

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Vance County Administration Building, Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those Commissioners present were as follows: Chairman J. Timothy Pegram, Commissioners Thomas S. Hester, Jr., Wilbur M. Boyd, Deborah F. Brown, Terry E. Garrison, Danny W. Wright and Eddie L. Wright.

Absent: None.

Also present were County Attorney Robert S. Hight, County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue, and Finance Officer Jerry L. Tucker.

Commissioner Eddie L. Wright gave the invocation.

Michael Brafford, CPA, was first on the agenda to present the FY 2004-05 Audit Report. Mr. Brafford stated the County had received an unqualified opinion which is the best a county can receive. The tax collection rate had increased by 1% and the fund balance had increased over the last fiscal year.

Commissioner Deborah F. Brown commented on the dates of the audit letters that were submitted with the audit, one dated June 30, 2005 and one dated September 30, 2005. Mr. Brafford explained that the letter dated June 30 was written as a result of the year end. The letter dated September 30 was written when the audit field work was completed. The actual audit report cannot be distributed until confirmation from the State is received and approval by the Local Government Commission is granted. At that time, the audit report is printed and distributed. Commissioner Brown requested a cover letter explaining this process for future audit reports.

Finance Officer Jerry L. Tucker recommended extending the expiring audit contract with Phillips, Dorsey, Thomas, Waters & Brafford for another three years. Mr. Tucker presented the Board with a letter from the CPA firm outlining audit fees for the surrounding counties and projected costs to perform the single audit for Vance County for the next three years. Commissioner Deborah F. Brown stated that this request was not placed on the Board agenda and should not be voted on at this time. She also asked for more information on the surrounding counties such as comparisons on each county's total budget as related to the cost to perform the audit.

After discussion, the Board decided to place this item on the February agenda.

Jackie Sergent, Health Department, was next on the agenda and presented information on an obesity grant on behalf of the Obesity and Lifestyles Issues Workgroup. She explained that she was contacted a year ago from the Department of Health and Human Services which received a grant from BCBS Health and Wellness Trust Fund to address obesity in children. The grant targets African-American, American Indian and Hispanic youth, ages 5-11 and their families in Lee, Johnston and Vance Counties.

The goal of the workgroup is to develop strategies that will make a difference in the neighborhoods of these children such as working with families to find out what specifically is needed to help children become more active and working with other social groups in the same manner.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Sergent asked the Board for its support of the program. Commissioner Deborah F. Brown commended Ms. Sergent for her hard work in coordinating the efforts of the workgroup and encouraged the Board to be supportive of the program.

As advertised, at 6:30 p.m. a public hearing was held to gain citizen input concerning the closeout of the Economic Recovery Planning Assistance Community Development Block Grant Program (Kerr-Tar Hub Project). Rick Seekins, Council of Governments, explained that the total project cost was \$460,000, of which \$180,000 (39.1%) was Community Block Development Grant Funds.

As there was no one present who wished to speak on this matter, Chairman J. Timothy Pegram declared the public hearing closed.

Ken Krulik, Planning and Development, presented an update to the County's draft Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Krulik noted that the definition of a Bona Fide Farm had been revised, and additional zoning categories were added regarding the R-30 Zone and Watershed. Mr. Krulik stated that the revised draft is available for viewing on the County's website, along with the prior draft. Mr. Krulik noted that these revisions were a result of staff recommendations and Planning Board work sessions. Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd requested that a summary page be included with each revised draft to outline the most recent revisions.

After discussion, County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue reported that the Planning Committee, as requested by the full Board, formulated the following recommendations regarding the process for development of a County zoning ordinance:

1. Draft Ordinance. Although not complete, the draft zoning ordinance was made available to the public on December 22.

2. Citizens Advisory Committee. Recommend to the Board of Commissioners the creation of an advisory committee that would review the draft zoning ordinance and provide recommendations on the proposed ordinance to the Board of Commissioners. If the Commissioners approve this recommendation in its January meeting, members of the Citizens Advisory Committee would be appointed by the Commissioners in the February meeting.

3. Public Information Sessions. There would be additional public information sessions which would be held after the Citizens Advisory Committee has completed its recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

The Citizens Advisory Committee may be comprised of a member from each of the following groups for a total of nine members: agricultural sector, surveyors, developers, organization of concerned citizens, business community, faith community, a nonprofit organization which serves disadvantaged or low to moderate income individuals, and two Vance County citizens.

Commissioner Deborah F. Brown requested that no additional revisions be made to the ordinance until the Citizens Advisory Committee has been created and has had time to review the document.

After further discussion, Commissioner Danny W. Wright made a motion to create a Citizens Advisory Committee and charge them with responsibility of reviewing the draft zoning ordinance and to formulate recommendations based on the draft to the Board of Commissioners. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd.

Commissioner Deborah F. Brown requested to amend the motion to include the wording “within 30 days of receiving the document”.

The amended motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Deborah F. Brown requested that all future revisions of the ordinance include the names and phone numbers of the Planning Board members and the Citizens Advisory Committee members.

James Kearney, Board of Elections, was next on the agenda and presented an update on the elections voting system. He stated that a system and vendor have been selected to purchase the new system, but the equipment has not been ordered at this time because the contract documents from the State Board of Elections have not yet been received. He noted that the State has revised the original grant request and has increased it by nearly \$10,000, but maintenance contracts, extended

warranties, and software license extensions are not covered by the grant.

Mr. Kearney further noted that he is hopeful that the necessary documents will be received in time to have the new equipment in place for the primary elections in May.

Public comments were heard next. Julian Oliver addressed the Board and questioned a recent article in The Daily Dispatch regarding ambulance charge-offs which stated that there was no attempt by the County to seek payment within 12 months of the charges. Finance Officer Jerry L. Tucker replied that the Dispatch had made an inaccurate statement and that all attempts are made to recover ambulance debts. The debts in question are debts of deceased and the law does not allow the County to pursue these debts once a person is deceased.

Mr. Oliver also addressed the matter of back taxes. He stated that if all back taxes were paid, the property tax rate could be lowered.

George Lawson spoke next and requested assistance with determining who owns certain subdivisions in the county. He stated that there are times when homeowners need to get in touch with the owner in regards to road maintenance and general appearance of the subdivision. He also stated that the Sheriff's Office needs more deputies.

Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd asked Mr. Lawson to leave a contact number with County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue so that he may be able to assist in this matter.

Wayne Fields addressed the Board regarding zoning and made several remarks of how zoning affected him when he lived in Pennsylvania.

Joseph McMahon spoke in opposition to county-wide zoning.

Finance Officer Jerry L. Tucker then presented budget amendments, refunds, and ambulance charge-offs.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny W. Wright, seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., vote unanimous, that the Board approve Budget Amendments #22, #23, #24, and #25 as follows for the purposes noted therein:

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**Budget Amendment #22
General Fund**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
COG - HUB - EDA	10-600-500267		\$ 134,735.00
COG - Demonstration Grant	10-600-500266		<u>87,250.00</u>

Total Increase in Expenditure \$ 221,985.00

Revenues

COG - HUB - EDA	10-380-438025	\$ 134,735.00
COG Demonstration Grant	10-380-438034	<u>87,250.00</u>
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 221,985.00

Purpose: To appropriate State grant funds for HUB Project and Demonstration Grant.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 9, 2006

**Budget Amendment #23
Elections Department**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Capital Outlay	10-430-500074		\$ 295,216.00
Equipment Rental	10-430-500021	\$ 25,500.00	
Total Debits & Credits		\$ <u>25,500.00</u>	\$ <u>295,216.00</u>
Total Increase in Expenditures			\$ 269,716.00

Revenues

Voting Grant	10-380-438000	\$ 25,575.52
HAVA Grant	10-380-438004	\$ <u>244,140.48</u>
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 269,716.00

Purpose: To appropriate grant funds to purchase new voting equipment. No County funds required.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 9, 2006

**Budget Amendment #24
Senior Center**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Contracted Services	10-611-500045		\$ <u>1,824.00</u>
Total Increase in Expenditures			\$ 1,824.00

Revenues

Title III Old American Act	10-349-434919	\$ <u>1,824.00</u>
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 1,824.00

Purpose: To appropriate additional Home and Community Care Block Grant funds for Aging Program. No County funds required.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 9, 2006

**Budget Amendment #25
Aging Program**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Contracted Services	10-611-500045		\$ 1,345.00
Departmental Supplies	10-611-500033	\$ 345.00	
Total Debits & Credits		\$ <u>345.00</u>	\$ <u>1,345.00</u>
Total Increase in Expenditures			\$ 1,000.00

Revenues

North Carolina Healthcare	10-348-434818	\$ <u>1,000.00</u>
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 1,000.00

Purpose: To appropriate grant funds for Medicare Plan D Program. No County funds required.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 9, 2006

Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, seconded by Commissioner Eddie

L. Wright, vote unanimous, that the Board approve the following Refunds as requested by the Tax

Office:

**REFUNDS
December 2005**

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Delores D. Ayscue	2005	17.35	Vehicle Tax
Milton S. Clark	2005	5.22	Vehicle Tax
Tammy C. Johnson	2004	65.44	Vehicle Tax
Wanda A. Eley	2004	1.78	Vehicle Tax
William Currin	2004	1.98	Vehicle Tax
James D. Hunt	2004	5.64	Vehicle Tax
Roque M. Hernandez	2004	3.08	Vehicle Tax
Patricia B. Terry	2004	2.42	Vehicle Tax
George W. Turner	2004	130.47	Vehicle Tax
Claude C. McCreery	2004	2.53	Vehicle Tax
George W. Pegram	2005	9.68	Vehicle Tax
Jacinta Valezquez	2005	42.96	Vehicle Tax
Catherine G. Hight	2004	21.22	Vehicle Tax
Shane Pulley	2005	15.15	Vehicle Tax
Roger E. Hersom	2005	14.67	Vehicle Tax
David E. Nickels	2005	16.96	Vehicle Tax
William E. Commee	2004	36.50	Vehicle Tax
Mary W. Thompson	2005	49.00	Vehicle Tax

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Larrie D. Burwell	2004	6.76	Vehicle Tax
Honda Lease Co.	2005	86.90	Vehicle Tax
Sharon F. Hargrove	2004	3.75	Vehicle Tax
Sharon F. Hargrove	2004	13.50	Vehicle Tax
Severiano Escamilla	2005	15.84	Vehicle Tax
Home Credit Corp	2005	2.00	Overage Tax Refund
Betsy B. Strickland	2005	6.10	Vehicle Tax
Rufus Hargrove	2005	20.44	Vehicle Tax
Miguel F. Tomas	2005	6.65	Vehicle Tax
Mitchell O. Avent	2005	8.00	Vehicle Tax
Geraldine H. Bullock	2005	7.88	Vehicle Tax
Delores D. Ayscue	2005	.58	Fire Tax
Milton S. Clark	2005	.18	Fire Tax
Wanda A. Eley	2004	.06	Fire Tax
William Currin	2004	.06	Fire Tax
Roque M. Hernandez	2004	.12	Fire Tax
Patricia B. Terry	2004	.08	Fire Tax
Claude C. McCreery	2004	.11	Fire Tax
George W. Pegram	2005	.32	Fire Tax
Jacinta Valezquez	2005	1.44	Fire Tax
Catherine G. Hight	2004	.70	Fire Tax
Shane Pulley	2005	.50	Fire Tax
Roger E. Hersom	2005	.48	Fire Tax
David E. Nickels	2005	.56	Fire Tax
William E. Commee	2004	1.20	Fire Tax
Larrie D. Burwell	2004	.22	Fire Tax
Honda Lease Co.	2005	2.90	Fire Tax
Sharon F. Hargrove	2004	.15	Fire Tax
Sharon F. Hargrove	2004	.48	Fire Tax
Severiano Escamilla	2005	.48	Fire Tax
Betsy B. Strickland	2005	.20	Fire Tax
Rufus Hargrove	2005	.70	Fire Tax
Miguel F. Tomas	2005	.21	Fire Tax
Mitchell O. Avent	2005	.28	Fire Tax
Geraldine H. Bullock	2005	.28	Fire Tax
Total		\$ 632.16	

Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown that the Board approve Ambulance Charge-offs in the amount of \$4,004.16 for those persons deceased with no estate listing. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright and unanimously approved.

Mr. Tucker requested to award bids for the purchase of 11 law enforcement vehicles. Advantage Ford's bid was submitted for \$20,879 per unit for seven marked vehicles and \$20,961 per unit for four unmarked vehicles.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. to award the bid to Advantage Ford as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and unanimously approved.

County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue was next on the agenda and requested the Board to allow filling the following position vacancy which has been endorsed by the Human Resources Committee:

Department of Social Services
Social Worker I

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd to approve the position request as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Danny W. Wright and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ayscue informed the Board that the Department of Social Services has requested that a frozen Office Assistant III position in the Child Support Enforcement Unit be reclassified to that of a Child Support Enforcement Agent II. He explained that the caseload of the Child Support Enforcement Unit has increased to the extent that there is a considerable backlog of cases. Reimbursed at a rate of 66%, total annual cost of the reclassification would be \$8,754 with the County's share (34%) being \$2,976. No additional funds are required in this year's budget due to the position being frozen. A detailed report on the success of the position will be required to be submitted to the County Manager after the first twelve months of the position being filled. This request has been endorsed by the Human Resources Committee.

Motion was made by Commissioner Terry E. Garrison to approve the reclassification of the Office Assistant III position at the Department of Social Services to that of a Child Support Enforcement Agent II, effective as of February 1, 2006. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ayscue then presented a resolution in memory of Samuel S. Pearson. He stated that in observance of the recent untimely death of Lt. Sam Pearson, it is highly appropriate for the Board of Commissioners to recognize and issue appreciation to Mr. Pearson's family for the many contributions he made to the citizens of Vance County. He noted that a plaque was presented to his family at his funeral on January 5, 2006.

Motion was made by Commissioner Terry E. Garrison, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, to adopt the following resolution in honor and memory of Samuel S. Pearson:

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R E S O L U T I O N
by the
Vance County Board of Commissioners
in
Honor and Memory
of
Samuel S. Pearson

WHEREAS, the life of Samuel (Sam) S. Pearson has been filled with great personal integrity, distinguished professional development, strong compassion for his fellow man, and an extensive love for his community; and

WHEREAS, Sam Pearson loyally served as a law enforcement officer with the Henderson Police Department for over thirty years, being initially employed as a Police Officer on August 1, 1963 and ultimately retired as Lieutenant of the Community Services Division on December 31, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Sam Pearson remained active as a Reserve Police Officer with the Henderson Police Department until his untimely death on January 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, he was known and recognized statewide for his association with and involvement in Crimestoppers and in the overall field of crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, Sam Pearson worked diligently to improve the quality of life for Vance County citizens through active involvement in Antioch United Church of Christ, the Salvation Army, the Vance County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, the Friends of Youth, and so many other community organizations and programs including charter membership and presidency of the Henderson-Vance County Crimestoppers Program; and

WHEREAS, Sam Pearson was dearly loved, admired and respected by his family, friends, constituents, and so many other people in Vance County and Henderson.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vance County Board of Commissioners honors the life and memory of Samuel S. Pearson in respectful recognition of his community involvement and leadership, and accordingly does express its sincere gratitude and deepest condolences to the entire Pearson family.

Presented this, the fifth day of January, 2006 to the family of Lieutenant Sam Pearson and to be officially adopted by the Board of Commissioners in its regular session on the ninth day of January, 2006.

J. Timothy Pegram (Signed)
J. Timothy Pegram, Chairman

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Mr. Ayscue informed the Board that due to normal use, miscellaneous repairs are needed at the Animal Shelter to fencing, hinges, gates, etc. Estimates at this point are \$1,500.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd to appropriate \$1,500 from the Contingency fund for necessary repairs at the Animal Shelter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ayscue then noted that the Board of Commissioners has traditionally held a planning retreat in February each year. He recommended that the date of Friday, February 17 or February 24 be scheduled for the next retreat. The Board agreed to hold the next retreat on February 24.

Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown that the Board approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 5, 2005 and the special meeting held on December 22, 2005 as presented by the Clerk to the Board. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Danny W. Wright and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny W. Wright, seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., vote unanimous, that the Board approve the following Rebates for November 2005 as requested by the Tax Office:

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REBATES
November 2005

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Millard T. Abbott, Jr.	2005	6.32	LLP Released
Julia & Lucille Alston	2005	53.36	Senior Citizen Exemption
Julia Ann Alston	2005	42.09	Senior Citizen Exemption
Lucille D. Alston	2005	42.09	Senior Citizen Exemption
Amelia J. Cheek	2005	119.69	Senior Citizen Exemption
Collins Creek Associates	2005	624.97	Error in Billing
Lewis M. Evans	2002	34.00	Error in Billing
Beulah Fitts	2000-03	144.24	Error in Billing
Mary F. Gray Heirs	2005	59.76	Senior Citizen Exemption
Millard Grissom, Sr.	2005	96.60	Error in Listing
Herbert M. Grissom, Jr.	2005	64.40	Error in Listing
Nora M. Huff	2005	289.25	Error in Billing
Alvin Jeffers, Jr.	2005	141.77	Error in Listing
Maxine A. Miller	2000-01	180.27	Error in Listing
Richard H. Norwood, Jr.	2005	143.89	House burned 12/04
Eul Sun & Jeen Park	2005	620.54	Error in Billing
Thomas R. Robson	2005	53.29	Error in Listing
Total		\$ 2,716.53	

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Motion was made by Commissioner Wilbur M. Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, that the following appointments be approved as presented:

Vance County Industrial Facility and Pollution Control Financing Authority - six-year term

Re-appoint Marshall Y. Cooper, Jr.
Robert D. Herford

Watershed Advisory Board - three-year term

Re-appoint Ben Harris, Jr.
Edward "Butch" Spain
Richard Henderson
Harold Thompson
George Wortham

Human Relations Commission - three-year term

Appoint Tandra Henderson to fill vacant position formerly held by Tim Burgess.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., vote unanimous, that the following reports be received and filed:

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- See on file monthly report, Vance County ABC Board
- See on file monthly report, Fire and Ambulance Service
- See on file monthly report, Human Resources Department
- See on file monthly report, Planning and Development Department
- See on file monthly report, Sheriff's Department
- See on file monthly report, Veterans Service Office

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As there was no further business, at 8:30 p.m. motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright that the meeting be adjourned. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Approved and signed February 6, 2005.

Chairman