

## **Week of September 7, 2009:**

- This was a short week due to the holiday. Much of this week has dealt with finalizing the financing for the R.O. Plant. The Board met this morning to approve the series resolution and supplemental bond order for the \$16.5 million revenue bond. The closing on the loan will actually take place on September 15<sup>th</sup> when the funds will be deposited into our construction account. The 4 remaining contracts will be signed on that day so that work can start on the rest of the project. The well driller has already begun work on the first two wells.
- I attended a Manager's meeting today in Currituck. We met with Alden Miller, Albemarle Child Support Enforcement Office, to discuss the upcoming transition from a state supported function to a county function. This is due to legislation in the recent General Assembly session that requires counties to take over programs that were previously operated by the State. We have to determine whether we want to operate a regional office with the expenses shared by the various counties, absorb the necessary staff into our Department of Social Services, or contract with a private provider. We are meeting with additional people next week to gather more information about our options and to begin preparing cost estimates for the various options. We have to submit a plan to the State by January and the transition will take place by July 1, 2010. The current State office receives reimbursement from the federal government for their operations with the exception of \$182,000. Pasquotank County is responsible for approximately 65% of the case load of the current office which covers Pasquotank, Perquimans, Camden, and Gates counties.
- Attached is the final sales tax report for 2008-09. We ended the year with total collections of \$7.3 million which was \$260,000 less than our revised budget estimate. The total was \$1 million less than the original budget amount. The budget estimate for 2009-10 was revised downward substantially, and I hope that sales tax revenues will stabilize. A portion of this year's decrease was due to some unusually large refunds which can be attributed to public construction projects that were completed the previous year.

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

### **Cooperative Extension:**

#### **Agriculture**

The Northeast Agriculture Expo had completed results of the data. 171,000 acres were represented by farmers. 75% said information was useful and 80% said they would adopt at least one thing learned.

Yield data from the corn research resulted in 35 varieties averaging 235 bushels/ac.

A pest alert was sent to cabbage farmers to alarm them of insects and diseases.

New master gardener classes will begin on October 1. Also, the Master Gardener program sponsored the Kids in the Garden program with a \$200 donation.

The first meeting to plan the annual soybean festival was held. This year's event will be on January 28, 2010.

#### **4-H**

2 open house programs were presented on 4-H during the week. This is one way of promoting the 4-H program in Pasquotank County.

A Home School Association meeting was held at Corinth Church.

Several principals were visited on school 4-H enrichment programs.

### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

2 sessions were held at ECSU's campus on Eating for 2.

4 EFNEP home visits were made and Alb. Regional Health clients were seen, where 6 will enroll in the series.

1009 different youth were reached during the program year for youth EFNEP

### **Other**

Interviews were held for the 2009-10 commissioner's youth council. The first meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

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