

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
OCTOBER 1, 2007**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, October 1, 2007 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Randy Keaton, County Manager
Rodney Bunch, Asst. Manager for Planning & Economic 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. The Rev. Max Edwards, Pastor of Evangelical Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Perry welcomed everyone present including members of the City Council of Elizabeth City.

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

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

Employee	Department	Years of Service
Tom Campbell	Cooperative Extension	25 years
Travis Burke	Cooperative Extension	25 years
Joyce W. Pritchard	Register of Deeds	20 years
Ronnie Barefoot	Central Communications	20 years
Michael Etheridge	Solid Waste Department	20 years
John Hibbert	Solid Waste Department	15 years
David Meiggs	Sheriff's Department	15 years
Jerry Newell	Emergency Medical Services	10 years

The Board congratulated and thanked the employees for their service.

2. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION TO DOLLIE SUMMEROUR:

Chairman Perry recognized Mrs. Dollie Summerour, Register of Deeds, and asked her to accept the following proclamation on the Board's behalf:

**PROCLAMATION
HONORING PASQUOTANK COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS
DOLLIE SUMMEROUR**

WHEREAS, Pasquotank County Register of Deeds Dollie Summerour has recently completed her term as president of the North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds for 2006-2007; and

WHEREAS, she was appointed Pasquotank County Register of Deeds effective October 1, 1991 and has continuously been re-elected to subsequent terms; and

WHEREAS, she has worked in the Register of Deeds office a total of 30 years, previously serving as Deputy Register of Deeds, then Assistant Register of Deeds before her appointment as Register of Deeds; and

WHEREAS, for the past 16 years, Dollie has been responsible for all activities and personnel in the Register of Deeds office and has seen many changes in the operation of her office, always staying abreast of changes in legislation and the latest advances in technology and equipment; and

WHEREAS, Dollie has served the office of Register of Deeds with leadership, distinction, loyalty and dedication during a period of unprecedented growth in the county which has increased the demands on the Register of Deeds office; and

WHEREAS, her abilities and accomplishments have recently been recognized by the North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds who awarded Dollie the prestigious Eunice Ayers Distinguished Service Award for excellence and outstanding service, and by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners who named her the 2007 Outstanding Register of Deeds for the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Dollie Summerour has brought credit and recognition to Pasquotank County and its citizens;

NOW THEREFORE the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners expresses its appreciation and admiration to Pasquotank County Register of Deeds Dollie Summerour for her distinguished service to Pasquotank County, and offers her our sincerest congratulations on her outstanding achievements.

PRESENTED this 1st day of October, 2007.

The Board congratulated Mrs. Summerour on her awards.

3. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR COLONIAL HERITAGE MONTH:

Chairman Perry read the following proclamation for Colonial Heritage Month. He stated that it will be sent to Mrs. Shirley Spaeth who could not be here tonight to accept it.

**Proclamation
Pasquotank County Commissioners
Colonial Heritage Month
October 2007**

Whereas, the glory and the promise of our great nation has been enhanced by acclaimed organizations like the North Carolina State Society, Colonial Dames XVII Century...whose distinguished members are direct descendants of our country's earliest settlers; and

Whereas, one of the sound and noble goals of this heralded Society is to promote the tremendous colonial heritage upon which the very principles of our mighty nation were kindled and passed on--both in spirit and by example; and

Whereas, Colonial Dames XVII Century members, who are also highly respected for their long-standing record of caring and community service, proudly trace their time-honored roots back to our earliest settlers who came to America prior to 1701; and

Whereas, Pasquotank County is pleased to join in celebrating this special month which is aptly set aside to wisely promote and explore our family backgrounds, origins, and our knowledge and appreciation of colonial history...as such a bountiful and glorious past continues to merit a special place in the minds and in the hearts of our people.

Now Therefore, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 2007 as **Colonial Heritage Month** in Pasquotank County, and commends this observance to all of our citizens.

This the 1st day of October, 2007.

4. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH AND NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY:

Chairman Perry called on Mrs. Catherine Gardner to accept the following proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and National Day of Unity on behalf of Albemarle Hopeline.

**PROCLAMATION
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
AND NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY**

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of control in an intimate relationship where one person uses coercion and violence to gain power and control over their partner; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence includes not only physical abuse, but also mental abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, isolation, and sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, women of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds are vulnerable to violence by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, according to a Commonwealth Fund Survey, nearly 1/3 (31 percent) of American women report being raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, partner, or date at some time in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the health-related costs of rape, physical assault, stalking and homicide committed by intimate partners exceed \$8.3 billion each year according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS, according to the Family Violence Prevention Fund, domestic violence affects the children of an intimate partnership in that between 3.3 and 10 million innocent children witness some form of domestic violence annually; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in North Carolina alone, over 400 women, men, and children have been murdered as a result of domestic violence since January 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the key to prevention is focusing on first-time perpetration, first-time victimization, and education of the youth that any violence is unacceptable according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, prevention strategies involve collaborations by multiple partners to promote social norms, policies and laws that support gender equity and foster intimate partnerships based on mutual respect, equality and trust;

NOW THEREFORE, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims October 2007 as “**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**” and October 1, 2007, as “**NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY**” in North Carolina. We further urge our citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force which deeply affects a large number of families in our state each year and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.

PRESENTED this 1st day of October, 2007.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING AVIATION COMMERCE PARK:

Chairman Perry called on individuals who had signed up to address the Board regarding the Aviation Commerce Park.

Ms. Pam Hall of 1191 Consolidated Road stated that this issue affects her life and her land and her family's land. She said she and her husband have worked hard for what they have and have followed the rules. She stated that the Hall property was purchased by the Hall family in the early 1900's and she does not think it is right for the county or the city to condemn their land if they are not willing to sell it. Ms. Hall stated that she and her husband have never said this project is not good for the county, however they feel they have the right to say no without the county, the city or the state taking their property.

Mr. Randy Hall stated that he has been a fireman for 33 years, 20 of those years protecting people in the city. He said his family should not be forced to do something they do not want to do. He stated this farmland is a part of his heritage and he thinks it is wrong for someone to take this property. He added that his mother also does not want to sell the property for any amount of money and he agrees with her. Mr. Hall said he would like to see Congress ban eminent domain.

Mr. Hank Krebs stated that a letter from the Board of Commissioners requesting that the state withdraw funding for this project could jeopardize one of the few economic engines in this region. He explained that economic engines are hard to create and develop and often take years to come to fruition. He said the jobs created in this park would have a positive impact on the other jobs in this community by raising the wages individuals are paid. Besides providing jobs this park would also serve as an institution of higher learning. Partnerships between ECSU, COA, Elizabeth City, and Pasquotank County are invaluable. Mr. Krebs stated that when

everyone works together, they win together. He added that the issue regarding the letter needs to be resolved between the Airport Authority, Elizabeth City, and Pasquotank County. Mr. Krebs explained that eminent domain has been unfairly portrayed as an evil mechanism to steal someone's property and it is anything but that. He said eminent domain is a valuable tool that creates economic prosperity, promotes the public's welfare, and ensures that one person or group does not thwart the public good. Mr. Krebs stated that his family was impacted by eminent domain when a farm that had been in the family for 200 years at the foot of Smith Mountain in Virginia was acquired by eminent domain. He said this is now Smith Mountain Lake which turned into an economic engine for the region that provides electrical power, recreation, jobs, and has increased the tax base for that community. He stated that the men who condemned that property had a vision, and at the time it was a very unpopular act, however it was the right call. Mr. Krebs stated that from what he has seen, Mrs. Hall will only stand to lose a few rows of corn, however Pasquotank County stands to lose a great economic power. He asked the Board to protect the public interests. He said as a citizen of the county, he will take jobs and education over a few rows of corn any day. Commissioner Stevenson noted that the letter before the Board of Commissioners tonight does not state or recommend that funds be withdrawn in any way.

Mrs. Diana Spivey stated that she and her husband are totally against this project. She said they have lived in Crosswinds for 17 years and every time there is storm with 12 inches of rain their streets flood making them impassable. She stated that the Chairman of the Airport Authority had assured the residents at one of the first meetings they attended with the Airport Authority that eminent domain would not be an issue.

Ms. Martina Ruetten stated that she lives at 1526 Owens Drive, right next to the proposed complex. She said she thinks the Halls should not be forced to sell their land. She noted that she is not against progress and believes the new jobs would be a benefit. She asked if their neighborhood would be protected from noise, flooding, and other things when this complex is built.

Ms. Patricia Rosario said she just moved here in 2003 from New York. She said enjoys the calm atmosphere in the area where she lives. She stated that she lives across from where the helicopters and airplanes are and there is a little noise now, but she can only imagine what it will be like when there are more planes. She said she believes in more jobs and better paying jobs, but she asked at what expense these jobs would be created. She stated that this project should be considered further before land is taken from people.

Ms. Catherine Minshew of 1239 Brickhouse Point Road explained that she used to live at 226 Bayshore Drive and her home was taken by eminent domain by the United States Coast Guard in 1995. She said her main concern is that the proposed plat states this is Phase I. She said this means there will be a Phase II and she asked what Phase II entails. Ms. Minshew asked if eminent domain is used to acquire 100 feet of the Halls' land whether Phase II will be the rest of the Halls' land.

Mr. Wayne Perry, Chairman of the Airport Authority, stated that he was quoted in the newspaper as saying in January or February that the Airport Authority had all the property it needed for Phase I. He stated that when he made the statements to the residents that eminent domain would not be used, they were true statements. He said things change however and windows of opportunity are opened. Mr. Perry stated that this project will grow the city and county and will present \$150 million in growth over a two to three year period. He said some of the reasons this additional property is needed is to address flooding; and for water retention to handle drainage from the Halls' property, from Crosswinds Subdivision, and from the Airport Authority. He added that DRS Technologies is currently digging a retention pond that will retain a lot of the stormwater runoff and will improve drainage in the area immediately. He said DRS is giving up potential parking for its employees to dig this retention pond. Mr. Perry stated that he hopes the Board of Commissioners will see the viability and not the liability of this Airport Authority project. He said this project will be one of the largest commercial developments that has ever been in Pasquotank County. He stated that the economic impact on the local community will be huge. He said the Airport Authority does not want to place a hardship on anyone, but is trying to provide a window of opportunity to expand and grow and help everyone. Mr. Perry advised that Airport Manager Scott Hinton has worked very diligently with many agencies and thousands of dollars have already been spent compiling the information and the facts to make this project move forward. He asked for the Board's support and consideration.

Mr. Scott Hinton, Airport Manager, presented a map showing the layout of the project and explained how all of the property will be used. He pointed out the 20 acres that will be used by Elizabeth City State University for its Aviation Program, the 30 foot buffer the county required when the property was rezoned, and a 100 foot wide stormwater retention and treatment pond that runs along the property boundary. He said in addition there will be numerous retention ponds within the property. He stated that Mr. Perry eluded to a letter that was sent nine months ago explaining that the Airport Authority would not need any of the Hall property. Mr. Hinton said at that time, this was the truth, and only after considerable expense and time it was determined that a stormwater plan that meets the requirements for retention and treatment would be needed. In addition, it was determined to best use this property, this particular site plan would work. Mr. Hinton said they looked at several different options in developing this site plan and this is the best one for using the property. He pointed out four plots ranging from four acres to 6.5 acres that would represent the facilities that could be leased by businesses coming into the area. He said the design airplane for these facilities is the C-130 which has a 132 foot wingspan. Each building would be roughly 80,000 square feet. Mr. Hinton said 5.5 acres will barely meet the lot requirements for the building and associated parking. He said he is not even sure the smaller parcel will support that size building. He stated they are restricted in the size of the lots by the design businesses they are targeting. From the centerline of the taxiway extending 130 feet on either side for a total width of 260 feet is a taxiway safety area, or obstacle free area, that must be kept clear to prevent any hazards for the aircraft and the crews operating them. The 100 additional feet needed represents the obstacle free area. Mr. Hinton said the property line now bisects a stormwater retention ditch and the stormwater from the property they are purchasing runs in draining ditches parallel to the road that run to a stormwater ditch parallel to Consolidated Road. On the Hall property, the ditch runs perpendicular to the property being purchased. This ditch does not service the property they are purchasing, but services the Hall property. If that ditch were to remain so close to the taxiway with a design limit approaching 200,000 pounds, it is reasonable to expect there would be erosion and undercutting of the taxiway. Mr. Hinton said from a safety standpoint, they want to ensure that the area stays free of obstacles and they want to make sure that the ditch does not cause erosion of the taxiway. If the project were to be moved over 100 feet, there would not be sufficient room to meet the needs of Elizabeth City State University, build the facilities needed, address stormwater concerns, and provide the obstacle free done. Mr. Hinton stated that they would not be here tonight if the 100 feet were not absolutely critical to the project.

Dr. Willie Gilchrist, Chancellor for Elizabeth City State University, outlined the educational components of this project. He said ECSU would like the citizens of the county to know that they will be constructing a facility that everyone will be proud of. He explained that it will be a \$15 million facility which will represent the homes in the community. He said they will be discussing with their architect the possibility of designing the facility to also serve as an emergency shelter during hurricanes and other emergencies. He stated that they want to be good neighbors and provide services for the community as well. Dr. Gilchrist stated that College of The Albemarle will also have use of the facility. He said \$500,000 has been earmarked for planning for this year. An additional \$14,500,000 will be provided by the General Assembly at the end of the year. Dr. Gilchrist stated that he is very proud and excited that ECSU will be the aviation campus for the UNC System.

Mr. Anthony Sharpe, Director of the Aviation Program at Elizabeth City State University, stated that he understands the concerns of the citizens. He said once they fully understand and realize the positive impact, they will support the project. He stated it is expected that the aviation program will grow and attract students from other areas and other states. He said they plan to provide the quality education for these students that will prepare them for the rigorous aviation industry. He stated that there is no better time to be a part of the aviation industry as some of the major air carriers are hiring students right out of college. He added that Elizabeth City State University is the only institution in the state that has an aviation program. He said they believe it will be a great enhancement to the university and the area.

Mr. George Thomas, a member of the Albemarle Economic Development Commission, explained that he has lived in eastern North Carolina all of his life and has worked in the banking profession for over 35 years. He stated that he has worked in New Bern and Wilmington, but has had the privilege of working in Elizabeth City for over 25 years. He said while New Bern and Wilmington are highly regarded for their economic development efforts, he can honestly say that the airport project is the most promising economic development project he has been associated with in his banking career. He said he understands this is a very difficult issue for the community, but the Albemarle Economic Development Commission is very concerned that

sending this resolution to state officials and the Department of Commerce will send the message that the county does not support the project. He said it could also risk the chances of getting the funding needed for the project.

Commissioner Jimmie Harris asked Mr. Wayne Perry if he could guarantee that the 400 to 500 jobs will come from this area. Mr. Perry said he could not guarantee where the jobs would come from, however the window of opportunity will be for local people. He stated that the training and the demand is here for those people.

Mr. Jeff Berry of DRS said he cannot guarantee that every one of those jobs will come from the local area. He explained that they have worked with COA and ECSU and have built their own programs to promote jobs within the community. He said they are actually bringing people into their lower level jobs, training them, and then moving them into the higher level jobs. He said as far as DRS is involved, it is his commitment to the community to promote and hire every individual in Elizabeth City who wants to work with them as long as they can train them and bring them up through the ranks into the higher paying jobs which pay \$20 to \$22 per hour.

Mr. Scott Hinton explained that the reason the Airport Authority has been coordinating with COA and ECSU was to make sure there is training available so that people who grow up locally can get blue collar and white collar training so that they can effectively compete for the jobs that will be offered in this airport park. He added this is why the university component is so important for the project.

Commissioner Jimmie Harris urged the Airport Authority to do what it needs to do on the amount of land they have acquired and to not condemn any land.

Commissioner Jeff Dixon noted that there are supposedly three property owners who are willing to sell 100 feet of property. He asked if any consideration has been given to possibly swapping some of this land with Randy and Pam Hall. Mr. Hinton said the Airport Authority would certainly consider this.

Commissioner Marshall Stevenson asked who the property owners are who are willing to sell. Mr. Hinton said it was a private discussion with land owners and he is not sure it would be appropriate to provide this information during a public forum. Commissioner Stevenson advised that three Commissioners met with Ms. Valerie Hall last week and asked her point blank if she wanted to sell any of her land. He said Ms. Hall informed them she does not want to sell any of her property at any cost.

Commissioner Stevenson asked if the proposed parking area for DRS has to be where it is proposed on the sketch. Mr. Hinton said given their design, the parking area needs to be in the area where it is proposed. He said regardless of where it is located, it is going to occupy the same amount of space. Commissioner Stevenson suggested that parking be put elsewhere.

Commissioner Stevenson asked Mr. Hinton who has mandated that the project have four building sites. Mr. Hinton said no one has mandated them. He said even if two sites were eliminated, the two remaining sites would still not be wide enough to accommodate the C-130.

Commissioner Stevenson asked if the Coast Guard is on record in writing requesting that the Airport Authority build this complex. Mr. Hinton said the Coast Guard has not taken that position and he does not believe they would. He added that the Airport Authority is not doing anything that contradicts the Coast Guard's long term vision for the area. He said they try to support the Coast Guard and would not do something they do not feel would fit their vision.

Commissioner Stevenson asked what the plans are for Phase II of this project. Mr. Perry responded that he is not even sure that Phase I can be done. He said the Airport Authority has a vision that the future will bring expansion and maybe people will see the importance of it, want to be part of it, and want to share their land.

Commissioner Stevenson said it was felt the Airport Authority should work within the boundaries of the property it has acquired and he believes it is workable. He stated that the Board of Commissioners does not have the intention of asking that funds be withheld in any manner. He said the Board supports Elizabeth City State University and the 20 acres. He stated what bothers him is eminent domain and the way it has been handled by telling an elderly lady that her property will be taken. He added that this country was founded on property being owned

by individuals and he does not think the government has a right to take one's property unless it is for public gain. He said he would agree that the ECSU project is public, however he believes the other entities are for private gain. Mr. Perry said they will also be sharing a tax base that will help the position of Pasquotank County and Elizabeth City. He stated that he does not like the thought of taking somebody's land, as these people have been offered a very good price for their property.

Commissioner Stevenson stated that the Airport Authority knew the size of the property when they contracted to buy it and when they asked that the property be rezoned. He said they should have known that the property did not drain well. He asked Mr. Perry if the Airport Authority would make the project work if told they would have to make it work within the boundaries of the Hollowell property that has been acquired or not do anything. Mr. Perry said if this were the case they would do their best to make it work.

Mr. Perry thanked the Board for listening to them. He said he hopes the Board will give the Airport Authority good consideration because this is a very important project for the county and the city. He stated that they are promoting local people and this is why they are going to local educators to train people.

Commissioner Trueblood said he is opposed to using eminent domain to acquire the additional 100 feet. He stated that he thinks this project was zoned to work within the 63 acres and he believes the Airport Authority needs to find a way to make that happen. He said he believes the answer lies with the proposed parking area and that the line could be shifted to make it work within that property. He stated that he is supportive of this project, however he cannot support taking 100 feet of property from the Hall's.

Mr. Hinton stated that stormwater requirements have recently become a much bigger issue and the proposed layout meets stormwater and parking requirements. He said it has taken a lot of time to get to this layout and meet all of the needs.

Commissioner Trueblood again said he supports the project and supports the fact that it will bring economic growth to the area. He added that he hopes his young grandson will someday be able to work at these facilities. He said he will not support any move to ask that funding be curtailed.

City Councilman Johnnie Walton stated that it appears that the county, the city, and the Airport Authority are playing hardball and nobody will get anywhere with this. He said the vision for this project is to generate 500 jobs and invest \$150 million that will help everyone in the area. He stated this has the potential to move the lower class people to the middle class. Mr. Walton said this project is an opportunity that does not need to be missed.

Councilwoman Anita Hummer said she is not in favor of taking anyone's land, but all these years the northeastern part of North Carolina has been the state's stepchild. She stated that all of the opportunities appear to be near the Raleigh area. She said she hopes the county, the city, and the Airport Authority can resolve this in an amicable way. She stated that grants have been received that no one ever thought would be received. Ms. Hummer said this project will be an opportunity of a lifetime and people will not have to drive to Virginia for good-paying jobs. She stated that the area has not been able to draw businesses to the area because there is not a trained workforce. Because of the partnership between COA, ECSU, and the Aviation Science Center, there will be a trained workforce. Ms. Hummer stated that a letter does not need to be sent to state officials who have been behind this project. She added that she believes the project will die if the additional 100 feet of property cannot be acquired.

Vice-Chairman Griffin explained that Erskine Bowles, President of the University of North Carolina, was recently in the area and feels that this is an economic opportunity that will put Elizabeth City on the worldwide stage, something that has not happened since World War II. He said he knows the 100 feet of property has value to the Hall's and he understands they are fighting for their property. He said this project however will be of great economic value and benefit to the taxpayers of the county and the city, much like the hospital, the Coast Guard Base, Elizabeth City State University and College of The Albemarle. Vice-Chairman Griffin said he is supportive of this project and he is sorry it needs the additional 100 feet, however the Airport Authority has worked for almost a year and a half trying to negotiate the purchase of property to make this project work.

Chairman Perry explained that in 1942 his father was a poor farm worker without an opportunity to send his children to college. He said during World War II, his father was told he could not enter the Army, but he had a job at the United States Coast Guard Base. He said that job at the Coast Guard Base gave him and his brother the opportunity to go to college. Mr. Perry stated that he can identify with the economic impact that has been talked about. He said he also understands that people do not want their property taken by eminent domain. He said the county and city must look at the big picture and hopefully will continue to talk about this project until a compromise is reached that will allow all citizens to have the best opportunities for their families. He thanked everyone for coming out tonight and expressing their opinions.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Perry asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. It was requested that the following items recommended by the Finance Committee be added to the agenda: 1) Approval of starting salary for Records Clerk in Sheriff's Department and Income Maintenance Caseworker position in Social Services Department; 2) Approval for additional School Resource Officer position for H.L. Trigg School; and 3) Donation of vehicle to Police Athletic League.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jimmie Harris to amend the agenda to add the three additional items recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to add the three additional items listed above to the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY EMINENT DOMAIN TAKEOVERS OF PROPERTY FOR AIRPORT AUTHORITY EXPANSION PROJECTS:

At the last meeting the Board requested that a resolution and letter be formulated opposing any eminent domain takeovers of property for Airport Authority expansion projects to be forwarded to the Governor, the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Representative Bill Owens, Senator Marc Basnight, the City of Elizabeth City, and the Airport Authority. The Board was provided copies of a letter and resolution which have been drafted.

Commissioner Matt Wood requested that action on this issue be delayed until the next meeting as he has prepared alternative language that he would like for the Board to consider. He said the delay would provide time for him to circulate the letter and resolution he has drafted.

Motion was made by Matt Wood, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to delay action until the next meeting on the letter and resolution opposing any eminent domain takeovers of property for Airport Authority expansion projects.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Wood stated that a number of people have come to him from the Economic Development Commission who have concerns about the letter and concerns that it would be misconstrued and should be crafted carefully because of the grants involved with this project and the support from outside of the community. He said he has crafted some alternate language and those who have expressed concerns have looked at this language and feel more comfortable with it. He added that he would like for the Board to have an opportunity to review this language as well as the original language and at the next meeting make a choice as to which direction to go.

The motion to delay action carried by a six to one margin with Commissioner Stevenson voting against the motion.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. *Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2007 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.	Jay Isbell Builders Inc.	368.50	
2.	Clarence Pryton Hempton	122.78	
3.	Michael P. & Cathy L. White	108.06	

Refunds:

1.	Wachovia Mortgage	1,457.28	1,081.32
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c. Approval of Budget Amendments

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

Smart Start-ESMM

Increase	026.0230.4370.41	Smart Start-Eat Smart	50,000.00
Increase	026.5875.5121.00	Salaries and Wages	33,695.00
Increase	026.5875.5181.00	FICA	2,578.00
Increase	026.5875.5186.00	Workers Comp	917.00
Increase	026.5875.5260.00	Office Supplies	2,440.00
Increase	026.5875.5261.01	Service Related Supplies	2,440.00
Increase	026.5875.5310.00	Travel	6,100.00
Increase	026.5875.5311.00	Training	1,830.00

Smart Start-BFP

Increase	026.0230.4370.50	Smart Start-Breastfeeding Program	30,000.00
Increase	026.5866.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	22,830.00
Increase	026.5866.5181.00	FICA	1,747.00
Increase	026.5866.5186.00	Workers Comp	623.00
Increase	026.5866.5260.00	Office Supplies	1,680.00
Increase	026.5866.5310.00	Travel	2,100.00
Increase	026.5866.5321.00	Telephone	550.00
Increase	026.5866.5325.00	Postage	50.00
Increase	026.5866.5311.00	Training	420.00

General Fd/Capital Reserve

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	122,493.00
Increase	010.6600.5980.21	Transfer to Capital Reserve	122,493.00
Increase	021.0700.4981.00	General Fund Transfer	122,493.00
Increase	021.8200.5960.01	Capital Reserve-Unallocated	122,493.00

d. Approval of Starting Salaries for Records Clerk and Income Maintenance Caseworker

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a starting salary for a Records Clerk in the Sheriff's Department at Grade 11, Step 7. The Finance Committee has also recommended approval of a starting salary for an Income Maintenance Caseworker position in the Social Services Department's Family & Children's Medicaid Unit at Grade 13, Step 8.

e. Approval of Additional School Resource Officer Position

The Finance Committee has recommended that the Board approve the creation of an additional school resource officer position for H.L. Trigg Community School. The school system has budgeted state funds to cover the full cost of the officer which is estimated to be \$42,800 annually.

f. Approval of Donation of Vehicle to Police Athletic League

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the donation of a 1994 Ford bus to the Police Athletic League. The Sheriff's Department had previously acquired the bus from Intercounty Transit Authority. The serial number of the bus is 1FDKE30M2RHB40012.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

The following tax refunds less than \$100 have been approved by the Finance Officer:

Refunds:

		County	City
1.	Christopher Joseph Hill		91.12

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
Alan Eugene Stewart	P111-2	Unoccupied for 5 years
Mary E. Walker	P95-27	Unoccupied for 4 years

9. APPROVAL OF FAMILY SUBDIVISION REQUEST 07-06 TO CREATE ONE LOT FOR A CHILD AT 1295 MILLPOND ROAD:

Planning Director Shelley Cox explained that Family Subdivision Request 07-06 is a request by Toxie Gallop to create a gift lot for a child at 1295 Mill Pond Road. She stated that 50 feet of road frontage for the proposed parcel is provided onto Mill Pond Road. The total lot area proposed is one acre for the gift lot and 4.3 acres for the residual tract. Mr. Gallop has owned the property since 1973 and is requesting to give a lot to his daughter, Sheila D. Gallop. Ms. Cox said documentation has been provided that the plat qualifies as a family subdivision and an improvement permit has been provided by Albemarle Regional Health Services. She stated that the application is now complete and staff recommends approval of the request.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Bill Trueblood to approve Family Subdivision Request 07-06 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

10. APPROVAL OF FAMILY SUBDIVISION REQUEST 07-07:

Ms. Shelley Cox explained that Family Subdivision Request 07-07 is a request by Janet Berry to create a gift lot for a child at 699 Okisko Road. She said 50 feet of road frontage for the proposed parcel is provided onto Okisko Road. The total lot area proposed is 4.05 acres for the gift lot and 10.65 acres for the residual tract. The grantor, Janet Berry, has owned this property since 1997 and she is requesting to give a lot to her son, James Michael Berry. Ms. Cox stated that documentation has been provided that the plat qualifies as a family subdivision and an improvement permit has been provided by Albemarle Regional Health Services. She said this application is also complete and staff is recommending approval.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jimmie Harris to approve Family Subdivision Request 07-07 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

11. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL FOR C.J. WHITE'S LANDING:

The Board considered a request from Carlas White for an extension of the preliminary plat approval for C.J. White's Landing that was issued on October 18, 2004. Ms. Cox advised that the ordinance allows the Board of Commissioners to grant extensions, however she would like to note that an extension for this project was previously granted last year for a period of 12 months, and that extension will expire on October 16, 2007. She stated that staff went to the site last week and it was not apparent that any work has commenced on the site. Chairman Perry asked what the impact would be of not granting the extension. Ms. Cox said it would have a large impact on this project because the lot sizes do not meet the current requirement of 43,000 square feet. She said since the property is zoned for residential development, Mr. White could again go through the process of sketch plan approval and preliminary plat approval, however the requirements for drainage are more stringent than when the plat was originally approved. She stated that there is also now a requirement for a farmland buffer that could significantly impact this project. Commissioner Dixon asked what the investment is in this project to date. Ms. Cox said that there has been survey work and engineering work done and she has copies of invoices totaling about \$10,000 that Mr. White submitted last year when he requested the first extension. Vice-Chairman Griffin suggested that action be delayed until the next meeting and that Mr. White be asked to attend to answer the Board's questions.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to delay action on the request for an extension of the preliminary plat approval for C.J. White's Landing. The motion carried unanimously.

12. DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTION OPPOSING OUTLYING LANDING FIELD IN NORTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA:

The Board discussed a draft resolution opposing an outlying landing field in Northeastern North Carolina. Commissioner Trueblood suggested that the Board delay action on the resolution until

after the Camden County Board of Commissioners has made its decision on the OLF. He said he feels it would be improper for Pasquotank County to be giving directions to Camden County until it is known exactly how Camden will vote on this issue.

Chairman Perry advised that Ms. Holly Koerber has submitted a statement she would like to be made part of the record. County Manager Randy Keaton read the statement which advised that Pasquotank County is simply being asked to give the Navy a seat at the table to fairly and objectively evaluate national defense needs in light of any impact to our community. She stated that national defense needs do not only impact Virginia. She said many people in Pasquotank County and Northeastern North Carolina work at shipyards and defense industries in Virginia. She asked that the Board give a fair hearing to the nation's defense needs, set aside self-interest, objectively gather all the factual information, and then weigh the pros and cons on this issue before making a decision.

Motion was made by Bill Trueblood, seconded by Jimmie Harris to delay action on the proposed resolution opposing an outlying landing field in Northeastern North Carolina until after the Camden County Board of Commissioners has made a decision on the resolution.

County Manager Randy Keaton noted that the OLF proposed sites that would more directly affect Pasquotank County are the ones in Gates County and Perquimans County because the noise zones go into Pasquotank County.

Commissioner Wood stated that there has been a lot of miscommunication about his involvement in the proposed Camden County site. He said he is a partner in George Wood Farms which owns land in one of the proposed Camden OLF sites. He stated that he has learned if the Navy wants the land, they will take it. He said he has learned that the Navy intends to build a landing field once a site is found, and they have the authority and the support in the Congress to build it. He stated that what the counties do has very little impact on this decision, as this is a Washington decision. He said the people who can change the course of these events are ultimately going to be the people in Washington who handle the purse strings for the Navy. He stated that he would like to see the counties sign and present to the Navy a document that Senator Burr, Senator Dole, and members of the North Carolina Delegation have also signed. He said he believes this would carry more weight in Washington because that is where the decision will ultimately be made.

Commissioner Stevenson asked if other counties in the area are considering this proposed resolution. Mr. Keaton stated that he understands Gates County has adopted the resolution; Currituck County has taken no position; and Camden, Perquimans, and Chowan Counties are considering the resolution tonight.

The motion to delay action carried unanimously.

County Manager Randy Keaton stated that he, Chairman Perry, Commissioner Stevenson, and Rodney Bunch met last week with Mark Anthony, who is with the Navy, and Steve Wall, who is with the N.C. Department of Environment & Natural Resources. He said Mr. Anthony stated that the outlying landing field would initially be permitted for 15,000 landings per year. He advised that these new sites were initially considered by the Navy, but were not included in the list of sites considered in 2002. They were originally looking for 50,000 acres, but now have decreased the needed acreage to 28,000 acres. They are planning to buy 2,000 acres and obtain easements on the remaining 26,000 acres which would restrict what the land owners could do with the property. The actual 2,000 acre rectangle would be two miles wide by one mile long and would have an 8,000 foot runway with a 75 foot control tower. The 52 jobs that would be created will be firefighters, rescue personnel, security, and grass-cutting.

13. REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

Mr. Keaton suggested that the Board consider a policy regarding verbatim minutes. He stated that a citizen had requested that her comments be included in the minutes verbatim. He said minutes should be a summary of the action taken, not a verbatim transcript of everything that takes place in a meeting or everything that everyone says. He said if the Board allows individuals to have their comments included in the minutes verbatim, it will create issues for the Clerk in trying to type all of the comments and will make the minutes very long and unwieldy.

Mr. Keaton said he had forwarded copies of correspondence to the Board regarding the Jail construction project and the stop work order. He stated that he spoke with the architect this

afternoon who advised they are trying to get the issues resolved so the contractor can get back to work in the next week or so.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:

Commissioner Stevenson reported that the Appointments Committee met today and would like to make the following recommendations for appointments to boards and committees:

Albemarle Hospital Authority Board of Commissioners – Recommend the appointments of Bettie Jones Parker, Ginger Parrish, Glover Shannon, and David Twiddy to replace David Harris, Maryella Leigh, Tyra Newell III, and Ernest Sutton; recommend the appointment of Claudie Mackey to fill the unexpired term of Patti Hamler.

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee – Reappoint Charles Jordan to an additional term.

Board of Zoning Adjustment – Reappoint Richard Williams, Jr. to an additional term.

Solid Waste Commission – Reappoint Pedro Holley and Marshall Stevenson to additional terms. It is also recommended that David Twiddy not be reappointed when his term expires.

Albemarle Commission – Reappoint Lloyd Griffin to an additional term.

Motion was made by Marshall Stevenson, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to approve the reappointments to boards and committees as recommended above. The motion carried unanimously.

The appointments to the Hospital Board will be included on the next agenda for final approval to provide opportunity for the Board to review the applications.

15. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Bill Trueblood asked the Assistant County Manager to report on proposed new stormwater requirements for the coastal counties. Mr. Bunch reported that he, Shelley Cox, and Greg Johnson attended a meeting last week on the proposed rule changes for stormwater requirements by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the 20 coastal counties. He provided the Board with copies of the major changes. He said another meeting will be held this week at the Albemarle Commission to discuss the proposed changes which he plans to attend. Commissioner Trueblood stated that the comment period on the new rules ends on October 15, before the next meeting of the Stormwater Management Committee. He said if there is no objection, he will be working with Mr. Bunch, Ms. Cox, and Mr. Johnson to develop comments to be sent to DENR.

Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin reported that the Albemarle Commission will be hosting the Council of Government statewide meeting this Thursday and Friday at the Coast Guard Base.

Chairman Perry said he would like to thank Vice-Chairman Griffin for attending the inaugural ceremonies last week at Elizabeth City State University in his place.

Chairman Perry stated that the Mental Health audit is still being prepared and should be available for the Board by the next Commissioner meeting. He said he will provide the Board with a copy once it is available.

Chairman Perry 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 Jimmie Harris, seconded by Matt Wood to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK

