

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 31, 2011**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a special joint meeting with the City Council of Elizabeth City on Monday, January 31, 2011 at the Kermit E. White Graduate Center on the campus of Elizabeth City State University.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Chairman
Jeff Dixon, Vice-Chairman
Bill Trueblood
Cecil Perry
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Gary G. White
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Randy Keaton, County Manager
Rodney Bunch, Assistant County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Officer
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

Also present were all members of the City Council, the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and city staff. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Chairman Lloyd Griffin. Councilwoman Lena Hill-Lawrence gave the invocation and Mr. Jeff Simpson led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Following dinner, the business meeting was convened. Chairman Griffin welcomed everyone and thanked Dr. Anthony Sharpe from ECSU's Aviation Science Program for providing a tour of the flight simulator and air traffic control simulator. Mayor McLean thanked Chancellor Gilchrist for providing the opportunity for the city and county to meet at the university.

1. THURGOOD MARSHALL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE:

Chairman Griffin recognized Mr. Scott Lilley with the Thurgood Marshall Leadership Institute who explained that his team from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund works with talent acquisition and campus relations for 47 colleges and six law schools around the nation. He stated that each year they bring 600 college students to New York City and they are in town today and tomorrow recruiting and interviewing students from Elizabeth City State University to participate in their program.

2. REPORT FROM CHANCELLOR GILCHRIST ON UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS:

Chairman Griffin called on Chancellor Willie Gilchrist to provide an update on ECSU programs. Chancellor Gilchrist stated that five key areas the university has focused on for the last couple of years include the Teacher Education Program, the Pharmacy Partnership Program, Aviation Program, Audio/Visual Recording Studio, and Entrepreneurial Development.

Chancellor Gilchrist explained that there is a shortage of teachers in North Carolina, especially Northeastern North Carolina, and it is their responsibility to grow as many teachers as possible to fill the voids in the school systems where there are shortages. He said it is the mission of the teacher education program to serve all 21 counties in Northeastern North Carolina the University represents. One of the teacher education programs is a virtual high school project where they work with the high school students from Washington County who can receive over a four year span approximately 45 college credits. These students could then receive their college degrees in two and one-half to three years.

Chancellor Gilchrist stated that the Pharmacy Program is a partnership with UNC-Chapel Hill and the ECSU students spend three to four years on the ECSU campus and then one year at Chapel Hill and in different areas of the state doing their clinicals. He said the Pharmacy Program was made available at ECSU because of the shortage of pharmacists in Northeastern North Carolina. He stated as a result of the Pharmacy Program, pharmacy students are able to provide free services to the citizens of the area including diabetes screening, cholesterol screening, and hypertension screening. They are also able to provide information about drug interactions and adverse reactions to particular drugs.

Chancellor Gilchrist stated that ECSU has a recording studio in the Fine Arts Center where they can provide recording opportunities for students and local artists and produce CD's and DVD's. He said this is done in probably the highest tech lab in all of the UNC System.

Chancellor Gilchrist explained that ECSU is working very diligently on Entrepreneurship Development where they help students create business plans and apply for loans to start up businesses, many of which may be in the Elizabeth City area.

Chancellor Gilchrist stated that ECSU is very proud of its Aviation Science Program and has been able to expand that program under Dr. Sharpe's leadership. He said that county and city officials were able this afternoon to see the air traffic control simulator and the flight simulator and see how their students are trained. The Aviation Science Program concentrations are in Aviation Management, Aviation Computer Science, Electronics, Public Administration, Avionics, Space Science, Flight Education and Air Traffic Control.

Chancellor Gilchrist invited everyone to come back when they can spend quality time on the campus and see all that is happening.

Chairman Griffin thanked Chancellor Gilchrist for providing the opportunity for the county and city to meet on the ECSU campus. Chancellor Gilchrist offered their facilities anytime the county and city need them for a meeting such as this.

3. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MATT WOOD TO THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION:

Chairman Griffin asked the Board of Commissioners and the City Council to consider resolutions supporting the appointment of Matt Wood to the North Carolina Board of Transportation to fill the seat of Stan White who was recently appointed to the Senate.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Joe Winslow to adopt a resolution in support of the appointment of Matt Wood to the North Carolina Board of Transportation. The motion carried unanimously and the following resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
APPOINTMENT OF MATT WOOD TO THE
NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, Governor Beverly Perdue will be considering the appointment of an individual to the North Carolina Board of Transportation to fill the seat vacated as a result of Board Member Stan White being appointed to fill the unexpired term of former Senator Marc Basnight in the North Carolina State Senate; and

WHEREAS, George Matthew (Matt) Wood, Jr. recently retired from the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners, having served a total of twelve years with distinction, and having gained experience in all facets of local government; and

WHEREAS, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners believes that Matt Wood is extremely qualified to serve on the North Carolina Board of Transportation due to his extensive public service and his years of experience in private business; and

WHEREAS, Matt Wood's political accomplishments include eight years on the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education in addition to his twelve years as a Pasquotank County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, Matt Wood has served not only Pasquotank County, but the state and region as well through his involvement in the Centennial Authority, the College of The Albemarle Board of Trustees, the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Albemarle Economic Development Commission, the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the YMCA of South Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, he has vast business experience including his partnership in George Wood Farms, Inc., and he is a former owner of Albemarle Propane, Inc. and a former owner of Astro, Inc. fuel distribution and convenience stores; and

WHEREAS, Pasquotank County has the largest population of any of the counties in District I, and in recent history has not been represented on the Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Matt Wood has worked tirelessly for Northeastern North Carolina, will bring the type of business and political experience that is necessary on the Board of Transportation, and would be a tremendous asset to the State of North Carolina;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners endorses the appointment of George Matthew Wood, Jr. as the District I representative on the North Carolina Board of Transportation and urges Governor Beverly Perdue to seriously consider his appointment.

