

**PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
DECEMBER 20, 1999**

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session meeting on Monday, December 20, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, Greenville, North Carolina with the following commissioners present:

Charles P. Gaskins, Chairman
David Hammond, Vice Chairman
Glenn Bowen, Commissioner
Eugene James, Commissioner
Thomas H. Johnson, Commissioner
Mark W. Owens, Jr., Commissioner
Jeffrey E. Savage, 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 T. Bryan, Director of Financial Services

Call to Order and Welcome by Chairman Gaskins.

Prayer offered by Commissioner Hammond.

Pledge led by Commissioner Ward.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Gaskins asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Robinson stated that the Chairman's appointments would be delayed by Chairman request. Mr. Robinson stated that Ms. Banks had received a request for appointment and reappointments of Animal Cruelty Investigators that needed to be added to the agenda.

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner James, to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bowen stated that Item # 14, Appointment to the PCMH Board of Trustees needed to be postponed so that it could be advertised prior to making that appointment. Commissioners Hammond and James accepted that request as an amendment to the agenda within their motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE BOARD

Nancy Colville – discussed the resolution concerning the official language of government being brought to the Board by Commissioner Bowen. She reviewed some historical moments, which involved individuals from Cuba and noted that the original settlers were from Spain, France and England. She stated that the Country is more divided today than ever before and Commissioner Bowen plays a part of this division. She stated that the children need to be educated so they can be a part of the whole world. Commissioner Savage stated that Ms. Colville' comments had bigotry overtones concerning Commissioner Bowen and this should not be allowed.

Vernon Morrison commented that Commissioner Bowen is trying to do something that should be done, with English being the official language. He added that when people come into the United States and they cannot communicate in English then we are putting them in poverty. He said it is OK for people to come into the country legally. He said he was happy that Jim Hunt sent money for the flood victims.

Javier Castillo – stated that it was understood that English was the official language of the government and the United States. He commented that Pitt County has been proactive in actions concerning the special census where they tried to count all the Hispanics. He suggested that they should continue to print things in Spanish. He stated that street signs are international.

Keith Cooper – stated that he wanted to reinforce the importance of Senior Citizens appreciation week. He said Dr. Charles Byrd, Director of Council on Aging was supposed to be here. He asked that the second week in May be proclaimed as Older Americans week in Pitt County. He stated that 20,000 citizens in Pitt County fall into the older citizens category and they need to have more awareness brought to them by highlighting this week with activities. He asked that the Commissioners make this an item for consent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 15th meeting.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS AND RECEPTION

Mr. Robinson, Chairman Gaskins, and Florida Hardy presented Employee Service Awards to the following employees:

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS DECEMBER 20, 1999

5 Years

<u>Nicole</u> H. Brown	Mental Health
<u>Sherry</u> Crockett-Howell	Tax Collector
<u>Debra</u> K. Dunn	Detention Center
<u>Delilah</u> W. Garris	Social Services
<u>James</u> L. Harris	Mental Health
<u>Susan</u> M. Leggett	Social Services
<u>Laura</u> L. Long	Social Services
Robert M. (<u>Mark</u>) Phelps	Health
<u>Jessica</u> M. Rasino	Mental Health
Reginald (<u>Reggie</u>) W. Satterfield	Inspections
<u>Samuel</u> H. Smith	Solid Waste
<u>Sylvia</u> D. Smith	Mental Health
<u>Peggy</u> E. Valenti	Health
<u>Michelle</u> L. Williams	Mental Health
<u>Gina</u> W. Wooten	Sheriff

10 Years

Bonnie L. Barrett	Social Services
Thomas A. Crandall	Sheriff
Rebecca N. Dickens	Mental Health
Deloris G. Ferebee	Social Services
Katherine (Kathy) S. Parker	Social Services
Mary V. Phillips	Human Resources
Andre L. Roberson	Mental Health

15 Years

Barbara J. Declue	Social Services
Badri J. Hamra	Mental Health
Anna H. Maddox	Health
Peggie D. Willis	Detention Center
Lisa K. Wingate	Health
Annie Suggs	Cooperative Extension

25 Years

Paul Andrews	Health
James W. (Wilbert) Futrell	MIS
Joyce M. Norville	Social Services
Bari J. Stasavich	Health

30 Years

Beverley P. Wheeler	Social Services
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MANAGER'S REPORT – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson provided the following report:

- Y2K Disaster Preparedness
 - Bobby Joyner and Mike Taylor reported on activities scheduled for New Year's Eve. Vice Chairman Hammond recognized the school age children that were in the audience. Mr. Joyner stated that the department heads had met and the Emergency Operations Center would be open the night of December 31st. He said that hopefully everything is taken care of and the opening of the EOC is just a precaution. Commissioner Savage spoke about the representation in the EOC. He stated that during the flood, about 30 people were working in the EOC and only two were black. He stated that there needs to be an improved balance so that there are people that can better understand others. There should be greater minority representation during time of disaster.
 - Mike Taylor spoke about the management information systems. He stated that they have made all efforts to assure stable systems. Staff will be present in the Emergency Operations Center and the Management Information Systems office. He stated that he does not anticipate any major problems because they have been actively preparing for the Y2K for about twenty-four months.
- NACO Conference, Washington, DC - March 3-7, 2000 - Mr. Robinson encouraged all commissioners to attend especially since there would be a lot of lobbying going taking place concerning budget needs due to the flooding in North Carolina. There needs to be a massive presence from North Carolina. Commissioner Savage said this is the most

important meeting held during the year. Vice Chairman Hammond stated that Commissioner Savage had made quite an impact on the State and National levels at these meetings and commended Mr. Savage for his activities.

- Recreational Facilities Planned for Temporary Housing Sites – a letter was provided that outlines recreation in the temporary housing sites.
- Other Matters - Phase III Funding from the Governor’s Relief Fund in the amount of \$578,000 will be available. This round of funding is to meet very specific needs and they need information on how best to utilize these funds. The money would need to be appropriated but will be addressed at a future meeting. Commissioner Savage spoke on how the Manager has been a leader in this recovery effort and commended Mr. Robinson on the good job he had done through this situation. Vice Chairman Hammond asked about telephone service in temporary housing sites. He stated that initially they received free service at a phone booth but now they are having to pay \$.35 for local calls. Residents do not have access to phones in their trailers. Commissioner Bowen said he had spoken with Sprint and the telephones are under FEMA’s authority. Vice Chairman Hammond said this is a county related situation.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Melonie Bryan

Ms. Bryan gave the following report for the month of November 1999.

Fund Balance – General Fund:	\$37,476,176	(06/30/99 – Audited)
	\$ 2,731,878	(Unreserved but designated)
	\$27,478,826	(Undesignated) 33.42%

Total Budget: \$146,391,976

Summary of Revenues:	<u>Nov. 1999</u>	<u>YTD FY 99-00</u>
General Operating Funds	9,947,015	52,897,839
Enterprise Fund	819,190	3,322,949
All Other Funds	2,851,469	6,171,729
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	13,617,674	62,392,517

Percent of Budget:	9.30%	42.62%
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Summary of Expenditures:	<u>Nov. 1999</u>	<u>YTD FY 99-00</u>
General Operating Funds:	8,146,802	42,114,985
Enterprise Fund	1,033,313	2,319,333
All Other Funds	726,344	6,038,307
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	9,906,459	50,472,625

Percent of Budget:	6.76%	34.47%
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TAX RELEASES AND REFUNDS - \$100 OR LESS

Total County Releases:	216	\$6,453.69
Total City Release:	144	\$4,610.24
Total Tax Refunds:	52	\$1,430.23 (Includes October and November Refunds)

TAX COLLECTION REPORT - Floyd Little

Mr. Little gave the following Summary of 1999/2000 information with the 1998/1999 information for comparison:

<u>Tax collection activity Pitt County</u>	
Total November 1999 Collections:	\$ 1,387,198
Total to Date 1999/2000:	\$20,072,465
 <u>Pitt County Levy</u>	
Nov. 1999 Levy:	\$37,713,200
 <u>November 1999 Percent Collected:</u>	
Original Levy	50.75
Supplemental & Vehicle	50.9
	50.2
 <u>Total Collection activity all units including Pitt County:</u>	
Total November 1999 Collections:	\$ 2,082,237
Total to Date 1999/2000:	\$29,739,329
 Garnishments for Nov 1999:	
	\$ 56,927
Bankruptcy for Nov 1999	\$ 2,231
Occupancy for Oct 1999	\$137,412
Occupancy Total to Date 99/00	\$433,679

Mr. Robinson spoke on property taxes and that the County does not have the authority to grant relief for taxes because the taxes that are due on September 1 are for property that was on the tax books as of January 1, 1999. There can and will be some consideration for the damages in the next year's taxes.

He stated that part of the Governor's package is to help the counties cover tax losses and there is some source of federal funding that can be applied for that would go to the schools which would help reduce some of the losses.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted unanimously to approve the items for consent as presented in agenda. Vice Chairman Hammond asked about the cut through road in Brookhaven Subdivision. Commissioner Savage called for the question.

1.	Tax Releases and Refunds Greater than \$100		
	October 1999 Total County Releases (Greater than \$100) -	64	\$14,538.94
	October 1999 Total Greenville Release (Greater than \$100)-	18	\$ 4,174.91
	November 1999 Total County Releases (Greater than \$100)-	30	\$
	5,237.15		
	November 1999 Total Greenville Releases(Greater than \$100)-	12	\$ 2,030.76
	Total Refunds (Greater than \$100) -	4	\$ 925.58
	A Cut Above Greenville, Inc.		\$ 258.52
	Gossman, F. Joseph Bishop		\$ 362.95

Gouras, Inc.	\$ 164.31
Southern National L. Corp	\$ 139.80

2. Budget Amendment – Health Department

PCMH – Diabetes - \$217.00 – increase in miscellaneous revenue to correspond with an increase in printing. This revenue reflects money given by Partners of the Diabetes Project to help pay for printing of health education materials.

<u>Account No.:</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
153149-489000	Misc. Revenue	217	
155149-534100	Printing	217	

Maternal Health - \$24,100.00 – The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust granted us dollars to recover lost potential revenue for September totaling \$23,922.00 which resulted from Hurricane Floyd. An additional \$178.00 was given by the Trust to replace items lost at the shelters during the hurricane.

<u>Account No.:</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
155263-549999	Reserve for fixed charges/operating	23,922	
153163-436000	Non-Categorical Grant	23,922	
155163-523000	Med-Tech Supplies	178	
153163-484000	Contributions & Donations	178	

WIC Breastfeeding - \$3,927.00 – The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust granted dollars to replace breastfeeding pumps that were lost during the flood.

<u>Account No.:</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
155169-551000	Office Furniture & Equipment	3,927	
153169-489000	Miscellaneous Revenues	3,927	

Communicable Disease - \$178.00 – The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust granted \$178.00 to replace items lost at the shelter during the hurricane.

<u>Account No.:</u>	<u>Title of Account</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
153158-489000	Miscellaneous Revenue	178	
155158-523000	Med. Tech Supplies	178	

3. Educational Leave – Debra Walter with the Health Department

Debra Walter has requested a total of 3 hours per week of educational leave. It will be a 16 week time period as part of academic work towards a Masters of Nursing at ECU. The nature of this course of study relates directly to Ms. Walter’s duties at the Health Department and will contribute to her skills and effectiveness in her job. This request is approved by and has the full support of her Supervisor, her Division Head and the Health Director.

4. Educational Leave – Dee Bowling with the Finance Department

Dee Bowling is currently working towards a Masters Degree in Accounting. I would like to recommend that she be allowed time off to pursue this advanced degree since it is directly related to her current position with the County and we will benefit from the knowledge in acquires. Her request is within the County's established policy.

5. Petition for Secondary Road System in Brookhaven Subdivision

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) after receiving a petition requesting that a road, or portion thereof be abandoned from the State maintained secondary road system, investigates the situation to determine if the road meets their requirements. If after investigation it is determined that the road meets the certain criteria, the NCDOT District Engineer will request the County's endorsement for the abandonment by way of resolution. In this particular situation Brookhaven Drive currently connects NC 11 North & Briley Road. As a result of safety concerns, the residents have requested that the intersection of Brookhaven Drive & NC 11 be closed. Resolution approved.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

Penalty Appeal - Glenn Cutrell

Mr. Cutrell stated that the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation filed taxes late and this caused a penalty of \$131.00 to be attached to their tax bill. He recommended that the Board remain consistent with past actions and not relieve the penalty.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Vice Chairman Hammond to accept the Tax Assessor's recommendation not to release the penalty for North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation. Vice Chairman Hammond called the question. Commissioner Owens opposed the motion. The vote was eight to one.

Pitt County Transportation for 2002-2008 Transportation Improvement Plan - James Rhodes

Mr. Rhodes reviewed the 2002-2008 Transportation Improvement Plan using the GIS maps. He stated that this is a new process for the N.C. Department of Transportation. The priorities will be reviewed every two years as well as looking for fiscal balance in the system. He provided the Board with a summary of changes in the agenda and stated that there were not many changes. The resolution has been changed and it does not include the Metropolitan Planning Area priorities. This group will bring their priorities to a meeting in January 2000. Mr. Rhodes stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization priorities are consistent with the County's priorities.

Commissioner Shank asked if the route for US 17 had been determined and where it would run. Mr. Rhodes stated that this would ultimately be a decision by the State and Federal governments. Commissioner James said that this Board should be concerned with this because Pitt County already lost Highway 64 which no longer comes through Pitt County. Commissioner James stated that US 17 should go through Grimesland. Mr. Rhodes said that this would cause some displacing of residences. Commissioner Johnson said this process has been a long one and he did not think anything else could be done. Commissioner James said it is important to assure the flow of water from the Tar River. Vice Chairman Hammond asked where the southwest by-pass would be placed. Mr. Rhodes said he hoped to tell the Board shortly but he did not know anything definite at this time. Commissioner Savage said the State needed to look at which roads were under water during the flooding and what can be done to assure access for citizens north of the Tar River. The need for an additional route in Pitt County would be a good

reason for US 17 to come into Pitt County. Commissioner Shank said that Collice Moore and Neal Lassiter had already reported that they were looking at this as part of the project. Commissioner Savage suggested this could be added as a priority. Mr. Robinson said that this is part of the mitigation planning which would be presented under Hazard Mitigation later in the meeting. Mr. Rhodes said that he discussed the approach to the Greene Street Bridge with Neal Lassiter and Collice Moore. The replacement of the Greene Street Bridge crossing the Tar River is already a priority.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Savage, to approve the 2002-2008 Transportation Improvement Priorities resolution as presented. Commissioner Owens suggested that Mayor Robert Evans of Farmville may like to address the Board since he was present. Mayor Evans stated that they were concerned with the plan for the north/south corridor for Hwy 11 and Hwy 33. They believed that Highway 258 was supposed to be serving as the corridor for the Global Transpark business. He stated he was concerned about how this was proceeding. He asked that the Board consider US 258 as still the best corridor for the north/south corridor for transportation to the Global Transpark.

Mr. Rhodes said that the route of choice now is the southwest bypass and that Highway 258 never had any funding attached to it. He said that the bypass would pass through Farmville and Fountain, and it is more expensive to upgrade those roads. Commissioner James said this is not the doing of Pitt County but from people of higher influence. Commissioner Savage said the upgrading of secondary roads needs to have more emphasis than some of the highways. Mr. Rhodes said that they have highlighted those areas. Commissioner James called for the question.

The vote on the motion to approve the resolution on 2002-2008 Transportation Priorities was unanimous.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES
TO BE PRESENTED TO THE
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has solicited information on project priorities and candidate projects for inclusion in the 2002-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the population of Pitt County is projected to increase from 108,480 in 1990 to approximately 160,000 in 2010, several transportation projects and improvements are necessary to accommodate the County's growth; and

WHEREAS, the Pitt County Board of Commissioners met on the 20th day of December, 1999, to consider needed transportation improvements for all of Pitt County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pitt County Board of Commissioners that the following transportation improvements, in priority order, are recommended to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for inclusion in the 2002-2008 Transportation Improvement Program:

A. Current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Projects outside or partially outside the Greenville MPO Planning Area

<u>Project</u>	<u>Location & Description</u>
1. NC 11-NC 903 (R-2250)	Greenville Southwest Loop, NC 11 to Greenville Bypass. Four-lane divided facility on new location with a bypass of Winterville.
2. US 264/NC 33 Connector (U-3430) [Unfunded List]	Construct connector on new location with bridge over the Tar River.
3. US 13-NC 11 (R-218)	Bypass of Bethel on new location.
4. NC 33 (R-3407)	Greenville to Tarboro. Widen roadway to a multi-lane facility.
5. US 17 (R-2510)	Washington Bypass. Four lane divided freeway on new location.

B. Unmet Needs (As Identified in the Adopted Pitt County Thoroughfare Plan and by the Pitt County Board of Commissioners)

Major Collectors

1. NC 33/SR 1759 Connector	Construct 2-lane connector between NC 33 and SR 1759 (Tucker Rd.) on new location.
2. SR 2241, 1759, & 1723 Widening	Widen SR 2241 (Ivy Rd.), SR 1759 (Tucker Rd.), & SR 1723 (Ayden Golf Club Rd.) to 2-lane major collector to meet minimum tolerable lane width requirements.
3. NC 43 South Widening	Widen NC 43 South to 5-lane facility from SR 1735 (Herman Garris Rd.) to Cox Crossing. Widen remainder to Craven County to meet minimum lane width requirements.
4. NC 43 North Widening	Widen NC 43 North to meet minimum tolerable lane width requirements between US 264 Northwest Bypass and Falkland.

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| 5. NC 33 East Widening | Widen NC 33 East to meet minimum tolerable lane width requirements from Simpson to Beaufort County. |
| 6. SR 1127 Widening | Widen SR 1127 (Frog Level Rd.) to meet minimum tolerable lane width requirements to serve as a connector between US 13/US 264A and NC 903. |

Safety Improvements for Intersections

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. NC 33 West, SR 1417 and SR 1414 | Make necessary improvements to provide safer turn movements and to facilitate traffic flow adjacent to Belvoir Elementary School. |
| 2. NC 11 and SR 1110 | Install traffic signal at intersection to afford safe traffic movement off and onto NC 11 and SR 1110 (Hanrahan Road). |
| 3. NC 11 and SR 1154 | Install a median crossover to allow direct access to northbound lanes of NC 11 from SR 1154 (Elliot Dixon Road). Install deceleration lane with taper and acceleration lane with taper on southbound lane of NC 11 to provide safer access to and exit from SR 1154 (Elliot Dixon Road). |
| 4. NC 903 and NC 102 | Realign intersection with stop condition on westbound lane of NC 102. |
| 5. US 264-A and SR 1127 | Install traffic signal at intersection to afford safe traffic movement off and onto US 264-A and SR 1127 (Frog Level Road). |
| 6. Three intersections along | Straighten and realign intersections in conjunction SR 2241/SR 1723 with widening project (B-2, Major Collectors above). |

Bicycle Improvements

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| 1. Coastal Carolina Rail-Trail Project | Construct the first segment of Rail-Trail project connecting the Stokes and Pactolus communities. |
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Adopted this the 20th day of December, 1999.

(Seal)

COUNTY OF PITT

Susan J. Banks
Clerk to the Board

Charles Gaskins
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

A five-minute recess was called by the Chairman.

CDBG Funding Award - James Rhodes

Mr. Rhodes reported on the scattered site grant award for \$379,000 for the second year and the need for the Board to accept the funding. He stated that these funds may tie into recovery efforts. Ten sites were proposed for low to moderate households and were owner occupied. They were trying to cover areas with the most needs. He presented a map with the distribution of the sites. There is a \$17,500 local match required that has been budgeted. Ms. Martha Tyndall from the grant program was also present.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Vice Chairman Hammond, to approve the grant award from the Community Development Block Grant, authorize the Chairman to execute required documents to accept the funds and to adopt the resolution that identifies staff authorized to request funds for completed work associated with the program. Commissioner Savage asked Ms. Tyndall to share with the Board how these funds could be used for flood victims. Commissioner Shank asked if these funds were for the original targeted sites. Commissioner James asked why the funding was less than what the County usually receives. Mr. Rhodes said that it is because this is a scattered site grant which is funded with less money. Commissioner James asked about the Pug Moore Road project and why was it was not emphasized more. Mr. Rhodes said that the Pug Moore Road project did not meet the requirements for this funding and it was not the worst of the worst. Mr. Rhodes said that approval of this funding shows that there are other and more pressing needs in the County. Commissioner James said this area needs a pumping station because they cannot use septic tanks. Mr. Rhodes said this project funding may not be used for a pump station or sewer lines.

Commissioner James called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Hazard Mitigation Plan – James Rhodes

Mr. Robinson said that the Hazard Mitigation Program is an effort to minimize the possibility of this severe flooding happening again in Pitt County. Mr. Rhodes said that the mitigation plan has to be a part of the buy-out program. Notifications were sent to people located in the floodplain and those with substantial damage. If they were located in the 100 year floodplain and the homes were substantially damaged, they are eligible to be included in the first round of applicants. They hope to have everything in by the January 7th deadline. Well over 200 applicants have already signed up for the program but that does not mean that they are all eligible. Vice Chairman Hammond said the maps that determine the floodplain are outdated. Mr. Rhodes said citizens can contact the Planning Office if they are in doubt about their property being located in the floodplain. The maps are from 1983 and are some from 1990. Grifton has an updated map from 1997. Mr. Rhodes said he wants to send an application in by mid January and they are trying to make sure things are in order and see if they need to make changes to the flood damage map. The Planning Department will be looking at necessary or suggested elevations. All mechanical improvements have to be done above an established elevation. Commissioner Savage said he does not think the elevation would have helped in this situation

but that he has heard that FEMA may require these elevations. Mr. Rhodes stated that the County is only requiring the base flood level elevation. Commissioner James asked how many homes would FEMA buy-out? Mr. Rhodes said the first structures have to be in the 100-year floodplain and must have experienced substantial damaged or 51% of the tax value. Most of these houses had over 5 feet of water. The computer will rank houses by an established criteria.

Vice Chairman Hammond asked about the 500 year floodplain. Mr. Rhodes said that Greenville has a 500 year floodplain but the County does not have one recorded. Commissioner Shank said that a Mr. Riggs from East Carolina University would be speaking on January 10 at the First Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. about the misuse of floodplains. She stated that the Board should hear him speak to help them understand the floodplain.

Mr. Rhodes said the mitigation plan will be added on to the Wooten Company's contract and will tie into their work.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the development of a county-wide mitigation plan with assistance from The Wooten Company. Vice Chairman Hammond called for the question. Commissioner Owens asked if the funds would come from the Planning budget for The Wooten Company's contract. Mr. Rhodes said this would be covered under reimbursement by FEMA. The motion was approved unanimously.

Grant for Local Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program Administration – James Rhodes

Mr. Robinson said Local Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program could be administered on the State level but the grant is important enough that the State will pay the cost of having it administered on a local level and he would like to take advantage of it for the citizens convenience. There is a 40/60 match which the Planning Department can generate with review fees collected throughout the year. They anticipate collecting at least \$15,000 in review fees this fiscal year. These funds will be utilized specifically to fund a new Planning Technician position. The new staff members will be primarily responsible for updating the County's Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance and assisting with program administration. For the 18-month grant period, nearly \$60,500 are needed for the new position's salary, fringe benefits and general operating expenses. Therefore, a grant for approximately \$24,200 (40%) will be requested and will require about \$36,300 (60%) as a local match. Mr. Rhodes stated that they expect to collect approximately \$22,500 in review fees during the 18-month period. The grant application must be submitted by January 1, 2000. He stated that a lot of construction is going on, especially with the flood elements, and they need to incorporate this program and a new staff member to update and comply with the State program and requirements.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to approve in concept using General Fund monies, including review fees collected for program administration, for local match; authorize staff to submit grant application; and approve the budget amendment to reflect the grant if awarded. Commissioner Owens asked if this program will continue after 18 months and if so where would the money come from? Mr. Robinson said there is an intern working now and this will help offset some of the cost.

Commissioner James asked how much this is going to cost the County? He said the State regulates this but the county residents support this program being administered locally, even if it does require paying a fee. Vice Chairman Hammond called for the question. Commissioner Johnson said he favored the local approach and the Board should support the local developers. The motion passed unanimously.

Schedule Investment Workshop – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson stated that the General Assembly approved the special legislation that was requested by Pitt County for investment of funds and he would like to work on the strategy for investing before actually making the investments. He asked that the Board schedule a meeting day and time for a presentation to be made by Dr. Joe Kiely, a financial planner. Mr. Robinson presented the dates of January 11, 12, or 13 at 9:00 a.m.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Savage, to approve a meeting on January 12, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium. Commissioner Owens said the Board needs to hear more than one presentation and suggested other financial planners and stock companies be offered the same opportunity. Vice Chairman Hammond said he agreed and these presentations should not be long and drawn out but should include investment bankers. Mr. Robinson said that if the Board is inclined to take that approach, the County could seek out proposals from investment bankers for how they would go about assisting the County with its investments. Mr. Robinson said he had spoken with Dr. Kiely about making a presentation to the Board. Vice Chairman Hammond stated that Mr. Robinson should have brought this matter to the Board first and then spoken with Dr. Kiely. Commissioner Savage stated he agreed that the Manager should solicit professional consultation but the Board needs to consider what happened in Orange County, California and not take a risk with the public's money. He said that this could be a way to offset an increase in taxes and generate money for the citizens. Commissioner Savage stated he still supports the need for an internal auditor to be on staff to determine the best way to invest the County's money.

Mr. Robinson said that there are greater opportunities to invest funds but the Board needs to understand the risk factors or consider the lack of a risk factors in not moving forward. He asked the Board if they wished him to seek proposals for investment packages. He said that Dr. Kiely would not be recommending how to invest the funds but what the options are that need to be considered. Dr. Kiely has done this for the university for years.

Commissioner Savage said the Board should receive input from the Finance Officer. Ms. Bryan said prior to investing the money, she would like the Board's input on how they want it invested. She said they need to know it could be tied up in long-term investments. She stated that she supported the Board moving forward with this because people are asking her when the County is going to invest those funds.

Commissioner Ward said that this Board has already endorsed investing the funds by the request to the General Assembly and said that this is a logical step forward. Commissioner Ward then called for the question. The motion was approved unanimously.

Reschedule Capital Improvement Plan Workshop – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson announced that the originally scheduled workshop on the Capital Improvement Program was cancelled due to a need for the Board and Manager to be present in Raleigh before the Legislators.

Mr. Robinson suggested January 5, 6, or 7 for meeting dates on the Capital Improvement Program workshop.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to meet on January 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium.

Commissioner Shank stated that on she would be out of town on January 5th. 1999.

Budget Amendments

Ms. Bryan presented budget amendments as follows for approval:

a. Solid Waste Fund - \$2.5 million to appropriate FEMA funds for debris

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Commissioner Shank, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Solid Waste Fund budget amendment as follows:

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
609100 589000 Exp	FEMA	519,782	
607200 261012	Waste Management	1,932,110	
607200 553004	Equipment	78,293	
602300 432021 Rev	FEMA	2,530,185	

b. General Fund – Soil & Water District - \$4,000 fund balance carry over from State, restricted funds

c. Mental Health Funds - Expansion Funds, \$75,000 to fund two positions from hardest hit areas

d. Mental Health Fund – FEMA Crisis Counselors - additional \$10,

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner Shank, the Board voted unanimously to approve the budget amendments for the General Fund (Soil & Water District), Mental Health Funds expansion funds and FEMA Crisis Counselors as follows:

Soil and Water Conservation

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
102900 499100	Fund Balance Appropriated	4,730.80	
104980 560000	Soil and Water Conservation	4,730.80	

Mental Health

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
195260 512000	Salaries	31,449	
195260 518100	FICA	1,500	
195260 518200	Retirement	1,535	
195260 518201	401K	800	
195260 518300	Hospitalization	1,950	
195260 518400	Life Insurance	106	
195267 512000	Salaries	31,449	
195267 518100	FICA	1,500	
195267 518200	Retirement	1,535	
195267 518201	401K	800	
159267 518300	Hospitalization	1,951	
	Total Expenditures	74,681	
193260 431001	UCR - AMH	37,341	
193267 431001	UCR – AMH	37,340	
	Total Revenues	74,681	
195268 561000 Exp	Contracted Services	10,000	
193268 436000 Rev	FEMA Grant	10,000	

Resolution on Filing Fees – Melonie Bryan

Ms. Bryan informed the Board that the Board of Elections Office needs a fee set for filing for elected offices and a resolution has been prepared for the Board's approval. The fee would be 1% of entry level salary of that position.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution on filing fees for elections.

**RESOLUTION DETERMINING FILING FEES FOR
SOME ELECTIVE OFFICES IN PITT COUNTY, NC**

THAT WHEREAS, the Pitt County Board of Commissioners has considered a request from the Board of Elections to define the amount of filing fees to be charged of candidates for certain elective offices in Pitt County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has determined that certain elective offices which provide a salaried position, such as that for the Register of Deeds and Sheriff require a filing fee of 1% of the salary of the office of candidates for election to that office; and

WHEREAS, this salary figure is different for the individual who has served in the position for a number of years as compared to the beginning salary for the position for a new candidate; and

WHEREAS, in the past candidates have been required to pay 1% of the beginning salary when filing for election to the office; and

WHEREAS, this Board wants to be consistent in the requirements for filing fees for all candidates for such offices; it is

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Pitt County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the proper filing fee to be charged for all candidates for elective office that have a salaried position, shall be the statutory percentage of the beginning salary for that position regardless of the actual salary of the person serving in that elective office, effective immediately.

The Chairman and the Clerk to the Board are hereby authorized to execute this Resolution.

Duly adopted this the 20th day of December, 1999.

ATTEST:

Chairman

Susan J. Banks, Clerk

Donation of Property from Procter and Gamble – JoAnne Burgdorff

Mr. Robinson stated that with Procter and Gamble leaving Pitt County they have offered to donate some property to the County. Ms. Burgdorff reported she was approached about some lots that Procter and Gamble have here in Pitt County and they wanted to sell the lots to Pitt County for \$1.00 each. The lots are on Old River Road and Mrs. Burgdorff recommended the Board accept the offer. She said she did not have all the details worked out at this time but would have them within the next couple of weeks and would be able to do the closing. Mr. Robinson suggested the properties be accepted contingent on review by the County Engineer.

Vice Chairman Hammond **motioned** to have the Board accept the donation of property from Procter and Gamble based on the County Attorney's recommendation. Commissioner James seconded the motion and called for the question. Commissioner Bowen said he would like an environmental study to be done on the property. Commissioner Savage asked about moving this property off of the tax roles. Mrs. Burgdorff said that eventually the property will be published in the newspaper and sold which would put it back on the tax records. Commissioner James expressed his appreciation to Procter and Gamble for the property. The motion was passed unanimously.

GLOBAL TRANSPARK APPOINTMENT - Susan Banks

Ms. Banks informed the Board that Vice Chairman Hammond had resigned from serving on the Global Transpark Commission due to scheduling conflicts.

Vice Chairman Hammond nominated Commissioner Bowen to serve as his replacement. Commissioner James motioned to accept the nomination by acclamation and Commissioner Savage seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS - Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson reviewed the schedule of regular meeting for the Year 2000 and the suggested amendments to the calendar because of holidays or conferences that conflict with the regularly scheduled meetings.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Vice Chairman Hammond, to accept the proposed schedule of meetings for the Year 2000. Commissioner Shank said she arranged her calendar based on regular session meetings and will not be available meetings held the last two weeks of January. Commissioner Bowen stated earlier that he was not in favor of cancelling the January 3, 2000 meeting.

Vice Chairman Hammond called the question. The motion was approved unanimously.

Pitt County Board of Commissioners Year 2000 Board Meeting Schedule Adopted 12/20/99

Regular Meetings and Conferences

January 10, 2000 - Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

January 24, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

February 7, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

February 21, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

March 3-7, 2000 – NACO Legislative Conference, Washington, DC
(conflicts with March 6 meeting)

March 13, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

April 3, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

April 17, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

May 1, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

May 15, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

June 5, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

June 7, 2000 – Legislative Update, RTP

June 19, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

July 10, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

July 14-19, 2000 – NACO Annual Conference, Mecklenburg County

August 7, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

August 10-13, 2000 – NC Association of County Commissioners Annual Conference,
Durham County

August 21, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

September 11, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

October 2, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

October 16, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

November 6, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

November 20, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

December 4, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

December 18, 2000 – Regular Meeting, 9:00 am

PCMH BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENT – Susan Banks

The Board postponed this appointment to allow for advertising the vacancy.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE TOWN OF WINTERVILLE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Ms. Banks informed the Board that the Town of Winterville had recently reconfigured their Planning Board based on the population as appropriate. Based on the new membership of this board, the Board of County Commissioners would have two regular members to appoint and one alternate member, all representing the extraterritorial jurisdiction. The Winterville Town Council presented James Mellon and Robert Briley to be appointed as regular members. They did not have a recommendation for the alternate member position.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations from the Winterville Town Council and appoint James Mellon and Robert Briley as extraterritorial members to the Winterville Planning and Zoning Board and to further investigate who to appoint as the alternate member.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – Susan Banks

Ms. Banks informed the Board that there were three individuals eligible for reappointment to the Pitt County Development Commission as follows: David Stowe, Henry Smith and Barbara Craft. She stated that John Chaffee, Development Commission Executive Director, recommended these individuals be reappointed.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Owens, seconded Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint David Stowe, Henry Smith and Barbara Craft.

Ms. Banks stated that David Speir, District 2, was not eligible for reappointment.

Chairman Gaskins opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Savage nominated Ferrell Blount. Commissioner Ward nominated Sam Carson. Each spoke on behalf of their nomination.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Hammond, the Board voted unanimously to close the nominations.

Chairman Gaskins called for a vote on Ferrell Blount. Commissioners Bowen, Hammond, Savage, James, Johnson and Owens voted for Mr. Blount. Chairman Gaskins called for a vote on Sam Carson. Commissioners Shank, Gaskins and Ward voted for Mr. Carson. Ferrell Blount was appointed to the Pitt County Development Commissioner to replace Mr. David Speir.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Tom Feldbush, Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies, at East Carolina University, to replace James LeRoy Smith from East Carolina University.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY – Susan Banks

Ms. Banks informed the Board that Ted Cox was eligible for reappointment to the Industrial Development and Pollution Control Financing Authority.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Ted Cox to the Industrial Development and Pollution Control Financing Authority.

Ms. Banks informed the Board that there were two vacant positions remaining due to Porter Shaw not being eligible for reappointment and Harold Liles having resigned.

Commissioner Bowen nominated Commissioner Savage to replace Porter Shaw on the Industrial Development and Pollution Control Financing Authority.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Hammond, the Board voted unanimously to accept the appointment of Commissioner Savage by acclamation to the Industrial Development and Pollution Control Financing Authority. Commissioner Savage did not vote on this motion.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to defer filling the remaining vacancy on the Industrial Development and Pollution Control Financing Authority until a later meeting.

THE LANGUAGE OF GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION - Glenn Bowen

Commissioner Bowen said that he thought that when individuals come to address government they should speak English. He stated that both people that spoke this morning said that English is the official language of the U.S. In 1987, North Carolina came up with a resolution with official items of North Carolina and English was noted. Since then another State has done the same thing. The Federal government told an election board that they had to print a ballot in a second language. Commissioner Bowen noted several circumstances where this was addressed. He asked the Attorney to read the resolution and he said he then wants to make a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Robinson recommended that the County Attorney and staff be allowed time to review this resolution prior to the Board considering it for adoption and to let staff advise them.

Commissioner James said all of us are proud of the country that we live in. He said he supported the resolution all but the fourth (4th) paragraph and said that directions should be given in other languages. He said that English is the basic language and the Board needs to support it. Commissioner James said the Manager is right and that the Board needs to be on solid ground when addressing this item. He said that people in the United States need to learn English and we need to teach them.

Commissioner Owens said that the United States is a multi-language society and he supports the Manager's comments. Commissioner Savage said that during the public addresses a speaker called a commissioner a bigot. He said when people cannot communicate it can foster problems. He stated that each department head should look at this resolution and see what the ramifications are if the Board adopts it. Commissioner Savage stated that this is not a racial issue. Commissioner Savage said that there is only one group of people that did not come here willingly and that was the slaves. English is the common language but there also needs to be common respect. Commissioner Johnson said he was opposed to the proposed resolution.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to wait until the next meeting to give the Manager and Attorney time to review, research and bring this resolution back to the Board at the next meeting. Commissioner Bowen said this resolution has been tested in 150 towns, counties, and cities. Ms. Colville interrupted the meeting with additional comments. Commissioner Bowen read the resolution where "an official language of government in no way interferes with any individual's right to maintain, use and develop other language skills; and..." Vice Chairman Hammond spoke about how Americans can go to other countries and can speak English, and they don't change their language. Vice Chairman Hammond called for the question. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENT OF ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATORS - TOM ROBINSON

Mr. Robinson stated that in order for the Animal Cruelty Investigators to continue their work with no lapse in their appointment, they need to be addressed at this meeting.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Savage, seconded by Vice Chairman Hammond, the board voted unanimously to approve Animal Cruelty Investigators as recommended by Humane Society for one year terms, contingent upon their continuance of their own liability insurance and proper required training as follows: Roberta (Bobbie Parsons), Deyonne Brewer, Debra Taylor, Cora Tyson, Jenn Buker, Ray Helton, Belinda Helton, and Tiffany Seeley.

Education Compact - Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson suggested that as a starting point to improved schools and education in Pitt County there is a need to develop common goals, specific objections, and agree on benchmarks, so that the County might seek to be in the top echelon in the State. He said the Board needs to work out these things with the School Board members and set common goals. He stated that this was being brought up as a suggestion to set out expectations early in the budget process.

Commissioner Ward **motioned** for the Manager to establish a task force with three commissioners, two staff members from Manager's office, and two members from the Board of Education's office and in February provide a report from the task force. Commissioner Shank seconded the motion. Commissioner James said this committee is too big and we need people who know education. He said he was concerned that a lot of what they have in the compact they should already been doing and do not want to take any of the authority away from the Board of Education. There should not be an overlap. He said he did agree that the committee needs to report back to the Board.

Commissioner Savage said this is consistent with what this Board of Commissioners has told the Manager to do so that we will not have failures in our education system. He said it is an excellent idea but he was not clear on the membership of the task force. He also said that there is an elected body that governs education in this County but every year the public comes up during the budget hearing and blames the Board of Commissioners for the failures in education. Commissioner Shank said she and Commissioner Ward worked on this and felt that this is a good way to set the goals of the County and get them implemented in education. Commissioner Shank said she would like to ask Shirley Carraway to make a 15 minute presentation before the Board about goals of the schools. Vice Chairman Hammond discussed that education is the responsibility of the twelve member Board of Education and further that they will not allow citizens to address them at their meetings. He stated that there needs to be more effective communication and then we can come to some agreement with the Board of Education.

Commissioner Ward recommended that the Manager establish a task force immediately, consisting of three commissioners, two people that are educators, two school board members, and two members from county staff; and they come back at a meeting in February with a proposal. Commissioner Shank seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Hammond asked that the motion be amended for the task force to include Dr. Sosne on task force. Commissioner Ward stated that they could request that the Manager and School Superintendent be in attendance at all the meetings. Commissioner Bowen suggested the PTA president be on the task force.

The motion with the amendment by Vice Chairman Hammond was unanimously approved. Commissioner Bowen asked if this had been discussed with the Superintendent. Mr. Robinson stated that they had briefly discussed the Education Compact.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Hammond said that at the last meeting he was told to Chair the Human Relations or Pitt County Community Relations Council. He stated that he has received information from other councils and have models from several other counties and studied their models. He said he is looking at what the impact on human life and quality of life would be with a Human Relations Council. He said he has had a lot of people request to serve on the council. He said everyone needs to dispel the idea that this is racial function. He did however, ask the commissioners to be allowed little more time to study the models and such prior to making a presentation.

Commissioner Shank asked if the committee was to work out the by-laws and then make a recommendation on the membership. Vice Chairman Hammond said that once the model is in place, then they can have the committee make recommendation to the Board concerning the model and membership.

Commissioner Bowen reviewed 1992 laws concerning English legislation in 16 States. He noted that in 1986 California voters adopted English as the official language. People of the United States want it and they would vote for it every time they get a chance.

Commissioner Savage said he wanted to take time out to say thank you to the people who have given up so much this year.

Commissioner James spoke about how blessed we are because we lost so few people in the flood. He said he was very thankful for the cooperation received and for the people of Pitt County and the churches and everything that they have done.

Commissioner Savage stated that the National Association of Counties "Acts of Caring" is receiving nominations through the end of this month. He suggested that anyone who has a nomination get the names to the Manager to submit to the association.

CLOSED SESSION

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted to hold a closed session for the purpose of G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish or instruct the staff or agent concerning negotiations of the price and terms of a contract concerning the acquisition of property as stated by the County Attorney.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Savage, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Banks, CMC
Clerk to the Board