

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN, SITTING AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICTS, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MAY 7, 2001 IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 9:05 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

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

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Gary Bleau wished to address the Board concerning the proposed sale of Neuse River Sewer System to the City of New Bern; however, he yielded to Mrs. Mary Swartz.

Mrs. Swartz addressed the Board concerning the proposed sale of the Neuse River Water and Sewer System and spoke in opposition to the sale of the system to New Bern. Her position was that the citizens of Township Seven should be able to vote on the future of their system.

REPORT ON NEUSE RIVER SEWER SYSTEM PROPOSAL

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, provided information on the proposal by the City of New Bern to take over the Neuse River Sewer System. Mr. Gary Bleau inquired as to the possibility of the County selling the City capacity on this sewer system. Water & Sewer Superintendent, Rusty Hayes, responded that the system would not accommodate it. Mr. Blizzard emphasized that the citizens of Township Seven will ultimately decide the fate of the Neuse River Sewer System. He explained that, should the proposed takeover not proceed, rates for citizens will undoubtedly increase by approximately ten percent (10%), at the least. He further explained that fully funding the depreciation of the system would require a twenty percent (20%) increase on current rates, as well as the use of all capital reserve fees. Mr. Blizzard projected that all of the facts would be available for consideration by the citizens of Township Seven at the Board's first meeting in June so that a public hearing could be scheduled. It was agreed that a special mailing would be distributed to residents of Township Seven announcing the public hearing, which the Board will set at its next meeting.

At 9:37 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried.

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

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board