

**RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RICHMOND COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007, 6:30 P.M.**

The Richmond County Board of Commissioners met for the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. with the following present: Chairman Kenneth R. Robinette; Vice-Chairman John B. Garner; Commissioners Pamela N. Dillman, Jimmy L. Maske, Thad Ussery, J. C. Watkins, and Paul Wilson, Jr.

ITEM NO. 1 – INVOCATION BY REVEREND SCOTT CONNER OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMLET, NC

The invocation was delivered by Rev. Scott Conner of Calvary Baptist Church, Hamlet, NC.

ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By a motion by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Garner and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Agenda as presented.

ITEM NO. 3 – OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – 6:30 – 7:00 P.M.

No one appeared during the Open Forum.

ITEM NO. 4 – PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT AND TO CONSIDER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RICHMOND COUNTY CODE AND ZONING ORDINANCE

Chairman Robinette declared the Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments to the Richmond County Code and Zoning Ordinance open for public comment at 6:31 P.M.

Planning Director Jamie Armstrong was the first speaker, and he addressed the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and County Code:

A) RZT-2007-1: Ordinance to Add Mini-Storage Facilities to Zoning Ordinance – Mr. Armstrong advised that mini-storage facilities would be deemed as Conditional Use.

There were no other speakers, and the hearing was declared closed.

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried the Board approved the proposed amendments to RZT-2007-1.

B) The Public Hearing on RZT-2007-2 was declared open by Chairman Robinette, and Planning Director Jamie Armstrong advised that the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment has determined that there is a need to allow for alternative housing to assist in care of family members through accessory dwelling units.

Commissioner Ussery questioned the definition of “health care professional” in the ordinance that requires documentation by a health care professional. Mr. Armstrong advised that this would mean a doctor, and Commissioner Ussery suggested that the ordinance should use the term doctor.

Commissioner Dillman questioned the portion of the ordinance that would require that added septic tanks be closed up once the accessory dwelling is no longer in use. Mr. Armstrong advised that the requirement would be to cap off the septic tank and remove the connection, and this would not prevent future use of the tank.

Commissioner Garner questioned how much need there appears to be for the provision of accessory dwelling units. Mr. Armstrong advised that one request had been denied, but no other specific requests have been made.

Commissioner Maske confirmed that the accessory unit would only be for someone who required care. Mr. Armstrong advised that each situation would be decided on a case by case basis, and he did not anticipate that this situation would occur very often.

There were no other speakers, and the Public Hearing was declared closed at 6:37 P.M. by Chairman Robinette.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Ussery to approve the amended ordinance with change of the term “health care professional” in three different places to doctor, and to specify that this is for temporary use. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maske, who verified that this would be treated as a conditional use. Commissioner Dillman noted that no other counties have such an ordinance. Mr. Armstrong advised that this is a widely used ordinance in other states and in urban areas. The motion carried by the following 6 to 1 vote:

*FOR: Commissioners Ussery, Maske, Robinette, Watkins, Wilson and Dillman
OPPOSED: Commissioner Garner*

C) The Public Hearing on RZM-2007-1 to consider an Ordinance to include an area around the new section of Hwy. 73 in the Highway Commercial Overlay District was declared open at 6:38 P.M. by Chairman Robinette. Mr. Armstrong advised that the Planning Board has recommended that the new section opened from Hwy. 73 to Hwy. 220 be included in the Highway Commercial Overlay District.

Commissioner Watkins asked what businesses would be allowed in the HCOD, and Mr. Armstrong advised that some would be allowed through Conditional Use, and that this is a way to notify people in the area and allow them the opportunity to make opinions known.

Mr. B. F. Darnell stated that he lives in this area, and he asked if his property be rezoned to Commercial. Mr. Armstrong advised that base zoning would continue to be Residential in this area and that this would only come into effect if someone requests a non-residential use. Then a hearing would be held to allow for public input.

There were no other speakers, and the hearing was closed at 6:40 P.M. by Chairman Robinette.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Ussery and unanimously carried to approve the new section opened from Hwy. 73 to Hwy. 220 in the Highway Commercial Overlay District.

D) The Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments to Chapter 20, Article III, Division 4 – Minimum Housing and Structure Code was declared open by Chairman Robinette.

Mr. Armstrong advised that the proposed amendments would address residential and commercial application of the Minimum Housing and Structure Code and would add provisions related to abandoned structures within the County Code.

There were no other speakers, and the hearing was closed at 6:42 P.M. by Chairman Robinette.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Maske and unanimously carried to approve additional provisions to the Minimum Housing and Structure Code as recommended.

E) The Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments on Chapter 26, Article III, Property Addressing was declared open by Chairman Robinette.

Mr. Armstrong advised that the proposal is to delete, add, and alter provisions related to property addressing and street naming within the County Code so as to simplify assigning of addresses.

There were no other speakers, and the public hearing was declared closed by Chairman Robinette at 6:44 P.M.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried to alter provisions of the property addressing and street naming portion of the County Code.

ITEM NO. 5 – PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED FY 2007-2008 BUDGET

The Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed FY 2007-2008 budget was declared open at 6:48 P.M. by Chairman Robinette.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Larry K. Weatherly appeared before the Board to express appreciation for all that has been done in the past for Richmond County Schools and all that will be done in the future. Dr. Weatherly acknowledged that the Board has a difficult task before them as they consider the courthouse and jail construction projects, but he hoped that the Board would continue to give careful consideration to the school budget. Dr. Weatherly stated that the increases in the school budget are all “natural increases” for salaries, etc., and he expressed appreciation for the Board’s continued support.

Commissioner Watkins thanked Dr. Weatherly for all that he has done for Richmond County Schools, and he congratulated him on his retirement.

Chairman Robinette also thanked Dr. Weatherly for all that he has done and for his involvement in boards and committees throughout his career.

Dr. Bob Street spoke in opposition to the proposed .10 cent tax increase, referring to the tax as excessive. Dr. Street stated that “the power to tax is the power to destroy.” Dr. Street appealed to the Board to give careful consideration to the proposed tax increase.

Chairman Robinette asked that the audience refrain from applause during the hearing.

Chairman Robinette thanked Dr. Street for his comments, and he concurred that everyone on the Board of Commissioners shares his concern about the tax rate.

Mr. Jim Lane stated that he has owned a business in Richmond County for the past five years, and he was upset about the proposed tax increase. Mr. Lane went on to provide statistics comparing Richmond County to other North Carolina counties in terms of tax rates, and he asked that the Board consider a sales tax increase rather than a property tax increase so that everyone would pay, not just property owners.

Ms. Edwina Geisling stated that she does not live in Richmond County but does own property and pay taxes here. Ms. Geisling opposed the proposed tax increase and added that water rates are too high.

There were no other speakers to address the proposed FY 2007-2008 budget, and Chairman Robinette declared the hearing closed at 7:02 P.M.

In response to comments regarding sales taxes, Chairman Robinette clarified that only the North Carolina General Assembly can authorize the levy of sales taxes.

ITEM NO. 6 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY COUNTY MANAGER JAMES E. HAYNES AND FORMAL PRESENTATION OF FY 2007-2008 PROPOSED BUDGET

County Manager Haynes stated that each year the County Manager is required to present a balanced budget, and budgeting practices are controlled by the laws of North Carolina. Mr. Haynes advised that he has put together a proposed budget for FY 2007-2008 totalling \$45,566,000.00, most of which is federal pass-through monies. Mr. Haynes noted that the proposed budget is just over \$4,000,000.00 more than the prior year budget. Mr. Haynes explained that judicial center construction and debt for school bonds that were approved by the voters account for much of the proposed increase, in addition to a tremendous increase in Medicaid. Mr. Haynes pointed out that the budget proposal includes use of \$2,469,472.00 from the County’s savings account in order to make ends meet and to balance the budget. Mr. Haynes assured the Board that the proposed budget is conservative with only minimum growth, but he had tried not to leave any agency out of the budget. Mr. Haynes noted that a 2.4% increase for county employees is proposed in the budget, although the cost of living is much higher than that with increasing fuel prices, etc. Mr. Haynes felt strong that it is much more beneficial to retain good employees than to recruit new ones. Mr. Haynes also noted that the County contribution into employee 401K accounts would now be at 7%, and a self-funded health insurance program is recommended in an effort to avoid the \$600,000.00 increase proposed by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Mr. Haynes advised that an employee health

clinic will soon be available through the Health Department, also as an effort to reduce employee health care costs.

In further discussion of the proposed budget, Mr. Haynes cited the County's \$4,000,000.00 cost for Medicaid accounts for a major portion of the proposed increase in the tax rate. Mr. Haynes noted that the State is discussing some relief for counties' match to Medicaid costs, but no definitive action has been taken by the Legislature that can be counted on. Mr. Haynes advised that the projected cost of Medicaid in the coming year is \$1,000,000.00 than the current year, and that the County has exceeded the cap amount implemented last year. Mr. Haynes emphasized the 25% projected increase in Medicaid that the County is facing unless the Legislature resolves this problem.

In discussion of specific departments and items in the budget, Mr. Haynes advised that the Code Enforcement Program is included in the budget, and he referenced the progress that is being made through this program and that Cole Foundation have been used and more have been requested to continue clean-up in East Rockingham and of a mill site.

County Manager Haynes advised that Richmond County's on-line presence continues to improve, and a new county web site should be complete within a few weeks.

In discussion of the Sheriff's Department Budget, Mr. Haynes advised that several of the vehicles in this department have excessive mileage, and he is recommending replacement of these undependable cars.

Mr. Haynes advised that many departments are not being recommended for funding at the level requested, and he thanked department heads for their cooperation in managing with the funds that are available.

Mr. Haynes stated that the current proposed budget calls for a .93 per \$100.00 of valuation tax rate. Mr. Haynes explained that the courthouse construction accounts for 7 cents of the proposed increase; Medicaid represents another 4 cents; rising energy costs account for 1 cent of the increase; school improvements and community college roofs and improvements amount to another 3 cents. Mr. Haynes pointed out that all of these increases have been ranked as high priority or mandatory expenses, and the County has been able to absorb some of this increase, but not all.

In discussion of future revenue projections, County Manager Haynes noted that the Touchstone Energy Plant is now under construction and has a projected value of \$150,000,000, which will be included in next year's budget. Next year's budget will also reflect increased property values due to Revaluation, and the tax rate should then be adjusted downward. Mr. Haynes reminded the Board that the current year's tax collection rate determines the basis for next year's budget, and the current collection rate is just over 93%.

Mr. Haynes noted that the Solid Waste Budget, which operates as a stand-alone Enterprise Fund, totals \$3,610,000.00.

Water and Sewer Budget, which operates on water bill collection income, totals \$5,102,720.00 total budget. Mr. Haynes noted that 6 miles of water lines have been installed with in-house crews in an effort to save money.

Mr. Haynes emphasized the importance of the Economic Development Program as we strive to make Richmond County a good place to live. Mr. Haynes was pleased to announce that today Ritz Craft celebrated completion of their 250th manufactured home. Mr. Haynes reminded the Board that everything we do and say is judged by those who visit the County and may consider locating a business here as Ritz Craft has.

Mr. Haynes mentioned that fire district tax rates remain the same – at 9 and 10 cent rates, and money has been set aside toward truck purchases in continuing this program.

County Manager Haynes completed his remarks by pledging to provide the best services to the citizens as possible.

Commissioner Maske referred to several proposals that are now under consideration in Raleigh to provide some relief to counties on Medicaid expense, and he suggested that the County wait to see the outcome of this pending legislation before adopting local budget.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried to continue budget discussions during the June 19 Regular Mid-Month Noon Meeting, and that the Mid-Month Meeting be continued until June 28 at 6:30 P.M. for continuation of budget discussion and adoption.

ITEM NO. 7 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY PLANNING DIRECTOR JAMIE ARMSTRONG

Planning Director Jamie Armstrong requested Board approval of Scotland/Richmond County boundary line plat which had been in dispute. Mr. Armstrong confirmed that there has been no change in the boundary line, which goes through a lake.

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Scotland/Richmond County boundary description as recently researched and authenticated by the State.

ITEM NO. 8 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT RICK SAGO

In updating the Board on that status of a shell building project, Director of Development Rick Sago advised that he has met with Rockingham City Manager Monty Crump to discuss the proposed location for a new shell building, and he was advised that the City will discuss this project at their next meeting. Mr. Sago commended Ritz Craft on completion of their 250th home today.

Mr. Sago provided a recap of this past fiscal year, in which 4 new industry announcements were made representing a \$280,000,000.00 investment in Richmond County and the creation of 276 new jobs. Mr. Sago commended the Board on the investment that has been made in infrastructure, which has paid off with these new industry locations.

Commissioner Dillman inquired about the Laurel Hill Paper Company recent closing, and Mr. Sago advised that Laurel Hill has been purchased by Von Drelle Company of Hickory, and they are working on the plant now.

ITEM NO. 9 – APPEARANCE BY MRS. CANDY BACON FOR ANNUAL REPORT FROM HUMANE SOCIETY OF RICHMOND COUNTY

Humane Society Director Candy Bacon provided a report of activities at the Humane Society Shelter and provided handout materials to confirm the statistics and services at the shelter.

Mrs. Bacon thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak, and she provided a summary of what is being done by the Humane Society. Mrs. Bacon's handout materials included intake numbers by area, and she advised that the City of Rockingham's reduction in funding has turned their budget upside down. Mrs. Bacon report that there are 144 animals at the shelter today, and a crew of 6 takes care of all of these animals. Mrs. Bacon advised that an average of 25 to 40 people visit the shelter daily, some of whom are there to adopt, and some in search of lost animals. Mrs. Bacon stressed that the 10,000 sq. ft. of floor space must be cleaned daily, but she could not imagine any better minimum wage job because they are all there to care for the animals. This year, Mrs. Bacon noted, represents the 30th anniversary of the Humane Society. Mrs. Bacon noted that the County has recently purchased the Hwy. 220 former location for the cat shelter for a water tank location, and she noted that the current shelter location opened in June 2002. Mrs. Bacon advised of plans to repaint the inside of the shelter with the help of inmate labor and with donated paint.

Since June 2002, Mrs. Bacon reported that 19,244 dogs and cats have come into the shelter, and she reported that 80% of the animals at the shelter are euthanized, and many are not adoptable. Mrs. Bacon suggested that the Board consider a countywide leash law, with the exception of hunting dogs in an effort to control breeding and stop nuisances. Mrs. Bacon recommended complaint driven enforcement of a leash law.

In further reporting of program activities, Mrs. Bacon advised that the Humane Society offers a low income spay/neuter program funded by the State and the Cole Foundation. Mrs. Bacon also referenced an outreach program for a bite prevention program.

In discussion of the crematory, Mrs. Bacon advised that this is in full operation, and private cremations are being offered at a rate of 35 pounds or under at \$25.00 and over 35 pounds at a fee of \$50.00. Mrs. Bacon added that the lease on cremation equipment ends in 2008 with a \$1.00 payment due.

Mrs. Bacon introduced Animal Cruelty Investigator Billy Braden, advising that he has completed training for Level II and continues additional training through grant funds.

Mrs. Bacon provided a breakdown of labor and visitors at the shelter, noting that more than 1,200 volunteer hours were used in maintenance and operation of the shelter during the past month.

Mrs. Bacon advised that due to shortfalls in funding, the Humane Society budget has been revised to \$347,580.00 , and she stressed the need for an additional \$30,000.00 to make up

for the shortfall in funding. Mrs. Bacon hoped to make up some of the shortfall in funding through increased adoption fees.

Chairman Robinette thanked Mrs. Bacon for the informative report from the Humane Society.

ITEM NO. 10 – APPEARANCE BY MR. CHARLES B. DEANE, JR. FOR REPORT AND UPDATE ON “KEEP RICHMOND COUNTY BEAUTIFUL” AND EAST ROCKINGHAM INITIATIVE

Mr. Charles Deane provided handout material concerning “Keep Richmond County Beautiful” and he advised of an annual luncheon to honor those involved in clean-up in certain areas of Richmond County.

Mr. Deane credited Tommy Nichols for pick-up of litter along Highway 220 when he runs, and Mrs. Bateman and Mrs. Key for clean-up on Clemmer Road.

Mr. Deane expressed concern about mowing along highways that is contracted by D.O.T., noting that sometimes the mowing takes place before the road has been cleaned up, which makes the situation worse. Mr. Deane complimented the work of Community Service Coordinator Sandy Rickett, who works directly with Solid Waste Enforcement Officer Allen Hodges to assign workers. Mr. Deane noted that Judge Tanya Wallace is working with other judges to process Community Service workers.

Mr. Deane advised that Planning Director Jamie Armstrong and Code Enforcement Officer Shannon Brigman have provided pictures of every billboard in the County, and he suggested an ordinance to regulate billboards and signs and maintain reasonable standards for signs.

Mr. Deane advised that KRCB visits 4th grades to talk about litter, and he expressed their strong support of the East Rockingham Initiative. Mr. Deane referred to the \$300,000.00 grant from the Cole Foundation toward the East Rockingham clean-up effort, and he suggested that some of the Cole Foundation funds might be used to clean up the former Safie Mill site.

Commissioner Dillman thanked Mr. Deane Charles for all that Keep Richmond County Beautiful does for the County.

Commissioner Wilson suggested that whoever had demolished the Safie Mill Building should also be responsible for clean-up of the property.

Commissioner Watkins added that Leak Street has a program to supervise juveniles in the clean up of roads and streets.

Commissioner Ussery confirmed that the Safie Mill property is located within the City of Rockingham’s zoning jurisdiction and that there may be environmental issues on this property.

The Board thanked Mr. Deane for his presentation.

ITEM NO. 11 – APPEARANCE BY MRS. BARBARA MCLAIN AND MRS. BARBARA THOMAS TO REQUEST FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR SENIOR GAMES OF RICHMOND COUNTY

Mrs. Barbara McLain introduced herself as Senior Games Ambassador for Richmond County, and she introduced others who were present: Barbara Thomas, Viola Reddick, James Carlisle, Ken Hewett, and Laura Walker. Mrs. McLain referred to the large delegation in the audience whom she referred to as friends and fellow participants in senior games. Mrs. McLain thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss their problem, in that the City of Hamlet has announced that after 17 years of doing so, they will no longer administer the Senior Games Program. Mrs. McLain advised that they cannot join Scotland County's program because it is a closed program for Scotland County residents only, and Moore County was not interested in having them join their program.

Mrs. McLain stressed the need for senior adults to have organized activities to keep them active and motivated and to offer the socialization that is so important to seniors. Senior Games offers the opportunity for seniors to use their talents and to feel good about themselves. Mrs. McLain provided the number of participants in Senior Games in recent years as provided by Mr. Brad Allen of the Raleigh office: 133 in 2003; 128 in 2004; 158 in 2005; and 161 in 2006. Mrs. McLain described the events that are offered at the state level after local competition.

Mrs. Barbara Thomas explained Silver Arts and discussed the health benefits of Senior Games. Mrs. Thomas stated that their mission is to create year-round activities for seniors 55 and older. Mrs. Thomas acknowledged that the State continues to support Senior Games in an effort to provide fellowship, health, competition, fun, friends, and preventive care. Mrs. Thomas emphasized the health benefits provided through senior games, stressing their goal of year-round health promotion. As an example, Mrs. Thomas stated that for the cost of nursing home care for 3 people, Senior Games could serve 50,000 people.

Mrs. Thomas explained that Silver Arts is North Carolina's senior arts program, which strives to keep seniors active and involved while providing a stage for the arts. Mrs. Thomas mentioned some of the Silver Arts categories for participants – Heritage Arts; crocheting and knitting; woodworking; toile decorative painting; jewelry making ; literary arts; visual arts-drawing and framing; pastels and drawing; performing arts – comedy; dance; vocal; and instrumental. Mrs. Thomas concluded her remarks with the motto “live your lives until you die.”

Mrs. Viola Reddick thanked the Board for the opportunity speak, advising that writing short stories is part of Silver Arts, and she advised that she has participated in this category in writing about moving back to her husband's home county here and meeting new people after her husband's death. Mrs. Reddick advised that she has also participated and won medals in bowling competition, and she emphasized the importance of Senior Games.

Mrs. McLain advised that 3 positions are needed to support the senior games program – a Local Games Coordinator-part-time; an Events Director; and a Silver Arts Coordinator.

Since Hamlet did not include Senior Games in their budget this year, Mrs. McLain requested the Board to accept county responsibility for funding and staffing of senior games.

Chairman Robinette thanked Mrs. McLain and her group for the presentation, and he suggested that they also approach the City of Rockingham for assistance. The Chairman asked County Manager Haynes to consult with Rockingham on their support.

Commissioner Maske asked about the Coordinator position, and Mrs. McLain advised that this position should be staffed year round but on a part-time basis, with two required meetings to be attended in Raleigh for training, etc.

Commissioner Garner asked the cost of this position, and Mrs. McLain estimated \$10,000.00 per year. Mrs. McLain added that the ambassadors would assist the Coordinator and that the State is very supportive.

Commissioner Ussery questioned how Hamlet Senior Center Director Susan Sellers had been paid for her work with Senior Games, and Mrs. McLain advised that a portion of her salary was charged to the Senior Games budget, but approximately 60% of her time was spent on the games.

Commissioner Dillman confirmed that the funding of Senior Games must be in place by August in order to continue the local games.

Commissioner Garner asked about private donations, and Mrs. McLain acknowledged that they have received funding from both Rotary Clubs in Rockingham and Hamlet, but they will lose some funding through Title III-D.

In concluding their presentation, those in attendance came forward to display quilts, woodworking crafts, etc. to display some of the crafts made by participants.

Commissioner Dillman asked how checks could be written for donations to Senior Games. Mrs. McLain indicated that currently they did not have anyone to receive the donations, but Hamlet will have some funds left over this year.

When asked about personnel costs, County Manager Haynes confirmed that the positions are not included in the \$10,000.00 estimated cost for Senior Games.

Chairman Robinette thanked the group for their presentation and advised that the Board would take the request under advisement during the budget process.

ITEM NO. 12 – CONSENT AGENDA

By a motion of Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following items of the Consent Agenda:

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 7, 2007 AS SUBMITTED BY THE CLERK**
- B) TAX RELEASES TOTALLING \$23,234.06 AND TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$3,982.80 WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE TAX**

ADMINISTRATOR AND ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES BY REFERENCE.

C) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVISION FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF WIC FUNDS

Revenue:

WIC-Gen. Admin.	115140-333002	Decrease by	(\$8,500.00)
WIC-Client Services	115140-333039	Increase by	\$8,000.00
WIC-Breastfeeding	115142-333042	Decrease by	(\$3,500.00)
WIC-Nutrition Education	115143-335045	Increase by	\$4,000.00

Expenditures:

WIC-Gen. Admin. Salaries-Regular	115140-4100	Decrease by	(\$8,500.00)
WIC-Client Services Salaries-Regular	115141-4100	Increase by	\$8,000.00
WIC-Breastfeeding Salaries-Regular	115142-4100	Decrease by	(\$3,500.00)
WIC-Nutrition Ed. Salaries-Regular	115143-4100	Increase by	\$4,000.00

D) APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVISION TO CARRY FORWARD INTO FY 2007-2008 CONTINUED RICHMOND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY CARE CLINIC

Revenue:

Community Care Clinic:

Richmond Community Foundation	115216-384004	Increase by	\$168,300.00
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Expenditures:

Community Care Clinic:

Salaries-Regular	115216-4100	Increase by	\$168,300.00
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ITEM NO. 13 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Health Department Fee Schedules, effective July 1, 2007 for the General Clinic, Dental Clinic, and Environmental Health as approved by the Board of Health:

**ITEM NO. 14 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT
TO INCREASE AIRPORT BUDGET**

County Manager Haynes requested Board approval of a Budget Amendment to offset anticipated overruns in the airport budget.

By a motion of Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Budget Amendment for the Airport Budget:

**ITEM NO. 15 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF FIRE DISTRICT
BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Garner and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the following Budget Amendments for various fire districts. Commissioner Ussery confirmed that these adjustments are being made to balance the budgets with actual tax revenues. The motion carried to approved the Budget Amendments as follows:

**ITEM NO. 16 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT**

By a motion of Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Garner and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Budget Amendment to appropriate Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds in the current year budget to provide for salaries charged to the grant:

**ITEM NO. 17 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO
DECLARE MISCELLANEOUS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION EQUIPMENT AS
SURPLUS PROPERTY**

By a motion of Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Resolution to declare miscellaneous equipment no longer in use at Cooperative Extension Service as surplus property:

**RESOLUTION
TO DECLARE VARIOUS EQUIPMENT
AT COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
AS SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY
FOR DISPOSAL**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the following equipment is no longer beneficial to the operations of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service Office of Richmond County:

**(2) Projection Screens
County I.D.# 07689
County I.D.# 07495**

**(1) Plexi-Glass Food Pyramid Display
County I.D.# 07558**

**(1) Physician's Upright Weight Scale
County I.D.# 02808**

**(1) Rolling File
County I.D.# 01652**

**(1) Canon Adding Machine
Serial # B2000734**

**Sony Mavica Digital Camera
County I.D.# 07528**

WHEREAS, the Richmond County Board of Commissioners is hereby requested to authorize disposal of said equipment in accordance with the requirements and procedures for disposal of county property as set forth in North Carolina General Statute 160A-266.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed equipment is hereby declared as surplus county property by official action of the Richmond County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized to dispose of said equipment as described herein in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-266.

This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption this 4th day of June, 2007.

**ITEM NO. 18 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF AUDIT CONTRACT WITH
THOMPSON, PRICE, SCOTT, ADAMS & CO., P.A. FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2007**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Ussery and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to approve the contract for audit services with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A.

Commissioner Watkins asked if this service is bid, and County Manager Haynes advised that bids should be solicited in the next fiscal year for this service. The motion to approve the audit contract at the same rate as the past several years carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 19 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR CLEAN WATER ACT OF 2007

County Manager Haynes advised that Lumber River Council of Governments has proposed a Resolution for the Board's consideration in support of the Clean Water Act of 2007. Mr. Haynes noted that Richmond County has depended upon Clean Water Bond Funds for local projects in the past.

By a motion of Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Resolution in support of the Clean Water Act of 2007:

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CLEAN WATER ACT OF 2007

WHEREAS, North Carolina's continued prosperity depends on protecting the State's water resources for current use and future generations; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is expected to grow by 3.5 million people to exceed 12 million by the year 2030, placing pressure on the State's water resources and local water providers; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's businesses, traditional and emerging industries all depend on reliable supplies of clean water, reasonable utility costs, well maintained water infrastructure and an attractive natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the 1998 Clean Water Bonds delivered significant benefits to North Carolina communities and citizens, supporting 1,103 projects in 97 counties, which

Helped create or retain 42,000 jobs

Corrected major regulatory violations in 97 communities

Addressed failing septic systems and contaminated wells in 59 counties

Resulted in 50 communities receiving sewer service for the first time

Encouraged regional efficiencies, sound planning and conservation practices;

and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public water, sewer and storm water utilities will require investments totaling \$16.63 billion to keep pace with necessary improvements and population growth over the next 25 years, including \$6.85 billion in investments within the next five years;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond County Board of Commissioners urges the North Carolina General Assembly to enact the "Clean Water Act of 2007", which provides for a \$500 million bond issue to be expended over the

next five years, and an annual appropriation of \$50 million in recurring funding to address urgent needs.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007.

ITEM NO. 20 – CONSIDERATION OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Board considered and approved the following board and committee appointments and reappointments:

SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD (1 appointment) – *Mr. Brian David is eligible for reappointment to a new three-year term and is willing to serve*

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried to approve the reappointment of Mr. Brian David to a new 3-year term on the DSS Board, effective July 1, 2007.

RICHMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (1 appointment) – *Mr. Bert Unger is eligible for reappointment to a new four-year term and is willing to serve (RCC letter attached.)*

A motion was offered by Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried to approve the reappointment of Mr. Bert Unger to a new 4-year term on the RCC Board of Trustees, effective July 1, 2007.

SANDHILLS MENTAL HEALTH AREA BOARD (1 appointment) – *Mr. Glenn Alexander is eligible for reappointment to a new four-year term and is willing to serve (letter from Sandhills Center attached.) Mr. Alexander serves in his professional capacity to represent the developmentally disabled.*

A motion was offered by Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried to approve the reappointment of Mr. Glenn Alexander to a new 4-year term on the Sandhills Center Area Board, effective July 1, 2007.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (2 appointments) – *Mr. Arvind Maheshwari is eligible for reappointment to a new two-year term and is willing to serve Mr. Maheshwari is serving in his capacity as a hotel industry representative.*

Commissioner John B. Garner is serving as the Commission representative and is eligible for reappointment to a new two-year term. (Letter from Tourism Authority Chairman and Secretary attached.)

A motion was offered by Commissioner Dillman and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the reappointment of Mr. Arvind Maheshwari and Commissioner John B. Garner to new 2-year terms on the Tourism Development Authority. Commissioner Ussery asked if there is a residency requirement for serving on this Board, and it was confirmed that Mr. Maheshwari owns a local hotel and is an active member of the Authority. The motion to approve the reappointments carried unanimously.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD (3 appointments) – *Maj. James Clemmons is eligible for reappointment to a new one-year term (represents Richmond County Sheriff's Dept.); Mr. Rich Miencke is eligible for reappointment to a new one-year term*

(represents Substance Abuse Service); and Mr. George Crump, III is eligible for reappointment to a new one-year term (serves in his capacity as an attorney.)

By a motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried, the Board approved the reappointment of CJPP members Maj. James Clemmons for a new 1-year term; Rich Miencke for a new 1-year term; and George Crump for a new 1-year term, all effective July 1, 2007.

RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2 appointments) – *Mrs. Claudia Dwight has declined to serve another term and Mrs. Janie Sims is not eligible for reappointment, having served the maximum of two consecutive three-year terms. County Library Director Anne Thrower will be offering recommendations for replacement of these two Trustees for your consideration.*

Library Director Anne Thrower has provided Volunteer Application Forms for Mrs. Natalie Sparks and Mrs. Jeanine Wall. Mrs. Thrower recommends these two individuals to fill the two vacant seats on the Library Board created by the resignation of Mrs. Claudia Dwight and the ineligibility of Mrs. Janie Sims to serve another term.

By a motion of Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Mrs. Natalie Sparks and Mrs. Jeanine Wall to serve as new members of the Library Board of Trustees in 3-year terms, effective July 1, 2007.

JURY COMMISSION (1 appointment) – *Mrs. Alice Moehler Warrick is eligible for reappointment to a new two-year term and is willing to serve. Mrs. Warrick is the only County Commission representative; the other Jury Commission appointments are made through the Courts.*

By a motion of Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried, the Board approved the reappointment of Mrs. Alice M. Warrick to a new 2-year term on the Jury Commission.

ITEM NO. 21 – REQUEST BY TOWN OF ELLERBE FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY EASEMENT FOR SIDEWALK INSTALLATION

By a motion of Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried, the Board approved a Temporary Easement for sidewalk installation from Sunset Avenue south to the Town Limits of Ellerbe.

ITEM NO. 22 – OTHER BUSINESS

A) CONSIDERATION OF JUNE AND JULY MEETING DATES

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Maske and unanimously carried, the Board rescheduled the July 2 Regular Meeting to the following Monday, July 9, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. and agreed to cancel the July 17 Mid-Month Noon Meeting.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M. by a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Maske and unanimously carried.

*Marian S. Savage, CMC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners*