

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN, SITTING AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CRAVEN COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICTS, MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2001. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 12:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman C.W. "Pete" Bland  
Vice-Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.  
Commissioner Lee K. Allen  
Commissioner Donald Phillips  
Commissioner Albert H. Toon  
Commissioner Charles F. Tyson, Jr.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Commissioner J. Harold Talton

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Harold Blizzard, County Manager  
George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager  
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer  
Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Director  
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board  
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following the roll call, Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the minutes of April 2, 2001, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

**NEUSE RIVER SEWER FACILITIES**

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, presented for discussion the matter of ownership of the Neuse River sewer facilities. He reported that the City of New Bern has indicated that they can provide service at a significantly lower cost against which the County cannot compete. He stated that the County's continuing to operate the system would result in increasing cost to the users. The City, should they take over the system, would charge customers 125% of the in-city rate and any future increases would be proportional. The City has also indicated that they would employ the current staff of the system. He recommended that a workshop be held for providing more information to the Board, should they be interested in pursuing the matter further, followed by opportunities for public input. Former County Commissioner, Gary Bleu, was recognized to address the Board and stated his opposition to the concept. He expressed the belief that the City of New Bern is trying to create an opportunity to annex areas of Township 7. Commissioner Tyson stated that the Board should study the option and take its direction from the responses of customers in the affected area after public hearing. Mr. Blizzard was directed to set up a workshop date.

At 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Phillips moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

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Chairman C.W. "Pete" Bland  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Gwendolyn M. Bryan  
Clerk to the Board