ADOPTED this 31st day of January, 2011.

The City Council also adopted a resolution supporting Mr. Wood's appointment.

4. UPDATE ON JOINT RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Parks and Recreation Director Bobbi White provided an update from the Joint Recreation Advisory Committee. She stated that the interlocal agreement between the city and the county was effective July 1, 2010. She said this agreement is for the mutual benefit of both the citizens of Pasquotank County and Elizabeth City. Under the agreement the city maintains all of the parks and the delivery of service, and the coordination comes through the Recreation Department. Mrs. White stated that the city develops the budget; the county pays 55% of the budget; and the city pays 45% of the budget. The City Manager will prepare the budget and present it to the county by April 1st of each year. All existing assets remain with the respective entity and real property is retained by each respective entity. The agreement is for a five year period expiring on June 30, 2015 and there is a one year termination provision if either of the bodies wants to get out of the agreement. Mrs. White stated that the agreement provided for the creation of an Advisory Board with three city and three county appointees. Pasquotank County's appointees include Commissioner Bill Trueblood, Buck Jolly and Herman Little. The city's appointees are Councilman Rickey King, David Kleinschuster and Letitia Evans. The interlocal agreement provides for six board members and the Advisory Committee has recommended that the membership be increased to seven with an at-large member selected by the city and county on a rotating basis for two year terms. Mrs. White said this would help eliminate any ties.

Mrs. White presented pictures of the South Park Sports Complex. She explained that the Recreation Advisory Committee has suggested that the cost of the facility be increased by \$93,200 to expand the irrigation system and to sod the baseball and softball fields instead of sprigging them. She said this will help the facility get online and open by August 2011 instead of the spring or summer of 2012. She stated that the city's and county's share of the cost would be \$46,600 each. She added that although it will cost more to sod and add extra irrigation, the committee feels it will be well worth the city's and county's efforts to open the facility early in order to attract tournaments that will result in increased occupancy tax revenue. She said the ultimate goal is to have baseball and softball back in Pasquotank County so that Pasquotank County residents will not have to go to Camden County to participate.

Mrs. White also presented pictures of the River Road Sports Complex which she said was the crown jewel for soccer. She said the River Road facility as well as the South Park facility received PARTF grant funds to assist with the construction and both are joint projects between the city and the county.

Commissioner Bill Trueblood advised that the Recreation Advisory Committee felt that there should be an odd number of appointees. He said the committee thought that the format similar to that of the Airport Authority and the ABC Board should be followed. This would provide for a joint appointee and would allow the chairmanship to rotate between the city and county. Commissioner Trueblood said if this is approved, the Advisory Committee would recommend someone to the City Council and the Board of Commissioners to either approve or disapprove until a joint appointee is agreed upon.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Joe Winslow for the county to move forward with adding a seventh member to the Joint Recreation Advisory Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cecil Perry asked the committee to consider gender and race as they make a recommendation for a seventh appointee.

The City Council also passed a motion to approve the addition of a seventh member to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

The Board considered the request for additional funding for irrigation and sod improvements at South Park.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded Gary White to refer the request for additional funding for South Park to the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

The City Council approved its share of the funding with the funds to come from the city's recreational impact fee on new developments, and also approved a budget amendment to transfer the necessary funds.

Commissioner Trueblood asked Mrs. White to explain what the Recreation Advisory Committee is proposing at South Park regarding field naming rights as a mechanism to assist with funding. Mrs. White stated that for a nominal fee an individual can have a ball field at South Park named after him or her. She said this method is being used in a lot of areas to help fund their athletic programs. She stated that they are in the process of investigating various options and are contacting several area vendors.

County Manager Randy Keaton said at the February 21 Commissioner meeting, the Board will have the opportunity to go to the old middle school to see what is going on over there. He stated that a tremendous number of volunteers were there on Martin Luther King Day painting, cleaning and doing grounds work. He said the old library at the school has been transformed into a boxing ring, and there will be wrestling rooms across the hallway. He stated that a local volleyball league is now using the gym and will be having some tournaments. He said this is an unused facility that has been transformed into a recreational facility.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING 911 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT:

The Board discussed a proposed interlocal agreement regarding Central Communications. City Manager Rich Olson explained that this item was discussed at the last joint city-county meeting. He said the city is of the position that there needs to be some modification to the existing agreement that was originally executed in 1992. He said the proposed agreement builds on the 1992 resolution that was approved by Camden County, Pasquotank County and the City of Elizabeth City, and any action taken by the city and county would also have to be approved by Camden County. Mr. Olson outlined the provisions of the proposed interlocal agreement including a ten-year term; a 15-month notice of intent to withdraw; a means to address complaints that might arise; to include the City Manager and two County Managers as non-voting members of the Central Communications Commission; to specify the payment percentages; that the County Manager submit the proposed Central Communications budget to the city and Camden County by April 1st of each year; and each entity must approve the budget by June 1st. Mr. Olson noted that another interlocal agreement would need to be drafted for Emergency Management because there has never been one.

County Manager Randy Keaton explained that he has discussed with the Board of Commissioners the fact that this proposed agreement is the first agreement that actually establishes service quality and conditions. He said he served on the 911 Study Group for the past two years and they discussed standards of quality to try to identify and quantify how 911 systems operate and it is sometimes very difficult to define. He said quality standards are non-existent in other contracts with the city such as the fire agreement and recreation agreement. He added that existing agreements also do not include a provision for remedy for irresolvable dissatisfaction in services. Mr. Keaton noted that if these provisions are included in this 911 agreement, the boards might need to look at all other agreements to determine if they should be amended to include these items. He explained that census information will be available in the next two months and he believes Pasquotank County's and Camden County's cost percentages may possibly change this year since the cost is based on population. He suggested that action on the proposed agreement be delayed until census data is available.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry that the Board of Commissioners defer any action on any resolution related to Central Communications until the Board holds its retreat on February 14, and all interlocal agreements can be reviewed. The motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Rich Olson explained that the city was trying to create a common template for all interlocal agreements, trying to nail down issues so at the eleventh hour one entity cannot fail to fund one of the joint areas at a certain level. He acknowledged that the service quality issue is a moving target and the proposed agreement provides that the Central Communications Commission shall establish measurable performance standards. Mr. Olson suggested when the Board of Commissioners has its retreat that it give serious consideration to this interlocal agreement and also discuss the lack of an interlocal agreement for Emergency Management.

6. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CITY COUNCILORS:

Chairman Griffin asked if any members of the Board of Commissioners or City Council would like to make comments. Councilman Johnnie Walton stated that both bodies showed solidarity tonight in certain issues and he thinks if Mr. Wood had received the same vote of confidence previously, the outcome might have been different when the Senate appointment was made. He said he thinks a better job of aggressively supporting the local candidate might have yielded different results. He added that the right person in that position will help the region. Councilman Walton also appealed to the Board of Commissioners to not raise taxes this year so the city might be more aggressive with regard to property taxes in order to do some of the things it needs to do.

Commissioner Gary White stated that he would like to thank the faculty of Elizabeth City State University for this evening, particularly Dr. Anthony Sharpe for providing the tour.

Mayor McLean thanked Chairman Griffin and the Board of Commissioners for hosting the joint meeting tonight. He said with the city and the county working together, a lot can be accomplished. He stated that he would like to comment that there needs to be a place for kids to swim this summer and there needs to be some way to bring the Boys & Girls Club back to Elizabeth City.

Chairman Griffin thanked everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He thanked the Chancellor and his staff for their assistance in making this happen. He said the Mayor has indicated that the next joint meeting should be held during budget time, even though there is not a fifth Monday during that time, so that budget issues can be discussed. Chairman Griffin stated that he will be working with the Mayor to try to schedule a meeting in late March or early April.

Chairman Griffin asked if there was any further business to come before the joint meeting. There being no further business;

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Joe Winslow to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, February 7, 2011 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Chairman
Jeff Dixon, Vice-Chairman
Bill Trueblood
Cecil Perry
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Gary G. White
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Randy Keaton, County Manager
Rodney Bunch, Assistant County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Lloyd Griffin. Mr. Don McCabe gave the invocation and Chairman Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1. PRESENTATION OF 2010 COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT BY ANN ROACH:

Chairman Griffin called on Ms. Ann Roach, Coordinator for Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle, to present the 2010 Community Health Assessment for Pasquotank County. Ms. Roach explained that the state requires that the health assessment be done every four years and it is a collaborative effort of a number of agencies to find out what the state of health is in the county. She highlighted the areas to celebrate which included: 1) the availability of physicians, physician extenders, and nurses has been consistently higher in Pasquotank County than the state as a whole since 2001; 2) recreational opportunities are increasing in the county due to the merger of the county and city Parks and Recreation Departments; 3) mortality rates for the top three leading causes of death in Pasquotank County (heart disease, cancer, and cerebrovascular disease) have declined, with only heart disease above the state rate; 4) infant mortality rates are 9% lower than the statewide infant mortality rate and 24% lower than the Albemarle Region; 5) survey respondents were concerned about homelessness and poverty, and a large number of churches are feeding the homeless, and donating to food pantries, which is perceived as a community asset. Areas of concern in the assessment include: 1) need for more community awareness, education and outreach regarding healthy eating, chronic disease prevention, physical activity, mental health, and available community resources; 2) of those living in Pasquotank County, 24.4% live in poverty; 3) Pasquotank County has a higher percentage of children ages 5-11 and 12-18 who are overweight than the region and state as a whole. The health priorities for the next four years will be to promote education targeting overweight and obesity in adults and youth, and chronic disease management. The action plan for the next steps is due in June of 2011. Ms. Roach stated that Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle meets monthly and they would be happy to have anyone join them to work with them on these plans. The Board thanked Ms. Roach for her report.

2. PUBLIC HEARING ON CLOSEOUT FOR THE 2008 CDBG RIVER'S EDGE HD PROJECT:

Chairman Griffin called on Ms. Carolyn Morris to outline the 2008 CDBG River's Edge Housing Development Project. Ms. Morris explained that Albemarle Commission was administrator of the 2008 River's Edge Project. She said the project is now complete and the state is very pleased with the process. She stated that the project included street improvements totaling \$34,000, installation of sewer totaling \$30,000, installation of water totaling \$34,000, and administration totaling \$12,000. She said that a \$120,000 grant was received to provide infrastructure for this project. The total project cost was a little more than \$7 million. She said this project is complete and most of the housing units are occupied.

Chairman Griffin declared the meeting to be a public hearing on the closeout of the 2008 CDBG River's Edge Housing Development Project, and asked if anyone would care to comment. At the absence of public comments, the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the closeout of the 2008 River's Edge CDBG Housing Development Project. The motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING PROPOSED HUNTING LEGISLATION:

Chairman Griffin recognized several individuals who had requested to address the Board regarding proposed hunting legislation which would require that a hunter obtain written permission from the owner or lessee of land in order to hunt upon their land. The proposed legislation would also make it unlawful to hunt with a center-fired rifle except from a stand at least eight feet above ground level.

Mr. Doug Lane of 625 Okisko Road stated that what the Board is about to vote for is the difference between right and wrong. He said it is wrong for the sport of hunting to trespass. He asked the Board to do the right thing and stop the trespass by deer dog hunters.

Mr. Bobby Harris of 291 Belcross Road, Camden, said he is president of the Albemarle Houndsmen Association and they are opposed to both of these proposals. He said if written permission from the property owner is required, it places a liability on the property owner because he would be entering into a contract. He stated that most hunting clubs who rent land carry insurance to protect the land owner and protect the club. He asked that the Board not pass these regulations. He said there have been problems in the past and the hunting clubs have tried to weed out the problem members. Mr. Harris stated that they are also opposed to the eight foot rule because when bear hunting a shot can be placed a lot better with a rifle.

Mr. Grover Sanders stated that he is president of the Weeksville Hunt Club. He said he agrees with everything Mr. Harris just said. He stated that if the Board agrees to move forward with this legislation, it will affect hunting for all game animals including coyotes and feral hogs. Mr. Sanders said his club hunts all of the Weeksville area and they have verbal permission for all the land they hunt. He stated that they cannot get written permission because of the liability. He said if the county requires written permission, it would take away the property owner's right to allow hunting on his land. Mr. Sanders stated that the Weeksville Hunt Club is opposed to both parts of the proposed legislation.

Mr. Doug Temple of 1273 Lynch's Corner Road said he understands this law is to give the land owners property rights and he understands that, however the county in the past has taken away a lot of the land owners' property rights. He stated that the hunters do not want their rights taken away. He said if more laws are passed, it will require more law enforcement personnel to enforce those laws which in turn results in more taxes. He stated that there are enough laws on the books to take care of any trespassing that might occur. He said it will not be feasible to hunt eight feet off the ground in some cases, such as hunting for groundhogs who destroy crops and hunting for coyotes in order to protect livestock. He said if this law is passed, it will cause problems.

Mr. Brian Stallings of 541 Highway 158 stated that he is a farmer in the Newland area and represents about 2,000 acres. He said he would like to see this bill defeated because it is a hindrance to the farmers to have to sign written permission for everyone to hunt on their land and makes the farmers liable if there are injuries to the hunters while on their land. He stated that the deer population is exploding and in some blocks cannot be controlled by still hunters and the dogs are needed to flush them out. Mr. Stallings said he is opposed to the proposed law.

Mr. Keith Teague from Weeksville said he has been involved in this issue for three or four years and has asked for help for about 20 years. He stated that he was involved with the committee that met with people who hunt. He said he is not opposed to hunting, but it was at the point where the county had to balance the fact that land owners want to control who is on their property. He stated that the hunters were not controlling their dogs in some instances and a few bad people give a lot of folks a bad name. He explained that the proposed law does not put a great deal of restraint on any person, and it has been said tonight that this is a liability issue for the farmer. Mr. Teague said as an attorney if he gives somebody verbal permission to be on his land, they are going to sue him if they get injured in some fashion. He stated that trespassers on someone's land cannot sue, so this law would protect land owners because they can simply say

they did not give someone written permission and they had no right to be on their land. He said the distinction between whether the permission is written or not has no bearing. He stated that the law would protect the rights of the property owners and the Board recognized this previously when they talked about this issue. He said this law is not going to affect people who hunt lawfully because they are going to respect the rights of others, and it is the ones who violate the law who will be prosecuted and held accountable. Mr. Teague stated that this past year he has had to call wildlife officers on three different occasions because he has continued to have a problem. He said someone intervened on his behalf after the last occasion and he did not have a problem after that. He explained that a lot of thought, time and energy have been given to the proposed legislation and he asked that the Board request the General Assembly to enact it into law to balance the rights of both the hunters and the property owners of the county.

Mrs. Patricia Reid of 1337 Four Forks Road stated that she concurs with everything that Mr. Teague has said, but would like to add a couple of things. She explained that she has been told that she needs to build better fences, that she needs to provide better security for her property and livestock, that she needs to purchase more aggressive stock, that she needs to buy a donkey to protect her stock, and that she needs to buy a guardian dog to protect her stock. She said the deer dog hunters state that because they have a \$20 state issued hunting license it gives them the right to hunt anywhere they want, and they feel they are above the local laws and the federal laws. She stated that hunting is a privilege, not a right. Mrs. Reid explained that they pay property taxes on privately owned land, and they pay business taxes on their farm and ranch. She asked if it is the county's intent to unlawfully deem her private land to be public use land by doing away with or refusing to uphold private property rights. She said if this is the intent, then the county is unlawfully collecting private property taxes on her land and business and it cannot be both ways. She stated that she does not want any trespassing, training, running or hunting on her privately owned land and business without written consent and knowledge. She said her land is posted as required by law and is fenced. She said her land is an agribusiness and is private property. Mrs. Reid said the hunters have been told every time they have caught their dogs on their land chasing livestock and causing property damage that their land is posted and is private property. She said these acts are not accidental, but are deliberate acts of animal enterprise terrorism that the county is aiding and abetting by its continued inaction. She stated that they have incurred thousands of dollars in damages over the years, countless acts of vandalism, and even death threats about this issue. She said she is amazed that the deer dog hunters do not understand why they do not want them on their land. Mrs. Reid explained that she has tried to discuss these issues with individual hunt club members and hunt club leadership, and has been told it is not their job. She said the club she belongs to seems to be a politically oriented group that encourages and promotes ways to circumvent the law, thwart the law, disobey the law, and bully land owners. She asked that law enforcement and private land owners be given the tools they need, requiring written permission to hunt, take, run, and train on privately owned land. She added that if the Board votes against this requirement, she would like to know on what legal, ethical, moral, and common sense reason that decision is made.

