

## MINUTES – AUGUST 3, 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, August 3, 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, Michael R. Ferrell, County Attorney, and Angela Evans representing The Caswell Messenger. 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. 14, Water Rates be removed from the agenda.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the agenda as presented, with the deletion of Item No. 14, Water Rates. The motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward 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 26, 2009 Meetings ( Three 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, NC. Good Evening.

Gentlemen, as you know there were seventeen areas cited in violation of the Caswell County Outdoor Storage Ordinance. Again as you know this process began with a complaint, then followed up with onsite inspections by the County Planner which includes visits or observations by various Board members and the County Manager to a specific violator. This onsite inspection or face to face meeting was then further amplified in February by warning letters containing a means of resolution. A final warning letter sent in April gave those still not in compliance until 5:00 P.M. June 18<sup>th</sup> to rectify their discrepancies, it is now August. Those that respect the law

corrected their discrepancies immediately to avoid the legal action referenced by those letters. Some violators have had months to get their act together and unfortunately have made little or no progress, while other violators have appeared on violators lists dating up to seven years ago, seven years gentlemen. Do the terms defiant, disrespectful, habitual, and unlawful, come to light here? This wouldn't be an issue this evening if corrective actions had been taken previously. Obviously this ordinance was created for a reason. The citizens pay you to uphold the law and the County Planner to enforce the code for this ordinance, as he's required to do, he's done his job. How can any law be upheld without enforcement? I implore you on behalf of the citizens of Caswell County to enforce the penalties of this ordinance to the fullest. The violators have had more than ample time to become compliant, just look at their history."

### PUBLIC HEARING – CASWELL COUNTY OUTDOOR STORAGE ORDINANCE

Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, informed the Board that they will be sitting as the Board of Adjustment and in this capacity they will be hearing the appeals of citizens who are appealing the enforcement action taken by its staff, County Planner Brian Collie. Mr. Ferrell stated that in this appeal, the citizen has the right to come before the Board of Adjustment and make his or her case. Mr. Ferrell noted that this is not a classic public hearing whereby members of the public can come forward and make comments, rather it is an opportunity for the citizen appealing the action of the enforcement staff to come before the Board of Adjustment and explain why he or she thinks that they are entitled to relief from that enforcement action. Mr. Ferrell stated that in sitting as the Board of Adjustment, they are to hear the evidence or testimony from the applicant, hear facts from the staff, and in conclusion of that, they are entitled to ask questions of anyone they choose. Mr. Ferrell added that after this, they may continue action to a further date, and if they do this and do not make a decision today, the enforcement action is stayed, which means that any fines imposed will not continue to accrue until a decision is made. Mr. Ferrell added that as the Board of Adjustment, they have to comply with rules of the North Carolina General Statutes as set by the Board of Adjustment and requires any action overturning the action of the Planning Director/Enforcement Officer to have a four-fifths majority which would require six of the seven votes.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis that the Board of Commissioners recess and sit as the Board of Adjustment. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brian Collie, County Planner, reported that the first case of appeal to violations of the Caswell County Outdoor Storage Ordinance is from Mr. Bryon Reegan, lessee of property owned by Mr. Leon Richmond, located on 3871 NC Hwy 119N. Mr. Collie reported that Mr. Reegan was first notified on February 16, 2009, with a Notice of Violation and had until June 18, 2009 to come into compliance before being cited with a fine. Mr. Collie informed the Board that the reason for violation of the Ordinance was Section Seven.F (5), storing over 500 square feet of outdoor storage material and/or over 25 cars on a property without an Outdoor Storage permit. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Reegan operates an auto repair shop on this property and under the Outdoor Storage Ordinance, an operator can have up to 25 vehicles if it is a valid auto repair shop. Mr. Collie added that Mr. Reegan had over 25 vehicles on this property at the time he was cited for being in violation and had until June 18, 2009 to come in compliance. Mr. Collie stated that from his first contact with Mr. Reegan, he began to clean up his property, but was not fully

in compliance with the Outdoor Storage Ordinance until July 13, 2009, which was 25 days after the required date to come into compliance, and at a fine of \$250 per day, the total fine is \$6,250.00. Mr. Collie added that Mr. Reagan did make an effort the entire time to clean up the property, contacted him several times, and did everything that was required as of July 13, 2009. Mr. Collie noted that this is the first time that Mr. Reagan has been cited for being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance.

Mr. Bryon Reagan came before the Board and stated that he has been operating a business in the County for a while and would like to continue to do so. Mr. Reagan stated that he has his reasons for not being in compliance, but has been working hard to get the property in compliance. Mr. Reagan added that his business has been slow, so he took a second job with a racing team in order to keep his business going and was out of town every week or so. Mr. Reagan stated that he has also been dealing with his father's health problems. Mr. Reagan requested the Board's sympathy in this matter and that they lift the fines that have been assessed to him.

Mr. Collie noted that all letters of appeal are on file in his office.

Commissioner Battle questioned the County Attorney as to, according to the law, who is ultimately responsible for making sure that this property is in compliance with the Outdoor Storage Ordinance since it is being leased. Mr. Ferrell answered that the County's Ordinance provides that the operator of the facility can be cited, as well as the property owner, and noted that either one or both can be cited.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned whether the property owner was also notified of non-compliance at the same time as Mr. Reagan. Mr. Collie answered that the first letter of non-compliance was sent to the property owner, and at that time he was informed that the property was leased to Mr. Reagan, who was then notified by the property owner.

Mr. Collie reported that an appeal to violations of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance is being made by Ms. Kate Hope of 1275 NC Hwy 57N. Mr. Collie stated that Ms. Hope was cited as being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance under Section Seven.F(5), storing over 500 square feet of outdoor storage material and/or over 25 cars on a property without an Outdoor Storage permit. Mr. Collie added that Ms. Hope was first notified of non-compliance on February 16, 2009, and had until June 18, 2009, to come into compliance. Mr. Collie stated that throughout this time he sent Ms. Hope three letters and talked with her on the telephone. Mr. Collie informed the Board that in this particular case, Ms. Hope is the property owner and the cars on her property are not hers and belong to an adjoining property owner, who stores cars on his property for salvage and repair. Mr. Collie stated that Ms. Hope informed him that she has spoken to the owner of the cars on numerous occasions in hopes that he will remove the cars from her property, but with no luck until July 21, 2009, when she then came into compliance. Mr. Collie added that total fines assessed to Ms. Hope are \$8,250.00. Mr. Collie noted that this is the first time that Ms. Hope has been cited for being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Carter concerning the vehicles on Ms. Hope's property, Mr. Collie answered that he had asked Ms. Hope if she had contacted the Sheriff's Office to have the cars removed from her property and she said that she had not.

Commissioner Travis questioned whether the individual that owns the cars on Ms. Hope's property is in compliance and Mr. Collie answered that Mr. James Hughes, owner of the cars is also in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance.

Commissioner Hall questioned whether Ms. Hope was present and Mr. Collie answered that she was not. Upon questioning from Commissioner Hall as to whether Ms. Hope was notified of the meeting tonight, Mr. Collie answered that he informed Ms. Hope when she turned in her letter of appeal on July 22, 2009, that her case would be heard on August 3, 2009 and it would be his recommendation for her to be present. Commissioner Hall stated that since this is an appeal, he felt it would be appropriate to hear from Ms. Hope. Chairman Jefferies directed Mr. Collie to inform Ms. Hope that she needed to be present at the Board's next meeting to discuss her appeal.

Mr. Collie reported that an appeal to violations of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance is being made by Norman and Delores Watlington of 2175 NC Hwy 57N. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. and Mrs. Watlington were cited as being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance under Section Seven.F(5) of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance, storing over 500 square feet of outdoor storage material on property without an Outdoor Storage permit. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. and Mrs. Watlington were notified of their violation on February 16, 2009 and had until June 18, 2009 to come into compliance. Mr. Collie added that he has talked with them numerous times and inspected their property on several occasions, telling them what they need to do to come into compliance with their auto salvage/auto repair business. Mr. Collie informed the Board that Mr. and Mrs. Watlington had a file with the previous Planner and was first cited on December 10, 2004 as being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance and began making efforts to construct a fence. Mr. Collie noted that the fence does not meet all of the requirements of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance and there are a number of cars outside the fence. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. and Mrs. Watlington have been out of compliance since June 18, 2009, is still out of compliance and the total amount of fines assessed to them is \$11,500. Mr. Collie added that a letter of appeal was submitted to him on July 20, 2009 and informed the Board that a lot of cars have been removed from the property and Mr. Watlington is making an effort to clean up the property. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Watlington has told him that he has a lot of health issues which prevents him from working as hard as he would like and also spends a lot of time away from home. Mr. Collie noted that Mr. Watlington was not present.

Mr. Collie reported that Mr. James Hughes of 1327 NC Hwy 57N is appealing his violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance. Mr. Collie informed the Board that Mr. Hughes' was cited as being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance under Section Seven.F(5) of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance, storing over 500 square feet of outdoor storage material and/or more than 25 cars on property without an Outdoor Storage permit. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Hughes was notified of his violation on February 16, 2009, and given until June 18, 2009 to come into compliance. Mr. Collie added that Mr. Hughes operates an auto salvage/repair service and also sells cars on this property. Mr. Collie noted that he has met with Mr. Hughes on numerous occasions as to what he needed to do to come into compliance and has inspected the property.

Mr. Collie informed the Board that Mr. Hughes has installed the majority of the fence, but needs to screen it properly and finish it in one spot at the front entrance, as well as put cars within the fence. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Hughes has made a conscious effort to install the fence, but he does need to finish it and screen it properly, and get a driveway entrance permit from the North Carolina Department of Transportation, which he has not done yet. Mr. Collie added that Mr. Hughes filed a letter of appeal on July 23, 2009 and the total amount of fines assessed to Mr. Hughes is \$11,500. Mr. Collie noted that Mr. Hughes had a file of violations with the previous Planner and had a citation issued on March 19, 2004. Mr. Collie informed the Board that the former Planner worked with Mr. Hughes in what was needed to be done and Mr. Hughes had begun efforts to come into compliance.

Mr. James Hughes came before the Board and stated that he lives on 1327 NC Hwy 57N in Milton, NC. Mr. Hughes informed the Board that he has completed about 80% of the fencing requirements, but still has some cars outside of the fence because he is having to move cars to make room for them. Mr. Hughes noted that he has not completed his gates on the lower end of his property. Mr. Hughes stated that he has planted shrubbery as a buffer, but CP&L informed him that he could not put them under a power line, so he went back and constructed 4x8 ft. boards in that section, therefore, all is completed as far as the buffer, except for the gates in the front.

Commissioner Battle questioned Mr. Hughes as to why it took so long to come into compliance. Mr. Hughes answered that the last time when he was sent a Notice of Violation, he has had health problems and with him working alone, he had delays in construction of the fencing, there were delays due to the weather, and as far as the land location he could not move all of the cars at one time. Mr. Hughes stated that in his last delay he had moved all of the cars, but was constructing the fence to make sure that it was in compliance and to put cars in there since he was over the limit of 25. Commissioner Battle asked Mr. Hughes if he has vehicles on Ms. Kate Hope's property and Mr. Hughes answered that he did have vehicles on Ms. Hope's property, but it was rental property. Mr. Hughes stated that he had discussed with Ms. Hope the need for him to come down the side and install a fence.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that Mr. Hughes was first notified of violation in 2004 which was five years ago and he could not imagine not being able to come in compliance after that amount of time. Mr. Hughes noted that his fences were constructed during that period of time.

Mr. Collie reported that Mr. Vincent Marchisotto of 605 Cherry Grove Road is appealing his violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Marchisotto's was cited as being in violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance under Section Seven.F(5) of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance, storing over 500 square feet of outdoor storage material without an Outdoor Storage permit. Mr. Collie added that Mr. Marchisotto stores cars for salvage, keeps a lot of antique cars on his property, and is also in auto sales. Mr. Collie informed the Board that Mr. Marchisotto was first notified of violation of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance on February 16, 2009, and had until June 18, 2009 to come into compliance. Mr. Collie stated that during this period of time Mr. Marchisotto contacted him several times, he conducted inspections of his property, and they talked about what needed to be done to come into compliance. Mr. Collie informed the Board that Mr. Marchisotto does have a previous file of citations beginning with

October 8, 2003, from the previous Planner. Mr. Collie stated that at that time and over those years, working with the previous Planner, Mr. Marchisotto constructed a fence encompassing his entire property, however, it does not meet the current requirements. Mr. Collie stated that when the fence meets requirements and when Mr. Marchisotto obtains a North Carolina Department of Transportation driveway permit, along with a couple of minor issues, he will be in compliance. Mr. Collie added that the total amount of fines assessed to Mr. Marchisotto is \$11,500.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Ward as to whether the Ordinance requirements for the fence have changed since 2003, Mr. Collie answered that the fence requirements have not changed since 2003.

Mr. Vincent Marchisotto came before the Board and stated that he lives on 605 Cherry Grove Road, Yanceyville, NC. Mr. Marchisotto added that after discussions with the former County Planner, Mr. Mike Cusimano, he planted 50 Leland cypress trees on the north side of his property and along the road front in front of an existing fence. Mr. Marchisotto stated that Mr. Cusimano told him at that time that the four foot fence in front of the house and garage was sufficient, that it really did not need to be there according to the Ordinance. Mr. Marchisotto added that there is a six foot privacy fence down the south side of his property and at the pasture there is a four foot fence that has been there since before he bought the property. Mr. Marchisotto stated that he had wanted to go back and plant Leland cypress trees in the back pasture behind the four foot fence if that would be allowed, but he did not know whether it would be or not. Mr. Marchisotto added that he did not know Mr. Cusimano was gone until he received a letter from Mr. Collie. Mr. Marchisotto stated that he wanted to do whatever he needed to do to come into compliance.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned Mr. Collie as to whether he has outlined for Mr. Marchisotto exactly what he is in violation of and what he needs to do to correct it and come into compliance. Mr. Collie answered that he has prepared a list for Mr. Marchisotto of things that he needs to do and he knows exactly what needs to be done. Mr. Collie noted that the fence that was constructed needs to be repaired and there are areas on the property in which the fence is only four feet tall and the Ordinance requires that the fence be six feet tall.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether he spoke to Mr. Marchisotto prior to February 16, 2009, Mr. Collie answered that he first contacted Mr. Marchisotto on February 16, 2009 by letter and Mr. Marchisotto contacted him within a week, but he did not talk to him prior to February 16, 2009.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned Mr. Collie as to a date that he had a conversation with Mr. Marchisotto and gave him a corrective action plan as to what he needed to do. Mr. Collie answered that he sent Mr. Marchisotto an e-mail approximately a month ago telling him what he needed to do and when he brought him his letter of appeal he sat down with him and talked to him again and told him what needed to be done. Mr. Collie stated that Mr. Marchisotto wants to get everything in compliance, but has not been able to do so because of shoulder surgery.

Mr. Marchisotto stated that he has another shoulder surgery scheduled this week and has not been able to do the things that he wanted to do and has had to rely on others.

Commissioner Satterfield asked Mr. Marchisotto if the complaints filed are similar complaints that were filed in 2003 and he answered that this is correct. Mr. Marchisotto stated that he planted 50 Leland cypress trees like Mr. Cusimano told him to do, and after he did not hear further from him assumed that everything was alright. Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to whether there is a list of what was given to Mr. Marchisotto by the former Planner, Mr. Collie answered that on October 4, 2006, Mr. Cusimano reinspected the property, but it was still out of compliance. Mr. Collie stated that during the period of 2003 to 2006 Mr. Cusimano worked with Mr. Marchisotto and during that time he started his site plan, fence, and trees. Mr. Collie noted that October, 2006 was the last contact with Mr. Marchisotto until he contacted him on February 16, 2009.

Commissioner Ward requested that Mr. Collie determine whether Mr. Cusimano told Mr. Marchisotto that the four foot fence was in compliance and that he could plant the Leland cypress trees.

Chairman Jefferies stated that the Board would continue discussion on these issues at its meeting on August 24, 2009. Mr. Collie informed the Board that he would have six more cases to come before the Board at its next meeting.

Commissioner Hall stated that in terms of the process, any time there is anyone out of compliance and they want to file an appeal, it needs to be made clear that they must be present. Commissioner Hall added that it would be good if all notices of violation be sent to the individual by certified mail. Commissioner Hall stated that he would like to have all information pertaining to the appeals prior to the Board meeting in order to review it sufficiently.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that the County's main objective in this is to get the County cleaned up rather than assess fines. Commissioner Satterfield added that this effort has taken a lot of the County Planner's time and he would not vote for a complete waiver of fines. Commissioner Satterfield questioned Mr. Collie as to how much of his time is allotted to working on a case that is in violation up to the point of it coming in compliance.

Commissioner Satterfield asked Mr. Collie how many permits have been issued under the Outdoor Storage Ordinance and Mr. Collie answered that there are approximately 12 individuals permitted under the Outdoor Storage Ordinance and are operating outdoor storage businesses. Commissioner Satterfield noted that those individuals who are permitted under the Outdoor Storage Ordinance have spent a lot money and time coming into compliance with the County's Ordinance and it is not fair to these individuals for this Board not to take action toward those who have not come into compliance.

Commissioner Hall stated that there are probably hundreds out in the County that are not in compliance with the County's Outdoor Storage Ordinance. Commissioner Hall questioned whether those operators who had been permitted back in 2002, 2003, and 2004 have renewed their permits and are current to date since permits have to be renewed annually. Mr. Collie answered that those operators who had previously applied for permits up to 2008 have renewed and are up to date.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to recess the Board of Adjustment until August 24, 2009, and reconvene as the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried unanimously.

### CASWELL COUNTY OUTDOOR STORAGE ORDINANCE

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that this item was placed on the Board's agenda at the request of Commissioner Hall to address abandoned homes and other structures in the County.

Commissioner Hall stated that when he mentioned this issue in a prior meeting it was because it was brought to his attention that the County does not have a policy to address abandoned homes and other structures in the County so he requested that it be placed on the Board's agenda. Commissioner Hall suggested that the Board of Commissioners request of the Planning Board that an Ordinance be developed to address these issues. Commissioner Hall stated that he feels the Planning Board should address abandoned homes and other outdoor structures that pose a danger or health hazard, as well as abandoned unused farm equipment.

After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to request that the Planning Board develop an Ordinance to address abandoned homes, other outdoor structures, and unused abandoned farm equipment. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Jefferies, and Ward voting no.

### CASWELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Michael Welch came before the Board and stated that at its last meeting there was discussion concerning the quotes for the video camera system for the Jail and whether the low bid could be accepted. Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, clarified that according to the North Carolina General Statutes the Board is required to take the low bid unless it can demonstrate that the bidder is not responsible or it has verifiable information that the low bidder cannot deliver, but the Board needs something specific in order to reject a low bid. Mr. Ferrell added that if bids for a project are submitted and all specifications are met, then the low bid must be accepted unless all bids are rejected.

Sheriff Welch informed the Board that there is a difference in the bids on the video camera system as far as the technical equipment and some of its capabilities. Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield, Sheriff Welch answered that the companies were asked to bid on the overall system, but there were no specifications.

Commissioner Hall stated that ethically if the Board goes through a bid process, then it should be willing to live with the bid results.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to the low bidder, Sheriff Welch answered that Surveillance Consulting, Inc. of Burlington, NC was the low bidder.

Sheriff Welch stated that it would be his recommendation to approve the higher bid submitted by R&R Electric of Yanceyville, NC because the project would benefit by having the additional items listed in the quote for the additional \$600. Sheriff Welch added that it would be beneficial to have a local business that is ready to work on the system if it went down, especially with it being in the Jail.

Commissioner Carter moved to accept the Sheriff's recommendation to approve the bid submitted by R&R Electric of Yanceyville in the amount of \$5,558.41 for the video camera system for the Jail. The motion died for lack of a second.

After further discussion, Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve the low bid submitted by Surveillance Consulting, Inc. of Burlington, NC in the amount of \$4,958.41 for the video camera system for the Jail. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Carter and Ward voting no.

Sheriff Welch stated that one bid in the amount of \$16,250 has been received for the exhaust fan system for the Jail, and requested that the Board allow him to work with the County Manager in obtaining an additional quote. Sheriff Welch requested that he then be allowed to proceed with the low bid for the exhaust fan system for the Jail, not to exceed \$16,250. Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, noted that the cost of the project does not require a formal bid process. After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to allow the Sheriff and County Manager to proceed with soliciting another quote for the exhaust fan system at the Jail, approve the lower quote and move forward with the project.

Commissioner Hall stated that it appears that there is a problem with the process and added that if the law does not require a formal bid process, then the County Manager or Sheriff should proceed and then inform the Board of their action. Commissioner Hall added that the correct process should be followed. Mr. Howard noted that the reason to bring this item before the Board was because he cannot approve a purchase order over the amount of \$5,000 without Board approval. Commissioner Satterfield stated that this item was not included in the budget and would require Board approval.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Battle and Hall voting no.

Commissioner Hall stated that he voted against the motion because the money for this system was not appropriated in the budget.

Sheriff Welch requested that the Board approve the transfer of accumulated sick leave hours in the amount of 1,675 hours for a potential applicant for the Caswell County Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the transfer of 1,675 hours of sick leave for a potential applicant for the Caswell County Sheriff's Office.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether the County has a policy on how much sick leave can be transferred, Mr. Howard answered that the County policy states that up to

240 hours of sick leave can be transferred for a potential applicant, and any amount greater than that has to be approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Travis stated that this action will cost the County three-fourths of a year's salary if an employee chose to retire early.

Sheriff Welch stated that this is not a direct cost to the County and it is the ability to attract qualified applicants to the County.

Commissioner Hall stated that in transferring sick leave, as soon as this employee gets sick on the County's payroll, he then has nine months of leave and will draw a paycheck from Caswell County. Commissioner Hall noted that 1,675 hours amount to approximately 75% of the year and if the employee does not get sick, then that employee can take his time on the retirement side.

Commissioner Battle stated that he agrees with Commissioner Hall and could not see the Board honoring 1,675 hours of sick leave to be transferred to the County.

Mr. Howard informed the Board that Rockingham and Person Counties, as well as 85% of municipalities in the State allow employees to transfer their sick leave and this helps in recruiting efforts.

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

Sheriff Welch reported that he received a request from Piedmont Community College's Criminal Justice Program that the Caswell County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Emergency Response Team donate five outdated SERT Team vests to their Criminal Justice Training Division. Sheriff Welch noted that the vests will not be used in any type of live fire exercise.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to approve the donation of five outdated Caswell County Sheriff's Emergency Response Team vests to Piedmont Community College's Criminal Justice Training Division.

Commissioner Hall questioned the County's process in the surplus of County property. Mr. Howard answered that it comes down to value and the vests are basically of no value because they are out of date and cannot be used and items of no value can be donated to another governmental agency.

Sheriff Welch stated that he is before the Board of Commissioners tonight to present a formal request and that the Sheriff's Office would ensure that this equipment followed the fixed assets through the County, that there would be a written record that the Sheriff's Office did transfer this equipment per the State's guidelines, and to ensure that the equipment is used for the training specified by the College.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Welch requested that he be allowed to sell or trade a 2001 Lincoln Navigator, a federally seized vehicle that has been kept by the Caswell County Sheriff's Office for over two years per the federal guidelines for asset forfeiture. Sheriff Welch stated that if the vehicle is traded, it would be title for title, and if it is sold, the funds would go back into the Sheriff's Office Asset Forfeiture budget line item. After discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve the request by Sheriff Welch to sell or trade a 2001 Lincoln Navigator, a federally seized vehicle that has been in the possession of the Sheriff's Office for over two years per the federal guidelines for asset forfeiture. The motion carried unanimously.

### RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

### CASWELL COUNTY FINANCE OFFICE

Ms. Gwen Vaughn, Finance Officer, came before Board to request that it release a position from the hiring freeze. Ms. Vaughn requested that she be allowed to fill a position in the Finance Office that became available due to the retirement of one of the Finance staff members. Ms. Vaughn added that she is requesting that this position be a dual role fulfilling human resource and finance duties.

Commissioner Hall questioned why the Board is continuing to maintain a hiring freeze on positions throughout 2009-2010. Chairman Jefferies stated that he would consider lifting the hiring freeze for positions already budgeted, but would not include any new positions. Commissioner Travis noted that Ms. Vaughn is requesting a new position and is changing the job description.

Commissioner Ward questioned the salary range for this position and Ms. Vaughn answered that it would depend on qualifications.

Ms. Vaughn stated that she is making this request because the Board cut the Human Resources position from the 2009-2010 budget and this position is needed. Ms. Vaughn added that she realizes that the Board cut this position during its budget sessions, but would like for it to reconsider combining the positions.

Commissioner Ward questioned the salary range for this position, after which Ms. Vaughn answered that a salary has not been determined yet. Commissioner Ward then questioned the amount in the line item and Ms. Vaughn answered that the balance in the budget for the vacant position is \$23,144. Mr. Howard added that the salary for the former employee was budgeted at approximately \$28,000. Commissioner Ward stated that it appears that if the Board approves the new position with dual roles, they would have to appropriate funds from Contingency to cover the cost.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Ward, Mr. Howard answered that the salary range included a salary of \$34,000, but the salary has not been established. Commissioner Travis

noted that the salary would be set by the County Manager and Finance Officer without approval by the Board.

Commissioner Hall stated that the Board should only be dealing with unfreezing the position, however, Commissioners Travis and Ward disagreed in that Ms. Vaughn is requesting a new position. Commissioner Hall noted that there is confusion because the request should have been presented to unfreeze the position and then if there is a change in duties, it should have been presented separately. Ms. Vaughn later revised her request to fill the current Accounting Technician position.

After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve the request by the Finance Officer to release the current Accounting Technician position from the hiring freeze and allow her to fill that position. The motion failed by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Satterfield, Travis, and Ward voting no.

Commissioner Hall questioned why the Board would not allow the Finance Officer to fill a position of someone that has retired. Commissioner Ward stated that no one has provided the Board with salary range information. Commissioner Hall clarified that the Board of Commissioners sets and approves the position which has a specific salary range, but the County Manager recruits individuals based on credentials and it is not the responsibility of the Board to dictate the salary within a position.

#### REAPPOINTMENT OF TAX COLLECTOR/ASSESSOR

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that at a previous meeting the Board discussed the reappointment of Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Collector/Assessor and he has been unable to determine the last date of his reappointment. Mr. Howard requested that the Board consider the reappointment of Mr. Bernard. Mr. Howard stated that according to the North Carolina General Statutes the Tax Collector/Assessor is to be reappointed at a minimum of every two years and a maximum of every four years.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether Mr. Bernard's qualifications are up to date, Mr. Howard answered that Mr. Bernard is up to date on all training and requirements. Commissioner Hall questioned whether the proper documentation of this is in Mr. Bernard's personnel file and Mr. Howard answered that he has approved Mr. Bernard's training requests. Mr. Bernard, who was present, answered that he can provide documentation concerning his certification from the Institute of Government.

After further discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to reappoint Mr. Thomas Bernard as Caswell County Tax Collector/Assessor for a term of two years.

Commissioner Hall stated that the North Carolina General Statutes require that once an individual is appointed as Tax Collector/Assessor, then they can be reappointed every four years, but the Board cannot appoint someone that does not have proof of their continuing education requirements.

Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to amend the motion to state that Mr. Thomas Bernard is reappointed as Caswell County Tax Collector/Assessor for a term of two years, contingent upon presentation of proper documentation of continuing education requirements by the Tax Director or County Manager to the Board at its next meeting. The motion carried by a vote of six to one with Commissioner Carter voting no.

Upon presentation of the proper documentation, Chairman Jefferies directed the County Manager to include the information in the Board's next agenda package prior to the meeting.

Upon a vote of the original motion, the motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Battle and Hall voting no.

#### CASWELL COUNTY 911 DEPARTMENT

Mr. Harvey Rudd, 911 Director, came before the Board to request that they release a position from the hiring freeze. Mr. Rudd stated that the position is vacant and was budgeted in the 2009-2010 budget. Upon questioning from Chairman Jefferies as to whether this is a new position, Mr. Rudd answered that it is not a new position and there is money in his budget to fund it.

After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to release a position in the 911 Department from the hiring freeze. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Satterfield and Ward voting no.

#### PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES BY UNC CAMPUS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INTERNS

Mr. John Killen, along with Ms. Kate Mulvaney, and Ms. Kate Pearce, University of North Carolina Campus Community Partnership Interns, came before the Board to discuss the projects they have worked on this summer. Mr. Killen reported that the School of Government at the University of North Carolina made an arrangement with Caswell County, as well as with Lenoir County, for an experimental relationship whereby interns are placed for two summers into the County to conduct economic development activities. Mr. Killen noted that they have worked with Caswell County and the Town of Yanceyville. Mr. Killen stated that the real focus is to create relationships with the opportunities that UNC offers with some of its Centers, such as the School of Government, Center for Public Technology, Department of City and Regional Planning, and Center for Competitive Economies. Mr. Killen added that their role is to initiate activities to jump start economic development projects, and more than that, make connections to the programs at UNC to boost matters forward in a bigger picture than they can accomplish in one summer of work.

Mr. Killen reported that one of the economic development projects they have been working on is a County-wide Business Survey and they have collected data that exists on county businesses from the Cooperative Extension Service, Caswell County Chamber of Commerce, and North Carolina Economic Development Information System. Mr. Killen stated that after review of the

lists, they deleted the businesses that no longer exist and developed a new list of businesses currently operating in the county, which totaled 175. Mr. Killen added that once they had the survey ready, all 175 businesses were contacted by telephone, mail, or e-mail and noted that approximately 40% of the businesses could be reached by e-mail. Mr. Killen informed the Board that basic data was collected from each business, such as number of employees, type of business, why they located in Caswell County, and general company outlook.

Mr. Killen reported that they have also been working on an Interactive Amenities Map and noted that there appears to be a tremendous amount of opportunity in the County for recreation, business, and cultural resources. Mr. Killen stated that they would like to take this map based on the existing bike routes and produce a brochure mapping the routes and other sites along the way such as historical sites, cultural interests, industrial parks, farms available for tour, and other interesting things going on in the County. Mr. Killen added that this map would also be on the County, Town, and Historical Association's website and all information could be accessed. Mr. Killen informed the Board that they have partnered on this project with the NC Rural Center.

Mr. Killen informed the Board that in the past weeks they have been working to establish a broadband partnership between Caswell County and UNC's Center for Public Technology. Mr. Killen stated that this will be an important partnership because the UNC Center for Public Technology will be available to consult, advise, and support future economic development endeavors.

Chairman Jefferies thanked the interns for the outstanding work that they have done for Caswell County.

Mr. Killen, Ms. Mulvaney, and Mr. Pearce received a standing ovation from the Board in expression of its appreciation for their contributions while serving as interns in the County.

#### BROADBAND STIMULUS GRANT

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, stated that at the Board's last meeting he was directed to research the possibility of submitting a broadband stimulus grant. Mr. Howard added that he requested that the UNC Campus Community Partnership Interns Mr. John Killen, Ms. Kate Mulvaney, and Ms. Kate Pearce research this issue. Mr. Howard noted that in order to apply for the grant, the County needed to have a complete application with all information and also sustainability of it, including how the County will pay for and maintain it, and noted that incomplete applications would not be considered. Mr. Howard stated that the County would need to provide a 20% match of the cost and the cost is unknown at this point. Mr. Howard informed the Board that there will be another round of funding in November, 2009, and again in April, 2010 and by then the County's Broadband Study should be completed.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether the County would be in a position to submit an application for a Broadband Stimulus Grant in November, Mr. Howard answered that the County would have all necessary information and be ready at that point to submit an application.

Commissioner Hall stated that he felt that some of the stimulus money is for one time only, especially since some of the first round funding is designated for rural counties. Commissioner Hall added that Caswell County has been talking about a broadband project for eight to ten years, and felt that the County is “shovel-ready” which seems to rate projects to a higher priority. Commissioner Hall stated that the County should have been more aggressive in applying for stimulus dollars designated for rural counties.

Mr. Killen presented the following information that he, along with Ms. Mulvaney and Ms. Pearce prepared concerning the broadband stimulus grant.

#### MEMORANDUM

To: Caswell County board of Commissioners, County Manager

From: John Killeen, Kate Mulvaney, Kate Pearce  
CCP Summer Interns

The NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program has three rounds of funding coming up in 2009 and 2010. The first of which has an application deadline of August 14, 2009. The following two will be in November 2009 and April 2010, with dates as yet unannounced.

As of this memo – July 29, 2009 – the information required to complete Caswell County’s application for Broadband Infrastructure Project (BIP) funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is not complete. The following are essential components of the application that are required for applicant consideration, but which are not currently available:

- build-out timelines and a projection of what percentage of households and businesses will receive broadband access in each of the census blocks along the new infrastructure corridor;
- pro formas projecting balance sheets, income statements, and statements of cash flows for the first five years of broadband service;
- customer billing projections and a methodology for this billing forecast;
- “last mile” service provider planning; this is the third recommendation from the 2005 InQuest study and has never been addressed;
- total updated costs, including a breakdown of costs per household served;

Two deliverables from the ongoing study (expected completion date October 15, 2009) will be of crucial importance to any Caswell County BIP application:

- a high level site survey and network design
- a financial model and business plan for the network

Without these any application will be incomplete and will not pass the first round of consideration, and must therefore be completed incorporating results of the Excelsio study.

Because Caswell County urgently needs the assistance provided by Broadband Infrastructure Project (BIP) funding, it is imperative that any application made be as robust as possible, incorporating all available data and maximizing the benefit of such a project to underserved communities in Caswell County. Accounting for commitments to provide service for socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses will increase Caswell County's chances for a successful BIP funding application. While Caswell County's DSL and cable modem accessibility (56%, according to E-NC) does not qualify the county as an "underserved" community (50% or less), an informal tally of Caswell businesses conducted by UNC graduate interns indicates that roughly 40% of Caswell County businesses use email accounts for their businesses. Of these, most use personal rather than company addresses to conduct business. Most Caswell Companies are small, rural operations and highlighting the County's commitment to providing them high quality broadband connections would broaden the base of "underserved" communities being connected.

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Commissioner Battle stated that he felt that the County needs to get all of the needed information and be ready to submit an application for a broadband stimulus grant in November. Mr. Howard noted that the Center for Public Technology will also assist the County in this process.

It was Board consensus that the County Manager submit a Broadband Stimulus Grant application in November.

#### SCHOOL BOND REFINANCING

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, provided information from BB&T concerning refinancing of Dillard Middle School's general obligation bond. Mr. Howard reported that there are 11 years left on Dillard's bond and if the County refinances now at a new rate, there would be a savings of \$108,000 on that bond over the 11 years period. Mr. Howard noted that the current rate of financing is 5.3% and the new rate would be 3.12%.

After discussion, Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the refinancing of Dillard Middle School's general obligation bond at a new bond financing rate of 3.12%. The motion carried unanimously.

#### BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 29

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed Budget Amendment No. 29 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. After discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve Budget Amendment No. 29 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed Budget Amendment No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. After discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve Budget Amendment No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. The motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT ORDINANCE – 2008 URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM GRANT PROJECT  
ORDINANCE

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed the 2008 Urgent Repair Program Grant Project Ordinance. After discussion, Chairman Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to adopt the following 2008 Urgent Repair Program Grant Project Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

**CASWELL COUNTY**

**2008 URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM  
GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following grant project is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Urgent Repair Program described in the work statement contained in the Grant Agreement between this unit and the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. This project is more familiarly known as the Caswell County 2008 Urgent Repair Program.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the grant project within the terms of the grant document(s), the rules and regulations of the NC Housing Finance Agency and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

2008 Urgent Repair Program	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Administration	\$ 7,500
Rehabilitation	\$67,500
Total	\$75,000

Section 5. The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Grant Project Fund sufficient detailed accounting records to provide the accounting to the grantor agency required by the grant agreement(s) and federal and state regulations.

Section 6. Requests for funds should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner as funds are obligated and expensed incurred.

Section 7. The Finance Director is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of each project element in Section 4 and on the total grant revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. The Finance Director is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this grant project in every budget submission made to this council.

Section 9. Copies of this Grant Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

Section 10. The Finance Director is hereby authorized to transfer funds from one line item to another line item without further approval by the County Board of Commissioners, subject to the regulations of the North Carolina Housing Agency.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies  
Board of Commissioners, Chair

August 3, 2009  
Date

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith  
Clerk to the Board

#### COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that at the Board's July meeting he brought a request from a representative of the proposed Dollar General Store in Prospect Hill in which they were seeking assistance in funding for a turning lane. Mr. Howard stated that there are no grants available to assist with this. Mr. Howard added that he has talked with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Senator Foriest's Office and Senator Foriest will be seeking funding for this and has requested that the Board adopt a Resolution in support of seeking funding to assist in the turning lane for the proposed Dollar General Store.

After discussion, Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Satterfield to adopt the following *Resolution for the Request of Funds from the North Carolina Department of Transportation Contingency Fund*. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION  
FOR THE REQUEST OF FUNDS  
FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION CONTINGENCY FUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Caswell County Board of Commissioners is the duly recognized decision making body for the County of Caswell; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of property and increased traffic volume on NC Hwy 86 requires an addition of turning lanes in the southbound and northbound directions; and

**WHEREAS**, these turning lanes will allow for the expansion of the retail and commercial sector; and

**WHEREAS**, this project will improve the safety and capacity of the roadway; and

**WHEREAS**, the Caswell County Board of Commissioners feels this project will be a benefit to the community and wishes to show its support.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners requests that North Carolina Department of Transportation Contingency Funding be used to install turning lanes on NC Hwy 86 in Prospect Hill, NC for an amount not to exceed \$80,000.

**ADOPTED THIS THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2009.**

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

ATTEST:

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

Commissioner Satterfield stated that there is a serious problem on the north side of NC 86, especially during school traffic and added that a turning lane is desperately needed at the intersection of NC 86 and Walters Mill Road. Commissioner Satterfield suggested that a Resolution be adopted by the Board to request a turning lane at this intersection. Mr. Howard

stated that he would inquire from NCDOT as to a funding source to state in the Resolution and he would present this at the Board's next meeting.

Commissioner Hall stated that there is a Rural Planning Organization for this region that represents counties in projects like this. Commissioner Hall added that the Board needed to appoint a representative to the RPO and noted that he previously served on this Board, but is currently serving on the PTCOG Board, and since the two Boards meet on the same day is unable to serve on the RPO. Commissioner Hall stated that the Board could request that a study be done at the intersection of NC 86 and Walters Mill Road to determine if it is safe to install a turning lane before requesting funding. Mr. Howard stated that it may be appropriate for the Board to direct him to send a letter to NCDOT to request that a traffic study be conducted there. Commissioner Travis noted that a study also needs to be done at the 86 Convenience Store on NC 86. Commissioner Travis stated that it may be better for the County Manager to request that NCDOT conduct a traffic study of the entire NC 86 highway.

Mr. Howard reported that he is proceeding in efforts to have the Economic Development Board resume its regular meetings.

Mr. Howard reported that Excelsio Communications will be meeting with County department heads and agencies on September 3 and 4, 2009, to discuss the County Broadband Study and would like to meet with the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Howard requested that the Chairman schedule a special meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. to meet with Excelsio Communications to discuss the County Broadband Study. Chairman Jefferies was agreeable to scheduling the special meeting as requested.

Mr. Howard reported that the new cabinets have been installed at the Senior Center and other than a very few minor touch-up items, the Senior Center is complete.

Mr. Howard reported that all funding for the Pelham Industrial Park Water Project is in place and the bidding process for the water tank should be ready in 60-90 days. Mr. Howard recommended that the waterlines and water tank be separated into two projects in order to realize a cost savings. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle to approve having the Pelham Industrial Park Water Project waterlines and water tank divided into two separate projects for bidding purposes. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard announced that the Annual Chamber of Commerce Picnic would be held on Monday, August 24, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. at the Recreation Park.

Mr. Howard reported that he will be attending a meeting on Energy Conservation Grants as part of the stimulus package and noted that this funding can be used to replace windows and air-conditioning units in order to create energy savings in buildings such as the Courthouse and other buildings that have older units.

Mr. Howard announced that he would be out of the office on vacation the week of August 7 – 14, 2009.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Satterfield requested that the County Manager have the Maintenance Department do something to shade the sunlight from the windows in the Courtroom due to the glare.

Commissioner Battle stated that concerning the issue of the hiring freeze, the Board of Commissioners needs to consider the message it is sending to its employees. Commissioner Battle noted that one request to release the hiring freeze was approved tonight, while one was not. Commissioner Battle stated that he would like to see the Board reconsider the request by the Finance Officer for release of the hiring freeze and have this item on its next agenda.

Commissioner Battle stated that he would like to see the Board look into pursuing the possibility of having a Food Lion Store locate near the proposed Dollar General Store in Prospect Hill.

Commissioner Ward stated that he agrees with Commissioner Battle in having the County investigate the possibility of having a Food Lion Store locate near the proposed Dollar General Store in Prospect Hill.

Commissioner Travis stated that it was brought to his attention this week by a citizen that a deputy's vehicle was wrecked. Commissioner Travis added that he felt that anytime something of this nature occurs that the Board should be made aware of it. Commissioner Travis stated that the County Manager needs to make a telephone call to each Commissioner when something of importance like this occurs, and noted, for instance, the recent terrorist activity arrests in the County.

Commissioner Carter reported that last week he attended the ceremony at the new walking trail at the Senior Center. Commissioner Carter stated that the trail and the new Senior Center is very nice and is being used by a lot of people.

Commissioner Carter reported that he attended the opening of the new Goodwill Store in Yanceyville.

Commissioner Carter stated that he would like to have more information about the salary of the Accounting Technician that was discussed with the Finance Officer tonight and would like to know the complete salary range of the position. Commissioner Carter added that he would agree with Commissioner Battle in bringing the issue back for reconsideration by the Board.

Commissioner Carter reported that while at the Senior Center last week, he talked with Ms. Kim Dail, the former Human Resources Officer, and learned that her salary was cut by approximately \$3,000 when she transferred to the Senior Center. Mr. Howard noted that Ms. Dail transferred into another position and for which it paid.

Chairman Jefferies stated that in looking at the news, he is seeing every county receiving a certain amount of stimulus monies and does not see Caswell County getting anything. Chairman Jefferies added that the Board of Commissioners needs to meet with its two State legislators and let them know that Caswell County needs some of this money because there are many needs in

the county, including the need for new bridges. Commissioner Satterfield stated that he felt it would be good to meet with the County's legislators on a regular quarterly basis in the County and have a meal to discuss the County's wishes and needs. Commissioner Satterfield added that the Board may want to include some Congressional representatives from Washington in that meeting. Chairman Jefferies directed the County Manager to look into this matter.

Ms. Wanda Smith, Clerk to the Board, announced that the Caswell County Farm Bureau Board of Directors has extended an invitation to the Board of Commissioners to attend a dinner meeting with them. Ms. Smith added that the Board of Directors requested that the Board of Commissioners select a date in September that would be suitable for them to meet. Chairman Jefferies directed Ms. Smith to contact each Commissioner to determine a date that would be suitable.

Chairman Jefferies expressed the need for the Board to meet to discuss the Outdoor Storage Ordinance appeals.

Ms. Wanda Smith, Clerk to the Board, stated that she has been contacted by the Rural Planning Organization and requested that the Board of Commissioners appoint a representative to their Board. Chairman Jefferies appointed Commissioner Battle to serve as the Board's representative on the Rural Planning Organization Board.

Mr. Michael Ferrell, County Attorney, reported that there has been an appeal to the Property Tax Commission in Raleigh of property tax valuation on a nursing home property in the County, *Caswell House*. Mr. Ferrell stated that the property has been appraised at approximately \$7 million and the owners contend that it has been improperly appraised and feel that it would be more appropriately appraised at \$4.7 million.

Commissioner Battle questioned the next step in the process for violators of the Outdoor Storage Ordinance who do not submit appeals. Mr. Ferrell explained that if there are fines to be collected and they cannot pay, then the process to collect is to file a lawsuit, go to court, and have a Judge instruct them to pay it. Mr. Ferrell stated that a judgment is then executed for payment and it is determined if they have assets to collect to pay the fine.

#### THE ADJOURNMENT

At 9:50 p.m. Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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Wanda P. Smith  
Clerk to the Board

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Jeremiah Jefferies  
Chairman

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