

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA
January 20, 2015

The Members of the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Granville County, North Carolina met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, Granville Expo and Convention Center, 4185 US Highway 15 South, Oxford.

Present were:

- Chairman:*** Tony W. Cozart
- Commissioners:*** R. David Currin, Jr. Zelodis Jay
Timothy Karan Ed Mims
David T. Smith Edgar Smoak
- County Manager:*** Michael S. Felts
- County Attorney:*** James C. Wrenn, Jr.
Assistant County Attorney: Gerald T. Koinis
- News Reporters:*** Elizabeth Coleman – *Butner-Creedmoor News*
Linda Nicholson – *Oxford Public Ledger*
David Irvine – *The Daily Dispatch*

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Tony W. Cozart called the meeting to order, and recognized Commissioner David T. Smith for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Approved the Summary of Contingency and Use of Fund Balance report which showed the following balances:

General Contingency Balance	\$ 86,000
Environmental Disaster Contingency	\$ 10,000
General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,707,934

- (B) Approved Budget Amendment #7 as recommended by the Finance Director:

Budget Amendment #7

Be it ordained, the FY 2014-2015 Annual Budget Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

GENERAL FUND

Expenditures: Increase / (Decrease)	
Public Safety	
Sheriff's Department	
Detention Center	\$ 100,000
Human Services	
Social Services	\$ (87,544)
Area Projects and Other Appropriations	

Pass Thru Funds and Transfers	\$	2,356	
<i>Total Expenditures</i>			\$ 14,812
Revenues: Increase / (Decrease)			
Restricted & Intergovernmental	\$	650	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$	14,162	
<i>Total Revenues</i>			\$ 14,812

(For Reference Only)

			Total
<i>General Fund/Social Services</i>			
<i>Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)</i>			
10-3538-332	Public Assistance	\$ 650	\$ 452,944
<i>Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)</i>			
10-5300-623	Duke Energy Progress Energy	\$ 650	\$ 6,792

Description: To adjust the budget to current estimated funding for the various programs per DSS budget amendment #7.

<i>General Fund/Social Services</i>			
<i>Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)</i>			
10-3990-991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ (88,194)	\$ 2,605,578
<i>Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)</i>			
10-5300-630	Federal Adoption Assistance	\$ (20,002)	\$ 14,654
10-5300-650	LIEAP	\$ (68,192)	\$ 272,239

Description: To correct DSS Budget Amendments made in previous months (Finance budget amendments #5 and #6).

<i>General Fund/Pass Thru Funds</i>			
<i>Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)</i>			
10-3990-991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,356	\$ 2,607,934
<i>Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)</i>			
10-8580-231	Homeland Security Grant	\$ 2,356	\$ 2,356

Description: To carry over funding for the Homeland Security Grant from FY 2013-14.

<i>General Fund/Jail</i>			
<i>Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)</i>			
10-3990-991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,707,934
<i>Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)</i>			
10-4320-399	Inmate Housing	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000

Description: To increase funding for inmate housing. As of 12/31/14, this line item is already over budget.

(C) Approved the Minutes of the January 5, 2015 Meeting as recorded.

(D) Approved the following Tax Releases as recommended by the Tax Administrator:

Tax Releases
January 20, 2015

ACCT	NAME	AMOUNT	REASON
37036-109	Pat Currin Construction Company	1202.31	Duplicate Discovery Bill
37036-110	Pat Currin Construction Company	1021.94	Duplicate Discovery Bill
37036-111	Pat Currin Construction Company	832.67	Duplicate Discovery Bill
37036-112	Pat Currin Construction Company	650.02	Duplicate Discovery Bill
37036-113	Pat Currin Construction Company	495.62	Duplicate Discovery Bill
25196-101	Penske Truck Leasing Company LP	1705.32	Four Vehicles Sold in 2013
81152-201	Milton Wheeler	45.60	Two SW MH Listed Twice
TOTAL		\$ 5,953.48	

PRESENTATION OF FY 2013-2014 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR)

Chairman Cozart stated that the audit firm of Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Company LLP completed the financial and compliance audit of the County's operations for the year ending June 30, 2014. He noted that Mr. Jim Winston, CPA, was present to provide an overview of the firm's work and findings. The Audit Review Committee met on the morning of January 16th to discuss the audit in detail and noted that Commissioners Currin and Mims serve on the Committee.

Mr. Winston then reviewed with the Board the following highlights of the report:

- The report presented is a final report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The County received an unqualified opinion, which is the best opinion given.
- Total assets increased to \$80,688,623.
- The net position is -\$20.98M. The number is negative due to Granville County carrying the debt for the school system, which is common in North Carolina.
- Revenues were up to \$58.3M and Expenditures were down to \$50.6M due to the completion of the expansion at Granville Medical Center.
- There was a decrease in cash to the amount of \$34.2M.
- General Fund actual revenues for the fiscal year were \$55,044,563 and actual expenditures were \$53,159,605.
- Granville County had 38.2% of unassigned fund balance. The Local Government Commission requires counties to maintain at least 8%.
- The adjusted tax levy for Granville County for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 was \$35,605,455 up from \$32,427,425 in the previous year.
- The County's overall tax collection percentage rate was 98.12%. The State average was 96.41%.
- Expectation is to receive the Government Finance Officers Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 16th year.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, seconded by Commissioner Ed Mims, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the FY 2013-2014 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as presented and explained by the County's outside auditing firm.

PRESENTATION ON GRANVILLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chairman Cozart stated that Dr. Dorwin L. Howard, Sr., Superintendent, was present to give an update on Granville County Public Schools.

Dr. Howard acknowledged the presence of Board of Education members and Central Services Administrators at the meeting. He thanked the Board for allowing him to share an update and gave the following presentation:

My reason for being before you is this: The North Carolina legislators enacted a law last year to modify the annual NC Schools Report Card by adding a letter grade designation (A-F) based on a 15 point scale for each school, based on test data for the 2013-14 school-year. Their plan is to report the grades for subsequent years on a 10 point scale. This 2013-14 report will be made available to the public on February 5, 2015. Each school will send letters home to parents, notifying them that the Report Cards will be available on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction on their website via links on the Granville County Public Schools district and schools websites.

My administration and I, as well as the Granville County Board of Education, determined that it is most appropriate to be proactive in informing you and the citizens of Granville County of this change in the NC Schools Report Card.

The A-F grades for middle and elementary schools will be calculated by using a formula where 80 percent of the grade will come from students' proficiency (whether they passed) the End-of-Grade Exams, and 20 percent of the grade will represent the student's growth on the same exams. At the high school level, in addition to proficiency and growth of the End-of-Course Exams, the grade for each school will also factor in results from the ACT college entrance exam, the ACT Workkeys exam, math course rigor, and graduation rates.

Our Central Services administrators along with principals have estimated what each school's letter grade will be when released on February 5th. Since the grades were calculated locally rather than by the Department of Public Instruction they are unofficial; but we believe they give us a good indication of what official grades will be. If our calculations are correct, the grades will range from B to F. We believe the grades overemphasize proficiency on standardized tests and under-emphasize student growth. Be that as it may, we are not here to make excuses for the grades.

I will say though that my administration and I are as concerned as other stakeholders throughout the county that student achievement as a whole is not at the level of success which we desire or with which we can be satisfied. If anything good comes from this report on February 5th, it is that these report card grades will support what we already know.

Near the end of last school year and throughout the summer and early fall, our district and each school systematically studied results and created a comprehensive improvement plan for improving student success. Plans of action for addressing identified deficiencies in our educational system have been implemented and are being attended to daily. They have measurable indicators and are monitored throughout the school year. The February 5th report card will not reveal to us anything new.

While I've come before you to make you aware that the previously mentioned information is forthcoming, I also come seeking your support in aiding me and the new leadership in Granville County Public Schools to improve our educational system, which ultimately will improve student achievement and life in general for all residents in the county. I trust that the community will rally with me both in word and deed to help my administrators, teachers, and other staff members make Granville County Public Schools the district that we all want it to be. You will agree with me, I'm sure, that with a unified front we can and will help Granville County Public Schools provide students with educational experiences that will produce exceptional results. Thank you for the support you've given the school district in the past and thank you for what you will do to support public education in the future.

DURING PUBLIC COMMENTS, ONE SPOKE ABOUT ROAD REPAIR

Jo Starling, 2537 Buckingham Drive, Franklinton, NC, stated that she needed some help because her road is falling apart. She said her road is full of pot holes and is ruining their cars. She said they used to have a Homeowner's Association in her community, but it does not seem that anything is getting done for the road. She said a gentleman in her development has been trying to take care of the road, but it is so hard and packed down now that what he is using will not work anymore. She asked the Board to help them and asked what she needs to do to get the situation taken care of.

BOARD DENIED REQUEST BY PH DEVELOPMENT, INC. REQUEST FOR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES

Chairman Cozart stated that the next item on the agenda was a tax matter and recognized Judy Stovall, Tax Administrator, for an overview of the Ph Development, Inc. request for refund of property taxes.

Mrs. Stovall stated that the last reevaluation was effective January 1, 2010. At that time all properties received a reassessment and notices were sent to all property owners. She stated that a complete staff of appraisers were in the office to gather information and hear questions, comments or problems that people had with their new reevaluations. She said that

nothing was heard from the owner, the review closed and the Board of Equalization and Review opened. She said that this property owner did not come for 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 Board of Equalization and Review. In November 2014, the property owner came to the Tax Office and said that he felt that his value should be relooked at because he did not believe it was correctly classified. She said the property card was pulled and there were no errors on the card by the office nor the appraisers and that the information was correct. The property card was pulled and placed in the appraiser's work file to be reassessed and compared to comparable properties in the neighborhood. The appraiser agreed that the property classification was incorrect and changed it from a retail shop to commercial. She explained that the statutes allow the change of a property record card in a non-reevaluation year under General Statute 105-287 from the current year going forward, but not retroactive. She said that there are a lot of court cases with people making this request and they have not been successful. She said that the Board nor the appraiser's office has the authority to do this.

Mr. Hak Ung, Ph Development, Inc., stated that the Lord called his family overseas and they answered the call in 2008 and went and lived on the border of Cambodia and Thailand. He said they assigned a power of attorney over their properties and for whatever reason, they did not receive the notices. He shared an email dated July 28, 2010 showing that an effort was made to find out why the tax on the property was doubled. He said they called the Tax Office and were told that it was because Butner incorporated. He said that he did not want to give anyone a hard time, but wanted to challenge this in a way to honor the Lord. He said the conversation ended because he was told that Butner incorporated. He made one phone call and talked to Mrs. Stovall and said that his tax had doubled. He said that she told him that Butner has incorporated and the case is closed. He said he told her the taxes should not be that high. He said that he was told that if he wanted to challenge this, he needed to hire a commercial appraiser and get them to provide the numbers as of January 2010. He was told the County would not reduce the taxes due to hardship and the case was closed. He said he told her that the tax value was \$241,000 and he could not even borrow \$145,000 for the building so if it is worth that, please give him \$150,000 for it and her answer was that the County was not in the business of buying property. He said that the burden was left to him to find the answers to this. He used an illustration of ordering a steak at a restaurant and being served a hot dog. He referred to the letter written to him by Mrs. Stovall saying "*After a field*

visit in November 2014, our appraiser agreed with you that there has been a judgment error."

He noted that if this had been done July 2010, there would be no reason to go through this now. He said he had paid the taxes based on someone's error and he asked the Board to consider this. He then compared two buildings built by the same contractor with the same square footage and noted the valuation of the building that was built in 2003 is \$48,526 and the building that was built in 2002 is \$112,965. He asked if someone could have made a mistake and referred to a letter he sent to Mrs. Stovall. He said he did not want to discredit Mrs. Stovall for the work she does for the County, noting that he enjoys working with her and that they have a good working relationship. He asked the Board to overrule because someone made a mistake and it was not him for the previous years.

Commissioner Cozart stated that he understood that statutorily the Board did not have the authority to go back and asked if this could come back to the Board of Equalization and Review.

Mrs. Stovall stated that was correct and that this could come back to the Board at the next revaluation. It was noted that the value had been changed going forward.

County Attorney Wrenn explained that it was his opinion that under General Statute 105-381, the Board could only refund property tax for the following reasons: a tax imposed by a clerical error, an illegal tax, or a tax levied for an illegal purpose. He stated that he did not believe based on the guidance given in the case law that this falls under either of those categories.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board denied the request for refund of property taxes by Ph Development, Inc. on real property referenced as Property ID# 087605179648 for the tax years 2010 – 2014.

BOARD APPROVED EQUIPMENT FOR THE GAP – FIRST PRODUCTS AEROVATOR

County Manager Felts explained that supporting information including a memo from Raymond Allen, Parks and Grounds Director, was included in the agenda packet regarding the purchase of a First Products Aerovator. Staff obtained three (3) quotes for the equipment and recommended purchasing the unit from Quality Equipment, LLC in Henderson, NC for a total price (including tax) of \$8,753.50. He noted that funding is available in the Granville Athletic Park (GAP) budget for this purchase.

Vendor	Price
Quality Equipment, LLC – Henderson, NC	\$8,753.50
Quality Equipment, LLC – Burlington, NC	\$8,961.66
Quality Equipment, LLC – Fuquay-Varina, NC	\$8,887.09

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved awarding a contract to Quality Equipment, LLC of Henderson, NC at a cost of \$8,753.50 for a First Products Aerovator from the 2014-2015 GAP budget.

BOARD APPROVED VEHICLE PURCHASE FOR THE INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

Chairman Cozart stated that the Development Services Director was requesting approval to purchase one 2015 Chevrolet Equinox AWD in accordance with State Term Contract 070G/Item 60.1 for an amount not to exceed \$20,619.00 from Sir Walter Chevrolet for his department. Funding for this purchase is included in the Inspection Department's budget. He noted that although the funding for the vehicle was approved in the FY 2014-2015 budget, the request is being brought back to the Board for final approval per policy because the expenditure is in excess of \$5,000.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of a 2015 Chevrolet Equinox AWD in accordance with the State Term Contract 070G/Item 60.1 for an amount not to exceed \$20,619.00 for the Inspections Department.

BOARD APPROVED WALL STREET STEPS

Chairman Cozart stated that as requested, fixed-price proposals were obtained for the construction of a set of steps that will connect Wall Street/Cooperative Extension to the Richard H. Thornton Library parking lot. The bid tabulation of proposals received is listed below:

Vendor	Price
JL Williams Construction Co. Inc – Henderson, NC	\$8,650.00
Brico Construction – Oxford, NC	\$10,726.00
DB Williams Construction Co. Inc. – Oxford, NC	\$13,450.00

Scott Phillips, Development Services Director, stated that it is his understanding that a parking space will be lost and a crosswalk will be put in on Wall Street by the City of Oxford where the steps will be located.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board approved awarding a Construction Services

Contract to J. L. Williams Construction for an amount not to exceed \$8,650.00 for a set of steps to connect Wall Street/Cooperative Extension to the Richard H. Thornton Library parking lot.

BOARD APPOINTED JAMES Y. MOORE (DISTRICT 5) TO THE NURSING HOME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed James Y. Moore (District 5) to the Nursing Home Advisory Committee.

BOARD APPOINTED DR. SARAH NAGEL (DISTRICT 6) TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRANVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Dr. Sarah Nagel (District 6) to the Board of Trustees of the Granville County Library System.

BOARD REAPPOINTED DR. TRUDI J. BOWDEN (DISTRICT 1), NATALIE ROWNTREE (DISTRICT 3), TRACEY DREIBELBIS (DISTRICT 5), AND JAMES W. GOOCH (DISTRICT 7) TO THE ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Dr. Trudi J. Bowden (District 1) to the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner R. David Currin, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Natalie Rowntree (District 3) to the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Tracey Dreibelbis (District 5) to the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, seconded by Commissioner Ed Mims, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed James W. Gooch (District 7) to the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

BOARD REAPPOINTED DR. JAMES J. GOOCH (DISTRICT 5), REV. ARCHER WILKINS (DISTRICT 5), AND MARIA F. GUTIERREZ (DISTRICT 4) TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Dr. James J. Gooch (District 5) to the Granville County Human Relations Commission.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Rev. Archer Wilkins (District 5) to the Granville County Human Relations Commission.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Maria F. Gutierrez (District 4) to the Granville County Human Relations Commission.

BOARD REAPPOINTED MICHAEL K. ALLEN (DISTRICT 1), SALLYANN HOBSON (DISTRICT 3), RICKY ATKINS (DISTRICT 5), JAMES E. HUNSUCKLE (DISTRICT 7), AND LOU CLEMMER (FEMALE VETERAN) TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Michael K. Allen (District 1) to the Granville County Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner R. David Currin, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Sallyann Hobson (District 3) to the Granville County Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Ricky Atkins (District 5) to the Granville County Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, seconded by Commissioner Ed Mims, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed James E. Hunsuckle (District 7) to the Granville County Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ed Mims, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Lou Clemmer (Female Veteran) to the Granville County Veterans' Affairs Committee.

BOARD APPOINTED DR. CHERYL D. LEMAY (DISTRICT 4) TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Dr. Cheryl D. LeMay (District 4) to the Granville County Tourism Development Authority.

BOARD APPROVED GRANVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM – "FOOD FOR FINES" PROGRAM

County Manager Felts stated that the Granville County Library System Board of Trustees would like to request that February 2015 be designated "Food for Fines" month at all

branches of the Granville County Library System. This program is designed to offer the public an opportunity to reduce their library fines in the amount of \$1.00 for each can or package for food donated. Only fines for overdue items will be reduced as part of the program. Fees for lost or damaged items, replacement cards, and copies or faxes will not be removed from patron's accounts in exchange for food items. If the program is approved, food items collected will be donated to ACIM. This program was last run in February 2013. A letter of request from the Library System Board of Trustees was included in the agenda packet.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board approved "Food for Fines" during the month of February 2015 at all branches of the Granville County Library System and designated food collected to be donated to Area Congregations in Ministry (ACIM).

BOARD APPROVED EAST COAST GREENWAY SIGNAGE

County Manager Felts stated that he needed to add an East Coast Greenway Signage item to the agenda. He explained that the East Coast Greenway is a trail system that links Maine to Key West, Florida and runs through Granville County. The route through Granville County follows Old Highway 75 from the Durham County line into Oxford and then follows multiple secondary routes north through Stovall and connecting to Clarksville, Virginia. The Greenway Committees wish to be able to place East Coast Greenway signs along this route, so residents and visitors are aware of the route as well as providing directions for current users. They are seeking input on placing the East Coast Greenway signs on the existing street name signs as well as how to proceed in regards to funding the procurement of the signs. Mr. Felts noted that funds are available in the County's signage budget that could be used for the signs.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board approved East Coast Greenway Signage in Granville County if NCDOT will allow the placement on street signs.

ADDITION OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTER FOR CLOSED SESSION

County Manager Felts stated that there was an economic development matter for closed session.

DURING COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, BOARD APPROVED DEED OF EASEMENT FOR DEAN PROPERTY ADJACENT TO TRIANGLE NORTH PROPERTY

County Attorney Wrenn referred to a draft easement between the County and the Deans on Tabbs Creek Road. The easement is for approximately 5,788 square feet and had been previously promised by Millridge Development Company to the Deans to allow for access to an existing drive adjacent to their property that is currently being used. He noted that final approval because of the way the title is held will need to be by the Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development Commission Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved a deed of easement to William S. Dean and Deborah W. Dean for property on Tabbs Creek Road adjacent to Triangle North as recommended by the County Attorney. Final approval of the easement will be made by Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development Corporation.

BOARD PRESENTATIONS

Commissioner Mims passed out a pamphlet to the Board from the County's Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC). He noted that it contains the mission of the program and describes the various programs that support at-risk youth. He also mentioned that the JCPC is looking at how to increase outreach and are looking at the transportation issue. He reminded the Board of the second annual Veterans' Affairs Committee Meet and Greet on Saturday, January 24th at 2:00 p.m. at the Granville Expo and Convention Center. He noted that a special tribute will be paid to World War II and Korean veterans.

Commissioner Karan stated that he and Commissioners Cozart and Jay attended the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) Legislative Goals Conference January 15th and 16th. He said they worked through 50 some proposals that were recommended by the NCACC Steering Committees and narrowed them down to the top five priorities of the association. He said that the top two priorities were to restore the original 40% share of lottery proceeds designated for school construction and to restore Medicaid funding. He noted one surprise priority was a General Statute that will allow School Boards to sue Board of County Commissioners over school appropriations for education.

Commissioner Jay mentioned that the Environmental Affairs Committee is working on the trash issue. He asked citizens to put a tarp on their trucks when transporting trash.

Commissioner Smith said that the Recreation Advisory Committee is working on the Masterplan for the County and hopes to have something to share in the near future.

Chairman Cozart reported that he will be attending the 2015 Legislative Breakfast on Mental Health at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill on Saturday, January 24th. He asked the Board to report any significant updates on any of the Boards and Commissions they serve as liaisons to at the upcoming retreat. He also asked if there are ideas on the retreat to let him know. He said that he had been contacted by Congressman Mark Walker's assistant and he had invited the Board to meet and share any concerns of the County with him.

BOARD WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, seconded by Commissioner Ed Mims, and unanimously carried, the Board went into closed session as allowed by G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) and (4) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; and to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ed Mims, and unanimously carried, the Board returned to regular session.

BOARD ADJOURNED

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Smoak, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Weary, NCCCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board

APPROVED BY:


Tony W. Cozart, Chairman