

**PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA  
AUGUST 16, 1999**

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session meeting on Monday, August 16, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, Greenville, North Carolina with the following commissioners present:

Eugene James, Chairman  
Jeffrey E. Savage, Vice Chairman  
Glenn Bowen, Commissioner  
Charles P. Gaskins, Commissioner  
David Hammond, Commissioner  
Thomas H. Johnson, Commissioner  
Mark W. Owens, Jr., Commissioner  
M. Theresa Shank, Commissioner  
Beth B. Ward, Commissioner

Also present were:

Thomas B. Robinson, County Manager  
JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney  
Susan J. Banks, Clerk to the Board  
Arlen Holt, PIO and Cable Coordinator  
John K. Bulow, Assistant Manager  
Melonie Bryan, Director of Financial Services

**Call to Order** and welcome by Chairman James.

Prayer by Commissioner Hammond.  
Pledge led by Commissioner Gaskins .

**Agenda Approval**

Vice Chairman Savage added a report on the chemical spill which happened last night at Catalytica. Chairman James stated Bobby Joyner would be present to make that report. Mr. Robinson removed Ed Garrison's report on the Child Protective Services Biennial Review. Mr. Robinson also stated that the Board had received a handout this morning on a budget amendment for the Health Department's Project ASSIST.

Commissioner Gaskins motioned, seconded by Commissioner Hammond, for approval of the agenda with the amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman James welcomed everyone.

**Public Addresses to the Board**

Vernon Morrison - commented on what happened to him at the last meeting when he attempted to speak during the hunting ordinance discussion. He stated that others were allowed to speak but he was cut off by a motion to end the public comments. He also commented on discussions with commissioners outside of the meeting. He stated the Chairman should run the meeting by Roberts Rules of Order unless the Board has its own rules.

Bryant Tripp commented on the Board of Commissioners workshop held on October 1, 1997 concerning county zoning which was defeated two years earlier. He said the people were asked for input two years later and it has not changed. He said the citizens say an explanation is

overdue on the handling of this matter. Vice Chairman Savage asked for a copy of Mr. Tripp's comments.

William Worthington - Alderman for the Town of Winterville - spoke in support of the Human Relations Council.

Nancy Colville - commented on the appointment of a committee of commissioners to review the Commissioners' travel policy. She noted the motion made in 1993 where the Board voted not to authorize advances for out of state travel for commissioners. Then, she stated, that in 1995 and 1997 they revisited the travel where advances were left vague. The Committee should address this because it causes the staff extra time. She noted the current policy is to reconcile and repay the County in five days following a trip but one commissioner is using the installment plan. She stated that each commissioner is reminded by the Finance Officer of any funds that should be returned and it should be returned without delay. Car Mileage reimbursement should be the same as an airline ticket or use a travel guide mileage. On policy enforcement, she stated that the Finance Officer should be required to report to the Board any violations of the policy and any deviations of the policy should be made only by the Board. She said that the commissioners should not be reimbursed if they stay at another hotel from the others. She noted that the Commissioners received a copy of the county travel policy on February 22, 1999.

Sal DeMarco - spoke in support of the Human Relations Council. He stated that he works with children with learning disabilities and was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1995. He said that he looked on the Internet for information and shared results. He spoke about Orange County, California which has a nationally recognized program called "Bridges." He stated that the student community members would work collaboratively on this council. He said that in communities where there is a Human Relations Council the Police say they have had drastic reductions in violence.

Keith Cooper - spoke in support of the Human Relations Council. He stated that he has a revised proposal which was revised from his original proposal presented in April of 1999. He expressed an urgency for the need of a Human Relations Council. He suggested the municipalities be represented, the commissioners nominate people, and applications to be reviewed by an appointed task force. He stated that he felt this would promote good public policy and advance human relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He asked the Board to vote on the proposal presented or on the County Attorney's proposal. He stated that it needed to be done for the children.

Renee Smith, works with the NC Human Relations Commission - Ms. Smith stated that this was a proactive organization and it would help all the citizens of Pitt County. She stated that it could also be seen as an educational tool. She informed the Board that she would be available to answer any questions. She said that her office and staff would come in to help train people on this council so that it would be effective.

Thomas Lynch - General Manager of Expressions Magazine, WITN -7 producer and a student at East Carolina University. He said that at Expressions Magazine they are trying to bridge the gap. The proposal for the Human Relations Council was detailed and precise and he was very supportive of the council. He stated that there needs to be a sampling of many diverse groups. He stated that minorities have contributed greatly to the growth of this city but have not been allowed input in some of the changes. He said this would be a step in the right direction and the Council is vital to the growth of this community.

Dr. Reginald Watson stated that it is time for the Board to adopt the Human Relations Council. Once adopted this council will be in the hands of the Board. He asked the Board to give it a try for a few months. He stated that if the revised proposal is not acceptable then they should adopt the one presented by the County Attorney. He said he believed in fighting for this because of his

love of this county and not for Keith Cooper. He asked the Board to put the proposal on the agenda.

Walter Sadler - He stated that he had worked with planning the concept of the Human Relations Council that was introduced by two citizens. He said that they should look beyond and see the need for a council that would serve the citizens. He asked the Board to vote on this proposal.

Gail Horne - She stated that she serves on the City of Greenville Human Relations Council and in theory it is a good idea. She said she had not reviewed the revised proposal but further clarifying the concept is a good idea.

Chairman James closed public addresses and thanked each one for expressing their opinions. He stated that the Board's policy states that anything that is not on the agenda, will not be considered without a majority vote of the Board.

Keith Cooper asked the Board of Commissioners to make a motion. Chairman James called Mr. Cooper out of order.

Commissioner Bowen asked Ms. Smith about her duties with the North Carolina Human Relations Council. He asked if the Human Relations Council can make any decisions on items. Ms. Smith stated that they only make recommendations.

**RESOLUTION FOR JIMMIE HARDEE, TAX ASSESSOR**

Vice Chairman Savage motioned to adopt the resolution for Jimmie Hardee, seconded by Commissioner Shank and the motion passed unanimously.

**OFFICE OF THE PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**AUGUST 16, 1999**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
FOR  
JIMMIE E. HARDEE**

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* has served the County of Pitt as a loyal and valued employee from October 1, 1970, until his retirement on September 1, 1999 and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* has had a distinguished career in the Tax Assessor's Office rising from the position of Tax Appraiser through several promotions over his years of service to that of the position of primary leadership in the Tax Assessor's Office as Tax Supervisor on June 1, 1978, and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* continued to function in this primary role as the title changed over the years to finally that of Tax Assessor, and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* was voted by his peers as the Tax Assessor of the Year in the State of North Carolina in 1990, and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* has served as President of the North Carolina Tax Assessors Association in Fiscal Year 1987-88, and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* is known by the citizens of the County of Pitt as a professional tax administrator who has striven to be fair and equitable to all citizens of Pitt County in the assessment of property taxes, and;

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmie E. Hardee* is known as an optimistic and caring co-worker by those supervised by him and by his peer supervisors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pitt County Board of Commissioners expresses its appreciation for the service of *Jimmie E. Hardee* to the County of Pitt; and, furthermore, desires that he shall have a long and prosperous retirement as due such a man respected by all who know him.

**ADOPTED** this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August , 1999.

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Eugene James, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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Susan J. Banks, Clerk

Chairman James commented about how well the tax reevaluations have gone under Jimmie Hardee's supervision and what a valued employee he has been.

#### **Manager's Report**

Mr. Robinson updated the Board on loans for the Global TransPark Commission for Ayden and Grifton. He stated that the by-laws for the Global Transpark Commission did not allow the Global TransPark to make direct loans to the municipalities. He stated that Pitt County will have to borrow the money on behalf of the towns and enter into an interlocal agreement with the towns. Mr. Robinson stated that they will have to change the by-laws or the County will have to submit applications on behalf of municipalities. The Grifton loan was for \$261,000, Grifton and the Ayden loan was for \$375,000. He stated that these loans will go against the debt load for the County. He asked the Board for direction on this matter.

Mr. Robinson explained that both projects have economic implications. Chairman James spoke in support of pursuing the loans. Commissioner Shank asked how long the payback period would be on these two loans. Mr. Robinson responded that the loan for Grifton was for seven years and the loan for Ayden will be fifteen years, but they are trying to negotiate it down to a more reasonable seven to ten years.

Commissioner Ward motioned that the County request a change in the Global Transpark Commission's by-laws and if that is not successful, then proceed with the loan applications by the County for Ayden and Grifton. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson and approved unanimously.

Mr. Robinson reported on the Technical Assistance contract stating that Ms. Knisley will be in Greenville and meeting with staff today through Wednesday of this week. He reported that the Ad Hoc committee had been formed to assist Ms. Knisley. He reviewed the list of members as follows:

1. Ed Garrison, Social Services Director
2. Arlene Ferren, Pitt County schools
3. Judge Gwyn Hilburn, District Court Judge

4. Randy Horton, Assistant Director, Mental Health Center
5. David White, Area Board Chairman
6. Gayle Horne, Director, Mental Health Association
7. Walt Kitchin, Past Area Board Member
8. Mary Grace Bright, Contract Service Provider
9. Tracey Scott, Real Crisis Center
10. Casey Brittain, Director of Association of Retarded Citizens
11. Claire Richards, Parent of handicapped child
12. Sheriff Mac Manning, Sheriff's Dept.
13. Rick Fisher, Deputy, Sheriff's Dept.

He noted that they have broadened representation since the membership was reported at the last meeting. Vice Chairman Savage objected to this statement because there was no minority representation on the adhoc committee. Chairman James suggested the Vice Chairman meet with the Manager following the meeting to discuss this concern.

**Monthly Finance Report - Melonie Bryan**

Ms. Bryan reported that the auditors are on site and are seventy percent complete which was a great improvement over prior years. She also reported that the Mental Health work is going well and that she and her staff are working with them daily.

Fund Balance - General Fund:	\$19,397,521	(06/30/98)
	\$3,091,964	(unreserved but designated)
	\$8,930,989	(undesignated) 13.66%
		Draft 06/30/99 numbers should be available 9/99

Summary of Revenues:	\$4,969,822
Summary of Expenditures:	\$8,065,106

\*Revenue amounts do not include any appropriated fund balance. Expenditures include operating transfers to Health, Mental Health, and Social Services.

**Tax Releases & Refunds - \$100 or less for July 1999**

Total County Releases:	177	\$5,438.78
Total City Releases:	127	\$4,228.78
Total Tax Refunds:	10	\$218.00

Reports were provided on Contingency account and Grant Local Match.

**Tax Collections Report - Floyd Little**

Chairman James stated that thirty five percent of the tobacco allotment has been lost to Pitt County and the Commissioners need to know what the effect has been on tax collections for the County. Commissioner Shank asked if this could be reported on in the future. Chairman James said the farmers are in trouble and need help. Commissioner Hammond asked why the Board could not go ahead and act on this matter. Mr. Hardee stated that there is a case which has set a precedent on the tobacco allotments according to state law and he would discourage the Board from taking any action at this time.

Mr. Little gave the following Monthly Tax Collections report:

Total July 1999 collections for Pitt County:	\$999,028
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Pitt County Levy:	\$34,930,157
Total Collections including all units:	\$1,335,289
Garnishments for July 1999:	\$89,946
Bankruptcy for July 1999:	\$1,056
Occupancy for June 1999:	\$83,373
Occupancy Total to Date 98/99:	\$1,026,311

**Solid Waste Report - Joel Scales/Steve Cannon**

Mr. Joel Scales, Director of Solid Waste and County Garage, introduced Steve Cannon who is the Waste Enforcement Officer. Mr. Scales thanked Phil Dickerson and Sheriff's Mac Manning for their willing assistance. They presented a pictures of the Recycling Centers which Deputy Cannon had been working on and the large illegal dumping sites which had also been cleaned up. The Welcome Site was much cleaner. He stated that trash was being left outside the gate when the hours were changed, but that this had stopped. They reviewed several sites and how they have made people clean up the area where they have done the illegal dumping.

**Social Services Report - Child Protective Services Biennial Review - Ed Garrison**

This report was postponed.

**Report on Catalytica Chemical Spill - Bobby Joyner**

Mr. Joyner reported that the fumes from a chemical were released yesterday evening from the Catalytica plant. They evacuated two trailer parks. Mr. Joyner said that he contacted Ed Garrison, Social Services Director to open North Pitt High School to house the evacuated citizens. Personnel from the County Sheriff's Department and the Greenville City Police worked to assure that all citizens within the area were evacuated. He said that they made contact with the people at Catalytica and they also closed off Highway 264. A blanket of water was spread over the area and the fumes were disseminated. The decision was made that it was safe to let people go back to their homes. They brought in ice and special chemicals. There were sixty people housed at North Pitt High School shelter and fifteen to twenty at the Staton House Fire Department which was also used as a shelter. Mr. Joyner said they tried to inform the general public by using the news media and that Mr. Arlen Holt assisted with the press conferences on this situation. Mr. Joyner said the systems that are in place worked real well.

Mr. Joyner further reported that the Catalytica personnel will burn the chemicals in their incinerators. He said that the communications worked fine and looking at overall communications it went well. However, he stated that they are looking into one area which needs to be improved which is the County's radio system. Commissioner Hammond went to Sheriff's command post and noted that in less than twenty minutes they had the people in position. Commissioner Shank asked Mr. Joyner about what needed to be improved. Mr. Joyner said the radio system is thirty years old and needs to be brought up to current standards.

**ITEMS FOR CONSENT**

Vice Chairman Savage motioned for approval of the consent items. Commissioner Gaskins seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

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1. July 12, 1999 Minutes.
2. Educational Leave for Desiree Bowling for 3.5 hours per week for the Fall 1999 Semester in pursuing a Masters degree in Accounting. This is directly related to her position with the County.
3. Budget Amendment for E911 Communications. The Communications Department received \$3,000 grant/donation from Pitt County Memorial Hospital to be used for staff training. The funds have been received and need to be appropriated to enable the department to utilize funds as intended.

<u>Acct. #</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
102800-48400	Donations	3,000	
104335 531200	Training	3,000	

4. Budget Amendment for Crisis Supplemental Funds. The NC Division of Social Services and the Federal Government have provided \$64,741 in additional 100% Federal funds for a supplemental Crisis summer energy and cooling program. There funds are provided at no cost to the County to assist clients with their summer cooling needs. The funds may be spent for utilities, fans, air conditioners, etc.

<u>Acct.#</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
162400-423000	Social Services Administration	64,741	
165488-560500	Crisis Intervention	64,741	

5. Budget Amendment for Public Health Pregnancy Prevention. Pitt County Health Department requests permission to align this budget to reflect carryover balance from 06-30-99. Budgeted \$6,000 and actual carryover is \$8,310 for a net increase of \$2,310. No County funds involved. Grant period crosses fiscal years (04-01-99 - 08-31-99)

<u>Acct.#</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
153146 436500	DHHS Funds(Carryover)	2310	
155146 512600	Salaries	1465	
155146 518100	FICA	262	
155146 561000	Contracted Services		800
155146 531200	Travel General	425	
15514631705	GCA Incentive	958	

6. Proclamation for 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension and Heritage Day. The resolution sent by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has asked that the date of August 27, 1999 as "Extension Heritage Day" in North Carolina.

**OFFICE OF THE  
PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AUGUST 27, 1999 AS  
EXTENSION HERITAGE DAY**

**WHEREAS**, eighty-five years ago, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service was established as a partnership of county, state and federal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the essence of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service has long been to help people put knowledge to work so that they can improve their lives, and

**WHEREAS**, Extension has been a supportive partner of other county programs, including but not limited to social services and natural resources, and

**WHEREAS**, throughout its history, Extension has focused on providing people with educational programs that meet their needs, providing decision-makers with objective information and providing the framework for successful individuals, families and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Extension takes the research of North Carolina's two land-grant institutions - North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University - and develops educational resources based upon the needs of North Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS**, Extension centers are located in all 100 counties and on the Cherokee Reservation.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of PITT COUNTY, North Carolina does hereby proclaim August 27, 1999 as "EXTENSION HERITAGE DAY" in North Carolina, and urges all county citizens to use, visit and support their local Extension Service, and encourages all PITT COUNTY citizens to join us in celebration of this anniversary. Let us honor with appropriate activities and ceremonies those who have served us and let us remember this great heritage.

Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan J. Banks, Clerk

7. Reappointment of Robert Dail to the Greenville Planning and Zoning Commission.
8. September 25, 1999 to be day set aside for a County Auction to be held at Prepshirt Facility. The County will be selling surplus vehicles and miscellaneous office furniture and fixtures. A full accounting of the sell will be made to the Board at its October 18, 1999 meeting. List of items to be sold are:

	1994 Chevrolet Caprice	1G1BL52P2RR159840	110,725
	1995 Chevrolet Caprice	1G1BL52WXR167679	
96,685			
	1993 Chevrolet Caprice	1G1BL5377PW132923	133,724
	1995 Ford Taurus	1FALP5248SA219328	88,423
	1985 Nissan 300ZX	JN1WZ1481FX0733	206,895

1991 Ford Crown Victoria	2FACP72GOMX174868	110,496
1991 Chevrolet Truck	1GCEC14H2ME158934	138,928
1991 Plymouth Acclaim	1P3XA46KXMF651408	105,991
1994 Chevrolet Caprice	1G1BL52PORR159917	111,496
1990 Chevrolet Caprice SW	1G1BN84Y3LA135280	106,118
1993 Ford Taurus	1FACP5242PA241008	90,105
1994 Chevrolet Caprice	1G1BL52P8RR159809	112,534

**Cooperative Extension Proclamation - Mitch Smith**

Chairman James presented the proclamation for “Extension Heritage Day” honoring 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of North Carolina Cooperative Extension to Mitch Smith and his colleagues that were present.

**ITEMS FOR DECISION**

**Capping a portion of the Pitt County Landfill - Phil Dickerson**

Mr. Dickerson reported that he had requested bids on capping a portion of the Pitt County Landfill. Bids were received and opened on July 27, 1999. The project will effectively end the investigation and remediation of the area in and around the Coastal Chemical fire debris disposal cell, except for ongoing groundwater monitoring. He stated he hoped this to be the resolution for this situation.

Bid Tabulation  
Capping a Portion of the Pitt County Landfill

<b>Company</b>	<b>Bid Total</b>
E.R. Lewis Cons. Co.	\$128,950.00
<b>Eco Systems, Inc.</b>	<b>\$99,847.50</b>
Carolina Mountain Cons. Co.	\$155,850.00
Four Seasons Environmental	\$134,167.50

**UPON MOTION** by Vice Chairman Savage, seconded by Commissioner Shank, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid to the low bidder, Eco Systems, Inc. of Apex, North Carolina and authorize execution of the contract.

Commissioner Johnson commended Mr. Dickerson for maintaining this project and being very diligent on working on the situation. Chairman James thanked the Manager and Senator Bob Martin for the funds in the amount of \$300,000 for the landfill received for remediation of the problem. Commissioners commented on all of the individuals who worked towards resolving this situation and the request for assistance with the remediation. It was suggested that the Board send a letter to Senator Martin thanking him for his work on behalf of Pitt County.

**Budget Amendment for Sheriff’s Department**

The Sheriff had received notification of funding for two additional School Resource Officers to serve Chicod and GR Whitfield Schools. A budget amendment was submitted for approval by the Board.

**UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted eight to one to approve the budget amendment, authorize creation of two additional School Resource Officers, and authorize the Manager to execute the two new School Resource

Officer contracts and four continuation contracts to enable the County to recover funding advanced for expenses.

<b>Account No.</b>	<b>Title of Account</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Decrease</b>
102600 444106	School Security (Revenue)	74,611	
104328 512000	Salaries	54,646	
104328 518100	FICA	4,180	
104328 518200	Retirement	2,530	
104328 518201	401 (k)	2,733	
104328 518400	Life Insurance	218	
104328 518300	Medical Insurance	5,664	
104328 521200	Uniforms	1,200	
104328 528000	Law Supplies	1,160	
104328 539500	Training	880	
104328 553001	Equipment	1,400	

**Selection Process for new Tax Assessor - Tom Robinson**

Mr. Robinson stated that the Tax Assessor position is an appointment by the Board of Commissioners. He asked the Board members how they would prefer him to begin the process of filling the position.

The Commissioners discussed appointing someone for the Tax Assessor’s office, promoting from within, and having each board member involved in the selection process.

Commissioner Savage **motioned** for the entire Board to interview and select the new tax assessor with input from the Finance Officer, County Attorney and County Manager. Commissioner Gaskins seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the importance of this position and some discussed alternatives to this proposed motion. A commissioner asked specifically about Mr. Hardee’s current assistant, Mr. Glenn Cutrell and suggested he be interviewed and possibly appointed. Discussion followed about this suggestion.

Following the discussion, Chairman James called for a vote on the motion. Commissioners in favor of the motion for all nine of the commissioners to interview and select were: Gaskins, James, Savage, Johnson and Shank. Commissioner opposed to this motion were: Owens, Hammond, Ward and Bowen.

Commissioner Owens **motioned** for the Board of Commissioners to interview Glenn Cutrell. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. Discussion followed concerning opening the application process up to anyone who was interested and let Mr. Cutrell apply. Chairman James called for a vote. The vote was three to six and the motion failed. Commissioners supporting this motion were: James, Bowen and Owens. Commissioners opposed to this motion were: Savage, Shank, Hammond, Gaskins, Johnson, and Ward.

**Grimesland Boards - Susan Banks**

Ms. Banks stated that the Town of Grimesland had extended its extraterritorial jurisdiction. Consequently, the Board of Commissioners needs to appoint two members from the extraterritorial jurisdiction to each the Grimesland Planning Board and the Grimesland Board of Adjustment.

Commissioner Johnson motioned to accept the recommendations of Mayor Eleanor Farr. Commissioner Ward seconded this motion.

Commissioner Savage offered an amendment to the motion to recommend Allegra Gross as a member to one of the Grimesland Board's. He stated that in light of the fact that there could only be two members on each Board then he would remove Danny Strickland. Commissioner Hammond seconded the amendment to the motion. Chairman James called for a vote on the amendment which received a three to six vote. The amendment failed. Commissioners voting in favor of the amendment were: Savage, Hammond and Bowen. The remaining commissioners voted against the amendment.

Chairman James then called for a vote on the original motion to appoint Annie Clemons and Terry Strickland to the Grimesland Planning Board and William Howell and Danny Strickland to the Grimesland Board of Adjustment, as recommended by Mayor Eleanor Farr. The motion passed eight to one with Commissioner Hammond voting in opposition.

**Budget Amendment on Health Department Budget Amendment - Project ASSIST**

Vice Chairman Savage **motioned** to approve the Budget Amendment for Project ASSIST. Commissioner Shank seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Account No.	Title of Account	Increase	Decrease
155152 560004	Project Assist	10872.58	
153152 436501	Project Assist	10872.58	

**Commissioners' Reports**

Mr. Jimmie Hardee the Board that they should appoint an interim tax assessor because he would be retiring September 1<sup>st</sup> and the Board would not meet again until September 13, 1999.

**UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Glenn Cutrell as interim tax assessor.

Chairman James stated that the Belvoir School traffic and parking is very bad. He said they had met with the Department of Transportation officials and school representatives last year and they came up with a \$100,000 plan for fixing the parking lot. The land has been purchased to build an elementary school next to the Belvoir school and the traffic is going to get worse.

Vice Chairman Savage **motioned** to instruct the County Manager to get with the Finance Director to look for resources needed to address this problem immediately, with the cooperation of the School Board and the Department of Transportation. This motion did not receive a second.

Commissioner Ward suggested a formal request to the Board of Education to use their capital outlay funds for this project would be in order. Vice Chairman Savage agreed.

The Board discussed what the proper and most effective way of addressing this problem with the School Board. Discussion pursued concerning the parking lot, the traffic situation, turn lanes, and addressing the School Board on these issues.

Commissioner Hammond said he had asked for a reduction in the speed limit and turn lanes to be installed which have not been done. Vice Chairman Savage said that the School Board has \$1.0 million in discretionary funds which they could use to address this problem. Commissioner Owens asked about the parking versus the turn lanes.

Chairman James said that they met with the principal of the Belvoir School and came to an agreement for a solution. Commissioner Shank suggested that the Chairman and Manager meet with Dr. Sosne and the Chairman of the School Board to discuss this problem and a solution.

**UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Vice Chairman Savage, to do a resolution to present to the Board of Education instructing them to do what the State has recommended be done and demand that they immediately address this problem. Commissioner Johnson was concerned about this motion when the Board has been trying diligently to encourage communications between the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Ward offered an amendment to the motion, stating that the funds come from the School Board's budget using capital outlay money or part of the \$ 2.5 fund balance. Commissioner Shank seconded the amendment.

The Board discussed their rules of procedure which stated that they will not take action on individual items unless the Board votes to add them to the agenda. The previous motion and amendment was withdrawn.

**UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted eight to one to add this item concerning Belvoir School to the agenda. Commissioner Gaskins opposed the motion.

**UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted seven to two to send a resolution to the School Board asking them to take care of the situation as recommended by the State at Belvoir School and use fund balance or other funds within their budget for the necessary improvements in parking and traffic. Commissioners Gaskins and Owens were opposed to the motion.

Commissioner Ward stated they were addressing a staggered unloading areas or lanes of traffic which has been done at other schools. She said that the Department of Transportation is not opposed to this system of staggered drop-off.

Vice Chairman Savage commented that the County Manager should be notified first along with law enforcement and then the commissioners be notified of emergency situations like the Catalytica situation.

Commissioner Shank reported that as liaison on the School Board she had the opportunity to hear an excellent report on the schools goals for improvement in the coming year and would like to have those goals shared with the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Carraway should be invited to share with our Board.

Mr. Robinson suggested that he or some representative of the Board of Commissioners make this request of the schools in person. Chairman James said the Board of Education knows this is a high priority.

Chairman James adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Banks, CMC  
Clerk to the Board