Mr. Wade Reid explained that the last time he came before the Board of Commissioners, he found thousands of roofing nails in his driveway the next day, and one of the convicted perpetrators is here tonight. He stated that the hunt clubs have talked about trying to address the problems through the County Commissioners for the last 15 or 20 years. He said he has been to a lot of those meetings and has expressed his opinion at a lot of those meetings. Mr. Reid said over the last 20 years while the hunt clubs and the County Commissioners were trying to address these issues, he has had approximately 195 incidents involving deer dogs and vandalism on his property. He presented a copy of a 1954 North Carolina Supreme Court decision which he read as follows, "Where the owner or keeper of dogs for the purpose of sport intentionally sends the dogs on the land of another or releases dogs with knowledge, actual or constructive, that they likely will go on the lands of another in pursuit of game, in absence of previously obtained permission to use lands, owner or keeper is liable for trespass though he does not go on the lands himself, even though the dogs entered the land in the heat of chase of game." Mr. Reid stated that hunting is a sport and a privilege and is not a right. He said he pays a lot of property taxes in Pasquotank County every year. He asked how many would endure deer dogs chasing their cows, and running over their crops an average of ten times a year. He said 38 counties in the state require written permission in order to hunt on someone's land, and eight of the 13 counties in the Albemarle Region require written permission for hunting. He said requiring written permission will require the criminal element to come out of the dark and identify themselves so he as a land owner will have recourse against them. Mr. Reid stated that he has heard at various meetings how much of an input hunters have to the budget, and according to the county's budget property

taxes make up 56.8% of the revenue. He said it is time for the Board to step up and give private property owners some protection and some legal recourse.

Mr. L.E. White of 1336 Schoolhouse Road stated that he is secretary of the South Side Hunt Club. He said the hunt club hunts on over 1,000 acres of land and they have land not only in Pasquotank County, but also in Gates County and Perquimans County. He said if this proposed legislation passes, they would be able to hunt in two counties with dogs, but not in the other county, even though the county line runs through their section of woods. He stated that it would affect them in several different ways. He noted that hunters also own property and pay taxes. He said most of the farms in their area welcome people to hunt with dogs and they do get permission from land owners before they go hunting on their land.

Mr. Harold Pritchard of 849 Wellfield Road stated that on January 13 of this year, the North Carolina Wildlife Commission in Raleigh issued a statement in support of the tradition of hunting with dogs. He said he just wanted to bring this to the Board's attention.

Mr. Jason Weeks of 794 Highway 158 stated that the proposed legislation as it reads relates to any dog in pursuit of any game animal. He said he is a squirrel hunter, not a deer hunter, and he hunts squirrels with dogs. He stated that he causes very little trouble to any land owner. He said if the legislation passes, if he has permission to hunt on someone's land and his dog happens to get off of the property, he will not be able to retrieve his dog off of the neighboring property, even if he leaves his gun in his truck. He stated that this does not make sense to him.

At the absence of further comments, the public comment period was closed.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Griffin asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. It was requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee: 1) Approval of recommendation from Recreation Advisory Committee to approve additional funding for South Park in the amount of \$46,600 to install sod on the five softball/baseball fields instead of grass sprigs, and to expand the irrigation system; 2) Approval for Social Services Department to hire a Social Worker above the hiring step and to fill a vacant Income Maintenance position in the Work First Program; and 3) Approval for EMS Department to hire a Paramedic above the starting salary and to fill another vacant Paramedic position.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry to amend the agenda to add the three additional items to the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the consent agenda. Chairman Griffin stated that Commissioner Dixon has requested to be recused from considering the tax releases and refunds due to a conflict of interest.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry to remove item B, Tax Releases and Refunds, from the consent agenda and include as a separate item, and to recuse Commissioner Dixon from considering that item. The motion carried unanimously.

a. Approval of Minutes of January 10, 2011 Commissioner Meeting

b. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following budget amendments:

Special Appropriations

Increase	010.0230.4390.04	EDTAP	55,083.00
Increase	010.6600.5620.02	EDTAP	55,083.00

Special Appropriations

Increase	010.0230.4390.05	RGP	60,247.00
Increase	010.6600.5620.03	Rural General Public Transportation	60,247.00

JCPC-Special Appropriations

Increase	010.0230.4360.04	JCPC Administration	1,332.00
Increase	010.0230.4360.05	Juvenile Justice Pass Thru	132,974.00
Increase	010.6600.5615.09	JCPC Administration	1,332.00
Increase	010.6600.5615.00	Juvenile Justice Pass Thru	132,974.00

c. Approval of Request from Airport Authority

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a request from the Airport Authority for an additional \$10,000 to match \$250,000 in state funds to rehabilitate the parking lot and driveway entrances to the airport property.

d. Request from Volunteer Fire Departments

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a request from the volunteer fire departments to join the National Volunteer Fire Council at a cost of \$12 per person per year which will enable volunteer firemen to receive an additional \$10,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy. The funds can be taken from the fire departments' current year budget, but will be added as an expense for the 2011-12 budget.

e. Approval of Family Subdivision Request #11-01 by Hattie L. Harris

Staff has recommended approval of Family Subdivision Request #11-01 by Hattie L. Harris to create a gift lot for a grandchild in accordance with Article 5, Section 303 of the Pasquotank County Subdivision Ordinance. The request is to create a 1.00 acre gift lot to be conveyed to George M. Cauley, Jr., the property owner's grandson. A total of 241.99 feet of road frontage is provided to the parcel off of Simpson Ditch Road. Documentation has been provided that the plat qualifies as a family subdivision, and a septic evaluation permit for the lot has been issued by Albemarle Regional Health Services. Staff has advised that the plat meets the minimum requirements for a family subdivision.

f. Appointment of Patrice Stewart as Review Officer

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch has requested that the Board appoint Tax Administrator Patrice Stewart as a Review Officer to sign subdivision plats. She has completed the review officer workshop as required by the state.

g. Approval of Policy on Use of Public Safety Building Community Room

The Board is requested to approve a proposed policy on the use of the Public Safety Building Community Room. The policy mirrors the policy for courthouse meeting rooms, but was revised to meet the needs of the Public Safety Building since it is a more secure facility.

h. Update to Pasquotank County Fair Housing Plan

The Board needs to adopt a proposed update to the Pasquotank County Fair Housing Plan so the River's Edge CDBG Project can be closed out.

i. Approval of Recommendation from Recreation Advisory Board

The Finance Committee has recommended that the Board approve \$46,600 in additional funding for the South Park facility to expand the irrigation system and install sod on the five softball/baseball fields instead of grass sprigs. The additional funding would allow the facility to open by August 1, 2011 instead of Spring, 2012. The Finance Committee also agreed to request reimbursement of \$20,000 of the cost from next year's occupancy tax.

j. Approval of Request from Social Services to Hire Social Worker above the Hiring Step and to Fill a Vacant Income Maintenance Position

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a request from the Social Services Department to hire a Social Worker II on Step 8 due to her experience and training. The Finance Committee has also recommended approval for the Social Services Department to fill a vacant Income Maintenance position in the Work First Program.

k. Approval for EMS Department to Hire a Paramedic above the Starting Salary and to Fill Another Vacant Paramedic Position

The Finance Committee has recommended approval for the EMS Department to hire a Paramedic above the hiring step at Grade 19, Step 5 due to his years of experience. The Finance Committee has also recommended approval for the EMS Department to fill another vacant Paramedic position.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVAL OF TAX RELEASES, REFUNDS AND SOLID WASTE FEE RELEASES:

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases, refunds and solid waste fee releases:

Releases

		County	City
1.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
2.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
3.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
4.	Ace Supply Co.	106.48	
5.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
6.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
7.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
8.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
9.	Ace Supply Co.	109.51	
10.	Ace Supply Co.	110.11	
11.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
12.	Ace Supply Co.	106.48	
13.	Ace Supply Co.	104.67	
14.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
15.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
16.	Ace Supply Co.	104.06	
17.	Ace Supply Co.	1,424.06	
18.	Stork Loan Services LLC	1,429.12	1,032.96
19.	Ace Supply Co.	106.48	
20.	Ace Supply Co.	105.27	
21.	Ace Supply Co.	104.67	
22.	Dace Lee Combes	173.51	
23.	Tyrone Anthony Tyler	135.10	108.83
24.	Kimberly M. Marcin	201.06	159.67
25.	Fulford Edward Munden		144.27
26.	Coplon Dev. Co., Inc.	214.78	165.08
27.	Coplon Dev. Co., Inc.	242.00	186.00
28.	Coplon Dev. Co., Inc.	184.53	141.83
29.	Audrey M. Banks	129.69	99.00
30.	Thelma H. Murrey	127.72	98.16
31.	Tri B Construction, Inc.	490.77	275.75
32.	Gian Carlo Deliorco	167.10	
33.	James T. Fletcher Air Service, Inc.	1,654.68	
34.	Michael Scott Doleski	186.82	
35.	Melba Bridgeman	132.00	
36.	Linda Bridgeman	132.00	
37.	Nolan M. Bundy	132.00	
38.	Rufus A. Jackson	132.00	
39.	Esther McLean	132.00	
40.	Richard Wade Reid	132.00	
41.	Mary E. Walker	132.00	

Refunds

1.	William E. Stevens	132.00	
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Solid Waste Fees

OWNER'S NAME	PARCEL ID #	REASON FOR RELEASE
Ace Supply Company	P118-110	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-109	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-106	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-91	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-90	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-105	Vacant

Ace Supply Company	P118-88	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-61	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-60	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-59	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-55	Vacant
Ace Supply Company	P118-54	Vacant
Horace Pritchard, Sr. Etal	P141-24A	Vacant
Ronald C. Etheridge	39-F-6	Used for storage
Jo Ann Perry	P6-18	Vacant
Bobbie Moore & Miles Harris	P120-193	Not livable
Harold Chambers	P35-56	Not livable

