

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN,
SITTING AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE CRAVEN COUNTY
WATER DISTRICT, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY MAY 4, 2009
IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH
CAROLINA. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 9:12 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Vice Chairman Theron McCabe
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Perry L. Morris
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
Commissioner Steve Tyson

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
Ray H. Moser, Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Jim Hicks, County Attorney
Aaron Arnett, County Attorney's Office

PETITION OF CITIZEN

Derek Cotnam requested to speak to the Board concerning the policy for disconnection of water service, but was not present.

WATER DEPARTMENT SERVICE DISCONNECTION RULES

Water Superintendent, Rusty Hayes, discussed rules of the Craven County Water Department which apply in the situation of non payment of a water bill. He explained that suspension of service comes as a result of an account being fifty days past due. As the rule states, the customer receives **two bills** before the service is disconnected. The notice for disconnection is highlighted in red on the second bill received. It includes the date and time.

He further explained that the County does not cut off service on a date that falls on or before a holiday or a weekend. Customers who are unable to pay their accounts and are scheduled to be disconnected before the weekend or a holiday are given an extension until the following business day in order to avoid being without water service for several days.

CROATAN STATION DEVELOPMENT WATER REQUEST

Mr. Hayes advised the Board that the Craven County Water Department had been asked to provide water to a proposed large development between New Bern and Havelock. The development is being planned to consist of approximately 500 single family residential units along with 40 acres of commercial development. The developer requested that the County reserve 240,000 gallons per day water capacity to be used in the next six years, and indicated plans to obtain wastewater capacity from either the City of Havelock or the City of New Bern.

The County asked its engineer to determine if the Water Department can meet this request, and Mr. Hayes provided the Board information on the system's capabilities and the impact this request would have.

It was noted that there are existing roads awaiting line extensions. If the request were granted, 240,000 gallons per day would use up most of the capacity.

Commissioner Tyson stated that the County may need to develop policies and procedures for addressing circumstances such as these if the County doesn't have the capacity to supply water to everyone who needs it. Mr. Blizzard responded that capacity has been reduced by 25% by state regulation; not a technical limitation. Commissioner Sampson suggested that the County Manager and staff be asked to look into putting a policy in place and bring it back to the Board, with recommendations. Mr. Blizzard stated that the developer has other options.

Commissioner Sisk moved to deny the request at this time until some rules can be developed, with the possibility of giving consideration to the request at a later time. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried. By consensus, the Board authorized the Chairman to respond by letter to Mr. Ellis, the developer, with the Board's decision, copied to the Homebuilders Association.

At 9:55 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board