

MINUTES – JUNE 15, 2009

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, June 15, 2009. Members present: Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman, George W. Ward, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Erik D. Battle, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, George G. Satterfield, and Kenneth D. Travis. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, requested that Department of Social Services be added to the agenda as Item No. 9.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the agenda as presented, with the addition of Department of Social Services. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis 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 May 4, 2009 Meeting
- 2) Tax Director's Monthly Report

Total Amount of Taxes Collected for May, 2009	\$257,942.61
2009 Prepayments	\$ 4,227.81
Tax Maps/Cards	\$ 592.00
County Maps	\$ 9.90
NSF Charge	\$ 75.00
EMS for May	\$ 1,334.20
Beer License	\$ 25.00
Wine License	\$ 25.00
- 3) Financial Report – July, 2008 – May, 2009

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Jefferies opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. John Claggett of 108 Jaye Lane, Providence, NC, came before the Board and asked whether there would be a North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles Office in Caswell County in the foreseeable future, and if so, when, and if not, why? Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, answered that he did not have the answer to this yet since the closing date for bids was Friday, June 12, 2009, and he has not talked with anyone with the State since then. Commissioner Satterfield stated that it was his understanding that two merchants in the County were interested in submitting bids for operating the DMV Tag Office in the County.

Ms. Shannon Gammon came before the Board and stated that she is Caswell County's Teacher of the Year for the 2009-2010 School Year and felt obligated to speak on behalf of the teachers in Caswell County in regards to the possibility of cutting the teachers' supplement for the County's teachers. Ms. Gammon added that she realized that they are facing difficult economic times and also the need to share in the responsibility in trying to recover from the recession, however, wholeheartedly believed that funds to cover the deficit could be found elsewhere. Ms. Gammon informed the Board of the dedication that Caswell County's teachers show to the School System and its children. Ms. Gammon stated that she believed that the teachers of Caswell County are deserving of the supplement and have been appreciative of the Board of Commissioners' efforts to keep the supplement in place in previous years. Ms. Gammon added that by keeping the supplement she felt that the Board of Commissioners is recognizing the importance of the County's education system and showing its appreciation to the teachers for the work that they do. Ms. Gammon stated that it is difficult for Caswell County to compete with surrounding counties in terms of supplement pay, but it does offer some incentive for teachers to come to Caswell County. Ms. Gammon noted that if the County does not offer any kind of teacher supplement, it would make it more difficult for the County to attract highly qualified teachers and the children of Caswell County deserve the best of the best. Ms. Gammon urged the Board of Commissioners to seriously consider the children of the County and the teachers who are working with them everyday because both groups are deserving of their appreciation and support.

Ms. Sue Graves came before the Board and stated that she represents the Caswell County Association of Educators as its President. Ms. Graves added that she teaches eighth grade language arts at Dillard Middle School and just completed her 25th year of teaching in North Carolina, with 20 of those years being in Caswell County. Ms. Graves stated that it is a constant struggle for Caswell County to hire and retain highly qualified teachers as mandated by federal law when surrounding counties are offering local teachers' supplements that are from five percent higher than that of Caswell. Ms. Graves informed the Board that recently the State government has asked that funds be returned from School Districts and has imposed a furlough on employees with a possibility of more furloughs in the next two years, with staff development being curtailed and purchases cancelled. Ms. Graves stated that they are trying to prepare the County's youth for the 21st century, which they are in now, but cutbacks and non-funding will hurt these efforts and the School System does everything it can to assure the safety and sound basic education for the children of Caswell County. Ms. Graves asked that the Board of Commissioners, as the elected representatives of the citizens of Caswell County, show loyalty of the people of the County to education by funding the Schools' budget and the local teachers' supplement.

Ms. Lynn Foster came before the Board and stated that she is proud to say that she is a Caswell County educator with 26 of her 28 years of service to the State of North Carolina being in Caswell County. Ms. Foster added that she is fully aware of the ever increasing financial difficulties that face the county, state, and country, and finding ways to alleviate Caswell County's budget woes is surely a difficult and frustrating path. Ms. Foster stated that she is greatly concerned when taking away the small supplement received by the educators of Caswell County is among one of those items under consideration to be cut as a means of addressing the County's budget problems. Ms. Foster added that during these times of economic difficulties it is even more crucial that the County offer incentives to attract and retain highly qualified educators. Ms. Foster stated that in order for the Schools to thrive and flourish, the County must take care of its educators and compensate them, if only in a small way, so that they will remain in the County to give its children an education comparable to those children in surrounding counties. Ms. Foster informed the Board that she is speaking tonight as an advocate for the teachers of Caswell County, but, more importantly, as an advocate for the children of Caswell County. Ms. Foster stated that if the County cannot attract and retain highly qualified educators for Caswell County, it will ultimately be the children of the County who will suffer. Ms. Foster asked that the Board explore other means of trimming the budget which would be of less detriment to the teachers and students of the County.

URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM GRANT

Mr. Michael Walser came before the Board to request approval of Urgent Repair Program documents which are required in order for the County to receive and expend Urgent Repair funds from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. Mr. Walser presented and reviewed the Procurement Policy, Grant Project Budget Ordinance, and the Assistance Policy. Mr. Walser informed the Board that the Assistance Policy goes into great detail as to who is eligible to apply, the selection process, and how the program will flow throughout the process.

Mr. Walser reported that Caswell County has received funding from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency in the amount of \$75,000 under the 2009 cycle of the Urgent Repair Program. Mr. Walser stated that this program provides funds to alleviate housing conditions which pose an imminent threat to the life or safety of very low-income homeowners with special needs, and provides accessibility modifications and other repairs necessary to prevent the imminent displacement of very low-income homeowners with special accessibility needs, such as frail elderly and persons with disabilities. Mr. Walser added that according to the URP09 Program Guidelines they may spend between \$1 and \$5,000 of URP09 funds, depending upon need, for each household served. Mr. Walser noted that the number of households that will be served will depend upon the amount of funds spent on each unit; however a minimum of fourteen households will be assisted under URP09.

After discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the Procurement Policy, Grant Project Budget Ordinance, and the Assistance Policy for the 2009 Cycle of the Urgent Repair Program as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**CASWELL COUNTY
URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM
GRANT PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Caswell County that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Grant Project Budget Ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Urgent Repair Program Project described in the work statement contained in the Funding Agreement URP09 between this unit and the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. This project is more familiarly known as the 2009 Urgent Repair Program (URP) Project.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the Grant Project within the terms of the Grant document(s), the rules and regulations of the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Urgent Repair Program URP Grant:	<u>\$75,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$75,000.00

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Program Costs:	<u>\$75,000.00</u>
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$75,000.00

Section 5. The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Grant Project fund sufficient detailed accounting records to provide the accounting to the grantor agency required by the Funding Agreement(s) and federal and state regulations.

Section 6. Requests for funds should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner as funds are obligated and expenses incurred.

Section 7. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of each project element in Section 4 and the total grant revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. The Finance Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this Grant Project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this Grant Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this Project.

ADOPTED this 15th day of June, 2009.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith
Clerk

**CASWELL COUNTY
PROCUREMENT POLICY
URGENT REPAIR PROGRAM**

In the procurement of supplies, equipment or services in Caswell County Program the following policies shall apply:

- 1) Small purchase procedures. These are relatively simple and informal procurement methods that are sound and appropriate for a procurement of services, supplies, or other property, costing in the aggregate not more than \$25,000. Under this procurement method price or rate quotations shall be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. Office supplies and equipment may be secured by this method.
- 2) In competitive sealed bids (formal advertising) sealed bids shall be publicly solicited and a firm, fixed, price contract shall be awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming with all of the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is lowest in price. The housing rehabilitation program shall be awarded by utilizing this procedure.
- 3) In competitive negotiations proposals shall be requested from a number of sources and the Request for Proposals shall be publicized. All aspects of the competitive negotiations shall be carried out in conformance with 24 CFR Part 85. Under this method special consideration shall be given to experience, technical abilities, and familiarity with the services to be provided. Price shall not be the sole consideration for award of contract.

On all procurement efforts shall be made to solicit bids from qualified small, female, and minority business firms.

In all cases procurement under this Policy must conform to the requirements for procurement set forth in 24 CFR Part 85.

An adequate record of procurement must be maintained to ensure that these policies and the requirements of 24 CFR Part 85 have been followed in their entirety.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of June, 2009 by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

S/Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

REQUEST BY OLD NORTH STATE COUNCIL– BSA

Mr. Ted Williams, Assistant Scout Executive Director, Old North State Council, BSA came before the Board and requested permission for them to use Farmer Lake during the days it is closed to the public, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday for the period of June 22 – July 31, 2009 for Summer Camp.

Mr. Williams informed the Board that the Council Camp has used Farmer Lake since 1995 teaching Motor Boating and Small Boat Sailing Merit Badges during its six weeks of Summer Camp. Mr. Williams stated that while using the lake, there will be one adult and two 18 year old lifeguards to teach the merit badges, as well as having emergency radio communication with the camp. Mr. Williams reported that they normally average seven to eight boys in motor boating and six to eight in sailing, and they have two motorboats (14 ft. John boat and a 19 ft. Boston Whaler), and for sailing they use three sunfish sail boats. Mr. Williams added that the Council provides a floating dock that they use for this program and also allow other boaters to use in the lake.

Mr. Williams reported that the Old North State Council adds Caswell County as a certificate holder on a one million dollar General Liability Insurance Policy with the Council.

Mr. Williams reported that the Cherokee Scout Reservation serves Scouts from eight counties in the Piedmont Triad, and had over 10,000 Scouts, Scouters, and visitors in their camp during 2008. Mr. Williams added that they employ over 80 young adults and adults during the six week camp.

After discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the request by the Old North State Council, Boy Scouts of America, to use Farmer Lake during the days it is closed to the public for its Summer Camp and that the County Attorney prepare a contract for this use. The motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Dr. Fred Moore, Health Director, came before the Board to request that it release two positions from the hiring freeze. Dr. Moore reported that effective July 1, 2009, there will be two vacancies at the Health Department, one being a Public Health Nurse III position in Home Health due to retirement and the other the Diabetes Educator due to resignation.

Dr. Moore reported that the Public Health Nurse II position is heavily involved in billing Medicare, reviews all charts and documentation prior to submitting a claim, is also the main QI person in Home Health, and is in the office most of the time to take referrals and orders. Dr. Moore noted that not filling this position could very dramatically impact revenue and general operations in Home Health.

Dr. Moore stated that the Diabetes Educator is funded with state dollars and this is a position that the Board strongly feels is needed to try to fight the devastating consequence of diabetes in Caswell County.

After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to release the Public Health Nurse II and Diabetes Educators positions from the hiring freeze. The motion carried by a vote of six to one with Commissioner Travis voting no.

TAX DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, came before the Board and submitted the following Monthly Report for May, 2009.

Foreclosure Process – All Files

- 1,727 accounts turned over to Attorney
- 34 parcels sold
- 1,153 accounts – paid in full
- 142 accounts entered into payment plan
- 18 bank attached by county
- 36 that are in debt set off
- 43 entered into bankruptcy
- 21 in-rem foreclosure procedure
- 280 files moving forward

Mr. Bernard noted that as of 5:00 p.m. today the collection rate is .17% ahead of last year at this date.

The collection rate for the 2007 tax year is 95.43% as of 6/30/2008.

Mr. Bernard provided the Board with a summary of Property Tax Collections for FY 2008-2009, which showed the month in which the taxes were paid (July 1, 2008 – May 31, 2009), and for which tax year the taxes are being paid.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Ms. Dianne Moorefield, DSS Director, came before the Board and reported that there is a crisis situation at the Department of Social Services. Ms. Moorefield stated that they have known for months that the State was going to allow the County to assume responsibility for the Child Support Enforcement operations. Ms. Moorefield added that the State informed them that they were going to need to plan to take over the computer system for this program and the County would be responsible for supplying the computer equipment and maintaining it. Ms. Moorefield stated that she had incorporated this cost into her current budget for the next year.

Ms. Moorefield informed the Board that after 4:00 p.m. this past Friday, she became aware of a document for the first time and it included wording in it that included the ITS line. Ms. Moorefield stated that she has been working with Mr. Robert Webb, the County's IT Director since he has the technical expertise for this, and they learned today from the State that the Department of Social Services now has a T1 line which runs everything within the agency and as of June 30, 2009, they will no longer have that. Ms. Moorefield added that they have two options: 1) they can go completely on their own; or 2) they can contract with the State to continue to pay them to allow DSS to use their equipment and service, which will be quite expensive. Ms. Moorefield stated that if DSS goes with its own system it will save a lot of money as opposed to contracting with the State; however, something must be done now because as of June 30, 2009, DSS will shut down because they will not have the computer service to conduct work in any of their programs.

Mr. Robert Webb, IT Director, reported that they did not know that the State was going to cut the data lines and added that the State has supplied this line through the Child Support Enforcement Services at no cost and this one line feeds everyone in DSS. Mr. Webb stated that Friday afternoon they learned of this for the first time and added that the State wants \$9,672 per year for DSS to stay on this line. Mr. Webb added that there are also other issues in the building in that there is a Novell Netware Server and there is a fee of \$1,120 per year associated with that to keep it going and there is a cost of \$325 for anti-virus for everyone in the building. Mr. Webb informed the Board that it will cost \$11,117 to stay with the State and chance them dropping the County again. Mr. Webb stated that the other option is that the County can replace the ITS line with a Comcast business class cable line at a cost of \$1,560 per year and purchase the needed equipment in the amount of \$800. Mr. Webb noted that the largest fee is replacing the Novell Network Server with a network attached storage device and this would eliminate the annual Novell client license fees that the County pays. Mr. Webb stated that the cost would be \$3,900; however, it does eliminate the \$1,120 fee associated with the Novell server. Mr. Webb added that replacing the Novell Network Server would also allow him to provide a firewall with two layers of protection. Mr. Webb informed the Board that the software required by the State would be an additional cost of \$745 per year. Mr. Webb stated that the upfront total cost for the County to assume responsibility for the Child Support Enforcement operations would be \$6,545, and thereafter, it would cost the county \$3,405 per year.

Commissioner Battle questioned the late date as to when the County became aware of this issue and stated that the Board of Commissioners needs to be made aware of situations like this as soon as they occur even though the cost may not be known at the time in order for it to plan.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Carter, Ms. Moorefield answered that she would recommend going with the less expensive option and change everything over to a County system.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Ward, Mr. Howard answered that funds to cover this cost could be transferred from the Medicaid line item to DSS Computer Support for FY 2008-2009.

Commissioner Hall stated that he knew that the Board is going to have to do something about this, but expressed concern that they just received this information and that they need to take a serious look at what they are going to do. Commissioner Hall added that he felt that the Board would approve the recommendation of the DSS Director, but felt that the IT Department would have to increase its staff to support this next year and the Board needs to plan for this change.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter that the County assume responsibility for the Child Support Enforcement operations in the Department of Social Services, at a total cost of \$6,545 to be appropriated from Medicaid to DSS Computer Support for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Battle, Hall, and Travis voting no.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to how long it would take for the change-over, Mr. Webb answered that he would hard pressed to get this done by June 30th.

Commissioner Hall stated that Mr. Webb's comment reinforces his feeling that there should be more IT staff and encouraged DSS and Mr. Webb to get the resources in place to get the job done.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 26

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed Budget Amendment No. 26 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve Budget Amendment No. 26 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET TRANSFER NO. 19

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, presented and reviewed Budget Transfer No. 19 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to approve Budget Transfer No. 19 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Satterfield and Ward voting no.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN ALTERNATE METHOD OF
RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS STATUS TO MERCHANT MARINE SEAMEN OF
WORLD WAR II

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, reported that Mr. Don Horton of Camden, NC has requested the Board's support in recognition of Merchant Marine Seamen of World War II by adopting a Resolution supporting an alternate method of recognition. Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to adopt the following *A Resolution of the Caswell County Board of Commissioners Supporting an Alternative Method of Recognition for Veterans Status to Merchant Marine Seamen of World War II*. The motion carried unanimously.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUPPORTING AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS
STATUS TO MERCHANT MARINE SEAMEN OF WW II**

WHEREAS, Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed veteran status on US Merchant Marine Seamen of WW II; and

WHEREAS, two specific US government actions by US government have caused some 10,000 merchant seamen to have been denied their due recognition; and

- (1) The USCG relieved Masters of tugs, towboats, and seagoing barges of the responsibility of submitting reports of seamen shipped and discharged; and
- (2) The National Maritime Administration ordered ships' logbooks to be destroyed because they were too costly to maintain and had removed the two main criteria required by the government to issue official recognition to those seamen; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Caswell County Board of Commissioners therefore requests that immediate action be taken to correct this inconceivable action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners supports the attached proposal and so orders that this Resolution and attached proposal be sent to Senator Kay Hagan, Senator Richard Burr, and Congressman Brad Miller and this matter be placed into action to ensure expedient passage.

ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF JUNE, 2009.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman
Caswell County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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

RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

DISCUSSION OF LOCATION OF EMS SATELLITE STATIONS

Chairman Jefferies stated that there has been much discussion about the location of Emergency Medical Services Satellite Stations in the Anderson and Providence communities; therefore, he placed this item on the agenda for further and final consideration by the Board.

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Battle that all Emergency Medical Services ambulance units be stationed at the EMS Base in Yanceyville until such time that the County can afford to place four units at satellite locations throughout the County.

Commissioner Ward stated that the EMS Director should be allowed to do his job and if he sees fit to establish satellite locations in Anderson and Providence and a unit based in Yanceyville, he felt that he has the authority to do that.

Commissioner Travis stated that everyone in the County should be treated fairly and receive the same service and if one location has an ambulance unit stationed in their community, then all locations should have them.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Satterfield, and Ward voting no.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the following appointments. The motion carried unanimously.

Caswell County Joint Nursing Home/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee
Ms. Bettie Lee Knight

Economic Development Board

Mr. C. Hester Vernon, III

Jury Commission

Ms. Dianne Moorefield

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Ms. Sandra Hudspeth

Person-Caswell Lake Authority

Mr. C. Franklin Murphy

Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees

Mr. R. Arnold Rogers

APPOINTMENTS TO SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to appoint Mr. Bobby Satterfield, Ms. Betty Jean Blackwell, Ms. Mary C. Farmer, Ms. Lottie Williamson, Ms. Brenda M. Long, and Mr. Jim F. Davis to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Battle questioned the criteria on which the Board bases its appointments and Chairman Jefferies answered that the appointments are made based on the Candidate Profiles submitted by each individual.

Commissioner Satterfield questioned whether the current members of this Committee are attending the meetings, and the Clerk to the Board answered that according to the Senior Services Director, Mr. Bobby Satterfield has not been attending the meetings on a regular basis, after which Commissioners Ward and Travis withdrew their motion.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to appoint Ms. Betty Jean Blackwell, Ms. Mary C. Farmer, Ms. Lottie Williamson, Ms. Brenda M. Long, Mr. Jim F. Davis, and Ms. Paulette Carter-Tate to the Senior Center Advisory Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager reported that he had asked Commissioners Battle and Hall to assist him in reviewing proposals from consultants to conduct the Broadband Study. Mr. Howard informed the Board that he received three proposals for conducting the Broadband Study and provided copies of each proposal, as well as a copy of the RFP. Mr. Howard added that the study will be paid for using the \$100,000 received from the Golden Leaf Foundation. Mr. Howard reported that proposals were received from Excelsio Communications in the amount of \$56,000, The Howell Group in the amount of \$77,450, and ONUG Communications in the amount of \$83,923. Mr. Howard noted that according to the RFP process, the County does not have to accept the lowest bid. Mr. Howard recommended approval of the proposal submitted by

The Howell Group in the amount of \$77,450. Commissioner Battle stated that it was his understanding that they were going to go back and review the lowest bid to see if it met specifications. Commissioner Hall stated that there was a big difference in cost in the proposals submitted and he had commented to the County Manager to make sure that he was able to support to the Board anything other than the lowest price. Commissioner Hall stated that he is concerned about the process and would be hard pressed to approve anything other than the lowest bid. After further discussion, it was Board consensus to table this issue until a later meeting. Mr. Howard noted that Mr. John Howell of The Howell Group is present if anyone wanted to ask any questions.

Mr. Howard reported that the Caswell County Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board has requested that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution in support of continued funding for the Criminal Justice Partnership Program. After discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to adopt the following *Resolution in Support of Continuation of Caswell County Criminal Justice Partnership Funding*. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUATION OF
CASWELL COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

WHEREAS, Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJP) funding has been removed from the proposed state budget; and

WHEREAS, since 1994, the State of North Carolina and county governments have been partners in providing effective and necessary community based intervention services for high risk offenders; and

WHEREAS, the CJP funded programs in Caswell County support the efforts of Community Corrections to enhance public safety for the citizens of Caswell County; and

WHEREAS, Caswell County has a 75% non-recidivism rate among persons successfully completing the CJP program and this rate is higher than the state average; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with legislative mandates, the Caswell County CJP Advisory Board is comprised of representatives of mental health, social service, law enforcement, district judges, faith community, county officials, nonprofit sector, and other concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Caswell County CJP diligently carries out its charge of assessing community needs, planning for those needs to be met, recommending programs for funding to meet the needs and evaluating the performance of those programs; and

WHEREAS, the loss of CJP program services in Caswell County will result in approximately 30 offenders being without easy access to intervention services, such as outpatient substance abuse treatment, halfway house services, sex offender assessment and counseling, treatment orientation services; and

WHEREAS, the loss of CJP program funding in Caswell County will result in a loss of \$62,471 in necessary intervention services for high risk offenders and this funding requires no county mach.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners strongly endorses full reinstatement of funding for the Criminal Justice Partnership Program to the continuation budget.

Date: June 15, 2009

Commissioner: S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman – Jeremiah Jefferies

Commissioner: S/George W. Ward, Jr.
Vice-Chairman – George W. Ward, Jr.

Commissioner: S/Erik D. Battle
Erik D. Battle

Commissioner: S/William Carter
William Carter

Commissioner: S/Nathaniel Hall
Nathaniel Hall

Commissioner: S/Kenneth Travis
Kenneth Travis

Commissioner: S/Gordon Satterfield
Gordon Satterfield

Mr. Howard provided the Board with Lease Agreements for Easter Seals and Youth Haven, who are occupying space in the County-owned Guilford Mills Building. Mr. Howard added that Easter Seals is paying \$691.50 per month and Youth Haven is paying \$320.50 per month. Commissioner Battle questioned whether the monthly payment covers any of the utility costs at the Guilford Mills Building, and Mr. Howard answered that it did not. Upon questioning from Commissioner Battle as to how the rate of \$6.00 per square foot was established, Mr. Howard answered that the rate was previously set by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Hall noted that the Board originally set the rate as fair market value rent. After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve entering into Lease Agreements with Easter Seals and Youth Haven for the lease of office space at the Guilford Mills Building as presented, and that as the Board moves forward that it be aware of fair market value and overhead. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hall suggested that a Lease Agreement be prepared for Vocational Trades even though rent is not being charged.

Mr. Howard noted that the Counselor for the Criminal Justice Partnership Program also has an office in the Guilford Mills Building. It was Board consensus that a Lease Agreement be prepared for this Program and that they be charged rent.

Mr. Howard presented a Professional Services Contract between the Caswell County Department of Social Services and Person Industries. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Chairman Jefferies to approve the Professional Services Contract between the Caswell County Department of Social Services and Person Industries, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard presented a Professional Services Contract between the Caswell County Health Department and Good Health Services, Inc. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to table the Professional Services Contract between the Caswell County Health Department and Good Health Services, Inc. until after the Board of Health has reviewed this contract. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard presented a request from Ms. Tammy Riggs, Register of Deeds, that she be allowed to use \$1,500 from the Register of Deeds Preservation and Automation Fund for repairs on her Chameleon Tx36 Wide Format Scanner. Mr. Howard stated that Ms. Riggs noted that this is an approximate cost due to the Technician will not know the exact figure until he is on site. Commissioner Hall stated that there needs to be consistency with the County's computers and the County IT Director needs to review all requests such as this before action is taken. After discussion, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the request by the Register of Deeds to use \$1,500 from her Preservation and Automation Fund for repairs to her scanner. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Battle, Hall, and Travis voting no.

Commissioner Hall stated that he felt that critical and important issues are not being researched carefully, and added that he believes that the scanner for the Register of Deeds Office is needed and that it needs to be repaired, but he did not think that matters such as this should be done just because the money is there, and he questions anything else.

Mr. Howard announced that the County has received two grants from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Industrial Development Fund in the amount of \$440,000 and \$50,000 for the Pelham Industrial Park Water Tank Project. Mr. Howard noted that the County is awaiting the receipt of CDBG grant funds to complete this project.

Mr. Howard reported that traditionally the Board has held one regular meeting in the month of July, and asked for the Board's direction for this year. It was Board consensus to continue its regular schedule and meet on the first and third Mondays of July.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Satterfield referred to a letter sent to the Board of Commissioners from Magistrate Julian R. Poteat concerning grass mowing by the County Maintenance Staff at the Caswell County Courthouse located at 139 East Church Street during normal business hours when vehicles are subjected to damage, as well as concerns of the safety of pedestrians entering the facility. Commissioner Satterfield suggested that a rubber safety shield or chains be installed on the mowers and the majority of the mowing be done before or after the times when the public is present. Commissioner Satterfield also suggested that a small push mower be used on the Square for mowing instead of the riding lawn mower. Mr. Howard reported that the Maintenance Staff are currently mowing the lawns before employees come into work at the Courthouse.

Commissioner Satterfield reported that it was brought to his attention on Saturday that the Sheriff had a meeting with the Clerk of Superior Court and Superior Court Judge stating that this Board was dragging its feet and not doing anything to try to remedy the problems at the Jail. Commissioner Satterfield stated that he told the Clerk of Superior Court that he disagreed with this and had asked the County Manager a couple of times about what was going on with the Jail. Commissioner Satterfield noted that it has been about 30 days since the Board approved for the Sheriff and County Manager to talk to an architectural/engineering firm about the Jail and bring back some estimates of what needs to be done and the Board has not heard anything from anybody. Commissioner Satterfield stated that he would like to get some kind of report of what is going on with this. Mr. Howard reported that the Sheriff is currently getting estimates on the repairs that need immediate attention and he is waiting on these estimates. Mr. Howard added that they met with the architect on Friday to discuss the Jail and they are in the process of preparing RFP's for the other repairs. Commissioner Satterfield stated that some clarification needs to be made to the Superior Court Judge and Clerk of Superior Court as to the Board's stand on this.

Commissioner Satterfield stated that it had been mentioned to the Sheriff about reducing the Jail population immediately and he has not heard any kind of report from the Sheriff on that. Commissioner Satterfield added that it was also mentioned to the Sheriff about the possibility of house arrest to reduce population and the cost involved to do this and he has not heard anything from the Sheriff about this.

Commissioner Carter expressed concern about the Sheriff going to the Superior Court Judge stating that the Board of Commissioners was not addressing the Jail issues. Commissioner Carter added that the Jail Inspector is not in the business of closing Jails, rather they want to make sure that they are adequate and safe, and the Superior Court Judge or Grand Jury are the only ones who can close the Jail.

Commissioner Travis questioned what the Board is going to do concerning moving staff to the former Senior Center Building. Mr. Howard stated that the Chamber of Commerce Office is moving this week. Mr. Howard added that there is a staff member from the Piedmont Community College Small Business Center that would like to move to the former Senior Center Building in order to work in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Travis

stated that the Board of Commissioners makes the decision as to who will move into the former Senior Center Building and it has not voted for anyone else to move to that facility.

Commissioner Carter questioned whether the Division of Motor Vehicles Driver's License Examiner will be replaced in the County and Mr. Howard answered that the office was closed because the position became vacant, but they are planning to fill the position in the County. Commissioner Carter questioned the status of the DMV Tag Office. Commissioner Satterfield stated that it was his understanding that at least two business owners had expressed an interest in submitting a bid to operate the DMV Tag Office and their intentions were to operate it out of their business, rather than rent space from the State.

Chairman Jefferies questioned whether the County had any space that could be utilized by Piedmont Community College for Continuing Education Programs. The Board could not identify any space to offer for this purpose.

Commissioner Ward questioned whether the ones who voted for moving the ambulances back to Yanceyville would put the savings, if any, into Contingency. Commissioner Ward added that if there is going to be additional cost or savings, the Board needs to be aware of this in order to proceed with the budget for 2009-2010.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m. Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman