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve the tax releases, tax refunds, and solid waste fee releases as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEED OF EASEMENT WITH NEWBEGUN LAND, LLC:

The Board reviewed a proposed deed of easement with Newbegun Land, LLC which will enable the Water Department to extend a new water line to the TCOM hangar. The Board had previously approved negotiations with Newbegun Land, LLC which included the installation of a fire hydrant to be located along Airship Drive as a portion of the consideration. County Attorney Mike Cox explained that the Board needs to approve the easement so the water line can be installed.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Gary White to approve the proposed deed of easement with Newbegun Land, LLC to extend a new water line to the TCOM hangar. The motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED HUNTING LEGISLATION:

Chairman Griffin explained that earlier this year Representative Bill Owens had asked the current Board to review the proposed hunting legislation that the prior Board requested him to introduce and determine whether to request him to move forward with introducing the bill in this year's legislative session. Chairman Griffin stated that the proposed legislation has been separated so the Board can consider the proposal to require written permission from property owners to hunt on their land and the proposal to require hunting with a center-fired rifle from an eight foot elevation separately. He asked Commissioners for their comments regarding the proposed legislation.

Commissioner Bill Trueblood stated that his position has not changed from two years ago, but he does support the proposal to require hunting with a center-fired rifle at least eight feet above ground level.

Commissioner Gary White said he concurs with Commissioner Trueblood about the eight foot requirement for center-fired rifles. He stated that it is a shame that just a few people have brought this to the attention of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Cecil Perry stated that his position has not changed. He said it is unfortunate that people cannot enjoy hunting, but he does respect the rights of people who own property and feels it is their right to say who can be go on their property.

Commissioner Joe Winslow stated that he respects the rights of the land owners and is very concerned about the land owners and what they are going through and realizes how stressful this must be for them. He said he respects and greatly cares about the privilege of hunting, but he does not feel that this legislation will be as effective as the land owners feel it will be. He stated that the people who are circumventing the laws will continue to do so in another manner. He said he has spoken with people in Chowan County and other counties that require written permission and was told by some that it has had some effect, and was told by others that those who break the law have continued to break the law. Commissioner Winslow added that he is against this legislation for these reasons and would like to see greater enforcement of the current laws.

Commissioner William Sterritt said he lives in the Weeksville area and owns a little bit of land. He said his property is posted and the signs are visible. He told of an instance when a pickup truck with a dog box came down his road which was posted with no trespassing and no hunting signs. He stated that his wife went out and the man explained that he had lost his dog and thought it was on his property. They looked and found the dog and the man left. Commissioner Sterritt said this could have been handled differently if the man would have found out who lived there and called to ask if he could go on the property to look for his dog. He said as far as requiring shooting from an elevated stand, it is necessary to consider the trajectory and how far that bullet is going to go to be safe. He added that it just won't work shooting from ground level standing on the side of the road. He stated that he does not think anyone's rights will be violated by requiring written permission from land owners to hunt on their land.

Vice-Chairman Jeff Dixon stated that this is a trespassing issue, not a hunting issue. He said if the trespassing laws were enforced in the court system today, there would not be nearly the problems with hunters that there are now. He said he knows a lot of people who hunt in Chowan County and their hunting law does not seem to have made a difference. He added that people who are going to break the law are going to continue to break the law. He stated that he will continue to vote against the proposed legislation.

Chairman Griffin advised that the Board would consider the two provisions separately and he asked for the Board's decision.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Gary White to request Representative Bill Owens to introduce local legislation providing that "It is unlawful to hunt with a center-fired rifle except from a permanent or portable stationary stand unless the barrel of the rifle is at least eight feet above ground level." The motion carried by a six to one margin with Vice-Chairman Dixon voting against the motion.

Motion was made by William Sterritt, seconded by Cecil Perry to request Representative Bill Owens to introduce local legislation providing that "It is unlawful to hunt a game animal, game bird, coyote, or feral hog on the land of another unless the hunter has, on his or her person, the written permission of the owner or lessee of the land. The written permission required by this act shall be dated and may be valid for no more than one year." The motion failed by a three to four vote with Commissioners Griffin, Perry and Sterritt voting in favor, and Commissioners Dixon, Trueblood, Winslow, and White voting against the motion.

9. CONTINUATION OF DANGEROUS DOG HEARING:

County Attorney Mike Cox explained that on November 8, 2010, the prior Board heard an appeal from Aaron Meads of the Sheriff's determination to deem his dog, Gemini, a dangerous dog. He said at the time the dog was scheduled to be neutered and the existing Board agreed to delay a decision until after the dog had been neutered and could be observed by the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Cox advised that the dog died in December from treatment for heartworms. He provided an affidavit which has been signed by the owner stating the dog died on or about December 15, 2010 and said there is no longer a need to continue the hearing.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Cecil Perry to dismiss the dangerous dog appeal by Aaron Meads due to the death of the dog. The motion carried unanimously.

10. REPORT FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

County Manager Randy Keaton stated that he needs to schedule a meeting of the Personnel Committee due to an appeal which has been filed by an employee. He said he will be contacting the committee members with possible meeting dates.

11. REPORT FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER:

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch referred to a memo in the agenda packet regarding the minimum housing code. He said this memo summarizes the minimum housing requirements and how they are enforced. It also lists three of the ongoing investigations for dilapidated structures. Mr. Bunch stated that staff continues to struggle with this and the structures need to be cleared. He said when the property owners fail to clear the dilapidated structures, there is no process for the county to move forward. He suggested that the Board work with staff to determine how to

continue on with this process. Vice-Chairman Dixon asked why it is so much easier for the city to demolish a substandard house than it is for the county. Mr. Bunch responded that the county has the same ability to do that, however the city has within its annual building inspections budget a line item that provides funding to demolish two or three structures per year. Commissioner Trueblood asked the process to attach the land. The County Manager responded that once the structure is torn down, a bill would be sent to the land owner, and if the bill is not paid a judgment would be entered and a lien would be placed on the property. Sheriff Randy Cartwright explained that what the city does once it incurs the cost is to assess the property owner. If the assessment is not paid, it goes to the Sheriff to advertise and sell the property. The county normally buys it back for what it has in the property and eventually tries to resell it. Sheriff Cartwright stated that the county has the same authority the city does, but would just have to budget funds for demolition.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to forward the issue of demolition of dilapidated structures to the Special Projects Committee for a recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Griffin said the demolition of wind turbines that are taken out of use should also be included on the Special Projects Committee agenda.

12. REPORT FROM CLERK:

The Clerk reviewed upcoming meetings and events with the Board.

13. REPORT FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY:

County Attorney Mike Cox reported to the Board that he received a call from East Carolina University's attorney and he advised that the ECU Board of Trustees has approved the conditions for a dental clinic on the Vicki-Villa property. Mr. Cox also reported that he will be out of town this Friday and Saturday attending the County Attorneys' Conference.

14. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner William Sterritt stated that stormwater management is a lot more than just flooding of some land. He said it is heavy rain on asphalt picking up salt, oil and matter. He stated that this should be a focus of the county. He said his concern is that the county needs to be concerned not only about the flooding of land, but what else that water does. He stated that some cities have problems with snow removal and the snow being trucked to a waterway because of what is in the snow. He said the point was made that if what is in that snow is isolated, a high degree of salt, oil, human refuse, and other things would be found, and if it were dumped in the river, it would be criminal.

Commissioner Sterritt reported that he attended the SPCA meeting and it is a great group of volunteers and they are doing a good job. He stated that Michael McLain is the Camden County Commissioner on that group. He said there is a core group of about 20 members who attend every meeting. He reported that the SPCA has some fundraising events coming up including a golf tournament and a spay/neuter campaign. He said they are reaching out and thinking about the future and their need for a better facility.

Commissioner Sterritt stated that he attended a meeting of the Greenways Committee. He said if Board Members know individuals who are interested in serving on that committee, Bobbi White would welcome their participation. He noted that there were only four people at the last meeting. He added that Mr. Dave Copley will soon be moving and they are concerned that the committee may dissolve.

Vice-Chairman Jeff Dixon thanked the Board for selecting him as the delegate for the Legislative Goals Conference last week. He stated that five main goals were adopted at the conference related to revenues, mental health funding, and not transferring secondary road costs to counties.

Vice-Chairman Dixon stated that the term of a state appointee to the Social Services Board is expiring. He asked if anyone would like to suggest a replacement to let him know so the name can be submitted to the state.

Commissioner Cecil Perry reported that he will be evaluating Teacher Fellowes applicants this weekend in Greenville. He also reported that the Appointments Committee did not meet today and he believes that any pending appointments can wait until the next meeting.

Commissioner Bill Trueblood stated that Commissioner Sterritt mentioned stormwater and he is correct in that the Stormwater Committee is addressing matters other than stormwater runoff from rains. He said in most of the county's developments there is now a provision made to control any asphalt, parking lot, or driveway runoff. He stated that stormwater is everyone's responsibility.

Commissioner Trueblood reported that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee will be meeting again tomorrow night. He said the most notable portion of their last meeting was the issue of whether to sod or sprig the fields at South Park and this has been addressed by the Board tonight. He stated that the committee will be addressing the seventh member and is working diligently to make sure whatever the committee does comes back to the Board of Commissioners and the City Council so that everyone will know exactly what is going on. He said Parks & Recreation Director Bobbi White is working very hard to get this joint committee moving forward.

Chairman Griffin stated that the Board was able to visit one of Pasquotank County's assets today when it toured and held the Finance Committee meeting at College of The Albemarle. He said one of his goals is for the Board to travel to the different facilities that Pasquotank County funds and supports to see their needs firsthand. He thanked county staff and COA staff for making this meeting possible. Chairman Griffin reported that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held at the old Elizabeth City Middle School. Chairman Griffin reported that he received an email today pertaining to Meads Pool and there are still some details to be worked out. The County Manager noted that Mr. Ralph is interested in moving forward and will be sending more information for the Board to review at the February 21 meeting. Chairman Griffin advised that the Board will hold a retreat on February 14. The agenda will be finalized during the next day or so. Chairman Griffin stated that he would like to schedule a meeting with the Board of Education on February 28. He also advised that the Board needs to hold a special meeting this Thursday morning at 8:00 AM to discuss the location or expansion of a business or industry. Chairman Griffin stated that a joint meeting with the Camden County Board of Commissioners will be held on March 14 at 6:00 PM.

Chairman Griffin noted that in the 911 resolution there are a couple of items that are not defined clearly. He said these include the section regarding the DCI Committee which is no longer applicable. He noted that the other items are how the membership is structured and the funding formula. He stated that the County Manager had requested that the agreement be delayed until the 2010 Census numbers are available because the funding may change.

Chairman Griffin asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being no further business;

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Gary White to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD