

**PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR JUNE 12, 2000**

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2000-2001 COUNTY BUDGET

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners met in a public hearing session on Monday, June 12, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, 1717 W. 5th Street, Greenville, North Carolina.

Commissioners present:

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

Others present were:

Thomas B. Robinson, County Manager
JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney
Susan J. Banks, Clerk to the Board
Melonie Bryan, Director of Financial Services
Arlen Holt, Public Information Officer

Chairman Gaskins reconvened the meeting from the meeting earlier on this date.

Approval of Agenda – Chairman Gaskins

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

Manager's Overview

Mr. Robinson stated that there is a three year financial plan that is updated each year and a five year capital improvement plan. He stated that this has been a working process for several months. The total budget is \$179,001,079. He stated that \$8 million is state and federal monies for hurricane recovery from the largest natural disaster in eastern North Carolina history. There was over \$400 million in damage in Pitt County. He thanked all the volunteers for their hard work during this recovery process. This is a hold the line budget with flood recovery emphasis. The tax rate is recommended to stay the same at \$.68 with two cents for economic development. Improved education, growth management, revenue generation and transportation were the commissioners' priorities. He reviewed the capital improvement plan and operating priorities as were determined by the Board in the budget workshops.

The tax base shows a very small increase of 1.9% in spite of loss in tax base from the flooding and loss of Procter and Gamble. A new industry was secured for the Procter and Gamble site. Mr. Robinson reviewed the increase in fees as agreed upon in the budget workshops. He noted the special legislation for investment of the funds acquired through the transfer of the Hospital. He spoke of the Education Compact and the agreement with the school system. The level of funding and goals for the next five years were agreed upon with the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education. He reviewed the capital improvements to schools. There has been no increase for Mental Health. There were over 40 positions requested in budget requests and 18 were funded. He

stated he has concerns that over the next few years there will be a need for increased revenue. He said there were very few changes made from the budget workshops but even those have been incorporated in the budget. He noted the following:

County Priorities – With flood recovery the foremost priority of the County, the Board of Commissioners has continued its goals and priorities from the last fiscal year. Priorities for the coming year include:

- To facilitate flood recovery;
- To improve the quality of education, schools, and their administration;
- To improve growth management, including planning, zoning and the provision of water and sewer services;
- To improve revenue generation; and
- To improve public transportation.

The recommended budget seeks to finalize projects delayed as a result of the flood; implement methods and means to achieve the above priorities; and continue to provide the public services desired by Pitt County residents or mandated by State or Federal law, all the while maintaining the current tax rate. To more aggressively meet these needs and priorities, additional revenues will be needed in the future. Other major initiatives included in the coming year's work program are as follows:

- Monitor State and Federal flood recovery developments;
- Assist public with flood recovery activities;
- Design, bid, and award contracts for a new administration building, Phase II Courthouse improvements, animal shelter, new high school, and a County storage building;
- Continue pay, classification, and personnel system improvements;
- Secure land for firing/defensive driving range;
- Study and implement communication system improvements and EMS system enhancements;
- Develop enhanced mosquito control program;
- Strengthen Emergency Management staff capabilities;
- Continue implementation of Hazard Mitigation Buyout Program;
- Develop Hazard Mitigation Plan;
- Complete Highway 11 and Northwest Planning Area Land Use Plans and development controls;
- Update Comprehensive Plan;
- Complete Water and Sewer Master Plan;
- Determine site and purchase/option land for Phase I Technology Park Development;
- Renew waste recycling program;
- Reduce litter on highways;
- Develop and implement mobile dental lab;
- Form a task force to study and develop strategies to reduce poverty in the county;
- Monitor direction of Mental Health services with the state;
- Participate in Metropolitan Planning Area Study to seek ways to improve rural public transportation;
- Seek grant funding and work with School System to construct an administrative building for the Community Schools and Recreation program;
- Implement the Education Compact; and
- Plan for Pitt Community College capital needs.

Commissioner Bowen said that a lot of the programs that the Manager mentioned are grant programs that will not cost the County any more in revenue.

PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS

Chairman Gaskins announced that the public hearing was open.

- Tom Coulson - who is running for District B commissioner seat, but is here to state his concern with the budget. He spoke about prioritizing your own personal budget. He said the County government is only one government out of three that tax the people. Government is expanding at three times the rate of the individuals income. He said the middle class citizen is paying 68% in a combined burden on the dollar. He stated that the assessed value of a vehicle is 25 to 50% higher than what the same vehicle would cost to purchase. He stated that the average family of four will pay an additional \$220 per year for each one cent sales tax increase.

There being no further comments from the public, Commissioner James motioned to close the public hearing. Commissioner Shank seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Hammond motioned to approve the 2000-2001 County budget as recommended by the County Manager. Commissioner Shank seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

**COUNTY OF PITT,
NORTH CAROLINA**

BUDGET ORDINANCE

Fiscal Year 2000-01

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners, County of Pitt, North Carolina:

SECTION I. The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation and maintenance of the County's various governmental departments, for the payment of debt service obligations, and for capital outlay purchases during the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2000 and ending June 30, 2001:

GENERAL FUND

Governing Board, County Manager, Legal, Public Information Officer	\$1,206,445
Finance, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Elections	2,409,290
Register of Deeds	552,470
Human Resources, Veterans Affairs	466,980
Printshop/Mailroom, Mgmt Information Sys, Geographic Information Sys	1,799,042
Buildings & Grounds, Housekeeping	2,654,807
Sheriff, School Security, Detention, Jail Inmate Services, Jail Health Services	12,382,681
Emergency Services	1,056,192
Communications	598,112

Medical Examiner	55,000
Other - Environmental Protection, Economic Development, Public Safety, Human Services, Cultural/Recreation, Transportation	-- 1,103,771
Planning, Recovery Operations Center	715,475
Engineering, Inspections	581,523
Cooperative Extension, Farmers' Market	311,839
Soil & Water Conservation	204,901
Pitt County Schools	21,987,249
Pitt Community College	2,397,650
Transfers to Other Funds	18,737,731
Non-Departmental, Contingency	2,386,981
TOTAL	\$71,608,139

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION FUND

LEO Pension Operating Expenses	\$41,900
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HEALTH FUND

Administration	\$1,376,273
Environmental Health	921,683
Communicable Disease	779,758
Women's Preventive Health	1,464,719
Child Health	1,375,165
Adult Health Promotion	676,458
Special Health Services	37,661
Nutrition	583,542
TOTAL	\$7,215,259

SOCIAL SERVICES FUND

Administration	\$1,933,972
Services and Programs	9,885,092
Public Assistance	10,930,621
Child Support	1,313,087
TOTAL	\$24,062,772

COURT FACILITIES FUND

Court Facility Operating Expenses	\$260,615
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MENTAL HEALTH FUND

Administrative Services Unit	\$92,999
Residential Services Unit	5,506,898
Case Management Services Unit	3,571,201
Outpatient Services Unit	4,561,521
TOTAL	\$13,732,619

SCHOOL CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

School Reserve Operating Expenses	\$6,522,819
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WATER/SEWER REVOLVING FUND

Water/Sewer Reserve Operating Expenses	\$102,700
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STATE GRANTS FUND

Crime Commission Grant	\$75,204
CORP Grant	134,117
Gang/Property Crimes Detective Grant	56,468
Home Grant	61,955
Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Grant	40,194
JCPC Juvenile Restitution Grant	62,950
JCPC Resolve & Mediation Grant	47,993
JCPC Juvenile Crime Prevention Grant	5,500
JCPC Serenity Group Home Grant	21,300
TOTAL	\$505,681

HURRICANE FLOYD GRANTS FUND

Hazard Mitigation Grant	\$19,306,000
Inspector Grant	52,720
State Acquisition & Relocation Grant	3,991,075
Housing Rehab & Replacement Grants	6,500,000
TOTAL	\$29,849,795

REVALUATION FUND

Revaluation Operating Expenses	\$50,000
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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FUND

Industrial Development Operating Expenses	\$1,106,180
ECTC Rental Operation	151,450
TOTAL	\$1,257,630

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING FUND

Shell Building Expenses	\$100,000
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FIRE/EMS DISTRICT FUNDS

Fire Districts	Levy	
Ayden	\$38,062	
Bell Arthur	39,520	
Black Jack	16,184	
Clarks Neck	14,441	
Eastern Pines	86,012	
Falkland	44,759	
Farmville	26,160	
Fountain	13,010	
Gardnerville	20,752	
Grifton	43,584	
Grimesland	20,912	
Pactolus	30,895	
Red Oak	38,877	
Simpson	48,165	
Staton House	84,075	
Stokes	22,920	
Winterville	65,068	
EMS/Rescue Districts		
Ayden	\$58,833	
Bell Arthur	50,652	
Eastern Pines	150,292	
TOTAL		\$913,173

E-911 SURCHARGE FUND

Communications	\$222,365
Planning	179,571
Municipalities	15,750
TOTAL	\$417,686
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
Principal and Interest on Debt	\$9,445,569
Capital Lease Principal and Interest	160,229
TOTAL	\$9,605,798
DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUNDS	
Reserve and Payment	\$40,000
SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	
Capital Outlay Expenses	\$950,000
SOLID WASTE FUND	
Solid Waste Operating Expenses	\$6,665,726
GARAGE FUND	
Garage Operating Expenses	\$663,222
HOSPITALIZATION FUND	
Administration Expenses	\$4,086,106
WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	
Workers' Compensation Operating Expenses	\$350,000
GRAND TOTAL - ALL FUNDS - EXPENDITURES	\$179,001,640

SECTION II. It is hereby estimated that the following revenues will be available during Fiscal Year 2000-01 to meet the foregoing appropriations:

GENERAL FUND

Ad Valorem	\$39,276,269
Taxes	
Other Taxes	16,666,659
Restricted & Unrestricted Revenues	501,762
Permits & Fees	1,353,800
Sales & Services	3,314,271
Investment Earnings	4,800,000
ABC Profits	650,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,480,378
Fund Balance Appropriated	3,565,000
 TOTAL	 \$71,608,139

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION FUND

Investment Earnings	\$2,900
Transfer from General Fund	39,000
 TOTAL	 \$41,900

HEALTH FUND

Restricted & Unrestricted Revenues	\$4,037,770
Fund Balance Appropriated	479,631
Transfer In - General Fund	2,697,858
 TOTAL	 \$7,215,259

SOCIAL SERVICES FUND

Restricted & Unrestricted Revenues	\$14,021,455
Transfer In - General Fund	10,041,317
 TOTAL	 \$24,062,772

COURT FACILITIES FUND

Facilities Fees	\$248,115
Investment Earnings	12,500
 TOTAL	 \$260,615

MENTAL HEALTH FUND

Administrative Services Unit	\$92,999
Residential Services Unit	5,506,898
Case Management Services Unit	3,571,201
Outpatient Services Unit	4,561,521
TOTAL	\$13,732,619

SCHOOL CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Local Option Sales Tax	\$4,759,363
State Public School Building Capital Funds	1,050,000
Interest Earnings	25,000
Fund Balance Appropriated	688,456
TOTAL	\$6,522,819

WATER/SEWER REVOLVING FUND

Fund Balance Appropriated	\$102,700
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STATE GRANT FUNDS

Crime Commission Grant	\$75,204
CORP Grant	134,117
Gang/Property Crimes Detective Grant	56,468
Home Grant	61,955
Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Grant	40,194
JCPC Juvenile Restitution Grant	62,950
JCPC Resolve & Mediation Grant	47,993
JCPC Juvenile Crime Prevention Grant	5,500
JCPC Serenity Group Home Grant	21,300
TOTAL	\$505,681

HURRICANE FLOYD GRANTS FUND

Hazard Mitigation Grant	\$19,306,000
Inspector Grant	52,720
State Acquisition & Relocation Grant	3,991,075
Housing Rehab & Replacement Grants	6,500,000
TOTAL	\$29,849,795

REVALUATION FUND

Transfer from General Fund	\$50,000
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FUND	
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$1,123,530
Rental Income	134,100
TOTAL	\$1,257,630
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING FUND	
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$100,000
FIRE/EMS DISTRICTS FUND	
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$913,173
E-911 SURCHARGE FUND	
911 User Fees	\$410,686
Investment Earnings	7,000
TOTAL	\$417,686
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
Transfer from General Fund	\$3,624,653
Transfer from School Capital Reserve	5,572,819
Other Transfers	184,400
Miscellaneous	223,926
TOTAL	\$9,605,798
DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUNDS	
Investment Earnings & Transfers	\$40,000
SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	
Investment Earnings	\$950,000

SOLID WASTE FUND

Fees & Charges	\$6,046,550
Other Revenues	173,500
Investment Earnings	114,000
Fund Balance Appropriated	331,676
TOTAL	\$6,665,726

GARAGE FUND

User Charges	\$560,222
Other Revenues	103,000
TOTAL	\$663,222

HOSPITALIZATION FUND

Premiums	\$4,006,106
Investment Earnings	60,000
Other Revenues	20,000
TOTAL	\$4,086,106

WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND

Transfer from General Fund	\$302,000
Transfer from Solid Waste Fund	15,000
Investment Earnings	8,000
Other Revenues	25,000
TOTAL	\$350,000

GRAND TOTAL - ALL FUNDS - APPROPRIATIONS**\$179,001,640**

SECTION III. The following tax rates, based upon collections of 95%, are hereby levied for the Fire/EMS Districts for Fiscal Year 2000-01:

Fire Districts	Tax Rate	Estimated Valuation	Levy
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Ayden	\$0.0400	\$100,164,194	\$38,062
Bell Arthur	\$0.0375	\$110,934,179	\$39,520
Black Jack	\$0.0250	\$68,141,722	\$16,184
Clark's Neck	\$0.0500	\$30,401,195	\$14,441
Eastern Pines	\$0.0250	\$362,155,200	\$86,012
Falkland	\$0.0600	\$78,523,882	\$44,759
Farmville	\$0.0400	\$68,841,887	\$26,160
Fountain	\$0.0500	\$27,389,610	\$13,010
Gardnerville	\$0.0500	\$43,687,939	\$20,752
Grifton	\$0.0450	\$101,951,306	\$43,584
Grimesland	\$0.0400	\$55,030,432	\$20,912
Pactolus	\$0.0465	\$69,936,796	\$30,895
Red Oak	\$0.0400	\$102,308,181	\$38,877
Simpson	\$0.0500	\$101,400,108	\$48,165
Staton House	\$0.0150	\$590,000,000	\$84,075
Stokes	\$0.0500	\$48,253,561	\$22,920
Winterville	\$0.0250	\$273,970,293	\$65,068

EMS/Rescue Districts

Ayden	\$0.0450	\$137,621,387	\$58,833
Bell Arthur	\$0.0500	\$106,636,623	\$50,652
Eastern Pines	\$0.0273	\$579,496,631	\$150,292

TOTAL \$913,173

SECTION IV. The County Manager and/or Financial Services Director are hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a. The Financial Services Director may transfer amounts between objects of expenditure within a department.
- b. The County Manager may transfer amounts less than \$10,000 between departments within a fund upon finding they are consistent with operational needs.
- c. The funding for merit (step) increases, reclassifications, and cost of living allowances may be moved from the budgeted reserve with the approval of the Financial Services Director and the County Manager.
- d. No revenues may be increased, no funds can be moved from the Contingency account, and no transfers between funds can be processed unless formal action is taken by the Board of Commissioners.

SECTION V. The County Manager is hereby authorized to execute contracts, service agreements, and change o valued \$30,000 or less on behalf of the County provided that sufficient funding is available and the action is

consistent with County policy.

SECTION VI. County Commissioners are to be compensated at a rate of \$780 per month for regular service, and \$50 per meeting when sitting as the Board of Equalization and Review (usually 2 meetings per year).
County
Commissioners are compensated \$200 per month to cover mileage and expenses incurred in the service of Pitt County.

SECTION VII. Schedule B taxes shall be levied in accordance with the North Carolina Revenue Act.

SECTION VIII. The Board of County Commissioners hereby levies a tax rate of sixty-six cents (.66) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation on property for the County General Fund and two cents (.02) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation on property listed for taxes for the Industrial Development Commission Fund,
for a total levy of sixty-eight cents (.68) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation for current year's property

The tax rate is based upon an estimated total valuation of property for the purpose of taxation at \$5,867,000,000 ; an estimated collection rate of 95.75%.

SECTION IX. The Board of County Commissioners hereby levies a per household assessment fee on solid waste disposal in the amount of \$62 per household and \$45 per ton for non-residential tipping fees, and authorizes the assessment amount to be printed on the Pitt County Property Tax statement. The assessment is authorized to be collected in the same manner as property tax.

SECTION X. The Board of County Commissioners hereby authorizes the Pitt County Tax Collector to collect tax for the City of Greenville, the Towns of Falkland, Grimesland, Bethel, and the Village of Simpson in compliance with the contracts adopted by the governing boards. The County will also be collecting vehicle taxes for the Towns of Ayden, Farmville, Fountain, Grifton and Winterville in compliance with G.S. 105-330. A charge of 1-1/2% of all taxes collected for the units of government will be payable to Pitt County for said collection services.

Adopted this 12th day of June, 2000.

Charles Gaskins, Chairman
Pitt County Board of Commissioners

(SEAL)

Susan J. Banks, Clerk
Pitt County Board of Commissioners

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to recess the meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Banks, CMC
Clerk to the Board