

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Thomas F. Mark
Vice Chairman Jason R. Jones
Commissioner Denny Bucher
Chairman George S. Liner
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner E. T. Mitchell
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager
Craig Warren, Finance Director
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
Arey Grady, County Attorney
Nan Holton, Clerk to the Board

VIA REMOTE:

Jack B. Veit, III, County Manager

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, County Attorney, Arey Grady, recited the following invocation:

Heavenly Father, a certain Samaritan, finding a stranger by the roadside beaten and robbed, without hesitancy, put him upon his donkey, carried him to an inn, and charged the keeper, saying: "Take care of him; and whatever you spend extra, I will come again tomorrow and repay you."

Lord, thank You, always, for the opportunities to do good; to bring healing and restoration to the sick, the dying, and the suffering.

Let us not love in word only, but with unselfish actions, just like the Samaritan, expecting nothing in return.

We pray, give wisdom to the leaders of our County, to act in unity.

Let us give liberally, as wise and prudent stewards, whereby the world will know we are the children of God.

Let us bind the brokenhearted, lift up the fallen, and let those who fear put their trust in the Lord.

I pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Based upon the opening prayer given by Reverend Dr. Dan C. Cummins the March 26, 2020 session of the United States House of Representatives.

Commissioner Liner motioned to amend the agenda by deleting Item #9, Commissioners Reports. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

Commissioner Jones motioned to approve the agenda, as amendment. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried unanimously.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

The following citizens addressed the Board:

1. Mr. Floyd Bullock, Jr. – Harlowe VFD Chief
2. Mr. Milton Everette, Jr. Harlowe VFD

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the consent agenda, inclusive of the Minutes of June 15, 2020 Regular Session, Tax Releases and Refunds and Health/WIC Budget Amendment. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET#	AMOUNT
AHRENHOLZ, KIMBERLY ANN DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-211203	\$640.88
CISNEROS, FELICIANO MONTES DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-211107	\$142.41
DODGE, JOHN DOUBLE BILLED	2019-212781	\$120.00
FINCH, JACK DANIEL DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-208161	\$88.24
FOLEY, WILLIAM DAVID DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-211477	\$8.49
KEENE, CHALRES WHEELER MILITARY EXEMPT	2019-210120	\$67.57
MANGOL, JIM DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-201493	\$129.69
MORENO, MIGUEL EDBERTO BILLING ERROR	2020-403187	\$89.63
NEPIL, HELEN FEHRS DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2018-42968	\$73.03
NEPIL, HELEN FEHRS DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-201264	\$92.56
ROUSE, SHARON DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-200784	\$78.32
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2013-93441	\$72.91
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2014-51771	\$68.59
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2015-53025	\$64.30
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2016-53437	\$61.90
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2017-53613	\$57.61

SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2018-53642	\$53.16
SMITH, GERALD LEE & CYNTHIA G DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-202473	\$74.35
SMITH, JEFFREY EARL DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2016-53531	\$58.38
SMITH, JEFFREY EARL DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2017-53705	\$54.28
SMITH, JEFFREY EARL DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2018-53731	\$50.16
SMITH, JEFFREY EARL DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-207120	\$71.58
THOMAS, MYRON SHAWN NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2019-212242	\$13.66
THOMPSON, PETER NOT TAXABLE TO CRAVEN COUNTY	2019-400375	\$2,304.01
TORRES, JULISA NAVEDO DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2017-58426	\$109.02
TORRES, JULISA NAVEDO DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2018-58484	\$100.01
YOUNG, WILLIAM ALLEN MILITARY EXEMPT	2011-542190	\$103.68
YOUNG, WILLIAM ALLEN MILITARY EXEMPT	2011-64581	\$25.92

28 CREDIT MEMO (S) \$4,874.34

Refunds

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
RICHARDS, CLARENCE HRS DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-21283	\$416.68
RICHARDS, CLARENCE HRS DID NOT OWN JANUARY 1	2019-21288	\$140.38
SMITH, DAVID JAMES CORRECTED DISCOVERED PROPERTY VALUE	2019-208103	\$15.83

