

MINUTES – JULY 6, 2009

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 6, 2009. Members present: Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman, George W. Ward, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Erik D. Battle, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Gordon G. Satterfield, and Kenneth D. Travis. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, and Michael R. Ferrell, County Attorney. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Jefferies opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, requested that Item No. 8, Caswell County Manufactured Home Variance Extension Request be removed from the agenda and Contract for Groundwater Monitoring at Landfill be added.

Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the agenda as presented with the deletion of Caswell County Manufactured Home Variance Extension Request and addition of Contract for Groundwater Monitoring at Landfill. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The following item was included on the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2008 Meetings (Two Special Meetings)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Jefferies opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. John Claggett came before the Board and made the following statements:

“My name is John Claggett. I reside at 108 Jaye Lane, Providence, North Carolina. I thank the Board once again for the opportunity to address them.

Having spoken with the County Planner and the County Manager recently regarding the current status of the penalties being assessed to those facilities that were cited for non-compliance with the Outdoor Storage Ordinance, I’ve once again become confused. The County Planner referred

me to the Board of Commissioners and the County Manager referred me to the County Attorney. I was told that the County Attorney had to get in touch with the District Attorney.

Gentlemen, I'd like to understand what the DA has to do with civil penalties and I'd like to understand exactly what the process is to assess these penalties – this has been going on for seven months.”

Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, informed the Board that the penalty assessed for violation of the Outdoor Storage is not a criminal penalty, it is a civil penalty and the District Attorney is not involved in civil penalties. Mr. Ferrell stated that the civil penalty is assessed by the Board of Commissioners through the Ordinance and collected by the County. Mr. Ferrell stated that after the individual in violation of the Ordinance is notified, a civil action will be filed in Civil Court to collect the penalty if the violator does not voluntarily pay the penalty.

Mr. Leonard McFarling of Providence, NC came before the Board and stated that he has been in the fire service for 40 years in Caswell County with Providence Fire and Rescue. Mr. McFarling added that he has seen the County come a long way with numerous improvements in the fire service, and the firemen have worked long and hard hours to provide fire protection and rescue services to the citizens of Caswell County. Mr. McFarling stated that one of the best things he has seen done was a year ago when the County placed EMS units in the Providence and Anderson communities to cut the response time in half. Mr. McFarling added that he would like to know why four of the Commissioners at its last meeting voted to pull these EMS vehicles out of these communities and return them to Yanceyville and wanted to let them know that they did a great disservice to the citizens of this County. Mr. McFarling informed the Board of an incident on December 31, 2008, in which he needed the services of EMS and after being called, an EMS unit was dispatched from the Providence Fire and Rescue Station and responded to him in two minutes. Mr. McFarling told of another incident that occurred on July 25, 2008, in which his son needed the services of EMS and after calling 911, Caswell County EMS was dispatched, arriving in 12 minutes, and Providence Fire and Rescue was dispatched, arriving in two minutes. Mr. McFarling noted that his son would have died if it had not been for Providence Fire and Rescue arriving there so quickly. Mr. McFarling stated that this issue is not about money, it is about lives, but added that the County is being well compensated for its ambulance trips. Mr. McFarling stated that he would greatly appreciate it if the Board would review this issue again and consider placing the EMS units back out in the County. Mr. McFarling reported to the Board when his son's incident occurred that he was informed that the Fire Department First Responders could not administer an epipen. Mr. McFarling stated that in checking, he learned that School personnel, as well as prison guards are allowed to administer epipen with no medical training, but Fire Department First Responders could not according to the EMS Director. Mr. McFarling added that he discussed this with the EMS Director and was told that he would check into this and try to do something about getting epipens on the rescue vehicles. Mr. McFarling stated that several weeks went by and he was informed that Dr. Stephen Long, Medical Examiner in Person County, for Caswell EMS, had granted approval for the epipens. Mr. McFarling added that several months went by and was told that some paperwork was needed because some fire departments were not qualified, and now a year has gone by and nothing has been done. Mr. McFarling requested that the Board direct the County Manager to look into this and find out why it has not been done.

Mr. Harry Bray, of Blanch Road, came before the Board and stated that he is the President of Providence Fire and Rescue and he is here on behalf of the Board of Directors to request that the Board of Commissioners reconsider its decision to pull the ambulances back into Yanceyville and put them back in the Anderson and Providence communities. Mr. Bray added that the response time is cut in half and minutes mean lives. Mr. Bray stated that they would appreciate the Board reconsidering its vote.

Commissioner Ward requested that the Chairman direct the EMS Director to come to the Board's next meeting to present a proposal that would place fully staffed ambulances in the Anderson and Providence communities during peak hours. Chairman Jefferies stated that this would be placed on the Board's July 20th agenda.

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT RBEG APPLICATION

Mr. Tobias Fullwood, Area Specialist, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, came before the Board to review a Letter of Conditions for the *USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant*. Mr. Fullwood reported that this letter establishes conditions which must be understood and agreed to by the Board before further consideration may be given to the County's application. Mr. Fullwood stated that this grant will be administered on behalf of the Business and Cooperative Service by the State and Area Office staff of USDA Rural Development.

Mr. Fullwood reported that any changes in project costs, sources of funds, scope of services, or any other significant changes in the project or applicant must be reported to and approved by USDA Rural Development by written amendment to this letter. Mr. Fullwood added that any changes not approved by Rural Development shall be cause for discontinuing processing of the application.

Mr. Fullwood informed the Board that this letter is not to be considered as grant approval or as representation as to the availability of funds. Mr. Fullwood noted that the docket may be completed on the basis of a grant not to exceed \$75,000. Mr. Fullwood reported that the grant will be considered approved on the date a signed copy of the "Request for Obligation of Funds" is mailed to the County.

Mr. Fullwood requested that the Board approve the "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions" and added that if the conditions set forth in this letter are not met within twelve (12) months from the date hereof, Rural Development reserves the right to discontinue processing of the application.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield, Mr. Fullwood clarified that the USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant is for NorAg Technologies in the Pelham Industrial Park. Mr. Fullwood explained that when NorAg pays the \$75,000 back to the County, the County retains those funds and then, in turn, provides a grant to another business.

After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Satterfield to adopt the following Resolution which accepts the Letter of Conditions for the USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED

That the Board of Directors of the **CASWELL COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, accepts the conditions set forth in a Letter of Conditions dated **JULY 6, 2009**.

That the **President** and **Secretary** be authorized to execute all forms necessary to obtain a loan from Rural Development, including, but not limited to the following forms:

Form RD 1942-46	Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions
Form RD 400-1	Equal Opportunity Agreement
Form RD 400-4	Assurance Agreement
Form RD 1940-1	Request for Obligation of Funds
Form RD 1910-11	Applicant Certification Federal Collection Policies
Form AD 1047	Certification Regarding Debarment
Form AD 1048	Certification Regarding Debarment – Lower Tier
1940-Q, Exhibit A-1	Certification for Contracts, Grants, and Loans
Unnumbered Form	Certificate of Compliance

JCPC GANG GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that Mr. David Carter, Chairman, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, has requested approval of a Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Gang Grant Application. Mr. Howard stated that the JCPC Gang Grant is an opportunity for Caswell County to receive \$25,000 in state funding to conduct a gang assessment for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, and does not require a county match. Mr. Howard added that the purpose of the funding is to collect data and research within the county on gangs to determine if the county needs gang prevention or intervention programs, and the assessment would also be a tool used to apply for other state and federal grants in the future. Mr. Howard noted that the Caswell County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council will form a planning committee to oversee this assessment process.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned whether the Sheriff's Office would be involved in this process and Mr. Howard noted that the grant is through the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Gang Grant Application as presented. The motion carried by a vote of six to one with Commissioner Satterfield voting no.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CASWELL COUNTY MANUFACTURED HOME SITING ORDINANCE

Mr. Brian Collie, County Planner, came before the Board and stated that on April 20, 2009, the Board of Commissioners directed, after talking with County Attorney, Michael Ferrell that the

age requirement no longer be enforced on manufactured homes within the County due to changes in the law. Mr. Collie noted that this action came as the result of a lawsuit in Pasquotank County, North Carolina in which the Court ruled that a county could not regulate the placement of mobile homes.

Mr. Collie informed the Board that he spoke with the County Attorney about drafting an amendment to the Manufactured Home Siting Ordinance to address this issue and he suggested waiting until Pasquotank County is finished with its amendment in order for him to speak to them concerning the legal processes to make sure that Caswell amends its Ordinance correctly. Mr. Collie noted that in the meantime the County needs some type of temporary amendment to help regulate manufactured homes.

Mr. Collie reported that the Caswell County Planning Board at its meeting on June 23, 2009, voted to recommend the following amendment to the Caswell County Manufactured Home Siting Ordinance.

Amendment to Article 5, Section 5.3 and Article 6, Section 6.1, a and b

“Any manufactured home older than 10 years old that currently sits outside of Caswell County and any manufactured home older than 20 years old inside of Caswell County will need an initial site inspection before a building permit shall be issued. This is to insure that the home is structurally sound and safe to set up within the County. An inspection fee of \$100.00 will be charged and mileage of \$0.55 a mile after 30 miles will be added to that charge.”

Mr. Collie stated that that there must be an initial site inspection if the manufactured home is over 10 years old, and this is to protect both the homeowner and Caswell County.

UPDATE ON OUTDOOR STORAGE ORDINANCE VIOLATORS

Mr. Brian Collie, County Planner, reported that as of June 18, 2009, the final date for compliance of the Caswell County Outdoor Storage Ordinance, of the 15 properties found to be in violation, two properties have come into compliance. Mr. Collie noted that the 13 properties in violation of the Ordinance are accruing fines at the rate of \$250 per day. Mr. Collie stated that he and the County Attorney will be meeting to determine the best method in which to collect the fines.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned the County Planner and County Attorney as to whether they had a time table on taking the violators to court. Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, recommended that he first send a letter to the violator stating that they have fines including the amount and they have a certain number of days to pay, and if they do not, he will then file a civil action in court. Commissioner Satterfield asked if the fine continues even as the letter goes out and the County Attorney answered that the fine would continue.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that the Board of Commissioners needs to go ahead and proceed with this because it has been going on for a long time.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to whether the Ordinance could be changed to make this a criminal rather than civil matter if the process does not work, Mr. Ferrell answered that he did not think this could happen, but he would research it further and would provide an update to the Board on this at its next meeting.

Commissioner Hall asked if the Outdoor Storage Ordinance would cover those mobile homes that were brought into Caswell County in the last four or five years, but never set up and now sitting abandoned in fields. Mr. Collie answered that abandoned mobile homes are regulated under the Outdoor Storage Ordinance.

Mr. Collie requested guidance from the Board on the issue of a violator of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance paying his fine, but continuing to be noncompliant. Mr. Ferrell advised Mr. Collie that there may be other remedies rather than to continue to issue fines.

CONTRACT FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING AND REPORTING SERVICES

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented a renewal proposal for groundwater monitoring and reporting services for the Caswell County Landfill submitted by S&ME, Inc. Mr. Howard reported that the proposal includes 1) background and understanding of the work; 2) a scope of services; 3) a fee summary; 4) a project schedule; 5) client responsibilities; and 6) provisions for authorization to proceed with the work. Mr. Howard added that S&ME would perform semi-annual groundwater sampling of the six network groundwater monitoring wells, as well as perform semi-annual sampling at the two surface water monitoring points/locations at a total annual cost of \$4,500.

Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, stated that there are several items in this contract that he does not like, but given the cost of the contract, he would advise the Board to proceed with approval.

After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the contract submitted by S&ME, Inc. to conduct semi-annual groundwater monitoring and reporting services for the Caswell County Landfill for 2009 at a total annual cost of \$4,500. The motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Dr. Fred Moore, Health Director, came before the Board to request approval of a Professional Services Contract with *Good Health Services, Inc.* Dr. Moore reviewed the contract for *Good Health Services, Inc.* which is a staffing organization that provides a nursing service used in the Home Health Agency.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to whether the Board of Health has approved the contract, Dr. Moore confirmed that the Board of Health has reviewed and approved the contract.

After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the Professional Services Contract between the Caswell County Health Department and *Good Health Services, Inc.* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 27

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed Budget Amendment No. 27 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve Budget Amendment No. 27 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF 40TH CLASS REUNION OF CASWELL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to adopt the following Resolution in recognition of the 40th Class Reunion of Caswell County High School. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Caswell County High School Class of 1969 is celebrating its 40th Anniversary of its graduation; and

WHEREAS, this special occasion will be memorable for everyone and a time to renew old friendships; and

WHEREAS, high school years hold very precious memories that, hopefully, will be recalled by all with happiness and joy; and

WHEREAS, this very special event is a time to reflect on those early years and how it led you to your destination in life today.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners would like to congratulate the Caswell County High School Class of 1969 and extend its best wishes to you all at this special celebration of your 40th Class Reunion.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6TH DAY OF JULY, 2009.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman
Caswell County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith
Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

DISCUSSION OF OLD SENIOR CENTER BUILDING

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, provided information to the Board on Election Board Staff and space inventory which had been prepared by the Campus Community Partnership Team Interns in order for the Board to discuss usage of the former Senior Center Building.

