

January 3, 2012

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the County Commissioners' Room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Alexander, Johnson, McCray, and Manning were present. Also present were County Manager David Peoples, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, Finance Officer Frank Milazi and Assistant County Manager/County Attorney Cheryl Young. Commissioner Collins was absent.

Chair Manning called the meeting to order. Chair Manning gave the invocation; Commissioner Alexander led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) NC Education Lottery Public School Building Capital Fund—Gym Floor Renovation—Plymouth High School—\$2,225.00
- c) Extension on Waiver of Permit Fees (30 days) January 4, 2012 – February 2, 2012

Commissioner McCray seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

CONSENT TO EASEMENT OVER DERSTINE PROPERTY: Ms. Cheryl Young, County Attorney spoke to the Board regarding the consent to easement over Derstine property. Ms. Young reminded the Commissioners that the County sold property to the Derstines in the Industrial Park. Ms. Young went on to explain that for the new solar farm (SunEnergy1) to have access to power lines, they have to cross the Derstine property to access the transmission lines. The county has arranged to purchase an easement right from the Derstines. The Derstines are asking the Board to approve this.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the consent to easement over the Derstine property and authorized the Chair to sign the documents. Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

SUCCESS DYNAMICS: Dr. Calvin Ellison spoke to the Board regarding Success Dynamics. Dr. Ellison stated that he lives in Pitt County (Farmville) and he is the founder of Success Dynamics, which has been in existence since 1999. Success Dynamics is training people to be community health ambassadors. Success Dynamics has partnered with the Office of Minority Health, the Kate B Reynolds Foundation (and others) and local community colleges. Success Dynamics received funding from the Rural Center to conduct medical office training in partnership with Beaufort County Community College (Clay Carter). Current courses include

working on computer skills and worker readiness. Classes are being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Washington County Roper Annex Building. Success Dynamics is looking into finding things for children through NCA&T. They are hoping to bring STEM education to Washington County. They are also planning an Extreme IT day in the spring for children through NCA&T.

LANDFILL PERMITS: Mr. Lou Manring, Public Utilities Director spoke to the Board about applying for landfill permits. A public hearing must be held before applying for the landfill permits. The County has been working on this for a couple of years and is finally at the last step of Phase II. A resolution will be ready for the Board to approve at the February meeting after the public hearing.

Commissioner Johnson asked what phase the recycling is in. Mr. Manring replied that it will be in this phase. Phase II is good for 5 years of use, but the County is already in the 3rd year of this phase. The County will have to do an amendment for the four additional phases in the future. The state has approved what the County has submitted thus far.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the public hearing on the landfill permits at the February 6, 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CROP DAMAGE FROM HURRICANE IRENE: Mr. Lance Grimes, Agriculture Extension Agent showed the Board a PowerPoint presentation capturing the crop damage from Hurricane Irene in August 2011 and the economic impact it has had on Washington County.



Soybeans

- 30% to 50% loss in yield.
- Quality of soybeans was severely damaged.
- Value of Crop Loss
– \$8,257,310



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Soybeans



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Corn

- 60% of the corn had been harvested before the storm.
- 15% to 20% of yield loss after storm.
- Corn yield loss of 50% to 60% before storm due to drought.
- Value of Crop Loss (Drought)
 - \$8,868,343.00



Corn



Cotton

- Cotton yield loss:
 - 30% to 50%
- Cotton Grades were down.
- Value of Crop Loss
 - \$7,943,826.00



Cotton



Tobacco

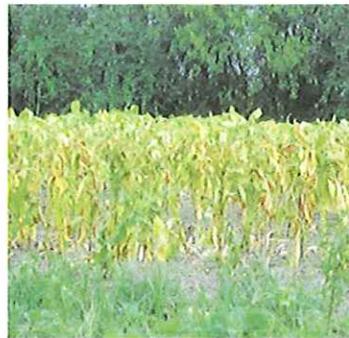
- 90% of Tobacco Crop was in the field at the time of the storm.
- Tobacco was a total loss.
- Value of Crop Loss
 - \$1,063,152.00



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Tobacco



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Vegetables

- Vegetable Crop losses:
 - 50% to 100%



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Plus Side

Great Peanut Yields



Record Wheat Yields



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-
- **Total Cash Loss from Soybeans, Corn, Cotton, Tobacco**
– \$26,495,079

- **What's Next???**



Mr. Grimes stated that the County had 10 days of rain and no sunshine after the storm and it impacted the soybeans because water stood over the beans for so long. The wind blew the corn down, but the County had already lost some of the crop due to the drought. Water stood over cotton too long and the boles would not open. Washington County now has over 15,000 acres of cotton—it has doubled since 2010. Tobacco was a total loss in Washington County. Wind tangled up the crop and the salt water turned it brown and killed the crop. There is 320 acres of tobacco in Washington County. 90% of crop had been harvested one time (only the bottom leaves). Usually tobacco is harvested four (4) times. The Fall snap beans were planted right before storm so there was a 50 – 100% loss. Hurricane Irene didn't affect the peanut yields except fields close to the Sound. There were record wheat yields—the best seen in Washington County in years. Mr. Grimes also noted that insurance checks have helped the farmers and that Washington County's Cooperative Extension office will work with farmers to help them as much as they can.

PUBLIC HEARING — FY 2012 – 2013 SECTION 5311 PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION (FORMERLY THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM): Mr. Jerry Rhodes, DSS Director, spoke to the Board on the abovementioned topic.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to open the public hearing. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rhodes explained that the County is requesting approx \$88,000 for the Community Transportation Program which is the same amount as requested last year. Mr. Rhodes noted that they will be making a vehicle replacement this year. They need to replace Riverlight Transit's very first 20 passenger vehicle. Mr. Rhodes went on to say that without these grant funds we would not be able to operate Riverlight Transit.

Commissioner Johnson asked if ridership is picking up. Mr. Rhodes said yes, especially since Riverlight Transit started picking up in Tyrrell County. Mr. Rhodes also said that the larger vehicle helps to make those pickups more efficient rather than using two (2) vans following each other.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve submittal of the FY 2012 – 2013 Section 5311 Program Grant Application (formerly the Community Transportation Program). Commissioner McCray seconded, motion passed unanimously.

SCUPPERNONG RIVER DISCUSSION: Mr. Wayne Howell, Soil and Water Conservation spoke to the Board about the latest information regarding the snagging and dragging of the Scuppernong River to clean up the Hurricane Irene debris. Bids were returned after the last meeting with a letter saying the project would be rebid at a later date. Mr. Howell stated that time is of the essence. The chosen contractor would only have 45 days to do work if bids were sent out tomorrow. If the County wants to get any of the clean up completed before February 15, work needs to start as soon as possible. Mr. Howell stated that he would like to send out bids tomorrow, open them in 1 week and start the work at the beginning of the next week. Mr. Howell also mentioned that he will be on a telephone conference this Thursday to find out how the \$600,000 from the State (allotted for clean up) will be distributed. Mr. Howell also stated he wanted to make one change to the invitation to bid by adding one tree on Moll Creek.

Commissioner Alexander asked if there is anywhere that work has been done from the bank. Mr. Croom and Mr. Howell stated they didn't know anywhere that this type of work was done expressly.

Discussion ensued. The Board will recess tonight's meeting until Wednesday, January 11 @ 4:00 pm to discuss the bids after they are opened at 10:00 am the morning of January 11.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the invitation to bid for the Hurricane Irene storm debris removal as received by the Board plus add the one tree on Moll Creek. Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

LOCAL REDISTRICTING: Ms. Cheryl Young, County Attorney spoke to the Board regarding the upcoming local redistricting. Tim Esolen, GIS Mapping showed the map with proposed changes to the Board.

Commissioner Redistricting By 2010 Census

Current Districts

	Total	White	%	Black	%	Latino	%	Other	%
1	3094	1915	61.9	967	31.2	190	6.1	22	0.8
2	3382	1430	42.3	1828	54.1	115	3.4	9	0.2
3	3204	857	26.7	2199	68.6	106	3.3	42	1.4
4	3548	1882	53.0	1593	44.9	55	1.6	18	0.5
Total	13228	6084	46.0	6587	49.8	466	3.5	91	0.7

Redistricts By 2010 Census

	Total	White	%	Black	%	Latino	%	Other	%
1	3288	2080	63.2	976	29.7	218	6.6	14	0.5
2	3304	1360	41.2	1835	55.5	88	2.7	21	0.6
3	3323	865	26.0	2306	69.4	106	3.2	46	1.4
4	3313	1779	53.7	1470	44.4	54	1.6	10	0.3
Total	13228	6084	46.0	6587	49.8	466	3.5	91	0.7

