

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 19, 2012**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Monday, March 19, 2012 in the Community Room at the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Chairman  
Jeff Dixon, Vice-Chairman  
Bill Trueblood  
Cecil Perry  
Dr. William R. Sterritt  
Gary G. White  
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Randy Keaton, County Manager  
Rodney Bunch, Assistant County Manager  
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney  
Sheri Small, Finance Officer  
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

The work session was called to order at 3:30 PM by Chairman Lloyd Griffin.

**1. UPDATE ON REVENUE AND CAPITAL NEEDS:**


Chairman Griffin called on County Manager Randy Keaton to update the Board on projected capital needs. Mr. Keaton explained that the greatest capital needs are for the school system. He said the school system's three-year needs that have not been met by the \$2,000,000 QSCB financing project total \$10,600,000. Additionally, the schools need two activity buses at a total cost of approximately \$188,000. The capital needs for College of The Albemarle include library renovations at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and other various capital needs totaling \$2,400,000. The county's other projected needs include a fire truck for Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department at approximately \$250,000 to replace one at Soundneck station; an EMS substation with the location and cost yet to be determined; and communication towers to help solve coverage problems in certain areas of the county with the cost yet to be determined. Mr. Keaton said the capital needs total \$13,838,000+. He reviewed the options available to pay for the capital needs including: 1) an additional ¼¢ local option sales tax which should raise about \$800,000 per year; 2) installment purchase contracts or general obligation bonds; and 3) pay as you go which would require an increase in ad valorem taxes.

The Board discussed at length the possibility of implementing the additional ¼¢ sales tax which has been authorized by the General Assembly. Mr. Keaton explained that a public referendum would be required. Members of the Board asked the earliest a referendum might be scheduled. The County Attorney advised that he does not think there would be sufficient time to hold a referendum during the May primary election. Mr. Keaton noted that most counties need a fairly lengthy amount of time to hold public meetings and educate the public about what the ¼¢ sales tax would pay for and what the needs are.

The Board requested that staff obtain additional information regarding a possible referendum on the additional ¼¢ sales tax and send it out to the Board, including the process and how many counties in North Carolina have actually been successful with their referendums.

At the absence of further business, the work session was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

  
CHAIRMAN