

MINUTES – OCTOBER 1, 2007

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, October 1, 2007. Members present: George W. Ward, Jr., Chairman, Jeremiah Jefferies, Vice-Chairman, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Larry G. Hamlett, Kenneth D. Travis, and C. Hester Vernon, III. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager and Shannon White 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 Hamlett 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 September 12, 2007 Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Ward opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments made.

PUBLIC HEARING – SCHEDULE OF VALUES

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Vernon that the Board enter into a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules used in appraising all real property in Caswell County at its true value for revaluation, effective tax year 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, stated that after the public hearing tonight, the Schedule of Values will be presented to the Board at its October 15, 2007, meeting for adoption.

There being no comments, Chairman Ward declared the public hearing closed.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CASWELL COUNTY
WATERSHED PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies that the Board of Commissioners enter into a public hearing to receive comments on proposed amendments to the Watershed Protection Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brian Collie, County Planner, came before the Board and stated that the proposed change to the Caswell County Watershed Protection Ordinance is to decrease the minimum lot size in the critical area of the Country Line Creek Watershed. Mr. Collie added that currently in Article IV, Section 2.a. of the Watershed Ordinance a single-family residential development shall be allowed at a maximum of one dwelling unit per three acres in Country Line Creek WS-II, CA, and one dwelling per two acres in all other critical areas. Mr. Collie noted that currently the state's most restrictive low-density option without storm water controls for WS-II watershed critical areas is two-acre minimum lots.

Mr. Collie informed the Board that this recommendation is included in the draft of changes approved by the Planning Board at its February 27, 2007 meeting, and was discussed and voted on again at the September 4, 2007 meeting for clarification. Mr. Collie reported that the Planning Board recommended with a four to one vote that the minimum lot size be reduced from three acres to two acres in the critical area of Country Line Creek's watershed.

Mr. Forrest Altman, 1200 Jack Pointer Road, Semora, NC, came before the Board and asked who on the Planning Board voted for the proposed amendment to the Watershed Protection Ordinance. Mr. Altman stated that the Planning Board is a large committee and if only four members voted for the proposed amendment, it does not sound like a very convincing proposal and questioned whether this is a serious proposal. Mr. Altman informed the Board that he spent the afternoon reading the Watershed Protection Ordinance and was shocked to learn that the Watershed Review Board has the same members as the Planning Board. Mr. Altman stated that the reason for the Watershed Protection Ordinance is to protect the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and the areas close to streams need special protection. Mr. Altman added that people like to live near the streams and rivers, yet the more people there are living in the critical watershed area, the more houses, garages, and driveways there are, and houses and driveways do not allow the water to filter through the soil as it should in order to purify before it goes into the river, thus affecting the drinking water of citizens and is harmful for other creatures that drink from the water as well. Mr. Altman questioned why a group of citizens who care about the welfare of their fellow creatures propose weakening the regulations and propose more buildings and driveways. Mr. Altman stated that waterways are natural migration corridors for wildlife and they need this, and these natural corridors are good places for human beings to have parks and trails to roam and relax. Mr. Altman challenged the Board to move in the opposite direction from which

the Planning Board would like to move and challenged the citizens present to apply for membership on the Planning Board.

Mr. John Griffin, 11741 NC Hwy 150, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that in 2000 he was appointed to the Planning Board, serving a five-year term, and participated in two rather large studies, one being the RDAT Committee, and one to study the Ordinances and direction in which the County should go. Mr. Griffin informed the Board that a lot of things came out of these meetings over a period of approximately three years, and everything pointed to that we had a great county, and that we needed some type of protection. Mr. Griffin stated that there was a tremendous amount of discussion about zoning being needed in the county, but this was not approved. Mr. Griffin added that another possibility was controlling the County as it has been done many years with Ordinances, with the Watershed Protection Ordinance being of particular importance. Mr. Griffin stated that there is one viable water source for quite a few people in the County and that is Farmer Lake. Mr. Griffin added that there are creeks that feed into Farmer Lake, land surrounds Farmer Lake, and it is known as a watershed. Mr. Griffin informed the Board that they talked with people around the State, and in particular, Orange County did a \$400,000 study to determine the problems with water in Orange County and how they had to protect it. Mr. Griffin stated that Orange County approved a ten acre minimum for land in the critical area around their water supply system. Mr. Griffin added that a five acre minimum was recommended for Caswell County and after compromise, a three area minimum was approved. Mr. Griffin noted that a watershed needs to be protected from pollution and overpopulation. Mr. Griffin stated that when he read in The Caswell Messenger that there was a proposal to reduce the acreage to two acres he was appalled. Mr. Griffin added that experts in this area described Caswell's watershed area as "steep and deep, quick runoff" with elevation dropping as much as 100 feet in one-half mile. Mr. Griffin stated that when pollution and fertilizer comes running off into those creeks, it is going into Farmer Lake, and added that increased population is a problem, and it could be handled by restricting lot sizes. Mr. Griffin informed the Board that he would like to see the County go to three/five acres instead of two/one as is being proposed.

Mr. Rob Levine, of 406 Lake Pointe Drive, Yanceyville, NC, came before the Board and stated that they have already heard many reasons why a 50 percent increase in rooftops, driveways, wells, and septic tanks would place a great demand on the Lake and would be a bad idea. Mr. Levine asked that before the Board acts favorably on this matter, that it receive an awful lot of good reasons why the lot size should be reduced from three to two acres.

Mr. Larry East, 420 Lake Pointe Drive, Yanceyville, NC, came before the Board and stated that he has seen over the last three or four years the deterioration of the water quality in Farmer Lake – much more mud and other things. Mr. East added that he did not see how reducing the lot size would ever increase the water quality, it would have to go in the other direction and the minimum acreage should be increasing to five acres. Mr. East stated that from a tax revenue point of view, he did not see how it could benefit the County because by reducing the lot size, the values of the homes on those properties

will be reduced, and therefore, reduce the values that will be taxed. Mr. East added that over time, this proposal will increase the cost to everyone in terms of higher density, more children in school, more services requiring fire and police and if cost is increased, yet revenues are not increased, it only further aggravates the current problems of the County. Mr. East stated that all of the issues discussed such as pollution and impervious surfaces have been covered very well and he would really like to know what the benefit is to Caswell County and to the people who live here of decreasing this lot size.

Ms. Lucille Graves, of 1297 Graves Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that she is in favor of the watershed remaining as it is currently.

Mr. Thomas Williamson, of 511 Graves Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that he believes in privacy and in clean living. Mr. Williamson added that if the watershed requirements are revised down to two acres, that means more septic tanks closely and privacy would not be as it is now. Mr. Williamson stated that he felt that everyone believes in privacy and clean water and he was before the Board to ask them to be concerned and he hoped and prayed that they would make the right decision and leave things as well as they are.

Mr. David Brick, 372 Lake Pointe Drive, Yanceyville, NC, came before the Board and stated that he has lived on Farmer Lake for seven years and has seen a steady deterioration of the lake quality. Mr. Brick informed the Board that in the summer, the lake is visually good, but in the winter it turns cloudy and muddy and every year this period of time lengthens considerably. Mr. Brick added that when there is discussion of increasing or decreasing the building requirements, this will only take the water quality down further. Mr. Brick stated that the Town of Yanceyville spends a considerable amount of money to make this water drinkable and that amount is increasing because the lake is no longer pristine. Mr. Brick added that he thought it was time for the Board to think of the benefits to the citizens of the County and the long term goal of keeping this lake pristine.

Mr. Darnee Mims, of 596 Graves Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that he would like for the watershed to stay as it is because the more septic tanks there are, the more algae there will be in the lake, and he wanted clean water in this county, not polluted water.

Mr. Bobby Murray of 1749 Boone Road, Elon, NC, came before the Board and stated that he is very concerned about the watershed because of the fact that the more development there is, the more pollution there is and that affects the quality of the water. Mr. Murray added that he is concerned about this for the welfare of the people and also how the Board continues to break down the structure that has already been laid. Mr. Murray questioned why there is such a great need to have this Ordinance amended again.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Melchert of 1240 Tate Road, Reidsville, NC, both stated that they would like for the Watershed Protection Ordinance to remain as it is currently with no changes.

Mr. Wally Ewalt of 5869 US Hwy 158W, Yanceyville, NC, came before the Board and stated that his property backs up to Country Line Creek. Mr. Ewalt added that in listening to all of the comments made, he would be hard pressed to make a very informed decision if he was confronted as the Board is with this issue, because all they have heard are reasons not to do it. Mr. Ewalt noted that the Planning Board must have some minutes, justification, and arguments for why they want to do this, and felt that since they represent the citizens of the County, the citizens of the County and the County Commissioners should look at what the Planning Board is trying to achieve by recommending that these changes be made. Mr. Ewalt stated that it may be that some of what the Planning Board is suggesting may be appropriate, but based just on what he has heard today and his own personal feelings, he would have to agree with the majority present. Mr. Ewalt added that he felt that it is unfair that they are not informed properly so that they can make a proper judgment on these recommendations. Mr. Ewalt stated that he felt that it is not only this issue, but a number of issues that citizens are faced with, and they should be better informed so they can make more informed decisions.

Ms. Elaine Williams of 12235 NC Hwy 150, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that she is a landowner in the watershed area. Ms. Williams added that she cares about the water quality and she is against reducing the lot sizes.

Ms. Jan Sorrells of 11536 NC Hwy 150, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that she is a property owner and lives in the watershed. Ms. Sorrells stated that taking Caswell County backwards is what this watershed hearing is all about. Ms. Sorrells added that at a time when water is a top concern throughout the State and all of the other counties around are trying to figure out a way to protect their water and get more of it, what a sad day for Caswell County to see its developers on the Planning Board trying to increase density in the precious and fragile critical watershed area for Farmer Lake, our only reliable source of water in the County. Ms. Sorrells stated that back in 2000 when a group of concerned citizens became alarmed at the lack of protection for the watershed area, they brought in numerous experts from all over the State to look at this topography and they came, looked, and said it is steep and deep and the minimum lot size to protect this watershed should be five acres. Ms. Sorrell added, however, that after a compromise vote, the County ended up with only a three-acre lot size to protect the critical area. Ms. Sorrells noted that this area is called critical because it is critical to the County's future, and now the developers are trying to roll back to the State minimum of two acres for flat land, not steep and deep for topography in Caswell's watershed area. Ms. Sorrells stated that the Board's allegiance must be to the people of Caswell County and to protect the County's water, not to the developers on the Planning Board. Ms. Sorrells added that the experts have spoken and this hearing should be about increasing lot size from three to five acres, not going backwards. Ms. Sorrells asked that the Board not have as its legacy as being the Board of Commissioners that did not protect the County's water and forever known for taking Caswell County backwards, but instead protect the County's water and say no to the Planning Board developers.

Ms. Gretchen Slyboom of 1614 Camp Springs Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that Country Line Creek runs through 217 of her 400 acres, and rolling the acreage back would possibly impact her financially, but she had just as soon the Board not do this.

Mr. Bill Bush of 8040 Park Springs Road, Ruffin, NC, came before the Board and emphasized that the State's two acre lot size minimum does not take into consideration any unusual topographical features. Mr. Bush stated that in the year 2000 this was reviewed very carefully and the County's watershed was described as steep and deep and it runs very fast. Mr. Bush noted that it does not take much rainfall to wash everything in that area right into Country Line Creek, a narrow creek that flows very fast. Mr. Bush added that the State minimum might be alright in a flat area where there is soil that will soak up more of the water, but the State minimum just does not apply to Country Line Creek Watershed. Mr. Bush stated that keeping this water clean is very important and there is a federal program going on in the County now for farmers to put in wells and drinking cisterns for cattle to keep cows out of creeks so that manure and fecal bacteria will not be floating down the creeks into the lake. Mr. Bush informed the Board that after the Caswell County Board of Commissioners adopted its current watershed regulations, Alamance County followed suit and raised its own protection for one of the creeks that this county protects that flows out of this county into their lake. Mr. Bush stated that he did not know where the sudden move is coming from to change the regulations, but felt that like in Orange County, a ten/five acre requirement would be more suitable for Caswell County because of the steeper, faster draining terrain. Mr. Bush added that going backwards is not a good option for a forward looking Board, but then the Planning Board has never looked forward willingly, and he knows this because he has been on this Board.

Ms. Jean Cornejo of 562 Turner Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that she is a resident in the watershed area. Ms. Cornejo informed the Board that she and her children are participating in a stream watch group actively monitoring Country Line Creek. Ms. Cornejo noted that the results which were submitted in April of last year read that the bank is severely eroded, there is severe sedimentation pollution noted with little or no buffer between the fields and streams in many places. Ms. Cornejo informed the Board that what this means is that the water quality in the stream is already negatively impacted by the land use around, and certainly reducing lot sizes could only make this worse. Ms. Cornejo stated that the land around streams are like a sponge and when it rains the water soaks into the ground and it is released slowly into the streams, allowing the water to be filtered and allows the streams to move the water down. Ms. Cornejo added that buildings increase impervious surfaces, reducing the amount of place where the water can enter in and it also increases the amount of water than runs into the stream, but what's really important is the sedimentation and this is that particle of soil that is carried into the water, which creates the brown color in the water after a rain. Ms. Cornejo noted that this occurs naturally at the rate of 500 tons per acre, but when land is developed and disturbed this amount increases to 2,500 tons per acre. Ms. Cornejo informed the Board that this is a tremendous increase and this particulate matter traps heat in the water and hot water is a perfect breeding ground for disease, providing the

ideal habitat for bacteria and other disease-causing parasites to proliferate. Ms. Cornejo stated that these types of things can only be expected to increase where there is development in water areas. Ms. Cornejo added that Caswell County has an opportunity to learn what other areas have learned the hard way, that high density development in the watershed area hurts everyone. Ms. Cornejo stated that no one would seriously argue that a person should be able to do what he wants with his property, but she should not be allowed to pour anything she wants to into the water which will pollute it for the people downstream, but this is exactly what happens when land is developed because sediment is poured into the stream and there is an effect on all the people, downstream and others who are dependent on that water. Ms. Cornejo noted that sediment is the number one pollutant in North Carolina and even though it is a harmless looking pollutant, the effect it produces on the ecosystem and on the people in that community are no less threatening than any cancer. Ms. Cornejo stated that she felt that at the very least, the County should maintain the acreage it currently has, but felt it would be much better to have a larger acreage requirement in those critical areas for all of the reasons heard tonight.

Mr. Eugene Page of 1415 Pagetown Road, Reidsville, NC, came before the Board and stated that he is a developer in Caswell County. Mr. Page added that several years ago when the watershed issue was being discussed, it took months to study the issue, experts from the State were brought in, and the Commissioners decided that three acres was a good and realistic number to save the watershed, and he felt it was a good decision then. Mr. Page stated that he did not know what has changed to bring this issue up again, because now there is less water and more pollution and added that he would like to keep the acreage requirement as it is now.

Mayor Dan Printz, Town of Yanceyville, came before the Board and read the following letter from Mr. R. Lee Farmer, Yanceyville Town Attorney:

October 1, 2007

Honorable George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
Caswell County Board of Commissioners
Post Office Box 98
Yanceyville, North Carolina 27379

Re: Proposed Caswell County Watershed Protection Ordinance Amendment

Dear Chairman Ward:

In regard to the above pending proposal, the Town of Yanceyville officially requests that there be no reduction in the current minimum lot size of properties located in the critical area of the Country Line Creek Watershed. The above proposal has been reviewed and discussed by the Yanceyville Town Council, and they are unanimously opposed to any change in the minimum lot size.

It is the position of the Town Council that due to current statewide water quality and supply issues, it would be short-sighted to change the existing watershed restriction. The Country Line Creek Watershed area and S. Ryland Farmer Lake are one of the few remaining areas in Piedmont North Carolina with an abundant and high quality water supply. It should be the position of Caswell County to protect and police this resource and maintain the high water quality for our citizens and future generations. Today the consensus among environmental and economic development experts is that water quality and supply will be a major issue and problem during this century.

It is the position of the Town that Caswell County should protect and preserve the valuable resource of the Country Line Creek Watershed area. If you should have any questions concerning the Town's position, the Council will be quite happy to meet with your Board at a convenient time and place.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration and support.

Yours very truly,

S/R. Lee Farmer

R. Lee Farmer
Town Attorney

Mayor Printz informed the Board that the Town of Yanceyville gets its water supply from Farmer Lake, but it is also where Caswell County will get its future water supply. Mayor Printz stated that he felt it would be a mistake to reduce the lot size requirement, and if anything, it should be increased.

Commissioner Hall stated that the rules of Public Comments require that all questions be addressed directly to the Board of Commissioners and Chair; however he has heard one question raised a number of times and he would like to request that a representative of the Planning Board come forward and give a basis for its recommendation. Chairman Ward was agreeable to this request.

Upon the request of Chairman Ward, Mr. Melvin Butler, Planning Board Chairman, came forward to give the basis for the recommendation of the Planning Board to reduce the lot size in the watershed. Mr. Butler reported that the change in lot size in the Watershed Protection Ordinance was made in 2001 and it has been a continuous issue with the Planning Board members. Mr. Butler informed the Board that continuously there are those who come to the Planning Board members and ask why it is so unfair for landowners in some areas of the County more so than in other areas of the County. Mr. Butler stated that in each instance when people come to him, he tells them to address their concerns to the Board of Commissioners since the Planning Board only

recommends and does not set guidelines. Mr. Butler informed the Board that the comments he gets is that they own land in the watershed, but they do not talk well in front of people. Mr. Butler noted that a lot of people who own smaller tracts in the watershed area are people who are poor, uneducated, and do not speak well before a group. Mr. Butler stated that this discussion about decreasing the lot size has gone on for a considerable amount of time and they voted on it at two separate meetings. Mr. Butler added that the Board members with conflict of interest did not vote on the issues. Mr. Butler noted that all of the Planning Board members, as well as himself, are receiving a lot of calls. Mr. Butler stated that the Planning Board is trying to help the poor people in that area, the people who can't help themselves, and they are doing this based on their recommendation. Mr. Butler added that he has no interest in Country Line Creek Watershed other than being a citizen of Caswell County. Mr. Butler pointed out that he has spent a lot of time on the Jordan Lake initiative and throughout discussions there has been no concern about septic tanks or wells, the only concern is about stormwater runoff. Mr. Butler stated that the County is stretched as far as taxes and the land around both of its lakes are extremely valuable and the land needs to be developed if it can be. Mr. Butler added that the Planning Board made these recommendations just to pacify the small landowners in the area and noted that the Board of Commissioners are the ones who make the decisions.

Mr. Wally Ewalt stated that if it is the Planning Board's objective to help people, then it has the wrong objective. Mr. Ewalt added that the Planning Board should be doing what is right, what is correct, what is in everybody's best interest, and not do what one individual calls and asks him to do. Mr. Ewalt stated that there should be a consensus of what is in the best interest of this County and that is what should be done and not based on the number of phone calls that they get.

There being no further comments, Chairman Ward declared the public hearing closed.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis that the Watershed Protection Ordinance remain as it is currently written. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

PUBLIC HEARING – VARIANCE REQUEST OF THE CASWELL COUNTY SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

Commissioner Vernon moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to recess as the Board of Commissioners and sit as the Board of Adjustments and enter into a public hearing to receive comments on a request by Vincent and Genesis Moore for a variance of the Caswell County Subdivision Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brian Collie, County Planner, came before the Board and stated that on August 15, 2007, Vincent and Genesis Moore came to his office and applied for a variance request of

the Caswell County Subdivision Ordinance. Mr. Collie noted that their wish is to subdivide their property at 1044 New Walters Mill Road (Tax Parcel I.D. #0014.00.00.0315.0000) and place a house on the subdivided lot which is directly behind their current residence.

Mr. Collie informed the Board, however, that the request is to build the house under the minimum building line width of 125 ft. (Art. VIII, Section 19.2) in the Subdivision Ordinance. Mr. Collie stated that the width of the property at the proposed building line is approximately 120 feet and does not meet the requirement by five feet. Mr. Collie added that the applicant's purpose in subdividing the lot is to place a modular home in which his father could live.

Mr. Collie reported that he requested that the applicant provide him with the manufactured specifications of the modular home and he has done so. Mr. Collie informed the Board that the specifications of the modular home that the applicant wishes to place on his subdivided lot will meet the required setbacks of the Subdivision Ordinance. Mr. Collie added that he also provided the applicant with a list of the five conditions that the Board must determine exists before a variance can be granted and all of this has been completed.

Mr. Collie informed the Board that after discussion, the Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that a variance of the Subdivision Ordinance, in particular, Article VIII, Section 19.2, be granted to Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Moore to allow them to build under the 125 feet minimum building line. Mr. Collie provided the Board with an aerial photograph of the proposed lot on which the applicant wishes to subdivide.

Mr. Vincent Moore spoke on behalf of his request in order that his father who lives out of the country could move close to them.

Chairman Ward declared the public hearing closed.

After discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to approve the variance request by Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Moore of Article VIII, Section 19.2 of the Caswell County Subdivision Ordinance, which would allow them to build under the 125 feet minimum building line. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to adjourn the Board of Adjustments and reconvene as the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF LME MEMBER
IRMGARD MILLER

Mr. Dan Hahn, Executive Director, Alamance/Caswell/Rockingham Local Management Entity, came before the Board to present a Resolution in recognition of ten years of

service to the LME by Ms. Irmgard Miller. Mr. Hahn informed the Board that Ms. Miller was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Mr. Hahn reported that at its August 21, 2007, meeting, the LME Board of Directors adopted the following Resolution recognizing Ms. Irmgard Miller.

**NORTH CAROLINA
ALAMANCE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF THE ALAMANCE CASWELL ROCKINGHAM LOCAL MANAGEMENT ENTITY in regular meeting duly assembled, is reminded of the contributions of **Ms. Irmgard Miller**, as a member of this Board, and on this occasion the members of the Board recall the **ten years** of devoted service and understanding **Ms. Miller** has given to the causes involved in the alleviation of mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse problems in the area of Alamance, Caswell, and Rockingham Counties, and having been first appointed to this Board in 1997, and having served since that time continuously; and

WHEREAS, it is recalled that during her tenure, **Ms. Miller** participated in and served on the Client Rights Committee (later known as Human Rights) as well as the Caswell Sub-Committee of the Board; and she involved herself studiously and with understanding and sympathy for the mission of the Area Program to the people of this area and offered cooperation and consultation to the management and staff, supporting them in achieving our common goals.

BE IT NOW THEREFORE HEREBY RESOLVED that the Alamance Caswell Rockingham Local Management Entity Board of Directors records its sincere appreciation for the active participation and contribution of **Ms. Miller** to the work of this Board and this Program; for her support and goodwill for the prospect of continued interest and association with our purposes.

BE IT NOW FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be recorded in the minutes of this Board and an appropriately inscribed copy thereof be delivered with our best wishes to **Ms. Irmgard Miller**.

Done in regular meeting duly assembled, this 21st day of August, 2007.

**ALAMANCE CASWELL ROCKINGHAM
LOCAL MANAGEMENT ENTITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BY: S/Samuel L. Isley
Mr. Samuel L. Isley, Board Chair

SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Tim Smith, Solid Waste Director, came before the Board to present a petition and hear a request for an additional convenience center site in the Semora area. Mr. Smith presented the following petition which included a number of signatures:

“The following residents and taxpayers of Caswell County express our concerns with the inconvenience of the current trash centers available in the Semora area. We respectfully request the County contract an available location near the intersection of Hwy 57 and NC 119 on the business location of McSherry’s Country Store”.

Mr. Smith informed the Board that he has received a number of requests over the past three or four years for additional convenience centers in other parts of the County. Mr. Smith stated that geographically, the County has the appropriate number of convenience center sites that it needs. Mr. Smith added that he did not think it would be a good idea to add additional sites to the County, and felt it would be a better idea to find ways to get the current sites operating more efficiently. Mr. Smith provided the Board with a cost estimate of locating an additional site, which totaled \$44,144 before the site opens. Mr. Smith noted that if the County started adding additional sites, the current \$89 household user fee would greatly increase.

Commissioner Travis stated that the appropriate time to consider a request for an additional convenience center site is at budget time, and not in the middle of the year. Mr. Smith agreed with this.

Mr. Smith informed the Board that the Solid Waste Department has some serious issues that it will be facing soon. Mr. Smith stated that his department has 62 pieces of equipment and most all of them are over ten years old. Mr. Smith added that he is repairing them the best that he can to keep them road worthy, but the time is very close that they will need to be salvaged out and replaced with new equipment.

Commissioner Hall questioned why this issue is on the agenda if it is not a recommendation of staff to approve. Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, answered that the issue was brought before the Board to make them aware of the request. Commissioner Hall stated that it would be helpful to collect requests and proposals like this and present them to the Board at budget time.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hamlett, Mr. Smith answered that no one in the County has to drive over 10 to 12 miles to get to the nearest convenience center site. Mr. Smith noted that there are currently nine convenience center sites in the County including the landfill.

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that the County landfill has been taking used oil at the landfill and disposing of it; however, recently contaminated oil was disposed of at the landfill and it cost the County \$700 to dispose of the oil. Upon

questioning, Mr. Smith answered that he normally collects 4,000 gallons of oil per year at the landfill and this is the first time he has had to take special precautions to dispose of contaminated oil. Commissioner Travis asked if the County charges to take the used oil and Mr. Smith answered that it does not because it is picked up free of charge unless it is contaminated. Upon questioning from Commissioner Hall as to the cost of getting rid of contaminated oil, Mr. Smith answered that it costs 85 cents per gallon to dispose of contaminated oil.

Commissioner Hall stated that the County needs to monitor oil intake and his concern is if the County does not take oil, contaminated or otherwise, for all the citizens of Caswell County, it will end up being dumped in creeks and side ditches and the County's water will become contaminated. Commissioner Hall added that the County needs to get the equipment and training it needs to collect used oil.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hamlett, Mr. Smith answered that he has moved the oil tank down below the scales where he can monitor it closer.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the County Manager and Solid Waste Director prepare a proposal for the next meeting outlining the cost of collecting used oil, as well as contaminated oil.

Commissioner Hall stated that he would like for the County Manager and Solid Waste Director to come up with a plan in case someone brings in contaminated oil before the Board's October 15th meeting.

After further discussion, Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to authorize the purchase of a wand to test for contaminated oil. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, discussed with the Board scheduling a date to hold a joint meeting with the Board of Education to discuss test scores. The Board tentatively scheduled October 23, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. to meet jointly with the Board of Education and instructed the County Manager to confirm this date with the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Howard reported that he is still gathering information concerning Mr. Ed Carter's waterline request.

Mr. Howard presented a request from the Tax Office to apply for a grant from NC OneMap. Mr. Howard reported that Caswell County's current aerial imagery is black and white orthophoto maps that were completed in the spring of 2004 and the Tax Office is proposing to have its aerial imagery updated in spring of 2008 to color digital orthophotos. Mr. Howard noted that Caswell County has proposed a joint flight with Person County in order to reduce the cost. Mr. Howard reported that the total cost of the

project will cost \$40,000, E-911 has committed to paying approximately \$22,000 of this cost, and if assistance is received from NC OneMap in an amount of \$12,000, the amount requested from the County would be \$6,000. Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, presented a sample of the color orthophoto map. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the request by the Tax Office to apply for a grant from NC OneMap to have its aerial imagery updated to color digital orthophotos, and to approve an appropriation of \$6,000 if the grant is awarded. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Carter reported that the Annual Bright Leaf Hoedown was a good festival, with a lot of food and crafts. Commissioner Carter added that Mayor Dan Printz welcomed the citizens present on behalf of the Town of Yanceyville and he welcomed the citizens on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Hall reminded everyone that the Cycle NC 100-mile across state ride would take place tomorrow, October 2, 2007, and the bicyclists should be arriving in Caswell County at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Hall reported that he attended a one-day seminar on Revenue Options hosted by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Commissioner Hall stated that the seminar presented to counties successful strategies to educate the public on the new revenue options granted to counties by the General Assembly.

Commissioner Hamlett questioned the County Manager as to how the new gasoline system is working for the County and Mr. Howard answered that the new system is working much better.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hamlett, Mr. Howard confirmed that there is a service station that is no longer in operation located on NC Hwy 86 that has a contaminated well.

Commissioner Hall reported that Dr. Fred Moore, Health Director, along with Environmental Health Department staff prepared a spreadsheet for the last Board of Health meeting which showed test sites of contaminated water and addresses over the last three or four years. Commissioner Hall stated that these tests show groundwater results, and the Board of Health is going to authorize testing of streams for possible surface water contamination.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hamlett, Commissioner Carter answered that it costs approximately \$30 for someone to have their water tested.

CLOSED SESSION

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

REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to resume regular session. The motion carried unanimously.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40 p.m. Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
