

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
JANUARY 31, 2005**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a special joint meeting with the City Council of Elizabeth City on Monday, January 31, 2005 at the Albemarle Hospital Education Center.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Trueblood, Chairman  
Cecil Perry, Vice-Chairman  
Matt Wood  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Marshall Stevenson  
John "Hank" Krebs  
Jeff Dixon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randy Keaton, County Manager  
Rodney Bunch, Asst. County Mgr. for Planning & Econ. Dev.  
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney  
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

The business meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chairman Bill Trueblood and Mayor Pro-Tem Kirk Rivers. City Councilman Darryl Stallings gave the invocation and Councilman Bill Lehmann led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**1. DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED OCCUPANCY TAX LEGISLATION:**

County Manager Randy Keaton passed out a report of Occupancy Tax collections for the past year. City Manager Rich Olson outlined a draft bill provided by Representative Bill Owens that would increase the Occupancy Tax from 3% to 6%. He explained that the bill would create a standalone Tourism Development Authority that would be responsible for distributing all proceeds generated by the Occupancy Tax. The bill provides that the Board of County Commissioners would pass a resolution to determine the size and makeup of the authority. Under the proposed legislation, the 3% Occupancy Tax currently received by the city and the county would be distributed such that 50% would go for tourism related promotional activities, and the city and county would each receive 25% to be used for tourism related projects. Mr. Olson explained that the new 3% tax would be distributed such that 67% must be used for tourism related promotional activities, and 33% for capital related projects. He presented several recommendations from City Council regarding the proposed legislation:

- 1) Recommendation that the name of the authority be changed to Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Tourism Development Authority;
- 2) Even though the legislation gives the Board of County Commissioners the right to make up the Board, the City Council would like equal representation in making the appointments;
- 3) The City Council would like to see the authority consist of nine individuals, three from the hotel and motel industry, which is a requirement of the legislation, four elected officials, and two business people at large involved in tourism related activities.

Chairman Trueblood noted that the Board of Commissioners has previously voted to approve introduction of the proposed legislation as drafted. Mr. Olson said the only thing that would be a change in the draft legislation is the name change. He stated that the other recommendations would come after the legislation has been approved and the Board of Commissioners adopts the resolution regarding the size and makeup of the authority.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Hank Krebs to approve an amendment in the draft legislation to increase the Occupancy Tax from 3% to 6% that would change the name of the authority from Pasquotank County Tourism Development Authority to Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Tourism Development Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Trueblood clarified that if the legislation passes to increase the Occupancy Tax, it does not mean there would be an automatic 3% increase in the tax. It would only give the city and county the authority to increase the tax to 6%. The Board of County Commissioners and the City Council would make the decision regarding whether and how much to increase the tax within those parameters.

The boards discussed the second recommendation from the City Council regarding the method of appointments. The County Manager stated that the legislation gives broad discretion on the appointment method and this could be specified in the resolution adopted by the city and the county. Councilman Lehmann explained that one section of the legislation the City Council did not particularly care for was section 1.1, lines 10, 11 and 12 which says, "The Board of Commissioners shall designate one member of the authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the authority." He said that Council felt the appointed members of the development authority should select a chair. It was noted that the method of appointment of the chair could be addressed in the resolution.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Matt Wood to remove from the draft legislation to increase the Occupancy Tax lines 10, 11 and 12, section 1.1 stating "The Board of Commissioners shall designate one member of the authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the authority." The resolution would then spell out how the chair would be appointed and how compensation, if any, would be determined for members of the authority. The motion carried unanimously.

## **2. DISCUSSION ON MAIN STREET EXTENDED CORRIDOR FOR U.S. 17 BYPASS:**

The two boards discussed a proposed Main Street Extended corridor for the U.S. 17 Bypass that is included in the North Carolina Department of Transportation TIP in the out years. County Manager Randy Keaton provided a map indicating where the proposed road would be located. He pointed out another alternative that has been discussed in the past which would connect to Elizabeth Street. After discussion of these and other options mentioned, Chairman Trueblood advised that he, the Mayor, and the managers will be meeting with Department of Transportation division representatives next week and will discuss with them the various options for a second connector road to the bypass.

## **3. TANGLEWOOD SEWER PROJECT:**

Chairman Trueblood reported on a meeting that he, Vice-Chairman Perry, Mayor Bell, and Mayor Pro-Tem Rivers had today with Mr. Jon Crouse and Mr. Bob Farris to discuss the Tanglewood sewer project. He stated that the main concern was with regard to a letter the city sent to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources asking for a public hearing on Tanglewood's sewer permit. He said the developers of Tanglewood requested that the letter be withdrawn so the sewer portion of the project can move forward while negotiations continue on other aspects of the project. Vice-Chairman Perry added that everyone sees the Tanglewood development as a project of importance and something that everyone agrees should happen, and the objective of the meeting was to look for a way to make it happen. Chairman Trueblood explained that a permit number has been assigned to the project, however issuance of the permit has been held up while the Department of Environment and Natural Resources considers whether there will be a public hearing on the permit application. He said if the letter from the city had not been sent, the permit would have probably already been issued and the project would be moving forward. He said this first phase of the Tanglewood project which includes the Super WalMart needs to start before other important things that are on the drawing board can happen. Chairman Trueblood noted that Mayor Bell stated in today's meeting that the real concern is ElectriCities and that the proceeds from connecting Tanglewood with ElectriCities would greatly help the city.

Several members of City Council commented. Councilwoman Jean Baker stated that City Council is 100% in favor of the Tanglewood project, however nothing has united the Council more than its opposition to the Tanglewood sewer plant.

Councilman Bill Lehmann stated that the Tanglewood development is all about jobs for Northeastern North Carolina, and City Council is in agreement that it is good for all of the Albemarle area. He said what has driven the city to write the letter of protest is a time issue, and

the letter states if an agreement is reached between Tanglewood and the city, the letter would be withdrawn. He added that the problem with the express review process is the fact that local government is taken out of the equation. He said another problem is that the new plant proposed is within 3,000 feet of the city's primary water source, and would have a large open lagoon. Councilman Lehmann said he disagrees that it is all about ElectriCities because ElectriCities is only one part of the equation. He stated that it has already been determined that the WalMart will be served by Albemarle Electric.

Councilman Rivers suggested if any member of the Board of Commissioners has questions or concerns regarding the city's sewer plant, they should voice them in this joint forum. He also suggested that the county not degrade the city's sewer plant in order to make another project look good. He stated that City Council would like to request that the Board of Commissioners support the city's request for a public hearing on the Tanglewood sewer plant.

Commissioner Hank Krebs said he would applaud the City Council for asking for a public hearing. He stated that he feels the Board of Commissioners has let down the citizens of the county by not asking for even a local public hearing on the Tanglewood permit.

Councilwoman Anita Hummer stated that she would agree with Councilman Rivers that it is not necessary to put the city down. She said there is information circulating that the city is dumping its sewage into the river. She said if they were, the city would have been cited for it and would probably have been shut down. She stated that most of the city's sewage spills have been storm-related. She added that the city is also concerned about the loss of sales tax and electric revenues when Wal-Mart relocates to Tanglewood and what effect this will have on the citizens of the city.

Vice-Chairman Perry stated that he too has concerns for the citizens of Elizabeth City, but has looked at the big picture and has concluded that Mr. Crouse has followed all of the rules. He said the city will receive the same amount of sales tax revenue regardless of whether a business is located in the city limits or outside of the city limits. He stated that as more new businesses locate in Tanglewood it will mean more sales tax revenue. He added that the city and county need to look for ways to work together in order to grow together.

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Matt Wood to write a letter supporting the city's request for a public hearing on the Tanglewood sewer permit application.

Commissioner Matt Wood said he seconded the motion because he thinks this is an historic change in the community. He stated if a three million gallon sewer plant which is larger than the existing capacity of the city's sewer plant is located in the county without any local input, it would be a bad policy because he thinks there should be local discussion.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin stated that he has seen a copy of the permit application and the permit would be for a 250,000 gallon plant, not a 3,000,000 gallon plant. He said 216,000 gallons would be for retail businesses.

Commissioner Jeff Dixon asked what the city is hoping to accomplish by requesting a public hearing on the permit. Councilman Rivers responded that the city has a number of technical questions and concerns regarding the Tanglewood sewer plant that it would like to have answered by DENR before the permit is issued and the public hearing would allow the city to ask those questions and voice those concerns.

Commissioner Marshall Stevenson said he disagrees with the motion as he thinks the Tanglewood project should be allowed to go forward, and that roadblocks should not be thrown in the way when the developers have contracts and timeframes that have to be met. He stated that this will create problems not only for those who want to move to this community, but will also create problems between the city and the county. He stated that the technology of the proposed Tanglewood plant is far above that of the city's plant. He said he does feel strongly that this is about ElectriCities. He stated that the city will still get the sales tax generated at Tanglewood whether it is in the city or out of the city. He said he is against trying to stop the project. He added that his perception of what has happened with the letter to the Division of

Water Quality is that it was an attempt to stop Tanglewood's development unless Tanglewood agreed to the city's condition of annexation.

The motion failed by a three to four margin with Commissioners Krebs, Griffin and Wood voting in favor of the motion.

City Manager Rich Olson provided numbers regarding discharge limits and major permit parameters for the city's sewer plant and the proposed Tanglewood sewer plant.

Councilman Lehmann said he has a problem with statements being made that there is no problem whatsoever with the proposed Tanglewood sewer system. He asked how the county would feel if the proposed system were to be within 3,000 feet of the county's main water supply. He said it is very disappointing to him that the city and the county cannot come together on this issue as well as the U.S. 17 North sewer line project. He asked that the county consider the city.

Councilwoman Hummer stated that when growth is anticipated, there should be a plan for other services besides sewer. She asked who would provide fire protection, police protection, garbage collection, and other services to not just the proposed WalMart, but to other facilities that will locate there. She said the county depends on the city for fire protection and she suggested that the businesses that plan to locate in Tanglewood ask these questions.

Councilman Johnnie Walton stated that in this type of a situation there will only be one chance to make a decision and the wrong decision could affect a lot of people. He said this is the reason City Council wants a public hearing to be held on the Tanglewood permit.

Councilwoman Ceci Austin said she is certainly in favor on Mr. Crouse's plan to develop the Tanglewood area, however she thinks it has been gone about in the wrong way. She said she is concerned about empty stores in downtown Elizabeth City and the loss of tax base as businesses migrate to the Tanglewood area. She stated that she is worried about the future of Elizabeth City. She also expressed concern as to whether the county could provide law enforcement and fire protection to Tanglewood if the area is not annexed by the city. She asked that the Board of Commissioners understand that the City Council is not trying to block the development, but simply wants what is best for Elizabeth City.

Councilman Darryl Stallings stated that he agrees the city and the county need to work together to do what is best for the citizens.

Councilwoman Jean Baker stated that the City Council is looking out for the best interests of the citizens of Elizabeth City. She said the city has taken a back seat to the county on various issues because they were allowed to under prior management and under prior councils, and the city has not always gotten its fair share. She stated that City Council is not going to let the citizens of the city take a back seat anymore.

Mayor Pro Tem Rivers stated that the Board of Commissioners has heard eight members of the City Council speak on the Tanglewood development and ask for help from the Board of Commissioners not to block the development, but to have questions answered at a public hearing.

Vice-Chairman Cecil Perry said he understands the city's concerns and he agrees that everyone needs to work together. He added that he sees the project as very positive for the citizens in Elizabeth City.

Commissioner Stevenson stated that he also believes that what is happening here is the best for the citizens of the county and the city. He said he believes that the Tanglewood development should go forward and should not be hindered. He stated there are questions that have been raised and he thinks those questions can be answered. He added that his perception is that this is not about the sewer, but about something else and he would like to see the Board of Commissioners write a letter in support of the Tanglewood sewer project.

Motion was made by Marshall Stevenson, seconded by Bill Trueblood that the county send a letter to the Division of Water Quality in support of the Tanglewood sewer project.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Krebs said his concern is that the Board has not asked for input from the citizens of the county on the sewer project. He said what has happened recently in Camden County should serve as an example.

The motion failed by a two to five margin with Commissioners Trueblood and Stevenson voting in favor of the motion.

**4. WHITEHURST LANE WATER INTAKE:**

Commissioner Dixon asked for an update on the city water intake at the end of Whitehurst Lane. He asked if there are any future plans for the city to ever use the intake. Councilman Lehmann stated that hopefully the city will never have to use the intake, however at some time in the future if well water becomes scarce, the city may have to use water from the river in its water treatment process. He said the city does not want to give up its ability to use this as an alternate source of water.