After discussion, Chairman Jefferies appointed Commissioners Hall, Travis, and Ward to serve on the Building and Grounds Committee with Commissioner Hall serving as Chairman. Chairman Jefferies directed the Building and Grounds Committee to determine the need for office space before any allocation of space is granted and bring the information back to the Board of Commissioners.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that Mr. Richard Kelly with E-NC Authority reviewed the proposals received for the County's "Broadband Deployment Propagation and Feasibility Study" grant received from the Golden Leaf Foundation. Mr. Howard stated that Mr. Kelly recommended approval of the proposal submitted by The Howell Group in the amount of \$77,450 because he felt that their proposal would give the County a much better study than the lowest bid.

After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to accept the proposal for the County's "Broadband Deployment Propagation and Feasibility Study" submitted by The Howell Group in the amount of \$77,450.

Commissioner Hall stated that in reviewing the proposals, he had asked if everyone responded to the RFP and was told that they did, therefore, he would feel better going with the low bid.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion failed by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Battle, Hall, Satterfield, and Travis voting no.

Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to accept the low bid submitted by Excelsio Communications in the amount of \$56,000 for the County's "Broadband Deployment

Propagation and Feasibility Study”. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Jefferies and Ward voting no.

Mr. Howard reported that he and Sheriff Michael Welch have been discussing the Jail Expansion Project with Moseley Architects and recommended that the Board approve this firm for developing a construction and renovation plan for the Caswell County Law Enforcement and Jail Facility in the amount of \$18,500.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to where the funds would come from, Mr. Howard answered that the funds would come from Contingency. Commissioner Satterfield requested an update on what has been done to date on repairs to the Jail and progress being made. Sheriff Michael Welch reported that since the Board’s last meeting he has been working with staff to make corrective actions required by the State, and he is in the process of procuring quotes on those repairs that are under \$5,000, which will be presented to the Board at its next meeting. Sheriff Welch informed the Board that he has been working with Dan River Prison Work Farm Superintendent George Solomon and his staff on what the inmate work crews can do in the basement area and then further work on the first floor. Sheriff Welch reported that he has met with Moseley Architects, as well as with the Superior Court Judge and Clerk of Superior Court concerning renovation of the Courthouse on 139 East Church Street, and noted that the current Jail would not need to be renovated if a Jail was included as an attachment to the Courthouse. Sheriff Welch suggested a Planning Committee to gather all of this information to be used so that everyone would be aware of the steps taken in this process.

Commissioner Battle questioned the County Attorney as to whether he had reviewed the contract and Mr. Ferrell confirmed that he had done so. Commissioner Battle questioned whether the language in the contract, “For other services not defined herein, compensation shall be as mutually agreed by Moseley Architects and Caswell County and shall be computed using the attached Schedule of Hourly Billing Rates, which is an integral part of this Agreement” would cause the County to pay additional fees. Mr. Ferrell clarified that anything within the scope of Tasks 1, 2, and 3 would be covered under the contract, but anything outside of this would cause the County to pay an hourly rate.

Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the proposal as submitted by Moseley Architects for *Planning Services – Jail Expansion and Sheriff’s Expansion/Replacement Facility Options and Analysis* at a cost of \$18,500 as presented, to be appropriated from the Contingency Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard reported that the County has received award letters from the North Carolina Department of Commerce notifying the County that it has been approved for a total of \$454,578 in Industrial Development Funds (Utility Account) to facilitate the construction of a 300,000 gallon pedestal water tank for NorAg Technologies to locate its operations in the Pelham Industrial Park. After discussion, Chairman Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to accept the two grants from the North Carolina Department of Commerce in the amount of \$454,578 in Industrial Development Funds to facilitate the construction of a 300,000 gallon pedestal water tank for NorAg Technologies, located in the Pelham Industrial Park. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard reported that a representative of *Life Enhancement Services* has approached him expressing a desire to rent office space in the Guilford Mills Building. Mr. Howard noted that with the lease of this space the Guilford Mills Building office would be full.

After discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the lease with *Life Enhancement Services* for office space in the former Guilford Mills Building. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hall requested that now that all of the office space is filled at the Guilford Mills Building, that the County Manager report to the Board all of the space that is rented and the cumulative rents for the month.

Mr. Howard provided information to the Board from Mr. Matt Reece, with Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, relating to the Board's proposal to charge rent for office space to the Criminal Justice Partnership Program. Mr. Howard stated that Mr. Reece noted in his memo that in the early 1990's the County purchased a house that was converted into office space through a one-time special grant from CJPP and the County has used that space for other needs and occasionally for CJP functions. Mr. Howard added that Mr. Reece felt that the use of state funds to acquire a facility and then subsequently charge the same program rent would cause the state some concern. The Board agreed that CJPP could move into the house that was bought by state funds or that they be allocated office space at the Guilford Mills Building at no charge.

Mr. Howard presented a request from Danville Parks & Recreation that they be allowed occasional use of Farmer Lake for instructional canoe/kayaking programs and that the County waive the daily fee or grant a reduced rate. Mr. Howard stated that Danville Parks & Recreation will transport the canoes/kayaks on a City van with trailer and, in most cases, would transport staff and participants as well, and the programs would last from two hours for an evening tour to five hours for an occasional instructional activity. Mr. Howard added that they charge a minimal fee for public programs to offset the cost of part-time instructors. Commissioner Satterfield stated that he did not feel that Danville Parks & Recreation should be allowed to use the Lake at no charge. Commissioner Battle stated that he did not feel that Danville Parks & Recreation should be allowed to charge a minimal fee for public programs to offset the cost of the instructors. The County Manager recommended that the Board not reduce the Farmer Lake fee for this activity sponsored by Danville Parks & Recreation. Commissioner Carter stated that the Farmer Lake Board should review this request first and bring a recommendation back to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Satterfield agreed with Commissioner Carter on this. Commissioner Hall expressed concern over liability associated with the canoe/kayaking programs and felt that the Farmer Lake Board needs to research all issues associated with this request before it is brought before the Board of Commissioners. After further discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward that Danville Parks & Recreation be charged at the same rate as County residents. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Hall, and Travis voting no.

Mr. Howard reported that on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, the Piedmont Triad Growth Forum will be sponsoring a forum in Greensboro, North Carolina on economic development issues.

Mr. Howard reported that he received a request from Mr. J. C. Powell that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners approve and take the required actions to obtain up to a \$75,000 grant to fund the costs of turn lanes for a Dollar General Store to be constructed at 415 Miller Lane, Prospect Hill, NC. Mr. Howard stated that the North Carolina Department of Transportation is requiring that a turn lane of approximately 350 feet in length be constructed along the eastern perimeter of Routes 49 and 86, is estimated to cost \$75,000 and is significantly affecting Dollar General's economics. After discussion, Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward that the County assist in applying for a grant for a turn lane for a Dollar General Store being constructed in Prospect Hill, NC. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Hall questioned the County Manager as to whether this action is making or implying a commitment to Mr. J. C. Powell and Mr. Howard clarified that the County would have no commitments.

Mr. Howard presented for the Board's approval a Home and Community Care Block Grant Agreement for Older Adults. Chairman Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant Agreement for Older Adults as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard reported that he would be changing the format of his County Manager's Report to provide more information to the Board. Mr. Howard added that he would be preparing these reports weekly and would e-mail or fax his report to each individual Board member on the weeks that there is not a Board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Satterfield stated that he was very concerned about the comments made by Mr. Leonard McFarling about epipens and the time that it is taking to get something done. Commissioner Satterfield added that he would like for the EMS Director to come to the Board's next meeting and explain why these epipens have not been approved for use by the County's firemen and rescue personnel.

Commissioner Satterfield added that since December he has discussed with the Tax Director two times and the Finance Director once about the electronic hook-up between the Tax and Finance Offices. Commissioner Satterfield stated that this issue has been delayed for nearly three years now and understands that it is just a matter of some codes. Commissioner Satterfield added that there is minimal cost to do this and the system is already in place to do this. Commissioner Satterfield stated that there also needs to be an electronic hook-up between Building Inspections and the Tax Office. Commissioner Satterfield added that the IT Director needs to be involved in this. Commissioner Satterfield stated that this issue has been going on long enough and needs full attention.

Commissioner Hall stated that in the past the Board of Commissioners has had discussion about the reappointment of the Tax Collector. Commissioner Hall added that in doing some research he has learned that the Tax Collector/Assessor, at a minimum, needs to be appointed every four years and is to give certain reports to the Board over and above what is currently being provided.

Commissioner Hall stated that the NC General Statutes sets some requirements for the Tax Collector/Assessor and the Board needs to find out if these requirements are being met and when the Tax Collector/Assessor was last appointed.

Commissioner Hall stated that he is aware that due to State cuts, the Library has reduced its hours of operation, but felt that the Board of Commissioners should be made aware anytime that there is going to be a reduction in County services.

Commissioner Carter stated that the Board needs to do something about getting lapel mikes or microphones for Commissioners so that the public can hear what is being said in meetings. Commissioner Carter volunteered to look into the cost of purchasing lapel mikes for the Board.

Chairman Jefferies announced that the Annual Bright Leaf Hoedown will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009. Commissioner Carter stated that he would be glad to speak on behalf at the Board at the Opening Ceremonies at 9:00 a.m.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:25 p.m. Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman
