

**RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RICHMOND COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2008, 6:30 P.M.**

The Richmond County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 8, 2008 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 by Chairman Robinette at 6:30 P.M.

ITEM NO. 1 – INVOCATION BY YOUTH MINISTER JOHN BYRD OF TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH IN ROCKINGHAM

The invocation was delivered by Youth Minister John Byrd of Temple Baptist Church in Rockingham, NC.

ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

A) APPEARANCE BY MS. LISA ENGLAND AND MS. JO ANNE WILSON TO DISCUSS WELL CONTAMINATION IN FOX ROAD AREA (10-MIN. GROUP PRESENTATION)

Ms. Jo Anne Wilson appeared before the Board to express her concern about contaminated wells in the area of Fox Road. Ms. Wilson advised that she has lived in this area for 13 years, and she could not understand why her well has suddenly been determined to be contaminated with pesticides that may have been used in peach orchards in this area many years ago.

Ms. Lisa England also advised the Board that she has been living in the Fox Road area for 12 years and that her well has been tested and determined to be contaminated with a test number of 0.7. Ms. England questioned whether the contaminated well water might have something to do with her dog having bone cancer. Ms. England indicated that she had been given differing information from the Health Department, and she was advised that a pool company should test the water in her pool. Ms. England went on to note that soil from this area has been used along the roadside of Hwy. 1.

Chairman Robinette assured Ms. England and Ms. Wilson that the County will do everything possible to assist the residents of the Rolling Hills – Fox Road area.

Ms. England also complained that the roads in this area are unpaved, but she had noticed that many dirt roads in East Rockingham have been paved.

Chairman Robinette explained that the North Carolina Department of Transportation is responsible for road work, and that the County would have no authority in paving of roads.

There was further discussion of testing of wells and soils in this area, and Chairman Robinette assured Ms. England that the State would continue to test wells and soils in the Fox Road area, as this is a State responsibility.

Commissioner Ussery explained that the State provides the packets needed to test wells, and 20 such packets had been provided last month, with 20 more packets expected. Commissioner Ussery asked Ms. England if she could identify the names of Health Department employees who she said had not come out or called when promised. Ms. England did not provide any names, but she expressed further concern about whether it would be safe to use her swimming pool. Ms. England also advised that she has made contact with Craig McNeill to ask why her well had been considered safe at the time that she purchased the property and now it is not.

Commissioner Ussery explained that these chemicals slowly leach through the soil and that other wells may be affected years later.

Commissioner Dillman then offered a motion to amend the agenda to recognize an additional speaker. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion to amend the Agenda failed by the following 3 to 4 vote:

FOR: Commissioners Dillman, Watkins, and Wilson

OPPOSED: Commissioners Maske, Garner, Ussery, and Robinette

Chairman Robinette asked Director of Community Services B. K. Jones to come forward to discuss the issue of contaminated wells. Mr. Jones first stated that unless wells are specifically tested for certain chemicals then the presence of pesticides would not have shown up. The testing of wells in Richmond County was the result of contaminated wells identified in Montgomery County around peach orchards.

Mr. Jones explained that in 1988 local well regulations were adopted in Richmond County, and permitting of all new wells became a requirement. Mr. Jones further advised that as of July 1, 2008, the State began to require testing of wells for coli form bacteria, which is organic, but there is no requirement for testing wells for volatile organics unless the well is located on property near an old gas station, etc. Mr. Jones further noted that after January 1, 2009 the State may require additional testing of wells. To date, Mr. Jones advised that 15 wells in Richmond County have been identified as contaminated, with 3 of those wells specifically identified with

contamination from chemicals used in peach orchards. Mr. Jones advised that herbicides were used for peach orchards between 1950 and 1980.

In further discussion, Commissioner Maske asked if testing of wells is now mandatory, and Mr. Jones advised that testing is only required for new wells, and existing wells are not tested unless requested by the resident.

Commissioner Dillman asked if this could be treated as an emergency situation in order to expedite the additional test packets from the State. Mr. Jones advised that limited manpower at the State lab is part of the problem, so only a limited number of samples can be handled.

Mr. Jones identified the location of the Fox Road area contaminated wells on the map, and Commissioner Ussery noted that wells located on properties next to one another may not test the same, depending on how chemicals have leached through the soil. Mr. Jones confirmed that the longer water is drawn from a well, the farther away the water is drawn; therefore, new wells may not show a problem.

Commissioner Dillman asked if another state could possibly assist with testing these wells. Mr. Jones advised that the State has been providing manpower for sampling of these wells through DEHNR in the Fayetteville regional office, but manpower in the lab and the time-sensitive nature of the lab work are both factors in the problem. Mr. Jones advised that obtaining lab results is a two to three-week process, and he assumed that the Health Department is doing everything possible to remain current with this process. Mr. Jones also advised that a spigot has been made available on Fox Road to provide water for those residents, and the State has provided bottled water and 5-gallon containers of water for the affected residents.

Commissioner Dillman questioned restrictions on the water usage in this area, and Mr. Jones confirmed that usually restrictions apply to use for cooking and drinking.

County Manager Haynes noted that the Health Director had advised him that the cost involved for testing a well is \$400.00 per test, and only 4 or 5 test results are pending at this time. Mr. Haynes went on to advise that the County could tie this area onto the county water system at Hwy. 177; however the estimated cost to construct such a line is \$1.3 million. Mr. Haynes assured the Board that he has been aggressively seeking grant funds to address the need for water in this area, and thus far, he has a commitment of \$500,000.00 from the Rural Center and another potential commitment of \$500,000.00 from the Department of Agriculture. However, Mr. Haynes advised that even if the funds are made available to address the need and the Board of Commissioners authorizes the project, next spring or summer would be the earliest that the lines could be designed and actually installed.

Commissioner Ussery inquired about the possibility of a grant for this project. County Manager Haynes advised that he had not yet been able to obtain an answer, and that part of the problem would be obtaining easements from private property owners on

private roads. Mr. Haynes added that it might be that citizens would need to participate in a portion of the cost of running the line.

Commissioners Maske and Ussery asked about the private roads in this area and whether any meet state standards. County Manager Haynes advised none of the roads in this area that he has seen would meet state standards.

Commissioner Garner then offered a motion to begin the process for engineering and design of water lines to serve the Fox Road area, which he added would open up access for people in this area to get water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ussery and carried unanimously.

Chairman Robinette commented on the possibility of obtaining emergency funds for this project due to the circumstances.

Commissioner Dillman then offered a motion to go to the extent necessary to obtain additional testing packets.

Chairman Robinette confirmed that the Health Department is up to date on those tests that have been requested, and Commissioner Ussery felt that the Health Director and the County Manager could handle this. Chairman Robinette agreed that he is all for testing as many wells as necessary, but he did not feel that Board action was necessary.

Commissioner Watkins stated that he grew up in this area where peaches were grown, and he was familiar with the chemicals used to spray peach trees, but he did not want to alarm people unless this problem becomes widespread.

County Manager Haynes advised that what we have seen thus far is a concentrated area of contamination, and that there had not been evidence of contamination in the Derby area around peach orchard property as might have been suspected. Mr. Haynes noted only one bad test result had come from the Norman area, and the others have been identified in this one concentrated area.

Commissioner Ussery confirmed that there has been no real pattern of the contaminated areas, because the Dewitt area has not been a contaminated area, and this is an area where there was a high concentration of peach orchards over the years.

Commissioner Watkins asked when pesticides were first introduced, and Mr. Jones advised that prior to 1950 these chemicals had not been used, but once introduced, the chemicals were used until the 1970's and 1980's. Commissioner Dillman noted that chemicals were also used for tobacco.

ITEM NO. 4 – APPEARANCE BY MR. JEFF JOYNER FOR PRESENTATION OF 2008 ANNUAL REPORT FOR RICHMOND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mr. Jeff Joyner of Richmond Soil and Water Board of Supervisors appeared before the Board to present the 2008 Annual Report. Mr. Joyner provided a breakdown of funds for the various programs, and he thanked the Board of Commissioners for their continuing support.

ITEM NO. 5 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY PLANNING DIRECTOR JAMIE ARMSTRONG

Planning Director Jamie Armstrong provided the Board with an update on the East Rockingham Initiative, advising that more than 40 structures have now been removed from the area, and the Planning Board continues to work toward refurbishing this area. Mr. Armstrong noted that the Safie Mill property is now the centerpiece of the clean-up initiative. Mr. Armstrong advised that the Safie property is in two different tracts – Nordstrom and Barfield, and most of the remaining buildings are on the Nordstrom tract. Mr. Armstrong advised that the remaining structures are dilapidated and hazardous. Mr. Armstrong discussed the offer by the Nordstrom Group to donate the Safie property to the County as is, but this would not include the Barfield tract, which has some title issues. Mr. Armstrong asked for direction from the Board on how to proceed.

Chairman Robinette asked if any contaminants have been identified on these sites, and Mr. Armstrong advised that he was not aware of any.

Commissioner Ussery felt that environmental testing should be performed in order to protect the County from any potential liability if this property is acquired.

Mr. Armstrong advised that a company from Charlotte would be testing on one of the sites, and he offered to obtain the cost for testing the other site if the Board so authorizes.

Commissioner Dillman asked the County Attorney if the County could condemn the property and require the property owners to perform the testing. Mr. Futrell explained that if the process of condemnation is used, then the County would assume ownership and liability for the property.

Mr. Armstrong explained that abatement could be pursued.

Commissioner Watkins asked who would be responsible if this property is considered a threat to the community.

Mr. Armstrong advised that the property owners would be liable.

Chairman Robinette acknowledged that the County is interested in improving the appearance of this area, but the County would not want to assume financial responsibility for any environmental issues that may exist with this property. It was confirmed that \$200,000.00 in Cole Foundation Funds is still available that could be used toward the cost of testing on the property. Chairman Robinette recommended that bids be obtained for a Phase 2 Environmental Assessment of the property.

Commissioner Garner asked if the Department of Transportation is still considering straightening the road in the area of the Safie property and suggested that it might be beneficial for the State to become involved. County Manager Haynes did not have any further information about straightening the road.

ITEM NO. 6 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT RICK SAGO

Director of Development Rick Sago advised that Pee Dee Workforce Development Board met last week at the Cole Auditorium, and he is making sure that Richmond County businesses and industries are receiving their fair share of funds.

Mr. Sago referred to a copy included in the Board's Agenda materials of Jim McCaskill's report on BRAC meetings that he has recently attended.

Mr. Sago reported that the SRB Holdings Building should begin construction right away, and that Samet Construction Company will be constructing the building.

Mr. Sago noted that Richmond Community College will be offering a workshop for women and minority-owned businesses on September 23 from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon.

Mr. Sago reminded the Board of upcoming activities in recognition of Industry Appreciation Week during the week of September 22, ending with a golf tournament and dinner on Friday, September 26. In further discussion, Mr. Sago referenced the copy of the Tourism Development Authority quarterly report which reflects a total budget of \$246,000.00 for this year. Mr. Sago also discussed relocation of the Chamber of Commerce and the Tourism Authority to the renovated depot building on Hwy. 74, which should take place during the coming month.

Commissioner Dillman thanked Mr. Sago for the information included in the Agenda packets, and she discussed information pertaining to billboards. Commissioner Dillman suggested that billboards in Richmond County be used to highlight local celebrities such as Brian Moehler and Bucky Covington.

Mr. Sago explained that North Carolina General Statutes restrict the use of Tourism Development funds that are generated through room occupancy taxes for the purpose of promoting tourism and overnight stay in Richmond County. Mr. Sago agreed that Richmond County has a lot to be proud of and that these individuals are certainly worthy of recognition, but that two of the billboards are used to advertise race dates.

Mr. Sago explained that the other billboards must be used in accordance with the restricted use of Tourism funds to promote tourism in the area. Commissioner Dillman also suggested promotion of Richmond County as a green county. Mr. Sago offered to take these suggestions to the Tourism Authority for consideration.

ITEM NO. 7 – MONTHLY STAFF REPORT BY COUNTY MANAGER JAMES E. HAYNES

County Manager Haynes reported to the Board on the most recent Solid Waste Report of 1.2 tons of waste collected along roadways during August; there was no serious impact to Richmond County from Hurricane Hanna; the tax collection rate at the end of September was at 21.16% - approximately 11 percentage points above the rate of collection at this same time last year; a total of \$52,865.28 has been disbursed in discounts for taxes paid during the discount period offered in August; and tax payments made electronically through credit cards totaled \$72,000.00. Mr. Haynes noted that 1% on the County tax collection rate equates to \$210,000.00, and he advised that the County did not realize the anticipated growth from utilities; only \$50,000,000.00 in additional value was realized for this year.

Mr. Haynes was hopeful that emergency grant funds will be committed to address water needs in the Fox Road area.

County Manager Haynes congratulated Commissioner Jimmy Maske on his election to serve on the NCACC Board of Directors, and he commended Commissioner Watkins for representing Richmond County during the flag presentation ceremony during the recent NCACC Annual Conference in Craven County.

Mr. Haynes mentioned efforts by many counties to become a "green county" through rotation of office hours, selection of different vehicles, etc., and he assured that all options will be considered that seem reasonable for Richmond County.

ITEM NO. 8 – DISCUSSION OF NACO PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARD PROGRAM – COUNTY ATTORNEY FUTRELL

County Attorney Futrell provided the Board with additional information pertaining to other companies that are offering discount prescription coverage to qualifying individuals. Mr. Futrell emphasized that Care Mark, the underwriter for the NACo prescription drug card program, is not the only company offering this service and provides the Board with a much broader perspective on this issue. Mr. Futrell referred to the many websites and resources available offering discount prescription drug programs, and he suggested that perhaps our Legislators should be contacted since this is a statewide issue.

Commissioner Watkins stated that the NACo prescription cards had seemed like a good approach to this issue with no record-keeping required of counties, but he asked Mr. Futrell if it was as simple as it seemed. Mr. Futrell agreed with the concept of offering

discount prescription coverage to citizens, but he stated that NACo should be willing to absorb the liability for this program and not expose counties to the potential liability.

Commissioner Maske confirmed that the taxpayers of Richmond County could face indemnity, and Mr. Futrell further pointed out that NACo can charge fees to program participants without the County having agreed to such fees.

Commissioner Dillman confirmed that fees could be charged to any user of the NACo cards and that drugstores must absorb the amount of the discount for prescriptions. Mr. Futrell confirmed that fees can be charged unilaterally and that if Richmond County agrees to offer the program, then the County becomes the contracting party. Thus, the County and the Board of Commissioners would assume any potential liability.

Commissioner Watkins stated that while NACo had presented the program as a positive thing, he certainly respected the County Attorney's opinions.

Commissioner Dillman stated that all drugstores in Richmond County are listed as participants in the NACo program, but Mr. Watkins advised that the NACo card was not accepted in one local drugstore.

No action was taken in regard to the NACo Prescription Drug Program.

ITEM NO. 9 – CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A) MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 19, 2008 WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED BY THE CLERK.**
- B) TAX RELEASES TOTALLING \$50,691.47 AND TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$435.61 FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2008 WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE TAX SUPERVISOR AND ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES BY REFERENCE.**
- C) APPROVAL OF SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE \$93,335.30 IN FIRST OF TWO-YEAR FUNDING OF GOVERNOR'S CRIME COMMISSION GRANT FUNDS:**

Expenditures:

<u>Dual Jurisdiction Improvement Grant</u>	Increase	Decrease
115353-4160 Professional Services	\$54,638.98	
115353-4380 Contractual	17,750.00	
115353-4300 Travel	9,092.10	
115353-4210 Supplies	7,245.22	
115353-4275 Equipment	<u>4,609.00</u>	
	\$93,335.30	

Revenues:

115353-331010 Dual Jurisdiction
Improvement Grant \$93,335.30

D) APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM BUDGET AMENDMENT TO INCREASE BUDGET BY \$2,273.00 FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Expenditures:

114311-4470 Subs. Abuse Treatment \$ 2,273.00

Increase

Decrease

Revenues:

114311-326003 Criminal Justice Partnership
Program \$ 2,273.00

E) APPROVAL OF SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE REMAINING \$850.00 IN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED IN 2008

Expenditures:

114310-4279 \$ 850.00

Increase

Decrease

Revenues:

011-4310-32608 DOJ Asst. Grant \$ 850.00

F) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE INCREASED REVENUE FOR FOOD & LODGING BUDGET FROM INSPECTIONS OF TEMPORARY FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

Revenue: Food & Lodging Budget

Temporary Food Establishment Establish Revenue Acct. # Increase by \$5,000.00

Expenditures: Food & Lodging

Software Maintenance (CDP) Establish Expense Acct. # Increase by \$5,000.00

G) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FAMILY PLANNING FUNDS FOR 2008-2009

Revenue: Family Planning

115130-333010 State Reimbursement Increase by \$947.00

Expenditures: Family Planning

115130-4220 Medical Supplies Increase by \$947.00

Total Increase \$947.00

**K) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO
APPROPRIATE 2008-2009 SMART START FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE
HEALTH CONSULTANT BUDGET**

Revenue: Smart Start Child Care Health Consultant

115208-333138	Increase by	\$ 42,300.00
---------------	-------------	--------------

Expenditures: Smart Start Child Care Health Consultant

Salaries: Regular	115208-4100	Increase by	\$ 31,000.00
FICA	115208-4110	Increase by	2,400.00
Group Ins.	115208-4120	Increase by	2,675.00
Ret. Exp.	115208-4130	Increase by	1,675.00
Supp. Ret.	115208-4135	Increase by	2,350.00
Office Supplies	115208-4210	Increase by	700.00
Travel	115208-4300	Increase by	1,000.00
Postage	115208-4305	Increase by	50.00
Telephone	115208-4310	Increase by	200.00
Dues & Subscriptions	115208-4460	Increase by	<u>250.00</u>

Total Budget	\$ 42,300.00
--------------	--------------

**L) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO
APPROPRIATE 2008-2009 SMART START FUNDING FOR DENTAL
VARNISH (“INTO THE MOUTHS OF BABES”) BUDGET**

Revenue: Smart Start Dental Varnish (“Into The Mouths of Babes”)

115200-333136	Increase by	\$ 3,450.00
---------------	-------------	-------------

Expenditures: Smart Start Dental Varnish (“Into The Mouths of Babes”)

Salaries: Regular	115200-4100	Increase by	\$ 2,100.00
FICA	115200-4110	Increase by	435.00
Group Ins.	115200-4120	Increase by	150.00
Ret. Exp.	115200-4130	Increase by	175.00
Supp. Ret.	115200-4135	Increase by	140.00
Office Supplies	115200-4210	Increase by	250.00
Postage	115200-4305	Increase by	50.00
Telephone	115200-4310	Increase by	50.00
Contracted Services	115200-4380	Increase by	<u>100.00</u>

Total Budget	\$ 3,450.00
--------------	-------------

**M) APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO
APPROPRIATE 2008-2009 SMART START FUNDING FOR BILINGUAL
HEALTH CHECK COORDINATOR BUDGET**

Revenue: Smart Start Bilingual Health Check Coordinator

115219-333142	Increase by	\$39,750.00
---------------	-------------	-------------

Expenditures: Smart Start Bilingual Health Check Coordinator

Salaries: Regular	115219-4100	Increase by	\$30,000.00
FICA	115219-4110	Increase by	2,400.00
Group Ins.	115219-4120	Increase by	2,425.00

Ret. Exp.	115219-4130	Increase by	1,675.00
Supp. Ret.	115219-4135	Increase by	2,150.00
Office Supplies	115219-4210	Increase by	400.00
Travel	115219-4300	Increase by	200.00
Postage	115219-4305	Increase by	300.00
Telephone	115219-4310	Increase by	<u>200.00</u>
Total Budget			\$ 39,750.00

ITEM NO. 10 – REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL FOR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT \$144,805.00 IN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES GRANT FUNDS FOR WORK FIRST PROGRAM AND ACCEPTANCE OF NECESSARY BUDGET AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS

County Manager Haynes advised that the Department of Social Services has been awarded \$144,805.00 in Department of Health and Human Services grant funds for the Work First Program. The Board was asked to authorize DSS to accept the grant and to approve the following Budget Amendment to appropriate the funds for the Work First Demonstration Grant.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Maske, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried to authorize the grant and to approve the following Budget Amendment:

<u>Expenditures:</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
Work First Demonstration Grant	\$144,805.00	
<u>Revenues:</u>		
Work First Demonstration Grant	\$144,805.00	

ITEM NO. 11 – REQUEST BY LUMBER RIVER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF HAMLET COUNCILMAN TONY CLEWIS AS MUNICIPAL APPOINTEE TO TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) OF LUMBER RIVER RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Hamlet Councilman Tony Clewis as the municipal appointee to the Lumber River Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

ITEM NO. 12 – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22-26, 2008 AS “INDUSTRY APPRECIATION WEEK”

By a motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Dillman and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Resolution to designate the week of September 22-26, 2008 as “Industry Appreciation Week:”

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Richmond County Board of Commissioners recognizes the role of existing businesses and industries in the thriving economy of Richmond County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners joins with the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce, the municipalities, and the major utilities to proudly support the local industries in Richmond County; and

WHEREAS, existing businesses and industries provide essential employment opportunities for the citizens of Richmond County, while making significant contributions to promote educational opportunities and a variety of activities to enhance the quality of life in Richmond County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners realizes that industries in Richmond County are critical in sustaining the community through the creation of jobs, providing products and services, and making many other contributions to the County, both charitable and in general; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the **Eleventh Annual Industry Appreciation Week** as our way of saying "Thank You" to our local industries for the investment that they have made in Richmond County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond County Board of Commissioners does hereby pledge support for the continued success of **Industry Appreciation Week** designated as **September 22 - 26, 2008**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution designating **Industry Appreciation Week** is recognized as one of Richmond County's most outstanding events and shall be spread upon the permanent minutes of the Richmond County Board of Commissioners.

Adopted this 8th day of September, 2008.

ITEM NO. 13 – CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE SEPTEMBER 20 THROUGH OCTOBER 4, 2008 AS FALL 2008 LITTER SWEEP ROADSIDE CLEANUP

By a motion of Commissioner Ussery, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Proclamation to designate September 20 through October 4, 2008 as Fall 2008 Litter Sweep Roadside Cleanup:

**FALL LITTER SWEEP
2008
A PROCLAMATION
BY THE RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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 2008 LITTER SWEEP cleanup will take place in Richmond County September 20 through October 4, 2008 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 great natural beauty of our state and a clean environment are sources of great pride for all North Carolinians, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting 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 celebrate the 20th 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 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 20 through October 4, 2008 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 8th day of September, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Watkins mentioned the Workforce Development Board and the possibility of affiliating with this Board through Lumber River Council of Governments. Commissioner Watkins also mentioned that the COG offices would be relocating to the new office building later in the month.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M. by a motion of Commissioner Garner, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and unanimously carried.

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