

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 30, 2009**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a special joint meeting with the City Council of Elizabeth City on Monday, March 30, 2009 at DRS Technical Services, Inc. in Elizabeth City.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmie Harris (*Due to Illness*)

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

Also present were the Mayor and City Council, the City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, and city and county staff. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Marshall Stevenson and Mayor Steve Atkinson. Commissioner Matt Wood gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Following dinner, the business meeting was convened at 6:40 PM. Chairman Stevenson welcomed the City Council, the Board of Commissioners, city and county staff and the public in attendance. He said this meeting will provide a great opportunity to share insights for the improvement of the community. He stated that he hopes progress is made as the meeting goes forward.

Mayor Atkinson stated that it is good that the Board of Commissioners and the City Council continue to have quarterly meetings because they provide an opportunity to share concerns and to resolve issues that surround the city and county in this uncertain and challenging economy. He said there are many similar challenges to both organizations, however the city and county are partnering to jointly fund many functions and he believes the city and county are heading in the right direction with a common goal and common good.

1. AMENDMENT TO TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT TO REDUCE FEE FROM 2.5% TO 1.5%:

County Manager Randy Keaton explained that this issue was discussed last year and the county based its budget on a 1.5% fee, however the agreement has never been formalized to include the change. He said the original tax collection agreement was approved in 1989 so this has been a 20 year partnership during which the county has been collecting taxes for the city. The agreement was amended in 1994 when the motor vehicle tax collection law became effective. The tax collection fee the county receives for collecting city taxes is currently 2½% for ad valorem taxes and 1½% for motor vehicle taxes. This third amendment will change the fee to 1½% on both ad valorem and motor vehicle taxes. This will result in about a \$60,000 savings per year for the city.

Mr. Keaton also invited everyone to visit the new offices of the Tax Department, GIS Department and Register of Deeds in the former library building. He said the building has been completely renovated and is more convenient for the public and for staff.

2. AMENDMENT TO FIRE CONTRACT FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE-YEAR PERIOD:

City Manager Rich Olson introduced Chief Mackey, the city's new Fire Chief who was hired a few months ago. He said Chief Mackey has a diverse background in fire protection and the city is very fortunate to have him.

Mr. Olson said the city and county have had an agreement for fire protection in the Central Fire District for many years. He said over the years several addendums have been made to the original agreement and in 2006 a new agreement was executed. He provided a map showing the fire districts including the Central Fire District which consists of outlying areas that are not part of the city. He said the city responds to any fire calls within the city and any calls within the Central Fire District. The agreement calls for mutual aid response to Providence, Nixonton, Intercounty, and Weeksville fire departments on a limited or full-time basis. The city provides enough equipment and personnel to fight fires in these areas until the county's volunteer fire departments can respond. The current three-year agreement calls for a 5% increase each year in the amount the county pays the city, and in 2009-10 the contract amount is \$314,330. Mr. Olson said the agreement also addresses a number of equipment issues and has worked well for both the city and the county. He explained that under a separate contract the city provides fire inspection services for Pasquotank County and Camden County. Pasquotank County provides one-half of the cost of the fire inspection program excluding capital costs.

County Manager Randy Keaton noted that the fire districts were once five-mile fire districts and the state changed the law a couple of years ago to allow six-mile fire districts. This allows extension of some of the outlying fire districts for insurance purposes. He pointed out the Hobbs Landing area of the county which is the only neighborhood in the county that is not within a six-mile fire district.

3. REVIEW OF WATER CONTRACTS AND DISCUSSION OF RATE FORMULA:

County Water Superintendent John Gregory reviewed cost information related to the construction of the reverse osmosis water project. He explained that the county's out of pocket expenses thus far have been approximately \$3 million and it is estimated that another \$17 million will have to be expended to complete the RO project. Based on projected expenses Mr. Gregory said he estimates it will cost \$5.13 to produce 1,000 gallons of water. Mr. Keaton noted that the county has applied for \$3 million in stimulus money for the finish water line. If approved for stimulus funding it is expected that half of the money would probably be in the form of a grant and half in the form of a no-interest loan. The water system would still need to borrow \$17 to \$18 million.

Members of City Council questioned the method of concentrate discharge into the Albemarle Sound. Mr. Gregory advised that the exact method has not yet been determined. He said a public meeting will be held this week after which more information will be available.

Mr. Gregory provided a map showing the city and county water service territories and the city's territory along the Halstead corridor that will be served by RO water according to the proposed water boundary agreement. He explained that RO water and water currently produced at the city's and the county's conventional water plants will not blend, and it will be important to keep these waters separate.

4. UPDATE ON AIRPARK:

City Manager Rich Olson provided an update on the airpark project. He presented slides showing the layout of the project and the progress of the construction work. He reported that phase one of the airpark project is on time and within budget and should be substantially completed by the first week in May.

5. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilwoman Jean Baker reported that the events surrounding the arts center opening this weekend were fabulous. She said The Center will serve the city and county well for many years and for many reasons.

Ms. Baker asked if the county is going to get involved in the EMS agreement this year including placing an ambulance in the Weeksville area. She said since all of the ambulances are based at the hospital there has been discussion by the city about putting an ambulance in the county and training firefighters to be EMT's. Mr. Keaton responded that the county has relocated one ambulance at the Nixonton Fire Department and there is a goal to eventually put one in the South Mills area. He noted that the majority of the EMS calls come from within the city or the outskirts of the city. He said the EMS Board has discussed the proposal for incorporating firemen with the ambulances. Commissioner Bill Trueblood added that the ambulance at Nixonton VFD will respond to calls in the southern portion of the county all the way to the Perquimans County line, the Okisko area and as far as the Coast Guard Base. He said the response time from Nixonton VFD to Crosswinds would be five or six minutes quicker than it

would be coming from the hospital. He advised that one fully staffed ambulance with two paramedics is stationed at Nixonton VFD during the daytime hours.

Councilman Tony Stimatz stated that at the September joint meeting a discussion was held regarding Central Communications and the need for an interlocal agreement. He asked the status on preparation of the interlocal agreement. County Manager Randy Keaton advised that the Central Communications Advisory Board has been working on a new resolution however no efforts have been made on the interlocal agreement. Mayor Atkinson said this is something that will be worked on for the next joint meeting.

Councilman Stimatz said with the current economic conditions he believes the city and the county should look more seriously at merging services, particularly fire and planning. He suggested this also be on the agenda for the next meeting.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Commissioner Stevenson asked if anyone from the public would care to comment. He recognized Mr. Ernst Wilson who said he is not representing Elizabeth City State University and is only speaking as a citizen. He stated that a report has been given tonight on the aviation park progress. He said there are many components of the park and the ECSU Aviation Science Building was not mentioned tonight and is part of the aviation park concept. He asked when looking at the aviation park if all components are being addressed. Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin responded that there are two components to the aviation park. The first is an economic development component in which the city and county have a direct interest and financial responsibility to make it happen for the community. Vice-Chairman Griffin said the acreage on which ECSU has an opportunity to build its Aviation Science Facility is the responsibility of the State of North Carolina, the UNC Board of Governors, and the staff at Elizabeth City State University. He stated that once the final plat has been accepted and the university receives a deed of trust to their piece of property the project can move forward. He said it is his understanding that ECSU's architect is in direct conversation with the chancellor on the design and the process of how that project is moving forward. He added that tonight's report was in regard to the economic development interests of the city and the county and was not a slight on the University.

7. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EXPANSION OR LOCATION OF A BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY:

Chairman Stevenson asked for a motion that the Board enter Closed Session with the City Council to discuss the expansion or location of a business or industry.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss the expansion or location of a business or industry. The motion carried.

City Council also made a motion to enter Closed Session.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Bill Trueblood that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Bill Trueblood to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the joint meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 6, 2009**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, April 6, 2009 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marshall H. Stevenson, Jr., Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin III, Vice-Chairman
Matt Wood
Bill Trueblood
Cecil Perry
Jeff Dixon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmie Harris (*due to illness*)

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 Marshall Stevenson. Commissioner Matt Wood gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

1. COMMENTS FROM DR. PETER ERICKSON:

Chairman Stevenson recognized Dr. Peter Erickson of 106 Miller Lane. Dr. Erickson thanked the Board for allowing the residents of the community to express their opinions on the reverse osmosis concentrate discharge at last week's Water Committee meeting. He said the Board's action to take the aerial spraying of the RO concentrate out of the project plan is much appreciated and he thinks it will dramatically help the residents of the community not to have that in their presence. He stated that they look forward to seeing the progress of the water plant and they understand that the area continues to grow and needs water. He added that it is nice to know their public opinion was heard.

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

Chairman Stevenson called on the following county employees to receive pins in recognition of their years of service to Pasquotank County:

Employee	Department	Years of Service	Date Hired
Tangela White	Social Services	25 years	03-19-84
Randy Smithson	Sheriff's Department	20 years	01-04-89
Tammy Gordon	Tax Office	15 years	01-24-94

County Manager Randy Keaton noted that Janice Browne, Recycling Coordinator for the Solid Waste Department, has 10 years of service, but is not in attendance. The Board thanked the employees for their service.

3. PRESENTATION OF 2008 STATE OF THE COUNTY HEALTH REPORT BY HEALTHY CAROLINIANS OF THE ALBEMARLE:

Chairman Stevenson recognized Ms. Ann Roach and Ms. Yvonne Mullen with Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle to present the 2008 State of the County health report. Ms. Roach advised that she is the part-time coordinator for Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle and Yvonne Mullen is with the Cooperative Extension Center. She explained that Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle includes the counties of Pasquotank, Perquimans, Camden and Currituck. Its mission is to be a community-based network of agencies and citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life through health and wellness and its main focus is to eliminate health disparities across the four counties by addressing the emerging health trends identified in the 2006 Community Health Assessment. Ms. Roach reported that North Carolina ranks as the 36th healthiest state out of 50 with 50th being the unhealthiest. She said the Governor's Task Force

has a lofty goal of North Carolina becoming number one in the nation by 2020. She stated that in North Carolina youth obesity is the fifth worst in the nation and two-thirds of the adults in North Carolina are overweight or obese. From 2004 to 2007 the Eastern North Carolina rates of obesity have consistently been higher than the state rates. Ms. Roach noted that it has been reported that the incidence of obesity is sometimes used as a surrogate measure for healthcare costs. She provided a chart illustrating obesity trends from 1985 until 2005 that showed a 10% rate of obesity in 1985 and a dramatic increase to 25% to 29% in 2005. She stated that one way to reduce healthcare costs is to increase the prominence of healthy lifestyles through educational programs such as Albemarle We Can. She added that many people dealing with obesity have no idea as to the types of things to do to improve health, nutrition and eating habits. Ms. Roach stated that Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle requested the county's financial support in 2008 as a part of a match for a Kate B. Reynolds grant, and although they did receive support from Camden and Currituck Counties, they did not receive support from Pasquotank County. She said she is resubmitting the request for Pasquotank County's support.

Ms. Mullen explained that Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle has two subcommittees which are: the Action to Benefit Chronic Disease Committee with a main focus of reducing death and disabilities that are related to cardiovascular disease through health screenings and education; and the Albemarle Fitness and Nutrition Council with a focus on reducing overweight and obesity in adults and adolescents through nutrition education and physical activity opportunities. There are collaborative community partners including Cooperative Extension Service, Albemarle Hospital, the YMCA, Elizabeth City State University, College of The Albemarle, Pasquotank County, the City of Elizabeth City, Parks & Recreation Departments, the School System, the Senior Center, and other community, civic, and faith-based groups. Another component of Healthy Carolinians is Albemarle We Can which is an eight week program that provides screening, counseling, and education. There is also a Know Your Numbers program which trains people from various community and church organizations to take blood pressure and provide education to others. Ms. Mullen said these programs can help reduce some of the numbers in the State of the County Health Report.

The Board thanked Ms. Roach and Ms. Mullen for the information they provided.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Stevenson asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Wood presented the following items recommended by the Finance Committee: 1) Approval of \$250 in financial support for the Albemarle Senior Games; 2) Approval of contribution of \$1,000 as financial support for lawsuit against the State Insurance Commissioner regarding proposed insurance rate increases for coastal counties; 3) Approval of change orders for jail project totaling \$28,447.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to amend the agenda to add the three items recommended by the Finance Committee to the consent agenda. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Griffin asked that the agenda also be amended to include adoption of a resolution supporting legislation delaying the implementation of the rate increases in home insurance, and a resolution supporting an alternative method of recognition for Veterans status to Merchant Marine Seamen of World War II.

County Manager Randy Keaton requested that the agenda also be amended to include approval to surplus and sell a 1987 Ford F-150 pickup truck on GovDeals.com.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Cecil Perry to amend the agenda to add the two resolutions mentioned above and the surplus and sale of a 1987 Ford truck to the consent agenda. The motion carried.

It was requested that the Board hold a Closed Session at the end of the meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Cecil Perry to amend the agenda to add a Closed Session to consider a personnel matter at the end of the meeting. The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. *Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2009 Commissioner Meeting*

b. *Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds*

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Julian Maxwell	150.54	
2.	Jason Lee Roberts	119.71	
3.	Nicholas Giaculli	123.86	106.34
4.	Elijah Williams, Jr.	195.13	

Refunds:

1.	Brian A. & Jessica A. Daugherty	1,135.38	
2.	Brian A. & Jessica A. Daugherty	1,042.96	

c. *Approval of Budget Amendments*

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

GOVERNING BOARD

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	25,000.00
Increase	010.4110.5499.00	Commissioners' Miscellaneous	25,000.00

COA

Decrease	010.5920.5630.00	Current Expense	36,285.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	36,285.00

SCHOOLS

Decrease	010.5910.5630.00	Current Expense	109,669.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Land Transfer Tax	109,669.00

DSS/GEN FUND

Decrease	011.5310.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	140,000.00
Decrease	011.5310.5181.00	FICA	19,000.00
Decrease	011.5310.5182.00	Retirement	29,000.00
Decrease	011.5310.5183.00	Health Insurance	14,000.00
Decrease	011.5310.5185.00	Unemployment Reserve	6,400.00
Decrease	011.5310.5190.00	Professional Services	12,500.00
Decrease	011.5310.5310.00	Travel	13,800.00
Decrease	011.5310.5325.00	Postage	3,000.00
Decrease	011.5400.5680.02	Medicaid	400,000.00
Decrease	011.0240.4531.01	Administration	178,300.00
Decrease	011.0700.4981.00	General Fund Transfer	459,400.00
Decrease	010.6600.5980.11	Public Assistance	459,400.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	459,400.00

INSPECTIONS

Decrease	010.4350.5212.00	Uniforms	750.00
Decrease	010.4350.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	1,500.00
Decrease	010.4350.5266.00	Code Books	1,000.00
Decrease	010.4350.5325.00	Postage	100.00
Decrease	010.4350.5353.00	Maintenance-Vehicles	500.00
Decrease	010.4350.5370.00	Advertising	200.00
Decrease	010.4350.5493.00	Homeowner's Recovery Fund	500.00
Decrease	010.0300.4345.01	Inspection Fees	4,550.00

COUNTY MGR

Decrease	010.4120.5310.00	Travel	500.00
Decrease	010.4120.5353.00	Maintenance-Vehicle	800.00
Decrease	010.4120.5352.01	Maintenance-Office Equip	200.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	1,500.00

PERSONNEL

Decrease	010.4125.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	150.00
Decrease	010.4125.5310.00	Travel	500.00
Decrease	010.4125.5325.00	Postage	100.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	750.00

FINANCE

Decrease	010.4130.5122.00	Salaries & Wages-Overtime	500.00
Decrease	010.4130.5310.00	Travel	130.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	630.00

IT/DATA PROCESSING

Decrease	010.4135.5195.00	Programming	10,000.00
Decrease	010.4135.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	8,000.00
Decrease	010.4135.5500.00	Capital Outlay	20,000.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	38,000.00

TAX ADMIN

Decrease	010.4140.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	2,500.00
Decrease	010.4140.5325.00	Postage	5,000.00
Decrease	010.4140.5325.01	Postage-Legal	1,000.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	8,500.00

ELECTIONS

Decrease	010.4170.5352.01	Maintenance-Office Equip	9,000.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	9,000.00

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Decrease	010.4180.5189.00	Supplemental Pension	1,000.00
Decrease	010.4180.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	5,000.00
Decrease	010.4180.5400.01	Rent-Equipment	3,000.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	9,000.00

PUBLIC BLDGS

Decrease	010.4190.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	8,000.00
Decrease	010.4190.5351.00	Maintenance-Buildings	10,000.00
Decrease	010.4190.5440.00	Contracted Services	5,000.00
Decrease	010.4190.5500.00	Capital Outlay	10,000.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	33,000.00

NIXONTON VFD

Decrease	010.4347.5470.00	Pension	680.00
Decrease	010.4347.5490.00	Grant Match	456.00
Decrease	010.4347.5500.00	Capital Outlay	400.00
Decrease	010.4347.5991.00	Contingency	400.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	1,936.00

WEEKSVILLE VFD

Decrease	010.4344.5470.00	Pension	170.00
Decrease	010.4344.5991.00	Contingency	500.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	670.00

PROVIDENCE VFD

Decrease	010.4346.5470.00	Pension	600.00
Decrease	010.4346.5490.00	Grant Match	2,228.00
Decrease	010.4346.5991.00	Contingency	500.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	3,328.00

NEWLAND VFD

Decrease	010.4343.5490.00	Grant Match	611.00
Decrease	010.4343.5991.00	Contingency	400.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	1,011.00

ANIMAL CONTROL

Decrease	010.4380.5440.15	SPCA Contract	14,000.00
Decrease	010.0600.4940.02	Eliz City-Animal Control	5,950.00
Decrease	010.0600.4941.05	Camden-Animal Control	2,100.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	5,950.00

GIS

Decrease	010.4315.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	1,000.00
Decrease	010.4315.5310.00	Travel	1,000.00
Decrease	010.4315.5311.00	Training	500.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	2,500.00

AG EXT

Increase	010.0230.4370.00	State Grants	4,200.00
Increase	010.4950.5600.34	Grant-SHIIP	4,200.00

AG EXT

Decrease	010.4950.5500.00	Capital Outlay	2,000.00
Decrease	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	2,000.00

PARKS & REC

Decrease	010.6130.5360.02	South Park-Operating	16,000.00
Decrease	010.6130.5370.00	Advertising	700.00
Decrease	010.6130.5440.00	Contracted Services	1,900.00
Decrease	010.6130.5500.00	Capital Outlay	2,600.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	21,200.00

AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Decrease	010.6600.5625.02	Airport Authority	2,750.00
Decrease	010.0180.4245.00	Transfer Tax	2,750.00

d. Approval of Recommendation from Water Committee

The Water Committee heard appeals from two water customers recently that had water damage either inside or outside of their homes after they requested water service from the county. In both cases the Water Committee did not find any responsibility on the part of the Water Department, but agreed to recommend releases of the water bills. The water bill in the first case was \$961.30 at 206 Dogwood Trail and the bill in the second case was \$23.20 at 148 Olivet Circle.

e. Approval of Contract for Provision of Fire Protection Services

The Board had discussed the contract for provision of fire protection services at the joint city-county meeting last week and has previously agreed to the amounts in the contract which will be effective July 1, 2009 and continue until June 30, 2012. The yearly amounts for the three-year contract will be \$314,330, \$330,050 and \$346,550.

f. Approval of Third Amendment to Agreement between the County and the City for Collection of Property Taxes

The Board has previously agreed to the reduced percentage of 1.5% for all property taxes and fees collected by the county on behalf of the city. The proposed contract needs to be approved that would make the agreement official.

g. Approval of Change Orders for Jail Project

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of Change Orders #13 and #14 for the jail project in the amount of \$11,736 and \$42,225.

h. Recommendation from Water Committee to Withdraw Grant Application for Alternative Method of Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Discharge

After hearing from concerned residents in the Rebellion Point area, the Water Committee has recommended that the Board withdraw the grant application for the alternative method of reverse osmosis concentrate discharge into the Albemarle Sound and to direct the engineers to abandon the spray system and return to the underwater method of disposal of the concentrate.

i. Appointments to Boards and Committees

The Appointments Committee has recommended the appointment of Randy Griffin, Sr. to the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee and the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

j. Adoption of Resolution Requesting the Department of Transportation to Add Seaview Drive to the State System for Maintenance

The residents of Glen Cove have submitted a petition requesting the addition of Seaview Drive to the state system for maintenance. The Board needs to adopt a resolution requesting that DOT add Seaview Drive to the state system.

k. Approval of Financial Support for Albemarle Senior Games

The Finance Committee has recommended that Pasquotank County contribute \$250 to assist with expenses of the 25th Annual Senior Games as it has in the past.

l. Approval of Financial Support for Lawsuit against the State Insurance Commissioner

The Finance Committee has recommended that the county contribute \$1,000 as financial support for a lawsuit that Dare County initiated against the Insurance Commissioner for the large rate increases that are proposed for coastal counties as opposed to very little increases in other areas of the state where there has been just as much or more damage from windstorms. The issue is that the Insurance Commissioner did not take into account actual damage claims from previous named storms for the inland counties, but instead imposed a harsher rate increase on the coastal counties since they are closer to the coast.

m. Approval of Change Orders for Jail Project Totaling \$28,447

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of additional change orders for the jail project totaling \$28,447.

n. Adoption of Resolution Supporting Legislation Delaying the Implementation of Rate Increases in Homeowners Insurance

The Board considered the following resolution supporting legislation delaying the implementation of rate increases in homeowners insurance:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION DELAYING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RATE INCREASES IN HOME INSURANCE

WHEREAS, recent actions by the North Carolina Insurance Commission have resulted in disproportionate rate increases under the Beach Plan and the F.A.I.R. Plan; and

WHEREAS, the rapid onset of the rate increases does not offer sufficient warning or adequate time to adjust to the increases, and the rate payers in the coastal counties are still confused as to the justification of the rate hikes; and

WHEREAS, issues of this magnitude could easily be examined for underlying reasons that might or might not be related to the history of loss, the anticipation of loss, or the true reasons for loss; and

WHEREAS, looking into the matter for the true reasons for the acute increases would be to everyone's advantage.

NOW THEREFORE, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners hereby resolves to instruct the legislative delegation of Pasquotank County to seek a postponement of the rate increases until such time as clear and convincing evidence becomes available that the rate increases are based upon factual loss in the coastal regions.

This the 6th day of April, 2009.

o. Adoption of Resolution Supporting an Alternative Method of Recognition for Veterans Status to Merchant Marine Seamen of World War II

The Board has been requested to adopt the following resolution supporting an alternative method of recognition for veterans status to merchant marine seamen of WW II:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PASQUOTANK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUPPORTING AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS
STATUS TO MERCHANT MARINE SEAMEN OF WW II**

WHEREAS, Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed veteran status on US Merchant Marine Seamen of WWII.

WHEREAS, two specific actions by the U.S. government have caused some 10,000 merchant seamen to have been denied their due recognition:

- (1) The USCG relieved Masters of tugs, towboats and seagoing barges of the responsibility of submitting reports of seamen shipped and discharged and
- (2) The National Maritime Administration ordered ships' logbooks to be destroyed because they were too costly to maintain and had removed the two main criteria required by the government to issue official recognition to those seamen, and

WHEREAS, the average age of the remaining seamen is above 86 and the population of the US veteran is shrinking at an average of 850 per year causing time to be of the essence, and

WHEREAS, No costs are associated with this proposal as funds are already included in above public laws.

WHEREAS, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners therefore requests that immediate action be taken to correct this inconceivable action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners supports the attached proposal and so orders that this Resolution and attached proposal be sent to Senator Kay Hagan, Senator Richard Burr, Congressman Walter B. Jones and Congressman G.K. Butterfield and this matter be placed into action to ensure expedient passage.

Adopted this 6th day of April, 2009.

p. Approval to Surplus and Sell a 1987 Ford Truck on GovDeals.com

The Water Department has requested that the Board declare a 1987 Ford F-150 pickup truck with 250,000 miles on it, VIN # 1FTEF15Y6HNA84624, as surplus so it can be sold on GovDeals.com.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve the consent agenda as presented and as amended. The motion carried.

The following tax refunds have been approved by the Finance Officer:

Refunds:

		County	City
1.	Amanda Joy Edwards		59.21
2.	Lori Bobko Shubel	58.18	53.48

The following requests for release or refund of the solid waste availability fee have been approved by the Tax Administrator:

OWNER'S NAME	PARCEL ID NUMBER	REASON FOR RELEASE
Michael P. Holley	50-K-10	Not habitable
Weeksville Lions Club	P95-57A	Building not used since 2007

6. APPROVAL OF REVISED PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR STRAWBERRY ACRES:

The Board considered the revised preliminary plat for Strawberry Acres off of Main Street Extended near its intersection with Pritchard Road. Planning Director Shelley Cox explained that a 57 lot residential subdivision was previously approved last June by the Board and since that time the developer, Marart, LLC, has decided to develop this subdivision in eight phases due to the current economic situation. She said the Water Superintendent has reviewed and approved this phased plan of development as well as the Fire Marshal and Mr. Greg Johnson, the county's

drainage consultant. She stated that staff has also recommended approval of the phased preliminary plat with the stipulation that the lots be renumbered to coincide with the phases.

Engineer Tom LeBeau with the Vision Group answered questions regarding drainage.

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch noted that it has been suggested that the street name Apple Court be changed to Apple Drive since court implies it may be a cul-de-sac.

After additional questions concerning the effects of phasing as it relates to drainage and roads;

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to approve the revised preliminary plat for the phased development of Strawberry Acres subject to the lots being renumbered to coincide with the phases and subject to the street name Apple Court being changed to Apple Drive. The motion carried.

7. REPORT FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER:

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch stated that he received a call from an individual concerning the railroad crossing at Main Street Extended. He said the person advised that the condition of the crossing is continually worsening and has asked for support from the Board. Mr. Bunch said that discussions have previously been held with DOT however nothing has been done to repair the crossing. The County Manager explained that this crossing is the responsibility of the railroad and not DOT. He said that staff will follow up to inform the railroad of the condition of the crossing.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Jeff Dixon provided a handout on Social Services programs and activities. Commissioner Dixon stated the handout gives an update of all of the programs the Department of Social Services manages and provides in Pasquotank County and the way they are funded.

Commissioner Dixon reported that the Tourism Development Authority held a retreat following its last meeting. He said that several officials, including the County Manager, were invited to the retreat and were asked to critique the job the TDA is doing. He added they are considering development of a new strategic plan for tourism as they go forward.

9. CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTER:

Chairman Stevenson asked if there was anything further 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.

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

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jeff Dixon that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried.

At the absence of further business;

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK