

**Windsor, North Carolina
September 8, 2014
Regular Meeting**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 10:00AM in the Commissioners Room located at 106 Dundee Street Windsor, NC. The following members were present or absent:

Present: J. Wallace Perry, Chairman
Charles L. Smith, Vice-Chairman
Rick Harrell
John Trent
Ronald "Ron" Wesson

Absent: None

Staff Present: County Manager Scott Sauer
Clerk to the Board Sarah S. Tinkham
County Attorney Lloyd Smith
Network Administrator Joe Wilkes
Finance Director William Roberson
Emergency Services Director Mitch Cooper
EMS Division Chief Matt Leicester
Water Department Director Ricky Spivey
Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea
Economic Development Steve Biggs
Soil and Water Conservation Director Vic Thompson
Register of Deeds Annie Wilson
Planning Director Traci White

Media members present included Gene Motley of the Roanoke-Chowan News Herald and Thadd White of the Bertie Ledger-Advance.

APPOINTMENTS

Superintendent White – New School Year Update

Superintendent Elaine White provided the Board with a brief update regarding the new school year that began on August 19th.

Mrs. White stated that the new school year had been going well so far, and announced the Bertie County Public School System's newest theme for the year as, "It Takes a Whole Village."

Mrs. White presented a PowerPoint detailing the School System's recent Convocation, recently conducted professional development classes, as well as the latest enrollment numbers.

According to Mrs. White, there are currently 2,474 students enrolled in the Bertie County Public School System. In addition, Ms. White informed the Board of 36 new teachers (those with 1-3 years of experience) that have just been added to various schools in the County.

Mrs. White also detailed changes in funding due to the existing private schools as well as the newest charter school.

Additionally, Mrs. White updated the Board on the School System's progress in regards to the new transportation facility project. Mrs. White stated that the building had been purchased and that she expects staff to be housed in the building by January 2015.

Lastly, Superintendent White provided the Board with updates regarding the new high school facility.

Mrs. White introduced Maintenance Director, Matthew Bond, to provide the Board with an overview of items needing attention in the new building.

Mr. Bond described a problem with the facilities gym floor, and stated that the floor tends to buckle due to humidity in the building. In addition, Mr. Bond stated that some classroom doors have a tendency to stick, and become inoperable, due to humidity in the building.

Mr. Bond and Mrs. White also discussed the current utility costs for the new building stating that the School System has to yet to receive a utility bill while the building has been in full operation.

Mr. Bond alerted the Board that he suspected the utility bills for the month of October would cost approximately \$30,000.

Superintendent White and Mr. Bond addressed questions from the Board as posed.

The Board came to a consensus that the School System should be in close contact with Hite Associates about each problem area, and to utilize any and all warranties still in effect for any malfunctioning equipment or materials.

After a lengthy discussion, Mrs. White thanked the Board for the opportunity to update the Board at this meeting, and that she would be in touch regarding any further updates in utility costs.

Bertie County Health Department and Albemarle Regional Health Services Update by Jerry Parks

Jerry Parks of Albemarle Regional Health Services provided an overview of the services provided at the Bertie County Health Department. Some of those services include: Health

Promotion and Education, Dental Health, Environmental Health, PCG Landfill and Convenience Sites, Child Health Services, Immunizations, WIC/Nutrition, and General Communicable Disease Control, .

Mr. Park also introduced key members of his top management team including: Bertie County Health Department Supervisor, Bonnie Bazemore, Nursing Director Dana Boslau, Health Promotion Director/Public Information Officer Jill Jordan, and Finance Director, Battle Betts.

Commissioner Wesson inquired about the current state of health in the County, and asked if the health of Bertie County citizens was improving, and what else could be done to see healthier citizens in the County.

Mr. Parks stated that a new Community Health Assessment will be conducted soon, but that in general, the health of the entire County rests on the shoulders of more than just the local Health Department.

Mr. Parks informed the Board that there are only certain things that the Albemarle Regional Health Services can do by North Carolina General Statute, and in that case, more collaboration among other health related organizations could provide better Health Assessments of Bertie County citizens.

NCACC proposed Legislative Goal to restore state library funding by Albemarle Regional Library Director, Teresa Cole

Teresa Cole, Albemarle Regional Library Director, was present to request that the Board include a statement with their proposed Legislative Goals packet regarding the restoration of funding to the State's libraries and library systems.

Ms. Cole asked the Board to submit a statement in support of restoring State Aid funding for public libraries to the pre-2011 level of \$15.7 million. The additional funds are needed to provide books, computers, Wi-Fi connections, software, and other needed materials for all libraries in the State.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** for the County to submit a statement of support for the restoration of State Aid funding to pre-2011 levels. Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Public Hearing – Bertie County's FY2014 CDBG Infrastructure Grant Application under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974

Chairman Perry opened the public hearing for Bertie County's FY 2014 CDBG Infrastructure grant application under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

County Manager Sauer reminded the Board of Commissioners that this is the second of two required public hearings before submitting the CDBG application in October.

Green Engineering consultant, Mr. Rodney Tart, provided a detailed overview of the coverage area for the grant which was determined following an analysis of the census tract and block geographic sections of Bertie County resulting in an aggregate coverage calculation of 54.6 percent for low and moderate income eligibility levels. Mr. Tart further explained that impacted area serves 53.0 percent of the total customers which equates to 2,500 water customer accounts.

Mr. Tart also described the coverage area noting that no displacement of existing businesses or residents would occur as a result of this project.

There were approximately forty-five (45) persons in attendance as Mr. Tart reviewed the County's effort to address the water system, its multiple year unaccounted water loss reports, and the challenges of operating a utility with an antiquated analog telemetry system.

Mr. Tart reviewed the governing body's evaluation of the system's operation, to plan for capital improvements and efforts to insure the safety and efficiency of the entire operation.

Specifically, Mr. Tart described the development of the Asset Management Plan, briefly reviewed the ten year capital improvement plan and noted the importance of the adoption of a Back Flow and Cross Connection Prevention Plan. He also noted the work of Mr. Ricky Spivey in preparing the updated Operations and Maintenance Plan.

Mr. Tart summarized by explaining the \$1,254,880 grant application to secure funding for the supervisory control and data acquisition system (SCADA) and the benefits to insuring the highest quality, safe water supply for the customers in the low and moderate coverage area for this project. Again, he emphasized that there would be no negative impacts for the citizens by displacing them or temporarily having to relocate them.

Chairman Perry thanked Mr. Tart for his report and asked if there was anyone present in the audience that wished to speak on this matter, and there were no public comments regarding this matter.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** to adopt the following Resolution. Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Perry closed the Public Hearing.

The Resolution reads as follows:



BERTIE COUNTY

106 DUNDEE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 530
WINDSOR, NORTH CAROLINA
27983
(252) 794-5300
FAX: (252) 794-5327
WWW.CO.BERTIE.NC.US

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER
J. WALLACE PERRY, Chairman
CHARLES L. SMITH, Vice-Chairman
RICK HARREL
JOHN TREN
RONALD "RON" WESSO

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
SCOTT SAUER, County Manager
SARAH SEREDNI, Clerk to the Board

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A MISSION STATEMENT, SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, PLANS, AND OPERATIONS FOR THE BERTIE COUNTY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Bertie County Board of Commissioners is the governing body for the Bertie County Regional Water System and originally established as Bertie County Water Districts I,II,III, and IV; and

WHEREAS, the Bertie County Board of Commissioners has adopted a mission statement for its regional water system as follows:

"To provide the highest quality of drinking water services to its customers at the lowest possible cost while protecting the environment and maintaining its assets for a sustainable future."

WHEREAS, the County of Bertie has invested in excess of \$33 million in capital construction costs to establish this public utility; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has spent considerable time and effort evaluating the Bertie County Regional Water System, determining operational challenges, adopting a long term capital improvement program, and prioritizing preventive maintenance initiatives and operating system enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has directed the County Manager, Water Department Superintendent, and its consulting engineers to actively engage these priorities and system improvements, seeking grant funding where possible and training staff to insure the efficient operation of the water system;

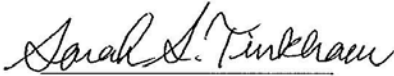
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bertie County Board of Commissioners, adopt the following measures and duly direct management and staff to plan, develop and incorporate the following documents:

- 1) Asset Management Plan
- 2) Capital Improvement Plan for the fiscal years 2014 through 2025
- 3) Back Flow and Cross Connection Prevention Plan
- 4) Operations and Maintenance Plan

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, on this **8th day of September, 2014**, that the County Manager and Water Department Superintendent report to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis regarding the status of implementation of these measures, efforts to seek funding sources for the governing body's approval, and areas of potential cost savings, system growth and service enhancements.

ATTEST:

BERTIE COUNTY



Sarah S. Tinkham
Clerk to the Board of
Commissioners
(SEAL)

BY:



J. Wallace Perry, Chairman of
the Board of Commissioners of
Bertie County

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Planning Board

The Board received notification of the two current vacancies on the Planning Board. No action was needed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve minutes for Regular Session 8-18-14

Vice Chairman Smith made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from 8-18-14. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Register of Deeds Fees Report – August 2014

County Manager Sauer recommended this item for approval.

Commissioner Wesson made a **MOTION** to accept the Register of Deeds Fees Report for August 2014 as recommended by the County Manager. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Consider and approve bid award, contract for services, and Budget Amendment in the amount \$8,847 for grant funding administered by Bertie Soil and Water Conservation District for stream debris removal and clearing

Soil and Water Conservation Director, Vic Thompson, was present to remind the Board it had already approved the grant amount of \$8,847 for stream debris removal and clearing on the Bud Branch and Flat Swamp near Colerain.

Mr. Thompson stated that the item before them today for approval is a bid award, contract for debris removal and clearing services, as well as a Budget Amendment to show the additional receipt of funding from the grant which totals \$8,847.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** to approve the bid award and contract for services administered by Bertie Soil and Water Conversation District for stream debris removal and clearing. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Consider for approval a three year agreement with MAXIMUS Consulting Services for indirect cost allocation plans for FY13-15 in the amount of \$4,525 per year as budgeted

County Manger Sauer recommended this item for approval.

Chairman Perry requested additional information from County Manger Sauer regarding the services of MAXIMUS Consulting Services.

After some discussion, Vice Chairman Smith made a **MOTION** to approve a three year agreement with MAXIMUS Consulting Services as recommended by the County Manager. Commissioner Harrell **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Finance Officer Report

The Board received a detailed financial report from the Finance Officer in their agenda packets.

There was no action needed on this item.

County Manager Sauer requested that the Board provide a motion for Budget Amendment #15-01 mentioned during the Consent Agenda included in item C-3.

Commission Trent made a **MOTION** to approve Budget Amendment #15-01. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Budget Amendment #15-01 reads as follows:

BUDGET AMENDMENT

15-01

	INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0025-4495-08	\$ 1,000	10-4950-5399-32	\$ 1,000

TO INCREASE BUDGET TO MATCH ACTUAL GRANT AMOUNT RECEIVED
EAT SMART-MOVE MORE-WEIGHT LESS GRANT

	INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0025-4495-11	\$ 2,000	10-4950-5399-37	\$ 2,000

TO INCREASE BUDGET TO MATCH ACTUAL GRANT AMOUNT RECEIVED
4-H COOKING CAMP

	DECREASE		DECREASE
10-0025-4495-07	\$ 1,000	10-4950-5399-30	\$ 1,000

TO ADJUST BUDGET TO ACTUAL AMOUNT RECEIVED - EFNEP PROGRAM

	INCREASE		INCREASE	
10-5860-5399-50	\$ 124	2HOT2TROT	10-0090-4991-99	\$ 124
10-5860-5399-21	\$ 1,250	R-U-OK	10-0090-4991-99	\$ 1,250
10-5860-5399-05	\$ 1,364	SHIIP	10-0090-4991-99	\$ 1,364

TO BRING OVER UNSPENT GRANT MONEY- COA - R-U-OK, 2HOT2TROT, SHIIP

	INCREASE		INCREASE
10-6120-5399-15	\$ 458	10-0090-4991-99	\$ 458

TO BRING OVER UNSPENT GRANT MONEY FROM SENIORS ON THE MOVE GRANT

	DECREASE		INCREASE
47-4500-5399-85	\$ 21,000	47-4500-5400-10	\$ 50,000
47-4500-5399-90	\$ 26,500	47-4500-5399-87	\$ 1,000
47-4500-5399-91	\$ 3,500		

TO REALLOCATE 11-CDBG-SS L-1 FUNDS TO C-1 - (APPROVED 3/17/14)

	INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0050-4839-43	\$ 60,000	10-4190-5351-05	\$ 60,000

TO SETUP BUDGET FOR LIBRARY ROOF REPAIRS
(ONE-TIME GIFT FROM ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY)

	INCREASE		INCREASE
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10-0025-4473-12 \$ 8,847 10-4960-5399-09 \$ 8,847

TO SETUP BUDGET FOR CLEARING AND SNAGGING GRANT

APPROVED __/__/2014

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Farm Lane Easement Update by Mike Barnette, McDavid & Associates

Mike Barnette of McDavid & Associates was present to discuss the latest developments regarding the Farm Lane Easement for the water line extension funded by a CDBG Grant.

Mr. Barnette informed that Board that 2 easements were needed in order to install replacement water lines in the area. One of the easements was voluntarily submitted by Cedar Landing Missionary Baptist Church. The other required easement would need to be secured from Bazemore Housing, Inc.

According to Mr. Barnette and Assistant County Attorney, Bazemore Housing, Inc. is a dissolved corporation, and therefore, cannot convey an easement.

Correspondence from the Assistant County was presented to the Board in their agenda packet which stated that an option for the County would be to have Mr. Bazemore sign an agreement with the County that would show a “friendly condemnation” of the effected property.

Chairman Perry stated that he was not in favor of the “friendly condemnation,” as it would put additional cost on the County to complete.

Commissioner Wesson made a **MOTION** to authorize County Attorney Smith to move forward with the process to issue a “friendly condemnation” with Mr. Bazemore. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

Chairman Perry inquired about any other options to resolve this matter.

Upon further discussion, Commissioner Wesson withdrew his motion. Vice Chairman Smith withdrew his second.

In response to Chairman Perry, County Attorney, Lloyd Smith, stated that it was possible for the Board to request Mr. Bazemore to simply reinstate his corporation with no expense to the County.

Mr. Smith advised that this option could be less costly than a “friendly condemnation.”

Mr. Barnette thanked the Board for their time, and stated that he would be back in approximately 2 months to update the Board further on this matter.

Board of Equalization and Review – pending case for consideration of taxpayer appeal for two formerly exempt properties (J.P. Law and C.G. White schools)

Tax Administrator, Jodie Rhea, approached the Board regarding a pending case for consideration of taxpayer appeal for two formerly exempt properties which are J.P. Law and C.G. White Schools.

The Board received a report from Mr. Rhea in their agenda packet.

Mr. Rhea also informed the Board that they would not need to convene as the Board of Equalization and Review, and they would need to act on this matter as the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Rhea stated that these two buildings were originally owned by the Board of Education which made them exempt from taxation, but that now they were owned by Mr. Kevin Spivey.

According to Mr. Rhea, Mr. Spivey presented an appeal to the County Tax Office in April 2014 requesting that an appraisal be completed of both properties, but due to time constraints, this matter could not be considered by the Board of Equalization and Review.

Mr. Rhea cautioned that a “ride by” evaluation was completed on each property, but that the revaluation team did not enter either property due to the original exempt status, and therefore, the value of each property was not questioned, and maintenance issues were deferred.

In summary, Mr. Rhea provided a current evaluation of each property, and estimated the market value of the former J.P. Law School at \$106,000. Mr. Rhea stated that the adjacent gymnasium was in better condition than the school building, so his recommendation was demolition of the school building, unless renovations were feasible.

He provided an estimated market value of \$125,000 for the former C.G. White School. Mr. Rhea also advised the Board that the former school be extensively renovated, if feasible, and then utilized for purposes such as a house of worship or community center.

Commissioner Wesson made a **MOTION** to approve the new values presented for each school with \$106,000 for J.P. Law and \$125,000 for C.G. White. Commissioner Trent **SECOND** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Bertie VIDANT non-emergency transports services agreement

County Manager Sauer provided a revised proposal to the Board between the County and VIDANT Bertie Hospital regarding non-emergency transports in the event of a patient having no preference for a non-emergency transport provider, as prepared by VIDANT originally.

County Manager Sauer reviewed the suggested language stating the County's position as follows:

Vidant Bertie Hospital acknowledges that when a patient requiring non-emergency transport, articulates that he/she has no preference for the selection of a transport provider, hospital staff will be instructed to recommend Bertie County Non-Emergency Transport Service on behalf of the patient.

Chairman Perry clarified that the sentence should read "hospital staff will call Bertie County" rather than staff will be instructed to recommend Bertie County, and it was the consensus of the Board to suggest this revised language to the hospital administration.

County Manager Sauer also noted the additional language as follows:

Vidant Bertie Hospital will provide monthly patient discharge statistics, in aggregate form, which tabulates the number of non-emergency transports categorized by each transport provider.

County Manager Sauer recommended that the County continue to participate in negotiations of this agreement, and that on-going dialogue may still be needed.

Commissioner Wesson concurred, and stated that the current draft does not address best interests at this time, but was confident that an open dialogue could continue to improve the agreement.

The Board discussed desired wording of the contract.

Commissioner Harrell asked the Board if the County's goal was to mandate the hospital to contact Bertie County Non-Emergency Transport in the event of a need for a non-emergency transport.

Commissioner Wesson replied to Commissioner Harrell stating that this would be a mandate for the hospital to contact the County if they receive word from a patient who has contacted them to request a transport, but has "no preference" in provider.

In the event that any citizen has "no preference" in non-emergency transport providers upon contacting Vidant Berite, the County is seeking to be the designated provider under those circumstances.

Commissioner Harrell also inquired about the promise the Board made in the past regarding being in business with other transport companies versus the attempt to put others out of business.

County Manger Sauer clarified that his understanding the County's intention was still to compete with other non-emergency transport providers in the area. The proposed agreement with Vidant Bertie was to be the designated provider for patients discharged from the hospital only in the event that they do not have a preference for a specific transport service.

Mr. Sauer also noted that the County non-emergency transport service was available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to continue the dialogue with VIDANT Bertie Hospital on the non-emergency services transport agreement. Vice Chairman Smith and Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Diversified Energy – Fuel Pricing for Propane

County Manger Sauer described a bid proposal and pricing information to the Board from Diversified Energy. Both the bid proposal and pricing information were provided in the Board's agenda packet.

In summary, Mr. Sauer stated that Diversified Energy had submitted a bid to provide propane gas services to the County Office buildings for \$1.599 per gallon from September 1, 2014 through April 1, 2015, noting that the previous year State contract pricing exceeded \$2.50 per gallon during the winter heating season.

Mr. Sauer informed the Board that this offer was not going to be applied to the low income gas program that is administered by the Bertie County Department of Social Services.

The Board discussed the proposal, and agreed that it would be a large cost savings to the County to accept it.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to accept the bid proposal from Diversified Energy to provide propane gas services to the County Office Buildings at a rate of \$1.599 from September 1, 2014 through April 1, 2015. Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Public Records Request

County Manager Sauer informed the Board of a recent Public Records Request received from an out of state vendor requiring the County to submit all purchase orders, including line item details, from 2008 to present.

County Manager Sauer stated that the public was able to request and inspect public records during business hours in the County offices, but a request of this size would require a large amount of time and funding to complete.

Mr. Sauer requested feedback from the County Attorney regarding this matter.

County Attorney Smith stated that North Carolina General Statutes would deem this request as “unusual,” and therefore, the County could offer the records to this firm, but that it would be at their expense.

Mr. Smith recommended that the Finance Officer calculate the amount of time and resources that it would take to complete this task.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** for the Finance Officer and Finance Department work to calculate a price to fulfill this request and seek payment upfront, before doing the staff work necessary to address this request. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

NC Cooperative Extension FY2014 Bonus Leave Award of 40 hours as part of 2014 State Budget

County Manager Sauer presented an item to the Board regarding additional bonus leave being awarded by the State to the Cooperative Extension program.

County Manager Sauer stated that any award of additional bonus leave would have to be approved by the Board in order to be applied.

Chairman Perry stated that he was in favor, and that the Cooperative Extension Department is a very important entity to the County.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to approve the additional 40 hours of additional bonus leave to the Cooperative Extension Department. Vice Chairman Smith and Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Town of Lewiston – Water Rate Discussion

Lewiston Mayor Dayle Vaughan was present for this portion of the meeting.

Mayor Vaughan thanked County Manager Sauer for his professionalism and due diligence in this matter.

Mayor Vaughan stated that her Town Commissioners have given her the approval to offer the Town of Lewiston's water system to the County.

Mayor Vaughan only requested that she be given a period of a few months to distribute information to the Town of Lewiston regarding this change before it takes affect.

The Board discussed the matter, and thanked Mayor Vaughan for being present.

Review Road Name Change Application and set Public Hearing date

The Board discussed the proposed Road Name Change Application submitted by Diana Spivey of Spivey Lane.

After some discussion regarding the requirement of a Public Hearing for this matter, County Attorney Smith noted that according to N.C.G.S. § 153A-239.1(a) a Public Hearing was required in order to consider a road name change.

A Public Hearing on this matter was then scheduled for October 6, 2014.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Harrell proposed a Public Hearing to receive feedback from the public regarding a 6 year contract extension with Waste Industries for the convenience sites.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** to hold a Public Hearing regarding a 6 year contract extension with Waste Industries for the convenience sites. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** with results of 3-2 with Commissioner Trent and Commissioner Wesson voting against.

Vice Chairman Smith stated that he was worried about the poorer citizens in the County, and was not confident that they could afford an additional increase in taxes to pay for curbside trash pick-up and recycling services.

Commissioner Wesson stated that a curbside program would be less expensive to the County than the current convenience sites.

Commissioner Harrell reiterated that he would argue for the contract extension with Waste Industries for the convenience sites, and that he would like the Board to consider the extension at the present time.

Commissioner Wesson inquired as to Commissioner Harrell's reasoning and stated that he felt the decision should be left to the upcoming Board versus the outgoing Board.

Commissioner Harrell replied that he would not be on the upcoming Board, and that is why he would like to consider the contract extension with Waste Industries before his exit.

The Board continued their discussion, and a Public Hearing date was set for 7:00pm on Thursday, October 16th in the Bertie County Courthouse, 2nd floor Courtroom.

There were no other Commissioners Reports.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS

County Manager Sauer reminded the Board about their upcoming meeting at the Bertie County Department of Corrections to discuss prison industry enterprise opportunities at 10:00am on Wednesday, September 10th.

Additionally, County Manager Sauer informed that Board that the Mid-East Commission annual meeting will be held at the Cashie Convention Center on October 23rd at 6:00pm.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The County Attorney had no remarks at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Monica Lassiter of Kelford approached the Board regarding a comment she had heard at this meeting referencing "poor people." She stated that this term offended her because if someone really wanted to stop being "poor" that they could go out and make it happen for themselves. She also stated that she helps those in need often, and believes that others should too.

James Pugh of Indian Woods Road stated, in summary, that more funding was needed for the local school system in order to give all of those in the County a chance to "be somebody."

There were no other Public Comments.

CLOSED SESSION

As requested by County Manager Sauer, Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations. The action approving, the signing of an economic development contract or commitment, or the action authorizing the payment of economic

development expenditures, shall be taken in an open session. Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Board shifts into Closed Session.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** to return to Open Session. Vice Chairman Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

ADJOURN

Chairman Perry adjourned the meeting at 12:25pm.

J. Wallace Perry, Chairman

Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board