3 REFUNDS \$572.89

Health/WIC

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015061-33402	\$(21,159)	1015061-41002	\$(14,030)

WIC Client Services		F/T Salaries	
1015060-33406	\$ 324	1015061-41101	\$(1,057)
WIC Administration		FICA	
1015062-33411	\$ 24,056	1015061-41102	\$(1,473)
WIC Education		NC Retirement	
		1015061-41103	\$(33)
		401K	
		1015061-41104	\$(60)
		W/Comp	
		1015061-41106	\$(4,170)
		Health	
		1015061-41107	\$(306)
		Dental	
		1015061-41108	\$(11)
		Life	
		1015061-41109	\$(19)
		Disability	
		1015060-41002	\$ 218
		F/T Salaries	
		1015060-41101	\$ 19
		FICA	
		1015060-41102	\$ 18
		NC Retirement	
		1015060-41103	\$ 68
		401K	
		1015060-41104	\$ 1
		W/Comp	
		1015062-41102	\$ 15,987
		F/T Salaries	
		1015062-41101	\$ 1,223
		FICA	
		105062-41102	\$ 1,634
		NC Retirement	
		1015062-41103	\$ 640
		401K	
		1015062-41104	\$ 68
		W/Comp	
		1015062-41106	\$ 4,170
		Health	
		1015062-41107	\$ 306
		Dental	
		1015062-41108	\$ 11
		Life	
		1015062-41109	\$ 19
		Disability	
TOTAL	\$3,221	TOTAL	\$3,221

Justification: Increase in Salaries & Benefits due to position change from Processing Assistant III to Processing Unit Supervisor IV in FY21.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: EMERGENCY SERVICES – NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE (NCDOT) COUNTY GRANT MATCH FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, reviewed the four local Volunteer Fire Departments that have been awarded a NC Dept. of Insurance Grant. He stated that the grant is to assist fire departments in purchasing equipment and capital expenditures. Fire Departments shall match the grant on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The following departments were awarded grants for 2020-2021:

- Little Swift Creek VFD \$29,999.50
- Ft. Barnwell VFD \$30,000.00

- No. 9 Fire & Rescue \$26,787.50
- Dover VFD \$29,707.50

Mr. Kite requested that the Board approve the County match of the NCDOI and the budget amendment in the amount of \$232,922.00.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the County grant match and the following budget amendment in the amount of \$232,922.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Jones and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

LSC, Dover, Ft. Barnwell, No. 9

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
2030000-39801	\$30,000	2034340-49699	\$30,000
Transfer to General Fund		Grant Match/LSC	
2090000-39801	\$26,788	2094340-49699	\$26,788
Transfer to General Fund		Grant match/No. 9 Township	
2040000-39801	\$29,708	2044342-49699	\$29,708
Transfer to General Fund		Grant match/Dover	
2040000-39801	\$30,000	2044343-49699	\$30,000
Transfer to General Fund		Grant match/Ft. Barnwell	
1010000-39901	\$116,496	1019800-49783	\$116,496
Current Year Fund Balance		VFD Grant Matches	
TOTAL	\$232,992	TOTAL	\$232,922

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HEALTH

Health Director, Scott Harrelson, presented the BOC with three budget amendments, defining the sources of funding and how the money would be expended, inclusive of PPE, interpreters for contact tracing, and vehicles; all related to COVID needs over the next several months.

He reported that Federal funding in the amount of \$635,615 was received from Health Resources & Service Administration (HRSA). Funds were awarded through the Health Center Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding. The purpose of these funds is to support the detection of coronavirus and/or the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19, including maintaining or increasing health center capacity and staffing levels during a coronavirus-related public health emergency. Funding will be used to support a wide range of in-scope activities.

Health Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015100-33113	\$635,615	1015100-4200	\$ 1,200
FQHC		Postage	
		1015100-42200	\$ 1,200
		Telephone	
		1015100-42500	\$ 2,900
		Travel/Training	
		1015100-42700	\$ 6,000
		Advertising	
		1015100-43101	\$ 12
		Fuel & Other	
		1015100-43111	\$ 500
		Gasoline	
		1015100-43207	\$ 5,000
		Janitorial Supplies	
		1015100-43208	\$ 40,000

Medical Supplies	
1015100-43240	\$ 5,579
Other Supplies	
1015100-44000	\$ 44,200
Contract Services	
1015100-44050	\$145,000
Contract Employees	
1015100-47301	\$112,414
Capital Over \$5,000	
1015100-47302	\$ 22,900
Capital Other Improvements	
1015100-47321	\$ 13,460
Capital \$500-4,999	
1015100-43112	\$235,250
Cost Allocation – Health Depts	

Journal Entry

1015100-43112	\$235,250	1015010-43112	\$140,330
Cost Allocation-Health Depts		Cost Allocation – Health Depts	
		1015040-43112	\$ 34,760
		Cost Allocation – Health Depts	
		1015071-43112	\$ 16,200
		Cost Allocation – Health Depts	
		1015080-43112	\$ 43,960
		Cost Allocation – Health Depts	
TOTAL	\$635,615	TOTAL	\$635,615

Mr. Harrelson relayed that more Federal funding in the amount of \$176,629 was received from HRSA in order to perform Expanded Coronavirus Testing (ECT). The purpose of these funds is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, and may be used for necessary expenses to purchase, administer, and expand capacity for testing to monitor and suppress COVID-19.

Health Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015100-33113	\$176,629	1015100-42000	\$1,200
FQHC		Postage	
		1015100-43207	\$1,000
		Janitorial Supplies	

Health Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015100-33113	\$176,629	1015100-42000	\$ 1,200
FQHC		Postage	
		1015100-43207	\$ 1,000
		Janitorial Supplies	
		1015100-43208	\$ 6,145
		Medical Supplies	
		1015100-43240	\$ 2,000
		Other Supplies	
		1015100-44000	\$20,000
		Contract Services	
		1015100-44050	\$41,933

Contract Employees	
1015100-47321	\$ 8,000
Capital \$500-4,999	
1015100-43112	\$96,351
Cost Allocation – Health Depts	

Journal Entry

1015100-43112	\$ 96,351	1015010-43112	\$53,578
Cost Allocation-Health Depts		Cost Allocation-Health Depts	
		1015040-43112	\$42,773
TOTAL	\$176,629	TOTAL	\$176,629

Lastly, Mr. Harrelson reported on the \$12,303 funding received from grants from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, the Biogen Foundation and the Delta Dental Foundation to distribute to NC Community Health Centers. Funds can be used to cover either programmatic or operational needs to support those working on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015030-38200	\$3,200	1015030-43208	\$1,200
Misc Rev		Medical Supplies	
		1015030-44050	\$2,000
		Contract Employees	
1015040-38200	\$4,603	1015040-41002	\$4,603
Misc Rev		Fulltime Salaries	
1015080-38200	\$4,500	1015080-41002	\$4,500
Misc Rev		Fulltime Salaries	
TOTAL	\$12,303	TOTAL	\$12,303

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the three (3) budget amendments, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Upon Chairman Mark’s request, Mr. Harrelson provided a COVID-19 update and answered several questions from the Board.

Mr. Harrelson also informed the Board that the animal control department had received a 100% on its most recent inspection and that the euthanasia rate is down to 21% thanks for the efforts of Director, Eileen Beeson and staff.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: PLANNING – GOLDEN LEAF FOUNDATION PROJECT-CRAVEN COUNTY SCHOOLS EMERGENCY GENERATORS

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, reported that Craven County has been notified by The Golden LEAF Foundation that a grant award in the amount of \$1,393,800.00 has been received. These funds will be used to install permanent generators at five schools in Craven County. The schools included in the project are Tucker Creek Middle, West Craven Middle, Havelock Elementary, James W Smith and Arthur Edwards Elementary. After Hurricane Florence the loss of power and HVAC at Craven County schools resulted in extensive mold throughout the buildings extending the time that schools were closed after the storm and dramatically increasing the cost of repairs to the schools. These grant funds will be used to install emergency generators at the five schools that experienced the most extensive mold damage. Maintaining HVAC to prevent mold will reduce time the school will need to be closed, enabling partial re-openings, and reduce expenses incurred.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to authorize the Chairman to execute the grant agreement and associated documents for the Golden LEAF School Emergency Generator Project, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Commissioner Jones commended Mr. Baumgarnder and his staff for actively seeking out and applying for these grants.

APPOINTMENTS

Pending Appointments

Chairman Mark reviewed the following pending appointments:

- Adult Care Home Advisory Committee (vacancy)
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee (vacancy)
- Recreation Advisory Committee –(District 5 vacancy)
- Regional Aging Advisory Board (vacancy)
- Senior Legislative Tarheel Alternate (vacancy)
- Coastal Carolina Regional Airport Authority (September)
- Craven County ABC Board

Current Appointments

Havelock Planning Board

Commissioner Liner motioned to appoint William “Alfred” Gray for appointment to the Havelock Planning Board. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Gray was appointed by acclamation.

Emergency Services Advisory Committee

Commissioner Liner motioned to appoint Jeffrey Fedyna; Commissioner Jones motioned to appoint Jedidah Stancil; Commissioner Mark motioned to appoint Alexander Strickler. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Fedyna, Mr. Stancil and Mr. Strickler were appointed by acclamation.

Emergency Services Advisory Committee

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to reappoint Tom Brubaker; Chairman Mark motioned to reappoint Tim Brazemore and Chad Bradicich. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Brubaker, Mr. Brazemore and Mr. Bradicich were reappointed by acclamation.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Commissioner Liner motioned to reappoint Catherine Hardison and Jean Kenefick and to appoint Susan Hall. There being no additional nominations, Ms. Hardison, Ms. Kenefick and Ms. Hall were appointed by acclamation.

NCACC Voting Delegate

Chairman Mark stated that he would be serving as the Voting Delegate for the NCACC and if for some reason he is unavailable to attend then Vice Chairman Jones would serve.

Upcoming Appointments

Chairman Mark reviewed the following upcoming appointments due to expire:

- Recreation Advisory Council
 - Chad Braxton, District 1
 - Matt Webb, District 4
 - Daniel Miller
- Havelock Board of Adjustment:

- Reuben Mikal
- Thomas McCarthy
- Community Child Protection Team –
 - Debbie Hodges, School Designee
 -
- Fire Tax Commission –
 - Sue Arthurs, District 6
- Emergency Services Advisory Committee
 - Jane Sobotor – CEMC EMS
 - Debra Rogers – CEMC Emergency Dept. Director

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Final Offer to Purchase Real Property – S West Craven Middle School Rd., Tax Parcel #9-048-181

County Attorney, Arey Grady, presented an offer previously received and tentatively approved in the amount of \$5,000.00 for this property, which was acquired through a tax foreclosure. The total taxes and costs that were foreclosed were \$6,210.70. The current tax value is \$8,950.00. The offer was advertised, and there were no upset bids, the final bid being \$5,000.00.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to adopt the following resolution accepting the sale, seconded by Commissioner Jones and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION

New Bern, North Carolina **Tax Parcel Number 9-048-181**

THAT WHEREAS, Craven County has received an offer to purchase a parcel of property owned by the County, identified as Tax Parcel Number 9-048-181 and being more particularly described herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is authorized to sell the County's interest in the property pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §160A-269; and,

WHEREAS, the offer to purchase was advertised as required by said statute; and

WHEREAS, the final offer to purchase, after the upset bid period, was for the sum of \$5,000.00 by Jamie Noe; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners deems it advisable and in the best interest of the County to sell its interest in the subject property to the successful bidder and to convey its interest in said property by quitclaim deed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CRAVEN COUNTY:

Section 1. That the last and highest bid of Jamie Noe in the sum of \$5,000.00 for said parcel identified as Tax Parcel Number 9-048-181, and being more particularly described herein, be and the same is hereby accepted as to the County's interest in said property, and the Chairman, County Manager and/or Clerk be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute a quitclaim deed to the purchaser for the County's interest in said property, and to further execute any and all other documents related to the sale of the same.

Section 2. That a copy of said quitclaim deed is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and the original deed shall be delivered to said purchaser once the same has been executed on behalf of the County, upon payment of the purchase price.

Section 3. That the subject property is more particularly described as follows:

All that certain lot or parcel of land lying and being situate in Number Nine (9) Township, Craven County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

All of that certain property more fully described in Deed Book 3383, Page 228 in the Craven County Registry. This property is also commonly referred to by its tax parcel identification number which is 9-048-181.

ADOPTED THIS 6th DAY OF JULY, 2020.

Initial Offer to Purchase Real Property – Tax Parcel #5-004-042 (No Assigned Street Address)

Mr. Grady presented an offer received by Craven County in the amount of \$1,800.00 for this property, which was acquired through a tax foreclosure. The total taxes and costs that were foreclosed on were \$1,812.21. The current tax value is \$4,680.00.

He stated that should the County accept this offer, then the property will then be advertised for upset bids in accordance with the General Statutes. Once no further upset bids are timely received, the County may accept or reject the final offer.

Commissioner Liner motioned to adopt the resolution accepting the initial offer and to advertise for upset bids, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

CRAVEN COUNTY

RESOLUTION

THAT WHEREAS, Craven County has received an Offer to Purchase a parcel of property owned by it identified as Tax Parcel Number 5-004-042 and more particularly described in Deed Book 3534, Page 2100 in the Craven County Registry (hereinafter the “Real Property”), a copy of said offer is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is authorized to sell the County’s interest in the property pursuant to the provisions of North Carolina General Statute §160A-269.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CRAVEN COUNTY:

1. That the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the initiation of the upset bid process for the Real Property by advertising notice of the offer to purchase in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute §160A-269.

2. That the County Manager, Clerk and/or Attorney are authorized to take all actions necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

ADOPTED THIS 6th DAY OF JULY, 2020.

Initial Offer to Purchase Real Property – Tax Parcel #5-014-305 (865 Adams Creek Rd.).

Mr. Grady informed the Board that this item was tabled from the May 18, 2020 meeting.

Craven County received an Offer in the amount of \$3,000.00 for this property. The current tax value is \$3,600.

The County acquired this parcel in 2007 as part of a dispute resolution with the owners at that time. The settlement amount was \$21,000.00.

Should the County accept this offer, then the property will then be advertised for upset bids in accordance with the General Statutes. Once no further upset bids are timely received, the County may accept or reject the final offer.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to accept the offer, seconded by Commissioner Bucher.

Commissioner McCabe referenced the two citizens from the Harlowe VFD who had spoken earlier and emphasized the need for this property to be available to them to mobilize during emergencies when the road floods and there is no way in or out of that community. He urged his colleagues to support donating the property to the Harlowe VFD.

Commissioner Sampson spoke in support of donating the parcel.

Commissioner Jones stated he was always in favor of putting property back on the tax rolls, but this parcel is less than ½ acre, the pleas from the Harlowe VFD indicated a need that is justified by the lack of egress when flooding occurs. He indicated the need to draft language that would forbid the VFD from profiting from the land or selling it in the future.

Commissioner Mitchell provided some insight as to how the people making the offer wanted to use the land to establish a niche farm. She indicated a concern for setting a precedent on donating the land.

A roll call vote was taken at this time and the motion to accept the initial offer was defeated 4-3 (Nays: Bucher, McCabe, Sampson, Jones) (Ayes: Liner, Mitchell, Mark).

Commissioner Jones motioned to have the County Attorney draft a document to bring back to the Board at the July 20, 2020 meeting, that deeds the parcel to the Harlowe VFD with caveats about how it may be utilized and the parcel reverting back to Craven County should they no longer need it.

Commissioner Sampson seconded his motion, which carried in a 4-3 roll call vote. (Ayes: Bucher, McCabe, Sampson, Jones) (Nays: Liner, Mitchell, Mark)

At 7:57 p.m. Commissioner Liner motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner and carried unanimously.

Chairman Thomas F. Mark
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Nan Holton
Clerk to the Board