

MINUTES – APRIL 19, 2010

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2010. Members present: George W. Ward, Jr., Chairman, Kenneth D. Travis, Vice-Chairman, Erik D. Battle, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Jeremiah Jefferies, and Gordon G. Satterfield. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager and Angela Evans representing The Caswell Messenger. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Ward opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The following items were included on the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes of March 31, 2010 Special Meeting and April 5, 2010 Regular Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Ward opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments made.

SENIOR CENTER

Ms. Donna Pointer, Senior Services Director, came before the Board and stated that the Caswell County Senior Center Board of Directors requests permission to erect an informational sign at the entrance to the Senior Center on Firetower Road. Ms. Pointer added that this sign will replace the small street address sign that is on the left side of the driveway entrance. Ms. Pointer informed the Board that the sign was designed by and will be installed by Powers Signs of Danville, Virginia, and is a double face, changeable letter sign with vandal cover and locks. Ms. Pointer noted that the cost of the sign will be paid by funds from the Board of Directors' Fundraisers Fund.

Chairman Ward questioned whether the sign could be paid for from interest earned on the remaining grant funds to construct the Senior Center rather than use the fundraising money.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hall, Ms. Pointer answered that the cost of the sign is approximately \$1,558.

Commissioner Hall stated that he would like to see the Board use residual funds if there are some available, and maybe upgrade the sign to an electronic type. Mr. Howard noted that boring would need to take place under the Senior Center parking lot in order to connect to electricity.

Commissioner Travis suggested the possibility of using a solar powered sign.

Upon questioning from Chairman Ward as to whether the Senior Center Board of Directors obtained a price on a solar powered sign, Ms. Pointer answered that they did not.

Chairman Ward questioned Ms. Pointer as to whether they would object to obtaining pricing on other types of signs before installation and she answered that they did not have a problem in doing this.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that he did not have a problem with the installation of a new Senior Center sign or using monies from interest earned on the grant funds, but added that the Senior Center is in dire need of expanding and paving its parking lot. Commissioner Satterfield noted that rather than spending a lot of money on a sign, the Board may want to consider using some of the residual money for paving.

Commissioner Carter confirmed that there is a parking problem at the Senior Center and questioned whether there were enough residual funds left to pay for the parking lot paving, and that the County pay for the sign from the Contingency Fund. Mr. Howard answered that he felt that there is enough interest left from the grant funds to pay for both projects, but quotes on the projects should be obtained first.

Chairman Ward stated that the Board will table this item until its next meeting in order to obtain the price of a solar powered sign, how much it would cost to run electricity to a sign at the road, find out how much interest is left in the Senior Center grant funds, and determine the cost of paving the parking lot at the Senior Center.

Ms. Pointer stated that it is her understanding that there have been some questions from the Board concerning Senior Center policies regarding age. Ms. Pointer provided the Board with the Senior Center brochure that states, "The Caswell County Senior Center Special Interest Programs and Activities are open to adults, ages 55 and older. Senior Center related programs may have other age requirements". Ms. Pointer also provided other information that is posted at the Center. Ms. Pointer informed the Board that when the Senior Center opened in 2001, it was the thoughts of the leadership of the County at that time that 55 or 60 were the ages under which most Senior Centers operated, and considering the number of baby boomers in Caswell County, the age of 55 was set for the Senior Center. Ms. Pointer stated that the Senior Center also has state and federal guidelines under which it has to operate, for example, Meals on Wheels and

Congregate Nutrition is for senior citizens aged 60 and over and has federal guidelines under which they operate.

Ms. Pointer informed the Board that in the scope of the Senior Center's Operation Review in which they were designated a Center of Excellence, it is listed that they serve seniors age 55 and over and this is their definition of a senior citizen.

Ms. Pointer stated that they have activities that have other age requirements, such as when other agencies hold a workshop, and then they abide by their wishes. Ms. Pointer noted that a Diabetes Class is currently being held by the Health Department at the Senior Center and the Health Department Educator wanted all ages to be able to attend this class. Ms. Pointer stated that a basket class and exercise class after 5:00 p.m. is open to all ages.

Commissioner Battle questioned how anyone aged 54 and under would know about activities that are available to them at the Senior Center. Ms. Pointer answered that these activities are publicized through The Caswell Messenger, WYNC Radio Station, and flyers placed throughout the County.

Commissioner Battle questioned why someone younger than 55 years old could not come and play dominoes or use the fitness center. Ms. Pointer answered that these activities occur during the day and are for senior citizens only. Upon further questioning from Commissioner Battle, Ms. Pointer answered that this is because it is a senior center. Commissioner Battle stated that his rationale for younger individuals using the facility is to form relationships between the younger and older generations.

Commissioner Hall stated that he was on the Board of Commissioners when the Senior Center opened in 2001 and there was a lot of discussion about intergenerational use of the Center. Commissioner Hall added that he did not agree with it, but the majority of the Board of Commissioners voted to restrict the use of the Senior Center to senior citizens. Commissioner Hall noted that there were no restrictions, except for specific programs and there were no restrictions on the gift that came to the County in terms of how the dollars could be used. Commissioner Hall added that the key part to this is that until 5:00 p.m. the Senior Center is closed to anyone but senior citizens, and that is the issue. Commissioner Hall clarified that there was a negotiation between the Internal Revenue Service and the Danville Memorial Hospital in which the Hospital had to give the money to the Board of Commissioners with no strings attached. Commissioner Hall stated that surveys were conducted throughout the County and it was decided that the citizens wanted a Senior Center, so when the presentation was made to the Board of Commissioners, it was a gift for funds for a Senior Center. Ms. Pointer stated that a huge check was presented to the County and in the "for" section, it states that it is for a Senior Center.

Upon questioning from Chairman Ward, Ms. Pointer answered that she did not think there was a policy voted on by the Board of Commissioners when the Senior Center opened in 2001.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield, Commissioner Hall answered that in 2001 the Board of Commissioners adopted a policy that senior citizens only could use the Senior Center.

Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to research this further and bring back any policies on use of the Senior Center to the Board's meeting on May 3, 2010.

Commissioner Travis questioned Ms. Pointer as to the policy on use of the Senior Center by other groups for meetings, etc. Ms. Pointer answered that if it is another County agency, they can use it if the space is available. Commissioner Travis informed Ms. Pointer that he had been told by a member of the Gideons that they had been using the Senior Center in the past, but she told them they could not use it anymore. Ms. Pointer stated that she told them they could not use the Senior Center for a banquet for the entire County. Upon questioning from Commissioner Travis as to why they cannot use it, Ms. Pointer answered that they have not rented the Senior Center out for anything like this because they do not have the staff and resources to allow this to happen. Ms. Pointer added that unless they are going to open up the use of the Senior Center to all religious groups, it is best not to allow any to use it. Commissioner Travis stated that the Gideons have been meeting at the Senior Center since 2001 and now are being told they cannot meet at the Senior Center. Commissioner Travis stated that some rules and regulations need to be in place for use of the Senior Center. Ms. Pointer agreed that a policy needs to be in place for organizations that want to rent the Senior Center that spells out the amount of the rent, who will be paying the rent, and who will be responsible.

Commissioner Hall stated that there is a County-wide policy on renting County buildings and the County Manager can review this with her. Ms. Pointer noted that a staff person would need to be present when the Senior Center is rented.

Commissioner Carter stated that with the amount of activities scheduled at the Senior Center and the use by the senior citizens, he did not know how there would be time to rent out the Center to other groups. Ms. Pointer noted that activities are scheduled four nights out of every week.

TAX AND FINANCE SOFTWARE QUOTES

Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, and Ms. Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director, came before the Board to present quotes for upgrading or replacing the current tax and finance software. Mr. Bernard and Ms. Vaughn reported that software vendors were contacted and provided a list of component modules and general information to aide in submitting quotes for software replacement. The following breakdown by vendor detailing the cost of implementation, software and hardware inclusion and/or availability was provided to the Board, as well as two options for upgrading the AS400 Server.

FINANCIAL & TAX SOFTWARE VENDOR QUOTES

Vendor	Tax	Finance	Cost of Implementation	Software Included	Hardware Included	Additional Annual Cost
ACS (implemented 2000)	Yes	Yes	\$ 524,425	Yes	Available	\$ 79,974
Bi-Tek	Yes	No	\$ 124,000	Yes	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000

Lawson	No	Yes	\$ 950,000	Yes	No	Not listed
Logics	Yes	Yes	\$ 390,000	Yes	No	Not listed
NCPTS	Yes	No	\$ 600,000	Yes	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000
One Tax	Yes	No	\$ 32,000	Yes	\$ 44,000	\$ 32,000
Sungard	No	Yes	\$ 420,192	Yes	No	Not listed
Tyler Technologies	Yes	Yes	\$ 375,975	Yes	\$ 82,350	Not listed

CURRENT FINANCIAL & TAX SOFTWARE SYSTEM

ACS State & Local Solutions, Inc.

1. Customer Support Agreement
2. Financial Software Modules included
 - a. General ledger system
 - b. Payroll
 - c. Accounts receivable / payable
 - d. Purchase orders / Requisitions
 - e. Cash receipts / Register
 - f. Fixed assets
 - g. Human Resources / Personnel
 - h. Inventory
 - i. Reporting
3. Tax Software Modules includes
 - a. CAMA
 - b. Billing / Collections
 - c. Land records
 - d. Vehicles
 - e. Motor vehicle listing / billing

IBM AS400 SERVER

OPTIONS FOR UPGRADING

OPTION I

Upgrade to version V6R1 operating system

Upgrade the memory of the server

Upgrade to a total of 140 GB usable drive with RAID additional space

Reconfigure each PC connected to AS400

Initial cost: \$9,651 (upgrade only)

Additional cost: \$8793/yr - annual hardware & software maintenance agreement

5-year life expectancy cost: \$53,616

OPTION II

Purchase a new IBM AS400 server at the cost of \$38,992

The purchase includes 3 years of hardware and software maintenance

Upgrade to version V6R1 operating system

Initial cost: \$38,992 (new server)

Additional cost: \$5,600 - 2 yr hardware & software maintenance agreement

5-year life expectancy cost: \$44,492

Mr. Bernard and Ms. Vaughn reported that after reviewing the quotes received, it was their recommendation to continue services with the current vendor, ACS, for a three year cycle, which would allow them ample time to revisit the options to upgrade, prepare a formal Request for Proposal, budget the purchase, prepare for the conversion, and implementation. Mr. Bernard and Ms. Vaughn stated that it is also their recommendation to purchase a new IBM AS400 server at the cost of \$38,992, with an additional cost of \$5,600 for the maintenance agreement, with the total cost being \$44,592. Mr. Bernard noted that they feel that this would be the best and most economical option for the County.

Mr. Bernard and Ms. Vaughn informed the Board that, in addition, plans for implementation using the current software include building permits interface with the Tax Office and tax interface to the general ledger. They reported that the cash register and requisition modules are options that require departments to have direct fiber optic connection to the server. Mr. Bernard and Ms. Vaughn added that inquiry to the general ledger is also an option to departments with connection capabilities, and consideration to fund connectivity to departments is planned for discussion during budget sessions.

Upon questioning from Chairman Ward as to where the funds would come from for this purchase, Mr. Howard answered that the funds would come from next year's budget since the installation will be completed in the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that Mr. Bernard has informed him that they are having good service from the current vendor and the Tax Director and Finance Director are familiar with the software program.

Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to accept the recommendation of the Tax Director and Finance Director and continue services with the current vendor, ACS, for a three-year cycle and to approve the purchase of a new IBM AS400 server at a total cost of \$44,592.

Commissioner Hall questioned whether the Tax Director and Finance Director looked at any platforms other than IBM. Commissioner Hall added that he knew that there are other servers out there of at least equal or better quality and prices needed to be compared, but this would be predicated on finding out from ACS whether this software will run on another platform.

Ms. Vaughn stated that she called ACS and did find out that the IBM AS400 server is the only platform on which the ACS software runs.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether the AS400 server could be bought now and not paid for until the next fiscal year, Chairman Ward clarified that the installation would be completed in the next fiscal year, therefore, it could be paid for out of the next fiscal year's budget.

Commissioner Travis stated that if this purchase is approved tonight, \$44,592 will automatically be in the budget for next fiscal year for tax and finance software.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Battle and Travis voting no.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned the status of the utilization of interfacing between the Tax and Finance Offices, as well as Building Inspections and the Tax Office. Commissioner Satterfield noted that this has been an on-going project for a long time.

Mr. Bernard answered that he has discussed this with the Building Inspector and is waiting on him to get with him to discuss it further and has also talked with the IT Director concerning what is needed to complete this connectivity. Mr. Bernard added that, hopefully, this will be done when the new server is installed.

Ms. Vaughn answered that she has been working with ACS on interfacing between the Tax and Finance Offices. Ms. Vaughn stated that this has been a slow process, basically because she has had to prioritize her work, and the interfacing is a long process because every entry that the Tax Office makes has to be coded to go into the General Ledger. Ms. Vaughn noted that this is where she is at this point. Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to whether the Tax Office entries are already coded, Ms. Vaughn answered that they are, but they are different from the General Ledger. Commissioner Satterfield questioned when the process would be complete and Ms. Vaughn answered that her goal is to have this completed by June 30, 2010.

COUNTY HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. Lionell Parker, representing the Caswell County Historical Association, Dillard Educational and Economic Development Services, Inc, and Thomas Day Society came before the Board to request that it adopt a Resolution declaring the month of June as Caswell County Heritage Month. Mr. Parker informed the Board of a number of proposed activities that will occur in the month of June in honor of Caswell County Heritage Month.

Commissioner Hall noted that a correction needed to be made in Section 3 of the Resolution, changing *Secretary of Board of County Commissioners* to *Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners*.

After discussion, Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to adopt the following *Resolution and Proclamation Honoring the Memory of Richard Caswell, Esquire*,

First Governor of North Carolina, for Whom Caswell County was Named Upon the Occasion of the Two Hundred Thirty-Third Anniversary (223rd) of Caswell County, and Hereby Proclaiming June – Caswell County Heritage Month, with the correction noted to Section 3, changing Secretary to Clerk to the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

YANCEYVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION

A RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION HONORING THE MEMORY OF RICHARD CASWELL, ESQUIRE, FIRST GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, FOR WHOM CASWELL COUNTY WAS NAMED UPON THE OCCASION OF THE TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY (223rd) OF CASWELL COUNTY, AND HEREBY PROCLAIMING:

JUNE – CASWELL COUNTY HERITAGE MONTH.

Whereas, during the first session of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, which was convened on April 7, 1777, in the Town of New Bern; and

Whereas, legislators attending this session began the monumental task of creating a free and independent State, unprecedented in the history of the world; and

Whereas, their actions created the legal framework within which our great State operates today; and

Whereas, the legislators attending this First Session began and held this historic session with Richard Caswell serving as the First elected Governor of the new free State of North Carolina; and

Whereas, the legislators in its Chapter XVII (17) of the laws enacted during this first session, established a new county between Hillsborough and the Virginia line, by erecting the northern part of Orange County into a distinct county by the name of Caswell; and

Whereas, this new county named Caswell was named for Governor Richard Caswell, North Carolina's first Governor, a Patriot; and

Whereas, the act enacted by this new legislative General Assembly and ratified on May 9, 1777 to become effective June 1, 1777; and

Whereas, Caswell County was established by an act of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina on June 1, 1777; and

Whereas, the history of this North Central Piedmont community is rich with an illustrious heritage and lore, it is incumbent upon the residents and native sons and daughters of Caswell County to find, and bind together to become familiar with, grow in understanding of, and acquire a sincere appreciation and respect for the History Heritage and present existence of Caswell County; and

Whereas, the citizens of Caswell County have made plans to celebrate that County's 233rd anniversary during 2010; and

Whereas, Caswell County's anniversary is an event worthy of celebration and should be enjoyed and supported by all of North Carolina's citizens; and

Whereas, special events during the year included a Heritage Month Celebration to be held throughout the county and the county seat of Yanceyville in June, 2010; and

Whereas, the Caswell County Heritage Month will include proclamations and presentations and entertainment appropriate to the occasion; and

Whereas, Historic Caswell County organizations will have extended invitations to the people of adjoining counties and to the elected leaders of the State of North Carolina to join in this celebration.

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Caswell that:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners honors the memory of Richard Caswell, North Carolina's first and fifth elected Governor, a Patriot, for whom Caswell County is named.

Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners proclaim June as Caswell County Heritage Month from now on, and extends sincere greetings to the people of Caswell County on the occasion of the county's celebration during June, 2010, and encourages the citizens of Caswell County to join in demonstrating respect for their history and heritage and for those leaders and contributors to the history of the past 233 years who have bequeathed them the community they enjoy today.

Section 3. The Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution and proclamation to the Caswell County Historical Association, Dillard Educational and Economic Development Services, Inc. and the Thomas Day Society, and copies be made available to other county associations and agencies who have planned this historic occasion.

Section 4. This Resolution and Proclamation is effective upon approval this the 19th day of April, 2010.

ADOPTED THIS THE 19TH DAY OF APRIL, 2010.

S/George W. Ward, Jr.
George W. Ward, Jr., Chairman
Caswell County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith
Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

REQUEST FROM FAMILY SERVICES OF CASWELL – “HOUSE OF ESTHER”
BATTERED WOMEN’S SHELTER

Mr. John McLarty, along with other Board members, came before the Board to request the utilization of the Finance Office for bookkeeping and accounting services for the “House of Esther” Battered Women’s Shelter, and to enter into a contract with the County to provide services.

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, provided a memo from the County Attorney, in which he stated that “Current options for funding the service, assuming that the Town will no longer operate it as a Town department, include: 1) making it a County operated program; 2) operating it as a non-profit; or 3) discontinuing it.”

The County Attorney also included in his memo:

“Option 1 involves the potential for the current cost to the County to increase. This year the County has budgeted \$13,400.00 to assist the Town in operating the program. If the County were to operate it there are contingent liabilities for workers compensation insurance and other benefits which the County does not now have. Option 2 would still most likely require an appropriation by the Town and County in addition to grant funds, because the funding for the program barely is enough to keep it operating; however, the County would not be taking on any more potential liabilities. The employees would not have any government provided benefits and there is some question as to whether additional funds may be needed from some source to provide the administrative assistance now being provided by the Town. Obviously Option 3 would cause the service to cease.”

Mr. McLarty informed the Board that they have filed Articles of Incorporation with the NC Secretary of State and are in the process of gathering all the documents they need in order to obtain 501(3)(c) status.

Mr. Howard recommended that he and the County Attorney continue to meet more in depth with “House of Esther” representatives and the Town of Yanceyville in order to make a smooth transition and propose a more detailed option.

Commissioner Battle questioned the Town's position on Option 2. Mr. Howard answered that the Town wishes to divest itself of the program because they do not see it as a function of Town government.

Commissioner Battle questioned whether there is a timeline that would affect the operation of the Program. Mr. McLarty answered that they feel that they will have their 501(3)(c) status sometime in July and there are funding issues pertaining to grants. Mr. McLarty stated that he felt by September or October they would be ready to transition from the Town of Yanceyville.

Commissioner Satterfield agreed that the "House of Esther" representatives needed to continue to meet with the County Manager and County Attorney and bring back to the Board what the liabilities are if this program is under the umbrella of the County. Commissioner Satterfield questioned whether some of the services performed by the County Finance Office could be interpreted as an in-kind match for grants.

Ms. Doris Boyd reported that some of their grants do have in-kind donations and informed the Board that they are in the process of applying for a sexual assault grant which will allow for an in-kind match. Ms. Boyd stated that the "House of Esther" is a healthy organization and they have had no problems with their finances or grantors.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that the "House of Esther" provides a valuable service to the community at large and he would like to see the Board help them in any way possible.

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF FUNDING THE URBAN LOOP FOR GREENSBORO
URBAN AREA MPO

Commissioner Battle informed the Board that he did not request that the agenda item for support of funding the Urban Loop for the Greensboro Urban Area be placed on the agenda and was personally opposed to supporting it. Commissioner Battle added that these improvements will not affect or impact Caswell County.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that it is his understanding in talking with NCDOT that all of these monies are in different pots, such as bridge money, secondary roads paving money, etc. Commissioner Satterfield added that Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, and Charlotte are all vying for the urban area monies.

After further discussion, Commissioner Carter moved to adopt the *Resolution Requesting Funding for the Greensboro Urban Loop* as presented. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Travis moved to accept the recommendation of Commissioner Battle and not support the *Resolution Requesting Funding for the Greensboro Urban Loop*. The motion died for lack of a second.

DISCUSSION OF APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS FOR CLERK TO THE BOARD
POSITION

The Board discussed the application review process for the Clerk to the Board position. Chairman Ward directed the County Manager and Clerk to the Board to scan the applications received for the Clerk position and e-mail them to those Commissioners who would like electronic copies and make hard copies for the others. Chairman Ward requested that the Board members review the applications and rate their top five to be discussed at a special meeting to be scheduled the following week.

The Board discussed the possibility of scheduling a meeting to review Clerk to the Board applications, as well as meeting with its Legislators. Commissioner Satterfield stated that before the Board meets with its Legislators, he felt that the individual Board members need to give their thoughts and concerns to the County Manager so that when the meeting is held, the Legislators will know their concerns, questions, and proposed projects, and be able to respond to them.

Commissioner Hall agreed with Commissioner Satterfield and added that there needs to be an agenda with prior input and discussion from the Board about the various items and projects to be discussed.

Commissioner Battle stated that he felt it would be best for the Board to schedule a meeting with its Legislators sometime next month and focus on the Clerk to the Board position right now.

Mr. Howard noted that May 19, 2010 is County Legislative Day in Raleigh and the Board could possibly meet with its Legislators that evening if they so desired.

The Board agreed to postpone a meeting with its Legislators until May 19, 2010 or a future date.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Ward scheduled a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners on Monday, April 26, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. to meet in Closed Session review Clerk to the Board applications.

DISCUSSION OF 2010-2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and discussed a proposed schedule for 2010-2011 Budget Workshops for the month of May, 2010. Mr. Howard reported that he would be presenting the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 to the Board at its May 3 or 17, 2010 meetings.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, discussed the cost for metal detectors at the Recreation Department which was presented and discussed at the Board's last meeting. Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to whether the County Manager discussed this issue with the Sheriff, Mr. Howard answered that he had not discussed this with the Sheriff. Commissioner Battle noted that the Sheriff was to have been asked about the possibility of a panic button being

installed that would alert the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Howard stated that this could be set up with the Sheriff's Office. Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to present this issue to the Board during budget deliberations.

Mr. Howard noted that the City of New Bern, our state's first Capitol, is officially 300 years old and had invited Caswell County to participate in its Jubilee Heritage Parade, in celebration of this event. Mr. Howard added that the deadline for notice of participation is May 1, 2010.

Mr. Howard announced that Saturday, April 24, 2010, has been tentatively scheduled to tour the Montgomery County Detention Center. Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to contact each Commissioner and determine another date for touring the Montgomery County facility.

Mr. Howard announced that Wednesday, May 19, 2010, is County Legislative Day in Raleigh and the deadline for registration is May 12, 2010. Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to place this item on the Board's May 3, 2010 agenda to determine who will be attending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ward informed the Board that he has been asked by a couple of Commissioners to place the issue of EMS ambulance purchases on a future agenda for further discussion and consideration. Chairman Ward stated that he would like to know whether the Board members would like to place this item on the next agenda or consider it further at budget time.

In referring to the County Manager's Report, Commissioner Hall stated that he felt that it is time for a comprehensive status report on the Golden Leaf Foundation Matkins Meat Processors Grant Project. Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to place this item on the Board's next agenda.

Commissioner Hall stated that he did not see why the Board would bring the EMS ambulance units back on the agenda and added that he has a problem with discussions of spending money that the County does not have and justifying it by saying that it can be paid for in the next fiscal year budget. Commissioner Hall stated that he felt that the Board needs to be in agreement on the budget before it commits an appropriation of \$200,000 or more for EMS ambulances.

Commissioner Travis thanked the Board for the calls and flowers that he received during his recent stay in the hospital.

Commissioner Travis stated that he felt that purchase of EMS ambulance units should be a budget item for consideration.

Commissioner Jefferies stated that he is in agreement with the purchase of the EMS ambulance units, but felt that it should be a budget item. Commissioner Jefferies added that the Board should schedule the purchase of one ambulance every two years.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that he agrees with Commissioner Jefferies' comments, but had concerns about the increased cost of the ambulance in delaying the purchase due to the new

emission standards. Commissioner Satterfield added that he felt that the Board should probably go ahead and make one purchase of an EMS ambulance unit.

Commissioner Battle stated that he felt that the purchase of an EMS ambulance unit should be a budget item for the upcoming fiscal year budget and determine where the funds will come from to pay for it.

Chairman Ward directed the County Manager to research the EMS Departmental budget and determine its current status, and submit that information to him.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis that the Board enter into closed session to consider the compensation, terms of appointment, and performance of an individual public officer (NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6)). The motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to resume regular session. The motion carried unanimously.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m. Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
