

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2007 REGULAR SESSION, JULY 12, 2007
RECONVENED SESSION AND JULY 23, 2007 SPECIAL SESSION

1. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Budget Amendments
 - B. Request for Approval of Justice Department Grant Application
 - C. Tax Releases
 - D. FY 06 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Project
 - E. Repeal Sign Moratorium Ordinance
 - F. Contract for Consultant Services (Hazard Mitigation Plan Update)
 - G. Subdivisions for Approval
 - H. 2008 Holiday Schedule
 - I. Lease Agreement for Harlowe Debris Site
 - J. Disposal of Surplus Property Report

2. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS
 - A. Bill Harper
 - B. Michael Speciale
 - C. Charlie Simmons
 - D. Sandra Simmons
 - E. Helen Adams
 - F. Jack Huddle

3. EMERGENCY SERVICES MATTERS: Stanley Kite, Emergency Services Director
 - A. Harlowe Fire Department Equipment Acquisition
 - B. Dover Fire Department Equipment Acquisition

4. CRAVEN COUNTY PROPERTY INVENTORY REPORT: Megan Piner, Intern

5. PRESENTATION ON FIBER OPTIC PROJECT: Dennis Holton, Information Technology Director
 - A. Update
 - B. Approve Bid Award and Authorize Execution of Agreement

6. SHERIFF'S REPORT ON WEAPONS BAN: Jerry Monette
7. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Jim Sugg
8. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Harold Blizzard
9. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS
10. CLOSED SESSION

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: _____

Agenda Item No. 1

CONSENT AGENDA

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board's approval.

Sheriff – Governor's Crime Commission – Budget \$ 2,900. to cover cost of 2 desktop computers. Grant was originally approved in November 2006. Funds will pass through the City of New Bern and the local 25% share (\$725) will come from the Seized Asset funds.

Social Services – Mandated - Crisis Intervention Program – Decrease revenue and expenditure as funds allocated by the State are \$ 65,496. less than original budget.

Social Services – Senior Programs – Budget carryover of designated funds in the amount of \$ 6,473 to cover current year expenses for Home delivered meals and activity supplies.

Social Services – Senior Programs – Budget \$ 600.00 from the City of New Bern to cover cost of fans for seniors.

Fire Districts – Budget fire district fund balance (Tri Community \$ 115.)(Twp # 3 \$ 265.)(Twp # 7 \$ 75.)(West New Bern \$ 385.) to cover workers comp charges for FY 2008.

B. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT GRANT APPLICATION

The Craven County Sheriff's Office has applied for and will receive \$16,397.00 upon approval from the County Manager and County Commissioners. This grant is a 100% grant from the Bureau of Justice (Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant) and the money will be used for purchasing in car computers so the Deputies will be able to run driving histories, license tags, and warrants. All requirements for this grant have been fulfilled with the exception of the Commissioners approval. Details of the grant budget appear as Attachment #1.B. Approval to accept this grant will include adoption of a budget amendment allowing the Finance Department to budget this revenue.

C. TAX RELEASES

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the routine tax releases contained in Attachment #1.C. for the Board's approval.

D. FY 06 PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PROJECT

The Planning Board is requesting that the Board of Commissioners designate Donald Baumgardner, Planning Director, to approve and execute the PDM elevation construction contract following review and approval of the low responsible bid by the Holland Consulting Planners staff. (See Attachment #1.D.)

E. REPEAL SIGN MORATORIUM ORDINANCE

The Craven County Planning Department requests for clarification purposes, a vote to repeal the Craven County On-Premise Sign Moratorium. When the Craven County Off-Premise Sign Ordinance was adopted on July 12, 2007, wording was contained in the ordinance that adoption of the ordinance replaced the previously adopted Sign Moratorium. No On-premise sign ordinance was adopted, so a motion will be needed to acknowledge that the On-premise sign moratorium officially expired when the Off-Premise Sign Ordinance was adopted on July 12, 2007. This motion by the Board would further clarify that the moratorium has officially ended.

F. CONTRACT FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES (HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE)

The Hazard Mitigation Update Plan has set goals and strategies that must be implemented annually in order to remain eligible for disaster assistance funding in the event of a federally declared disaster. The contract covers the cost of professional services associated with implementation and update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by FEMA and State of North Carolina. The contract amount has been budgeted and a motion authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract is requested (See Attachment #1.F.)

G. SUBDIVISIONS FOR APPROVAL

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgarnder, submitted the following subdivisions for the Board's approval.

Cardinal Estates - Final

- Property owned by Norman L. Morris and surveyed by Terry K. Wheeler
- Property located within Twp. 1 off of SR 1450 (Nelson Road)
- Subdivision contains 4 lots on 5.5 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems
- Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval

Paradise Land Section I - Reapproval for Final

- Property owned by Gourdier Land Company, Inc. and Mr. and Mrs. J James Gourdier and surveyed by Bjerkeset Land Surveying
- Property located within Twp 5 off of SR 1820 (Godfrey's Blvd.)
- Subdivision contains 7 lots on 4.3 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems
- Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final reapproval

H. HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Attached, for your consideration, is a copy of the proposed Holiday Schedule for Craven County employees (See Attachment #1.H.). For the year, if approved, fourteen (14) holidays will be given. Two (2) floating holidays will be observed, as approved by the Board of Commissioners on November 6, 1989. The first floating holiday is on Monday, December 31, 2007 in conjunction with the New Year's Day holiday that falls on Tuesday, January 1, 2008. The second floating holiday is on Monday, November 10, 2008 in conjunction with the Veterans' Day holiday that falls on Tuesday, November 11, 2008. The floating holiday rule states "if a holiday falls on Tuesday, the preceding Monday will also be observed, or if a holiday falls on Thursday, the following Friday will also be observed as Floating Holidays".

This schedule is the same as the State of North Carolina's holiday schedule for 2008 with the exception of the two (2) floating holidays on Monday, December 31, 2007 and

Monday, November 10, 2008. The Human Resources Department asks that you consider approval of the schedule as presented.

I. LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HARLOWE DEBRIS SITE

We have secured approximately 5 acres of cleared land located near the intersection of Highway 101 and Blades Road in the Harlowe section of Craven County. The purpose in securing this site is to provide a debris collection site after a hurricane, disaster or an emergency in the event it is needed. If it is a declared event, FEMA will reimburse our expenses connected with this site. We request that the Chairman be authorized to sign this agreement. (See Attachment #1.I.)

J. DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY REPORT

The attached list of items was sold on GovDeals on July 22, 2007 (See Attachment #1.J.). The Board has given the staff the authority to dispose of County property in this manner. The staff reports to the Board after the fact the results of the sale to allow the disposal to be reflected in the minutes.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenters: Harper, Speciale, Simmons,
Simmons, Adams, Huddle

Agenda Item No. 2

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

The following citizens will speak concerning a weapons ban in County buildings:

- A. BILL HARPER
- B. MICHAEL SPECIALE

The following citizens will speak concerning the new jail project:

- C. CHARLIE SIMMONS
- D. SANDRA SIMMONS
- E. HELEN ADAMS (or designee)
- F. JACK HUDDLE

Mr. Huddle will petition the Board to order the closing of a portion of Gethsemane Road. Attachment #2.F. is a copy of his request. Before considering this request, Mr. Huddle should be advised of the necessary steps, as follows:

- Adoption by the Board of a resolution declaring its intent to close the road
- Setting a public hearing on the matter
- Publication of the notice of intent for 3 successive weeks prior to the public hearing (cost to be paid by petitioner)
- Mailing of the notice of intent to adjoining property owners and posting on the subject road

Planning Department staff will be available to answer questions about the process.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: Stanley Kite

Agenda Item No. 3

EMERGENCY SERVICES MATTERS

A. HARLOWE FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION

Attachment #3.A. contains details of a request from the Harlowe Fire Department President to advise the Commissioners of the intent to purchase a new fire truck. The Department plans to purchase a tanker to support the new sub station on Ferry Road. The Department must maintain a minimum of 1500 gallons of water per station to maintain the current insurance rating. The Department is not looking for additional funds but trying to comply with the contract, which states the Commissioners will be informed before purchasing capital equipment or construction.

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, will be available to make the presentation on behalf of the Fire Department and has included a copy of the bid quote and financing in the attachment.

B. DOVER FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION

Attachment #3.B. is a request from the Chief of Dover Fire Department to advise the Commissioners of the intent to purchase a new fire truck. The Department was not requesting any additional funds, but would like to alter their request for monies already approved for personal protective equipment as stated in the letter dated February 14, 2007 from the Dover Volunteer Fire Department.

In keeping with their contract, which states the Commissioners will be informed before purchasing capital equipment or construction, the Department is requesting the \$18,250.00 be utilized to purchase a new fire truck.

Stanley Kite will be available to make the presentation on behalf of the Fire Department.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: Megan Piner

Agenda Item No. 4

CRAVEN COUNTY PROPERTY INVENTORY REPORT

Intern, Megan Piner, will present this report, which provides an inventory of properties owned by Craven County and an assessment of their condition and use. With this report the County will be better able to identify properties which have been obtained by tax foreclosure and are suitable for sale, or properties acquired in the flood buyout program that could be leased and maintained without cost to the County.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: Dennis Holton

Agenda Item No. 5

PRESENTATION ON FIBER OPTIC PROJECT

A. UPDATE

Information Technology Director, Dennis Holton, will provide an update on the status of the fiber optic project, and discuss further options and projections.

B. APPROVE BID AWARD AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

Mr. Holton will present the Board with bid results from a recent RFP for the purchase and installation of fiber optic cable to be utilized by the Craven County School System, Craven Community College, Craven County Government, the City of Havelock and the City of New Bern.

Mr. Holton will be also be requesting the Board to accept the low bid from Corning Cable Systems, LLC, of Hickory, NC and authorize signing of a-contract to perform the work. (See Attachment #5)

An RFP was developed and made available to interested bidders in April 2007 and bids were opened on June 26, 2007 with 3 bidders responding. Responses received were as follows:

Matrix Design Group	\$4,597,813
Bering Sea Eccotech, Inc.	\$3,831,694.13
Corning Cable System, LLC	\$1,492,552

After review of the bid responses by all of the entities mentioned above, it is recommended the Craven County Board of Commissioners approve the low bid.

The RFP included some 43 miles of fiber beginning in Havelock at Tucker Creek Elementary and ending up at West Craven Middle School. Schools and college site in Havelock would be linked up by use of existing fiber owned by the City of Havelock. Schools and college site in New Bern would be linked up by use of existing fiber owned by the City of New Bern. Various Craven County and City of New Bern sites would be tied in along the proposed fiber route.

Sites included in the initial RFP:

Arthur W. Edwards Elementary School	Craven County Judicial Center
Ben D. Quinn Elementary School	Bangert Elementary School
Graham A. Barden Elementary School	Brinson Elementary School
Creekside Elementary School	Craven County Board of Education W.I
Havelock High School	Gurganus Elementary School
New Bern High School	Havelock Middle School
Tucker Creek Middle School	Roger R. Bell Elementary School
Craven Community College-New Bern	West Craven Middle School
New Bern Fire Department-Thurman Rd.	Craven Community College-Havelock
Craven County Creekside Park	New Bern Sewer Department-Lagoon Road
Pamlico Animal Shelter	Craven County Garage & Utilities-Howell Road
	New Bern Riverfront Convention Center
	Craven County Schools Maintenance Garage

Sites to be included within one-year due to initial RFP:

Oaks Road Elementary School	H.I McDonald Middle School
Trent Park Elementary School	IT. Barber Elementary School
Grover C. Fields Middle School	Craven Regional Airport

Sites requiring additional evaluation not included in initial RFP:

Bridgeton Elementary School	James W. Smith Elementary School
Vanceboro Farm Life School	West Craven High School

The breakdown of the total \$2.167 million fiber project is as follows:

Base bid for fiber & installation	1,492,55
Railroad permitting fees	2 75,000
Remaining schools alternatives	450,000
Other fees/additions/change orders	150,000

The bid amount submitted by Coming Cable Systems does not reach all of the Craven County Schools. This bid does not yet address needs at West Craven High School, James W. Smith Elementary School, Vanceboro Farm Life School and Bridgeton Elementary School. Alternatives are being evaluated to provide enhanced communications to these institutions. Funding for possible alternatives was included in the information submitted to the LGC in July.

Mr. Holton is requesting authorization and more time in determining alternatives for these school sites.

The bid amount submitted by Coming Cable Systems does not include permitting fees to railroads and other entities. These permitting fees were purposely left out of the RPF until the best feasible, acceptable route was established through conversations with bidders. The estimated amounts were included in information submitted to the LGC in July.

Mr. Holton requests authorization to expend monies necessary for railroad permits and other associated permits.

The group of Information Technology Directors who are actively involved with this joint fiber effort are:

Mr. Wayne Beasely, Craven County School System
Mr. P.D. Scott, Craven Community College
Mr. Bob MaxBauer, City of Havelock
Mr. Mark Trail, City of New Bern
Mr. Dennis Holton, Craven County

In summary, the actions requested of the Board are as follows:

- Approve the bid award and authorize execution of the agreement
- Authorize expending of funds for acquisition of railroad and other associated permits

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: Sheriff Monette

Agenda Item No. 6

SHERIFF'S REPORT ON WEAPONS BAN

At the Board's reconvened session on July 12, there was discussion concerning consideration of a weapons ban in County buildings. There was a desire to invite the Sheriff to provide information to the Board detailing firearm restrictions that are already in place. Sheriff Monette will appear to discuss the matter with the Board.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007
Presenter: Jim Sugg
Agenda Item No. 7

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, will present for the Board's consideration a resolution to dispose of lot 79 in the Tobago section of Fairfield Harbour. (See Attachment #7)

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007
Presenter: Harold Blizzard
Agenda Item No. 8

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. MEDICAID RELIEF LEGISLATION

The General Assembly finally approved legislation that will provide counties permanent relief from Medicaid. Attachment #8.A. is information showing how this legislation is expected to impact Craven County.

B. COPS SALE RESULTS

Staff will provide the Board results of the bond sale that occurred August 2.

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: _____

Agenda Item No. 9

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Agenda Date: August 6, 2007

Presenter: _____

Agenda Item No. 10

CLOSED SESSION

The Board will be requested to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4) relative to industrial expansion and 143-318.11(a)(3) for consultation with the County Attorney relative to litigation.