

February 6, 2012

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, February 6, 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 L. Peoples, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, and Finance Officer Frank Milazi. Assistant County Manager/County Attorney Cheryl Young was absent.

Chair Manning called the meeting to order and asked that everyone stand for a moment of silence for Commissioner Collins who passed away on February 3, 2012. Chair Manning gave the invocation; Commissioner Alexander led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: Chair Manning moved item 5, Board of Elections up to Item 3 subsequently moving all of the others items down. Ms. Bennett added the following items to the Consent agenda:

- 1e) Education Lottery Public School Building Capital Fund—Replace Floor Tiles—Pines Elem. Cafe—\$6,438.15
- 1f) Resolution—Opposition to Ferry Tolls
- 1g) Resolution—Children's Dental Health Month

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented along with the additions:

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) Tax Refunds & Releases and Insolvent Accounts
- c) NC Education Lottery Public School Building Capital Fund—Stage Curtains—Creswell High School—\$5,704.66
- d) Resolution to Approve the Discarded Computer Equipment and Television Management Plan as an Amendment to the Washington County Solid Waste Management Plan
- e) Education Lottery Public School Building Capital Fund—Replace Floor Tiles—Pines Elem. Cafe—\$6,438.15
- f) Resolution—Opposition to Ferry Tolls
Resolution—Children's Dental Health Month

Commissioner McCray seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS: Mr. Bill Forbes, Chair of Washington County's Election Board, spoke to the Board regarding changing three polling places in the County for the upcoming May election to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mr. Forbes also stated that the Elections Board recommended having laptop computers at each precinct to help Election Day run more smoothly and accurately. The three new polling sites would be at the Washington County Roper Annex Building (formerly Window on the World),

the Roper Fire Department and the Plymouth Municipal Airport. At the present time, the Scuppernon site is not ADA compliant, but the County is going to make it ADA compliant rather than moving to a new site. The cost for making the polling site changes and buying laptop computers is approximately \$10,000.

Ms. Dora Bell, Elections Director, stated that making sites ADA compliant takes precedence over purchasing the laptop computers. The laptop computers could wait to be put in next year's budget.

Mr. Peoples stated that something that must also be considered is that Ms. Bell informed him that the state may not be paying for maintenance of her polling equipment next year which is about \$11,000 and that the County may have to foot the bill for that next year. Money for the laptop computers this year would have to come out of the County's reserve fund. Two laptop computers would be needed at each polling site for a total of ten. The Board asked Ms. Bell to come back to the Board with more definitive numbers for what is actually needed.

PUBLIC HEARING ON LANDFILL PERMITS: Commissioner Johnson made a motion to open the public hearing on landfill permits. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lou Manring introduced Mr. Pieter Scheer, Richardson Smith Gardner & Associates. Mr. Sheer showed a brief presentation.

**Washington County
Construction & Demolition
Debris (C&D) Landfill**

**Local Government Approval for
Continued Operations and Future Expansion**

February 6, 2012

Presenter:
Pieter K. Scheer, P.E.

RICHARDSON SMITH GARDNER
ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING & GEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

www.rsgengineers.com
14 N. BOYLAN AVENUE | RALEIGH, NC 27603

Washington County C&D Landfill - Overview

► Items for Consideration:

- Continued Operations of C&D Landfill (Phase 1)
- Future Expansion of C&D Landfill (Phases 2-6)

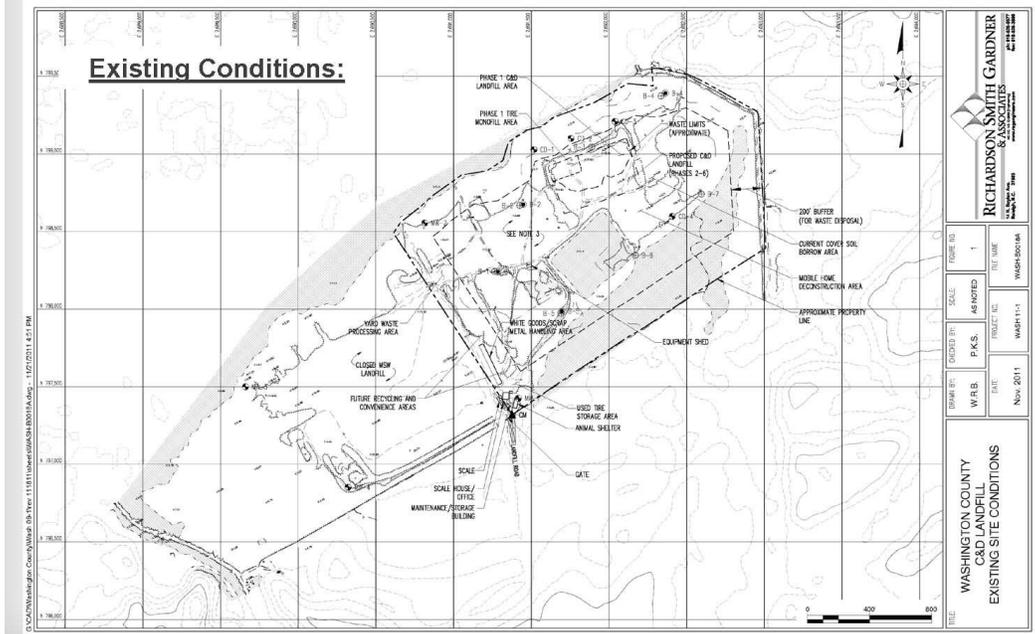
► Regulatory Requirements:

- Local Government Approval process is required by the NC Solid Waste Management Rules (15A NCAC 13B.0536) for expansion of landfill beyond 110% of it's previously approved capacity.

► Format:

- Short Presentation
- Public Questions and Comments
- Consideration of Resolution

Washington County C&D Landfill – Background



Washington County C&D Landfill – Other Requirements

► Other Requirements for Local Approval:

- › **Service Area:** Washington County
- › **Waste Type:** Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Waste
- › **Disposal Rates:**
 - Average: 1,500 tons/year
 - Maximum: 10,000 tons/year

Washington County C&D Landfill

► Questions/Comments?

Washington County C&D Landfill

► Consideration of Resolution to Approve Continued Operations and Future Expansion

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Scheer if the percentage of growth had been figured in. Mr. Scheer replied yes, but it has been figured on the conservative side. Mr. Joyner asked if the landfill could be expanded. Mr. Scheer stated that expansion is very limited due to wetlands.

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

Commissioner McCray made a motion to approve the resolution to approve the continued operations and future expansion of the C&D landfill unit. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion passed unanimously.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN: Ms. Ann Keyes spoke to the Board regarding the MTW Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared by Holland Consulting Planners, Inc.

This plan was prepared for Washington, Martin and Tyrrell counties to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of residents and minimize public and private losses due to natural hazards. Further, mitigation will reduce the risk and impact of future natural disasters by regulating development in known high hazard areas.

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve having a public hearing for the Hazard Mitigation Plan at the March 5, 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner McCray seconded, motion passed unanimously.

ANNUAL TAX COLLECTION REPORT: Mr. Chip Main, Tax Collector spoke to the Board regarding the annual tax collection report that he is required to do each February. Mr. Main is required by state statute to advertise unpaid 2011 taxes that are liens on real property.

Mr. Main distributed a handout on Washington County Tax Collections Update and Revaluation.

Washington County Tax Collections Update

February 6, 2012

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Total amount to collect by Tax Dept.	\$7,240,957
Total amount of County Budget	\$13,038,239

Percent of Total County Revenue Collected by Tax Dept.	56%
Percentage Collected to date	83.1%

Efforts to Enforce Collections

Total number of 2011 Delinquent Real Property Accounts	1,623
Total number of prior year 2011 Delinquent Real Property Accounts	1,091

Amount of Delinquent Taxes Collected since 2010	\$900,000
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2 notices of impending In-rem Foreclosure These property had been unpaid for 10+ years	\$13,000
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35 notices of intent to Levy on Personal Property Had Washington County Sheriff Assist	\$27,000
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Discovered Personal Property \$480,000 attached bank account	\$4,300
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Garnished / Attached 48 Payroll and/or Bank Accounts	\$108,874
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Debt Set-off (DSO) received	\$96,856
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Utilizing the NC DOR option to verify SSNs for DMV accounts for DSO and/or garnishments

Utilizing Accurint to find people or their heirs for those accounts that seemed insolvent

Sending a Delinquency Report to Mortgage Companies in an attempt to find and collect on delinquent accounts that are mortgaged

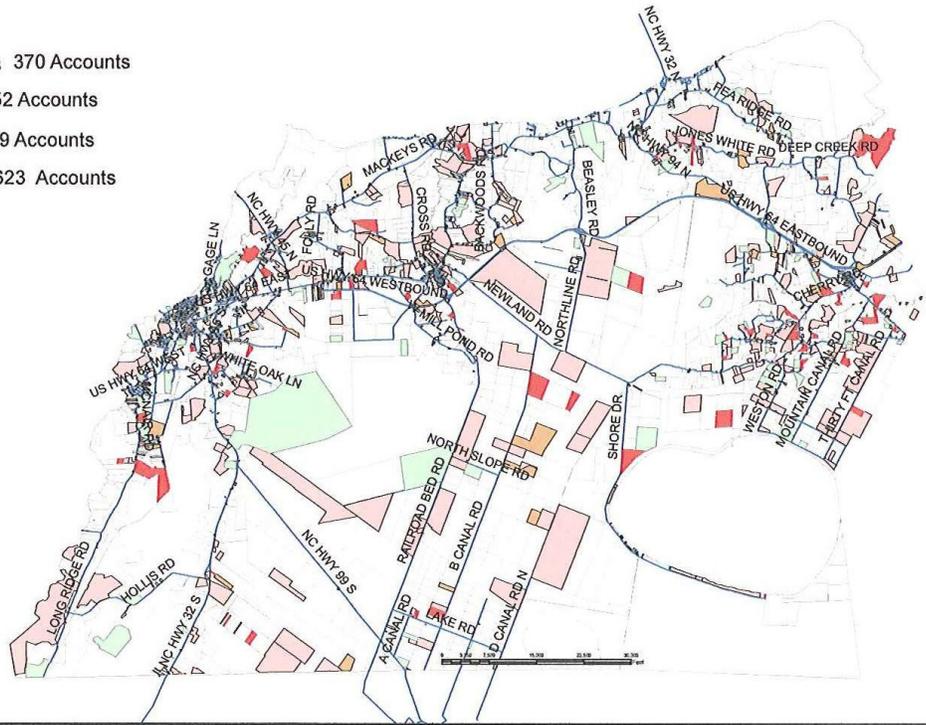
Currently preparing 2nd Tax Notices to mail 2/10/12	2600
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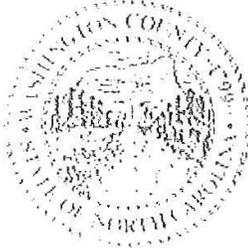
Delinquent Taxpayer's List will advertise in Newspaper	March 14, 2012
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Third and final Tax notices will mail	May 7, 2012
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Legend

- Greater Than 3 Years 370 Accounts
- 3 Year Delinquent 252 Accounts
- 2 Year Delinquent 469 Accounts
- 1 Year Delinquent 1,623 Accounts





WASHINGTON COUNTY

P.O. BOX 1007

Plymouth, North Carolina 27962

(252) 793-1176 (PHONE)
(252) 793-2849 (FAX)

February 6, 2012

TO: Washington County Commissioners

FROM: Chip Main, Tax Administrator

Subject: Update on 2013 Revaluation

1. In July 2012 we mailed out 7,400 letters containing information on each of the 11,000 pieces of Real Property in Washington County.
Received responses from more than 1,400 owners notifying us of some change to their property and in some situations requesting a visit to their property. I have reviewed approximately 400 of these properties and made the necessary changes. Will complete these reviews and make the necessary changes during the next 3 months.
2. Will have programmers make necessary changes and create the 2013 Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal System during March and April of 2012.
3. Changes to the property characteristics will be data entered by the existing Tax Office staff as the properties are reviewed by the Tax Administrator and his appraisal assistance.
4. The Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules will be developed by analyzing sales properties, building costs and other land and building information as needed. It will then be presented to the Washington Board of Commissioners in July-August of 2012.
5. After adoption of the Schedule of Values, the land and building rates will then be applied in the Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal System and a new preliminary value will be applied to each piece of Real Property in Washington County.
6. During the months of August thru December of 2012, all Property Record cards will be printed and the Appraisal staff will review each property to verify the value that will be placed on it.
7. 2013 Revaluation Notices will be mailed during the months of January and February 2013.
8. Appeals of Value will be held during the months of February and March 2013.
9. The Washington County Board of Equalization and Review will hold its Appeals during the months on April and May 2013.
10. Washington County Commissioners will set budget and Tax rate in June 2013.

Do our appraisers and cartographers have the authority to go on a property owner's land without their permission? If the purpose of the visit is to gather information necessary to list and appraise the property the answer is – yes.

G.S. 105-303(b) provides that the county assessor is responsible for listing all real property in the county. A part of the listing process is to accurately describe the land and any buildings located on the property (G.S. 105-309(c)). The statutes cited above implicitly give the assessor and his employees the right to enter on land in order to prepare a description of any buildings or other improvements thereon. Of course, if a property owner directed a county employee to leave the property, the employee would have to comply; but there is no trespass without such a direction from the property owner.

G.S. 105-294(a) makes the county assessor responsible for appraising all property at its true value in money pursuant to the values, standards, and rules adopted for appraisal of real property in the county's most recent revaluation year. G.S. 105-317(a)(2) requires the assessor, in appraising a building or other improvement, to consider a number of factors that influence value, including location, type of construction, age, and "any other factors that may affect its value." These statutes also give the assessor implicit authority to enter on real property for the purpose of gathering the information necessary to make an accurate appraisal of the property.

Digital imagery is used to assist the county in the quadrennial reappraisal of property. The county is under a statutory obligation to conduct the reappraisal, which gives the county a legitimate reason to enter upon the property, obtain accurate measurements and descriptions of improvements, and take other steps necessary to an adequate valuation of the property and improvements. The taking of a digital image of a building is equivalent to preparing a written description. Additionally, it is hard to imagine that someone has a right of privacy or exclusivity to the external facade of his or her home. The facade is usually visible from other properties, from the street or from aerial photography. Without such a right, the owner cannot complain of someone taking a photograph of the façade.

If the owner asks us to leave, we must do so; however, measurements estimated from the street are usually inaccurate and typically result in an over-assessment.

(This article is paraphrased from the written opinions of Joe Ferrell and David Lawrence of the Institute of Government)

Mr. Larry Jones asked what the time frame is for a resident to file an appeal. Mr. Main stated that he will ask for the Board of Equalization to open in April and close in May, and also any resident can contact tax office when they receive their evaluation notice if they would like to discuss it.

Commissioner McCray made a motion to approve advertising unpaid taxes that are liens on real property. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion passed unanimously.

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR): Mr. Frank Milazi introduced Chris Burton from our auditor's office of Pittard Perry and Crone. Mr. Milazi and Mr. Burton gave the following presentation.



Comprehensive Annual Financial Statements For Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2011

Presented By:

Frank S. Milazi, Finance Officer
Chris Burton, Partner, Pittard Perry, Crone

2/27/2012

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CAFR Format

- **Introductory Section**

Transmittal letter includes

- formal transmittal of CAFR
- profile of the government
- information useful in assessing economic condition
- awards and acknowledgements
- expresses "more subjective information"

- **Financial Section**

- Independent auditor's report
- Management's Discussion & Analysis
 - Narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the statements
- Basic Financial Statements including Notes
- Combining & individual fund statements, schedules, & supplementary information

2/27/2012

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CAFR Format continued

- **Statistical Section**

Chief source of information regarding economic condition

20 Schedules which provide information on:
Financial trends, Revenue Capacity,
Debt Capacity, Operating Information
Demographic & economic information

- **Compliance Section**

2/27/2012

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Transmittal Letter

Profile of the County

Economic Conditions and Outlook

Business/Industrial Development

Major Initiatives

*20 Yr Economic Development Enhancement Plan

*Completed several Airport enhancement projects

*Completion of the Bus/Industrial Commerce Center

*Proposed government services complex in the eastern part of the County composed of – clinic, library and EMS

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Transmittal Letter

Economic Condition and outlook

*Sunenergy1-a major solar farm in the Co

*Travel & Tourism activities-150,000
visitors/year

*Success Dynamics—medical records tech

Awards & Acknowledgements

GFOA – Certificate of Achievement

No. 16

Thanks to everyone for your contribution!

2/27/2012

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Financial Section

Independent Auditor Report

UNQUALIFIED REPORT

CLEAN OPINION

To Be Reviewed in Full by Auditors

2/27/2012

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Management Discussion & Analysis (MD&A)

- Highlights

*Total assets increased by \$631,497

*Combined ending fund balances of \$4,102,282

*\$1,397,230 is unassigned fund balance

*Unassigned fund balance has decreased due to change of fund balance allocation, state statutes as well as the 2013 tax revaluation

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Management's Discussion & Analysis (MD&A)

*Narrative overview of the financial statements

*Intended to be objective straightforward, and understandable introduction

*Summary analysis of local government's financial health

*Highlights important financial issues

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Statement of Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	Business Type Activities	Total Primary Government
Assets:			
Current and other assets	\$ 5,420,936	\$ 1,347,520	\$ 6,768,456
Capital Assets	10,257,617	8,208,043	18,465,660
Total assets	15,678,553	9,555,563	25,234,116
Liabilities:			
Long-term liabilities	647,610	228,619	876,229
Other Liabilities	995,427	5,032,430	6,027,857
Total liabilities	1,643,037	5,261,049	6,904,086
Net assets:			
Invested in capital assets net of related debt	11,875,963	3,094,715	14,970,678
Unrestricted	2,159,553	1,199,799	3,359,352
Total net assets	\$ 14,035,516	\$ 4,294,514	\$ 18,330,030

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M D & A continued

Changes in Net Assets

*Fund Balance discussion—Reviewed later slide

*Budgetary Highlights include commitment
of \$52,598 for tax revaluation

*Capital Assets Purchased

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Capital Assets

(net of depreciation)

	Governmental		Business-type		Total
	Activities		Activities		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2011
Land	\$ 2,151,262		\$ 330,158		\$ 2,481,420
Buildings and improvements	3,088,911		10,510,703		13,599,614
Equipment, furniture and fixtures	897,045		229,351		1,126,396
Vehicles and motorized equipment	822,140		7,675		829,815
Construction in Progress	3,298,259		-		3,298,259
Total	\$ 10,257,617		\$ 11,077,887		\$ 21,335,504

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Outstanding Debt

	Governmental		Business-type	
	Activities		Activities	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
General obligation debt	\$ 145,000		\$ -	\$ -
Revenue bonds			5,204,450	5,113,328
Other debt	372,521	961,610		
Total debt	\$ 517,521	\$ 961,610	\$ 5,204,450	\$ 5,113,328

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Statement of Activities

Function/Programs	Program		Total		Total
	Expenses	Revenues	Governmental	Business-Type	
Governmental activities:					
General government	\$ 2,026,071	\$ 147,564	\$ (1,878,507)	\$ -	\$ (1,878,507)
Public safety	3,697,483	1,090,072	(2,607,411)	-	(2,607,411)
Economic and physical deve	506,253	861,398	355,145	-	355,145
Human services	6,221,993	4,737,978	(1,484,015)	-	(1,484,015)
Cultural and recreational	296,577	10,659	(285,918)	-	(285,918)
Education	1,927,016	230,968	(1,696,048)	-	(1,696,048)
Interest on long-term debt	28,383	-	(28,383)	-	(28,383)
Total governmental activities	14,703,776	7,078,639	(7,625,137)	-	(7,625,137)
Business-type activities	2,432,018	2,473,643	-	41,625	41,625
Total primary government	\$ 17,135,794	\$ 9,552,282	(7,625,137)	41,625	(7,583,512)
General revenues:					
Property taxes			6,324,595	-	6,324,595
Other taxes			1,677,773		1,677,773
Other revenue			147,279	964	148,243
Land/Bldg donation (airport)			64,398		
Transfers			203,412	(203,412)	-
Total revenues and transfers			8,417,457	(202,448)	8,215,009
Change in net assets			792,320	(160,823)	631,497
Net assets - beginning			13,243,196	4,455,337	17,698,533
Net assets - ending			\$ 14,035,516	\$ 4,294,514	\$ 18,330,030

Budget & Actual-General Fund - Exhibit 5

Revenues:	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
	\$13,918,508	12,794,874	\$ 1,123,634
Expenditures:			
	14,914,689	14,631,317	283,372
Revenues under Expenditures	(996,181)	(11,836,443)	(840,262)
Total other			
Financing Sources	730,263	708,524	(21,739)
Revenues & other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	(265,918)	(1,127,919)	(862,001)
Appropriated fund Balance	\$265,918	-	(265,918)
Deduction from fund balance			\$(1,127,919)

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Fund Balance Uses

General Obligation Bonds retirement	\$145,000
Tax revaluation (committed)	52,598
Balance original budget (assigned)	72,498
Revenue shortfall General Fund	597,580
Revenue shortfall – EMS	<u>184,649</u>
	\$1,127,919

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Fund Balance – General Fund

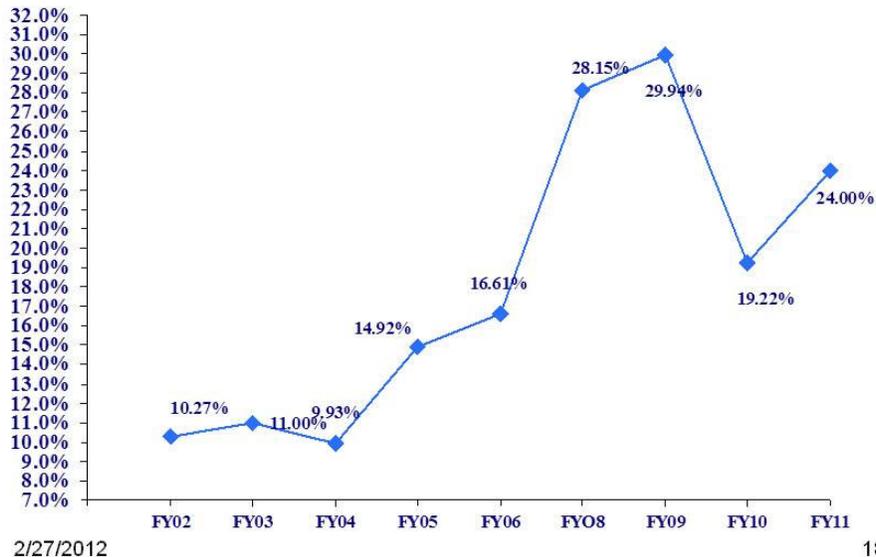
	June 30, 2010	June 30, 2011	
	General Fund	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Restricted for			
State Statute	1,539,427	1,869,229	
Committed/assigned		125,096	
Unassigned	2,980,935	1,450,659	-1,530,276
Total fund balance	\$ <u>4,520,362</u>	<u>3,444,984</u>	
Available fund			
balance as a % of	<u>19.22%</u>	<u>24.00%</u>	
budgeted			
expenditures	15,513,181	14,654,512	

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Fund Balance – General Fund

	June 30, 2011 <u>General Fund</u>	<u>Hospital Reserve</u>	<u>Without Hospital Reserve</u>
Restricted for			
State Statute	1,869,229		1,869,229
Committed/Assigned	125,096		125,096
Unassigned	1,450,659	\$1,450,659	0
Total fund balance	\$ 3,444,984		1,994,325
Available fund balance as a % of adopted budget expenditures	24.00%		5.50%
NC Average 20 units with population less than 25,000	Fund Balance Available		20.76%
	14,654,512		14,654,512
		6/30/2011	
2/27/2012			17

General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance



Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets

Exhibit 7

Proprietary Funds	Sanitation	Waterworks
Operating Revenues	\$1,165,285	\$1,308,358
Operating Expenditures	1,180,991	994,185
Operating Income	(15,706)	314,173
Non-operating Revenue/Expenses	286	(256,164)
Transfers/capital contributions	(50,469)	(152,943)
Changes in Net Assets	(65,889)	(94,934)

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Other Schedules-Tax Collections

June 30, 2011	TOTAL	Excluding Vehicles (real estate)	Motor Vehicles
Current levy Collection %	91.84%	93.22%	79.61%
June 30, 2010	91.98%	93.45%	78.82%
Difference	-0.14%	-0.23%	0.79%
NC County Average	94.94%	95.85%	84.12%
Difference	(3.10%)	(2.63%)	(4.51%)

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Statistical Section

Net Assets by Component
Changes in Net assets
Fund Balances of Government Funds
Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental funds
Governmental Activities Tax Revenues by Source
Assessed & Estimated Actual Value of Taxable
Property
Principal Property Taxpayers
Property Tax Levies and Collections
Ratio of Debt to Assessed Value and per Capita
Other Debt Schedules

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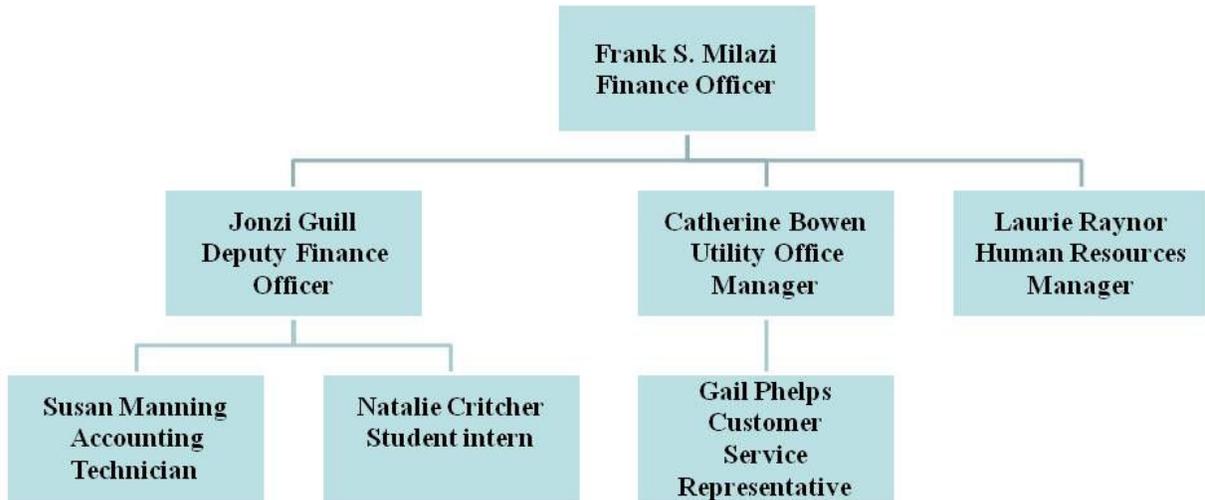
Statistical Section

Demographic and Economic Statistics
Principal Employers
County Government Employees
Water System Major Users
Water System Statistics
Capital Asset Statistics
Operating Indicators

2/27/2012

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Finance Office Staff



2/27/2012

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Audit Results

Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

Basic Financial Statements:

- Unqualified – “clean opinion”
- Represents *highest* level of assurance

Governmental Auditing Standards

OMB A-133 – State and Federal Financial Assistance:

- Unqualified – “clean opinion”
- Management Letter

2/27/2012

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Mr. Burton suggested that the County needs new accounting software since ours is getting archaic. The County currently has one programmer and if something happens to him the County would have no one to support our current system.

Mr. Jones asked how much funding was received from Golden Leaf. Mr. Burton stated that the County received \$1,216,000 for the Commerce building and \$480,000 for the Creswell Health Clinic from the Golden Leaf Foundation.

AIRPORT PROJECTS: Mr. David Peoples spoke to the Board regarding the taxiway turnaround on runway 21.

TAXIWAY TURNAROUND-RUNWAY 21

- Two turnarounds are needed to overcome aircraft safety concerns
- Aircraft should exit runways as soon as possible in case other aircraft need to land immediately
- A number of aircraft depending on their size and space requirements for landing are having to travel from one end of the runway to the other end and then turnaround to get back to the runway exit
- The aircraft are having to turnaround at the end of the runway with a number of them going off of the concrete surface to accomplish the turnaround
- This maneuver takes an inordinate amount of time and it can cause damage to the aircraft and ground depending on ground conditions
- The first turnaround is proposed to be constructed on the runway 21 end or north end of the runway
- The reason for selection of this project first is because this end of the runway is the farthest from the runway exit and tarmac
- There are 72 general aviation airports in our state and the NC Division of Aviation has identified this project as one of the highest priority projects of all the airport projects currently under review
- The NC Division of Aviation has announced a grant award out of their own discretionary funding of \$400,000 for the engineering and construction of the turnaround
- Construction must be completed this year and our engineers have indicated that it will take approximately six months to complete this project
- Washington County will have to provide a 10 percent match or \$40,000 to complete this project
- I will address a potential source of funding for the \$40,000 match requirement after I conclude discussion of the next project

Mr. David Peoples spoke to the Board regarding the airport terminal building renovations. Mr. Peoples showed the Board some recent pictures of the airport terminal building where it clearly can be seen that it has been decades since any improvements have been done. There is water damage on some walls and ceiling tiles. The roof has been fixed and currently there are no leakage problems. The carpet/paneling is outdated in the conference room and there is also bad lighting and no windows in there. The chairs are also falling apart. Mr. Peoples would like to make the airport terminal more usable by expanding the conference room and making it a business area also with room for approximately 25+ people.

AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING RENOVATIONS

- Remove walls in current conference room, storage room and pilot lounge
- Remove display counter
- Construct new walls for expanded conference room and door
- Remove paneling and install sheetrock on all new conference room walls
- Install window in the conference room
- Install equipment for presentations, conference calls, internet and fax capability
- Install partition for new pilot area
- Replace ceiling tiles
- Replace flooring
- Repair walls and paint entire facility
- Purchase new furnishings
- Estimated costs \$10,000 to \$20,000

Mr. David Peoples spoke to the Board regarding the airport projects and their funding.

AIRPORT PROJECTS – FUNDING

- Total Airport acreage is approximately 373 acres
- Approximately 62 acres have timber that potentially could be harvested now
- Need to maintain tree buffer on Airport Road
- An acre of harvestable timber can potentially yield \$2,000
- Timber prices are up considerably
- Recommend providing the \$40,000 match for the turnaround project from the Airport operating budget
- Harvest approximately 20 acres of land and use the proceeds to reimburse the Airport operating budget for the \$40,000 match
- Recommend providing up to “if needed” \$20,000 from harvesting approximately 10 acres of timber to fund the terminal building renovations



Mr. Rick Barkas, Director of the Division of Aviation (DOA), Chastity Clark, Regional Airport Project Manager, DOA, Jason Elliott, Engineer, with Baker/LPA Group, and Jim Farthing, LPA Group were in attendance and Mr. Barkas stated that the DOA is behind the County in these projects for the airport.

Mr. Jones asked if any of the airport projects will create any jobs. Mr. Peoples stated that there could be some construction jobs if a local contractor performs the work, but no permanent jobs past the construction. Mr. Jones also asked if the facility will be able to be used by groups in Washington County. Mr. Peoples stated that might be possible, as long as the activity doesn't interfere with airport activities and that charges would be incurred if used after non-business hours because someone would have to be paid to oversee the activity.

Mr. Barkas spoke about an economic study done showing that aviation has stayed on the 'uptick' and the return to the county could be good.

Commissioner Johnson spoke to Mr. Jones saying our long range economic plan is to lure companies here and hopefully have jobs available to our local people.

Ms. Clark stated pilot's use their own discretion as to which airports they will fly into and they would more likely fly into a more updated airport.

Mr. Joyner wants the weather report to come from Plymouth Airport.

Mr. Aycock (Board of Elections member) stated he thought there was only one entrance to the airport terminal building which would be a problem as a polling place. Mr. Peoples stated that there are three entrances and the airport terminal building is ADA compliant.

Chair Manning asked for a more definitive cost for the airport terminal renovation. Chair Manning has 'cruised' timber before and the County needs to have someone to do that to make sure the County knows the value per acre to get the most of our money. Chair Manning also stated that the County doesn't need to harvest the timber before it is ready. Chair Manning asked Mr. Peoples to have someone 'cruise' the timber before the Board makes a decision.

Mr. Peoples stated he will come back to the Board with more definitive numbers as to what the timber is worth. The Board will then decide whether or not to move forward with the projects and how to pay for them.

BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

a) Coastal Resources

Mr. David Peoples, County Manager recommended that the Board re-appoint Mr. Wayne Howell to the Coastal Resources Board. Mr. Howell's term expires February 1, 2012.

Mr. Howell has agreed to serve in this capacity if re-appointed.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve Mr. Howell's appointment to the Coastal Resources Board. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Milazi distributed his Finance Officer's Report. According to the report, EMS still looks to be a problem. Mr. Peoples explained that there is a systematic problem with the billing of EMS due to the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement structure. Mr. Clary has done a good job of containing his cost this year and is on budget. If the County reduces its service from paramedic level to intermediate level, this would make a difference in what is reimbursed, but in the past the County has not wanted to reduce our level of service.

OTHER ITEMS BY CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY MANAGER, CLERK, OR ATTORNEY: Mr. Peoples reminded the Board of the Broadband meeting being held at the Martin Community College Auditorium at 7:00 pm on February 9, 2012.

Mr. Peoples also reminded the Board of Representative Butterfield's visit to the new Medical Clinic on February 22. Mr. Peoples will soon be sending out the agenda.

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

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

Buster Manning
Chair

Julie J. Bennett
Clerk to the Board