

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

June 1, 2009 – 4:00 PM

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROWAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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Present: Carl Ford, Chairman
Jon Barber, Vice-Chairman
Raymond Coltrain, Member
Tina Hall, Member
Chad Mitchell, Member

County Manager Gary Page, Clerk to the Board Carolyn Athey, County Attorney Jay Dees and Finance Director Leslie Heidrick were present.

Chairman Ford convened the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Chairman Ford provided the Invocation and also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the vote to approve the minutes of the February 24-27, 2009 (retreat) and May 18, 2009 Commission Meeting passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Chairman Ford moved to add to the Consent Agenda a Resolution Requesting TIGER Discretionary Grant Funding for Replacement of the Yadkin River Bridge. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Mitchell moved to add further discussion and possible straw votes regarding the Rowan Rescue Squad, Rowan County employee jobs and classroom supply money. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

Chairman Ford added the discussion as agenda item #15a.

CONSIDER DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

There were no deletions from the agenda.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Barber moved approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coltrain and passed unanimously.

1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Coltrain moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and carried unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval of Resolution Supporting An Alternative Method of Recognition For Veterans Status to Merchant Marine Seamen of WWII

RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS STATUS TO MERCHANT MARINE SEAMEN OF WWII

WHEREAS, Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed Veteran Status on US Merchant Marine Seamen of WWII; and

WHEREAS, two specific U.S. Government actions have caused some 10,000 merchant seamen to have been denied their due recognition by removing two of the criteria required by the government to issue

- 1. The Unites States Coast Guard relieved Masters of tugs, towboats and seagoing barges of the responsibility of submitting reports of seamen shipped and discharged ; and
- 2. The National Maritime Administration ordered ships' logbooks to be destroyed because they were too costly to maintain.

WHEREAS, the average age of the remaining seamen is above 86 and the population of the US Veterans is shrinking at an average of 850 per year causing time to be of the essence; and

WHEREAS, no costs are associated with this proposal as funds are already included in above referenced public laws; and

WHEREAS, the Rowan County Board of Commissioners therefore request that immediate action be taken to correct this inconceivable action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Rowan County Board of Commissioners support the attached proposal so orders that this Resolution and attached proposal be sent to Senator Andrew Brock, Representative Lorene Coates, Representative Fred Steen and this matter be placed into action to ensure expedient passage.

- B. Approval of Airport Grant Agreement for Corporate Hangar Area Fill Project
- C. Set Public Hearing for June 15, 2009 for Majority Petition for Proposed Road Name of Peace Wood Road
- D. Set Public Hearing for June 15, 2009 for Unanimous Petition for Proposed Road Name of Brindles Hillside Lane
- E. Set Public Hearing for June 15, 2009 for Unanimous Petition for Proposed Road Name of Dortons Horse Road
- F. Authorization for Sheriff's to Apply for Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Ford opened the Public Comment Period to entertain comments from any citizens wishing to address the Board. The following individuals came forward:

- Brian Atwell, an inspector with the Rowan County Planning & Development Department provided the Board with a handout regarding the proposed FY 2009-10 budget. Mr. Atwell said his job would be affected if the proposed FY 2009-10 budget were approved.
- Jim Sides, a former Rowan County Commissioner, commented on the recent debate regarding the operations of the local Rowan/Kannapolis Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Mr. Sides said he felt the Commissioners should control day to day operations of the ABC in that the Commissioners appoint the ABC Board members, set the compensation of ABC Board members and appoint the chairman of the ABC Board. Mr. Sides questioned the compensation paid to ABC Board members as compared to the compensation of other county advisory boards. Mr. Sides felt that when any board appointed by the Commissioners began to stray from the vision, mission and goals of the Commissioners, perhaps it was time for major changes.
- Larry Wright mentioned forced annexation and expressed hope that several proposed house bills would change annexation laws. Mr. Wright also discussed what he felt was corporate welfare or corporate theft when granting tax incentives to corporations.

With no one else wishing to address the Board, Chairman Ford closed the Public Comment Period.

3. RECOGNITION OF SOUTH ROWAN JROTC RAIDER CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS

Chairman Ford read a portion of a Proclamation and recognized the South Rowan High School JROTC Raider Challenge Team, which won its third straight Best Raider Championship, under Commander Seth Moore and Instructor Lt. Colonel Retired Mark Hafer.

Chairman Ford also recognized Principal, Dr. Don Knox, who was in attendance.

Chairman Ford presented the individual team members with the Proclamation. The presentation was followed by a standing ovation and a round of applause.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the Proclamation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION OF SALISBURY HIGH SCHOOL LADIES TENNIS STATE CHAMPIONS

Chairman Ford read a portion of the Proclamation recognizing the Salisbury High School Ladies Tennis 2A State Champions.

Chairman Ford presented the individual team members with the Proclamation, which was followed by a standing ovation and a round of applause.

Commissioner Coltrain moved approval of the Proclamation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall and passed unanimously.

5. RECOGNITION OF SALISBURY HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S TRACK STATE CHAMPIONS

Chairman Ford recognized the Salisbury High School (SHS) Men's Outdoor Track Team for its 2009 2A State Outdoor Track and Field Championship. Chairman Ford said this was the team's third championship. The statement was followed by a round of applause.

Chairman Ford presented the individual team members with the Proclamation, which was followed by a standing ovation and another round of applause.

Commissioner Coltrain moved, Commissioner Barber seconded and the vote to approve the Proclamation passed unanimously.

Chairman Ford recognized Principal, Dr. Windsor Eagle, who was in attendance.

Commissioner Mitchell mentioned that SHS also won the Wachovia Cup, which was based on points awarded in the standings for all sports.

6. PUBLIC HEARING FOR SOUTHERN POWER INVESTMENT GRANT INCENTIVE

Robert Van Geons, Executive Director of the Economic Development Commission reviewed the economic impact analysis study for the proposed expansion of Southern Power in Rowan County. Mr. Van Geons introduced Buddy Jessup and Brooke Starr from Southern Power.

Mr. Van Geons said the incentive grant request was for a \$400 million expansion of the Southern Power operations with \$16.6 million in new revenue projected over 15 years. Mr. Van Geons said the expansion would create temporary jobs through the construction cycle.

Mr. Jessup, External Affairs Manager for Southern Power, provided a brief background of Southern Power. Mr. Jessup said the company was a subsidiary of Southern Company which acquires, builds, manages and owns generation assets that have been constructed for the wholesale market. Mr. Jessup said Southern Power was one of the largest wholesale energy providers in the

Southeast, meeting the electricity needs of municipalities, electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities in one of the fastest growing regions in the country. Mr. Jessup said Southern Power currently owned and operated more than 7,700 megawatts of generation assets in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and North Carolina.

Mr. Jessup said Southern Power had owned and operated the 925 megawatt plant in Rowan County since 2006. Mr. Jessup said the request today was to improve the chances of significantly growing the business in Rowan County. Mr. Jessup said the business was very competitive and every cost of the product must be assessed. Mr. Jessup said the incentive grant would allow Southern Power to improve its bid to customers and improve the chances for winning a contract to expand the plant in Rowan. Mr. Jessup said the benefits for such an expansion for Rowan County were significant.

Mr. Jessup reported that the Woodleaf Fire District would receive an estimated \$2.1 million in new revenue.

Mr. Van Geons provided a power point presentation to show the existing facility. Mr. Van Geons said the study was completed to model the impact of the project, as well as outline the potential hurdles and associated issues. Mr. Van Geons said the study also included an analysis of comparable incentives around the State for private and public power generation operations.

Mr. Van Geons said Southern Power had obtained the mandatory Air Quality Permit which was required as part of the Regulatory Approval process. Mr. Van Geons said the site was zoned as Industrial; however Southern Power would be required to obtain a conditional use permit for the expansion. Mr. Van Geons said a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility would also be needed from the North Carolina Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Van Geons said other local permits would be necessary such as building, fire, erosion and sedimentation control.

Mr. Van Geons discussed the competition in surrounding communities.

Mr. Van Geons said the requested incentive was four (4) times the County's Level 3 Grant category minimum, which was why a modified grant incentive was being requested. Mr. Van Geons said Southern Power was requesting an agreement comparable to their agreement with Cleveland County.

Mr. Van Geons discussed the fiscal impacts of the project including the projected revenues and depreciation.

Mr. Van Geons said during the construction the County would receive approximately \$4 million in new revenue and \$260,000 for the fire district for a total of \$4,220,750 with no incentive pay during this time. Mr. Van Geons said

during the ten (10) year agreement, an average of \$2,200,000 would be retained annually by the County while providing an incentive grant of approximately \$1.5 million annually for a difference of approximately \$700,000. Mr. Van Geons said over the life of the project \$22 million in revenue would be collected and \$15 million would be provided through the agreement. Mr. Van Geons said the County would retain \$7 million with the fire district retaining \$1.4 million. Mr. Van Geons said after the expiration of the incentive agreement it was projected for the fire district to receive \$120,000 annually and the County to receive \$1.8 million annually.

Mr. Van Geons said over the life of the project \$30 million would be collected and \$15 million would be disbursed with the total tax revenue retained by the County and the fire district to be projected at \$16,600,000.

Mr. Van Geons said beyond the fiscal impacts, other impacts on the economy would be on construction equipment and construction jobs being sustained.

Mr. Van Geons said Southern Power would have five (5) years to secure a contract to generate, to notify the County in writing of the completion date, to permit, build and begin the grant process. Mr. Van Geons said the timeline in the study used years 0-15 rather than actual dates in order to allow for the five (5) year window. Mr. Van Geons said the Board could vote to add an additional two (2) years to the agreement.

Chairman Ford opened the public hearing to entertain citizen input on the Investment Grant Incentive for Southern Power and the following citizens came forward:

- Jim Sides said he felt incentives were equal to corporate welfare or corporate bailouts. Mr. Sides addressed the request and why the request was for more than what was outlined in the County's policy. Mr. Sides said power generation projects across the nation already receive some of the greatest tax breaks allowed in any industry in America and he did not feel they should get more. Mr. Sides said if the Board were to approve the request he would like to propose that the Board also grant his business a tax rebate of 68% of his taxes for the next ten (10) years, totaling \$572.88, and he would keep at least one (1) employee for the duration of the incentive.

Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Barber asked if there were other location options where Southern Power could make the investment in North Carolina. Mr. Jessup said a number of sites in North Carolina had been established with Cleveland County and Richmond County being two examples.

Commissioner Barber asked if the agreement would make Rowan County a more competitive and preferred location. Mr. Jessup responded yes.

Commissioner Barber said during the build out phase a significant number of jobs were required to complete construction. Commissioner Barber recalled the Duke Energy agreement, which had an addendum added by the Board related to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The addendum stated no illegal immigrants would be hired during the project. Commissioner Barber asked if there was a possibility the Board could add a similar addendum to the Southern Power agreement. Mr. Jessup said he was not familiar with the details from the Duke Energy agreement but he would be interested in considering the request.

Commissioner Barber referred to community involvement and asked if Southern Power was willing to identify a project that could be mutually agreed upon for which corporate investments could be made. Mr. Jessup responded yes and he reported that one of Southern Power's employees currently served on the allocations committee for United Way.

Commissioner Mitchell asked if the current facility in Rowan County had been bid for projects in the past, and if so, what had been the determining factor for not winning the bid. Mr. Jessup responded that Rowan County had been bid for other projects. Mr. Jessup said there was a combination of factors related to the bids, including cost, but he was not sure what the determining factors were for Rowan County to lose the bid.

Commissioner Mitchell asked if it would be realistic to think that Rowan would win a project bid without an incentive grant. Mr. Jessup said he thought it was possible; however, an incentive would drastically improve the chances.

Commissioner Mitchell asked for an approximate number of the projects Southern Power bids in one (1) year and Mr. Jessup responded twenty (20) to thirty (30).

Commissioner Coltrain noted the contract with Cleveland County was for twenty (20) years and Rowan County's proposed contract was for five (5) years with the possible extension of two (2) years. Mr. Van Geons said he had felt the Board was more conservative and would be more comfortable with the five (5) years.

In response to Commissioner Hall, Mr. Van Geons said he worked with the Tax Assessor's Office and the State Department of Public Policy to prepare the study.

Commissioner Hall asked if third party input was discussed for the study. Mr. Van Geons said no and that by performing the study in-house, he felt the data was protected and costs were deferred. Mr. Van Geons said he was able to stand before the Board and answer questions on every number with confidence since he had prepared the study.

Commissioner Hall asked if Mr. Van Geons had proposed the incentive grant details to Southern Power. Mr. Van Geons responded no and explained that Southern Power had requested an incentive that matched the overall intensity of the amount given by Cleveland County. Mr. Van Geons said he had suggested a shorter term with a higher percentage at one point; however upon development, the incentive rate was modeled.

Commissioner Hall expressed interest in having a third party perform the study to avoid potential conflicts. Mr. Van Geons discussed the projections and said the numbers would not have changed regardless of who prepared the economic impact analysis. Mr. Van Geons said in the future he could model several different scenarios.

Commissioner Hall said her preference would be to have a third party prepare the study. Commissioner Hall asked for an estimate on the cost for preparing the study. Mr. Van Geons said other than the binders and printing, the work was performed in-house and consisted mostly of gathering information and time. Mr. Van Geons said he had access to resources that would normally cost thousands of dollars if not accessed as a local government.

Commissioner Hall asked if it would have been possible for the Company to have paid for the study as part of applying for the grant. Mr. Van Geons said they could; however, his preference was to be comfortable with the data and to be able to verify every number.

Commissioner Hall referred to the Cleveland County grant, and said Rowan County did not have to offer what another governmental agency or county was offering. Mr. Van Geons said if Cleveland County had not been successful in setting the precedent, the request may have been different. Mr. Van Geons said the County was competing to close a deal for a \$400 million tax base. Mr. Van Geons said he preferred not to have incentives; however, if the County wanted jobs and investment, incentives were necessary.

Commissioner Hall said the proposal would not start for up to five (5) years and the guidelines state it should be completed within seven (7) years. Commissioner Hall said she did not see how the economic times could be much worse and that the Board needed to be more attuned than ever to the tax dollars that could potentially come into Rowan County. Commissioner Hall said she would feel more comfortable not exceeding the five (5) years at 85%.

Commissioner Mitchell said the project was different from requests considered in the past. Commissioner Mitchell said the Duke Energy investment had equated to \$300 million dollars due to State regulations. Commissioner Mitchell said the tax revenue brought in from either the Duke Energy or Southern Power project would make a huge difference in Rowan County's budget. Commissioner Mitchell said the figures that had been provided showed the County would start

receiving funds immediately and would grow to approximately \$2 million by year three. Commissioner Mitchell said the extra money would help the County get through the next few years of tough economic times if the project were locked in. Commissioner Mitchell said the fact that 300 people would be needed at least on a part-time basis for two (2) or more years to construct the facility should be a great encouragement to Rowan County citizens who were unemployed. Commissioner Mitchell said “we can’t lose dollars that we don’t have”. Commissioner Mitchell said he felt it would be a mistake for the Board to “give up” on the potential \$400 million investment.

Commissioner Barber said he believed the project was about building public/private partnerships and the Board should do more such projects. Commissioner Barber said the other the opportunity was about being competitive and creating an environment in which you plan to win. Commissioner Barber said such projects were also about cash flow and the impact on the tax rate. Commissioner Barber said the project presented the opportunity to replenish the fund balance and keep tax rates low.

Commissioner Coltrain agreed with Commissioner Mitchell in that some money was better than none. Commissioner Coltrain said even during the construction, the revenue for the County would be \$603,250 which was more than what the County had and it would be a significant boost as the Board discussed the budget. Commissioner Coltrain pointed out that Southern Power would have a contract for the product before initiating construction as compared to building a product and hoping to sell it. Commissioner Coltrain said another hidden benefit was in the fact that the Woodleaf Fire Department District would get an increase in revenue and the Woodleaf Fire Department Board of Directors should be able to at least explore reducing their fire insurance tax rate for the citizens in that area of the County. Commissioner Coltrain said the Board could not change the fact that incentives exist but it could manage how they affect the lives of citizens in Rowan County.

Commissioner Hall said the request was way off from what the guidelines called for and there was not a great deal of negotiation on the County’s part.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the incentive grant as outlined in the notice in the newspaper and for a 68% inducement for ten (10) years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber.

Commissioner Barber asked if there was consideration for an amendment to the motion and Commissioner Mitchell responded yes.

Commissioner Barber moved to amend the motion that Southern Power be willing to work with the County on the contract to add an addendum regarding adherence to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 and that no illegal

aliens would be employed; and if so, they (Southern Power) would forfeit any installments on the investment grant as they have been granted.

Upon being put to a vote the motion with the addendum passed 4-1 with Commissioner Hall dissenting.

Chairman Ford thanked Ms. Starr, Mr. Jessup and Mr. Van Geons for the presentation.

Chairman Ford called for a recess at 5:25 pm.

Chairman Ford reconvened the meeting at 5:45 pm.

7. QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARING FOR PCUR 01-09

Chairman Ford read the Chairman's Speech (Exhibit A) for PCUR 01-09 and declared the hearing to be in session. Chairman Ford said the hearing would focus on an application submitted by Vanderbrook & Bernardi Construction Company, Inc. for the property owned by Robert Richardson Racing LLC at 3685 NC 152W. Chairman Ford said the applicants had requested that Tax Parcel 120 146 be rezoned from Rural Agricultural (RA) to Commercial, Business, Industrial (CBI) with an accompanying conditional use district to allow for the construction of a 14,300 square foot race shop.

The Clerk swore in those wishing to provide testimony in the case.

Planner Andy Goodall provided the Staff Report (Exhibit B) and presented a power point presentation (Exhibit C).

Mr. Goodall recalled that in October of last year, PCUR 04-08 was a rezoning request for the property next door by the same owners. Mr. Goodall said the rezoning brought the parcel into compliance with zoning, as well as included an addition of 4,800 square feet to the building.

Mr. Goodall said the current request was for a 14,300 square foot building modeled after the building on the adjacent lot. Mr. Goodall used the power point presentation (Exhibit C) to show the site and surrounding areas.

Mr. Goodall said NC Highway 152 was at 67% capacity in 2006 and according to the ITE Trip Generation Manual, race shops or small manufacturers generated about 3.82 trips per 1,000 square feet, therefore the proposed building size would generate approximately 54.5 trips per day, or a minimal impact.

Mr. Goodall continued to use the power point presentation (Exhibit C) to show the work that had been performed since PCUR 04-08 was approved.

Mr. Goodall said the Planning Board and Staff had both recommended approval of the request but with slightly different conditions. Mr. Goodall said the Planning Board voted to approve the request with the following conditions:

- That a 'Type A' buffer in the form of a berm and vegetation be added along the front landscape buffer to provide visual separation between the proposed commercial use and the residential subdivision on the north side of NC 152 W.
- That fifty (50) feet of screening [ten (10) evergreen trees] be added along the eastern border of the parcel to ensure an adequate 'Type A' buffer between the proposed building and the EMS Station.
- That the site plan is modified to include the additional 'Type A' buffer requirements and any additional corrections.

Mr. Goodall said Staff did not recommend a 'Type A' buffer on the front of the property because the Ordinance did not require a front buffer. Mr. Goodall said the previous request approved did not require a berm.

Mr. Goodall said Staff recommended the following criteria:

- That the proposed 14,300 square foot building be constructed using architectural design elements (i.e. masonry facade) similar to those of the existing Robert Richardson Racing LLC race shop on parcel (120 072).
- That fifty (50) feet of screening [ten (10) evergreen trees] be added along the eastern border of the parcel to ensure an adequate 'Type A' buffer between the proposed building and the EMS Station.
- That the site plan is modified to include the additional 'Type A' buffer requirements and any additional corrections.

Mr. Goodall discussed the procedures for approval of the request and he pointed out the checklist in the Staff Report (Exhibit B) for the Findings of Facts, a copy of which he also distributed (Exhibit D).

With no one else wishing to address the Board, Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Coltrain asked if the applicant would have any objections to extending the landscaping down to Highway 152 to make the landscape more pleasing to the eye. Mr. Goodall used the power point presentation (Exhibit C) to point out the existing Leland Cypress trees and said more would be added as necessary along the side; however, he reported that the ordinance did not require landscaping in the front.

The applicant, Greg Vanderbrook, of Vanderbrook Construction spoke from the audience and said he would be agreeable to continue the landscaping across the front.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the Statements of Reasonableness and Consistency as presented by the Planning Board. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Statement of Reasonableness read as follows:

The proposed use (14,300 ft² race shop) is reasonable for a tract of this size, compatible with the *Western Area Land Use Plan* and will have minimal impact on surrounding community.

The Statement of Consistency read as follows:

The proposed use (14,300 ft² race shop) is consistent with the *Western Area Land Use Plan* and conforms to the zoning ordinance definition of the *CBI* district.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the rezoning request from RA to CBI. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the required Findings as listed on page 6 of the Staff Report (Exhibit B) as evidenced by testimony and the information in the packet. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of PCUR 01-09. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SNIA 01-09

Planner Andy Goodall said a Special Non-Residential Intensity allocation (SNIA) request for consideration had been submitted for compliance review in accordance with the provisions of the Rowan County Zoning Ordinance. The request was based upon approval of PCUR 01-09 (current agenda item #7). Staff recommended approval based on site plan presented.

Commissioner Barber moved approval of SNIA 01-09 based on the accompanying site plan. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9. PUBLIC HEARING FOR Z 02-09

Senior Planner Shane Stewart presented the staff report regarding Z 02-09. Mr. Stewart said the applicant, Larry Burns, was requesting rezoning of an 8.34-acre parcel located along the 2900 block of Parks Road, further identified as Tax Parcel 826-028, from Industrial (IND) to Rural Residential (RR).

Mr. Stewart provided a power point presentation, which depicted the site and surrounding areas.

Mr. Stewart said the Planning Board had considered the request in April and provided a unanimous recommendation for approval. The Planning Board also provided a Statement of Consistency.

Staff recommended approval of the request.

Chairman Ford opened the public hearing to entertain citizen in put regarding Z 02-09.

With no one wishing to address the Board, Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the Statement of Consistency. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

The Statement of Consistency read as follows:

This request for change in zoning code is consistent with the surrounding area and compatible with the Rowan County Land Use Plan.

Commissioner Mitchell moved, Commissioner Barber seconded and the vote to approve Z 02-09 passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PE 03-09: PERMIT TO EXCEED NOISE STANDARDS FROM VONDA WOODS

Senior Planner Shane Stewart presented the staff report regarding the request for a permit to exceed the County's noise standards.

Mr. Stewart said Vonda Woods, Youth Advisor for St. Luke's Baptist Church, was requesting the permit due to a "fun day/gospel street party" to raise money for an upcoming youth trip. The event was scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2009 from 3:00 pm until 10:00 pm at Ms. Wood's home located at 151 Hawkins Loop in the Town of Spencer's extraterritorial jurisdiction. The event would feature a DJ and live gospel music throughout the day and offer food/drinks for a donation.

Mr. Stewart reported that Ms. Woods had received approval from the North Carolina Department of Transportation for a temporary closure of Hawkins Loop for the event.

Mr. Stewart said Staff recommended approval of the request based on the criteria in Section 14.12 (c) in the ordinance.

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the vote to approve PE 03-09 based on satisfactory findings as submitted passed unanimously.

11. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING CONDEMNATION OF DWELLING AT 310 CORRIHER GRANGE ROAD

Lloyd Pace stated in May 2007 Staff investigated a complaint concerning a burned home located at 310 Corriher Grange Rd and mailed a Notice to Condemn letter on May 16, 2007. Mr. Pace said several conversations took place with the owner (Dean Goodnight) concerning the home. Mr. Pace said at one point, Mr. Goodnight indicated a church was to donate its time and effort to clean the site, which ultimately did not happen. Mr. Pace said the lack of action resulted in the letter sent on January 14, 2008; however, due to departmental budget constraints, the violation had been placed on hold.

Mr. Pace provided a power point presentation and reported that on February 16, 2009 an Administrative Hearing took place and the property owner was given 60 days to take corrective action and to date, Staff had received no response.

Chairman Ford opened the public hearing to receive citizen input regarding the condemnation of the dwelling at 310 Corriher Grange Road. The following individuals came forward:

- Dean Goodnight came forward. Commissioner Barber questioned Mr. Goodnight as to the last time he acknowledged receiving communications from Rowan County Planning Department. Mr. Goodnight said 2 years and that he had received letters from Mr. Pace referencing the hearings; however, he had not talked with him since 2007.

In response to a query from Commissioner Mitchell, Mr. Page said the County did not have the funds in 2008 to begin the project and therefore had to initiate the condemnation process over again.

County Attorney Jay Dees asked if the receipts for the certified mailings had been received and Mr. Pace said yes.

Commissioner Hall asked if the site was a danger to others in the community and Mr. Pace said there yes; there was a basement someone could fall in.

Chairman Ford asked Mr. Goodnight if he was able to clean up the property and Mr. Goodnight said no. Mr. Goodnight said he had made appeals for help but to no avail.

Mr. Pace said Mr. Goodnight was aware that Rowan County would have a lien on the property if the condemnation was approved.

Mr. Goodnight said he did not know who to turn to for help and Mr. Pace said it would take a professional with a dozer and a backhoe to clean up the site.

A brief discussion ensued in which it was determined there was no insurance to help with the cleanup and that Mr. Goodnight was the legal property owner.

Commissioner Coltrain moved approval of Staff's recommendation for the condemnation of property located at 310 Corriher Grange Road. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall and passed unanimously.

With no one else wishing to address the Board, Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

12. CONSIDER SOFTWARE REQUEST FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE

Register of Deeds (ROD) John Brindle said there were two (2) issues to consider in his request, which involved staffing and software. Mr. Brindle reported that the ROD was staffed with nine (9) members and the Register when he was initially hired in 2004. Mr. Brindle said shortly after being hired, Bobbie Earnhardt, former Register of Deeds, had hired and paid for an employee from the Automation and Preservation Account.

Mr. Brindle explained that after he was appointed as the ROD, he had asked the County Manager to approve moving the position that was paid from the automation account to a vacant position and had thus lost a position. Mr. Brindle said the position had since been cut from the budget to increase the automation account money for the purchase of needed software.

Mr. Brindle reported that the current software being used by his office was in need of replacement. Mr. Brindle said the software was written in 1984 and was not in compliance with the minimum state standards. Mr. Brindle further explained that any Register failing to comply with the mandated standards could be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor and could face removal from office. Mr. Brindle said it would take time to build up funds in the automation account but he anticipated being able to pay the County back.

Commissioner Coltrain asked for the projected cost of the software. Mr. Brindle responded it would cost approximately \$230,000 for a 36-month lease or \$114,000 to purchase the system with a monthly maintenance of \$2,830.

Commissioner Coltrain asked how long it would take to refund the money and Mr. Brindle said three (3) to four (4) years.

In response to Commissioner Coltrain, Mr. Brindle said he could handle one employee being cut, but he did not think the office could handle the second cut.

Chairman Ford asked if the lease included upgrades with a buyout at the end. Mr. Brindle said there was no buyout. Mr. Brindle said the current service payment would go towards the monthly payment and "just about cover it".

Commissioner Mitchell asked if the lease cost was for one (1) year and Mr. Brindle responded that it was a three (3) year lease.

Commissioner Mitchell asked how much money was in the automation account and Mr. Brindle said \$36,000 and that approximately \$60,000 was generated per year.

Mr. Brindle compared the different vendor options.

Chairman Ford said he felt the technology would make operations easier for the citizens and the employees.

Commissioner Barber pointed out that two (2) issues had been raised and he believed the staffing issue would be discussed in agenda item #15a.

County Manager, Gary Page, said when Mr. Brindle approached him about the software he had advised Mr. Brindle that this was not a good year for the expense. Mr. Page said after further discussion, they agreed the money in the automation account would be best spent upgrading the software and hardware. Mr. Page said the capability of the new software would offset losing a position.

Commissioner Coltraine said since there seemed to be latitude for how the ROD could use the money, he would prefer to have a letter from Mr. Brindle committing to the use of the money and the repayment of the software.

Commissioner Coltraine asked if County Information Systems staff could provide support and Mr. Brindle responded yes.

Commissioner Mitchell said the big issue was adding back a position and determining to what extent the automation would make the position obsolete.

Mr. Page said if the Board decided to add the position back to the budget it would be approximately \$36,000. Mr. Page expressed hope that that the software could be installed and review the situation in six (6) months to see if the new technology had addressed the staffing issues.

In response to a previous question regarding ROD revenues, Leslie Heidrick Finance Director, said revenues were off approximately 25% from last year. Mr. Page said the decrease was the basis for his recommendation to cut a position.

Chairman Ford said he thought the Board should approve the software purchase and review the situation in six (6) months.

Commissioner Hall said the Board would be essentially cutting a position to gain the technology. Mr. Brindle said he had already cut one position and if another position was not filled, he was losing 20% of his office.

Commissioner Coltrain asked for the Board to act on the software now and continue to discuss the position during agenda item 15a.

Mr. Page said issue before the Board was whether to give Mr. Brindle approval to start the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Mr. Page said after the bids were received the decision would still come back to the Board most likely after July 1, 2009.

Commissioner Mitchell moved "cementing" in the one position cut and the go ahead with moving on for the RFP's for the software. Commissioners Coltrain and Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

13. DISCUSSION ON FINANCIAL INFORMATION REGARDING ABC BOARD

Commissioner Hall said the Board had voted at the last Commission meeting to delay a presentation from the ABC Board in order to allow time to receive additional information from ABC General Manager Terry Osborne. Commissioner Hall said the information had subsequently been released, a good bit of which dealt with credit card statements. Commissioner Hall said she had requested the ABC Board follow through on the Board's vote to receive a presentation from the ABC Board during the current meeting. Commissioner Hall said she had specifically asked that Mr. Osborne attend the meeting to answer any questions the Board might have. Commissioner Hall said no one from the ABC Board was present to honor the request.

Commissioner Hall said she had asked for additional information and had also asked Leslie Heidrick, Finance Director, to see if there was a management letter provided with the annual ABC audits each year. Commissioner Hall said she hoped the management letters would be forthcoming.

Ms. Heidrick reported that when she had spoken with Mr. Osborne earlier in the day, he indicated the management letters should be received later in the week.

Commissioner Hall said she had asked for the previous few years letters in order to get a feel for whether the auditor had any recommendations or concerns.

Commissioner Hall said her concern dealt with the unfavorable distribution of ABC funds to Rowan County and its municipalities and that as liaison to the ABC Board, she felt she should research the matter. Commissioner Hall said the ABC Board and Mr. Osborne had met with the Salisbury Post Editor to discuss the ABC Board's operations and that the Commissioners had met individually with ABC board member Ken Argo, who presented them with additional information.

Commissioner Hall said some of the expenditures had raised troubling questions and that it appeared some of the charges were for personal use. Commissioner Hall asked why a personal credit card would not be used for those types of charges.

Commissioner Hall said the issue was important and it was troubling that neither the ABC Board nor Mr. Osborne could find time to appear before the Commissioners. Commissioner Hall said at this point, it was time to consider requesting an efficiency review. Commissioner Hall said the efficiency review would be performed by the ABC Board's peers at no cost to the ABC Board. Commissioner Hall said it would provide the opportunity to determine if the ABC operations were as efficient as possible. Commissioner Hall said until the Board could receive comparisons, it would never understand how effective and efficient the ABC Board was locally.

Commissioner Hall provided a handout regarding North Carolina ABC Boards Profit Percent to Revenue for All ABC Boards for FY ending June 30, 2008. Commissioner Hall pointed out that Rowan was ranked 127 out of 157 in profit percentages. Commissioner Hall said Rowan was far above other counties in sales and yet the County was unable to bring in a decent percent profit with over \$8 million in sales.

Commissioner Hall said with the information provided, she had increasing questions. Commissioner Hall said the ABC Board had no obligations to the community at large; she said the Commissioners appoint the Chairman of the ABC Board, approve the bond process for ABC Board members and the compensation for Board members. Commissioner Hall said there was quite a bit of oversight required and thus far she was not sure the Commissioners were following through.

Commissioner Hall moved to send a letter to the ABC Board requesting that they request an efficiency review. Chairman Ford seconded the motion.

Commissioner Mitchell asked if the Board was requesting the ABC Board have a study performed by a particular period of time. Commissioner Hall explained that the request would be made to the State Board and a committee would conduct the review when it could. Commissioner Hall said she would like for the ABC Board to ask for the review as soon as possible.

Commissioner Coltraine said based on the emails the Board had seen it was his understanding that the ABC Board had offered and requested a time to share details of ABC operations with the Commissioners. Commissioner Coltraine said he would rather wait until after the presentation to consider the request for an efficiency review.

Commissioner Hall said based on the information provided she thought enough red flags had been raised to ask the ABC Board to engage in the review. Commissioner Hall said she felt if the ABC Board had nothing to hide, and the Commissioners had no political connections to their board, she saw no reason not to proceed.

Chairman Ford said the Commissioners were shy the information requested and in the meantime Mr. Argo had provided the Commissioners with information and other documents. Chairman Ford said he was unsure that he needed a presentation at this point. Chairman Ford said he had no problem sending a letter asking the ABC Board to request an efficiency review.

Commissioner Mitchell said he would like to add to the motion a directive to the Chairman to schedule a mutually agreed upon time for a public conversation regarding the information received from Mr. Argo and any other information for which the Commissioners might have questions.

In response to a query from Chairman Ford, Commissioner Mitchell said the same letter requesting the efficiency review should be accompanied by a request to set a mutually agreed upon time for the ABC Board to meet with Commissioners.

Commissioner Mitchell said if the directive was acceptable to Commissioner Hall, a separate motion was not necessary; Commissioner Hall was agreeable.

Upon being put to a vote the motion passed 3-2 with Commissioners Barber and Coltrain dissenting.

14. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL SURPLUS PROPERTY

Commissioner Barber discussed the list of potential surplus property in the agenda packets, which was approximately \$4.4 million in value. Commissioner Barber also mentioned the listing provided in the agenda packets for other buildings owned by the County.

Commissioner Barber discussed the possibility of selling the potential surplus properties, or other properties no longer needed, and adding the funds back to the County's reserves. Commissioner Barber said he would like for the County Manager and Staff to see if there was a better method to market and dispose of the properties.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the County Manager should review the list and bring his recommendations back to the Board.

Chairman Ford pointed out that there would be no cost for the County to list the properties on the website. County Manager Gary Page also suggested buying space in a realtor's magazine to list the properties.

County Attorney Jay Dees recommended that before the Board advertised any properties, the Board should declare the properties as surplus, which was a requirement in order to sell them.

Chairman Ford said the Board would hold off on listing the properties and wait to receive the County Manager's recommendations.

15. CONSIDER REQUEST FROM FAIR ASSOCIATION FOR FAIRGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

County Manager Gary Page said the Rowan County Fair Association (RCFA) was requesting Board approval for the following improvements and upgrades to the fairgrounds property:

- Grade the pits and derby area of the fairgrounds
- Replace lights in derby area
- Upgrade electrical circuits
- Add additional wattage to the circuit capacity of the animal barn
- Repair septic leak at front right side of grandstand in derby area

Mr. Page said the RCFA would pay all costs for the improvements and was seeking permission to enter the property to occupy and conduct these upgrades on or about June 1, 2009, or thereafter.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of the request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber.

Commissioner Hall asked if county staff would oversee the projects and Mr. Page responded that Ken Deal, Director of Administration, would oversee the work.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

ADDITION

15a. DISCUSSIONS CONTINUED FROM BUDGET WORK SESSION

Chairman Ford said the Board needed to consider straw votes regarding several items from the Board's budget work session held the previous week.

Classroom Supply Money

Chairman Ford said the Board had discussed whether to allocate the Classroom Supply Money for the purchase of supplies in the classroom or to allow the money to be used for retention of teachers during the budget shortfall.

Commissioner Coltrain said he had talked with Superintendent Dr. Judy Grissom and she had confirmed that Rowan Salisbury Schools (RSS) would be required to lay off 84 teachers and 74 teaching assistants if the proposed budget was adopted by the North Carolina House of Representatives. Commissioner Coltrain said Dr. Grissom would like flexibility to use the funds to keep teachers in front of students. Commissioner Coltrain said Dr. Grissom had advised him that in the private sector, Rowan Partners for Education offered a program for free classroom supplies. Commissioner Coltrain said Communities in Schools also made school supplies available to teachers.

Commissioner Hall said she appreciated Rowan Partners for Education; however, realistically there would be no pay increases for teachers this year.

Commissioner Mitchell commented that teachers would experience a 2.5% pay reduction.

Commissioner Hall said teachers were also facing larger classroom sizes and that parents were not financially able to support the classrooms with supplies as they had done in the past. Commissioner Hall said teachers have to use their own funds, even with the allocation from the Board for classroom supplies. Commissioner Hall discussed the establishment of the classroom supply money and its support from former County Commissioner Frank Tadlock. Commissioner Hall said she could not support taking the funds from the teachers.

Commissioner Hall discussed a training she had attended through the School of Government. Commissioner Hall said it was stated at the training that “if you have a direct financial benefit that you need to recuse yourself”. Commissioner Hall said the issue before the Board was a stand alone item and she felt Commissioners Barber and Mitchell should recuse themselves from the vote since they were also teachers.

Commissioner Mitchell said he had already inquired (as did Commissioner Barber) as to the legality of his voting on the issue. Commissioner Mitchell said the response he had received was that there was no legal problem; however if he wanted to appear “above board” that he would withdraw himself from participation of the program. Commissioners Mitchell and Barber both withdrew themselves from the program.

Commissioner Mitchell repeated that he was not removing himself from the vote but from participation of the program. Commissioner Mitchell said he would not receive any financial benefit from the program.

Commissioner Hall said the issue impacted teachers and that Commissioners Mitchell and Barber were teachers.

Commissioner Mitchell said being a teacher was the reason he felt he should participate in the discussion. Commissioner Mitchell said he had spoken to many faculty members at East Rowan High School and they had been unanimous in the sentiment that the money should be used to keep teaching jobs as opposed to being used for supplies. Commissioner Mitchell said he had no problem in attempting to work towards a “scaled down” supply money program for elementary teachers.

Commissioner Hall said she could not support using the money for teaching positions.

Chairman Ford proposed splitting the funds 50-50 with half the funds used for classroom supplies for elementary teachers and the other half to maintain teachers. Chairman Ford said the split would be for one year and the issue would be discussed again next year.

Commissioner Coltrain said there would be no need for supplies if there was no teacher in the classroom. Commissioner Coltrain agreed that a change would be for one year. Commissioner Coltrain said Dr. Grissom had been firm in her opinion and that he would hold her accountable for that opinion.

Commissioner Hall asked the Board to keep in mind that classroom sizes would be larger and parents were sending in less supplies.

Commissioner Mitchell responded to Commissioner Hall's point regarding classroom size. Commissioner Mitchell said in order to help with achievement, the best spent money was to lower classroom sizes. Commissioner Mitchell said the Board had the opportunity to spend money where it was most profitable, which was keeping class sizes as low as possible. Commissioner Mitchell said if the state budget came in with the 2.5% pay cut, it would free up County money that would have otherwise gone towards paying those individuals. Commissioner Mitchell said at that point, he would have no problem completely reinstating the program.

Commissioner Mitchell said he had no problem keeping the program intact until June 30 or as long as possible. Commissioner Mitchell stressed that he wanted the public to be aware of the proposed change and to give citizens the opportunity to address the issue at the public hearing. Commissioner Mitchell said if the Board must choose "supplies over bodies, I choose bodies".

By consensus, the Board agreed no vote was necessary and to maintain status quo.

Rescue Squad

Commissioner Mitchell said he was willing to withdraw further discussion for the Rescue Squad.

Chairman Ford said the issue would be withdrawn at this time.

Commissioner Coltrain asked if the issue would be left in for overall budget discussion and Commissioner Mitchell said if it was brought back up on June 30, 2009.

Employee Positions

Commissioner Mitchell referred the Planning & Development Department and a handout that had been provided by an inspector during the Public Comment Period in the current meeting.

County Manager Gary Page said in his Budget Message he had addressed transferring an individual from Environmental Management to the Planning & Development Department.

Commissioner Mitchell said the individuals affected in the proposed reduction in force (RIF) should understand that if they qualified for another job in county government, they would receive first preference and if possible, to the point the job would not have to be posted.

Mr. Page explained the reasoning for his recommendations for the RIF.

Commissioner Hall questioned the possibility of reorganization within the Planning Department and reassigning of duties. Mr. Page said it was difficult to RIF positions when looking at the reduced revenues. Mr. Page said he had felt the top administration in Environmental Management was “too many”. Mr. Page said he had basically transferred an employee from the Landfill back to the Planning & Development Department, where the employee had previously worked. Mr. Page said the employee would perform plan reviews and save funds currently being paid to Benchmark for plan reviews. Mr. Page said the transferred employee had been with the County for 20 years and that he was placing employees in the best location.

Commissioner Mitchell said it was a difficult issue to deal with and that he wanted the affected employees to know the County would help any way possible.

Commissioner Coltrain said he would like for the County to keep the possibility of additional furlough days an option and he suggested another furlough day around the Labor Day holiday. Commissioner Coltrain said the County needed to try to protect its training investment in the inspectors.

Commissioner Hall said the budget boiled down to the County Manager’s recommendation and that she felt the Board would be undermining the County Manager’s evaluation as to what was best for the County at this time in regards to additional furloughs. Commissioner Hall said she felt comfortable supporting the County Manager.

Chairman Ford said if the Board went with the County Manager’s recommendations, the County should try to help employees with the jobs that were open and were going to be filled.

Commissioner Barber said if the Board would agree, he would like to instruct staff to provide a comparison of Rowan County’s employees by department as compared to similar counties with like populations and like operating budgets.

In response to a query from Commissioner Hall, Mr. Page said he felt the Board would find the County on the low side.

Chairman Ford said the option on the floor was whether to take a straw vote on supporting the County Manager's proposed budget.

Commissioner Mitchell said he was agreeable to supporting the County Manager's budget and receiving the additional information. Commissioner Mitchell said no straw vote was needed due to the Board supporting the recommended budget.

By consensus, the Board agreed for Mr. Page to provide the additional information as requested by Commissioner Barber.

16. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Finance Director Leslie Heidrick presented the following budget amendments for the Board's consideration:

- Health Department – To increase education supplies per Smart Start and decrease accounts where funds are not needed for Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care FY 2008-09 program - \$1,630
- Finance – To adjust budget to reflect the State's reduction to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council programs - \$13,870
- Finance – To appropriate revenues and expenditures for Rowan County's portion of Tax Administration's audited discoveries - \$80,989
- Finance – To increase fire department budgets to allow for increased allocations - \$75,700
- Social Services – To budget donations received for the 1 Church 1 Child Program (\$900) and babysitting for foster parent training classes (\$250)

Commissioner Mitchell moved, Commissioner Barber seconded and the vote to approve the budget amendments as presented passed unanimously.

17. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS **JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC)**

Benjamin Lynch submitted an application to serve as the Business Community Representative. Ronnie Hall submitted an application to serve as an At Large member. The terms of appointment would be for two (2) years beginning June 1, 2009 and expiring May 31, 2011.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Mr. Lynch and Mr. Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

MILLER FERRY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Miller Ferry Volunteer Fire Department requested the appointment of three (3) Fire Commissioners. The following applications have been submitted for consideration:

- William "Bill" McKinney
- Frank Gobble

- Jewell Alley (reappointment) The Board would need to waive the term limits in the Resolution passed by the Board in 1999.
- J. Robert Gobble (reappointment) The Board would need to waive the term limits in the Resolution passed by the Board in 1999.

The term would be for two (2) years beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2011.

Commissioner Coltrain said he spoken with Kim Starnes, Secretary/Treasurer for Miller Ferry Fire Department. Commissioner Coltrain said Mr. Starnes had advised that Jewell Alley had been long-term member of the department and would have no regrets in allowing other young people step into the role of Fire Commissioner. Commissioner Coltrain nominated Bill McKinney, Frank Gobble and Robert Gobble.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to waive term limits for Robert Gobble. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The motion to appoint Bill McKinney, Frank Gobble and Robert Gobble passed unanimously.

CITY OF KANNAPOLIS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Kannapolis City Council recommended the reappointment of Martha Harrell as an ETJ representative on the Kannapolis Board of Adjustment. The term would be for three (3) years expiring June 30, 2012.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Martha Harrell. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ROWAN CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

J. Newton Cohen, Sr. completed his term and did not wish to be reappointed. Quentin Woodward Jr. submitted an application for consideration. The term would be for four (4) years beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2013.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Quentin Woodward. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PBH BOARD (FORMERLY PIEDMONT BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE BOARD)

William Beilfuss and John Burke's terms will end June 30, 2009. The following applications have been received from individuals wishing to serve on the PBH Board:

- William Beilfuss- reappointment
- John Burke- reappointment
- Ann Medlin

The term would be for three (3) years beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2012.

Commissioner Barber nominated William Beilfuss for reappointment and noted Mr. Beilfuss currently served as Chairman of the PBH Board and was doing a great job. Commissioner Barber also nominated John Burke for reappointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coltrain.

Chairman Ford nominated Ann Medlin and William Beilfuss. Commissioner Coltrain seconded.

The nomination for William Beilfuss passed 4-1 with Commissioner Hall dissenting.

The nomination for John Burke passed 4-1 with Chairman Ford dissenting.

The nomination for Ann Medlin failed 2-3 with Commissioners Mitchell, Barber and Coltrain dissenting.

UNION VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Union Volunteer Fire Department requested the reappointment of three (3) Fire Commissioners: Rev. Danny Ray Gobble, Thomas Kerns and Milton Hayes. The terms would be for two (2) years beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2011.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Mr. Gobble, Mr. Kerns and Mr. Hayes. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Steve Fisher submitted an application for reappointment. To approve Mr. Fisher, the Board would need to waive the term limits in the Resolution passed by the Board in 1999. The term would be for one (1) year beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2010.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to waive the term limits in the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Coltrain moved to reappointment Mr. Fisher. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CENTRALINA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (CWDB)

The CWDB has requested the reappointment of Elizabeth Fields. The term would be for two (2) years beginning July 1, 2009 and expiring June 30, 2011.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Elizabeth Fields. Commissioner Coltrain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Dink Safriet has submitted a letter of resignation from the Airport Advisory Board. Mr. Safriet's term expires June 30, 2011.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to accept the letter of resignation. Commissioner Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ford instructed the Clerk to the Board to advertise the vacant position.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Barber moved to adjourn at 7:50 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coltrain and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Athey
Clerk to the Board