

June 6, 2016

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Cooperative Extension Conference Room, 128 E. Water Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Johnson, Manning, Phelps, and Sexton were present. Also present were County Manager Willie Mack Carawan, Jr., Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, County Attorney/Assistant County Manager Curtis Potter and Deputy Finance Officer Missy Dixon. Commissioner Walker was unable to attend.

Chair Phelps called the June 6, 2016 to order Manning gave the invocation. Commissioner Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: Chair Phelps added Item 4a—Abandoned Structure on Pelican Lane and Item i) on the Consent Agenda—Resolution Supporting the Application for a Grant from the 911 Board (modified to say that we have located a building for the backup PSAP)

CONSENT AGENDA: **Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda:**

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) Tax Refunds & Releases and Insolvent Accounts
- c) NC Education Lottery Public School Building Capital Fund:
 - PHS Video Surveillance Upgrade \$12,803.60
 - Washington County Union School New Video Surveillance Upgrade \$62,170.77
 - Total: \$74,974.27
- d) ABC Board Budget Message (Proposed)
ABC Board request to adopt the County's travel policy as their own
- e) NACo Voting Credentials
- f) Boards & Committees
- g) Resolution requesting that the Washington County Commissioners add Bertie County and it's municipalities to the MTW Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- h) Resolution Amending the Regular Meeting Schedule of the Washington County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM: Ms. Melanie Perry, 4686 32 south, June 18 with Paul Giamette, interested in taking over our primary care. She is scheduling drills with Ms. Keyes to be able to handle any emergencies that come their way. She is looking into getting behavioral health help to assist in monitoring these patients.

Mr. Tom Harrison, 61 North River Road, gave a report on the 2nd Annual Black Bear Festival saying it was bigger and better than last year and that between 10-12,000 people were here. Some saw 27 bears on bear tours. The helicopter rides had 1.5 hour waits, the boat tours had a 1 hour wait and there were lines to see live bears. Thanks to the town's support. There was

a great economic impact on the community as well. Stella's had the best weekend she ever had. Mamma's Pizza said they had too much business, but Mr. Harrison told Giovanni he would just have to deal with that. Chair Phelps thanked him for all his work and stated that he attended and enjoyed it.

Mr. Emanuel Hyman, 45 N, Plymouth, works with Washington County Recreation Center and said he has been working with children in middle schools and high schools and worked with the 2 high school championship teams, but it all starts with the little league teams. The Recreation Center needs help to keep the programs that help the kids. Afterschool programs are needed. More money is needed to implement these programs.

Paulique Horton, 992 St. David's Road, Creswell, thanked the Board for the clinic in Creswell. It is getting great reviews--everyone loves the PA. It would be helpful to have some sort of recreation in that end of the county. She would like to have a walking track. They are doing a health promotion at the clinic so it would be helpful to have basketball courts also. She said she felt that some sort of strategic plan or economic improvement plan needs to be created to have money come back to the County.

Mr. Lloyd Jones, West Mill Pond, Roper, stated that tomorrow is voting day for 4 judges. The judges are a very important part of our system. They help to enforce the law of our land.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: Chair Phelps presented Ms. Jennifer O'Neal, EMS Supervisor & Paramedic with a certificate of appreciation. Ms. Arnold took Ms. O'Neal's picture and it will be placed on the wall in the foyer of the County Administration Building.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY—SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY: Chair Phelps gave the following synopsis of what has transpired since conversations began regarding a single point of entry for the Courthouse.

**Past Discussions of Courthouse Security in the
Washington County Board of County Commissioners Meeting**

January 20, 2015

The first time courthouse security was on the agenda pursuant to a letter from Superior Court Judge Wayland Sermons and District Court Judge Michael Paul for the need for courthouse security.

February 2, 2015

Courthouse Security Improvement Committee: Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Wayland J. Sermons, Jr. has requested that the Board appoint a courthouse security improvement committee. Commissioner Phelps took the lead on this and handed out a list of potential Washington County Courthouse Security Committee Members.

1. Second Judicial District, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge or their designee;
2. Second Judicial District, Chief District Court Judge or their designee;
3. Second Judicial District, District Attorney or their designee;
4. Washington County Clerk of Superior Court, or their designee
5. Washington County Sherriff, or their designee;
6. Washington County Manager;
7. One defense attorney from the Second Judicial District Bar;
8. One member from the Washington County Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to approve the appointments as listed above to the Washington County Courthouse Security Committee, specifically County Manager Jerry Rhodes as (6) Washington County Manager; Commissioner D. Cole Phelps as (7) One defense attorney from the Second Judicial District Bar; and Commissioner Tracey A. Johnson as (8) One member from the Washington County Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

October 15, 2015

COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Commissioner Phelps spoke to the Board regarding Washington County's Courthouse Security. Judge Michael Paul and Judge Wayland Sermons have requested the Commissioners identify one (1) entry point to the Courthouse immediately to create a more secure place. Commissioner Phelps explained that if the Board does not do this, the judges will be trying to shut the County Courthouse down. Commissioner Phelps will bring back suggestions to the November meeting.

November 2, 2015

COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Commissioner Phelps presented a lengthy presentation and also mentioned the letter below that he received from Judge Michael Paul. Commissioner Phelps said he knows everyone wants to know how the security measures will be paid for. Ms. Keyes spoke to the Board and said that there is a possibility to get grant money for this project. Since she uses the courthouse as an alternate/backup for the EOC she could use money for 'enhancements'. Ms. Moulden, Clerk of Court said that this is not something that has just started being addressed. Back in 2008, a report was done at that time on courthouse security. Having just one entrance to the courthouse was at the top of the list at that time. This is one of the few things that would address this need. Ms. Keyes said she was asked to send in her request to the State in writing this afternoon, so she is fairly confident she will receive the funds. Deputy Harris said it will help to have metal detectors at the first (and only entrance) of the courthouse. Commissioner Phelps said it would be good for Washington County to take the lead and be the first county to implement these security measures. Deputy Harris said once this is implemented it should be put in writing that employees do not let others in the other 'exits' and that there will be a penalty if this happens.

Commissioner Manning made a motion approve moving forward with creating the 'one entrance' to the courthouse by implementing the security measures presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

March 7, 2016

COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Chair Phelps reminded the Commissioners that the judges have been pressing for the five counties in this district to move ahead with their courthouse security. Chair Phelps said he would like to revisit which door is to be the main entrance—the back entrance by the Sheriff's Office or front entrance on Adams Street. Ms. Denise Moulden, Clerk of Court said it may be more feasible to use front entrance under columns where there is a porch because on court days there is a greater amount of people and the porch would shield if there was inclement weather. Ms. Keyes said there will be issues no matter which door is used and she will support whatever is decided. Chief Deputy Norman said there can only be one entrance--more than one defeats the mandate from Judge Paul of having only one entrance.

Chair Phelps noted that parts have been ordered and should be here shortly and begin being installed. Commissioner Sexton said it seemed to be more feasible to build a roof/shelter for the back entrance. Discussion ensued. Chair Phelps said that the consensus of the Board is that the rear entrance will be the one entrance and the cost for a roof/canopy/shelter for this entrance will be put into next year's budget.

June 6, 2016

- We have been discussing this for one year and a half.
- It's time to heighten the security.
- We need to create a timeline to have this project completed.
 - Single Entry Point needs to be established immediately.
 - Judges and Court Personnel, and studies recommend that the front door be the main entrance.
 - A ramp could be built on cheaper for handicap accessible or older individuals.
 - A buzzer system could be in place if those individuals wanted to use the back entrance.
 - Commissioners wanted the back entrance to be the main entrance.
 - Is the funding for the shelter in the budget?
 - When will it be complete?
 - Signage that one door will be effective 7/1/16?
 - Let the public know that there will be a heightened since of security and that they should be prepared to be searched.
 - Where do the signs go?
 - What do they look like?
 - What do they say?
 - Personnel for Security
 - Sheriff's Deputies?
 - Private Firm?
 - Domtar partnership Ms. Keyes discussed?
 - Equipment to search?
 - Cameras
 - Cameras at most if not all exists
 - Monitored in 911/Sheriff Office.
 - Card Swiper
 - ID Badges for county employees?
 - ID Badges for court personnel?
 - ID Badges for attorneys?
- **Input from the Board is needed so we can move forward and complete this project. Let's be proactive instead of retroactive.**
- **Timeline suggestions.**

Ms. Ann Keyes said she has acquired money to buy two metal detectors and two hand wands and the software for each from Emergency Management and there will be no cost to the County. As soon as she can get Toby Crafford from Eastern Data to install the software and the access point, the metal detectors and wands will be ready to be used. Ms. Keyes said her opinion was to wait to until things were in place for the detectors and wands before putting signs up

referencing the single entrance. Ms. Keyes also said that nothing can be done to the Courthouse (regarding constructing an awning) without an engineer looking at it.

Chair Phelps asked Mr. Carawan if there is money in the budget for the awning for the back entrance or the materials for the handicapped ramp if the front entrance is used. Mr. Carawan said there is still talk about which entrance will be used. Mr. Carawan and Ms. Keyes will meet with Mr. Jordan (the engineer) about what can be done at the rear entrance of the Courthouse; however, Mr. Carawan does not have a cost estimate at this time, therefore no money has been allocated in the budget. Ms. Keyes will call Mr. Jordan again to set up a meeting for him to meet with her and Mr. Carawan.

Mr. Carawan said he needs to know if the judges will be content with the rear of the Courthouse to be the main entrance, because the Board made a motion at a previous meeting that the single entrance would be at the rear of the Courthouse, but talk has recently been about using the front entrance also. Commissioner Johnson said there is already a buzzer in the back, so just add an awning. Chair Phelps said convenience-wise the rear entrance to the Courthouse is more convenient. Ms. Keyes said she talked with the Sheriff and he felt they could handle the flow of foot traffic at the rear entrance even while taking them through the metal detector. Ms. Keyes said her opinion as Emergency Management Director is that to have the single point of entry at the rear entrance would be the best. Chair Phelps said the Board has been talking about this for 1.5 years, so we need to do something. Mr. Carawan asked Ms. Keyes to set up the meeting with Mr. Jordan as soon as possible.

Mr. Carawan said July 1 is the goal for putting up the signs noting a change in entrances and will try to get a quote on the awning to be able to put it on the June 20th agenda.

ABANDONED STRUCTURE ON PELICAN LANE: Vickie Blackwell, 77 Pelican Lane, spoke to the Board and read aloud the following e-mail:

“Mr. Chairman of Washington County Commissioners, County Commissioners, Guests, and fellow citizens of Washington County, my name is Vickie Blackwell and I am a property owner on Pelican Lane. In 2003, Hurricane Isabelle came ashore and caused considerable damage to Pelican Lane and Washington County. Several of my neighbors had large trees fall and cut their homes in half. All but one landowner on Pelican Lane cleaned, repaired or replaced their damaged homes. Please understand, most property owners in the immediate area are part-time residents of Washington County and most of their time spent here is during the summer. Therefore, this property was not their permanent residence and this was a financial burden on all of them to repair or replace their property. Since that time, the property owned by Jack Daw, deceased 2002, has continued to become more and more dilapidated and beyond repair. The adjacent property owners have maintained the yard so that it did not become overgrown and a danger, due to snakes, bees, rodents, and other animals, to the community. We still have had wild animals take up residence in this structure at different times to give birth to their young or to take shelter from the weather. My Grandparents and parents have owned property adjacent to Pelican Lane since 1958 so I have spent my summers here and have known all of the property owners for many, many years. Almost 3 years ago, my husband and I purchased property on Pelican Lane. It is our intention to make this our permanent residence within the next 1 – 2 years. After speaking with other landowners, I found that several attempts had been made to obtain Washington Counties help

with the situation regarding the Daw property, but to no avail. I started my communications with the Washington County Attorney, Mr. Curtis Potter in the spring of 2014. At that time, I was informed that an ordinance was adopted in 2009 addressing abandoned mobile homes. After several discussions with Mr. Potter, Washington County had formal notice sent via certified return receipt mail to Mrs. Jack Daw regarding the property in Oct, 2014. It is my understanding that ALL of Mr. Daw's heirs must be notified, however, Mr. Potter stated that his office could not locate or get any information regarding the heirs. As of May, 2016, Mrs. Daw has not responded to this notification.

I have continued my communications with Mr. Potter, Mrs. Keyes, and occasionally Mr. Phelps regarding this issue. For 2 years, I have been told that Washington County did not have the funds to spend approximately \$1800 to have this house removed, even though Mrs. Daw would ultimately be responsible for the cost according to the "Abandoned Mobile Home Ordinance". Our community has offered to assist in the removal once all legal affairs have been handled with The Daw Family. Also, I understand that the planning board introduced a "Nuisance Ordinance" last fall that would help expedite our situation. However, the board has yet to act or approve this ordinance.

Mr. Potter keeps reassuring me that this matter has not been dropped. Here are just a few of the many things I have been told via e-mails since our discussions began:

- a. The new County Manager is aware of this issue. A Nuisance Ordinance was discussed last fall, but was not adopted at that time.*
- b. The Planning Board and Planning Department have identified over 60 properties that need to be addressed, and continue to look for possible grant funding sources.*
- c. The Planning Board has recommended that funds be set aside as part of the upcoming 2015-2016 budget in the Planning Department for enforcement/mitigation purposes. This was not approved.*
- d. The Planning Board also wants to make sure any costs are recovered by the County as part of this process, and I, being Mr. Potter, am working toward a legal solution for that.*

With all of that being said, the Pelican Lane community is very disheartened with the lack of actions by Washington County. We are concerned about the dangers that are lurking around this property, both physically with the structure and with animals. We are concerned about our property values being lower due to the appearance of this property. We are concerned about the lack of effort being made to contact the heirs of Mr. Daw. It really doesn't appear that anyone has made an attempt to locate or contact them. After just a few minutes on the internet, I can tell you that Mr. Daw left behind a wife and 2 daughters; Margie, Jill, and Gina. I even located one of the daughters on Facebook and gave the phone number to Mr. Potter.

The 7 property owners of Pelican Lane contribute approximately \$7000 per year to the budget of Washington County. This includes water and solid waste collection in which most of the property owners only utilize 3 – 4 months each year. With that being said, Washington County gains approximately \$4500 each year without having to provide any services. Why then is approximate cost of removal, \$1800, to much to ask for?

Please review the documents. The attachment is a copy of the notification that was sent to Mrs. Daw, including pictures. The attachment is a group of photos taken on May 30, 2016. The property has deteriorated quite considerably since Sept, 2014.

I think it is past time for Washington County to start enforcing the “Abandoned Mobile Home” ordinance. Without enforcement, the ordinance is not worth the paper it is written on. I understand that the county does not have enough funds to take care of the 60 properties that have been identified, but Pelican Lane is a good place to start.”











Commissioner Johnson asked if the property has been condemned. Ms. Keyes said the building inspector would have to condemn it and does not know that it has been done. Ms. Keyes said it would be in her records if it has. Commissioner Sexton asked if property taxes have been paid. Ms. Wilkins said she will look into this and let the Commissioners know tomorrow. Mr. Potter said he the last time he checked the property taxes had been paid. Commissioner

Manning asked about the \$1,800 number mentioned to remove the structure--is that a bid she received? Ms. Blackwell replied "no". Chair Phelps said that Ms. Keyes stated it would be anywhere from \$2,000 - \$2,500 to remove a structure. Also costs would be incurred for the government to take over the property by going through the court system. Condemnation statutes vary. If the owner fails to remedy the problem, it becomes a misdemeanor, but it is not clear if the County can force the owner to take action without taking them to court. Mr. Potter stated that this is not entirely a mobile home--it is attached to another structure, so the Mobile Home Ordinance may not take care of this issue. Remedies to take care of items like this have costs associated with them. Mr. Potter said he would consider talking about such remedies in Closed Session. The Board discussed, in the past, a Nuisance Ordinance and a Littering Ordinance. The County can have more than one Ordinance to address different nuisances. The Ordinance brought before the Board last year was very broad. Commissioner Sexton asked when the last time someone used the property. Ms. Blackwell commented "2003". There is no electricity connected. Two of the family members live in Manns Harbor. The actual owners of the property are heirs of Mr. Jack Dawes. Chair Phelps said he spoke with Ms. Keyes earlier and was told that there are over 60 abandoned properties in the County. Ms. Keyes said that she has been trying to get grants since 2010 to fund the removal of these properties. Discussion ensued. Chair Phelps asked Mr. Potter if he could put together a list of strategies for the Board to discuss in a Closed Session. The Clerk was directed by the Chair to put this item on the July agenda under Closed Session.

AMBULANCE ORDINANCE & FRANCHISES—AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE & PUBLIC HEARING: Commissioner Sexton made a motion to open the public hearing. Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tim Bazemore, Jr., Coastal Ambulance Service, said he has been in non-emergency transport for 16 years. In June, he received a letter from Mr. Potter regarding the renewal of their contract. Mr. Bazemore said he was told that Coastal didn't pass some items that were required in the contract and he had some issues with Mr. Potter's letter. Mr. Potter stated that Coastal is classified as a taxi cab, not as an emergency vehicle. Mr. Bazemore would like Coastal Ambulance Service's application to still be considered.

Ms. Carol Atkins, Bertie Ambulance Service, thanked the Board for letting Bertie Ambulance Service serve the County. She told the Commissioners to please contact her if they have any questions regarding her company's service.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Potter told the Commissioners there was a redlined copy of the document in the Board package and a page 3 to be replaced was handed out by Mr. Potter.

Mr. Potter said that in light of Mr. Bazemore's comments, the Board can leave the word 'may' in the Ordinance instead of the word 'shall'. Commissioner Johnson asked would the changes reinstate the two franchises here tonight. Mr. Potter said no, because the Ordinance has to be read again for a second reading and that will be on June 20. The Ambulance Franchise Board met today and in the meeting today agreed to reinstate Bertie Ambulance Service, but not Coastal Ambulance Service.

Commissioner Johnson asked that the Board wait to vote until June 20 to be able to read over all the materials.

Mr. Potter said that the franchises are Ordinances also, but they have to have two readings and have to be approved at two regular meetings, which if not voted on tonight, then the two dates would be June 20 and July 5.

Chair Phelps asked Mr. Bazemore about the finding that Coastal didn't supply their reports. Mr. Bazemore said he didn't know it was an issue until they received the letter from Mr. Potter.

Chair Phelps said that neither one of the franchises met the deadline--why not? Ms. Atkins said she received an email from Mr. Coccaro that the renewal deadline was approaching. The original franchises were not approved until July 1, 2015, so she thought that was the deadline date she was looking at and the request for renewal should be turned in by April 1 (90 days). Ms. Atkins said she received another email that said Bertie should have had the renewal in by March 1.

Mr. Potter said that he has spoken with Ms. Atkins about this. There was confusion as to when the deadline actually was. The revised template does not spell out exactly when that date is.

Mr. Potter said that the recommendation from the Ambulance Franchise Board was to grant the franchise renewal for Bertie Ambulance Service and to not grant the franchise renewal for Coastal Ambulance Service. Mr. Potter said that if Coastal Ambulance Service is denied at this time, they can reapply in 6 months.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to table the decision whether or not to grant the franchises until the June 20, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Manning seconded. Chair Phelps asked why the Ambulance Franchise Board denied Coastal Ambulance Services. Mr. Carawan said the recordkeeping issue seemed to be an on-going issue. Commissioner Johnson asked was there any information that was negative about service. Mr. Coccaro said both service providers handle a lot of our citizens. They need to meet our level of care and should have the same consistency for all companies. The providers are part of Dr. Lowry's EMS system and have standards they need to follow. Commissioner Sexton asked was it a unanimous decision to renew or not renew the franchises. Mr. Potter said yes. Chair Phelps called for the vote. **Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Manning voted aye. Commissioner Sexton and Chair Phelps voted nay. The motion failed.**

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to follow the Ambulance Franchise Board's decision to reinstate Bertie Ambulance Service and deny Coastal Ambulance Service. Chair Phelps seconded. Chair Phelps called for the vote. **Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Manning voted nay. Commissioner Sexton and Chair Phelps voted aye. The motion failed.**

Mr. Potter said without having a provider, the County will have to enact an MOU for mutual aid with Bertie County at this point.

Washington County
BUDGET TRANSFERS

To: Board of Commissioners

BT #: 2016 - 013

From: W. Mack Carawan, Jr., *County Manager / Budget Officer*
Missy Dixon, *Deputy Finance Officer*

Date: June 2, 2016

RE: Inter-Departmental Transfers

Please authorize the finance officer to make the following budgetary adjustments:

Account Code	Description	Old	+ or (-)	New
10-5310-011	SS Admin - S & W Regular	1,605,303.00	(650.00)	1,604,653.00
10-5310-101	SS Admin - 401 (k) Contribution	44,410.00	650.00	45,060.00
10-5310-370	SS Admin - Printing/Advertising	2,500.00	(100.00)	2,400.00
10-5310-390	SS Admin - Dues and Subscriptions	819.00	100.00	919.00
10-5310-351	SS Admin - Repair and Maint -Equip	12,800.00	(1,200.00)	11,600.00
10-5310-350	SS Admin - Repair and Maint -Bldg	9,000.00	1,200.00	10,200.00
Social Services				
37-4330-010	EMS - Salary & Wages FT	536,849.00	(3,800.00)	533,049.00
37-4330-030	EMS - Salary & Wages PT/OT	139,288.00	3,800.00	143,088.00
Washington County EMS				
Balanced:		2,350,969.00	-	2,350,969.00

Justification:

Informing the Board of Commissioners fo inter-departmental budget transfers for Social Services and Washington County EMS.

Approval Date: June 6, 2016

Bd. Clerk's Init: [Signature]

Initials:	
Batch #:	
Date:	

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the budget transfers listed above. Commissioner Manning seconded; motion carried unanimously.

DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: Ms. Dixon noted the reports were in the Commissioners' package and she has since posted approximately over \$100,000 in EMS payments.

Chair Phelps asked about Fund 62—what is it? Ms. Dixon said it is Urgent Repair Funds.

Mr. Carawan introduced Ms. Fetima Moore from Martin County. She is the County's new Human Resources Specialist. She has a large skill set and Mr. Carawan looks forward to having her upgrade the County's Personnel Policy.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Tax software—Ms. Wilkins said purchasing new software could wait until 2017. It does take time to convert and train to get ready for the reval in 2021.

Commissioner Manning asked how much the County would have to raise the tax rate to cover all the big items. Mr. Carawan said there would need to be a 8.5 cent increase.

Commissioner Sexton asked will the Elite system still handle the reval in 2021. Mr. Carawan asked if Finance could still work with Edmunds. Mr. Carawan said the training helped. Everyone agreed to remove the tax software from this year's budget.

PSAP—Mr. Carawan said \$250,000 would have to come from fund balance. He also said that this money is not included in the tax increase. Mr. Carawan said he doesn't think the County needs to lower that amount. The Board agreed to leave that in the budget.

Amount for EMS—\$175,000 —Mr. Coccaro said that the County could have 2 existing ambulances remounted, but may need to buy a new one this year and remount 1. The County needs to start an ambulance replacement strategy. Chair Phelps asked what is the cost of new ambulance. Mr. Coccaro said anywhere from \$140,000 to \$220,000. Sometimes a demo unit can be purchased. Remounts cost approximately \$75,000 to \$95,000. New ground vehicle standards will need to be met by manufacturers and the cost could increase. Commissioner Manning asked how many used boxes that the County is not using. Mr. Coccaro said one right now, but it needs to be checked since it has been sitting for a while. The Board agreed to leave that money in there and asked that Mr. Coccaro come back to the Board with how he plans to spend the money after he checks on prices.

Amount for hospital pension plan—\$100,000—Mr. Carawan said the County didn't put in any money in the plan last year, and only put in \$50,000 the year before. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Johnson said that NACo (David Thompson) is starting a retirement plan for counties. Commissioner Johnson asked Mr. Carawan to talk to Mr. Thompson and see what he suggests. The Board recommended putting \$50,000 in the plan this year.

Contingency—\$50,000—Mr. Carawan said that contingency money would not be spent without the Board's knowledge. Mr. Carawan said there is \$3,500,000 in fund balance. He has already moved \$439,000 to the E911 fund to get in compliance with the E911 Fund Board. He recalculated the school tax distribution (\$386,000) and this year for the sales tax distribution (\$150,000).

The Board said take the contingency money out—put it back in the fund balance.

Mr. Carawan said that health insurance runs on a fiscal year not a calendar year—\$55,000 is a 5% guesstimate of a possible increase. There is \$36,000 in retirement funds that need to be allocated to different departments. The Board recommended to leave it in and bring this back to the Board when Mr. Carawan gets the real numbers.

The Board took a 5 minute break at 8:25 pm.

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:33 pm.

Governing Body—Commissioner Manning said he would like to cut out some travel and cut each County Commissioners' salary.

The Board agreed to:

Cut travel by \$5,000

Cut printing \$1,000

Now at \$103,826

County Manager's Office —there could be an increase in salaries—need to revisit line 10

Line for legal—\$2,000 deduction

Travel—no reduction

Now at \$360,427

Finance—decreased overall—revisit line 10

No change

Tax—increased

Software—was taken out earlier

Pension plan—change from \$215,000 to \$15,000

Jury pool software--\$1,700

\$16,200

Board of Elections—revisit line 10

Register of Deeds—reduce by \$12,000

Now at \$144,712

IT—revisit line 10

Put software in Finance

\$33,438-13,299=\$20,139

Now at \$111,994

Public defender-0

Facilities—was originally decreased

Chair Phelps asked about the mowing contract. Is it in this budget? Mr. Carawan said no it is still in Recreation for a part-time person.

Currently at \$577,000

Increase \$130,000 to \$145,000

Now at \$592,463

Sheriff's Office—revisit line 10

Wants 2 SRO cars and 2 patrol cars

Let the Sheriff pick which 2 he would like

The Sheriff said he wants 2 patrol cars

\$49,598

Now at \$1,292,291

Detention—revisit line 10

Commissioner Sexton asked if the Southern Health insurance can be put out for bid. Mr.

Carawan and Mr. Potter need to talk to Sheriff and Detention to follow up on this.

Now at \$913,981

Emergency Management—

Contracted services—

Now at \$118,108

Inspections/Planning—

Take out the SUV—\$22,000

Now at \$122,593

Health Department—\$242,000

Increase of \$44,000

Now at \$258,611

(23%)

DSS—

Discussion ensued

Water—increase of \$67,000

No change

Trillium

No change

JCPC

No change

Senior Center (took out the van, changed communications, moved from part-time to full time and added furniture)

Now at \$199,233

Forestry & Fire Protection

Payment needed for \$17,212 on the Roper Fire truck

The Board directed Mr. Carawan and Mr. Potter to meet with Ms. Keyes to figure this out.

GIS—stays the same

Veteran Services—stays the same

Board of Education—stays the same

\$160,500 for sales tax distribution

Medical Examiner—stays the same

E911

Discussion ensued regarding pay grades and step increases

Cooperative Extension—stays the same

Soil & Water—stays the same

Regional Library—Chair Phelps would like to see the \$4,333 for the downloadable books—the Board agreed.

Now at \$177,017

Recreation—Chair Phelps wants to be able to hire an additional person to help Mr. Fulford.

Ms. Bennett told the Board that Ms. Arnold could assist Mr. Fulford with paperwork.

\$37,100 to hire an assistant

Central Services—stays the same

Debt Service—Auditor said the County needs to have this all in one area.

Transfers—used out of the general fund to stabilize costs the County already has in other funds

Keep the full 1 cent in the drainage fund

Mr. Carawan told the Board with the cuts they made this evening they saved \$8,082 tonight.

At 11:00 PM with no further business to discuss, **Commissioner Sexton made a motion adjourn to recess at 6:00 PM Conference Room of the Library. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.**

D. Cole Phelps
Chair

Julie J. Bennett, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board