**5. NEXT JOINT MEETING:**

The two boards discussed possible agenda items for the next joint meeting which will be held on Tuesday, May 31, because the fifth Monday falls on May 30, Memorial Day. Items mentioned included discussion on combining city and county water and sewer departments and having a water and sewer authority, discussion on combining city and county planning departments into one planning department, an update from Albemarle Commission on the benefits it provides and on the regional transportation plan and the projects being recommended, discussion on Rural Center grants for economic development, and a presentation from city and county water departments regarding future growth plans, water sources, and future costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 1, 2005**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a special meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2005 in the Commissioners Board Room in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Trueblood, Chairman  
Cecil Perry, Vice-Chairman  
Matt Wood  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Marshall Stevenson  
John "Hank" Krebs  
Jeff Dixon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Chairman Bill Trueblood.

**1. INTERVIEWS WITH REAL ESTATE FIRMS:**

The Board conducted interviews with three firms to market the two parcels of property in Dare County. The firms interviewed were Bill Forbes & Associates/Iron Horse Auctions, Advantis, and Harrell & Associates. Each firm discussed the advertising and marketing campaign they would use, their experience in transactions of this type, and their fee.

**2. CLOSED SESSION TO PRESERVE THE ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE:**

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Hank Krebs that the Board enter Closed Session to preserve the attorney client privilege. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. SELECTION OF FIRM TO MARKET DARE COUNTY PROPERTY:**

The Board further discussed the proposals that had been made by companies to market the two parcels of property in Dare County. The Board reached a consensus to select Advantis as the marketing firm contingent upon negotiation of an acceptable fee structure. Discussions will also be held with Advantis regarding the methods of disposing of the property.

**4. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTER:**

Chairman Trueblood asked for a motion that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Hank Krebs that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Matt Wood that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 7, 2005**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, February 7, 2005 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cecil Perry, Vice-Chairman  
Matt Wood  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Marshall H. Stevenson, Jr.  
John "Hank" Krebs  
Jeff Dixon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Trueblood, Chairman (*Due to Illness*)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randy Keaton, County Manager  
Rodney Bunch, Asst. County Mgr. for Planning & Econ. Dev.  
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney  
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice-Chairman Cecil Perry. The Rev. T.R. Miller, Pastor of First United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Commissioner Matt Wood led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Vice-Chairman Perry stated that two people have signed up to address the Board during the public comment period. The speakers indicated that they will be speaking on the U.S. 17 sewer line which is on the agenda and would prefer to speak when that issue comes up on the agenda.

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Marshall Stevenson to reserve public comments until the discussion of the U.S. 17 sewer line comes up on the agenda. The motion carried.

**2. PRESENTATION OF PINS TO EMPLOYEES FOR YEARS OF SERVICE:**

Vice-Chairman Perry called on the following county employees to receive pins for their years of service to Pasquotank County:

J.C. Ferrell, 25 years  
Linda Brumsey-Moore, 15 years  
Lynn Weeks, 10 years  
Gwen Nixon, 10 years  
Randy Cartwright, 10 years

The County Manager advised that Barbara Doxey is also due to receive her 25-year pin, however she could not attend the meeting and will be given her pin later. Also, Larry Glass was due to receive his 10-year pin, but could not attend the meeting because of illness. His pin was given to EMS Director Dean Schaan to give to him. Doug Hooper was also due to receive his 10-year pin and could not attend the meeting, so his pin was given to Sheriff Randy Cartwright.

The Board congratulated and thanked the employees for their service to Pasquotank County.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING ON SALE OF LOT 2, SECTION C IN THE PASQUOTANK COUNTY COMMERCE PARK:**

Vice-Chairman Perry declared the meeting to be a public hearing on the sale of Lot 2, Section C in the Pasquotank County Commerce Park consisting of 3.44 acres for \$15,000 per acre.

County Attorney Mike Cox explained that the property would be sold to Jeffrey Glaser, Trustee, who plans to bring in a company called First Growth Properties. Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch stated First Growth Properties is the owner of Norandex, that proposes to locate an aluminum siding wholesale business at this site. Mr. Cox asked that the record reflect that First Growth Properties and Norandex anticipate paying wages of \$9.00 to \$10.00 per hour.

Vice-Chairman Perry asked if anyone would care to comment on the sale of the lot. At the absence of comments, the public hearing was closed and Vice-Chairman Perry asked for the Board's decision regarding the sale of the lot.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Hank Krebs to approve the sale of Lot 2, Section C in the Pasquotank County Commerce Park consisting of 3.44 acres to Jeffrey Glaser, Trustee, for \$15,000 per acre. The motion carried.

**4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Vice-Chairman Perry asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin requested that the agenda be amended to discuss a personnel matter in Closed Session.

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes of January 6, January 10 and January 18, 2005 Commissioner Meetings
- b. Tax Releases Recommended by Finance Committee

Releases:

		<b>County</b>	<b>City</b>
1.	Citicorp Lease Inc.	1,331.11	1,037.03
2.	Gilbert R. Baccus, Jr.	122.85	
3.	Gilbert R. Baccus, Jr.	476.10	
4.	Harold L. & Dwan Turner	190.00	
5.	Kendrick James Marcotte	107.67	
6.	William A. Small	1,710.00	
7.	William A. Small	665.00	
8.	Curtis Joe Bryant	169.59	137.12
9.	Shawn Timothy Callis	120.57	
10.	Pell Paper Box Co. Inc.	3,341.51	2,409.00
11.	Pell Paper Box Co. Inc.	621.15	483.91

The following tax releases and refunds less than \$100 have been approved by the Finance Officer since the last meeting:

Releases:

		<b>County</b>	<b>City</b>
1.	Betty Lou David	25.28	
2.	James & Nina Ellis	21.42	
3.	Elma Mary Parks	23.31	16.80
4.	Yendor Noltehs Shelton II	4.47	
5.	John D. Sawyer	62.81	
6.	Albemarle Grain Equip Co.		38.16
7.	Curtis Royal Hinkley, Jr.	33.97	
8.	James Kenneth Campbell, Jr.		13.24
9.	James Kenneth Campbell, Jr.		8.35
10.	Frank Landis Hinson	82.13	
11.	Frank Landis Hinson	13.33	
12.	Michael Ray Lance	55.21	
13.	Tori Terell Riddick	11.91	
14.	James Colen Gibbs	13.07	
15.	Miguel Solis-Mendez	17.59	12.68
16.	Miguel Solis-Mendez	21.33	16.62
17.	Tammy Michele Carey	23.39	
18.	Tammy Michele Carey	24.78	
19.	Deborah Baker Simons	33.50	
20.	Caroline Christensen Reinking	15.82	
21.	Pauline Colson Markham	35.69	
22.	Stewart Cleaves Manning	57.60	
23.	Donna Todd Manning	51.84	
24.	Donna Todd Manning	34.24	

25.	Paul Kechere Nwamara	6.27	4.89
26.	Rodriquis Dominic Alexander	89.10	
27.	Patricia Beasley Lamb	13.55	
28.	Christopher William Slater	10.49	
29.	Johnny & Alafaya McMurrin	5.16	
30.	Johnny & Alafaya McMurrin	5.16	
31.	Tyrese Azell Whidbee	20.00	
32.	Lincoln Lee Spence	14.53	
33.	Garland Wayne Morton	7.23	
34.	Clarence Edward White, Jr.	43.56	27.01
35.	Frederick Earl Melton	4.43	3.45
36.	Frederick Earl Melton	42.23	32.90
37.	Marcus Cleveland Jones III	47.64	
38.	Kendra Letitia Bailey	76.88	
39.	John Woodrow Kitchen, Jr.	51.08	
40.	Louise Weaver Williams	41.28	
41.	Ruby Brooks Price	13.29	
42.	Donna Marie Hickie	23.05	17.96
43.	Abram V. Davenport III	8.43	
44.	William Brown	98.90	
45.	Alan Lee Zacharias	49.79	40.90
46.	Lanita Yvette Fitzgerald	9.50	6.85
47.	Travis Montana Lynch	86.65	
48.	Travis Montana Lynch	2.58	
49.	Dena Noreen Paxton	5.68	4.09
50.	JJ&J of EC, Inc.	7.53	5.86
51.	Richard F. & Johnnie Stallings	95.00	
52.	Mildred B. Berry	95.00	
53.	Michael Wayne Cormany	3.57	
54.	Denise Petit Hall	56.33	
55.	William Purcelle Mullen, Jr.	99.67	77.65
56.	Deborah Trueblood Fields	6.24	
57.	Russell Earl Jones	46.79	33.73
58.	Eric Alan Ferguson	51.17	
59.	Sharon James Walker	26.32	
60.	Michael Thomas Redfearn	59.68	
61.	Michael Thomas Redfearn	38.01	32.40
62.	Jarrold William Henson	10.79	
63.	Valerie Simpson Weatherly	9.93	
64.	Melvin Todd Simpson & Theresa Williams		55.74
65.	Melvin Todd Simpson	25.44	19.82
66.	William Thomas Cherry, Jr.		39.57
67.	Jimmy Ray Westbrook	12.04	
68.	Lyonita Rosaller Williams		29.92
69.	Charlie Benjamin Lynch, Sr.	2.45	
70.	George Marshall Walters, Jr.	40.08	31.22
71.	Bruce Williams	88.45	68.90
72.	William L. Galloway	97.01	
73.	John Patrick Gibson, Jr.	93.83	
74.	Agatha Denise Williams	11.35	8.18
75.	Kristine Fulks Bolinsky	76.50	55.15
76.	Valerie Shenita Williams	13.42	9.67
77.	Doris James	81.06	63.15
78.	Doris James	44.89	34.97
79.	Van Hewes Johnson	19.43	19.01
80.	Britney Lorene Ambrose	20.12	14.50
81.	Mary Nixon Green	33.71	
82.	Edwina Ruth Anderson	68.89	53.67
83.	Kenya Lynette Wilson	1.33	.96
84.	Terri Spencer Krebs	22.02	
85.	Roscoe Poole, Jr.		6.77
86.	Samuel E. McKenzie	6.15	4.43
87.	Betty Davies Yates	6.11	4.76
88.	Kristin Jackson Suchy	5.63	
89.	Steven Jay Wynkoop, Jr.	77.57	

90.	William Herbert Martin	8.37	
91.	David Herbert Lynam	95.85	
92.	Kenneth Allen Jackson	10.50	
93.	Earmon Dale Horn, Jr.	84.49	
94.	Thelma Stilley Colson	9.68	
95.	Lacresha Keyona Poole	22.96	21.55
96.	Delton Troy Overton	35.05	25.27
97.	Louis Wysong Ribble	18.23	
98.	Louis Wysong Ribble	58.74	
99.	Vince Darryl Ross	88.32	73.81
100.	Vince Darryl Ross	48.85	43.06
101.	James Travis Nelson	2.58	
102.	Monir Thomas	8.34	
103.	Lillian Reyes Brockway	12.08	
104.	John Jay Murraz	90.57	
105.	Donald Edward Phelps	90.05	
106.	Michael Vernon Hammond	8.43	
107.	Dung Thi Nguyen	29.11	22.68
108.	David G. Roberts, Jr.	65.27	

Refunds:

		County	City
1.	Alan Turner	10.63	
2.	Alan Turner	10.32	
3.	Alan Turner	9.59	
4.	Alan Turner	9.29	
5.	Alan Turner	8.60	
6.	Anne P. McGuffin	12.05	9.39
7.	Robin W. Ward	18.06	
8.	Robin W. Ward	18.06	
9.	Robin W. Ward	18.06	
10.	Robin W. Ward	18.06	
11.	Robin W. Ward	18.06	

*c. Call for Public Hearing on Lease Agreement with Nextel*

Nextel has agreed to the county's counterproposal for a 15% increase in the monthly rate for each five-year renewal term. The lease rate for the initial term is \$1,800 per month. The Board needs to authorize a public hearing to be advertised for the next meeting to receive comments on the lease of space on the elevated water tank at the Water Plant for location of an antenna.

*d. Request for Lower Speed Limits on Creek Road and Perkins Lane*

The County Manager has received requests from residents along Creek Road and Perkins Lane that the county ask the North Carolina Department of Transportation to consider a 35 mph speed limit along the section of Creek Road between Main Street Extended and Knobbs Creek, and a 45 mph speed limit along Perkins Lane. The Board needs to authorize a letter to be written to the Department of Transportation asking DOT to conduct a study on the need for lower speed limits in these areas.

*e. Appointment to Elizabeth City Planning Board*

At the last meeting the Appointments Committee recommended the appointment of Lena Council to the Elizabeth City Planning Board pending review of her application. Her application has been provided to members of the Board and the Board can now give final approval to the appointment.

*f. Adoption of Resolution Commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dismal Swamp Canal*

Penny Leary-Smith has requested that the Board adopt the following resolution recognizing the anniversary of the Dismal Swamp Canal.

WHEREAS, the Dismal Swamp Canal holds great ecological and historic significance, being entered in the National Register of Historic Places, designated as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, and recognized as part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program; and

WHEREAS, construction of the Dismal Swamp Canal was completed in eleven years, with construction beginning in 1794 and opening to boat traffic in 1805. The Canal is 22 miles long and was built by slave labor hired from surrounding plantations. It is the oldest continuously operating canal in the United States, truly a living monument to the sacrifices of the men who built it; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its beauty, the Dismal Swamp Canal is also valuable for flood control, recreation, tourism, and boat traffic. It has served as an important source of transportation during its existence. For example, during the blockade of the War of 1812, the Dismal Swamp Canal saved the merchants of downtown Norfolk from bankruptcy by providing an alternate route south for sale of their wares. Today the canal serves as part of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, and approximately two thousand pleasure boats use the waterway annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE County of Pasquotank, North Carolina, that it hereby commemorates and recognizes the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dismal Swamp Canal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Norfolk District, US Army Corps of Engineers, the Council of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, and Virginia Canals & Navigations Society.

ADOPTED by the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2005.

g. Consideration of Support of Legislation to Phase Out County Share of Medicaid  
The Board considered a request from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to support proposed legislation that would phase out the county share of Medicaid costs over a five year period. Each county is asked to support the legislation and to ask our representatives to co-sponsor the legislation.

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Matt Wood to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PAY PLAN:**

The Board considered a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the implementation of the proposed pay plan to be effective March 1, 2005.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to approve implementation of the proposed new pay plan to be effective March 1, 2005, and to freeze the career development plan effective July 1, 2005 unless a new revised performance appraisal system is in place.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Lloyd Griffin asked whether a meeting being scheduled with Dr. Archer will be for the purpose of developing the next phase. County Manager Randy Keaton said this meeting will be for the purpose of developing a performance appraisal system and looking at revisions to the career development plan.

Commissioner Hank Krebs said he will be voting against the recommendation to implement the pay plan because he feels when Dare County and the City of Chesapeake were added as comparables it skewed the numbers. He stated that he also has a problem with some employees receiving 10% or 15% salary increases.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin stated that he hoped this would take place on July 1 rather than March 1, however he was out of town when the recommendation was made. He said Commissioner Krebs has made some good points with regard to the numbers from Dare County and Chesapeake although Dr. Archer had indicated that Pasquotank County is in a competitive market with those areas. He questioned how much of a hardship this will place on the county by being implemented in the middle of the budget year.

Vice-Chairman Perry said there are a lot of reasons for going ahead with the pay plan, and one of the reasons is disgruntled employees. He stated that it has been indicated that this could be handled within the budget.

Commissioner Jeff Dixon said as a businessman he knows that employees are the biggest asset to any organization and with the financial information he has been receiving and at the rates the county is growing, he can see that the county can afford to implement the pay plan. He added that there is fast becoming a salary gap between Pasquotank and some of the surrounding counties and cities, and Pasquotank is losing employees to Currituck County, Dare County, and to Virginia. He said this is why he is in favor of implementing the pay plan.

Commissioner Marshall Stevenson stated that he feels this is a fair plan and the Board has debated it for a long time. He said there are a lot of county employees who are underpaid based on what other counties are paying their employees. He added that if they are doing their job, they should be compensated for it and this is why he is in favor of the pay plan. He stated that the motion will also freeze the career development plan July 1 pending establishing an evaluation appraisal system. He said he thinks this is key for all employees in the future as it will be a performance-based system rather than providing automatic step increases as has been done in the past. He stated that there are other circumstances behind accelerating this to March 1 and he agrees with moving it forward.

The motion to implement the pay plan as recommended carried by a five to one margin with Commissioner Krebs voting against the motion.

**7. ADOPTION OF FINAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION FOR CRYSTAL LAKE:**

The County Attorney explained that this is the assessment resolution for the improvements that were done in the Crystal Lake Subdivision. He said tonight is not a formal public hearing, however there will be one on the assessment roll before the assessments are finalized.

Commissioner Krebs stated that he would make a motion to not pass this resolution. He said he has questions as to why county taxpayers from one area are paying for repairs to a public road that will be used by everyone. Commissioner Krebs' motion died for the lack of a second.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Marshall Stevenson to adopt the final assessment resolution for the Crystal Lake Water and Sewer District.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Wood stated that this issue has long been discussed and understood by everyone involved. He said it has taken the Board awhile to get to this point and he feels this is a fair plan. He added that the county has been successful in acquiring funding to supplement the project. He stated that he feels this is a very reasonable solution for a longstanding problem and he would urge the Board to move forward with adoption of the resolution.

Vice-Chairman Perry asked Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch what feedback he has received from the citizens in Crystal Lake Subdivision. Mr. Bunch responded that all of the citizens within that development were thrilled when the county held the public hearing and agreed to move forward to try to improve the street and the drainage to a standard that the state would accept. He said it has taken quite some time and the county was very fortunate to acquire funding that paid for half of the project. To reduce the costs, the state did the construction work. Mr. Bunch reported that the work is complete and it is time to close out the project. He said he has however received calls from two or three residents who felt the work should have been done better. Mr. Bunch advised that the work does meet the state specifications and DOT is ready to take the road over.

Commissioner Krebs said he would have liked to have seen the project costs broken down into street repair costs and drainage repair costs. He stated that he does not feel it is right for the property owners to be assessed a tax to pay for a public highway that is under the jurisdiction of the county. He said he feels the county should have the responsibility of paving the roads and bringing them up to state standards. He added that drainage is a different issue, but paving the streets and bringing them up to state standards should have been taken on by the county.

Commissioner Dixon asked if Commissioner Krebs has any information indicating that the residents in Crystal Lake are not satisfied with the project. Commissioner Krebs said he has received no feedback from the residents that they are dissatisfied. He said this project would compare to the project to clean out the canals in Glen Cove using state grant funds and a grant match provided by the taxpayers of the county. He said because this canal was a public

waterway the people in Glen Cove were not the only ones assessed, however they are probably the only ones who use it.

The motion to adopt the following final assessment resolution carried by a five to one margin with Commissioner Krebs voting against the motion.

**FINAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION FOR THE  
CRYSTAL LAKE WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2004, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing regarding the Preliminary Assessment Resolution for the Crystal Lake Subdivision;

WHEREAS, at the time of the Preliminary Assessment Resolution all the necessary repairs were not completed to the road and drainage improvements;

WHEREAS, it remains the intent of the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners to make a special assessment on a per lot basis to the residents of the Crystal Lake Subdivision;

WHEREAS, the county intends to authorize the assessment in the amount of \$587.86 to be paid in full or annual installments of \$113.40 for a period of six years (or in the alternative \$9.45 per month for a period of 72 months). This payment equals 100 percent of the cost financed by the county for the work that was performed within the Crystal Lake Subdivision.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED THAT:

1. County staff shall prepare the preliminary assessment roll to finalize the assessments for the Crystal Lake Subdivision.

2. A special assessment in the amount of \$587.86 shall be assessed on a per lot basis to the residents of the Crystal Lake Subdivision. This assessment represents the full percentage of the money financed by Pasquotank County for work performed within the Crystal Lake Subdivision and is to be paid in full or in annual installments of \$113.40 over a period of six (6) years (or in the alternative a payment of \$9.45 per month for a period of 72 months).

ADOPTED in this lawful session by the Board on the day and year first above written.

**8. APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY EASEMENT FOR DOMINION NORTH CAROLINA POWER:**

The Board considered a request from Dominion North Carolina Power that the county approve a temporary easement for poles that have to be relocated along Old U.S. 17 at the Perquimans County line. The state plans to replace the bridge across the Little River on Old U.S. 17 and North Carolina Power has to relocate their poles while the bridge is being replaced. The county owns the small boat ramp property along that road and the poles will be relocated onto the county's property.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Hank Krebs to approve a temporary easement with Dominion North Carolina Power to relocate utility poles on county property along Old U.S. 17 at the Perquimans County line. The motion carried.

**9. APPROVAL OF FORMAL OPERATIONS AGREEMENT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE POOL:**

The Board reviewed a proposed formal operations agreement for the Northeast Albemarle Group Health Plan, the county's self-insured health insurance pool. The County Manager explained that this multi-county project has been worked on for some time. He said that County Attorney Mike Cox did the majority of the drafting for this agreement and the Perquimans County Attorney reviewed and made some changes. He said the agreement spells out the board of directors, the meeting schedule, who can join and leave the pool, and the exit provisions. He advised that the group met recently and voted to forward the agreement to each county for action. He added this will formalize what it already being done.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to approve the formal operations agreement for the Northeast Albemarle Group Health Plan as presented. The motion carried.

**10. APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR PARKWAY CENTER, SECTION 5:**

The Board considered the preliminary and final plat for Parkway Center, Section 5, a nine lot commercial subdivision fronting Beau Parkway East and Interpath Parkway in Parkway Center Subdivision. Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch explained that the roads and water mains were constructed during an earlier phase of the project. Due to a two-year period lapsing since the last final plat submittal, the preliminary plat expired and the developer had to go back through the Planning Board review process. The Planning Board reviewed the plat at its meeting last month and voted to recommend preliminary plat approval. Mr. Bunch said the only design change is that now there is an elevation noted on the plat to which the lots will have to be graded and the elevation of finished floors to which the building will have to comply. He stated that based on the Planning Board's recommendation for preliminary approval, he would recommend preliminary and final approval.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Hank Krebs to give preliminary and final approval to the subdivision plat for Parkway Center, Section 5. The motion carried.

**11. DISCUSSION REGARDING U.S. 17 NORTH SEWER LINE:**

Vice-Chairman Perry recognized Mr. Horace C. Pritchard of 2046 North Road Street to comment on the U.S. 17 North sewer line. Mr. Pritchard said he would like to clear up a few things that are being heard in the community. He stated that he supports sewer for business and industry because it creates tax base and jobs. He said he supported the original agreement for the U.S. 17 North sewer line the way it was written, but he does not support a total city controlled line in the county for residential, business, or industry use. Mr. Pritchard stated that the county has another option now that he hopes the Board will consider. He said if the Tanglewood sewer project is approved, the county could connect to this sewer system. He explained that this would be a lot shorter route and would disrupt fewer people. He said if the Tanglewood sewer project is not approved, the city would still serve the area with sewer, and the county would have the same option of connecting to the sewer at Tanglewood. He asked that the Board take the time to look at this option.

Vice-Chairman Perry recognized Mr. Bill Lehmann of 102 Villa Drive. Mr. Lehmann explained that Villa Acres Subdivision in which he lives was annexed in 1998. He said when it was done the City Council looked at eight different subdivisions to determine whether annexation would be feasible. It was determined that the payback period for the ad valorem taxes received on the eleven homes in Villa Acres Subdivision would be 42 years. Mr. Lehmann said his point is that the city does not make any money by annexing subdivisions that are residential. He said for those residents along U.S. 17 North who fear annexation into the city, he does not think it will happen. He explained that commercial annexation is another story because that is where the money is and where the city wishes to annex. He said he would add that the city envisions annexing along the connector road because that is good for economic development and is good for the city from a business standpoint. He advised that he spoke with the City Manager today and learned that it would only be feasible for the city to annex residential areas that have at least two \$200,000 homes per acre. He said with the current county zoning, however, this is not possible. Mr. Lehmann stated that when the 1999 sewer agreement was entered into, it was an economic development tool to provide sewer to the Commerce Park to bring jobs to the county that would benefit both the city and the county. Mr. Lehmann said this philosophy still holds true today and if the city could provide sewer to a proposed jail or a school in addition to the Commerce Park, it would be beneficial to both city and county residents.

Mr. John Kitchen stated there was no problem with the 1999 agreement that was negotiated in good faith until the city all of a sudden said the agreement was not valid. He said he thinks the agreement is valid and the Board has been told it can be defended in court. He stated that the re-written agreement does a 180 degree turn from the original agreement, all in favor of the city. He said at one point the city had requested to "tweak" the original agreement which the county agreed to do after a meeting with the city, and these changes were agreed to by both the city and the county. He noted that these changes however never got into the agreement. He stated that

once the new City Manager came onboard, he said the 1999 agreement was not legal, not binding, and the city would not honor it. Mr. Kitchen explained that prior city and county officials negotiated an agreement that would put sewer in the Commerce Park. He said the city did not want to join with the county in purchasing the land for the Commerce Park, but agreed to contribute to the success of the park by providing sewer and therefore entered into the 1999 agreement with the county. He said the agreement proposed by the city will give the city the right to annex all the way to Morgan's Corner. He suggested that the Board look at the option of running a sewer line to the Tanglewood development rather than to the city's sewer plant because it is much closer.

Commissioner Hank Krebs stated that he agrees that the 1999 agreement does not exist anymore from the city's viewpoint. He said it would be a tremendous hardship on the northern portion of the county if the new proposed agreement were approved because the city could annex areas along the sewer line. He stated that he does not believe the county should finance the city's growth. He said he also believes the sewer line would be an engineering nightmare because it would completely disrupt U.S. 17 North and North Road Street. He said it would be a much better idea to go down the bypass, as the county now has that option which was not available when the 1999 agreement was approved. Commissioner Krebs stated that the Board could also look at the option of expanding the current wastewater treatment plant. He asked the County Attorney to interpret section 4b of the 1999 agreement which states, "Notwithstanding this Section, the City may install at its expense additional force mains to serve residential or other nonindustrial and noncommercial customers." Commissioner Krebs asked if this means that the city could annex residential areas according to the 1999 agreement. County Attorney Mike Cox responded that a force main from the subdivision could be run to the U.S. 17 North sewer line. In order for a satellite annexation there must be a voluntary petition, and if it is a subdivision, every property owner in the subdivision has to agree to the annexation, otherwise it is not subject to satellite annexation. Mr. Cox added there are also other factors that come into play such as population, balance for elections, etc. He said contiguous annexation however would not have to meet these criteria.

Vice-Chairman Perry stated that he respects the people who made the 1999 agreement and feels that any agreement the Board might make now should be honored and should not be changed when the Board changes. He said he would be careful with deviating from the 1999 agreement. Vice-Chairman Perry added that he feels the Chairman should be present when the Board makes a decision regarding this important issue.

Commissioner Jeff Dixon noted that the first correspondence he has seen regarding the 1999 sewer agreement dates back to June 30, 1995. He said a lot has changed on the north side of Elizabeth City during the last ten years. He stated that he does not feel lawsuits would be the proper way to enforce the agreement because of what it would cost the taxpayers of the city and the county. He said he knows that commercial development will eventually take place on both sides of U.S. 17 all the way to Morgan's Corner. Mr. Dixon said he does not see a problem if developers who want to develop land north of town at densities greater than those allowed by county zoning pay for the sewer infrastructure in order to connect to the city's sewer system and be annexed by the city. He stated that he agrees there is no payback for the city to annex residential subdivisions, therefore he does not see the city ever annexing the subdivisions on U.S. 17 North. Commissioner Dixon stated that he feels that 1999 agreement should be dismantled and looked at again because of all that has changed since it was negotiated.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin explained that he was one of the individuals in attendance at the meeting when the 1999 agreement was negotiated. He said at that time it was anticipated that there would be faster growth in the Commerce Park and faster buildout of the county's current wastewater treatment plant, however this growth has just happened within the past three years. He stated that part of the process was to obtain grants which would eliminate the pressure on Pasquotank County taxpayers to pay for a sewer line to the Commerce Park. He said not until 2004 did Pasquotank County receive a commitment from Gateway Bank to guarantee the jobs which would make Pasquotank County eligible for the grants to assist with the cost of the sewer line. Commissioner Griffin stated that he does not feel the proposed new agreement with the termination clause is in the best interest of the county or the city. He added that he does not feel the county should stop trying to utilize state and federal grant funds to pay for the sewer line to relieve the pressure on Pasquotank County taxpayers.

Commissioner Marshall Stevenson said it seems to him, when considering all of the information that he has been given, that the county is in a different position today than in 1999 when the agreement was approved by the city and the county. He stated that the county now has other options available. He said he feels the county can buy some time by either expansion of its current lagoon system sprayfields or it could fashion an agreement with Tanglewood to run a sewer line down the bypass which would be a shorter run and much less complex than the current 7.8 miles to the city's sewer plant. He said it has been pointed out tonight that even if Tanglewood's sewer system does not come on line, it would be a much easier and less costly run to the Tanglewood area even if Tanglewood is served by city sewer rather than its own sewer plant. He said it appears to him that simply by running the line down the bypass rather than U.S. 17 North it would save over \$600,000, just by the decreased mileage. He stated that the complexity of the work to run the line on U.S. 17 North would increase the costs significantly. He said in addition, the county stands to lose 500 to 600 water customers with the current agreement and this needs to be factored in to the additional costs that would be incurred by running the line down U.S. 17 North. He added that the county has lost about 800 water customers due to annexation since 1981. He said to sum this up, the county could save well above \$1 million by running the sewer line down the bypass rather than U.S. 17 North to Knobbs Creek. Commissioner Stevenson said he was elected by the citizens of the county to be a good steward of taxpayers' dollars and he does not feel he can be a party to not being able to save money. He said since the city will not accept the 1999 agreement which was negotiated in good faith to provide sewage capacity for industry and commerce at the Commerce Park he would make a motion that the county not agree to a watered down version of the 1999 agreement other than the minor "tweaks" that had been mentioned.

Motion was made by Marshall Stevenson, seconded by Hank Krebs that the county not agree to a watered down version of the 1999 sewer agreement with the city other than the minor "tweaks" that had been agreed upon, but that the county instead explore other opportunities such as expansion of the current lagoon system or the possibility of obtaining an agreement with Tanglewood to provide the needed sewer capacity.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Matt Wood stated that there is no reason to fear forced annexation of existing residential subdivisions. He said the city has been contiguous to Pine Lakes Subdivision for a number of years and has chosen not to annex it because the economics do not work to annex existing subdivisions. He stated that he has no problem with the 1999 agreement, but he does believe that times have changed and things have changed. He said in some ways the new proposed agreement is better than the 1999 agreement because it does not place a limit of 500,000 gallons on the amount of sewer that would be accepted from the Commerce Park as the 1999 agreement does. Commissioner Wood explained that the planning for commercial development along the U.S. 17 North corridor has been in place for a number of years by the county and is reflected in the land use plan and in the zoning, and these anticipate the infrastructure would be in place and that U.S. 17 North would become a commercial corridor. He stated that the 1999 sewer agreement was a way to make that plan become a reality. He said there are some issues with hooking up to a sewer plant that is just now on the drawing board. He stated that the cost of the sewer for this plant is unknown. He said he believes the 1999 agreement is sound. He stated that he is not opposed to waiting to make a decision, but he does not think the Board should go in a completely different direction without any knowledge of what the costs would be for some other alternative.

