Foundation.

The project has made it through the first round for the Golden Leaf grant. If it is successful, renovation of the facility can begin July 1, with a December target opening date.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: FINANCE – BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND ORDINANCE UPDATE**

County Manager, Jack Veit, presented the following budget amendments and ordinance update submitted by the Finance Director for the Board’s approval.

*Schools*

101-0000-399-01-00	\$282,527.00	101-8500-480-37-01	\$282,527.00
Fund Balance		Current Expense	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$282,527.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$282,527.00</b>

**Justification:** The NC Dept of Public Instruction released in mid September changes to the pay structure for school personnel as well as State’s allotment for programs and funding sources. To provide same funding for equivalent locally funded positions, a budget amendment to increase the school’s current expenditures by \$282,527 is needed.

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

*CDBG FY 12 Water and Sewer Infrastructure Project #12-C-2493*

**Planning**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
282-0000-377-02-00	\$(22,641.00)	282-4082-430-76-67	\$( 5,876.00)
Grant CDBG		Sewer Improvements	
		282-4082-430-76-68	\$( 5,153.00)
		Water Improvements	
		282-4082-430-76-70	\$(11,612.00)
		Administration	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$(22,641.00)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$(22,641.00)</b>

**Justification:** Budget amendment needed to close out CDBG FY 12 Water & Sewer Infrastructure Project CDBG #12-C-2493. Closed project in the amount of \$727,359; original budget for \$750,000.

**Ordinance**

**CDBG FY 12 Water & Sewer Infrastructure  
Fund 282  
Closed**

This ordinance is hereby approved for the following expenditure amounts of the CDBG FY 12 Water & Sewer Infrastructure Project

*Expenditures:*

Sewer Improvements	\$	533,998.00
Water Improvements	\$	155,270.00
Administration	\$	38,091.00
 TOTAL	 \$	 727,359.00

The following revenues were received for the CDBG FY 12 Water & Sewer Infrastructure Project.

Revenues:

CDBG Grant	\$	727,359.00
 TOTAL	 \$	 727,359.00

This ordinance is hereby approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

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

**APPOINTMENTS**

*Craven Community Child Protection Team: Dawn Gibson, Bradley Lanto, Walter Mills, Christopher Morning*

The Board was apprised of the expiring terms of Dawn Gibson, Bradley Lanto, Walter Mills and Christopher Morning on the Craven Community Child Protection Team. Chairman Liner nominated Kimberly Tutwiler for appointment to replace Christopher Morning. There being no additional nominees, Ms. Tutwiler was appointed by acclamation.

*Craven Aging Planning Board: Dean Roberts*

Chairman Liner nominated Lydia Brown for appointment to the Craven Aging Planning Board to replace Dean Roberts, who does not wish to continue serving. There being no additional nominees, Ms. Brown was appointed by acclamation.

*Nursing Home Advisory Committee*

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

*Board of Adjustment: Lee Kyle Allen III*

Chairman Liner nominated Lee Kyle Allen III for reappointment to the Board of Adjustment. There being no additional nominees, Mr. Allen was reappointed by acclamation.

*River Bend Board of Adjustment (Extraterritorial Jurisdiction)*

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

*New Bern Area Farmers' Market Board: Eileen Bress*

Commissioner Jones presented the application of Donald Heath and nominated him for appointment to the New Bern Area Farmers' Market Board. There being no other nominees, Mr. Heath was appointed by acclamation.

*Upcoming Appointments*

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

**April**

- Craven Aging Planning Board
- Health Board
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- Down East RPO
- Agricultural Advisory Board

**May**

- ABC Board
- CarolinaEast Medical Center
- EMS Advisory Committee
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- New Bern Board of Adjustment
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- Coastal Carolina Airport Authority

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT***Initial Offer to Purchase Real Property – Off of Maul Swamp Road, Vanceboro  
(Parcel Number 1-044-156)*

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, presented an offer received by the County in the amount \$1,000 for the property located off of Maul Swamp Road, Vanceboro; Parcel ID #1-044-156. The total taxes and costs that were foreclosed on were \$1,469.12. The current tax value is \$13,500.00.

Commissioner Mark moved to accept the offer and advertise the property for upset bids in accordance with the General Statutes, seconded by Commissioner Jones and unanimously carried.

*Report on Potential Sale of Real Property – 408 Suttons Alley, New Bern  
(Parcel Number 8-006-034)*

Mr. Hicks reported that the County and City of New Bern gave preliminary approval to sell the property located at 408 Suttons Alley, New Bern; however, the City of New Bern recently rejected its final approval of the sale, and therefore the property will not be sold at this time.

*Disposition of Property located at 1129 G Street, New Bern (Parcel Number 8-006-034)*

Mr. Hicks reported that on November 19, 2015, the property located at 1129 G Street, New Bern, was acquired jointly with the City of New Bern through a tax foreclosure. Based upon the percentage of taxes owed, the City owns a 58.85% interest, and the County owns a 41.15% interest. The total taxes and abatement liens owed at the time of foreclosure was \$7,261.10. The current tax value of the land is \$8,190.00. The lot is approximately 0.279 acres.

He stated that 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 \$4,000, assuming there is no asbestos or other hazardous material discovered. The City has inquired as to whether the County desires to pay its prorated cost for demolition (estimated to be approximately \$1,646.00), or in the alternative whether the County would prefer to donate its interest to the City.

Commissioner Sampson moved to donate the County's interest to the City of New Bern, seconded by Commissioner Mark and unanimously carried.

*Donation of Various Properties to the City of New Bern, to be conveyed to Habitat for Humanity*

Mr. Hicks reported that the County and the City of New Bern have acquired joint ownership of various parcels of land through tax foreclosures. The City is requesting that the parties convey their interests in the properties to Habitat for Humanity. Should the County agree to the request, it may be structured in various ways; but it was recommended that the County convey its interests to the City, and then the City would convey the properties to Habitat for Humanity. The City would contractually agree with Habitat for Humanity that it must improve the properties within two years, or any properties still unimproved would revert back to the City of New Bern. Further, in that event, the City would re-convey to the County the County's previous percentage of ownership in each such property. The properties are as follows:

- 813 West Street (Parcel 8-007-361)
- 817 West Street (Parcel 8-007-227)
- 1205 Church Street (Parcel 8-011-172)
- 1022 N Bern Street (Parcel 8-006-142)
- 876 Howard Street (Parcel 8-003-081)
- 703 Bern Street (Parcel 8-007-271)

Commissioner Sampson moved to convey the County's interests to the City of New Bern, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

County Manager, Jack Veit, presented the agenda for the March 21, 2016 work session, as follows:

1. Joint meeting with Board of Education
2. Briefing on recent JLUS study; recommendations and timeline proposed ordinance changes
3. Animal Shelter project update
4. Lunch and discussion with state legislative delegation

Mr. Veit stated that he will send out a briefing sheet of priorities for discussion with the legislators by the end of the week.

He reported that One Stop voting has begun, being held downstairs in the Craven County Administration Building.

Mr. Veit reported that the Congressional map change requirement necessitates an additional election to be held in June, and projected to cost approximately \$60,000 in unbudgeted funds.

He stated that staff is currently starting on review of the FY 16-17 budget.

Mr. Veit reported on a meeting earlier in the day with School Of Government staff studying use of downtown parcels for the City of New Bern. He stated that the parcel adjacent to the Tax Building has been cited as the most feasible for development, and the outcome of the County's participation would inevitably involve an expense to the County (relocation of the Tax and Register of Deeds offices). He sought direction from the Board as to the investment in staff time for exploration of options and recommended that a meeting should be scheduled with the Board of Commissioners in a work session setting before the project goes too far (possibly within the next two months). As the time for a clear decision approaches, it was the consensus of the Board

for staff not to spend too much time in the planning process until the Board can have further discussion in work session, likely during budget work sessions.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

*Commissioner Jones* reported on his attendance at a Ft. Barnwell Fire Department fundraiser where \$9,000 was raised and a Twp. #9 Fire Dept. Bingo fundraiser where \$5,000 was raised. Departments are trying to augment appropriations from the taxpayers. He also attended a school budget information/input meeting and commended the Board of Education and staff for the time they are putting into the identification of options to address budget challenges. He commented on a discussion he had with Mayor John Wetherington regarding the Trillium grant of \$250,000 to Dover. He stated that bids came in at \$249,997.

*Commissioner Tyson* announced that property revaluation information is available online on the GIS site. He reported that the recent trash symposium held was well attended by representatives of a number of sectors and several good ideas were discussed. He commented on his attendance at local Mardi Gras events over the weekend, as well as the Battle of Batchelors Creek re-enactment.

*Commissioner Dacey* reported on his attendance on February 22 at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners reception at the NACo Legislative Conference held in Washington, D.C., and he addressed problems with Medicaid reimbursements.

He stated that he met with the New Bern Library Board facility committee to discuss the library's space constraints, and that some of the ideas discussed will be brought before the Board of Commissioners.

He reported that he held a Trent Woods Town Hall meeting on February 29, but there were no attendees. He commented that he will be attending an ACT meeting on March 8 and an Eastern Carolina Council meeting on March 10.

*Commissioner McCabe* reported that he was invited to participate in the Havelock High School Black History program on February 29. He reported that the Morehead City Port facility is moving its headquarters to Ferry Road. He stated that he is confused by a report that D.O.T. is in the process of paving Catfish Lake Road, which is costing \$12M. He stated that he does not see this as a priority.

*Commissioner Sampson* reported on his attendance at an Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board (ECWFD) meeting on March 3 involving eight Counties, working together for jobs and senior citizens. Employment Security Commission, Community College and Law Enforcement are all collaborators. He commented that citizens are having a problem with trash in the City of New Bern. He stated that he has received criticism from citizens regarding the Senior Center food quality and portions. He stated that he is very satisfied with the current gas prices.

*Chairman Liner* reported on his attendance at the Tucker Creek Middle School band trailer dedication recently and also attended the schools' budget workshop. There will be another schools' budget work session being held on March 9 at 9:15 a.m. He announced that he will be attending an adult spelling bee on March 8 at 5:30 at the Havelock Tourist Center as well as Havelock's retreat. The Chairman asked that any questions for the March 21 work session with the Board of Education that involve information gathering be given to the County Manager in advance. He distributed sponsorship information regarding the Purple Heart dinner being held in August and announced that tickets will be available beginning late April or early May. There will be 140 Purple Heart honorees.

At 8:55 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

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Chairman George S. Liner  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan  
Clerk to the Board