

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

*The Richmond County Board of Commissioners met for the Regular Meeting of August 6, 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.*

*The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Robinette.*

**ITEM NO. 1 – INVOCATION BY REVEREND MITCHELL ROLLER OF SWEET HAVEN CHURCH, ROCKINGHAM, NC**

*The invocation was delivered by Rev. Mitchell Roller of Sweet Haven Church, Rockingham, NC.*

**ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*A motion was offered by Commissioners Garner, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried to approve the Agenda as presented.*

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

**A) APPEARANCE BY MR. JAMES S. STANDRIDGE FOR DISCUSSION OF TAX DEPARTMENT POLICIES (5-MINUTE PRESENTATION)**

*Mr. James Standridge introduced himself as “an average taxpayer” of Richmond County, and acknowledged that he had a complaint about the Tax Department, but the issue had been resolved by Tax Administrator Butch Greene. Mr. Standridge went on to express concern about the recent tax increase and the hardship that this may place on citizens. Mr. Standridge further complained about the procedures of the Tax Office in attaching bank accounts and using garnishment as a means of collecting past due taxes.*

**ITEM NO. 4 – PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT ON THE PROPOSED NAMING OF HAYES ETHERIDGE ROAD AS A NEW PRIVATE ROAD LOCATED NEAR GHIO ROAD AND SPRINGHILL CHURCH ROAD**

*The Public Hearing on the proposed naming of a new private road, Hayes Etheridge Road, was declared open by Chairman Robinette at 6:40 P.M.*

*Planning Director Jamie Armstrong advised that the notice of the Public Hearing had been published and posted in the community in accordance with General Statute provisions.*

*There were no other speakers for or against the proposed road name, and the hearing was declared closed at 6:40 P.M.*

*By a motion of Commissioner Maske and seconded by Commissioner Garner, the Board accepted the recommended name of Hayes Etheridge Road for the new private road name. Commissioner Watkins noted that one reason to change a road name is for identification purposes for emergency*

access purposes. Mr. Armstrong stated that this would be the responsibility of the property owner, but he remarked that while some private roads do not meet certain road standards, emergency vehicles will make every effort to respond to calls.

The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 5 – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2007-2008  
SECONDARY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED BY REPRESENTATIVES  
OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

N. C. Department of Transportation District Engineer Kevin Hedrick appeared before the Board to present the 2007-2008 Secondary Improvement Program. Mr. Hedrick introduced DOT Board member G. R. Kindley, and DOT personnel Jeff Picklesteiner, and Travis Morgam.

Mr. Hedrick discussed each element of the Secondary Improvement Program and advised that total funds available for 2007-2008 were \$890,908.00.

Mr. Hedrick offered to answer any questions that the Board might have; there was discussion of bridge inspections in light of the recent bridge collapse in Minnesota, and Mr. Picklesteiner advised that DOT has a two-year inspection schedule for North Carolina bridges.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Maske and unanimously carried to adopt the following Resolution approving the Secondary Improvement Program for FY 2007-2008 as presented by DOT:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING RICHMOND COUNTY  
SECONDARY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina Department of Transportation District Engineer Kevin Hedrick appeared before the Richmond County Board of Commissioners during the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2007 to present the 2007-2008 Secondary Improvement Program for Richmond County; and

**WHEREAS**, each Commissioner was presented a copy of the program, and background information was provided along with objectives of the Secondary Improvement Program. Funding availability for each element of the program was also discussed and questions from Board members were answered.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Richmond County Board of Commissioners adopted the Secondary Improvement Program for FY 2007-2008 as presented by the N. C. Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 6th day of August, 2007.

**ITEM NO. 6 – MONTHLY PLANNING/GIS REPORT BY PLANNING DIRECTOR JAMIE ARMSTRONG**

**A) CONSIDERATION OF FIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS FOR DEMOLITION**

*Planning Director Jamie Armstrong presented the following five Orders for Demolition and Removal, advising that these structures have been declared uninhabitable, the required hearings were held, and no appeals have been filed with the Board of Adjustment.*

- A) CASE #ER1033 - 129 Railroad Street; Owner: Thurman Barbee (Est.)**
- B) CASE #ER1035 - McCrosky Street; Owner: Barbara and Dennis Thompson**
- C) CASE #ER1037 – 107 Pickett Street; Owner: Edward and Gloria Davis**
- D) CASE #ER1039 – 365 Airport Road; Owner: Barbara Perkins (Est.)**
- E) CASE #ER1040 – rear of Church Street; Owner: Calvin Williams**

*There was discussion of the properties, and Commissioner Garner confirmed that there had been no response from any of the property owners.*

*Commissioner Maske confirmed that none of the homes are occupied.*

*Commissioner Watkins confirmed that all notices were mailed with a Return Receipt.*

*A motion was offered by Commissioner Garner and seconded by Commissioner Ussery to authorize the five Orders for Demolition as presented by Mr. Armstrong. Commissioner Dillman asked if the cost would be incurred by the property owner, and Mr. Armstrong advised that this would be a part of the order.*

*Commissioner Watkins noted that requiring property owners to pay the demolition cost keeps some funds in the budget; otherwise the County would incur the cost.*

*Commissioner Maske asked how many homes in East Rockingham have been renovated and Mr. Armstrong advised just a few.*

*The motion to authorize the Demolition Orders carried unanimously.*

*Mr. Armstrong reminded the Board that in February 2007 an order was approved by the Board for property in Safie owned by Mr. Larry England. Mr. England had requested a stay of the order to allow time for him to obtain title to the property. Mr. Armstrong noted that this is the 140<sup>th</sup> and last day of the stay, and no structural permits have been issued. Mr. Armstrong advised that the only contact he had with Mr. England was during his time in jail.*

*County Attorney Futrell advised that the original order would be back in effect if the stay has ended.*

*Commissioner Maske offered a motion to delay the order for an additional 30 days to provide time for Mr. England to obtain permits, and if not, then the demolition process would begin. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dillman. Commissioner Ussery questioned whether more time would be granted if Mr. England does not respond within 30 days, and he wanted assurance that Mr. England was willing and able to finish the work.*

*Commissioner Watkins inquired about the permit, and Mr. Armstrong advised that once the permit is issued he has 180 days to complete the work.*

Commissioner Maske withdrew his original motion and then offered a new motion to table action on Mr. England's order until the September 10 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Dillman withdrew her second to the original motion by Commissioner Maske and then offered a second to the new motion to table this item until September 10. The motion carried by the following 6 to 1 vote:

FOR: Commissioners Maske, Dillman, Garner, Ussery, Watkins, and Wilson

OPPOSED: Chairman Robinette

**ITEM NO. 7 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT RICK SAGO**

Director of Development Rick Sago discussed Andy Hillenburg, who has expressed interest in North Carolina Speedway and ideas for year-round events. Mr. Sago responded to a question by Commissioner Dillman concerning the auction, verifying that the auction date is October 3.

Mr. Sago mentioned that Senate Bill 3 had been approved by the General Assembly, a new part of which would require that by 2014 power would be generated by poultry waste.

Mr. Sago reported that there are still a number of active prospects, one of which returned last week, and another from Florida who visited the County on a recent Sunday. Mr. Sago noted that both prospects were referrals from North Carolina Southeast.

Mr. Sago advised the Board that the Trinity Manufacturing expansion is nearing completion, and testing is now underway.

Mr. Sago advised that he has been involved in the interview process as RCC seeks a replacement for Herb Smith, who is retiring.

Commissioner Ussery confirmed that there has been no further contact from Fibrowatt, but the newly passed legislation is just the first step in the process to require alternative sources for power.

Chairman Robinette thanked Mr. Sago for his report.

**ITEM NO. 8 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY COUNTY MANAGER JAMES E. HAYNES**

County Manager Haynes advised the Board that tax bills have been mailed and collections in July are up from July of the prior year. Mr. Haynes acknowledged that the comments made Mr. Standridge earlier in the meeting remind us all that people don't seem to follow the issues. As a reminder, Mr. Haynes noted that the voters had approved the school bonds which resulted in a .05 cent tax increase, and the County now faces the necessity to construct a new courthouse (the equivalent of a .07 cent tax increase); new roofs for RCC (.01 cent increase in the tax rate); School Current Expense (.02 cent on the tax rate); increases in health, property and liability insurance premiums account for .01 another cent on the tax rate; and Medicaid costs account for .02 cent of the tax increase. Mr. Haynes noted that the Legislature has now agreed to take the burden of Medicaid off North Carolina counties over a period of time. Mr. Haynes advised that he has written a letter to Representative Melanie Goodwin to thank her for her support of legislation to relieve counties of the burden of Medicaid over a 3-year period. In return for relieving counties of the responsibility to fund Medicaid, Mr. Haynes advised that the State took away revenue from one of the counties' half-cent sales taxes, the equivalent of about \$1.6 million,

*and a hold-harmless clause was included in the legislation requiring counties to maintain the level of funding that the cities would normally receive through 2012. Mr. Haynes added that counties must also hold schools harmless too and make up \$315,000.00 in lost corporate sales taxes to schools. After all payments to schools and municipalities are made, the County will only gain \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00 in the coming year, but hopefully this time next year Medicaid will not be an issue for discussion. In options available to counties, Mr. Haynes advised that counties can call for a referendum to levy a one-fourth cent sales tax or .4 % Land Transfer Tax levied on all real estate transactions. Counties can choose to offer both options to the voters and may implement one of the taxes if approved by the voters.*

*In discussion of other activities during the past month, Mr. Haynes advised that on July 13 Chief Deputy Phil Sweatt, Clerk of Superior Court Kathy Gainey, Jail Administrator Jeff Millen and he had visited the Union County Courthouse. Mr. Haynes reported that in touring the courthouse they observed things of interest and made note of some things to fix or do differently. Mr. Haynes advised that 29 officers were required to man the courthouse, two bailiffs were required in each courtroom, and they observed a constant movement of prisoners in and out. Mr. Haynes advised that the architect will attempt to make some changes to improve the flow of jury and inmates and to reduce some of the need for security. Mr. Haynes noted that the Union County courtrooms were small and two were in use on that Friday.*

*In further discussion, Mr. Haynes advised that the 2007-2008 budget is now in place and departments are operating in the new budget year. Mr. Haynes also advised that the Finance Department is now operating under a new software program.*

*Commissioner Ussery asked if there is room for the cities' portion of sales taxes to grow, and County Manager Haynes advised that the State will calculate the amount, and that there may be growth. Mr. Haynes added that parts of the sales tax were changed based on point of sale rather than per capita so that the tax remains where the sale is made. Mr. Haynes explained that the Legislature had divided and changed some of the taxes to benefit the urban counties.*

*In further discussion of taxes, Commissioner Maske confirmed that the loss of ADM funds is for one year only, but the Article 39 and 44 sales tax is permanent. Commissioner Maske noted that Richmond County would lose approximately \$1.5 million, and Medicaid has increased 28.8% this past year. Commissioner Maske noted that 25 years ago Richmond County had budgeted \$300,000.00 for the County's share of Medicaid funding.*

*Commissioner Watkins asked how soon discussion of a referendum on the sales tax and the Land Transfer Tax should begin. County Manager Haynes advised that these issues could be offered in conjunction with the November election in 2008, and that if approved by the voters, the tax could be implemented within approximately 60 days from the referendum. Mr. Haynes pointed out the fact that there would be no cost to hold the referendum in conjunction with the municipal elections in the Fall of 2007, but the cost to hold a countywide election would be \$20,000.00. Mr. Haynes estimated revenue of \$200,000.00 in revenue from the first if a sales tax is approved by the voters and implemented.*

**ITEM NO. 9 – PRESENTATION OF 2008 SCHEDULE OF VALUES BY TAX**  
**ADMINISTRATOR BUTCH GREENE**

*Tax Administrator Butch Greene presented the 2008 Schedule of Values which defines how land values are assigned. Mr. Greene also presented the 2008 Use Value Manual as prepared by the Department of Revenue.*

Chairman Robinette confirmed that this is only the formal presentation of the 2008 Schedule of Values and that adoption would be requested in September.

Chairman Robinette thanked Mr. Greene for his presentation.

**ITEM NO. 10 – APPEARANCE BY MAJOR JAMES CLEMMONS OF RICHMOND COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT FOR QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT ON 2006 AND 2007 GOVERNOR’S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM AND REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR 2007 GHSP FUNDING**

Major James Clemmons of the Richmond County Sheriff’s Department appeared before the Board to present a quarterly report comparing the increase in citations and arrests compared to this time last year as a result of additional personnel and programs funded through the Governor’s Highway Safety Program. Major Clemmons acknowledged that the report only represents a portion of citations issued.

Major Clemmons requested Board approval of a Resolution authorizing a County match of \$59,817.00 to apply for total GHSP grant funds of \$158,000.00. Major Clemmons stated that the grants are in the second and third years, and the County would assume funding responsibility for these officers during the fourth year of these positions.

Commissioner Maske confirmed that during the first year of the grant funding, 100% of the cost of cars, equipment, etc. can be purchased with the federal grant funds.

Commissioner Ussery confirmed that all fines and forfeitures paid as result of these citations are allocated to the schools.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Local Governmental Resolution authorizing the application for \$158,000.00 in GHSP grant funds.

Chairman Robinette thanked Major Clemmons for his report.

**ITEM NO. 11 – CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 9, 2007 AS SUBMITTED BY THE CLERK FOR REVIEW**
  
- B) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVISION TO APPROPRIATE SMART START FUNDING FOR 2007-2008**

**Revenues:**

<b>Smart Start-Child Care Health Consultant</b>	<b>115208-333138</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$40,300.00</b>
<b>Smart Start-Dental Varnish</b>	<b>115200-333136</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 3,300.00</b>
<b>Smart Start-Bilingual Health Check Coordinator</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>

**Expenditures:**

**Smart Start-Child Care Health Consultant**

<b>Salaries: Regular</b>	<b>115208-4100</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$29,750.00</b>
<b>Fringes</b>	<b>115208-4110</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 5,950.00</b>
<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>115208-4210</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 2,100.00</b>
<b>Travel &amp; Conference</b>	<b>115208-4300</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>115208-4305</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>115208-4310</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
			<b>\$40,300.00</b>

**Smart Start-Dental Varnish**

<b>Salaries: Regular</b>	<b>115200-4100</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>
<b>Fringes</b>	<b>115200-4110</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>115200-4210</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>
<b>Medical Supplies</b>	<b>115200-4220</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 150.00</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>115200-4305</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 25.00</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>115200-4310</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>\$ 3,300.00</b>

**Smart Start-Bilingual Health Check Coordinator**

<b>Salaries: Regular</b>	<b>To Be Established</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$23,000.00</b>
<b>Fringes</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 4,600.00</b>
<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 1,300.00</b>
<b>Travel &amp; Conference</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 4,600.00</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 450.00</b>
<b>Purch. Subj. to Inv. Control</b>	<b>TBE</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>\$39,000.00</b>

**C) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVISION TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH BRANCH FOR MATERNAL HEALTH 2007-2008 BUDGET**

**Revenue:**

**Maternal Health-State**

<b>Reimbursement</b>	<b>115160-333009</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 8,149.00</b>
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**Expenditures:**

**Maternal Health**

<b>Salaries: Regular</b>	<b>115160-4100</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 6,790.00</b>
<b>Fringes</b>	<b>115160-4110</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 1,359.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>\$ 8,149.00</b>

**D) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVISION TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR FAMILY PLANNING BUDGET**

**Revenue:**

**Family Planning-State**

<b>Reimbursement</b>	<b>115130-333010</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>\$ 1,125.00</b>
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**Expenditures:**

**Family Planning-Drug  
Supplies**

**115130-4225**

**Increase by \$ 1,125.00**

**ITEM NO. 12 – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO DECLARE HP 1100A  
PRINTER/COPIER/SCANNER AS SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES**

*By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Resolution to declare one HP 1100A Printer/Copier/Scanner as surplus property to be traded toward new equipment for the Department of Social Services:*

**R E S O L U T I O N  
TO DECLARE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES EQUIPMENT  
AS SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY  
FOR DISPOSAL**

*WHEREAS, it has been determined that the following equipment is no longer beneficial to the operations of the Richmond County Department of Social Services:*

**HP 1100A PRINTER/COPIER/SCANNER**

*WHEREAS, the Richmond County Board of Commissioners is hereby requested to authorize disposal of said equipment for trade-in value toward the purchase of a new copier 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007.*

**ITEM NO. 13 – CONSIDERATION OF OFFER BY RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF  
EDUCATION FOR RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ACQUIRE  
FOUR LOTS DECLARED AS SURPLUS SCHOOL PROPERTY**

*County Manager Haynes advised that in accordance with General Statute requirements, the Board of Education is offering the Board of Commissioners the first right of refusal on any property that has been declared as surplus and is to be disposed of. The Board Schools have worked out a trade to a family that owns property closer to Admin. Bldg. First must offer to BOC.*

*Motion by Ussery to refuses option to purchase; Watkins; unanimously carried.*

**ITEM NO. 14 – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY APPROVE RICHMOND-SCOTLAND COUNTY BORDER**

*County Manager Haynes advised that the Board is asked to adopt a Resolution format to signify agreement on the designation of the Richmond – Scotland County boundary line.*

*A motion was offered by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to adopt the following Resolution formally approving the Richmond-Scotland County boundary line. Commissioner Maske confirmed that the approved line after state analysis of the issue goes back to the original boundary. The motion carried unanimously.*

**RESOLUTION**

**APPROVING THE RICHMOND – SCOTLAND COUNTY BORDER**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina General Statute 153A-18 governs corrective measures for an uncertain or disputed boundary between two or more counties; and

**WHEREAS**, a special Boundary Committee appointed by the governing boards of Richmond and Scotland Counties worked together to survey, mark and map the disputed border; and

**WHEREAS**, after careful review and research, a boundary was established that varies minimally from the original Richmond – Scotland County boundary and was determined to be acceptable to the Boundary Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon ratification of the survey by the Boards of Commissioners of Richmond and Scotland Counties, a map depicting the surveyed boundary shall be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of each county in the manner provided by law for the recordation of maps or plats, and in the Office of the Secretary of State.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the boundary map shall contain a reference to the date of each Resolution of Ratification and to the minutes of each Board of Commissioners' meeting in which the Resolution is recorded. Upon recordation, the map is considered conclusive as to the location of the Richmond – Scotland County boundary.

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 2007.

**ITEM NO. 15 – CONSIDERATION OF BID AWARD FOR GRADING AND PAVING AT RICHMOND COUNTY AIRPORT**

*Director of Community Services B. K. Jones updated the Board on the airport grading and paving project. Mr. Jones explained that the project is necessary to update hangars and that plans are to construct nested T-Hangars on the east end of the airport property that would allow planes to enter from two directions. Mr. Jones advised that the following bids were opened on Friday, August 3, 2007. Mr. Jones further advised that bids for actual construction would be opened on August 28, and we would like to construct 10 additional hangars in the future. Plans also include moving the existing 60-ft. hangar so that corporate hangars could later be constructed in its place.*

**BID SUMMARY**

<i>Hudson Paving</i> .....	<b>\$322,980.50</b>
<i>Barnhill Contracting</i> .....	<b>\$437,669.00</b>
<i>The Martin Company</i> .....	<b>\$362,676.10</b>

*Mr. Jones requested Board approval to award the bid on grading and paving to Hudson Paving as low bidder at \$322,980.50. Mr. Jones advised that application will be made for Division of Aviation grant funds, but funds are in place in the budget if grant funds are not awarded.*

*A motion was offered by Commissioner Garner to award the bid to Hudson Paving as recommended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Commissioner Maske confirmed that the grant funds would be based on 90% federal funding and 10% local funds. Commissioner Maske also asked if the corporate hangars would be leased. Mr. Jones advised that the Board would establish lease terms and amount, and that we would expect to finance these hangars on a 20 to 30-year payback arrangement. Mr. Haynes advised that the lease rate would be based on the bid results and that he anticipated a \$300,000.00 cost for hangar construction.*

*The motion to award the bid to Hudson Paving carried unanimously.*

**ITEM NO. 16 – CONSIDERATION OF BID AWARD FOR PURCHASE OF MATERIALS FOR WATERLINE IN SOUTHEASTERN RICHMOND COUNTY EPA PROJECT**

*Director of Community Services B. K. Jones request Board consideration of bids for materials for the Southeastern EPA Waterline Project. Mr. Jones advised that county crews have completed 6,000 ft. of waterline to Oak Ridge Church Road, and he commended Terry Richardson, Michael Maree and county water crews for the work that they have done on this project.*

*Based on the following recap of bids, Mr. Jones requested Board approval to award the bid for waterline materials to low bidder H. D. Supply-Waterworks:*

**BID SUMMARY – SOUTHEASTERN WATERLINE**

<i>Ferguson Waterworks</i> .....	<b>\$65,104.75</b>
<i>H. D. Supply-Waterworks</i> .....	<b>\$63,741.62</b>

*By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Maske and unanimously carried, the Board authorized award of the bid to purchase waterline materials to low bidder H. D. Supply-Waterworks.*

*Mr. Jones updated the Board on the Hylan Park Tank, which was raised by two 500-ton cranes, and he advised that this work should be complete this week, with painters scheduled to begin work the following week.*

**ITEM NO. 17 – REQUEST FOR BOARD AUTHORIZATION FOR WATERLINE EXTENSION TO SAVANNAH LANE IN ACCORDANCE WITH WATER EXTENSION POLICY**

*Mr. Jones advised that Mr. Charles Terry, who lives on Savannah Lane off Firetower Road, would like to use Richmond County’s payback policy to extend a waterline to his property. Mr. Terry has submitted a check in the amount of \$10,030.00 for his part of the cost of the waterline extension in accordance with the payback policy. Mr. Jones advised that the project would*

involve approximately 2,600 ft. of 6" waterline, and this work can be completed quickly before crews move to the Ghio Road project. Mr. Jones confirmed that this project is within guidelines of the County's 10-year payback policy, and he request Board approval to accept Mr. Terry's check and proceed with the project.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Dillman and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to authorize the project and to accept the \$10,030.00 check from Mr. Terry as payment of his portion of the project. Commissioner Watkins confirmed that this line would then be dedicated to the County and that other customers could tap onto the line. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 18 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF SOLID WASTE FEES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2007**

Director of Community Services B. K. Jones requested Board approval of a 2.1% increase in Solid Waste fees, effective September 1, 2007. Mr. Jones advised that the fees for commercial, construction, and demolition waste would increase from \$45.00 per ton to \$46.00 per ton, and yard waste fees are proposed to increase from \$20.00 per ton to \$21.00 per ton.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried to approve the increase in Solid Waste Fees as proposed for September 1, 2007.

Commissioner Ussery asked Mr. Jones about the water tank on Oak Ridge Church Road and the waterline extension to McGuirt Road. Mr. Jones advised that if all goes as planned, crews would move to Old Gibson Road and then on to McGuirt Road, with completion of the work by year-end.

**ITEM NO. 19 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE BETWEEN RICHMOND COUNTY AND: CORDOVA FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC.; EAST ROCKINGHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.; DERBY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.; HOFFMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC.; NORTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.; MT. CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.; AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PEKIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND MT. GILEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Garner and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the annual renewal of each of the above listed contracts for fire protection services through June 30, 2008.

**ITEM NO. 20 – CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO SANDHILL REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

By a motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Mrs. Carolyn Morse to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Janie Sims as a Trustee on the Sandhill Regional Library System Board.

**ITEM NO. 21 – CONSIDERATION OF RE-SCHEDULE DATE FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2007 REGULAR MEETING DUE TO CONFLICT WITH LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

By a motion of Commissioner Dillman, seconded by Commissioner Ussery and unanimously carried, the Board rescheduled the September 3, 2007 Regular Meeting for the following Monday,

September 10, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. and agreed to cancel the September 18 Mid-Month Noon Meeting.

**ITEM NO. 22 – OTHER BUSINESS**

**A) CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE FALL LITTER SWEEP 2007 PROCLAMATION**

*By a motion of Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Proclamation to join with the State of North Carolina in designating September 15-29, 2007 as “Fall Litter Sweep” time in Richmond County:*

**FALL LITTER SWEEP  
2007  
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation organizes an annual fall statewide roadside cleanup to ensure clean and beautiful roads in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Fall 2007 LITTER SWEEP cleanup will take place in Richmond County September 15 – 29, 2007, and encourages local governments and communities, civic and professional groups, businesses, churches, schools, families and individual citizens to participate by sponsoring and organizing local roadside cleanups; and

WHEREAS, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Department of Transportation employees, Department of Correction inmates and Community Service workers, local government agencies, community leaders, civic and community organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and environmentally concerned citizens conduct local cleanups during LITTER SWEEP and may receive certificates of appreciation for their participation; and

WHEREAS, the cleanup will celebrate the 19th Anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 6,000 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean; and

WHEREAS, the great natural beauty of our county and a clean environment are sources of great pride for the people of Richmond County, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting new industries; and

WHEREAS, the cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid wastes; and

WHEREAS, the cleanup will be a part of educating the children of our county regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in Richmond County;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Richmond County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim September 15 - 29, 2007, as “FALL LITTER SWEEP” time in Richmond County and encourages citizens of Richmond County to take an active role in making their communities cleaner.

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007

**B) CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE COMMUNITY MEETING LOCATIONS AND DATES**

*County Manager Haynes mentioned that the Board had expressed interest in moving meetings to different locations in the County, and he suggested that the October 16 Mid-Month Meeting might be a good meeting to hold at an alternative location. Chairman Robinette asked that staff coordinate and find a location for the October 16 meeting. Ellerbe, Norman or Derby were the suggested locations.*

**C) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO REQUEST DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE INTERCHANGE IN THE WIREGRASS ROAD-COUNTY HOME ROAD AREA**

*County Manager Haynes mentioned the fact that the Department of Transportation has planned no interchange in the Wiregrass Road/County Home Road area, and this is a rapidly-growing area. Mr. Haynes suggested that the Board may wish to ask D.O.T. to consider an interchange in this area along with the design of the U.S. Hwy. 1 upgrade. Commissioner Ussery also noted that there is no interchange between Fox Road and Hwy. 74, but such an interchange would be a valuable asset in this fast-growing area of the County. Mr. Haynes advised that D.O.T. will only consider such an interchange with an adopted Resolution by the Board of Commissioners making this request.*

*By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following Resolution to request D.O.T. to include an interchange in the Wiregrass Road/County Home Road area of Richmond County:*

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently planning for an upgrade and reroute for portions of U.S. Highway 1; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. 1 is one of the major road arteries in Richmond County, running from Maine to Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, some portions of the new U.S. 1 route are planned to be limited access; and

**WHEREAS**, Richmond County is growing along some of the corridors that will be served by the new U.S. 1 upgrade; and

**WHEREAS**, currently there are no plans for an interchange at the County Home Road and Wiregrass Road intersection; and

**WHEREAS**, this area is one of the high growth areas in Richmond County; and

**WHEREAS**, one of Richmond County's Industrial Parks is located near the intersection of U.S. 1, Wiregrass Road and County Home Road; and

**WHEREAS**, the Industrial Park and other industries located in this area have created and have the potential to create many more jobs in Richmond County; and

**WHEREAS**, an interchange in the County Home Road - Wiregrass Road area could have a positive influence on increased employment by those industries in the Industrial Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the accessibility by emergency vehicles to parts of the County will be greatly enhanced by access from the new U.S. Highway 1.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Richmond County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that the North Carolina Department of Transportation give adequate consideration to adding an interchange to the proposed U.S. Highway 1 upgrade in the area of County Home Road and Wiregrass Road.

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007.

## MISCELLANEOUS

*Chairman Robinette commented on some of the points made in County Manager Haynes' monthly report to clarify questions that the public may have. Chairman Robinette commended staff on projects such as the installation of waterlines with in-house county crews, and he commended Director of Community Services B. K. Jones on the great job that he has done in stepping into Rick Sago's former position.*

*Commissioner Dillman expressed interest in visiting the Union County Courthouse and offered for other Board members to join her. Commissioner Dillman questioned the cost of a rubber roof compared to a pitched roof for the courthouse design. County Manager Haynes offered to have the architect provide numbers on the two different roof designs and to include both as bid options.*

*Commissioner Dillman thanked Mr. Haynes for the detailed explanation on Medicaid. Commissioner Dillman confirmed that the cost to hold a separate election for the voters to consider an additional one-fourth cent sales tax or a Land Transfer Tax would be approximately \$20,000.00, and she stressed the need to inform the public and put the issue to a vote as soon as possible.*

*Commissioner Watkins emphasized the importance of educating the public on these tax options, as the County will be assuming the cost of more things locally in exchange for the Medicaid relief.*

*Commissioner Maske suggested waiting until the May 2008 Primary Election to consider the taxes so as to save the cost of a special election, and he noted the required 60-day time frame for implementing the tax, if approved by the voters.*

*Commissioner Dillman stressed the importance of educating and informing the public.*

*Commissioner Dillman mentioned that she had recently met with citizens at various locations and learned that new people have moved into Richmond County because this is a good central location, and she felt that citizens would like more recreation programs and programs for the elderly.*

*Commissioner Ussery suggested visiting another courthouse other than Union County since the Manager, staff, and other elected officials have already toured the Union County facility and reported their findings. Commissioner Dillman agreed to visit a different courthouse.*

*Chairman Robinette noted that any design change at this stage of development of plans would likely cost hundreds of thousands of dollars since the planning process is so far underway.*

*Commissioner Watkins cautioned that major design changes should not be made at this point in the process, but that it might be beneficial to see interior details of other facilities.*

*County Manager Haynes advised that Chief Deputy Sweatt was very helpful in understanding the Union County Courthouse layout and the flow of moving prisoners, jurors, etc. through the building.*

*There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M. by a motion of Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried.*