Commissioner Stevenson said the motion is to explore other opportunities such as expansion of the current lagoon system or the possibility of getting an agreement with Tanglewood, not to abandon the 1999 agreement if the city will go along with it with the minor revisions.

Commissioner Dixon asked that the public be aware of what the options are and he requested that the minutes reflect these options which he listed as:

- 1) Build a \$13 million sewer plant that could be located in someone's backyard on Northside Road.
- 2) Continue negotiating with the city on the 1999 agreement with the "tweaks" that had previously been discussed.
- 3) Expand the current lagoon sewer plant system on Northside Road, costs unknown, however the land all around it is currently being used and is unavailable.

- 4) Enter an agreement with Tanglewood to run a sewer line to its sewer plant, however there are several red flags that have been mentioned.

Vice-Chairman Perry suggested again that Chairman Trueblood be present when the Board takes action on this important issue. He said he would currently vote against the motion because he does not think the Board can consider an agreement with an unknown, and he thinks the Tanglewood sewer plant is an unknown until its permit is granted.

The motion was withdrawn.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to delay consideration of the U.S. 17 North sewer line agreement until the Chairman can be in attendance.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Krebs said he would personally throw out the 1999 agreement because it would be much easier to run the sewer line down the bypass than U.S. 17 North and North Road Street. He said this would be a nightmare for the citizens along this corridor. He stated that he believes the county does need to look at the option of expansion of the current plant. He said he believes that commercial development in Elizabeth City will now be along Halstead Boulevard, while five or six years ago it was anticipated along North Road Street.

The motion to delay consideration carried by a five to one margin with Commissioner Krebs voting against the motion.

## **12. REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:**

County Manager Randy Keaton stated that he is pleased to announce that Sprint has informed him that they are now ready to take orders for DSL service in the Commerce Park. He said this is a project that has been worked on for some time.

Mr. Keaton said he has received a letter from Mr. Don Conner who retired from the Department of Transportation last August after 34 years. Mr. Conner plans to open a consulting service in the transportation area and has offered his services to the county.

Mr. Keaton asked that the Board consider several dates that have been given to him by Dr. Archer for a possible work session on a performance appraisal system and revisions to the career development plan. The Board asked that the Personnel Committee meet with Dr. Archer initially. The meeting with the Personnel Committee was scheduled for February 21 at 2:30 PM.

## **13. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Jeff Dixon stated that he gets a lot of questions regarding ongoing projects in the county, and one particular project is the Fairgrounds Redevelopment Project. He asked if the Board could get an update on this project. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin advised that the remaining parcels to be acquired in this project are in court due to condemnation actions. Mr. Keaton agreed to provide Commissioner Dixon with an updated map showing which properties have been acquired and which parcels are left. Mr. Bunch added that work on this project is ongoing and the attorney representing the county was in court recently concerning one of the properties.

Commissioner Hank Krebs asked the status of several drainage projects including North Meadows and the Newland drainage project. Mr. Keaton stated that a meeting is to be arranged with Dr. Hoover after which the residents of North Meadows will be contacted. He said the Newland Water Management Board needs to have a meeting to discuss the Newland project. Commissioner Krebs suggested that Mr. Shawn Carroll of the SPCA be invited to a meeting to discuss new operating guidelines for the animal shelter because it could have the potential to increase the costs. Commissioner Krebs noted that a meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss the expansion of Providence Volunteer Fire Department. He also stated that the fire reports for the volunteer fire departments are behind and need to be submitted to the state. He said this will affect the state grants this year. Mr. Keaton said the fire secretary was doing this work, but since this person left, there has not been staff to do the reports. He stated that he is trying to find someone who is familiar with the program to assist in catching up the reports.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin reported that the Emergency Management Department will be unveiling the ACU 1000 communications system tomorrow at 5:00 PM.

Vice-Chairman Perry reported that he attended a meeting of the Regional Library Board last week in Buxton. He said he also met with the hotel group to discuss the ECSU homecoming issues. He stated that he traveled to Greenville with Albemarle Mental Health to try to secure some money from Senator Basnight's office for Juvenile Crime Prevention. He reported that there will be an announcement within the next few days regarding a large amount of funding. He stated that Project United First met and discussed how this program can be continued.

Vice-Chairman Perry stated that the Jail Commission had a meeting today with an architect to begin to look at how and what can be done in regard to the construction of a jail.

**14. REPORTS FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER:**

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch stated that at the last meeting there was discussion about a majority of the rear part of Hickory Acres Subdivision going into the 100 year flood zone, and Commissioner Krebs had requested him to write a letter requesting that FEMA look at the maps. He advised that he has drafted the letter but it has not been mailed because it related to only one area. He stated that there are more areas besides just Hickory Acres that were added and he wanted to be certain before sending a letter requesting that one subdivision be looked at that the Board was aware of this. The Board concurred that any letter being sent should include any affected areas, not just one subdivision.

Mr. Bunch reported that the three worst areas on Traci Drive have been repaired as instructed by the Board. He stated that the areas have been excavated and filled. Once the fill has settled, asphalt will be put on top.

**15. REPORT FROM CLERK:**

Clerk to the Board Karen Jennings reminded the Board of the preview party this Friday evening and the ribbon-cutting Saturday morning for the new Farm Fresh. The Clerk asked for a county representative to attend a ribbon-cutting on Thursday, February 17 at 5:00 PM at Tan Bodyz. Commissioner Griffin agreed to attend the ribbon-cutting. The Clerk stated that Commissioners have been invited to attend the next Albemarle Commission meeting on February 17 at which Representative Bill Owens will be the guest speaker. The Clerk advised that the Extension Luncheon and annual reports will be held on March 7 at 1:00 PM at the Extension Building.

**16. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTER AND TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY:**

Vice-Chairman Perry asked if there was any further business to come before the Board in Regular Session. There being no further business, he asked for a motion that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter and to discuss the acquisition of property.

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Jeff Dixon that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter and to discuss the acquisition of property. The motion carried.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Hank Krebs that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Lloyd Griffin that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK

