

## MINUTES – AUGUST 24, 2011

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in special session at the Senior Center in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss various issues with the Yanceyville Town Council. Members present from the Board of Commissioners: Nathaniel Hall, Chairman, Kenneth D. Travis, Vice-Chairman, Jeremiah Jefferies, Cathy W. Lucas and Gordon G. Satterfield. Absent: Erik D. Battle and William E. Carter. Members present from the Yanceyville Town Council: Curtis Davis, Mayor, Margie Badgett-Lampkin, Mayor Pro-Tem, Alvin Foster, Ray McGuire, and Fred Smith. Also present: Haynes Brigman, Town Manager, Charles Bateman, Town Attorney, and Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, recorded the minutes.

### JOINT MEETING

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order for the Yanceyville Town Council.

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order for the Caswell County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Hall stated “In sending the letter to the Mayor and requesting this meeting I had two questions that I would like to proposed to start this discussion. Number one is do you, the town council think that there are some barriers that is stopping us from working a little bit closer together and if so what is that the county could do, what is it that we could do to remove those barriers? That is the way I would like to start this meeting. If the Mayor or anyone else has any opening comments please do. We will be quite informal with this discussion this evening.”

Mayor Davis stated “I would like to say that we are all elderly people and we all should be able to get along. I know that we all have been through a lot in the last couple of years and I know we have said that we need to meet together and that we need to work closer together and be able to discuss different issues. I think that is where we got off on the wrong foot. We have been on that bad side before. We don't have communication and without communication there is little that can be done with both boards. We have to work in unity. The Town of Yanceyville should not consider itself over the County and the County should not consider itself over the Town. We are supposed to be bodies that are supposed to be able to work things out and we should not get mad. We know that we will disagree but we need to be able to sit down and discuss any type of issue that comes up. That is what we were elected for. It is not for our benefit but for the betterment of Caswell County and when I say Caswell County that is for the Town of Yanceyville too. We are all one and I think that is where we need to get to as far as working together as a unit. That is all I have to say at this time.”

Mr. McGuire stated “I would like to see us all working together because we have all known each other for years and years. We all need to get along and be able to work on things for the whole community and the county.”

Mr. Smith stated “A lot of this stems from the Dan River Water Project when a lawsuit was filed against the Town and of course the State Court of Appeals ruled in Yanceyville's favor on that.

Several months ago we saw in the paper that you wanted to write letters to Raleigh about the reclassification which had already been approved. That stems back to the lawsuit too.”

Commissioner Jefferies stated “The town and the county used to work together. They worked on the water together. They worked on the sewers together. It used to be smooth sailing. I don’t know what happened. The people elected us and that is what we are here for. We work for the people and that is the way I feel about it.”

Commissioner Lucas stated “I think that is what everybody here has in mind of doing. We do not want to work specifically against anybody because we are all elected by the people of Caswell County like the Mayor said. Just concerns, I know that I have and that is from my perspective really is if we could have worked together on other issues like the Battered Shelter or the PCC funding. If we could have come together jointly instead of it all coming back to the county as our responsibility. It is just things like that. I think that if we could have communicated, I think if the Town may have been receptive to partnering since that is the thing that we all need to do and get those things done jointly so it would not all be a burden on the Town or a burden on the County. We all need PCC because it is a great asset to our county and to our community. I just think we should work together on those issues as well and it would have been mutually beneficial for everybody.” Major Davis responded “While you are on the issue of PCC I would like to speak up. I don’t think it was the Town’s responsibility to come up with \$18,000 a year for their utilities. We could not afford that.” Commissioner Lucas stated “The County just committed to \$15,000 a year for that. My point is, we could have shared that cost and it probably could have been a better situation.” Mayor Davis stated “I was off the board when they received that. When I came back on I gave them a year to try to do something and it never did work out. We could not afford to keep going in the same direction we were going before.” Commissioner Lucas responded “If you could have talked to us jointly maybe we could have come to an agreement instead of it being a burden on either one of us.”

Commissioner Travis stated “The biggest thing between the Town and the County, and this is my opinion, is the parking lot and the antennas. Before we could even make a decision on the antennas you all had already arranged to do something else. It was the little things that added up to get us to the place we are right now. I think the deal you had with the Sheriff’s Department you blamed us for that. We had nothing to do with that deal. Just like that parking lot, I don’t think ya’ll should have closed that off. As far as I am concerned everybody in this county should be allowed to use it. Just like the antennas, I don’t care if you put them up. I think that everybody on this board and everybody on your board has made a mountain out of a mole hill. That is where I think the problem is.”

Mr. Brigman asked “Can I address each one of those issues?” Chairman Hall responded “Certainly but before we do let’s do it this way, when I sent the letter to the Mayor I did not have it in my mind the intention to make this a gripe session. What I wanted to talk about is what are the barriers. We know the specifics. What were some of the barriers that stopped us from getting together and talking? I think that is the way we need to address it and that is the way I would prefer to address it. Because this is an open session everybody is free to say whatever they would like to say. What I want to do is to move to the next level of addressing issues.”

Mr. Brigman stated "I have not been here very long. I have been with the Town of Yanceyville for 10 months. I have certainly learned a lot in those 10 months. In my experience in those ten months in regards to a barrier issue is certainly an overall understanding of what each group wants and that communication of what each group wants. When I met with Kevin Howard for one of the very first times he said that 'we had always had a fairly good relationship'. My relationship with the past manager was a good one. We worked well together. That is something that I tried to key upon and looked to enhance that. Several of the things that Mr. Howard came to me and requested, I did, under the expectation that was how things had gone in the past. Specifically I can use the variance request for the walk way connections between the courthouse and the jail. He said that in the past the Town had waived the fees for any variance requests or for any fees for the county and it went both ways. So I waived the \$350 variance fee as requested because the Town did not want to hold back any project that the County had going on. I looked at that as a kind of opening to working well together and to work well with them with the understanding that everybody was looking out for each other. As the months moved on the Town attempted to get a building permit and we were charged for it. I thought that we were on an open communication where neither of the boards charged each other for fees like that. Then it snowballed into the parking lot deal where I thought we were all on open communications and then I received a letter that they would like to discuss or renegotiate the parking lot contract and then it was cancelled. My thoughts were that I was sitting here doing the best that I can to honor the requests of the county and then all the way to the canceling of the Sheriff's contract. I don't think that anybody here holds any commissioners responsible for that but a request was made for the cars and the equipment that were given to the county by the town when that contract went under affect stay with the county. It passed with no problem. That was something that we were willing to do to work with to ease that contract when going out. Only to find out a couple of weeks later that the parking lot contract would be cancelled. In my eyes I see a lot of things where we are working with the county. I am doing my best to work with the needs and requests of Kevin but I don't feel like that is being done in return. I don't feel that we are on the same page where we know that we are looking out for each other and that is certainly a barrier that I have experienced during the 10 months that I have been here."

Commissioner Lucas stated "I would like to address something that Mr. Brigman mentioned. Back on the parking lot issue, it is my understanding that the county gave the town that land for the municipal parking lot. Is that right?" Mayor Davis responded "No ma'am." Commissioner Lucas stated "At the original Town Hall." Mayor Davis responded "I never received that." Commissioner Lucas stated "It was agreed upon by the Board of Commissioners that should it not become a municipal parking lot it would revert back to the county. It is relevant really because it was never formally voted upon with this board but it was a consensus of that Board at that time that if it were not used it would come back to the county. Evidently the Board of Commissioners at that point in time, Haynes, was willing to work with the Town in providing parking for them back then. Parking really should not be an issue."

Mr. Smith stated "The Town paid \$150,000 to put that lot in. There are 67 parking spaces. 95% of the people that use that lot does county business from that parking lot. It is either the court system or the county. I don't know why the county does not feel they should be a part of that and help us financially with that parking lot because it is open to everybody and nobody pays except the town. That is just a comment." Commissioner Travis asked "Mr. Smith how many

times have you sit in that parking lot and asked the people if they live in the town or live in the county? Mr. Brigman I have seen you stopping people from parking there.” Mr. Brigman responded “Yes sir I did that. Wednesday is a popular day for court and today the parking lot was not entirely full. There were 43 cars out there that were not associated with any town business or any town employee. Of those 43 cars that were in the parking lot 16 of them had Virginia license plates. So you are talking about 35% that used the parking lot are not even North Carolina residents. I was not able to check the licenses with the North Carolina tags but I had sat in on a good portion of court session and I would say that a good portion of them were from Alamance County, Rockingham County, Person County and not necessarily from the town of Yanceyville or Caswell County.” Commissioner Travis responded “We cannot control people from other counties coming here because of tickets.” Mr. Brigman responded “I don’t ask you to control that. I don’t think that is important.”

Commissioner Lucas asked “Back to Mr. Smith. The cost was \$150,000 to put that parking lot in place and you have the parking lot at the previous municipal building correct? Initially you had parking meters, is that right, to help to pay for that \$150,000? Could you consider putting those meters back? To me that would be a fair way of generating revenue for the Town?” Mr. Smith responded “That is an option but there are other options as well other than putting the parking meters back.”

Mr. Brigman stated “I will just give you guys some information on that parking lot. We have \$108,000 still owing on that parking lot. We pay \$13,700 a year for that payment on that parking lot just to give you guys an idea of what we have invested in that lot and that does not include maintenance, the resurfacing and the restriping of the lot.”

Mr. Howard stated “The issue with the building permit, I had no idea that you were charged. Previously the fire departments or any government agencies we have not charged for building permits. We can rectify that situation.” Chairman Hall stated “Somewhere we have a communication breakdown and that is what I want us to address tonight. The barriers. What is creating the problems? Again, we know the specifics but why are we having them? What can we do to make things better? One of the things I am seeing is a lack of communication at least from the county’s standpoint.”

Commissioner Satterfield stated “I will agree with Mayor Davis. We know we have some problems and those are problems of the past and we need to put the past behind us and try to correct what we can on what we have done in the past. I think the big problem is the lack of communication. I think we need to sit down more at least on a quarterly basis or more often than that if possible and talk about the things that affect the people of Caswell County. When we talk about the Town of Yanceyville sometimes we forget that these people are citizens of Caswell County too and pay Caswell County taxes as well. We all should be working as Caswell County citizens. I know they are residents of the town but they are Caswell citizens as well. We need to keep that in mind. Any project that we do or any project that they do affects everyone. Perhaps Mr. Mayor the parking lot deal could have been averted if the Town Council would have come to the commissioners and said you know we have this piece of land we would like to build a parking lot and we would like for ya’ll to go in together in a partnership on it with us. What I am saying is from henceforward when we have something that affects one body it could affect the

other board indirectly one way or another. We may not always agree but usually when the majority decides it is generally the rule. We may not be happy with it but we may just have to live with it. I think it is just a matter of us getting together as two boards and talking about things that we are going to do and would like to do in the future and try to plan a little bit ahead and try to communicate with one another a little better so we will end all of this stuff. If there is something behind us that we can straighten out I think we need to work together and try to straighten that thing out. Tonight is probably not the place to try to straighten it out but we need open lines of communication to try to straighten out the parking lot issues.”

Mayor Davis stated “I would like to go back to the parking lot for one minute. It was my understanding when we got that parking lot at the municipal building, I don’t know if you were on the board at that time or not, I don’t know who was on the board but I understand that this county was asked if they wanted to participate on the parking because the Town did not need all of that lot over there and they said no they had plenty. I was not on the board at that time either. I am just going by what I was told. Sometimes you get told wrong.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin added “It is easy enough to go back into the minutes.” Mayor Davis continued “Then we put a price out there when they needed the parking of \$2500.00. That was a good deal we thought knowing all the time that the county would not have to pay that. It was coming from the court system. That was my understanding. Am I right on that?” Commissioner Travis responded “That money comes to the county and the county is responsible as to how that money is spent.” Mayor Davis stated “Right but you still agree with me. It comes to use for the court’s needs. Am I right?” Chairman Hall responded “Technically that is correct.” Commissioner Lucas added “That is correct but if the court system needs that money then the taxpayers have to supply that money to make up the clerk’s budget so that is a consideration.” Mayor Davis stated “Well like I said it was not a problem to pay the \$2500 and we were making right at \$14,000 a year making payments on it. Where else could you get a deal like that? Then we got notice that in 90 days the contract would be up. You had found some other parking or something but our parking lot is still filling up. That makes the council feel like there was a separation between the two governing bodies. I know that Mr. Travis said it is still the county’s money but yet when you go to court you are going to pay into that. I understand the Mr. Satterfield, John Irvin, had already budgeted for that.” Chairman Hall responded “Let me correct one thing Mr. Satterfield could not budget that money. This Board had to budget it.” Mayor Davis stated “I am not sure how that works.” Chairman Hall responded “It is under the complete control of the county. As Ms. Lucas stated we are responsible for the entire court facility building. We are looking at possible \$80,000 to \$100,000 for a HVAC unit that we have to pay for.” Mr. Brigman stated “I understand completely about what Ms. Lucas said about who pays for that. I understand that \$2500 comes from somewhere but you have to look at it from the same perspective on our end. The money that pays for that \$13,700 a year payment plus the upkeep of the maintenance of the parking lot and we all agree the majority of it is used by the court system so we have to look at it from the same perspective you did on where our money is allocated and why that money is allocated to that. We are not the primary user of it.” Commissioner Lucas stated “I understand what you are saying but the fact that you built a parking lot that was bigger than what you actually needed was what was recommended for the Town?” Mr. Brigman responded “The reason why that parking lot is so big is because our zoning ordinance requires that the square footage of the building requires 67 parking spaces. It is not because we thought we would ever

use 67 parking spaces for municipal purposes but because that is what our zoning ordinance required.” Commissioner Lucas stated “There is always a reason for everything.”

Commissioner Lucas asked “Was anybody present on the council when the official town hall was built and the county deeded the property for that parking lot down there?” Alvin Foster and Major Davis said they were. Commissioner Lucas asked “So you remember it then?” Mr. Foster stated “We talked about this sometime back. I remember that the Probation/Patrol and the Intensive which is in the old Andy Pleasant house there could use that for parking. That is the only thing that I remember.”

Commissioner Jefferies stated “I think if we had of known about this parking lot in the beginning about this \$13,700 a year but this is the first that I have heard of this. We might have considered helping but this goes back to communication. I don’t have a problem with paying \$2500 because we do need somewhere to park. If you need help we need to help you. But like I said down through the years we have bought water and we have bought sewer and we went in together. We worked as a team and I still feel the same way.”

Mr. Brigman stated “I think another barrier to mention is just a general understanding of what each side does and that goes both ways. Not just us understanding what the commissioners do but also the board of commissioners knowing what the town council does. That is something that I have noticed in my short time here. One thing that kind of caught me off guard and is kind of surprising to me is how the people perceived the Town of Yanceyville and the actions of the council. Like when I came to your meeting to seek permission to place the antennas on the county property Ms. Lucas made the comment that it is always the county doing for the town. The town does not ever do anything for the county and that took me by surprise because I know in my short time here I have done nothing but reach out to the county. I mentioned earlier the variance request. My public works guys spent two full days out there working on the ramp at Farmers Lake. It was our equipment and our man power who did that. I did not mention anything to the county. We provided the Sheriff’s office with cars. We provided the EMS workers with office space during the construction of their building. We provided CDOT with parking for their vans during construction. We provided financial assistance for the Caswell Arboretum sign that is being replaced. I see a lot of things that the Town does and maybe the Board of Commissioners are not aware of the things the Town of Yanceyville is doing for the county. I think we need a better understanding of what the other board is doing. Just like he just said he did not understand all of the finances that were involved in the parking so I think if we have open communication and explain why we do what we do I think we will be better off.” Commissioner Lucas responded “In response to that Haynes the comment that I made was in reference to being fair about things and coming from my perspective I was looking at the services that the Town had provided previously done to not provide services and the county had elected to provide what the Town had not done. I am back to that point if we could have talked about that the information could have been shared maybe. It is not about the Town not doing or the county not doing it is about sharing the responsibility instead of it being one sided. The Battered Shelter, PCC.”

Mr. Bateman stated “What I think the commissioners are overlooking and again I am looking from the Town’s perspective. The state law requires counties to do certain things and cities to do

certain things.” Commissioner Lucas responded “Absolutely.” Mr. Bateman continued “Things like the battered women’s shelter that is a social services issue and social services is not typically provided by the town.” Commissioner Lucas responded “But they initially did it. Is that correct?” Mr. Bateman stated “They did it because no one else would. That is a county function and not a city function. Every time the city participates in a county function the people who live in the city are paying one and a half times that of the county residents. The function itself is a county function. Providing parking for the court system that is a county function. That is not a city function. The city is paying \$13,000 every year out of taxes to satisfy a county function. I think that after a while the boards will have to take a closer look at it.” Commissioner Lucas responded “I think so too.” Chairman Hall stated “Let me comment on that. As I indicated this is not a gripe session and I am not suggesting that we are griping but I do want to make a comment here to clear the air. The Town’s decision to build that lot, notwithstanding who started using it, does not impose upon the county a responsibility to help pay for it.” Mr. Bateman responded “I agree.” Chairman Hall continued “But I have heard by the way the comment has been made a couple of times and it suggests to me that we have a responsibility. The responsibility to us would be to provide parking and if we and when we do that then we will have to do the same thing that your board did. We will have to sit down and study what we have. We need to study where our parking is. We made some adjustments in our current parking and we have space. I will just leave it at that. I have heard it a couple of times. The fact that you built it and the fact that you have a \$13,000 mortgage.” Mr. Bateman responded “That is not the county’s problem and it is not the Town’s problem when people park there when they go to court.” Commissioner Lucas asked “In response to what you said about what the town is suppose to provide and what the county is suppose to provide, what exactly is a town or municipality suppose to provide?” Mr. Bateman responded “Both of us are entities of the state and neither of us can do anything unless it is under the G.S. 153 or 158 about what your town can do. We are both political subdivisions, separate political subdivisions. Our residents elect your board. They are separate entities and they each have their functions. The counties have the function of the court system and the school systems, which are overwhelming and I sympathize with you. You have those services that are allocated to you such as social services.” Commissioner Lucas stated “I am aware of the county’s side. I am curious about the town’s side.” Mr. Bateman responded “The city’s function is to provide urban services to the city such as zoning. The county can also do that if they choose to do so. We do the planning and zoning and the inspections are typically contracted out through the county because it is cheaper. If they choose to do so they do fire protection, garbage collection and those things that are urban type services.” Commissioner Lucas asked “Is that set in law on what is expected?” Mr. Bateman responded “It is stated what you can do.” Commissioner Lucas asked “And it is optional?” Mr. Bateman responded “Yes. The state requires that you have to do three of these things in order to collect the state sales tax.” Commissioner Lucas asked “So recreation and animal control are optional.”

Chairman Hall stated “So far what I have heard is the major barrier is communication or a lack of communication. What other barriers do you see?”

Mr. Foster stated “I have seen this over the last couple of years and not necessarily with these two particular boards but there is a misconception of, and I am speaking from the Town’s perspective, what this board is elected to do. Yes we care what happens in Caswell County

because we are citizens of Caswell County but as an elected board, we are elected to look after the Town of Yanceyville just like ya'll are elected to look after Caswell County. I think over the years there have been times where the Caswell County Board of Commissioners have lost the perspective that the people in Yanceyville are citizens of Caswell County." Chairman Hall responded "I have heard that a couple of times. Could you give us a couple of examples?" Mr. Foster stated "A couple of examples." Chairman Hall stated "I have heard that a couple of times over the last year or two." Mr. Foster responded "Let me think about that and I will come back to that in a moment." Chairman Hall stated "The reason I wanted examples is because again sometimes it comes back to the misconception of what both boards are responsible for doing. I think sometimes there is a misconception about our role within the town limits. I don't know how to sort it out but we need to sort it out so that there is no misunderstanding. If there is something that is not being adequately communicated to us by the citizens and then if I know what it is I can help to communicate it to the board." Mr. Foster stated "I think like you just said about your responsibility within the town limits. There is no difference if you are outside the town's limits. I mean ya'll represent the citizens of Caswell County. As far as you are concerned there is no town limits because there is a Caswell County citizen on this side of the town limit. There is no town limits as far as your function with what you do because you represent everybody." Chairman Hall stated "When Mr. Bateman mentioned the functions of town government such as urban services, water, sewer, fire protection, planning, zoning, inspections. There are several of those things that we do not do so there is a difference." Mr. Bateman added "There is a difference between what we do and what you do but as far as what you do in the county it is the same in the town." Mr. Smith stated "I think he is talking about representation. The county commissioners that represent Yanceyville 1 and Yanceyville 2, they represent people in Yanceyville and people in the county. They are supposed to be represented the same. When we pay our taxes we are citizens of Yanceyville and Caswell County. When everybody else pays their taxes they are just residents of the County."

Commissioner Lucas asked "Would you clear something up for me Mr. Bateman? You said to operate as a town you have to operate three services. Do you have to designate what three services they are?" Mr. Bateman responded "You do." Commissioner Lucas asked "What are the three for the town?" Mr. Brigman responded "Fire protection, water and sewer and planning and zoning."

Commissioner Travis stated "You are talking about the responsibility of the county to the people of the town of Yanceyville, I am not talking about the board, and to me it is the whole county. The people that live in the city limits we owe them the same that we owe the people who live outside the city limits. That is all we owe and nothing else and that is exactly what they are getting. They are getting the same services. They are getting ambulance services, which you do provide fire service over there. Building inspections they get that. They get the same thing that the county people are getting. Now going back to what was said a while ago about the county and the town doing projects together, a lot of the projects I don't think we can get involved with. I mean we don't own the land so why would we put any money in it if the town owns it." Mr. Brigman responded "We have projects that scope outside of our city limits such as our emergency water connection between the Town of Yanceyville and Danville. That is something that is very vital to our success. We are very vulnerable right now. For instance the earthquake that hit yesterday if that would have damaged our water treatment plant we would have no ability

to provide water to anybody located in the Town of Yanceyville and that expands to the people of Providence because we have a water line that extends to Providence as well as the services you provide in the town limits. For instance the two jails.” Commissioner Travis stated “But you get paid for that.” Mr. Brigman continued “Correct but it is still an interest of both parties to have that emergency water connection if we were to ever lose our water treatment plant. It is of both parties interests to have that there. That is a project that we could both work together on just as an example.”

Commissioner Lucas asked “What is the status of that project?” Mr. Brigman responded “Everything is ready. It is actually a shovel ready project; we just do not have the funding to do it. It is about a million dollar project and right now all we have been able to do is to secure the loans for that and that equals out to about \$45,000 a year in debt service and that is not something that the Town of Yanceyville can take on without significantly increasing its water and sewer rates.” Commissioner Lucas asked “Is that something that has been discussed with the county?” Mr. Howard responded “It was discussed in a previous meeting we had about a year and a half ago.”

Mayor Davis stated “Let’s step back a little bit and look at Providence. They could not use the water; we went in with the county to get grants. We got all 100% grants by working together to get that line to Providence. That is just one thing I can remember getting done as far as these boards getting together. We can get grants a lot of the times that you cannot get and you can get grants that we cannot get. I think that you got one for out there at the trailer park at the ABC store about 3 or 4 years ago. You were able to secure that grant where we could not secure it. There are a lot of things that these two boards could work together on. I am not talking about reaching in your back pockets and getting money. I know that pretty much grant money is dried up and gone at this present time but for an emergency I think there is still some there, I would think. We need unity, working together, to get it. That is just the way it works.”

Commissioner Satterfield stated “Back in the late 70s or early 80s we talked about the failing wells in Caswell County and we talked about the needs for a countywide water authority. As far as setting up an infrastructure and everything throughout the county. I know that is a long term project but that is a project that will need to be addressed in the near future by the Board of Commissioners. Of course the Town of Yanceyville has the capacity to fulfill that. It is things like this that we need to put our efforts on. We are having problems in the Prospect Hill area now. I think the clothing manufacturer down there has a big concern about water down there. These are the kinds of things that we need to try to work together on. Maybe we need an ongoing committee or something with memberships from both sides. If the two boards cannot meet on a regular basis maybe they can meet on a regular basis to discuss some of these things.”

Ms. Lucas asked “Didn’t your board do a water study some years ago?” Mr. Smith responded “I think it was in 2000 or 2001.” Ms. Lucas stated “I had been on the board a couple of years when it was done.” Mr. Smith responded “I think it had been done in Warren County and some other county when they did that study.” Ms. Lucas continued “I know there was a potential to earning around \$40 million. I thought that the county should get into the water business if it was going to receive those kinds of profits.” Mr. Brigman stated “The water and sewer system is not paying for itself in its current state.” Mr. Howard added “The smaller counties struggle with the

water systems. Most of the small ones are struggling and it is just not Yanceyville.” Mr. Smith stated “We are struggling.” Mr. Howard stated “Back when I was doing this I know the federal government, the EPA, said they did not care how much water cost. They did not care if the water cost more than your power bill every month. They just said that the regulations were coming.” Commissioner Satterfield stated “We talk about it every month with the Health Board about the well problems. When a person out in the county does not have any water or it gets contaminated, that is more so the problem than the wells going dry and things like that. It was like the people in Providence when they were desperate to get water over there. You have to have water. You can’t go to the grocery store and buy those jugs of water. Most places charge \$1.50. That is an essential. You have to have it. There will be a cost to deliver that product.” Commissioner Lucas added “This is just a little on what he said about paying for bottled water. I got real curious we were buying the Wal-Mart bottled water at one point in time. The 800 number on the side of the bottle I called to find out the source of the water. Do you know where it was coming from? Wilson water supply. My mother-in-law lived in Wilson and she got the biggest kick out of that. We were buying Wilson water to drink out of a bottle. We might consider bottling some of ours.” Mr. Smith responded “We have discussed it between ourselves.”

Chairman Hall asked “Would it be advantageous or would it be acceptable to try and plan quarterly meetings?” Mr. McGuire responded “I think it would benefit everybody.” Mr. Smith responded “Several years ago we did meet.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin added “We met one time at the old Caswell center and it was snowing at one of the first meetings we did. We tried to do this before and at that time we said the same thing that we were going to work together in quarterly meetings and all of that.” Chairman Hall asked “Was it a good idea then?” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin responded “It was.” Chairman Hall stated “I think it is a good idea now.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin asked “Does anybody remember what happened? Maybe it just fizzed out. I remember when we had that meeting over here with these two boards, PCC, DEEDS and whomever and we said at that meeting that we were going to do this. And we didn’t.” Mr. Davis stated “I think it works well when just these two boards get together. Let’s face it we have got to work together or either we are not going to get anything done.” Chairman Hall stated “Maybe if we have a plan this time. What will we do when we meet? I think it would be good from our perspective to say to the Town what we are working on. What our long and short term plans are and where we might need your support PR wise. Sometimes all we want to do is to make sure that everybody is supportive and you can do the same thing. Let’s say we are talking and we say we have this project on the books. This will not affect you at all but we wanted you to know just in case.” Mr. Bateman said “Maybe you could meet and have an agenda so you would know what you were going to discuss. Smaller groups could meet more quickly than both the boards.” Chairman Hall responded “That is a good idea.” Mr. Smith added “Maybe have the two managers and the two chairs to do the meetings.” Chairman Hall responded “That would work. I will put together an agenda to make sure that our perspective boards have whatever they need before the meeting. I guess for our board to act on this we can put this on our next agenda and take a vote and take some action. We will communicate back to you all what we want and start looking at schedules.” Commissioner Satterfield stated “Mr. Chairman I think that we need to pick a date and set that date as the meeting for the two boards just like we would a Commissioners meeting or a Town Council meeting. That meeting date will be set unless it is a holiday or something like that. It would be just like our meeting and we would hold that meeting

just as we would our meetings whether it be the second Tuesday or whatever. We need to set it where it will satisfy everybody. We cannot set it on one of our meeting nights or one of your meeting nights. The members of the Board of Commissioners have other meetings that we have to go to because we are members of other boards and it could interfere with some of those but we will just have to kind of go around those. If we try to schedule it when everybody will be able to come it will never happen.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin responded “So what you are saying is we need to have a set meeting night.” Commissioner Satterfield added “And whoever shows up is who shows up.”

Chairman Hall stated “At our next meeting this will be an agenda item for us and we will have some suggested dates.” Mr. Smith responded “We will do the same thing.” Chairman Hall continued “I suggest that we get those date to the Town so it will not take as long to get those dates worked out.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin stated “At our next meeting we should do the same thing. We should try to figure out a night that is good for everybody on the board.” Mr. Brigman responded “They will have their meeting before ours so I will get with Kevin and we will review those in our meeting so we can come up with a definite date.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin asked “Are we going to be starting this meeting sometime soon? Like is our first quarterly meeting going to be September or October? I don’t think we should wait another two or three months to start.” Chairman Hall responded “We will all have to look at our schedules. I think we need to start soon.” Mr. Smith added “We should know within 2 weeks because both boards will have met.” Mr. Howard asked “Do you want to meet monthly?” Chairman Hall responded “The liason committee can meet monthly.”

Ms. Odessa Gwynn asked “What about Milton? Will they be included as well?” Chairman Hall responded “I think so but I think our first step is for these two boards to get in sync. If we can get in sync within two meetings by all means we would invite another board in or at least let them know what we are doing.” Mr. Smith stated “Milton was offered some stuff but they said they did not want to be a part of the water. They had been approached several different times. The last time we had a meeting in here the Milton Mayor said upfront we are not going to discuss water, when we first opened the meeting.” Ms. Gwynn continued “Maybe some of the miscommunications we have between these two boards. We need to give them the same opportunity because if we are talking about wells and lines and those kinds of things with the county they need to know as well. My suggestion would be to invite them. I don’t know if they will come or not but that is another issue. What are they doing with their water down there?” Commissioner Lucas asked “What is their diversion about talking about water?” Mr. Smith responded “The last time we had a meeting this was before they got water. The Mayor will change in November because of the elections. When we went around the table, do you remember Chairman Hall? The first comment from the Mayor of Milton was ‘we are not discussing water’. That is exactly what he said and it went downhill from there.”

Mayor Davis stated “I agree with what Chairman Hall said. These two boards need to get in sync first and then further along we can ask other people.” Mr. Foster added “I think if we are discussing something that will affect Milton we need to invite them.” Mr. Smith responded “Absolutely.” Mayor Davis stated “I think we need to let Milton know what we are doing.” Mr. Smith stated “I think the attitude in Milton will change in November and I will leave it at that.” Mr. Foster stated “I don’t want them to feel like we are shutting them out.” Chairman Hall stated

“As another board I feel like we should keep them informed and invite them to the table. There will be other issues other than water that Milton will need to address.” Ms. Badgett-Lampkin responded “Absolutely.” Chairman Hall continued “It would be to our advantage that we could at least talk about those issues. Well we have spent a good hour and I think we have made good progress. Is there anything else we need to discuss?”

Mr. Brigman stated “I guess that me and Kevin will address some of the issues that we have going on now regarding the jail project and some other things. I guess we will communicate amongst ourselves any issues we have and the details we need to work out.” Chairman Hall responded “If not, we have the liason committee where the four of us can sit down and talk or mediate and shoot information back to both boards where necessary and appropriate.”

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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Kevin Howard  
County Manager

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Nathaniel Hall  
Chairman

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