

PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 7, 2014

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, April 7, 2014 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rodney Bunch, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Jeff Dixon. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Dixon welcomed everyone present.

1. COMMENTS FROM GEORGE HAGUE:

Chairman Dixon recognized Mr. George Hague to address the Board regarding the Northeastern High School roof. Mr. Hague stated that he recently had to replace his car and purchased a used Chevrolet Impala with high mileage. He said if he could have picked out whatever he wanted, he would have picked out a Mercedes Benz. He stated that the county owns the school buildings and pays the salaries of maintenance personnel. He said the Board of Commissioners needs to become more involved in the process of selecting roofs in the early stages of the contract. He suggested the Board become involved in best value selections and he cannot say that this is the case in the current phase of the roof project. He added that if the schools had “skin in the game” they would try to do best value contracting for the roof and for any project.

2. COMMENTS FROM JOHN WOODARD:

Chairman Dixon recognized Mr. John Woodard who said today he received an estimate from Carolina Foam Insulation, Inc. indicating that they would nuclear scan the NHS roof section for all wet areas, that they would remove any wet material all the way down to the steel deck, then they would replace the foam insulation that is on there now, put a coating over top of the entire section, and give a ten-year warranty for a cost of \$139,500. He stated that nobody wants the students to have water coming in on their heads while they are trying to study. He said this matter has become much more contentious than it ought to be and everyone has the same objective. He stated that the question is if there are two processes and one costs less and one costs more, it should be a “no brainer”. He said someone needs to figure out what the cost of these projects is going to be and be a partner with the School Board in trying to resolve these maintenance issues. He stated that the maintenance department has performed virtually no maintenance on this roof all the years it has been there and had they done so, this discussion would probably not be taking place, at least to the extent it is now. Mr. Woodard said the quote he has received is a whole lot less money and in the interest of the taxpayers of Pasquotank County, and the \$400,000 that could be saved by going this route could be used to solve a lot of other problems.

3. COMMENTS FROM EARL ROUNTREE:

Chairman Dixon recognized Mr. Earl Rountree. Mr. Rountree stated that on March 24 the Gates County Board of Commissioners and Gates County Board of Education held a joint meeting and the School Superintendent provided a 100 year history of great things that had happened in education. He said the Superintendent pointed out that the latest greatest thing to happen to public education has been STEM schools and charter schools.

4. PRESENTATION OF PINS TO EMPLOYEES FOR YEARS OF SERVICE:

Chairman Dixon called on the following county employees to receive pins recognizing their years of service to Pasquotank County:

Employee	Department	Years of Service
Tangela White	Social Services Department	30 years
Tammy Gordon	Tax Department	20 years
Tysha Sutton	Social Services Department	15 years

The Board congratulated and thanked the employees for their service.

5. PUBLIC HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE BY THE PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ITS TAX EXEMPT BONDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF EDUCATIONAL MEDIA FOUNDATION IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$30,000,000 AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION GIVING APPLICABLE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE APPROVAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF TAX EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS BY THE PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY:

Chairman Dixon called on Diana Silveira to address the tax exempt bonds. Ms. Silveira stated that she is with Peck, Shaeffer & Williams, the firm acting as bond counsel in this transaction. She explained that the Public Finance Authority of Wisconsin has agreed to issue these tax-exempt bonds for the benefit of Educational Media Foundation which is a California non-profit corporation that owns and operates radio stations around the country. She said the purpose of the bonds is to finance the cost of certain licenses and equipment related to several radio stations in different states, including one in the local area, WGTI 97.7 FM, which is K-Love or Air 1 radio station. She stated that Educational Media Foundation would like to access the tax-exempt bond market in order to decrease its interest expense for this borrowing, and the IRS allows 501(c)(3) corporations to do this if they follow certain rules of the tax code. She said one of the rules of the tax code is that this public hearing be held in order to give the public an opportunity to ask questions and give their opinions, and to get local approval from the jurisdictions where the projects are located. Ms. Silveira advised that the radio tower for WGTI is located in Pasquotank County which is why they are coming to the Board of Commissioners for approval. She said the most important thing to note is that the county is not the issuer of the bonds and the county's debt capacity will not be affected in any way, and also the county has no responsibility to pay back the bonds in any way. She pointed out that no assets of the county and no taxpayer dollars are pledged for repayment of the bonds, and the repayment responsibility falls solely on Educational Media Foundation. She stated that the maximum principal amount is \$30,000,000, and of that approximately \$530,000 is the amount that will be spent towards financing the WGTI license and equipment.

Chairman Dixon declared the meeting to be a public hearing on the issuance of the tax-exempt bonds for Educational Media Foundation and he asked if anyone would care to address the Board. At the absence of comments from the public, the hearing was closed. After questions from members of the Board;

Motion was made by William Sterritt, seconded by Gary White to adopt the following resolution giving approval in connection with the issuance of tax exempt obligations by the Public Finance Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION GIVING APPLICABLE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE APPROVAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF TAX EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS BY THE PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, Educational Media Foundation, a California nonprofit corporation (the "Borrower"), intends to operate a non-commercial radio station (the "Radio Station"), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) License (the "License") for which is assigned to the Town of Winfall, North Carolina, and the radio antenna and other related equipment for which is located north of Wellfield Road and east of BYP 17 within the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, the Radio Station will offer public affairs programming, contemporary Christian music, public service announcements and off-the-air personal counseling by phone to listeners; and

WHEREAS, the License and the Radio Station will initially be owned and operated by the Borrower; and

WHEREAS, the Borrower has requested the Public Finance Authority (the "Authority") to issue its tax exempt obligations (the "Bonds") for the benefit of the Borrower, in one or more series and in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$30,000,000, a portion of which will be used to refinance (a) the cost of acquiring the License to operate the Radio Station, (b) the cost of acquiring certain related equipment and (c) certain costs of issuing the Bonds (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve interest savings, the Borrower desires that the Bonds be issued in compliance with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), so that interest on the Bonds may be excludible from the gross income of the owners of the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the County held a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on April 7, 2014 after reasonable public notice was given in accordance with applicable law, and at such public hearing no objections were raised with respect to the proposed issuance of the Bonds or the financing of the Project; and

WHEREAS, Section 147(f) of the Code requires, as a condition to receiving tax exempt treatment of the interest on the Bonds, that an authorized, elected representative approve the Bonds, and the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the County, constitutes such an authorized, elected representative; and

WHEREAS, the Board deems it necessary and advisable that this resolution be adopted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina, as follows:

Section 1. The issuance of the Bonds by the Authority in one or more series and in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$30,000,000 is hereby approved.

Section 2. Such approval provided in Section 1 hereof shall be solely for the purposes of Section 147(f) of Code, and the County shall have no liabilities for the payment of the Bonds nor shall any of the County's assets be pledged to the payment of the Bonds.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately after its adoption by the Board.

6. PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT ZTA 14-01:

Planning Director Shelley Cox summarized Zoning Text Amendment ZTA 14-01. She explained that the text amendment which has been requested by SunEnergy1, LLC. ZTA 14-01 would amend the Table of Permitted Uses (Article 7) to allow the development of solar farms within the C-1 commercial zoning district. Ms. Cox stated that the C-1 commercial district is defined by the Zoning Ordinance as "certain areas that are designed to serve both non-residents and residents using the major state and county roads that run through the county. The district is designed to accommodate retail or service establishments customarily patronized by transient traffic as well as non-transient traffic." Ms. Cox noted that solar farms are currently allowed in the A-1 and A-2 agricultural districts, and the I-1 and I-2 industrial districts. She said this amendment would allow them to also operate within the C-1 district. She explained that it has been recommended that a conditional use permit be required in order to allow these uses in the C-1 district which is consistent with the requirements for the other districts in which solar farms are currently allowed. She said although SunEnergy1 has applied for a conditional use permit in Pasquotank County and is looking at several sites, one of which is zoned commercial, this amendment has to be approved in order for that project to go forward. If the text amendment is approved by the Board, solar farms would be allowed in any commercial district with a conditional use permit approved by the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Cox advised that the county's ordinance currently has some restrictions on solar farm development related to setbacks, buffering, and decommissioning. She said the Planning Board reviewed this request

and recommended approval of the text amendment. She stated that representatives from SunEnergy1 are present tonight to answer any questions the Board may have.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin stated that he thinks this has come to the Board on a path of least resistance. He said for this project to move forward staff should come back and explain what would be done and the areas of the county that could be changed under the C-1 use before the Board takes action.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Joe Winslow to delay action on Zoning Amendment ZTA 14-01 until the Board can be provided clarification, and that all properties in the county that could be impacted by this zoning text amendment be identified.

Discussion followed and Chairman Dixon stated that any piece of C-1 property in the county could potentially be impacted. He said the procedures are in order and this request went before the Planning Board which recommended approval to the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Cox explained that if the amendment is approved, it would require an application for a conditional use permit. She stated that a public hearing would be required and it would have to be advertised, the property would have to be posted, and letters would be sent to adjoining property owners to get their input. It would have to go through the Planning Board and then the Board of Commissioners has the final approval. Ms. Cox stated that this is about a three month process with a conditional use permit. She added that the Board has the authority, if it determines that a site is not appropriate, to deny the permit based on the findings it has to make. She said it is not an automatic approval.

County Manager Rodney Bunch commented that a solar farm would require a sizeable tract of land because of the requirements, therefore potential sites would be limited.

Ms. Cox stated that utility-related structures are currently allowed in the commercial district which is one of the factors in her recommendation for approval. There are also power stations in that district that solar farms will need to hook into in order for a project to be functional.

Chairman Dixon declared the meeting to be a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment ZTA 14-01 and asked if anyone would care to address the Board.

Mr. Larry Silver stated that as he understands it, the purpose of the solar farm will be to generate power that will not be used in Pasquotank County, but will be sold to Duke Energy and used elsewhere. He asked why this project will be done in Duke Energy's service territory rather than in Pasquotank County and if some of the energy could be provided to local utility departments.

Mr. George Hague said he has been informed that SunEnergy will be holding a job fair at the COA Campus in Edenton and that 300 to 400 people will be employed during construction of the solar farm.

At the absence of further comments, the public hearing was closed. Chairman Dixon asked Mr. Neil Williams with SunEnergy1 to address questions from the Board.

Commissioner Gary White asked what the benefit would be for Pasquotank County.

Mr. Williams explained that a 28 megawatt site is proposed and it will be a \$50 million investment. The power that is generated will be consumed by Elizabeth City. The owner of the project is Duke Renewables, but the power that is generated through that substation will be sold to Dominion Power and consumed by about 5,000 houses in Elizabeth City and the surrounding area. In response to questions from Commissioner Sterritt, Mr. Williams stated that as much local labor as possible will be used to construct the solar farm and the land will be leased for 30 years. He stated that 300 to 400 people will be employed temporarily during the construction phase and about 15 to 20 of those will be employed once construction is complete for day to day operations.

Chairman Dixon asked what the tax value of the project will be. Mr. Williams stated that the tax base would increase by \$10 million because only 20% of the initial installation cost is taxable. Chairman Dixon noted that this would result in additional tax revenue for Pasquotank County.

County Manager Rodney Bunch stated that this project would fit with what the county has already allowed. Ms. Cox said her recommendation and the Planning Board's recommendation is for approval of the zoning text amendment.

The motion to delay action on Zoning Text Amendment ZTA 14-01 carried by a six to one vote with Chairman Dixon voting against the motion to delay.

7. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Dixon asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow stated that there are no amendments to the agenda.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda. Commissioner Gary White asked that Item c, *Approval of Funding for the Potato Festival*, be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

a. Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2014 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

Releases:

	County	City
1. William Martin Green	190.77	
2. William Martin Green	209.31	
3. Alvin Sylvester Felton	144.00	36.00
4. Alvin Sylvester Felton	144.00	36.00
5. Brian Keith Daniel	180.56	

Refunds:

1. Miles Patrick Beene	105.77	89.45
2. Arthur T. Felton & Angela M. Jennings	143.28	
3. Leland John Carlson		109.79
4. Leland John Carlson		167.31

Motion was made by Joe Winslow, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

9. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HR 1288 "WW II MERCHANT MARINERS SERVICE ACT":

The Board considered the following resolution in support of HR 1288, "WW II Merchant Mariners Service Act":

A RESOLUTION OF THE PASQUOTANK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING HR 1288 "WW II MERCHANT MARINERS SERVICE ACT"

WHEREAS, Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed veterans status on US Merchant Marine Seamen of WWII, and

WHEREAS, between 250,000 to 280,000 merchant seamen served during WW II and yet only about 91,000 seamen have been recognized as veterans for their service, to date. Now, about 30,000 Coastwise Merchant seamen, who served gallantly, may be unable to gain recognition as veterans because of the required documentation having been destroyed or denied. Those denials, partly due to age, sex or physical disability are now referred to as discrimination. Women were denied recognition from the very beginning of WW II, and

WHEREAS, the denial of these required documents came about through specific government orders and actions that may have resulted in female mariners, school children working during school breaks and elderly handicapped seamen being unable to qualify as veterans, and

WHEREAS, the average age of the remaining seamen is above 90 years of age and the ranks of the WW II US veteran is shrinking at an average of 1,000 per year causing time to be of the essence. There are less than 10,000 WW II merchant seamen (overall) remaining. Less than 400 coastwise seamen are alive that are associated with this bill. Time is of the essence, and

WHEREAS, the Camden County Board of Commissioners has supported resolutions, entitled “Alternative Methods of Recognition for Veteran Status for Merchant Marine Seamen of WW II” in previous congressional sessions to correct this inconceivable action, and

WHEREAS, that resolution, along with many others from various bi-partisan party factions and petitions and letters from citizens and state officials that, collectively, represented all 100 counties of North Carolina, has resulted in the bill HR 1288, “WW II Merchant Mariners Service Act” that has been incorporated into HR 2189 which passed the House on a 404 to 1 vote, and

WHEREAS, the NC Pasquotank County Board Commissioners therefore requests that immediate action be taken to correct this travesty and have these Coastwise Merchant seamen recognized for their service to our country, providing closure to a long standing obligation, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners supports HR 1288 “WW II Merchant Mariners Service Act” and so orders that this Resolution be sent to Senator Richard Burr and Senator Kay Hagen for this matter to be placed into action before the US Senate in such form as a companion bill to HR 1288, with their full support, to ensure expedient passage, leading to law, before this all becomes history.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Gary White to adopt the resolution supporting HR 1288 “WW II Merchant Mariners Service Act” as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

10. APPROVAL OF REVISED PERSONNEL POLICY:

The Board considered the revised County Personnel Policy that Attorney John Leidy previously reviewed with the Board at a work session.

Motion was made by Joe Winslow, seconded by Cecil Perry to adopt the following resolution approving the revised Personnel Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL POLICY

WHEREAS, Chapters 126 and 153A of the North Carolina General Statutes authorize a County Board of Commissioners to adopt and implement personnel policies; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for Pasquotank County has adopted and reinforced the county/manager form of government; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to adopt and continue a human resources system that provides for the recruitment, selection and continuous development of an effective workforce, responsive to the needs of Pasquotank County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been presented with, has reviewed and endorses a revised personnel policy following a comprehensive review and revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

Section 1. The Employee Personnel Policies, as presented to the Board of Commissioners this day, are hereby adopted by resolution.

Section 2. The Employee Personnel Policies will apply to the appointment, classification, benefits, salary, promotion, demotion, dismissal and conditions of employment of the employees of Pasquotank County.

Section 3. This resolution is effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED the 7th day of April, 2014.

County Attorney Mike Cox noted that this is the first major overhaul of the Personnel Policy in a number of years. He said he would recommend that the Board look at this every five years. He stated that a separate Personnel Board will be appointed outside of the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Dixon thanked the Personnel Committee for its work on the Personnel Policy. He said Attorney John Leidy who specializes in employment law has reviewed the policy to ensure its compliance with all federal and state laws.

County Manager Rodney Bunch stated that he will schedule a meeting with department heads so Attorney Leidy can review the revised policy with them.

11. APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR THE POTATO FESTIVAL:

Commissioner Griffin asked that he be recused from considering this item due to a conflict of interest.

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Joe Winslow to recuse Commissioner Lloyd Griffin from considering funding for the Potato Festival. The motion carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee has recommended that the Board provide funding in the amount of \$3,500 from Occupancy Tax proceeds for the Potato Festival which has expanded to a three-day event this year.

Motion was made by Joe Winslow, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve funding in the amount of \$3,500 for the Potato Festival.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Frankie Meads questioned whether the county will actually have sufficient Occupancy Tax revenues because he has noticed that several area hotels have a minimal number of vehicles in their parking lots overnight. He added that the county already has obligations for a portion of its Occupancy Tax and is spending more of it.

Chairman Dixon stated that as the county's representative on the Tourism Board he has learned that Occupancy Tax proceeds are running about 10% ahead of last year which will result in about \$5,500 more in Occupancy Tax revenues.

Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow stated that he is always in favor of spending money to make money, and if the county invests this money for three days, he is hoping that the hotels will benefit from it and all hotel rooms will be filled.

The motion carried by a five to two margin with Commissioners White and Meads voting against the motion.

12. REPORT FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

County Manager Rodney Bunch referred to an invitation from an Honors Civics Teacher at Pasquotank County High School for Commissioners to hear project presentations from students on their research of problems they saw in the school system or community and their proposed solutions to those problems. Part of the assignment is to present the information to people who can possibly help make the changes occur. A schedule of the presentations was attached to the invitation.

Mr. Bunch stated that he was visited today by Eddie Stevenson who advised that next Monday afternoon at 5:00 PM opening ceremonies for the baseball season will be held at South Park. Opening ceremonies for the softball season will be held on Tuesday afternoon at 5:00 PM. All Commissioners are invited to attend the ceremonies.

Mr. Bunch reported that Director of Elections David Brown has resigned and the Board of Elections has appointed Deputy Director Kelli Price to serve as the Interim Director effective today. Some part-time help will be used to assist Ms. Price up to 40 hours per week.

13. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

County Attorney Mike Cox reported that several Commissioners may have received emails regarding Traci Drive which has been a problem for several years. He said it is in an older subdivision and discussions have recently been held with some of the residents on the road. He stated that there was previously a class action lawsuit where the property owners filed a lawsuit against the developer. There was a settlement and his understanding of the settlement was that the developer had to take step one, which he did, and the property owners had to take step two, which they have not done. Mr. Cox said if the property owners can take step two, the developer is on the hook to pave the roads in this subdivision. He stated that one particular property owner

has contacted the Governor's Office, Representative Steinburg, and Senator Cook. He advised that the county cannot finance part of that road unless a petition is received from at least 75% of the property owners. If such a petition is submitted by the property owners, a special assessment would be placed on each property to pay for the cost of the road repairs. Mr. Cox stated that there appears to be a misunderstanding on the part of some of the property owners on Traci Drive.

14. CALENDAR:

The Clerk reviewed the calendar of upcoming meetings and events.

15. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Commissioner Cecil Perry presented the following recommendations from the Appointments Committee:

College of The Albemarle Board of Trustees - Reappoint Doug Gardner to an additional four-year term.

Elizabeth City Board of Adjustments - Nominate Thomas Ward to fill a vacancy.

Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority - Reappoint Joe Winslow to an additional five-year term.

Highway 17 Association Board of Directors - Reappoint Jeff Dixon to an additional one-year term.

Aging Advisory Council - Reappoint Pat Youngblood to an additional two-year term.

Pasquotank County Library Board - Reappoint Mike Cox and Dr. Hezekiah Brown to additional four-year terms.

Planning Board - Reappoint Charles Jordan to an additional four-year term.

Social Services Board - Appoint Bill Trueblood to replace Alice Stallings for a three-year term.

Tourism Development Authority - Reappoint Rhonda Twiddy, Andrew Montero, Abel Sutton, Gwendolyn Sanders (*contingent upon approval by the city*), and Maureen Donnelly (*contingent upon approval by the city*).

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee - Reappoint Carolyn Eason to an additional three-year term.

District Jail Commission - Reappoint Cecil Perry and Joe Winslow to additional two-year terms.

Economic Development Commission - Reappoint Jeff Dixon, Cecil Perry and Lloyd Griffin to additional two-year terms.

Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors - Reappoint Jeff Dixon to an additional three-year term.

EMS Board - Reappoint Frankie Meads, Gary White and Dr. Samantha Furia to additional two-year terms.

Local Emergency Planning Committee - Appoint Tobie McPherson to represent Communication and appoint Rodney Bunch as the Local Official.

Newland Water Management & Watershed Improvement Advisory Board - Reappoint Joe Winslow to an additional two-year term.

Recreation Advisory Board - Reappoint William Sterritt and Herman Little to additional two-year terms.

Home & Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee - Appoint Laura Alvarico, Faith Mallette, Herb Mullen, Sheila VanKeuren, Jill Jordan, Sue Norton, Jessica Diaz, Jean Allen, David Boone, and Mary Walker.

Chairman Dixon asked for action from the Board on the appointments and reappointments. Commissioner Griffin requested that the appointment to the COA Board of Trustees be voted on separately.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the appointments and reappointments to boards and committees as recommended with the exception of the recommendation to appoint Thomas Ward to the Elizabeth City Board of Adjustments which will be on the next agenda, and the appointment to the COA Board of Trustees which will be voted on separately. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Joe Winslow to reappoint Doug Gardner to the College of the Albemarle Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Griffin stated that he would like to nominate Commissioner Gary White to serve on the COA Board of Trustees and the nomination was seconded by Frankie Meads.

Upon a vote of the Board, Doug Gardner received four votes from Commissioners Dixon, Winslow, Perry, and Sterritt, and Gary White received three votes from Commissioners Griffin, Meads and White, therefore Mr. Gardner was reappointed to the College of The Albemarle Board of Trustees.

16. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Gary White stated that he would like the Board's approval to form a committee consisting of the current Animal Control Board, the Chairman of the SPCA, a representative from the Sheriff's Department, and a representative from the city to review the regulations involving animal control. He said the Animal Control Ordinance needs some revisions.

Commissioner Frankie Meads stated that he has spent quite a bit of time looking at the cost of the roof at Northeastern High School. He said two speakers at tonight's meeting also mentioned the roof project. He stated that the Board of Commissioners needs to further investigate the roof and ask questions. He said from what he can see the county could save about \$200,000 and that is not a small issue. He added that it is not fair to the taxpayers to have to pay more than is necessary.

Commissioner Meads stated that another thing that has been discussed is the 20 acres of land behind the landfill and the possibility of farming it. He said the Solid Waste Committee was to provide a list of reasons to not farm it rather than leasing it and receiving revenue of about \$2,000 per year. He stated that access would not be a problem and even though there is a test well at the site, the chemicals used by the farmer would not be harmful to the groundwater.

Chairman Dixon stated that Commissioner Meads passed out a proposal today from a company who said they could repair the NHS roof for a much lower price. He said regardless of the price, the project has to be bid out and upset bids cannot be submitted after the fact. He stated if this company wants to bid on the next section of roof, they can certainly do so in the project going forward.

Commissioner Meads said his issue is not getting this contractor in the system, but he would like to understand why there is such a big difference in the numbers.

Commissioner Perry stated that he believes the process is that the school system has the responsibility to solicit bids for the roof and the county's responsibility is to try to find the funds to pay for it.

Chairman Dixon said in regard to the 20 acres of land behind the landfill, it was addressed again at the last meeting of the Solid Waste Committee. He stated that staff has been requested to develop a list of the pros and cons of farming the property and there will be more information coming to the Board.

Commissioner Griffin said last week he was in Raleigh when the Coast Guard went to the State Board of Transportation to update them on the overall base facilities here in Pasquotank County. He stated that some members of the Board of Transportation did not realize the size of the base and the economic benefit to the area. He said in the future the Board of Transportation will have

a better understanding of the needs of the area in order to better fund and facilitate projects in cooperation with the Coast Guard.

Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow reported that he recently attended a recognition ceremony in Camden County for General Isaac Gregory which Camden contends was a Camden resident. He said he did a little research and found that Isaac Gregory was born in 1737 in what was then Pasquotank County. General Isaac Gregory was a colonel in the Pasquotank County regiment during the Revolutionary War of which most members later became part of the Camden County regiment. Vice-Chairman Winslow stated that General Isaac Gregory also served two terms as Sheriff of Pasquotank County. He said Camden County which was originally part of Pasquotank County became a separate county in 1777 and General Gregory's residence then became part of Camden County. In recognizing General Gregory, those at the ceremony did acknowledge that he was a resident of Camden/Pasquotank County. Vice-Chairman Winslow stated that General Gregory was quite a man and assembled residents from Pasquotank, Camden, Currituck and other counties that fought in the Revolutionary War. He said up until that time most of the militia and troops fled after the first shots were fired, but the unit from Pasquotank County, Camden, and Currituck, known as the Camden County Militia stood. He stated the General Isaac Gregory was bayoneted twice and left on the battlefield by Cornwallace to die, but it was the turning point of the country and the war when these local soldiers started fighting and standing their ground. Vice-Chairman Winslow said he would like to see in the future a possible plaque recognizing General Gregory as also being someone that Pasquotank County is proud of. He also suggested that the local museum place more emphasis on General Isaac Gregory. He added that he was a great man and a lot of people don't know about him.

Chairman Dixon requested that the Board move its next work session to 2:00 PM in order for Mayor Peel to make a presentation on Vision 2020.

Chairman Dixon asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being no further business, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Gary White to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.


CLERK TO THE BOARD


CHAIRMAN