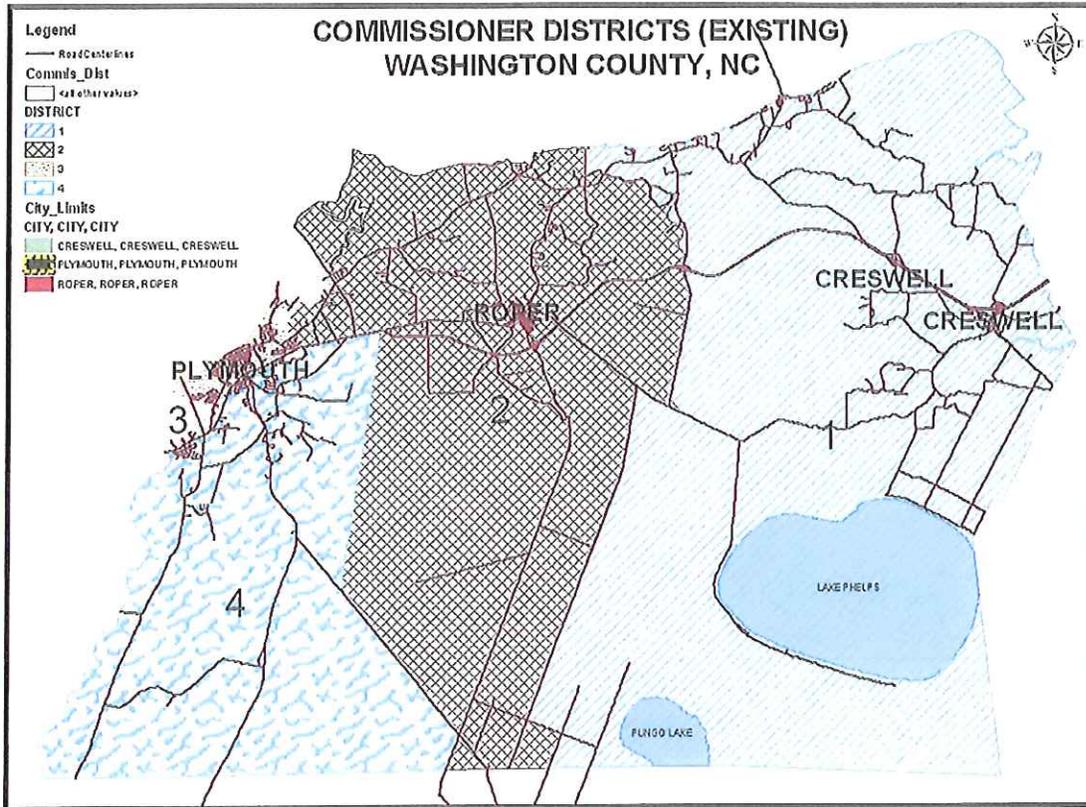
Change From Current to Redistrict 2010

	Total	White	%	Black	%	Latino	%	Other	%
1	+194	+165	+1.3	+9	-0.5	+28	+0.5	-8	-0.3
2	-78	-70	-1.1	+7	+1.4	-27	-0.7	+12	+0.4
3	+119	+8	-0.7	+107	+0.8	0	-0.1	+4	0
4	-235	-103	+0.7	-123	-0.5	-1	0	-8	-0.2
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

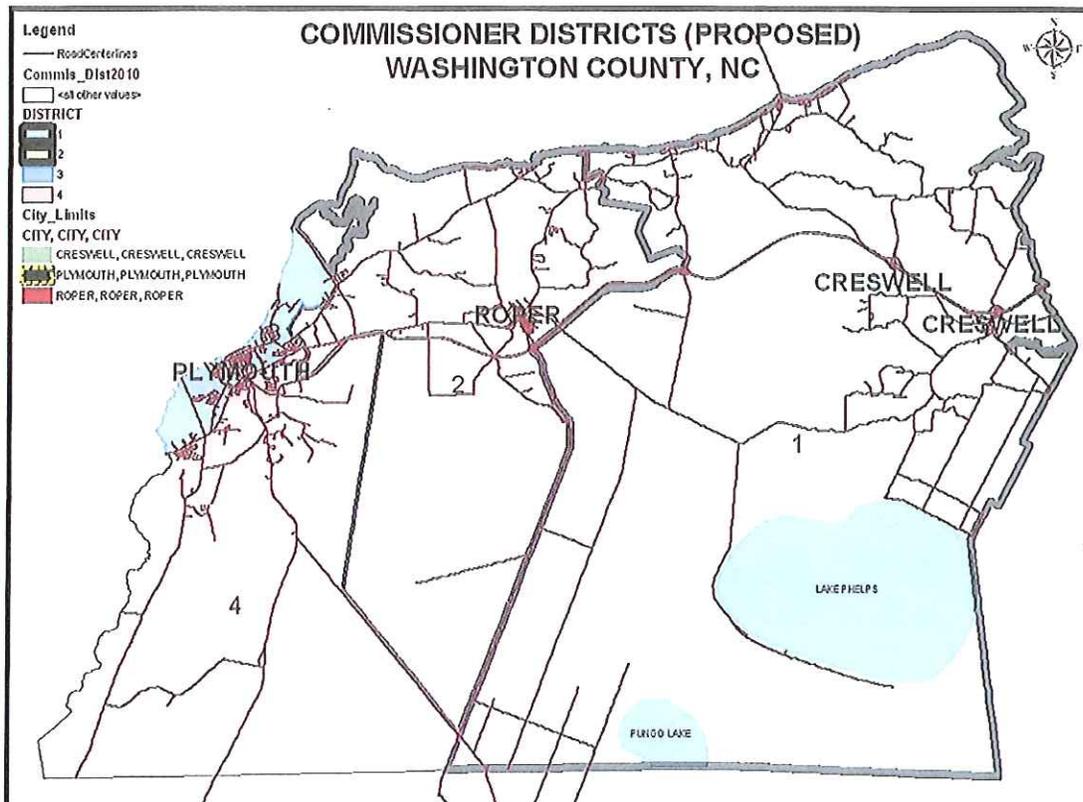
Numbers are from Census Blocks selected within the subject Commissioners District and are base on figures from the 2010 US Census

12/30/2011

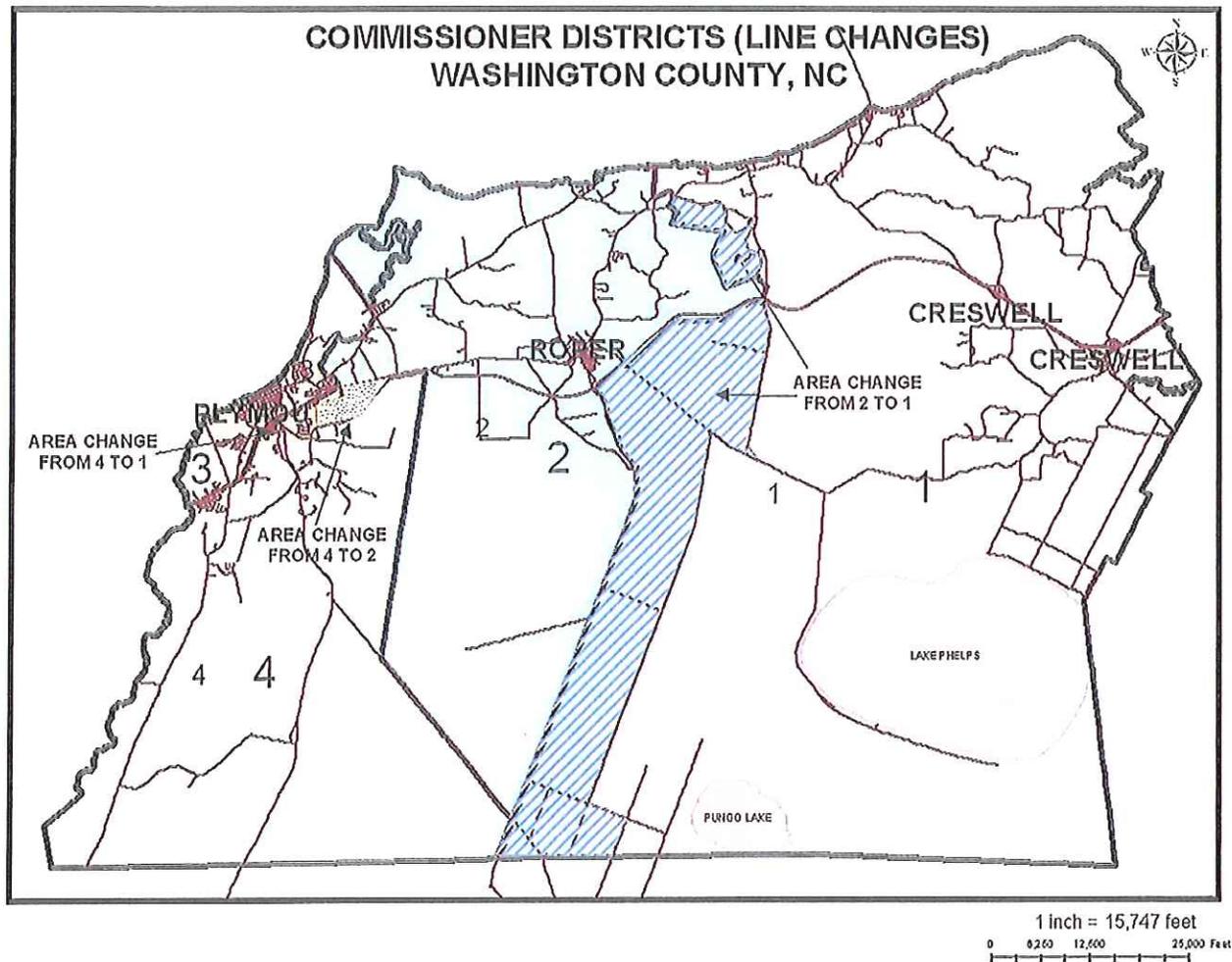
Washington County GIS



1 inch = 15,747 feet
0 6250 12,500 25,000 Feet



1 inch = 15,747 feet
0 6250 12,500 25,000 Feet



Commissioner Manning asked Ms. Young and Mr. Esolen if the Wenona community could be redrawn since it is now split into 3 districts. They responded that they will work on the maps and come back to the January 11, 2012 meeting with more information.

BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

a) The Albemarle Commission

At the last meeting, it was discussed that the Board of Commissioners can appoint another delegate to serve on the Albemarle Commission Board. The delegate will serve a two year appointment beginning April 1, 2012. This delegate may not be an elected official.

Commissioner Johnson is recommending Mr. Charles Sharpe as this delegate. Mr. Sharpe has agreed to serve in this capacity if appointed.

b) Washington County Planning Board

At the Washington County Planning Board held on December 15, 2011, the Board discussed a replacement for Mr. Mike Martin since Mr. Martin resigned from his position on this Board.

The Washington County Planning Board unanimously agreed to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that Mr. Steve Barnes replace Mr. Martin on this Board.

Mr. Barnes has agreed to serve in this capacity if appointed.

c) Senior Center Advisory Board

Mr. Michael Todd-Stone, Director, Washington County Senior Center has recommended to the Board that Mr. Alexander Sims be appointed (to replace Katie Jacobs) and that Ms. Elizabeth Bell be re-appointed to the Senior Center Advisory Board as their terms expire January 31, 2012.

Mr. Sims and Ms. Bell have agreed to serve in this capacity if appointed/re-appointed respectively.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve all of the Board/Committee appointments. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Mr. Milazi stated that today was the day of closing and the busiest day for the Tax Office. Mr. Milazi went on to state that the Finance Office could not close until the Tax Office closed. The Finance Office started doing their closing at 5:30 pm so the Finance Officer's Report was not ready for tonight's meeting.

Mr. Milazi discussed the following Budget Appropriation Amendments/Adjustments:

- 12110— Creswell High School Sign (\$6,709.24)
- 12100— Talent Enhancement Capacity Grant (\$50,000)
 - Mr. Milazi explained that the County will be using a current staff member (Ms. Laurie Raynor, HR Manager) to attend the classes and learn how to administer grants that the County may receive. There is no impact on our General Fund for the training of this person. Mr. Milazi went on to state that the training will take 20 – 25% of Ms. Raynor's time. Mr. Milazi will shift some of her responsibilities so work will still be done.

Mr. Milazi mentioned that the auditors have been scheduled to attend the February 6, 2012 meeting.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve Budget Amendments 12110 and 12100 as presented. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion carried unanimously.

OTHER ITEMS BY CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY MANAGER, CLERK, OR ATTORNEY:

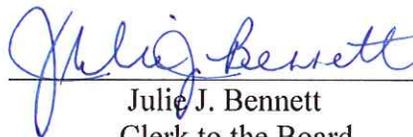
Commissioner Johnson gave an update on Commissioner Collins saying he could be coming home in a couple of days.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-381.11(a)(3), 143-381-11(1)(4) and 143-381.11(a)(5). Commissioner McCray seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to recess the meeting. Commissioner McCray seconded, motion carried unanimously.



Buster Manning
Chair



Julie J. Bennett
Clerk to the Board