

**PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2000**

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners met in a rescheduled session on Monday, September 11, 2000, at 8:00 a.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
Tom Johnson, Sr., Commissioner
Mark W. Owens, Jr., Commissioner
M. Theresa Shank, Commissioner
Beth B. Ward, Commissioner

Others present were:

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

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Gaskins

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The prayer was lead by Commissioner James.
The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Commissioner Johnson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Robinson stated that the item on the C& D landfill in Farmville should be removed at this time. Commissioner Bowen asked for a closed session on a personnel item be added to the agenda.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Huggins, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda as amended.

Mr. Robinson stated that the meeting schedule for today is unusual due to the Governor holding an Executive Cabinet meeting at the Agricultural Building Auditorium from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. He asked the Board to attend and the Manager to make comments on the recovery from Hurricane Floyd and the flooding. He stated the Board needs to hold the public hearing on the financing for the new high school at or after 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Robinson said the plan for the meeting is to recess following the 9:00 a.m. public hearing, attend the Governor's meeting and if at all possible reconvene at 11:00 a.m. If the Governor's meeting is not over in time to reconvene at 11:00 a.m., then the Board meeting will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. A notice will be placed on the Commissioners' Auditorium door if the Board will not be back by 11:00 a.m.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to follow the meeting schedule as proposed by the County Manager.

Vice Chairman Hammond arrived at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 7, 2000 minutes
2. August 9, 2000 minutes
3. August 21, 2000 minutes

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 7, 9 and 21, 2000 meetings.

ITEMS FOR REPORT

Comments on Transportation – Nancy Stallings

Mr. Robinson introduced Nancy Stallings, Director of the GTP Foundation and Collice Moore, North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) Board member.

Ms. Stallings, Director of GTP Foundation, said that she has been working on roads in the GTP area and also that she has been a Deputy Director of the DOT in the past. She said Commissioner Bowen has asked her to repeat some comments to the Board that she had made at a Global Transpark meeting concerning Highway 17 or the southwest bypass in Pitt County. She stated that the southwest bypass project had been sitting on an Engineer's desk for two years and nothing has been done. She said she has been working for 10 years to get transportation committees established in counties. She said without these committees there is no consensus on what is going on in the communities. She said if there is not a good consensus, then your needs may be left out. The way to get DOT to pay attention was to have a consensus and do daily follow up. These committees are under the counties with representatives from each city and various organizations. Ms. Stallings provided the Board with a proposal with suggested members of a Pitt County transportation committee. With Pitt County having a metropolitan planning area, there is a distinct advantage to having such a committee.

She reviewed the process for getting roads built. She said that in DOT, lately every road is held up. In 1988 the Highway 11 project was begun but it is still in the environmental stage. She is working on a Highway 70 corridor. She said she thinks Highway 11 should be a connector road between counties. She said it is only feasible to do this if you have one entity or organization to work through. She gave examples of where the transportation committee has been successful. She said that Pitt County is the largest growth county in the region. She suggested the County should hire someone to be the consultant for roads in Pitt County. She said if you have help getting through the environmental stage the projects will move faster. She said since 1988 Pitt County has built a school in the Highway 11 proposed corridor. She said if there was a consultant on roads, then DOT can go to one place when they have a need to work on a road project.

Commissioner James asked about the southwest bypass and said the right-of-ways are still not in place. Collice Moore spoke about the cost of that project. Commissioner James asked how much money the counties are getting from the Global Transpark. Ms. Stallings said about \$100 million over six years. She said the money is allocated in phases. She said that within the next two years you couldn't spend \$10 million on the road because it hasn't gotten through the environmental impact study. She said the money has been set up since 1988 and hardly any of those monies have been spent. Mr. Moore stated that he had been informed that the bids are to be let on December 11th, 2000. Mr. Collice Moore stated that they met last week on the project for Highway 11 to meet with Highway 64. He stated that during that meeting he was informed that wetland stream problems would delay the southwest bypass project for 6 months to a year. He said then he met on Thursday and Friday and asked to see what document was holding up the project. He said that he was handed a document stating that the project will not be held up. He said the Chamber has a transportation committee and there is a MPO committee with Greenville, Winterville and the County included. He said the MPO serves as the transportation committee for this area. He said that all the things are in place like they need to

be for Pitt County. He also said that there needs to be more participation from the public. Mr. Moore stated that the Second Division has eight counties but the Global Transpark includes thirteen counties. He is personally opposed to the funding inequity in the GTP. This Division is highly competitive. In 1998, the project was due to start and the employee who was in charge of it was removed and assigned to the Crescent Road project in Kinston. He indicated that this had a drastic effect on the southwest bypass project. Commissioner James said this was politics. Collice Moore said that Highway 11 would not be functioning until 2007. Commissioner Shank said that the General Assembly has said there should be a Regional Planning Organization. Ms. Stallings said Pitt County would not need a RPO. She said there are federal requirements of the MPO. The membership blends with the transportation committee. She said a thoroughfare planning department is part of this purpose. She stated that the individual was Ed Lewis who was promoted and moved from the Highway 11 project to the Crescent Road project because they already had an impact study completed and they could move forward. Ms. Stallings said that Pitt County is the most important county in the region and that the County should not let Raleigh deter the county from what they need.

Commissioner Ward asked about the relationship between the Foundation and the County. She asked Ms. Stallings about the money given from the GTP Foundation for a company to move from Pitt County to Lenoir County. Ms. Stallings said the Foundation is a 501C3 company. The funds come from private individuals and companies. Seagraves Aviation was getting ready to move to Beaufort County and Paul Busick, the Executive Director of the Global Transpark Commission spoke with them when he heard that they were moving their company. The GTP Foundation gave a \$500,000 grant to Seagraves Aviation and they give a gasoline rent back to the GTP. She said her connection with Pitt County was because she gave a report at the GTP Commission and Commissioner Bowen asked her to come before the Board.

Commissioner Bowen said that he had heard a rumor that there wasn't a committee because the City was afraid they would lose some power over roads. Collice Moore said he did not think that was true.

Ms. Stallings spoke about the beauracracy in Raleigh. She stated that Collice Moore could address the political influence. She stated that Craven County and New Bern had to take several postures with the Department of Transportation to get the bridge on NC Highway 17 in New Bern built. The community got together and sued DOT to get them to look at the interchange.

Mr. Moore spoke about the present formula that is used for funds allocation to the counties. He said there are eight counties and the formula is based on the number of people in the county. Mr. Moore provided the following figures for per person allocation on roads:

	2001	2002	2003	2004
Pitt County – 128,000 people	.45	.45	.46	.43
Lenoir County – 58,000 people	.77	1.02	2.17	1.71

Mr. Moore was asked what could be done to improve this situation and his recommendation was to get more involvement by elected officials and be the squeaky wheel to get the grease. Commissioner Bowen thanked Ms. Stallings and Collice Moore for coming to the meeting. He corrected Ms. Stallings about the Rural Transportation Committee stating it would serve the rural areas and they would need contiguous counties to participate. Commissioner Bowen asked about appointing a transportation committee. Mr. Moore said he did not support this recommendation. Mr. Robinson said he had heard three important things during this discussion which were to be more diligent on the beauracracy; more active in the political process; and evaluate a need for a different type of structure. He suggested the Board may want to charge the staff to look at ways to strengthen transportation efforts in Pitt County.

PUBLIC HEARING – SERIES 2000B CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

Ms. Bryan stated the public hearing was a legal requirement for the bond issue on the new high school construction. The bids have been awarded. Bonds will be issued in early November. She stated that this is a follow up on the bonds that were agreed on by both Boards in 1998. The project includes \$28 million plus closing costs. The resolution states the amount is not to exceed \$29.5 million.

Commissioner James said he believes all the students should be treated equally and he has looked at the plans and the other students will not be treated the same. The school has two large gyms and he found out why two gyms were needed. The two gyms were needed because of the size of the school and number of students. He said he originally voted for it but did not realize it was going to be this large of a school. He stated that the students would have to come from the southern and eastern parts of Pitt County. Commissioner James stated that Ayden-Grifton High School and Farmville cannot afford to lose students and they would have to come from those areas. Commissioner James said he is dissatisfied with the cost and where the students are coming from. Vice Chairman Hammond spoke about parents sending their children to private schools. He said there is a great need for a new high school in Pitt County and the longer they delay the more it will cost. Commissioner Ward said she understood that the school boundaries are going to have to be looked at and restructuring will have to be done. She said the size of the school is determined by the number of students.

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner Huggins, the Board voted unanimously to open the public hearing.

Dr. Priddy, the new Superintendent of Schools, thanked the Board for the welcome he has received. He said everything in the new high school facility is required by the State and it is designed to carry out the approved curriculum. He spoke of the process for making the final determination on the assignment of students to schools. He said they would consider the program of study at each of the high schools and then make a determination of what is offered and how to accomplish that goal. When the four high schools were opened, it changed the culture and this high school will mean change also. He said he has seen others spend a lot more money for this type of facility. He said he hoped for a unanimous decision from this Board to move forward on the high school.

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Commissioner James said there is an athletic department at each school and the way it is going there will be a 1A, 2A and so forth for schools instead of them all being on the same level.

RESOLUTION ON NEW HIGH SCHOOL September 11, 2000

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Pitt, North Carolina was held in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, Greenville, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting, at 9:00 a.m. on September 11, 2000.

Present: Chairman Charles Gaskins, presiding, and Commissioners Glenn Bowen, David Hammond, Ann Huggins, Eugene James, Tom Johnson, Sr., Mark W. Owens, Jr.,

Theresa Shank, and Beth Ward.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Thomas B. Robinson, County Manager; John Bulow, Assistant County Manager; Melonie Bryan, Director of Financial Assistance; JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney; Susan Banks, Clerk to the Board.

* * * * *

The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) for the County of Pitt, North Carolina (the “County”) announced that this was the hour and day of the public hearing on the proposed supplemental installment financing agreement (the “Agreement”) to be entered into by the County pursuant to Section 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed \$29,500,000, for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing and equipping a new high school to be located within the County. The County currently owns the site to be used for the new high school. The site will be leased to the Pitt County Board of Education for use by the Pitt County Board of Education for school purposes. The lease of such property to the Pitt County Board of Education will be subordinate to the lien created under the deed of trust executed and delivered by the County to secure its obligations under the Agreement.

The Chairman acknowledged due publication of the notice of public hearing in a newspaper with a general circulation in said County as required by Section 160A-20(g) of the General Statutes of North Carolina and directed the Clerk to the Board to attach the affidavit showing publication in said paper on a date at least ten days prior to the date hereof as Exhibit A hereto.

The Chairman then announced that the Board of Commissioners would immediately hear anyone who might wish to be heard on the advisability of the proposed project or financing as so described.

A list of all persons making comments and a summary of such comments are attached as Exhibit B.

The public hearing was closed.

All statements and comments by participants of the public hearing were duly considered by the Board of Commissioners.

Thereupon, Melonie Bryan, Director of Financial Services introduced the following resolution the title of which was read and copies of which had been previously distributed to each Commissioner:

RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE FINANCING OF A SCHOOL PROJECT PURSUANT TO AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING AGREEMENT AND REQUESTING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE FINANCING ARRANGEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) for the County of Pitt, North Carolina (the “County”) as follows:

Section 1. The Board does hereby find and determine as follows:

(a) There exists in the County a dire need to acquire, construct and equip a new high school, such property to be located within the County, to enable the County to perform its obligations with respect to the funding of school capital improvements.

(b) The County has heretofore entered into an Installment Financing Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2000 (the “Agreement”), between the County and Pitt Regional Infrastructure Development Effort, Inc. (the “Corporation”).

(c) After due consideration, the County has determined to enter into a First Supplemental Installment Financing Agreement (the “First Supplemental Agreement”)

with the Corporation to supplement and amend the Agreement to provide for an advancement thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$29,500,000 to pay the costs of acquiring, constructing and equipping a new high school (the “Project”) and to pay certain other costs associated with the financing.

(d) The Corporation will advance to the County amounts sufficient to pay the costs specified in subsection (c) of this Section, and the County will repay the advancement in installments, with interest (the “Installment Payments”).

(e) In order to secure its obligations under the Agreement and the First Supplemental Agreement, the County has executed and delivered a deed of trust (the “Deed of Trust”), granting a lien on certain parcels of land, including the site upon which the Project will be located, together with all improvements and fixtures thereon.

(f) In order to provide the amount of the advance, the Corporation will enter into a First Supplemental Trust Agreement (the “First Supplemental Trust Agreement”) with First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company, as trustee (the “Trustee”), supplementing and amending the Trust Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2000 (the “Trust Agreement”), between the Corporation and the Trustee, pursuant to which the Corporation will execute and deliver certificates of participation evidencing proportionate and undivided interests in the right to receive the Installment Payments.

(g) It is in the best interest of the County to enter into the First Supplemental Agreement in that such transaction will result in providing financing for a much needed school project in an efficient and cost effective manner.

(h) Entering into the First Supplemental Agreement is preferable to a general obligation bond and revenue bond issue in that (i) the County does not have sufficient constitutional authority to issue non-voted general obligation bonds pursuant to Article V,

Section 4 of the North Carolina Constitution because the County has not retired a sufficient amount of debt in the preceding fiscal year to issue a sufficient amount of general obligation bonds for the Project without an election; (ii) the nature of the facility is such that it is not a “revenue bond project” within the meaning of The State and Local Government Revenue Bond Act; (iii) the cost of the Project exceeds the amount to be prudently provided from currently available appropriations and unappropriated fund balances; (iv) the circumstances existing require that funds be available to commence construction of the Project as soon as practicable and the time required for holding an election for the issuance of voted general obligation bonds pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the North Carolina Constitution and the Local Government Bond Act will delay the commencement of construction of the Project by several months; and (v) there can be no assurances that the Project will be approved by the voters and the necessity of such Project dictates that the Project be financed by a method that assures that such Project will be constructed in an expedient manner.

(i) An analysis has been prepared comparing the cost of the financing described above against the financing of the Project through the issuance of general obligation bonds of the County, which analysis indicates that the cost of the alternative means of financing compared with the issuance of general obligation bonds is reasonably comparable and acceptable to the Board.

(j) Special counsel to the County will render an opinion to the effect that the proposed undertaking as described above is authorized by law and is a purpose for which public funds may be expended pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina.

(k) The debt management policies of the County have been carried out in strict compliance with law, and the County is not in default under any obligation for repayment of borrowed money.

(l) Any anticipated tax rate increase necessary to pay the Installment Payments is reasonable and not excessive.

Section 2. The Board hereby approves the filing of an application with the Local Government Commission for approval of the First Supplemental Agreement and requests the Local Government Commission to approve the First Supplemental Agreement and the proposed financing in connection therewith.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Upon motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the foregoing resolution entitled "RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE FINANCING OF A SCHOOL PROJECT PURSUANT TO AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING AGREEMENT AND REQUESTING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE FINANCING ARRANGEMENT" was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Chairman Charles Gaskins, presiding, and Commissioners Glenn Bowen, David Hammond, Ann Huggins, Eugene James, Tom Johnson, Sr., Mark W. Owens, Jr., Theresa Shank, and Beth Ward.

Noes: _____

* * * * *

I, Susan J. Banks, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Pitt, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of said Board at a regular meeting held on September 11, 2000, as it relates in any way to the conduction of a public hearing upon a supplemental installment financing agreement and the construction of a high school for use by the Pitt County Board of Education and the passage of a resolution regarding such installment financing and that said proceedings are recorded in Minute Book No. _31_ of the minutes of said Board.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that a schedule, stating that the regular meetings of said Board are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, 1717 West Fifth Street, Greenville, North Carolina, was on file with me for a least seven calendar days prior to said meeting, all in accordance with G.S. 143-318.12.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of said County this 11th day of September, 2000.

Clerk to the Board

[SEAL]

Chairman Gaskins called for the meeting to be recessed until 11:00 a.m. at which time the Board meeting will reconvene, if the meeting with the Governor has been concluded.

UPON MOTION by Vice Chairman Hammond, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted unanimously to recess until 11:00 a.m. unless the meeting with the Governor has not concluded, at which time the Commissioners' meeting will be reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Gaskins called the meeting back to order at 1:30 p.m.

Storm Ready Community – Jeff Orrock, National Weather Service

Mr. Robinson stated that this item has been moved up due to the time schedule. Mr. Bobby Joyner, Emergency Services Manager, informed the Board that he had applied for Pitt County to be declared Storm Ready. Pitt County won this award. Mr. Joyner introduced Tom Crane from the National Weather Service in Newport, North Carolina, who explained that he issues the weather warnings from his office. This Storm Ready Certification was begun last

year. The purpose is to arm counties with weather preparation. There are less than 50 counties in the nation that have been declared Storm Ready. Mr. Jeff Orrock informed the Board of the warning process, how they issue the warning and then they call and notify the State. They now have satellite telephones so they can always get in touch with the counties. He stated that they issued the river flood warnings following Hurricane Floyd. Mr. Orrock said that in eastern North Carolina, we know what to expect. Good communications have been enhanced. When the County applied for the Storm Ready Designation, they had to do a few things to become Storm Ready. Officials must have access to Ham radios and pagers, as well as a DTM weather system. The County has to assure that they can get the information out to the public. Pitt County has a manual voice override on cable television and that Pitt County is the only County that that has this ability. The State has provided weather radios. When the towers get the warning, the tone is sent out and it notifies a lot of people. This area has very good coverage. They promote training on safety and recognition of weather and preparedness. A formal hazardous operations plan is also required.

Mr. Orrock read a portion of the letter from the Department of Emergency Services praising Bobby Joyner on the outstanding job he has done. This is a two-year certification. Two signs are provided and additional signs can be purchased. The community can earn points and the flood insurance program cost can come down. Seven counties in eastern North Carolina have received this designation.

2002-2008 Draft State Transportation Improvement Plan – James Rhodes

Mr. James Rhodes reported on the draft Transportation Improvement Plan for 2002-2008. Mr. Rhodes stated that this program is on a two-year cycle. He said they would welcome a lot of comments.

Mr. Rhodes said that the southwest bypass is still listed as the number one priority. He suggested a resolution be adopted to re-enforce that the Highway 11 southwest bypass project is still the top priority. Commissioner James said that Pitt County needs to be much more active in the roads system. Ms. Shank said that the Board should take this advice seriously. She said Neal Lassister with the Department of Transportation said that the counties that have this transportation committee have been successful in their transportation needs being met.

Chairman Gaskins left the room at this time. Vice Chairman Hammond began chairing the meeting.

Commissioner Shank **motioned** to instruct staff to look at a concept to establish a Pitt County Transportation Committee and return to the Board with a recommendation. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. Commissioner Bowen amended the motion stating that the County should use the proposed committee composition that Ms. Stallings presented to the Board. Commissioner Shank and Commissioner Ward accepted the amendment as part of the motion. Mr. Robinson said that the staff has not reviewed this recommendation or seen this list of recommended committee members since a copy was not provided to the staff. Mr. Rhodes said that he and the Manager had planned to bring to the Board a proposal for the rural planning organization that would be more of a regional type approach that would include several other counties. He said the Mid-East Commission may be heading up this process. Commissioner Shank said she serves on the Intergovernmental Committee of the NCACC and it will take too long to get this moving.

The Board voted six to two to approve the motion to look into the concept of a transportation committee. Commissioner Owens and Commissioner James opposed the motion. Mr. Robinson said that the MPO can not be countywide because of the criteria to be a metropolitan area. Commissioner Ward stated that this committee is not intended to replace any other committee but would be a new committee that would include all the municipalities in the county.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Ward, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution Regarding the Southwest Bypass.

**RESOLUTION BY THE PITT COUNTY
REGARDING THE SOUTHWEST BYPASS**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has programmed the Southwest Bypass Project (ID No. R-2250) for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Bypass Project has been ranked as the Number One Priority Highway Improvement Project by Pitt County for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has endorsed the Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization ranking the Southwest Bypass project as the Number One Priority Highway Improvement Project for these many years; and

WHEREAS, development is happening rapidly along and near the alternative corridors such that any delay in selecting a preferred corridor will make the construction of this project extremely difficult; and

WHEREAS, the draft 2002-2008 State Transportation Improvement Program has proposed that the design, acquisition and construction of the Southwest Bypass project is to be delayed yet again, and the Farmville Boulevard project remain an unfunded project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pitt County Board of Commissioners requests that the North Carolina Department of Transportation make every effort to complete the environmental process for the Southwest Bypass project as quickly as possible so a preferred alternative may be selected and the corridor preserved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Manager and County staff are hereby directed to present this resolution to the North Carolina Department of Transportation and appropriate elected and staff officials.

ADOPTED this September 11, 2000.

(Seal)

COUNTY OF PITT

Susan J. Banks
Clerk to the Board

Charles Gaskins
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Rhodes reviewed the top five Transportation Improvement projects and reiterated that the priorities remain the same. He did speak about the Fire Tower Road project

which is inside the City of Greenville and on the thoroughfare planning program.

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.

Manager's Report – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson reported on the following items:

- ? Landfill Gas Collection Contract – Report on amount of revenue generated to Pitt County -Phil Dickerson

Mr. Dickerson said landfills are required to move methane gas and maintain active gas collection and then clear it off. He said the County gets \$6,000 per year but it is the annual savings that is important in this program.

- ? Mobile Dental Clinic Bid process – Report from County Engineer on bid process utilized for this bid – Phil Dickerson

Mr. Robinson said that there was some digital equipment that was put on the Mobile Dental Unit that was unlike other Mobile Dental Units and that made the cost higher. Commissioner Owens said he asked about the bid process and how many bids were received. He said the Board already approved this item at a previous meeting and the Board needs to move forward. Commissioner James asked if the County received more than one bid. Mr. Dickerson said that the County received one bid. Mr. Dickerson said the advertisement was put out three times and they followed the law in the bidding process.

Dr. John Morrow, Health Department Director, said that Duplin County went through the same process and also only received one bid. He said that the Pitt County Mobile Dental Unit will have different equipment than the other units. He provided a comparison of costs of the mobile dental unit to the Craven and Duplin County units. Dr. Morrow stated that they had negotiated a savings of \$12,898 since the last Board meeting. Commissioner Bowen said that the final price on the unit is \$333,238. Mr. Robinson said that counties have to pay the tax and then get reimbursed.

- ? Decision to only have one site, the main Elections Office, for no excuse voting – Margaret Hardee

Mr. Robinson said that Ms. Hardee was present to address the Board's questions about the "one stop no excuse voting." She said that the Board of Elections carefully considered all possible sites. After consideration of security, cost, and staff required, the Board of Elections decided that there was no way to keep several locations open. She said the Board decided it was in the best interest of everyone to have the voting at the Board of Elections Office. She said she has received a request to keep her office open for two Saturdays prior to the election.

Commissioner James suggested that they stay open until 6:00 p.m. on several days so working people can vote. He requested that they keep their office open until 6:00 p.m. Ms. Hardee said she would take this suggestion back to the Board of Elections. Commissioner Ward thanked Ms. Hardee for coming and suggested that she be progressive about letting the public know of the extended time frame. Commissioner Huggins expressed her support of the extended hours as well as the two Saturdays for keeping the office open.

? Status of Pitt County's Golden Leaf Projects – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson said he is asking the State for money for infrastructure on the biotechnology building and Mr. Chaffee is pursuing this line of funding. He said there are sixty farmers that may be going out of the farming business and looking for these scholarships. He said they are currently trying to get direction from the State on how to maximize the funds. Commissioner James said the Board needs to push for funds for Pitt County Health Department or the Hospital will get all the funds.

? One Year Followup from Hurricane Floyd – Mr. Robinson stated that blue ribbons have been provided for the Board and were provided for the Governor and his staff commemorating the recovery from Hurricane Floyd, one year ago on September 15, 2000.

? Recognition of Sports teams accomplishments – Tom Robinson

Mr. Robinson informed the Board that the Girls Babe Ruth Softball 12 and under Team won the State Tournament and went on to win the 12 and under World Series in Wilson, North Carolina. He stated that the staff was working on a resolution to present to them since they went to the top of their category.

He also informed the Board of other teams that were successful in their competitions:

- ☞ Girls Babe Ruth Softball 16 and under Team: Won the State Tournament in Henderson, NC; won the Southeast Regional Tournament in Newport, NC and competed in the World Series in Millville, New Jersey and came in 3rd place.
- ☞ Greenville Tar Heel All-Star Team (11-12 Year Olds); Won the State Tournament, competed in the Regional Tournament in Florida
- ☞ Coastal Plains Babe Ruth Baseball Team (16 year olds) : Won the State Tournament, won the Regional Tournament in Virginia, competed in the Work Series and came in 5th place.

Mr. Robinson stated that all of the teams worked hard and the community was very proud of these team players. He stated that beginning with this season, the Board could recognize teams that win State, Regional or National competitions in the newspaper with the addition of a resolution for teams that win their "top level of competition." This top level may be different depending on the league.

? Presentation of FY 2000-2001 Budget Summary Document

Mr. Robinson stated that the budget summary document has been presented to the Board and wanted to inform the public that this document is available to them. Mr. Robinson said this budget document has won awards over the years.

Cable Television Service Areas/Refranchising – Arlen Holt

Commissioner Owens motioned to accept Mr. Holt's written report. Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to accept the written report on cable television service and refranchising.

Mr. Robinson also reported on blue ribbons that have been presented and supplied to the Board commemorating the one year anniversary of Hurricane Floyd.

Mr. Holt provided the Board with a map of cable service areas and discussed the possible expansion. He stated that copies of the map are available for the County

Commissioners. Mr. Holt said the County can include in the refranchise agreements a minimum number of citizens where service would be required.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Huggins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the items for consent.

1. Declaration of Surplus Property

Each year, the County upgrades a portion of computer equipment through a replacement cycle. This is similar in concept to the vehicle replacement cycle, where a number of vehicles are replaced annually.

Attached is a listing of equipment identified by MIS to be declared surplus. Furthermore, it is staff's recommendation that this equipment be donated to eligible non-profit organizations as defined in G.S. Chapter 160A, Article 12 (G.S. 160A-265 through 279) A formal policy is presented for your consideration as an Item for Decision. This recommendation has been reviewed by the County Manager, County Attorney and Director of Financial Services.

SURPLUS COMPUTER LIST

B13849 Acer 486DX4-100	B11337 Acer 486DX2-66
B11307 Acer 486DX2-66	B19005 Acer P100 Tower
B12949 Acer P100 Tower	B14451 Acer P100 Tower
B13417 Acer P75 Tower	B14352 Acer 486DX
B14348 Acer 486DX	R01925 Acer 486DX2-66
B12913 Zenith 486	B12909 Zenith 486/25
B12914 Zenith 486 (ZDS-425S)	R01923 Vision 486DX2-66
B14272 IBM 486-25	B11319 Acer 486DX2-66
B13771 IBM 486DX-25	B11323 Acer 486DX2-66
B11338 Acer 486DX2-66	B11302 Acer 486DX2-66
B11333 Acer 486DX2-66	B11344 Acer 486DX2-66
B11304 Acer 486DX2-66	B11351 Acer 486DX2-66
B11335 Acer 486DX2-66	B11355 Acer 486DX2-66
B11386 Acer 486DX2-66	B11362 Acer 486DX2-66
B11373 Acer 486DX2-66	B11348 Acer 486DX2-66
B13436 Vision P120	B13443 Vision P120
B19066 Vision P133	B19061 Vision P133
B13431 Vision P120	B13448 Vision P120
B12946 Acer P100 Tower	B11341 Acer 486DX2-66
B11342 Acer 486DX2-66	B13834 Acer 486DX4-100
B11301 Acer 486DX2-66	B11370 Acer 486DX2-66
B11339 Acer 486DX2-66	B11336 Acer 486DX2-66
B11309 Acer 486DX2-66	B11330 Acer 486DX2-66
B13727 IBM 486DX-33	B11316 Acer 486DX2-66
B14262 Acer 386DX-40	B13783 IBM 486-25
B11327 Acer 486DX2-66	B11368 Acer 486DX2-66
B11346 Acer 486DX2-66	B14334 Acer 486DX-33
B11328 Acer 486DX2-66	B14317 Acer 486DX-50
B13419 Acer P75 Tower	B13718 Memorex 486DX-66
B13725 IBM 486DX-33	R01908 Acer 486DX2-66
B11361 Acer 486DX2-66	B11375 Acer 486DX2-66
B19094 Acer P166 Tower	B19090 Acer P166 Tower
B19035 Acer P166 Tower	B19047 Acer P166 Tower
B19107 Acer P200 Tower	B14498 Acer P100 Tower
B19315 Acer P166 Tower	R00564 Acer P100 Tower
B19048 Acer P166 Tower	B13688 Serenity P166 Tower

B12945 Acer P100 Tower
B13661 Acer P100 Tower
B14458 Acer P100 Tower
B14456 Acer P100 Tower
B14496 Acer P100 Tower
B19007 Acer P100 Tower
B14455 Acer P100 Tower
B12941 Acer P100 Tower
B19008 Acer P100 Tower
B19264 Acer P100 Tower
B13450 Vision P120

B11359 Acer 486DX2-66
B19036 Acer P166 Tower
B19091 Acer P166 Tower
B14457 Acer P100 Tower
B14495 Acer P100 Tower
B14461 Acer P100 Tower
B11372 Acer 486DX2-66
B11385 Acer 486DX2-66
B14459 Acer P100 Tower
B14258 Acer 486DX2-66
B13438 Vision P120

SURPLUS COMPUTER LIST

B11378 Acer 486DX2-66
B11363 Acer 486DX2-66
B11379 Acer 486DX2-66
B14377 Acer 486DX2-66

B11376 Acer 486DX2-66
B11349 Acer 486DX2-66
B11313 Acer 486DX2-66
B11315 Acer 486DX2-66

SURPLUS MONITOR LIST

B09663 IBM 8512
B11401 Acer 7134T
B11403 Acer 7134T
B11404 Acer 7134T
B11405 Acer 7134T
B11406 Acer 7134T
B11407 Acer 7134T
B11408 Acer 7134T
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B11440 Acer 7134T
B11443 Acer 7134T
B11444 Acer 7134T
B11445 Acer 7134T
B11446 Acer 7134T
B11448 Acer 7134T
B11455 Acer 7134T
B11456 Acer 7134T

B11473 Acer 7134T
B11474 Acer 7134T
B11475 Acer 7134T
B11476 Acer 7134T
B11477 Acer 7134T
B11478 Acer 7134T
B11480 Acer 7134T
B11481 Acer 7134T
B11483 Acer 7134T
B11484 Acer 7134T
B11485 Acer 7134T
B11486 Acer 7134T
B11488 IBM 14RMS
B11490 IBM 14R 39
B12299 Acer 7134T
B12902 Acer 7134T
B12915 TTX 1440N
B12916 TTX 1440N
B12960 Acer 7134T
B12961 Acer 7134T
B12963 Acer 7134T
B12964 Acer 7134T
B12965 Acer 7134T
B12969 Acer 7134T
B13001 IBM 6019-19
B13006 IBM 6019-19
B13018 IBM 6019-19
B13372 Acer 7134T
B13374 Acer 7134T
B13420 Acer 7134T
B13422 Acer 7134T
B13423 Acer 7134T
B13473 Samsung Syncmaster 3Ne
B13681 Leo 15A
B13719 Sampo Alphascan 15g KDM

B11457 Acer 7134T

B13720 Sampo Alphascan 15g KDM

SURPLUS MONITOR LIST

B11458 Acer 7134T	B13728 IBM PS/1
B11462 Acer 7134T	B13742 IBM 6019-19
B11464 Acer 7134T	B13743 IBM 6019-19
B11465 Acer 7134T	B13757 IBM Powerdisplay 20
B11467 Acer 7134T	B13768 IBM PS/1
B11469 Acer 7134T	B13774 IBM PS/1
B11470 Acer 7134T	B13780 IBM 2112
B11471 Acer 7134T	B13795 TTX 5428G
B13813 IBM Powerdisplay 20	B19178 Acer 7154e
B13815 IBM Powerdisplay 20	B19200 Acer 7154e
B13852 Acer 7134T	B19201 Acer 7154e
B13862 Acer 7134T	B19202 Acer 7154e
B13864 Acer 7134T	B19203 Acer 7154e
B14003 IBM 6019-19	B19204 Acer 7154e
B14035 IBM 8512	B19236 Acer 7154e
B14231 IBM PS ValuePoint	B19237 Acer 7154e
B14233 IBM 6312	B19240 Acer 7154e
B14267 TTX 3439	B19242 Acer 7154e
B14318 TTX 3439	B19243 Acer 7154e
B14328 TTX 3439	B19299 Acer 7154e
B14331 TTX 3439	B19300 Acer 7154e
B14347 TTX 3439	B19321 IBM 6019-19
B14351 TTX 3439	B19322 IBM 6019-19
B14465 Acer 7134T	B19323 IBM 6019-19
B14466 Acer 7134T	B19368 Acer 7154e
B14467 Acer 7134T	B19369 Acer 7154e
B14469 Acer 7134T	B19451 Acer 7154e
B14470 Acer 7134T	B19509 Acer 7134T
B14471 Acer 7134T	B19510 Acer 7134T
B14472 Acer 7134T	B19548 Acer 7154e
B14473 Acer 7134T	B19634 Acer 7154e
B14474 Acer 7134T	B14476 Acer 7134T
B14477 Acer 7134T	B14478 Acer 7134T
B14482 Acer 7134T	B14483 Acer 7134T
B14484 Acer 7134T	R00548 Acer 7156e
B14485 Acer 7134T	R00571 Acer 7156e
B14486 Acer 7134T	R00581 Techmedia Multiscan
B14487 Acer 7134T	R01811 IBM 59G7871
B14488 Acer 7134T	R01872 IBM 59G7871
B14492 Acer 7134T	R01907 TTX 5428G
B14493 Acer 7134T	R01941 Acer 7134T
B18324 IBM Powerdisplay 20	B11472 Acer 7134T
B19095 Acer 7154e	B19170 Acer 7154e
B19096 Acer 7154e	B19172 Acer 7154e
B19097 Acer 7154e	B19175 Acer 7154e
B19100 Acer 7154e	B19165 Acer 7154e
B14257	TTX 3439R10871 TTX 3439

SURPLUS MONITOR LIST

B13471	Samsung 3Ne	B13472	Samsung 3Ne
B13473	Samsung 3Ne	B13486	Samsung 4147
B13430	Sansumg 3Ne	B13474	Samsung 3Ne

2. Refunds Greater than \$100

Total Refunds (Greater Than \$100)	– 6	\$1,171.92
Harris, Zebedee		\$ 439.58
Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp.		\$ 113.48
Parson, Mary Bumgardner		\$ 102.62
Pitt County for Parcel Number 20817		\$ 113.08
Powell, Nancy Procter		\$ 121.77
Sharpe, Hohn H.		\$ 281.39

3. Memorandum of Understanding with Edgecombe County to support Work First Call Center – 100% Federal TANF Funds

The Department requests permission to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding with Edgecombe County to support the Work First Call Center managed by Edgecombe County Department of Social Services.

The Call Center is a joint six county project that assists former Temporary Assistance to Needy Families(TANF) recipients with their jobs and life skills. The Center contacts the former clients by telephone and provides assistance in improving their careers and assists former clients with locating resources that will help them solve problems that may affect their continued employment.

The project is primarily funded by 100% Federal TANF funds. The participating counties contribute a required local share to pay for expenses that exceed the available Federal Funds. The Department of Social Services included funding for this project in the current budget for FY 00/01.

No County funds are requested.

4. Educational Leave for Belinda Edwards at Mental Health

Ms. Belinda Edwards has requested an educational leave to attend English and Math at Pitt Community College. She is requesting 3 hours of educational leave each week to help her take the English class and will be attending the math class outside of her regular work day. Due to the Center's extended operating hours, she has had the opportunity to flex her hours to meet the 37 hours of work time she will be responsible for each week.

Ms. Edwards request is consistent with our Educational Leave Policy (3 hours) and is proper.

5. Amendments to the Pitt County Manual of Fees

As discussed at the August 21, 2000 meeting, Pitt County Government has a current fee manual which disclosed the costs for County products to the citizenry. Each year we review and revise as needed. The following changes need to be made and incorporated effective October 1, 2000.

- (1) Increase the current Insufficient Funds "Bad Check Charge" from the current amount of \$20 to \$25. This would bring the County's policy into compliance with the North Carolina General Statute 25-3-506, part of the Uniform Commercial Code. The County will continue to post notices of this fee at all locations where checks are accepted.
- (2) Adjust charges to MIS/GIS fees to offer new formats, which are now available.

MIS Fees – Main Frame Access	Delete Fee
GIS Fees – Administrative Fee – per request	\$20.00 (new)
Media Fees – CD ROM	\$ 5.00 (new)

Data Layers	CD Rom	\$100.00 (each layer)
Data Layers	– CD Rom	\$500.00 (entire county)

These fee changes were disclosed to the public in the County Page of The Daily Reflector on Saturday, September 2, 2000.

6. Budget Amendments – Various Departments

- (a) \$19,635.31 – Abuse you Lose Grant – Sheriff’s Department – Carryover from fiscal year 1999-2000. This grant runs through the end of September (federal fiscal program) and should be carried over to cover final quarter expenditures. No county cash match required – in-kind match only.
- (b) \$17,029.77 – DA’s Office – Violent Crimes Victim’s Asst – Carryover from fiscal year 1999-2000. This grant runs through the end of December (calendar year program) and should be carried over to cover final quarter expenditures. No county match required.
- (c) \$346,659 – Social Services – The County has received notice of an increase in funding above what we estimated during the budget process. No additional county funds are required.
 \$84,000 – Social Services – Carryover of crisis administrative funds used to support staff costs related to the distribution of the direct benefit money to victims of Hurricane Floyd.
 \$1,940,317 – Social Services – Carryover of Crisis funds related to Hurricane Floyd Response and Recovery

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Title of Acct</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
243635-436000-00	Non-Federal Categorical Grant	19,635.31	
245635-526000-00	Office Supplies	11,501.63	
245635-531200-00	Travel	5,414.00	
245635-532500-00	Postage	500.00	
245635-534100-00	Printing	2,219.68	
245625-512000-00	Salaries	13,174.18	
245625-518100-00	FICA Taxes	986.83	
245625-518200-00	Retirement	664.31	
245625-518300-00	Hospitalization	1,346.00	
245625-518500-00	Unemployment Insurance	300.00	
245625-531200-00	Travel	355.62	
245625-532900-00	Other Communication	39.73	
245625-55200-00	Data Processing Equipment	163.10	
243625-426400-00	Federal Categorical	1,729.77	
165421-531403	Daycare Children	346,659.00	
162400-433061	Day Care Payments	346,659.00	
165420-539300	Temporary Labor	72,000.00	
165411-543100	Copier Rent	3,000.00	
165411-532500	Postage	3,000.00	
165411-532100	Telephone	3,000.00	
165411-533100	Utilities	3,000.00	
162400-423000	Social Services Administration	84,000.00	
165488-531753	Housing – Rent/Mortgage	100,000.00	
165488-531754	Utilities	100,000.00	
165488-531756	Repairs and Materials	1,700,317.00	
165488-531757	Clothing & Miscellaneous	40.00	
162400-423000	Social Services Administration	1,940,317.00	
162421-531403	Day Care Smart Start	315,060.00	
162400-423041	Smart Start	315,060.00	

7. Reappointment of ABC Board Members

Ms. Mamie Smith and Mr. Melvin McLawhorn both serve terms which

expired August 31, 2000. Both members are eligible for reappointment and both were approved.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

Program Manual Resolution for Flood Recovery Housing – James Rhodes, Don Harvey, The Wooten Company

Mr. Rhodes introduced Keisha Baker, Office Assistant at the Recovery Operations Center. She handles the phones and is helping the Legal and Planning Staff in processing documents.

Mr. Rhodes reported that he is hoping to hear from the State about Phase II sometime this week. He announced today that there are three components with two different properties. The County will be making an offer on two properties tomorrow. They will be closing if the offers are accepted.

They have completed a repair project. He introduced Don Harvey to indicate three documents that need to be authorized. Mr. Harvey stated that the Program Manual Resolution which includes: 1) Optional Coverage Relocation Plan; 2) Contracts Officer Designation; and 3) Just Compensation Officer Designation, each needed to be approved by the Board.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Shank, the Board voted unanimously to accept and authorize the Program Manual Resolution which includes: 1) Optional Coverage Relocation Plan; 2) Contracts Officer Designation; and 3) Just Compensation Officer Designation.

PROGRAM MANUAL RESOLUTION

A Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Program Manual for the Pitt County Flood Recovery Housing Programs.

Be it Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Pitt County, North Carolina, That:

WHEREAS, the County is participating in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program administered by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management; and

WHEREAS, the County is participating in the Crisis Housing Assistance Program administered by the North Carolina Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the following documents are necessary for the implementation of these programs;

- ? Optional Coverage Relocation Plan
- ? Contracts Officer Designation
- ? Just Compensation Officer Designation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Pitt County, North Carolina, hereby adopts these procedures to be used throughout the implementation of the Pitt County Flood Recovery Housing Programs.

Adopted this 11th day of September 2000.

Charles P. Gaskins, Chairman

ATTEST:

Susan J. Banks, Clerk to the Board

**CONTRACTS OFFICER DESIGNATION
FLOOD RECOVERY HOUSING PROGRAMS**

The Board of Commissioners of Pitt County, North Carolina, hereby designates James Rhodes, Planning Director, or his designee, to serve as Contracts Officer throughout the implementation of the Pitt County Flood Recovery Housing Programs. He shall have the authority to execute contracts and approve reimbursement payments pertaining to housing repair and rehabilitation within the limitations of the approved Grant Application, Program Requirements and State Procurement Procedures.

**JUST COMPENSATION OFFICER DESIGNATION
FLOOD RECOVERY HOUSING PROGRAMS**

The Board of Commissioners of Pitt County, North Carolina, hereby designates James Rhodes, Planning Director, or his designee, to serve as Just Compensation Officer throughout the implementation of the Pitt County Flood Recovery Housing Programs. He shall have the authority to certify just compensation of private property acquisition within the limitations of the approved Grant Application and Program Requirements.

**OPTIONAL COVERAGE RELOCATION PLAN
FLOOD RECOVERY HOUSING PROGRAMS**

I. Organization and Administration

The County of Pitt (hereinafter called "County") will administer and coordinate all relocation activities resulting from the FEMA HMGP/CHA activities. Citizens displaced by the activities are eligible to receive relocation assistance. The financial assistance is in a form as permitted under implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24 and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and as stipulated for this Program.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this optional coverage relocation assistance plan is to provide relocation assistance payments to individuals and families whose primary legal residences are acquired by the County. The acquisition is the result of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) activities under the Hurricane Floyd allocation and supplemented by the Crisis Housing Assistance (CHA) funds. Also, individuals and families eligible and approved for the CHA Replacement Housing Assistance Program are covered under this plan.

III. Eligibility

Only those individuals and families residing in the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Project

Area, that are displaced as a result of this project's voluntary buy out activities and which have unmet, long-term, relocation needs are eligible to receive assistance. Individuals and families eligible and approved for the CHA Replacement Housing Assistance Program are also covered under this plan. In addition, eligibility of the individual or family must have been established and documented prior to the provision of financial assistance under this plan.

IV. Authority

Optional relocation benefits are authorized by Section 105(a) of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act and Sections 570.496a(d) and 570.606(d) of the interim rule that describes the "Act". This policy is promulgated in accordance therewith.

V. Assistance to be Provided

The following optional coverage relocation policy is to be used during the implementation of the FEMA HMGP/CHA Program. All persons displaced in accordance with this policy shall be provided relocation assistance in accordance with guidelines outlined under 49 CFR 24, "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs", except as outlined below:

1. *Displaced Person.* The term "displaced person", as defined under 49 CFR 24, shall be redefined under this policy to mean any person(s) who owns a primary legal residence on the effective date of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Also, they must permanently move from this primary legal residence as a direct result of the Flood Recovery Housing Programs.
2. *Initiation of Negotiations.* The term "initiation of negotiations", shall be redefined under this policy to mean the delivery date of either (1) an Offer to Purchase; or (2) the date of a Notice of Relocation Eligibility issued to the owner, whichever is earlier. Displaced persons cannot receive relocation assistance unless the subject floodplain property is actually acquired.
3. *Comparable Replacement Dwelling.* The term "comparable replacement dwelling", as defined under 49 CFR 24, shall be redefined as "suitable replacement dwelling", under this policy to mean a dwelling that is (1) decent, safe, and sanitary, as defined in 49 CFR 24.2(f). (2) functionally equivalent to the displacement dwelling. (3) adequate in size to accommodate the occupants. (4) on a site, not subject to adverse environmental conditions. (5) in a location generally not less desirable than the location of the displaced person's dwelling with respect to public utilities, commercial and public facilities, and reasonably accessible to the person's place of employment. (6) on a site that is typical in size for residential development with normal site improvements, including customary landscaping. The site need not include special improvements such as outbuildings, swimming pools, or greenhouses. (7) currently available to the displaced person in the private market; however, a government subsidized dwelling unit will be considered suitable if it meets standards 1 through 6 above, and the displacement dwelling is government subsidized. (8) within the financial means of the displaced person, as defined under 49 CFR 24.2(d) 8; (9) located within Pitt County or any adjacent county, and located outside the 100-year floodplain. Circumstances permitting temporary relocation and basic conditions of emergency moves will be followed in accordance with 49 CFR 24.203(c)(4) and 49 CFR 24.204(b) and (c).
4. *Relocation Notices.* A "Notice of Relocation Eligibility" outlining all information described under 49 CFR 24.203 (a) and (b) will be sent by certified mail or hand-delivered to all displaced individuals. Additionally, the County will, in all cases, precede the "Notice of Relocation Eligibility" with a documented personal

interview with the individual to be displaced. Ninety-day and thirty-day notices shall be prepared and issued in accordance with 49 CFR 24.203(c).

5. *Duplication of Benefits.* In the case of a displacee who also receives assistance from other sources, the amount of the assistance will be subtracted from the actual relocation payment in order to avoid a duplication of benefits. The total of all assistance will provide suitable relocation benefits in accordance with URA except where outlined otherwise.
6. *Mortgage Interest Differential Payment.* Relocates will not be eligible for the mortgage interest differential payment provision on the Uniform Act.
7. *Levels, amounts and general geographic area* of relocation assistance to eligible individuals and families shall be reasonable and fair and include the following limits:
 - A. **Owner-Occupants**
 1. **Homeowner Replacement Housing Payment.** Eligible homeowners, as defined by 49 CFR 24.401(a), may receive a replacement housing payment, as computed in accordance with 49 CFR 24.401, except that other disaster assistance and insurance proceeds will be deducted as appropriate to prevent duplication of benefits. Mortgage interest differential payments, moving and dislocation expenses are not eligible.
 2. Owner-occupants of mobile homes situated on a rented site are eligible for down payment assistance for the purchase of a new mobile home in lieu of a rental assistance payment, in addition to a replacement housing payment, if a suitable rental site cannot be located on a timely or cost-effective basis.
 - B. **Tenant Relocations.** Tenants will be provided relocation assistance in accordance with URA regulations and are not covered under the Optional Relocation Coverage Plan.
 - C. **General Geographic Area of Relocation Assistance.** Relocates are eligible for relocation assistance if they relocate into the general geographic area approved for this program. The general geographic area approved for this program is defined as within Pitt County or any adjacent county. Should the relocatee find it necessary to move outside the general geographic area, the County will consider each case on an individual basis. The request must be submitted in writing to James F. Rhodes, Planning Director, County of Pitt, 1717 W. Fifth Street, Greenville NC, 27834-1696 and state the hardship that would result if the relocatee was limited to the general geographical area. All moves must be within the state of North Carolina.

Recapture Provisions

1. *Recapture Provisions for Homeowners receiving Relocation Assistance.* This section is intended for homeowners participating in the HMGP buyout program utilizing funding provided through the State. This is also referred to as the "differential" or "gap financing" for homeowners. Owners must occupy the replacement dwelling as their primary residence for not less than 5 years. Assistance will be provided in the form of a 0% deferred interest loan for a term of 5 years. The deferred interest loan will be forgiven at the rate of 20% per year for 5 years if the owner maintains the replacement dwelling as his/her principal residence. If the home is sold within the first 5 years, a portion of the deferred interest loan will be recaptured (due and payable) based on the loan balance on the date of sale. All loans will be secured by a note and deed of trust on the replacement dwelling and recorded with the Pitt County Register of Deeds. All recaptured funds will be returned to the State.

2. *Recapture Provisions for Homeowners receiving Replacement Housing Assistance.* Replacement housing grants are available to low income homeowners whose primary residence qualified as real estate at the time of the disaster, was destroyed, is not subject to the buyout, is not covered by flood insurance and is not eligible for a sufficient SBA loan. Potential beneficiaries must have registered with FEMA and have documentation of application approval or denial from the Individual Family Grant Program, or be able to document that they are ineligible for sufficient SBA loan assistance. Replacement funds will be used to provide comparable replacement housing. Homeowners must access any other available sources, such as other public and private loans or governments grants for replacement funds. If those funds are insufficient for replacement, the homeowner may receive replacement funds under the state program to fund the difference between the other sources and \$75,000. If the homeowner is ineligible for all other sources of funds, replacement funds may be provided for the entire transaction. In either case, housing replacement funds will not exceed \$75,000 per homeowner. State assistance will be in the form of a 0% deferred loan for a period of 10 years. If the home is sold within the first 5 years, the principal will be due and payable upon sale. There will be a prorated recapture period for year six through year ten. The loan will be secured by a note and deed of trust recorded with the Pitt County Register of Deeds. Recaptured funds will be returned to the State.

VII. Affirmative Action For Low Income and Minority Persons

All relocation assistance provided under this plan will be undertaken in a non-discriminatory manner. Any low-income or minority individual or family assisted under this plan shall not be required to move to an area of low-income and/or minority concentration as a condition of receiving relocation assistance, unless they have been given opportunities to relocate to a suitable replacement dwelling that is not located in an area of low-income and/or minority concentration, if such opportunities are available.

VIII. Relocation Record Keeping

Complete records, documents, and justification for payment made pursuant to this plan shall be maintained in accordance with the guidelines under 49 CFR 24.9 of the "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally Assisted Programs".

IX. Complaint Procedure

The County conforms to standard, ethical practices in the relocation of individuals and families and desires to see that all interests are protected. If there are any questions or complaints, the County solicits the cooperation of all owners and requests an opportunity to discuss them in an effort to satisfy all parties concerned. The County has adopted the following Complaint Procedure:

Citizens may make comments at any point in the program including planning, implementation and closeout. The County will respond in writing to written citizen comments. Citizen comments should be mailed to James F. Rhodes, Planning Director, County of Pitt, 1717 W. Fifth Street, Greenville NC, 27834-1696. The Planning Director will respond on behalf of the County to all written citizen comments within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the comments.

Should any individual, family or entity have a complaint concerning the County of Pitt FEMA HMGP/ CHA Program, the complaint should first be discussed with the Planning Director. ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE EXHAUSTED TO RESOLVE THE COMPLAINT AT THIS LEVEL.

If the complaint cannot be resolved in this manner, a meeting with the County Manager, to discuss the complaint should be requested. The request should be in writing and should briefly outline the complaint. A meeting date and time will be established within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the request. Upon meeting and discussing the complaint, a reply will be made, in writing, within five (5) calendar days.

Administration of Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance for the Town of Bethel – James Rhodes & Terri Parker-Eakes, Bethel Town Manager

Mr. Rhodes informed the Board that the Town of Bethel requested the County administer the County’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance in the town’s jurisdiction. He stated that the Town of Bethel does not currently enforce such regulations and individual residing in the corporate limits and extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) are not eligible for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Mr. Rhodes recommended that the Board approve the request by the Town of Bethel for the County to enforce the County’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to authorize staff to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Town of Bethel to administer the County’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance once the Town is accepted for the National Flood Insurance Program and the Town Board adopts the County’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Farmville’s Request for a Construction & Demolition Landfill – Phil Dickerson

The Town of Farmville requested that this item be postponed until a later date.

Budget Amendment for Social Services – Ed Garrison

Mr. Garrison asked the Board to approve a budget amendment to appropriate 100% Federal funds to hire a Child Protective Services position. The CPS Social Worker III hired with these funds will provided child protective services and Foster Care services and help to recruit and train new Foster Parents. North Carolina has experienced a statewide increase of 12% in the number on children reported for protective services.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Social Services budget amendment for \$63,703 in 100% Federal funds for a new Child Protective Services position.

Account No.	Title of Account	Increase	Decrease
165420-512000	Salaries	23,190	
165420-518100	FICA	1,744	
165420-518200	Retirement	1,131	
165420-518201	401K Retirement	1,101	
165420-518300	Hospitalization	2,430	
165420-531200	Travel General	1,000	
165411-526000	Office Supplies	2,400	
165411-543100	Copier Rent	1,000	
165411-552000	Data Processing Equipment	2,500	
162400-423000	Social Services Administration	36,496	

Budget Amendments for Mental Health – Debra Dihoff/Duane Holder

Mr. Robinson said that this budget amendment appropriates grant money from the State and Federal government which funds a halftime position and an increase in Medicaid funds for two additional positions in the Detox unit. Mr. Robinson said these positions have been tagged as grant funding so when the funding is depleted the positions will be eliminated. Duane Holder, Finance Officer for Mental Health, stated they are being very careful with their budget. They will

be reporting to the Mental Health Area Board and being accountable for accurately and adequately funding positions.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Mental Health budget amendments.

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
195263 512000	Salaries	12,640	
195263 512700	Longevity	289	
195263 512701	Sick Leave Payback	148	
195263 518100	FICA	980	
195263 518200	Retirement	651	
195263 518201	401K Retirement	616	
195263 518300	Hospitalization	1,620	
195263 518400	Life Insurance	56	
193263 441101	TASC Assessments	17,000	

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
193231 434000	Medicaid	50,324	
195231 512000	Salaries	33,127	
195231 512101	Shift Differential	500	
195231 512200	Overtime	3,965	
195231 518100	FICA	2,458	
195231 518200	Retirement	1,568	
195231 518201	401K	1,526	
195231 518300	Hospitalization	6,480	
195231 518400	Life Insurance	200	
195231 531200	Travel	500	

Legislative Goals Presentation Package – JoAnne Burgdorff

Ms. Burgdorff reviewed the proposed Legislative Goals Package including State and Local requests to be submitted to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in support of their Legislative Goals Package. Commissioner James said that the County needs to get together with other counties to encourage the General Assembly to consider the counties that are low wealth for equalization of the funding for the University and Community College Bonds. He said the low wealth counties should receive the same credit or matching rate on these bonds that is typically used for low wealth funding. The Board discussed the local option sales tax which excludes food.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Shank, the Board voted to unanimously approve an amendment to the Legislative Goals Package with a request to consider using the low wealth counties local match funding formula for the University and Community College Bonds.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Shank to incorporate the approve the amendment concerning low wealth counties and to approve the Legislative Goals Package.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted unanimously to support a substitute motion to exclude land transfer and prepared meals tax from the Menu of Revenue Sources.

Commissioner Ward asked Ms. Burgdorff to look into the materials that were presented this morning at the Governor’s Cabinet meeting held in Pitt County, to see if there were any items that need to be considered or included in the Legislative Goals Package.

The Board also discussed the Sales tax exception and impact fees.

PROPOSED PITT COUNTY – 2001 LEGISLATIVE GOALS

STATEWIDE MEASURES:

1) SHERIFF'S FEES:

Civil service of papers fees be increased from \$5.00 to \$25.00. This fee is still far below what is charged in other states and still does not cover the costs associated with this service.

2) JUDICIAL AND COURT FACILITIES FUNDING:

Seek funding to offset the costs of providing office space for judicial and court related officials.

3) LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX:

Statewide option to enact an additional 1% sales tax, excluding food. Many counties have lobbied for this same legislation by way of local act.

4) MENU OF REVENUE SOURCES:

Support legislation to authorize counties to enact optional local taxes and fees with voter approval from a menu of various revenue sources to include: local sales taxes, impact fees, automobile registration fees, and occupancy taxes as have been authorized under local act for certain counties.

5) UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS:

Statewide legislation to give credit to counties who have overmatched their share of Community College funding. For instance, this increase in funding would give Pitt County credit for overmatching our contribution to Pitt Community College, instead of Pitt County receiving \$8.2 million of bond money, Pitt County should receive \$10.4 million. This is based upon the formula established for low wealth counties, that our required match is \$.79 on the dollar, yet we have matched dollar for dollar at \$8.2 million. All counties that have overmatched should receive credit for their efforts in funding their community college. **Pitt County strongly endorses this proposal .**

6) MENTAL HEALTH:

Support legislation to amend G.S. 122C-115(d) to allow counties to restore local discretion in budgeting for mental health services. and

Seek clarification that single county Mental Health Agencies, for fiscal control purposes, are Departments of County government just like Health and Social Services.

7) SURCHARGE FLEXIBILITY – 911

Support legislation to increase flexibility in the use of fees generated for Emergency 911 in order to expand the ability of counties to enhance these services.

8) BOARD OF COMMISSIONER MINUTES:

Support legislation to eliminate the requirement of county governments to record minor tax releases and refunds in the minutes of meetings; as long as those records are maintained by the county for a period of five years.

9) FEMA DATA BANKS:

Seek support in both State and Federal Legislative bodies to allow counties and municipalities access to FEMA data banks when dealing with disaster recovery and in emergency situations. Pitt County had many problems during and after natural disasters that could have been resolved through use of the FEMA data banks which we were not allowed to access.

10) TAXES TO COMPENSATE FOR LOSSES DUE TO REMOTE SALES:

Support legislation to treat remote sales purchases the same as purchases made at the local mall. The losses to tax revenue from remote sales taxes of catalog, internet, mail order and remote sales of all kinds, is a growing problem for local governments. The State is losing millions of dollars in tax revenue each year and these losses will continue and will seriously affect local government's ability to provide needed services for their residents.

11) EXPAND AUTHORITY TO MANAGE THE FLOOD PLAIN:

Seek expansion of the statutory authority in N.C.G.S. 143-215.51 (1971) to clarify the roles of State and local government in management of the development in the one hundred year flood plain to minimize property damage and environmental harm, through increased use of planning and land control.

12) REPLACE LOCAL LOST REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES:

Support legislation to restore growth in reimbursements provided by the State to replace local revenue lost when the General Assembly repealed certain local property taxes.

13) SALES TAX EXEMPTION:

Support legislation to exempt counties, cities, school boards and community colleges from payment of state and local sales taxes on government purchases.

14) AUTOMOBILE PROPERTY TAX:

Improve the system through which property taxes on motor vehicles are collected, such as:

- ? adding provisions to allow the DMV to change a vehicle owner's mailing address without the vehicle owner's authorization;
- ? adding provisions to require the DMV to provide SS #'s of the owners of registered motor vehicles that have been blocked from registration to the county tax collector, and
- ? providing for a 2% penalty in the first month that taxes on registered motor vehicles are past due.

15) TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS ALLOCATION TO COUNTIES:

Encourage legislation to ensure that counties receive a portion of the state tobacco settlement to reimburse for property tax losses, costs associated with medical expenditures related to smoking and for economic losses in tobacco dependent communities.

PITT COUNTY STRONGLY ENDORSES THIS PROPOSAL.

- 16) Support changes in the Federal law regulating agriculture which would prohibit the harvesting of damaged crops following a natural disaster such as the flooding following hurricane Floyd. Also allowing the demolition of abandoned structures damaged by natural disasters based upon hazards to public health.
- 17) Propose that Banks and financial institutions be provided early and updated information concerning financial assistance that both state and federal governments are providing to disaster victims for both personal and agricultural losses.

These last two items 16 and 17 were discussed during the Governor's Council of State meeting in Pitt County yesterday. There was a roundtable discussion concerning matters relating to the disaster recovery following last year's storm, and the problems arising from those efforts.

Second Reading of Franchise Ordinance for Construction Debris Landfills – JoAnne Burgdorff

Ms. Burgdorff read the Franchise Ordinance for Construction Debris Landfills and stated that this is the second reading because the first reading did not receive a unanimous vote.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to approve Franchise Ordinance for Construction Debris Landfills.

**FRANCHISE ORDINANCE FOR
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS LANDFILLS
COUNTY OF PITT
NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, G.S. §153A-136 provides that a county may grant a franchise to one or more persons for the disposal of solid wastes in a county; and,

WHEREAS, G.S. §130A-294 requires any applicant for a sanitary landfill permit, prior to applying for such permit from the State of North Carolina, to obtain from each local government having jurisdiction over any part of the proposed sanitary landfill a franchise for operation of same; and,

WHEREAS, construction debris (C&D) landfills, defined as facilities for the disposal of solid waste resulting solely from construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition operations on pavement, buildings, or other structures, but not including inert debris, land-clearing debris or yard debris, are classified by the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources as sanitary landfills; and,

WHEREAS, operational issues regarding C&D landfills are controlled by the provisions of the Rules of the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources; and,

WHEREAS, because of the rapid building and development in Pitt County, there is a continual need for C&D landfills in the County, and;

WHEREAS, G.S. §130A-294 requires that certain information be contained in every franchise granted for a sanitary landfill.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE ORDAINED,

Section 1. For purposes of this ordinance a construction debris (C&D) landfill is defined as a facility for the disposal of solid waste resulting solely from construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition operations on pavement, buildings, or other structures, but not including inert debris, land-clearing debris or yard debris.

Section 2. Every operator of a C&D landfill in Pitt County must obtain a franchise from the Pitt County Board of Commissioners. A franchise shall be issued upon the presentation of the following information to the County:

1. The name and address of the applicant and owner of the proposed site.
2. The trade or other fictitious names, if any, under which the applicant does business, along with a certified copy of and assumed name certificate stating such name or articles or incorporation stating such name.
3. A legal description and a map of the property proposed to be included in the C&D landfill;
4. A statement of the population to be served by the C&D landfill, including a description of the geographic area;
5. A description of the volume and characteristics of the waste stream;
6. A projection of the useful life of the C&D landfill; and
7. Evidence that the site has been approved by the Pitt County Board of Commissioners.

Section 3. Upon issuance, the franchise document shall contain a statement of the population to be served by the C&D landfill, including a description of the geographic area; a description of the volume and characteristics of the waste stream; and, a projection of the useful life of the C&D landfill.

Section 4. The Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to G.S. §130A-294, may hold a public hearing for the purpose of notifying the public of the intent to issue a franchise for a C&D landfill if the board determines that sufficient public interest exists in the proposed C&D landfill to warrant a public hearing. If the Board, in its sole discretion, determines that a public hearing should be held, the county shall schedule a time and place for said hearing.

A notice of such hearing shall be, at the expense of the applicant, published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date established for the hearing. Notice of the hearing must also be posted on the property, at a place visible to all public roads adjacent to the proposed site. The notice shall be reasonably calculated to inform the public of the location, date, time and purpose of the hearing. The applicant shall provide an affidavit to the County not less than ten (10) days before the date of the hearing that the required notice has been posted.

The conditions upon which a franchise is granted shall be the following:

1. The franchisee shall cause any public road leading to the landfill to be cleared of debris at least twice per month for a distance of two miles on both sides of the landfill entrance onto the public road.
2. The franchisee shall require that all trucks transporting debris be adequately covered or secured to prevent the spillage of debris.

3. The franchisee shall pay to the Pitt County Solid Waste Enterprise Fund a certain sum to be set each year in the fee schedules approved by the Board of County Commissioners for every ton of debris taken into the landfill. These funds shall be utilized by the County to insure that the landfill operates in accordance with all Federal, State and local regulations and the franchise.
4. The franchisee shall comply with all fire prevention regulations and sedimentation and erosion control regulations.
5. The franchisee shall provide dust control measures that will not allow dust to leave his property.
6. The franchisee hereby gives the County the right to seek up to \$500 per calendar day in damages, for violation of the franchise agreement.

This ordinance shall be effective upon enactment and shall apply to all C&D landfills that have been issued a site approval by Pitt County.

ADOPTED this the 11th day of September, 2000.

Charles P. Gaskins Chairman

Attest:

Susan J. Banks, CMC
Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Bowen asked if the fee should be set for this ordinance. Vice Chairman Hammond said that was his problem with the ordinance in the beginning was that it did not inform the public of a change in fees.

Mr. Dickerson said he would recommend \$2.00 per ton and expects 10,000 tons but there is no need to set the fee at this time.

Commissioner Bowen motioned to establish a \$2.00 per ton fee. Commissioner Owens explained that this fee applies to everyone from now forward. Commissioner James seconded the motion. Commissioner Bowen and Commissioner James withdrew the motion on the fee after further discussion.

Donation of Surplus Computer Equipment Policy – Mike Taylor, JoAnne Burgdorff

Mr. Michael Taylor presented a policy to the Board for donation of surplus computer equipment policy to other agencies. He said these guidelines have been established based on the General Statutes.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted to approve the "Policy for Distribution of Surplus Computer Equipment to Non-Profit Organizations. Commissioner Owens asked the value of the computer equipment declared surplus this morning. Mr. Taylor said that he would have to return with that information because he had not brought it with him.

Offer to purchase property known as 1014 and 1016 Ward Street, Greenville, NC owned by Pitt County for \$6,100 – JoAnne Burgdorff

Ms. Burgdorff said there are two lots located side by side, that the county has acquired through tax foreclosure. There is an offer to purchase on the two lots. The offer came from Habitat for Humanity and they offered what was owed in taxes \$6,100.00. They put a deposit on the property. This offer has to be advertised. She said that the Board may wish to consider handling the property differently since the offer comes from Habitat for Humanity.

Commissioner Ward said that Habitat for Humanity is going to build 60 houses in North Carolina for flood victims. She asked if it would be proper to donate the property. She said she feels that would be appropriate.

Commissioner Ward motioned to donate the two properties, 1014 and 1016 Ward Street, to Habitat for Humanity. The motion died for lack of a second.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted unanimously to start the procedure for an upset bid and by law keep it open for 10 days.

Commissioner Owens asked the Chairman if he could be excused from the meeting and the Chairman concurred.

Ms. Burgdorff asked the Board to authorize the Chairman to execute a deed donating the "Buck's Convenient Mart" property to the Town of Fountain that was acquired through settlement of the nuisance lawsuit recently.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to execute the necessary documents for donation of a property to the Town of Fountain.

Communications Consulting Services - John Bulow

Mr. Bulow stated that he had been researching the 800 trunking project and estimates for this equipment are over \$4 million. In evaluating how to move forward, he contacted a consultant that did the original study. This consultant agreed to continue the study and provide the County with a recommendation on the system. The consultant agreed to provide the service for a not to exceed price of \$135,000. The consultant would procure and design the system, install the system and proceed through with a testing phase. The range of the radio system is very large and multiple towers will be needed. The system is for police, fire and rescue operations. Vice Chairman Hammond said the consultant fee was not included in the budget. This should have been put in the original proposal. Commissioner Bowen said that there are several other counties that have this system such as Cumberland County. He asked if Mr. Bulow had talked with Cumberland County. Mr. Bulow stated if the Board wanted the staff to go to one vendor and work with them to provide a system, then they would work with just one vendor. Mr. Robinson said that he provided the Board with a cost range in the budget for the communications equipment and apologized if it was not spelled out specifically to the Board members.

Mr. Robinson asked if Cumberland County had hired a consultant to help them with their system? Mr. Bulow said that the Sheriff wants to be linked in with the State Highway System.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner Huggins, the Board voted six to three for approval of contracting with the CTA Communications as a consultant on the communications equipment with a not to exceed cost of \$135,000. In favor of the motion were: Commissioner Huggins, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Shank, and Commissioner Johnson. Opposed to the motion were: Commissioner James, Vice Chairman Hammond, and Commissioner Bowen. Commissioner Owens and Chairman Gaskins were not present.

Commissioner Johnson asked for clarification on the motion and the absent members.

Ms. Burgdorff stated that the votes of the Commissioners who were not present, would count with the majority. She further stated that the Board's Rules of Procedure states that when a commissioner wishes to leave the meeting, they must have a motion approved by vote of the

Board in order to be counted as absent and their vote not be counted. Otherwise, the members who were once present, but left the meeting, would have their votes counted with the majority.

Rescue Services Study Consultant – John Bulow

Mr. Bulow said the Board instructed the State to study Pitt County's Rescue Services and make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner James was a member of study committee and they met for several months and no progress was made. He stated that the people on the committee would all be directly impacted by any changes and they could not come to a consensus. The Manager and Assistant Manager talked with Catawba County. The staff recommendation to employ the Freeman-White Agency as a consultant to study the rescue situation and give the Board the hard cold facts. The cost of the consultant is estimated to be \$62,000 with \$50,000 already budgeted in the Emergency Services budget.

Vice Chairman Hammond asked for Mr. Joyner's comments. Mr. Joyner said that they have been talking for five years and if something is not done soon, the County will be at risk for lawsuits. He said they need someone from outside to come in and look at the situation. Mr. Joyner reviewed which rescue units have paid staff in the County. Commissioner Bowen asked about an hourly wage. Mr. Joyner said that he is going to provide as much information as possible to the consultant in order to cut down on the cost. Commissioner Huggins said the staff has been working with the State, and this project was in the budget.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Shank, to accept the staff recommendation to retain the services of FreemanWhite, Inc. to provide unbiased examination of the problems associated with rescue and to make recommendations to improve the Pitt County Rescue system, both from an efficiency and monetary perspective, with a not to exceed cost of \$62,000. Commissioner James said he was on the committee and it was bad. The people are dedicated, they know what they want and the County cannot afford to do it. Commissioner James said the County has no choice. Commissioner James said there are rescue squads that do not bill for their services. Mr. Robinson said this is an equity issue for the citizens. Uneven levels of service, cost and response times all need to be considered. Some rescue squad charge a fee and some have an annual tax. Mr. Robinson said there are some hard decisions to be made concerning the number of stations, call volumes, fee structure, staffing, and many other considerations. Mr. Robinson said that the rescue squads need to be involved. The consultant will meet with the Committee and meet with the rescue captains. Vice Chairman Hammond said that private rescue squads will not back up public ones. Mr. Joyner said that the franchise ordinance does not allow unauthorized people to provide such services.

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

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE BOARD – Speakers will be limited to three minutes.

- ? Jane Barnhill - received a copy of a county department head's letter requesting that planning board members be held beyond their term. Terms are three years with a maximum of two terms. She has attended Planning committee meetings. Northwest and NC 11 is the reason for the request. These people have no reason to stay on. Seven members would be replaced in the same year. These people are still sitting on the Planning Board from last year. Is a protection being afforded in order to get things through. She has a list of the applications. She said it feels like a slap to the citizens in Pitt County. They need to reestablish some trust. She spoke about democracy dying out in Pitt County. She requests that reports back to the Board be made on items that are brought up under public addresses.
- ? Nancy Colville - stated she supports Ms. Barnhill's comments. She said please reconsider the ordinance.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

No comments by the Board at this time.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Burgdorff stated that a commissioner had requested a closed session which is authorized under G.S. 143-318.11(a) 6 personnel item - to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Huggins, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

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

ADJOURN

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Commissioner James, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Banks, CMC
Clerk to the Board