

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 17, 2006**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, April 17, 2006 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cecil Perry, Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin III, Vice-Chairman
Matt Wood
Bill Trueblood
John "Hank" Krebs
Marshall H. Stevenson, Jr.
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 meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Cecil Perry. Minister Dena Banks of Bibleway Temple of Christ Church gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

1. COMMENTS FROM MR. CARL ESTUS:

Chairman Perry asked if anyone would care to address the Board regarding any issue not included on the agenda. He recognized Mr. Carl Estus who advised that there is still a problem at the intersection of Foreman Bundy Road and U.S. 17 South with the traffic light cycling when a tractor is in the lead. He said he has been informed that there is a similar problem at Simpson Ditch Road and U.S. 17 South. Mr. Estus stated that as the area grows, there will probably be more exits off of the bypass. He said when going south on the bypass and exiting at Foreman Bundy Road, the intersection at the top of the ramp is too close to the top of the bridge. He stated that cars top the bridge at 50 mph or faster and cars that come off the ramp onto the bypass are only about 100 feet from the top of the bridge. He suggested if the Board of Commissioners has input regarding future intersections, that it ask the state to put the off-ramp farther from the top of the bridge so that people pulling out will better be able to see traffic coming up the other side of the bridge.

2. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW:

Clerk to the Board Karen Jennings administered the oath to members of the Board of Commissioners to serve as the Board of Equalization and Review for 2006. Chairman Perry convened the Board of E&R and asked if there were any appeals to be heard. Tax Administrator Bill Stevens informed the Board that he has no scheduled appeals for this year. He added that the last appeal was just settled this evening.

Chairman Perry recognized City Councilman Johnnie Walton who requested to address the Board of Equalization and Review. Mr. Walton expressed concerns regarding the revaluation. He pointed out that the value of his house increased from \$54,000 eight years ago to \$139,000 this year. He stated that he understood the revaluation would help equalize the tax burden, however he will have to pay more taxes as a result. Mr. Walton explained that he obtained samples of valuations from several areas in the city and additional ones from the fourth ward where he lives, and compared the previous valuations to the new valuations. He stated that the properties in the fourth ward appear to have increased by a larger percentage than other similar properties in the city which will result in these property owners paying substantially more taxes. He said he does not feel this is fair or equal.

Mr. Stevens explained that the purpose of revaluation is to equalize tax values—to bring all properties up to current market value as accurately and consistently as possible. He said all neighborhoods do not appreciate at the same rate as others due to various factors including desirability. He stated typically during a revaluation some areas will triple in value over an eight year period while others might increase only 40%. He said during revaluation they look at all

available sales within a particular neighborhood and similar neighborhoods. From those sales a schedule of values is established which is then applied to all properties in that neighborhood.

The Board suggested that Mr. Walton meet with Mr. Stevens to review any properties he would like to have reviewed to determine whether an error has been made. Mr. Stevens noted that errors can be corrected at any time.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review for 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Perry asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Matt Wood requested that a recommendation from the Finance Committee regarding disposal of a surplus ambulance be added to the agenda. He said the Finance Committee has recommended that the ambulance be declared surplus property and that it be advertised on GovDeals.com with a starting bid of \$31,000.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Hank Krebs to declare a 2001 Ford 350 XL Type III Ambulance, VIN #1FDWE35F01HA99993 as surplus and advertise it for sale on GovDeals.com with a starting bid of \$31,000. The motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of April 3 & April 11, 2006 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases

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

		County	City
1.	Christopher Wayne Ramey	151.45	
2.	American Legion Inc.	107.00	
3.	Deanna Braddy	160.82	115.94
4.	Deanna Braddy	145.21	104.68
5.	Steven Charles Cassaday	133.98	111.87
6.	Stephen Douglas Kleintank	229.82	
7.	Anthony Eugene Kee	128.02	
8.	Anthony Eugene Kee	108.86	
9.	Christopher Charles Hatch	391.44	
10.	Clarence Bundy, Jr.	524.60	
11.	Clarence Bundy, Jr.	102.48	
12.	Dildra Demetris Lax	118.68	90.56
13.	Dildra Demetris Lax	100.71	83.46
14.	Derrick P. Suba	205.72	169.08
15.	Carolina Tel & Tel	150.24	
16.	Cecil Douglas Temple	232.80	
17.	Frederick Wharton Hoffman	116.68	
18.	Priscilla Barnes Spellman	173.46	
19.	Joanna Easter Delavergne	228.40	
20.	Sperry Culler Storm, Jr.	126.08	
21.	W.E. Barclift Trucking	241.56	189.12
22.	Steven E. Cerveny	317.94	258.60

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

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

Governing Board

Increase	010.0110.4111.05	Ad Valorem Taxes '05	9,800.00
Increase	010.4110.5499.00	Miscellaneous Expense	9,800.00

Data Processing

Increase	010.0110.4111.05	Ad Valorem Taxes '05	22,754.00
Increase	010.4135.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	16,830.00
Increase	010.4135.5181.00	FICA	924.00
Increase	010.4135.5182.00	Retirement	1,350.00
Increase	010.4135.5183.00	Health Insurance	3,650.00

d. Approval of Contract with Pasquotank County Rescue Squad

The Emergency Medical Services Board has recommended approval of a contract with the Pasquotank County Rescue Squad. The terms of the contract are the same as the previous contract with the Rescue Squad that has expired, however it includes the required HIPAA information.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Bill Trueblood to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Wesley Moore	59.46	
2.	Jerry Lynn Johnson	40.59	
3.	John T. Hewitt, Jr.	5.12	4.08
4.	Vernon L. Rowland	17.72	
5.	John Thomas Hewitt III	7.35	5.86
6.	Lakisha Sherri Gordon Sears	3.86	3.08
7.	Albemarle Equip Service Inc.	23.40	
8.	Keith Wayne Johns	40.19	
9.	George Edward Stanly	55.44	
10.	Hermon Lavern Bunch, Jr.	5.42	4.32
11.	Willie Wilson Gray	77.95	62.17
12.	Elmer David Pollard	32.93	
13.	Ericka Sharrell Cooper-Hardy		44.40
14.	Shelia Boyd Sylvester	13.33	10.39
15.	Aaron Frank Brosneck	44.94	40.85
16.	Henry Allen Thrul, Sr.	98.15	
17.	Elvin Yomar Motos Rodriguez	98.20	83.32
18.	Donzetta Marie Ogletree	90.97	72.56
19.	McClellan Rydell White	5.21	
20.	Darlene Saunders Lemons	5.38	4.19
21.	Darlene Saunders Lemons	4.05	3.15
22.	Joyce Shannonhouse Benton	97.95	
23.	Carmella Nieves Lee	95.54	76.20
24.	Clifton Tiberous Butts, Jr.	39.69	
25.	Sheila Marie Mapakoi	11.76	14.38
26.	Adam M. Traviglia	42.23	35.44
27.	Robin Denise Wilson	14.37	11.46
28.	Willie Whidbee Etheridge	7.10	5.53
29.	Delfin Papa Bernardo	77.83	62.08
30.	Carlos Ramon Ortiz	10.00	
31.	Michael Gregory Surrento	87.53	
32.	Harry Franklin O'Neal	47.38	

Refunds:

1.	Vernon Godfrey, Sr.	52.08	
2.	Court Square Leasing	36.46	

5. DISCUSSION ON LOCAL LEGISLATION FOR SHORT SESSION:

The Board reviewed a letter from Representative Bill Owens requesting that the county submit requests for local legislation to him prior to May 9 when the General Assembly will convene for the 2006 Short Session. Representative Owens had advised that since this is a short session, only non-controversial items are eligible for introduction. Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin informed the Board that the Airport Authority is considering requesting legislation that would provide economic development initiatives to the authority. This request would have to be made by the city and the county. Vice-Chairman Griffin said the Airport Authority has discussed this with Representative Owens and he is aware that the request may be forthcoming.

6. RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

Chairman Perry recognized Emergency Management Director Christy Saunders to explain the National Incident Management System. Ms. Saunders reported that this is a Presidential

directive as well as a directive from the Governor and has come about as a result of 9-11. She explained that this National Incident Management System crosses jurisdictional levels and allows all agencies to communicate through standardized terminology and uniform standards during emergencies or disasters. This system helps prevent chaos and confusion following a disaster. She stated that Pasquotank County has been using the Incident Management System for several years, however the Board now needs to adopt a resolution officially implementing the National Incident Management System. Communities that do not adopt the system will not be eligible for federal funds from the Department of Homeland Security. Ms. Saunders added that there are also Incident Management System classes, some of which are available online, that all officials involved in decision-making, including County Commissioners, are encouraged to take. After discussion;

Motion was made by Hank Krebs, seconded by Matt Wood to approve the Resolution for the Adoption of the National Incident Management System. The motion carried unanimously and the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the President of the United States in Homeland Security directive (HSPD)-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity;

WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from all Federal, State, local, and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS;

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that all Federal, State, local and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management;

WHEREAS, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that Federal, State, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters;

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the County's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes;

WHEREAS, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the County as required by the Pasquotank-Camden-Elizabeth City Emergency Operations Plan;

WHEREAS, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System;

THEREFORE, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners on April 17, 2006, hereby establishes the National Incident Management System as the local standard for the management of routine and catastrophic emergencies.

Members of the Board asked that Ms. Saunders schedule training on the Incident Management System for those Commissioners who do not take the classes online.

County Manager Randy Keaton reported that the Emergency Management Department has been notified that it has been selected for a County Program Award from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for Operation Evacuation Registration.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman Perry stated that he would like to congratulate Commissioner Hank Krebs on his recent appointment to the North Carolina Advisory Commission on Military Affairs. Commissioner Krebs explained that this commission was created by the Governor to strengthen North Carolina's ties to the military. He added that Representative Bill Owens was very instrumental in getting the appointment for this area.

Commissioner Krebs asked when the gas line at the SPCA will be moved so that the work on the shelter expansion can begin. The County Manager said he will check with the Maintenance Director to find out when the line will be moved.

Commissioner Krebs asked the status of the apron paving for the expansion at Providence Volunteer Fire Department. The County Manager said he met with Providence Fire Chief Jimmie Harris at the site last week and also talked with DOT District Engineer Gretchen Byrum who has informed him that the estimated cost of the work will be \$12,000 for the new apron. He said Ms. Byrum also advised that the old apron needs to be removed and replaced and he plans to meet with her to determine what this would cost.

Commissioner Bill Trueblood reported that he and Commissioner Stevenson attended the Intercounty Volunteer Fire Department dinner Saturday evening. He said the fire department expressed its appreciation to Pasquotank County for its support over the years.

Commissioner Krebs stated that the county needs to find office space to relocate the Forest Service employee who is currently located in an office at the Intercounty Fire Department. The County Manager said he has been talking with District Forester Mike Petruncio and he has provided information about the amount of space needed. He stated that he and Mr. Petruncio are looking at various options.

Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin stated that the county previously entered into a contract with Nextel to locate a tower on the county's water tank on Weeksville Road. He said he understands that the county's height restriction on the tower has reduced Nextel's service coverage area by three miles. The County Manager advised that the county did not place any height restrictions on the Nextel tower and Nextel placed it where they wanted to place it on the water tank.

Vice-Chairman Griffin reminded the Board of the meeting scheduled for April 20 at Museum of the Albemarle regarding Vision 2030 regional water initiatives.

Commissioner Marshall Stevenson asked the County Manager if he had contacted the Department of Transportation to follow up on the railroad tracks on Peartree Road. He said since the road has been paved, the dip at the railroad tracks has gotten a lot deeper. Mr. Keaton stated that he has spoken with the District Engineer and it appears that the contractor began this paving project before contact could be made with the railroad about removing the railroad tracks or allowing DOT to pave over the tracks.

Chairman Perry reported that he attended a workshop last week in Chapel Hill on manager evaluation and board self-assessment. He requested that a work session be scheduled for the Board to discuss the County Manager's evaluation, the County Attorney's evaluation, and the Board's self-evaluation.

Chairman Perry said he will be asking members of the Board to visit in the public schools in an effort to better communicate with students in the schools. He stated that this was suggested at a recent NCACC district meeting as a means of improving public image. Chairman Perry said he would like to begin with the high school seniors.

8. COAST GUARD SUPPORT COMMITTEE FUNDS:

Commissioner Krebs stated that last year the Board budgeted \$750 for the U.S. Coast Guard support committee. He said it appears that this committee is going to get absorbed by the Albemarle Economic Development Commission into its Community Images Committee. He said the \$750 budgeted by the county has not been used and he would like for the Board to authorize the purchase of banners to honor the Coast Guard with these funds. The banners would be hung on Main Street and Road Street on various occasions such as Coast Guard Day, Veterans Day, and Armed Forces Day.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to authorize the use of the \$750 budgeted for the Coast Guard Committee to purchase banners to be hung in the downtown area to honor the Coast Guard on special occasions. The motion carried unanimously.

9. NORTHEAST PARTNERSHIP:

Commissioner Matt Wood stated that he appreciates Jimmie Dixon, David Twiddy and Vann Rogerson meeting with the Finance Committee this afternoon to discuss the Northeast Partnership. He said following the meeting he spoke with a couple of the Commissioners regarding the possibility of requesting specific changes regarding the Partnership and the Commission. He stated that the changes he would suggest are:

1. The North Carolina's Northeast Partnership, Inc. would be abolished and the Northeast North Carolina Regional Economic Development Commission would continue to function.
2. The executive committees of the Partnership and the Commission would be abolished.
3. The current executive committee members who are on the Commission would be asked to resign from the Commission.

Commissioner Wood suggested if the Board agrees with this proposal that a resolution be drafted to include the five points previously developed and these three additional items and sent to the other counties for discussion at the regional meeting to be held on May 4.

Motion was made by Marshall Stevenson, seconded by Hank Krebs to adopt a resolution to be circulated to the other five counties in the region regarding the Northeast Partnership to include the five items previously proposed and the three additional items proposed above. The motion carried unanimously.

10. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE AND TO PRESERVE THE ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

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 to enter Closed Session to discuss the acquisition of real estate and to preserve the attorney client privilege.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Hank Krebs that the Board enter Closed Session to discuss the acquisition of real estate and to preserve the attorney client privilege. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

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

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK