

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, NOVEMBER 5, 2001 IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:40 A.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
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following the call to order, Commissioner Phillips moved to approve minutes of October 15, 2001, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried.

AVAILABILITY FEES

Water and Sewer Superintendent, Rusty Hayes, presented information concerning water availability rates in each of the county water systems. He explained the change in the billing, which resulted in a complaint from the East Lily Masonic Lodge in the East Craven District, which the Board discussed at its meeting on October 15th. He explained that all of the districts have only two (2) rates; those being residential and commercial rates. However, East Lily Lodge was inadvertently charged on the basis of a residential rate from the inception of their service. Two months ago when bills were being prepared, he stated that a water department clerk discovered the error and corrected it, resulting in a billing to East Lily Lodge at the commercial rate of \$17.00, as opposed to a residential rate of \$11.00. He proposed that one alternative to charging non-profits at the commercial rate would be to establish a third rate for non-profit organizations.

Commissioner Toon moved to appoint a separate Water Advisory Board for the East Craven Water District, seconded by Commissioner Sampson. Following discussion concerning the role of the Water Advisory Board, as well as the Board of Directors, the motion was withdrawn. It was suggested that Commissioner Toon consider recommendations for appointment to the Water Advisory Board from the East Craven District.

In addressing the question of the need for a third category of availability fees, Commissioner Allen recommended that the Manager be directed to study the cost and effect of a single rate or adding a third rate. Mr. Hayes advised the Board that his clerical staff has been encouraged to maintain a keen eye for errors needing correction and to continue correcting errors; however, he has asked that his staff inform him of these corrections as they are being made.

At 9:12 p.m. Commissioner Talton moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

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

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board