

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MAY 26, 2009**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met on May 26, 2009 in a continuation of the recessed May 20 meeting. The meeting was held in the Commissioners Board Room 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

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

The meeting was reconvened at 11:00 AM.

**1. DISCUSSION REGARDING REGULATION OF HUNTING:**

The Board discussed a proposal which would limit hunting on the land of another without written permission from the land owner. The Board reviewed various options which included adopting the Chowan rule verbatim, adopting a modified version of the Chowan rule which would add that the land should be properly registered and posted, or leaving the Pasquotank hunting regulations as currently written. County Attorney Mike Cox said he wanted the Board to understand that the Chowan law includes written permission for all hunting, not just deer hunting with the aid of dogs.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Cecil Perry to request the General Assembly to approve a local bill which would mirror the Chowan County law stating that, "It is unlawful to hunt, take, or kill a wild animal or wild bird, or to attempt to hunt, take, or kill a wild animal or wild bird on the land of another unless the hunter has, on his or her person, the written permission of the owner or lessee of the land."

Commissioner Bill Trueblood said he would prefer for the Board to adopt the second option that would require that the property be registered and posted. He stated this would address situations when certain property owners do not mind their property being hunted on but will not give written permission. Commissioner Dixon said he would also support the second option.

The motion carried by a four to two margin with Commissioners Trueblood and Dixon voting against the motion.

The Board reviewed possible additions to the proposed law.

Motion was made by Marshall Stevenson, seconded by Jeff Dixon to request that the following be added to the proposed local bill: "The written permission required shall be dated and may be valid for no more than one year". The motion carried 6-0.

The Board discussed limiting hunting with center-fire rifles to stands, platforms or to heights of at least eight feet above ground level. It was suggested that the County Attorney develop language related to height restrictions for the Board to consider at the next meeting.

**2. Knobbs Creek Watershed Service District:**

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch advised that notices have been sent and a public hearing has been scheduled for the June 15 meeting on creating the Knobbs Creek Watershed Service District. Since that time, work has continued on the project and meetings have been held with Mr. Greg Johnson of Patton Harris Rust & Associates who has looked at narrowing the focus of the project. He said it was determined that focusing on one area might address the immediate problem and help the overall project as well. Phase one of the project would be the Main Street Extended area with an estimated cost of \$52,000 to \$53,000.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Bill Trueblood to move forward with the public hearing on the abbreviated drainage project for the Knobbs Creek Watershed Service District. The motion carried 6-0.

**3. Budget Work Session:**

The Board held a work session on the 2009-2010 budget. County Manager Randy Keaton advised that a 6¢ tax increase will be needed to balance the budget.

The Board also discussed a proposal to change the terms of the hospital lease to provide a larger payment upfront to help balance the budget, with lower payments in the following years. After discussing various scenarios, members of the Board acknowledged that there is probably not sufficient time to develop a proposal for the Hospital Board to consider before July 1. It was requested that the County Manager meet with Hospital staff to discuss the possibility of changing the terms of the hospital lease agreement.

After lengthy discussion, there was consensus of a majority of those present to prepare the budget with a 3¢ tax increase and to request the County Manager to find budget cuts to replace the remaining 3¢. The County Manager will provide the Board with various options for cuts at the next budget work session.

Another work session will be held on Monday, June 1 as part of the Finance Committee meeting. The June 1 Finance Committee meeting will be moved to 3:00 PM.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Bill Trueblood to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
JUNE 1, 2009**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, June 1, 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  
Jimmie Harris

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Marshall Stevenson. The Rev. Toni Wood, Pastor of Newland United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**1. COMMENTS FROM DOUG LANE:**

Chairman Stevenson recognized Mr. Doug Lane to address the Board. Mr. Lane stated that he would like to thank the Board for its vote last week on the trespass issue. He said he would also like to comment on option 5 which the Board has not adopted yet. He stated that option 5 was part of the Chowan ordinance and he would strongly request that the Board adopt option 5.

**2. COMMENTS FROM CARL ESTUS:**

Mr. Carl Estus said during the last Board meeting a resolution was included on the consent agenda that would express to state representatives that the Board is against giving citizens over the age of 70 tax relief. He stated that this was not even noted in the newspaper. He said many of those over 70 have shed blood on foreign soil in three major wars and other small conflicts, and many have served in other ways. He asked if they do not deserve a little consideration. He asked if any of the Commissioners even knew the resolution was on the consent agenda. He said this smacks of covert action to avoid public input.

Commissioner Matt Wood advised Mr. Estus that the Homestead Exclusion Act already provides relief for senior citizens. The difference is that this Homestead Act is means tested and is effective for those seniors who can least afford to pay taxes. He stated that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is opposed to the proposed new legislation to provide tax relief to citizens over the age of 70 and when the Board voted to oppose this legislation it was in concert with the state association. He added that counties are currently having a hard time balancing their budgets and this proposed new legislation would result in a loss of revenue for counties, but would have no effect on state revenues. He said he has a problem when the state legislature passes rules that strip counties of needed revenue when there is no way to replace it.

**3. DESIGNATION AS STORM READY COMMUNITY BY BILL SAMMLER,  
NOAA'S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE:**

Chairman Stevenson called on Mr. Bill Sammler with NOAA's National Weather Service. Mr. Sammler reported that the counties of Pasquotank and Camden that are served jointly by Christy Saunders and Rebecca Christenbury, the Pasquotank-Camden Emergency Management staff, have achieved Storm Ready recognition. He said the Storm Ready Program was created in 1999 after a devastating flood in the Fort Smith, Arkansas area. He stated that the program was developed to try to accentuate and reward local communities whose emergency management functions and public safety functions went above and beyond a certain set of standards that were laid out. Some of the standards that had to be achieved in order for Camden and Pasquotank Counties to receive Storm Ready recognition is they had to have multiple ways of receiving critical weather information from the National Weather Service, multiple ways to monitor what

was going on weather wise and in some cases non-weather related events in the county. There also had to be ways to disseminate that information within the county. Mr. Sammler said the Severe Weather Plan developed by Ms. Saunders is exemplary in the way that it outlines the communication of critical weather information and the actions that need to be taken in events such as tornado warnings and severe thunderstorm warnings. There were other critical requirements including NOAA weather radios in every public school in the county and in some public buildings which is the case. In addition to the severe weather emergency plan, there had to be a list of a variety of different preparedness programs which the emergency management staff has done over the last few months. The National Weather Service was able to recognize Pasquotank and Camden Counties and Ms. Saunders and Ms. Christenbury for the work they have done in meeting those requirements with regard to emergency management and public safety functions. Mr. Sammler presented the county with a certificate recognizing Pasquotank County as a Storm Ready Community, and two signs to be posted within the county that recognize Pasquotank County as a Storm Ready Community. He stated that Pasquotank County will join 1,100+ other communities throughout the nation that are Storm Ready now. He added that Pasquotank and Camden are the first Northeastern North Carolina communities to receive Storm Ready designation. Mr. Sammler said he would like to congratulate Pasquotank County on this designation and thank Ms. Saunders and Ms. Christenbury for their hard work.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING ON MODIFICATION OF INSTALLMENT FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR JAIL PROJECT:**

County Manager Randy Keaton explained that the Board needs to adopt a resolution making certain determinations concerning modifying the current installment financing contract for the jail project and hold a public hearing. Due to delays in the project the construction loan with Bank of America needs to be extended until the project is completed at which time the USDA loan will provide permanent financing. Bank of America has agreed to extend the loan until March 31, 2010 at 30-day LIBOR plus 2.25%. Completion of the jail is anticipated in the fall of 2009.

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Commissioner Stevenson introduced the following resolution, a copy of which had been provided to each Commissioner and which was read by its title:

**RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS CONCERNING MODIFYING FURTHER AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COST OF A NEW JAIL OF THE COUNTY OF PASQUOTANK, NORTH CAROLINA AND APPROVING CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING THERETO.**

WHEREAS, the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina (the "County") has entered into an Installment Financing Contract, dated February 15, 2007, between Bank of America, N.A. (the "Bank") and the County, as modified by a Modification Agreement, dated April 14, 2008, between such parties (collectively the "2007 Agreement") under which the County borrowed \$12,000,000 pursuant to G. S. § 160A-20, as amended, to provide funds, together with \$7,000,000 borrowed under another installment financing agreement that the County entered into in 2006 and other available funds, for the construction of a jail and related site improvements on approximately 15 acres of land owned by the County in the Pasquotank County Commerce Park and the acquisition of furnishings and equipment therefor (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Project has been delayed and the Board of Commissioners for the County is considering modifying further the 2007 Agreement to comport with the current schedule for the construction of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the modifications to the 2007 Agreement would include extending its term to at least the current estimated completion date of the Project and changing the rate of interest to be paid thereunder and would be in the form of a second modification agreement between the County and the Bank (the "Second Modification Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to take certain related action at this time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DETERMINED AND RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners for the County (the “Board of Commissioners”) hereby finds and determines in connection with the Second Modification Agreement that (a) the proceeds of the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, will continue to be used to finance a portion of the cost of the Project to meet an urgent need for improved public safety facilities to serve the residents of the County and, accordingly, the Second Modification Agreement is necessary or expedient for the County, (b) the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, under current circumstances, is preferable to a bond issue of the County for financing the same purpose because there is not sufficient time to authorize and issue bonds of the County prior to the time when funds will be needed for such purpose, (c) the sums estimated to fall due under the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, are adequate and not excessive for its proposed purpose because they are based upon construction bids awarded by the County with respect to the Project, (d) the County’s debt management procedures and policies are good and its debt will continue to be managed in strict compliance with the law, (e) any increase in taxes necessary to meet the sums estimated to fall due under the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, will not be excessive because the County expects that it will not be necessary to increase taxes for such purpose and (f) the County is not in default regarding any of its debt service obligations.

Section 2. The County Manager, the Finance Officer and the County Attorney of the County are each hereby designated as a representative of the County to file an application for approval of the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, with the Local Government Commission of North Carolina and are authorized to take such other actions as may be advisable in connection with the negotiation of the Second Modification Agreement; and all actions heretofore taken by any of such officers or any other officer of the County relating to such matters on behalf of the County are hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

Section 3. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the Local Government Commission of North Carolina to approve the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement, under Article 8 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended.

Section 4. The law firm of Robinson, Bradshaw and Hinson, P.A., Charlotte, North Carolina, is hereby appointed special counsel to the County in connection with the 2007 Agreement, as modified by the Second Modification Agreement.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Marshall Stevenson, Lloyd E. Griffin III, Matt Wood, Bill Trueblood, Cecil Perry, Jeff Dixon, and Jimmie Harris.

Noes: None.

Thereupon, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina (the “County”) announced that this was the hour, day and place fixed for the public hearing for the purpose of considering whether the Board of Commissioners for the County (the “Board of Commissioners”) should modify further an Installment Financing Contract, dated February 15, 2007, between Bank of America, N.A. (the “Bank”) and the County, as modified by a Modification Agreement, dated April 14, 2008, between such parties (collectively the “2007 Agreement”) under which the County borrowed \$12,000,000 pursuant to G. S. § 160A-20, as amended, to provide funds, together with \$7,000,000 borrowed under another installment financing agreement that the County entered into in 2006 (the “2006 Agreement”) and other available funds, for the construction and other accomplishment of the Project hereinafter described. The County has secured the repayment by it of moneys advanced pursuant to the 2006 Agreement and the 2007 Agreement by granting a security interest in all or a portion of the Project and certain related property. The modifications to the 2007 Agreement would include extending its term and changing the rate of interest to be paid thereunder.

The Project consists of the construction of a jail and related site improvements on approximately 15 acres of land owned by the County in the Pasquotank County Commerce Park and the acquisition of furnishings and equipment therefor. The Project will house approximately

240 inmates initially and up to 400 inmates eventually from Pasquotank, Perquimans and Camden counties and will replace the existing Albemarle District Jail. The Project will be owned by the County and leased to the Albemarle District Jail Commission for operation.

Notice of this public hearing was published in the The Daily Advance not less than 10 days before the date of this public hearing.

The County Manager and the Finance Officer of the County then described the current status of the Project, the current plan of the County to continue to finance a portion of the cost of the Project pursuant to the 2007 Agreement and the need to modify further the 2007 Agreement to comport with the current schedule for the construction of the Project.

The County Manager and the Finance Officer of the County then presented and described a proposal to modify further the 2007 Agreement that the County had received from the Bank in response to the County's request for such a proposal. Such proposal appears to be appropriate to meet the County's needs under the related circumstances and includes the modifications to the 2007 Agreement that are the subject of this public hearing.

The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners then announced that the Board of Commissioners would immediately hear anyone who might wish to be heard on such matter.

No one appeared, either in person or by attorney, to be heard on such matter and the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners announced that no written statement relating to such matter had been received.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Lloyd E. Griffin III, seconded by Commissioner Jimmie Harris, the Board of Commissioners determined to continue to finance a portion of the cost of the Project pursuant to the 2007 Agreement, as modified further by the proposed modifications, and to approve on a preliminary basis the proposed modifications substantially as presented. Such motion was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Marshall H. Stevenson, Jr., Lloyd E. Griffin III, Matt Wood, Bill Trueblood, Cecil Perry, Jeff Dixon, and Jimmie Harris.

Noes: None.

Thereupon, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners announced that the public hearing was closed.

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**5. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Chairman Stevenson asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Wood requested that the agenda be amended to add a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve Jail change orders totaling \$13,840.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Bill Trueblood to amend the agenda to add approval of Jail change orders totaling \$13,840 to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried.

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Board considered the following Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of May 11, May 18 and May 20, 2009 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

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

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Michael Bryant Wightman	178.08	147.04
2.	Joseph Norman Riggs	106.65	

Refunds:

1.	Alan R. & Sharon L. Gregor, Sr.	148.65	
2.	Alan R. & Sharon L. Gregor, Sr.	135.13	
3.	Alan R. & Sharon L. Gregor, Sr.	129.73	
4.	William T. & Diane Sanders, Jr.	318.80	
5.	William T. & Diane Sanders, Jr.	288.00	
6.	William T. & Diane Sanders, Jr.	276.48	

*c. Approval of Budget Amendments*

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

WATER SYSTEM

Decrease	060.7130.5980.10	Transfer to General Fund	700,000.00
Increase	060.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	859,160.00
Increase	060.7130.5595.01	RO Distribution	34,160.00
Increase	060.7130.5595.00	RO Plant	1,525,000.00

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

Increase	010.0230.4390.04	EDTAP	14,845.00
Increase	010.0230.4390.05	Rural General Public Fund	18,368.00
Increase	010.6600.5620.02	EDTAP	14,845.00
Increase	010.6600.5620.03	Rural General Public Fund	18,368.00

DEBT SERVICE

Increase	010.0700.4970.00	Loan Proceeds	42,515.00
Increase	010.4380.5500.00	Capital Outlay Animal Control	715.00
Increase	010.9100.5700.24	SunTrust	41,800.00

PARKS & REC

Increase	010.0600.4940.08	Elizabeth City Parks & Rec	175,173.00
Increase	010.0230.4370.00	State Grants-PARTF	47,626.00
Increase	010.6130.5581.01	River Road Project	222,799.00

JAIL/DEBT SERVICE

Increase	010.0600.4980.00	Jail-Perq/Camden	355,753.00
Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	105,575.00
Decrease	010.4320.5190.00	Professional Services	20,000.00
Decrease	010.4320.5362.00	Juvenile Services	20,000.00
Increase	010.4320.5700.19	Debt Service-Jail	501,328.00

COMMISSIONERS

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	9,684.00
Increase	010.4110.5499.00	Miscellaneous Expense	9,684.00

NON-DEPT

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	10,220.00
Increase	010.4195.5600.32	Riverview Acres	10,220.00

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	34,265.00
Increase	010.4150.5192.00	Legal Fees	34,265.00

*d. Approval of Sales Tax Audit Proposal*

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a proposal by Tax Reduction Specialists to conduct a sales tax audit. The fee would be 18% of any additional sales tax they discover with a \$35,000 cap.

*e. Approval of Change Order for Jail Project*

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a change order for the Jail project totaling \$13,840. This change order is a combination of four increases totaling \$20,905 and one decrease in the amount of \$7,065.

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

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

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Lawrence Michael Chatman	70.79	
2.	George Ralph	14.55	16.93
3.	Raymond Ramirez, Jr.	75.79	
4.	Tangie Marie Bonds	8.67	
5.	Michael Joseph Ludden	39.16	32.04
6.	James Louis Berube	18.26	19.94
7.	Kyle Alan Williams	72.66	
8.	Joseph Clauss Kontaratos	46.15	42.76
9.	Elvin Yonarmatos Rodriguez	53.08	48.43
10.	James Alton Newbern	21.56	
11.	Michael Scott Burris	16.17	
12.	Christopher Eric Cable	72.20	64.20
13.	Christopher Eric Cable	63.90	57.40
14.	Alexis Alan Stanley	9.85	
15.	Bryan Alan Henne	45.93	
16.	Brian Patrick Callon	65.51	
17.	Rufus Adolphus Jackson	9.05	
18.	Kevin McIntosh	17.47	
19.	Elizabeth Ann Barr	68.97	
20.	Jerry J. Krywaczyk	75.19	
21.	Mimi Starcher Hatch	58.10	52.64
22.	Lester Howard Flowers	15.95	13.05
23.	Carol Cowell Barclift	7.15	5.87
24.	Melanie Mitchell Baker	2.31	1.89
25.	Brittany Raugueh Blount	12.27	10.04
26.	Justin Nicholas Underwood	71.25	63.43
27.	Gregory Dwight Brown	11.83	
28.	Gregory M. Rehlander	82.01	72.10
29.	Ronald Wayne Gower	9.35	
30.	Kenneth Wilson	7.81	11.39
31.	Nathaniel David Chappell	47.47	
32.	Keesha Louvenia White	20.05	16.41
33.	Edward Earl Bryant	5.28	4.32
34.	Johnny Cuthrall Greico, Jr.	2.20	1.80
35.	Johnny Gregory Dye	38.50	
36.	Theresa M. Heyward	46.15	42.51
37.	Donato Martinez Pablo	12.20	10.01
38.	Donato Martinez Pablo	4.73	3.87
39.	Donato Martinez Pablo	11.33	9.27
40.	Shields Robert Theron Gore	44.99	41.81

**7. APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF TIME TO SUBMIT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR PASQUOTANK COUNTY COMMERCE PARK LOT OWNERS:**

The Board considered a recommendation to grant a 12-month extension of time to lot owners within the Commerce Park to submit plans and specifications for construction due to the downturn in the economy.

Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin requested that he be recused from considering this matter due to a conflict of interest.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Cecil Perry to recuse Vice-Chairman Griffin from considering the extension of time to submit plans and specifications for Pasquotank County Commerce Park lot owners. The motion carried.

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch explained that there are currently eight lot owners in the Commerce Park. Last year the Board granted lot owners an additional year to submit plans and specifications for construction due to the downtown in the economy. The extended time period for the first of those lot owners to submit plans and specifications is due to expire in June 2009. Twelve month time periods for submitting plans and specifications will expire for the

remaining lot owners within the following six months. Mr. Bunch stated that since economic conditions have not changed a lot during the past year he would recommend that the Board grant an additional twelve months to each lot owner to comply with requirements for submitting plans and specifications without the formal submittal of a request and payment of fees.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to approve an additional 12 month extension of time to lot owners in the Commerce Park to submit plans and specifications for construction without the formal submittal of a request and payment of fees. The motion carried.

**8. CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL HUNTING ISSUES:**

County Attorney Mike Cox explained that he has been in contact with Representative Bill Owens' office and he indicated there is an existing bill that Pasquotank County's proposed hunting regulations requiring written permission to hunt on the land of another might be added to for this year. He said however that he needs the Board to make a couple of decisions in regard to shooting center-fired rifles from elevated stands. Mr. Cox provided two options for the Board to consider regarding center-fired rifles.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Matt Wood to add the wording in Option 1 to the proposed Pasquotank County hunting law which states, "It is unlawful to hunt with a center-fired rifle except from a permanent or portable stationary stand at least 8 feet above ground level."

Discussion followed and Commissioner Bill Trueblood said he would prefer Option 2 which would require that the muzzle of the rifle is eight feet above ground level. He said he is not sure Option 1 is as clear as it needs to be.

Chairman Stevenson said he would also prefer Option 2 because Option 1 does not define where the rifle is located, only the stand. He said it would be clearer if language is inserted to require that the barrel of the rifle is at least 8 feet above ground level.

Commissioner Cecil Perry stated that requiring written permission from the owner or lessee of the land may create confusion when the owner of land has cleared land which he leases out to be farmed and retains the right to the wood land on which he allows hunting. In some cases written permission might be required from the owner and the lessee of the land. Mr. Cox said the requirement for written permission covers all land, cleared and woodland. If someone is hunting on someone else's land they must have written permission from the owner or lessee.

A substitute motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Matt Wood to add the wording in Option 2 to the proposed Pasquotank County hunting law which states, "It is unlawful to hunt with a center-fired rifle except from a permanent or portable stationary stand with the barrel of the rifle at least 8 feet above ground level." The substitute motion carried by a six to one margin with Commissioner Dixon voting against the motion.

The Board reviewed Option 5 which states that "Attempting to retrieve hunting dogs on the land of another without written permission—even if not carrying a hunting firearm and regardless of the time of day—will constitute an attempt to hunt or take". The County Attorney explained that hunt and take are defined terms in the General Statutes and this option would modify those definitions which he believes would be a problem. The Board concurred not to pursue Option 5.

The Board discussed three possible options to impose a penalty for violation of the law. The Chowan law basically provides a \$10 penalty plus cost of court.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to add to the proposed legislation that "Violation of this act is punishable as provided for in G.S. 113-135.1(a)", which is the same as the Chowan law. The motion carried by a six to one margin with Commissioner Dixon voting against the motion.

**9. APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION OF COMMISSIONER MATT WOOD TO BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION:**

Commissioner Matt Wood explained that, with the exception of one year, Pasquotank County has not had a representative on the North Carolina Board of Transportation within the last forty

years. He stated that he received a call from Representative Owens who had been contacted by the Governor's Office indicating that the Governor is interested in perhaps making a change in the District One Board of Transportation appointee. Representative Owens asked him if he would be interested in putting his name forward for this position and he said that he would. Commissioner Wood asked that the Board send a letter to the Governor and to Senator Basnight supporting Representative Owens' recommendation.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Jimmie Harris to support the nomination of Commissioner Matt Wood to the North Carolina Board of Transportation and to request the County Manager to draft a letter from the Board of County Commissioners to be signed by the Chairman in support of Commissioner Wood's nomination. The motion carried unanimously.

**10. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR FOR EMS DEPARTMENT:**

The Board considered a request from the EMS Director to designate Walter Meads as a Deputy Tax Collector to assist in the collection of overdue EMS accounts via garnishment procedures. His responsibilities as Deputy Tax Collector would be solely limited to signing EMS garnishments. The EMS Board has approved the recommendation. The County Manager explained that this would save time and prevent EMS from having to come to the Tax Office to get the EMS garnishments signed. Currently there is only one person in the Tax Office who is authorized to sign garnishments.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jeff Dixon to appoint Walter Meads as a Deputy Tax Collector to assist in the collection of overdue EMS accounts. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:**

County Manager Randy Keaton asked the Board to discuss setting up another budget work session prior to the formal presentation of the budget. The Board suggested a meeting during the latter part of next week.

**12. CHANGE IN JULY MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The Board discussed the meeting schedule for July. It was suggested that the Board hold only one regular meeting in July due to completion of the budget.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to cancel the July 6 Commissioner meeting and meet on July 20 as scheduled. The motion carried unanimously.

**13. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Jeff Dixon stated that the Director of the Tourism Development Authority would like to make a short presentation on TDA activities at an upcoming Commissioner meeting. Chairman Stevenson advised that the TDA Director would be welcome at any time.

Commissioner Jimmie Harris said he had been contacted by someone with the Department of Social Services regarding furloughs for county employees. It was suggested that the furloughs be scheduled before or after county holidays and that offices be closed on those days so there would not be a problem with staffing. Chairman Stevenson advised that the Board is not yet at the point of deciding whether there will be salary cuts or furlough days. It will be discussed at a later budget work session.

Commissioner Cecil Perry asked if the county will be providing funds for an employee to staff the bookmobile if a replacement bookmobile is obtained. The County Manager stated that the possible replacement bookmobile from Virginia Beach requires a different type of license and the Library Director has advised that the previous bookmobilst is studying to take the test for a CDL license in order to be prepared. The County Manager added the bookmobilst is one of the proposed budget cuts being considered. Commissioner Perry said the county should not accept the other bookmobile if there is no one to drive it.

Chairman Stevenson asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being no further business, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jimmie Harris to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK