

## Week of August 23, 2010:

- I attended the annual Association of County Commissioners Conference on Thursday and Friday. On Thursday, I also attended a meeting of the County Government Cooperative Extension Partnership Committee which I have been reappointed to through 2013. This committee is made up of County Managers and Cooperative Extension personnel including representatives from N.C. State and N.C. A&T State. We reviewed budget issues, plans for vacant positions in Cooperative Extension, and Senate Bill 202. This bill requires counties to comply with the "send-in" payroll arrangement which previously was voluntary. The bill also prohibits from furloughing or reducing the local portion of salaries paid to extension personnel. The Association is working to get this bill corrected in the next session of the General Assembly.
- I attended another meeting of the Funding Committee for the 911 Board. Our committee agreed on a funding formula that was developed by East Carolina University. The formula groups counties by population and takes the average cost for 911 in each group as a way of determining the per capita allocation for each county. The State is currently surveying each county to get more accurate data on the actual cost of 911. We will then apply this data to the updated Census information. We plan to complete our process by October 1 and present our recommendation to the 911 Board. A new funding formula has to be in place by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Our group will meet again at the APCO/NENA conference for 911 officials on September 14<sup>th</sup> in Brunswick County.
- We have been working this week to complete the documents for closing the USDA loan for the new jail. The Local Government Commission met with USDA officials at the State level recently to discuss the need to revise USDA's standard documents for North Carolina as a result of our attorney's concerns over the documents complying with state law. I am pleased to report that USDA now agrees with us and the LGC that the documents have to be revised. The bad news is that it will not be in time to close the loan as expected by next Friday. We have received an extension again from USDA and Bank of America until December 31, 2010 to complete this process. The Board of Commissioners will meet on Monday to approve the extension.
- Attached is the latest sales tax report. The good news is that the distribution is approximately \$15,000 more than I had projected. One-half of the increase however is due to a 1.3% increase in the County's share of sales tax. The City had a corresponding decrease in their share.
- I met with Raymond Leonard, Finance Officer for the School System, this week to discuss the process for financing the Central School HVAC project and to get an update on the roof needs for Northeastern High School. They are in the process of seeking engineering proposals for the Central project. After they select an engineer, the project will still have to be designed before bids can be received. Our Board had previously had the impression that this project was ready to receive bids, however, they could not move forward with the design phase until they were assured of funding. Raymond also informed me of another round of low-interest funds that will be available for the Northeastern project if the County can do it. We will have up to \$10 million available to us.
- Attached is an email from Albemarle Regional Health Services regarding a rabies notice for the Edgewood area of Elizabeth City. A cat has tested positive for rabies.
- We are currently monitoring the hurricane and tropical storm activity in the Atlantic. Although Hurricane Danielle is projected to stay far out to sea, Tropical Storm Earl may pose some problems for us. All departments are urged to update their information and check their critical equipment in preparation for what may be a busy September.
- The Red Cross has moved into their new offices at Edgewood Center and Carolyn has asked me to express their appreciation to the Board for the space. They are very pleased with the new offices.
- Don't forget the special meeting on Monday at 5:00 pm to approve the financing documents and the joint meeting with the City at 6:00 pm.

**The following are reports from some of our other departments:**

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

- We were informed that the polling location for Precinct 4-A, United House of Prayer for All People, will not be available for use in the 2010 General Election because of work being done on the building which is expected to take four to five months to complete. The Election Board adopted a resolution to use K. E. White Graduate Center as a temporary polling location for this election. We have received approval from Gary Bartlett, Executive Director, State Board of Elections, for this temporary move and we have asked Mike Cox to submit the request to the U.S. Department of Justice for pre-clearance.
- The Board of Elections staff and Board Chairman attended mandatory State Board of Elections training in Asheville on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. A Court of Appeals seat has become vacant and the State Board of Elections has set the filing date for the seat. The filing period began on August 25<sup>th</sup> and will end on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Emergency Medical Service**

- We received several items this past week from a Federal Grant (ASPR Grant). Some of those items include:
  - (1) Qualcomm Satellite Telephone
  - (1) SMART EMS triage system. This will complement the SMART triage system that we already have in place, giving us the capability to rapidly triage up to 120 patients in the event of a mass casualty event
  - (1) Carbon monoxide (CO) detector. The unit we received reads the amount of CO in a patient's bloodstream by using a simple finger probe (clip). We can obtain a non-invasive CO level in about 15 seconds. This will be extremely useful when EMS provides rehabilitation services to fire departments as well as providing appropriate care decisions to patients who become overcome by Carbon monoxide fumes; i.e., generator or car exhaust fumes
  - (4) Streamlite heavy duty truck-mount lights with built in chargers
  - EZ-IO intraosseous medication/fluid infusion kit and training kit
  - (1) Portable ventilator
  - (1) 2 way mobile VHF radio for our Disaster Management unit (DM-1)
- Walter Meads and Jerry Newell instructed a CPR class to 32 members of Fountain of Life Church
- The Pasquotank-Camden EMS Teaching Institution has partnered with Chowan County to advance Chowan County's EMT-Basic students to the EMT-Intermediate level. Class began this Tuesday and will continue through February 2011
- We added a Mobile Communications Terminal (MCT) to our non-emergency transport unit
- This past Monday, EMS went to the Elizabeth City Dominion Power office to help teach a safety class. Topics that we brought to Dominion Power included "*Heat Emergencies*" and "*How to Prevent/Identify a Stroke.*"
- We have received (3) new Stryker Power Pro automatic lift stretchers and placed them in service. Now, all ambulances that we operate have the power stretchers
- Fusion ePCR has been successfully transitioned into our EMS data collection software. This is the program that EMS utilizes to collect and submit patient information and field data to the state and for billing purposes, as well as print reports. The new software is designed for use with touch screen MCT's that we

currently utilize. The new software has reduced the time needed to enter a report by about 50%

## **PASQUOTANK-CAMDEN LIBRARY**

**You are just a click away from learning a foreign language.  
The library has purchased a subscription to the online database Mango Language.**

Mango is an online language learning system that can help you learn languages like Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, Spanish and more. The system is completely web-based and remotely accessible, so you can learn anywhere you have an internet connection. To access Mango when you are not in the library, please go to the library's web page <http://www.earlibrary.org/pasquotank-camden/index.html> and click on access Mango remotely. You must provide your library card number to access the database.

Funds for Mango Language were provided by a grant from the Dollar General American Dream Starts @ Your Library® Literacy Grant for English Language Learners and the Pasquotank-Camden Library Foundation.

### **Stats**

August 20 – 26, 2010

Total materials checked out = 2,846

Total Computers checked out = 1,212

Total Patrons visiting the library = 3,540

Average number of patrons per day= 590

Total number of holds processed = 464

Total number of patrons using the Job Search Computer = 9

Total Library Cards Issued = 57

Total number of computer classes offered = 5 (Total attendance = 20 people)

### **Water Department:**

- The duct work for the heating & cooling of the plant is being installed.
- The general contractor has closed in the three openings where the Kalwall Doors are going. This is in preparation for the rest of the outside doors being delivered next week, so the plant can be locked up.
- The lights are being hung in the plant and the plumbing in the office space is nearing completion. The contractor hopes to start hanging drywall next week, in the office area.
- The only contractor installing the 12" concentrate line has stopped and is doing some shoulder dress up so it can be seeded. The other contractor installing 12" line promises to be back next week and dress up his shoulders, he hadn't been here in three weeks.

### **Social Services:**

Income Maintenance Statistics  
Report Month: July 2010

Program	Applications Taken	Applications Processed	Reviews	Terminations/ Changes	Total Caseload
Adult Medicaid	77	98	121	176	2327*
Family & Children's Medicaid	294	282	227	587	3872

Food & Nutrition Services	332	273	276	465	3114
Work First Family Assistance	43	40	4	66	152

\*Includes 1093 SSI

cases

Intake increased in for Food & Nutrition Services and Work First Family Assistance during the month of July. Medicaid caseloads remained stable; Work First saw a slight increase and Food & Nutrition Services added 73 cases in July. The Food & Nutrition Services caseload has been growing each month.

Of course, during the month of July, the new Categorical Eligibility Food & Nutrition Services policy became effective and we saw an increase in intake. However, some counties were seeing a 50% increase in intake; thank goodness ours was not as significant.

Citizenship policy has changed to remove the 5-year disqualification period for certain immigrants who request pregnancy coverage or who are children under the age of 18. Previously qualified aliens had a 5-year wait period from date of entry until they were eligible for full Medicaid benefits. During the 5-year wait time, the individual would be eligible for emergency services only. Now, pregnant women and children under age 18 will be eligible for full Medicaid without a wait period. Other individuals continue to be eligible for emergency services only.

Interpreter Contacts: 21 Total

Spanish: 21

Vietnamese: None

Other: None

### **Volunteer Fire Department Coordinator:**

The transition to a new Pasquotank County Fire Marshal and investigations through the sheriff's department has turned out to be a relatively smooth change. Credit for the smooth change goes to the City Fire Marshal's Office as well as the new personnel filling those positions. There have already been several incidents that required an investigator and fire marshal.

During the month of July I met with both Nixonton and Providence at their regular business meetings. I have been assisting the departments in placing orders for equipment that was approved in their state grants. Before equipment is purchased on the grants, different vendors provide their best prices. The vendor with the lowest price on any piece of equipment is usually the one chosen for the purchase unless there is a question of the quality of the equipment. Some of the equipment has already arrived. All equipment must be received before the end of September so records can be sent to the state to receive grant funds.

Nixonton Fire Department received their new pickup truck which was bought by the department using funds saved from past donations and fund raisers. The state grant approved the purchase of the brush pump unit for the truck. Hopefully they will have their brush truck in service in a month or two after the brush unit arrives.

Nixonton is continuing to provide NC fire fighter certification classes at their station. Now Providence has begun providing the same fire fighter certification classes through their department. This allows volunteers access to certified training on the north and south ends of the county so volunteers don't have to travel from one end to the other for this training. The volunteers will be dedicating many hours if they can complete certification. Volunteers who have the time to receive these training courses are better able to provide emergency services to the county residents. The training also aids in a better insurance rating for each department participating.

Here is the list of incidents the departments have responded to and the training hours for the month of July.

Nixonton:

1 Call cancelled enroute  
2 Vehicle fires  
1 Structure fire  
51 man hours on incidents  
100 man hours on training

Weeksville:

1 Call cancelled enroute  
2 EMS assists  
1 Structure fire  
1 Alarm malfunction  
35 man hours on incidents  
41 man hours on training

Providence:

1 Vehicle accident  
1 Call cancelled enroute  
1 Gas leak  
1 Controlled burn  
1 Vehicle fire  
1 Illegal burn  
5 False alarms unintentional  
44 man hours on incidents  
259 man hours on training

Newland:

2 Vehicle accidents  
3 Vehicle accidents with injuries  
1 Highway oil spill  
1 Controlled burn  
1 Call cancelled enroute  
2 Mobile home fires  
2 EMS assists  
1 Brush fire  
1 Police assist  
1 False alarm malfunction  
119 man hours on incidents  
83 man hours on training

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