

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 7, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those Commissioners present were as follows: Chairman Danny W. Wright, Commissioners Dan Brummitt, Deborah F. Brown, Terry E. Garrison, A. Scott Hughes, J. Timothy Pegram, and Eddie L. Wright.

Absent: None.

Also present were Assistant County Attorney Jonathan S. Care, County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue, and Finance Officer Jerry L. Tucker.

Rev. William Brodie, Associate Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

Michael Brafford of Phillips, Dorsey, Thomas, Waters & Brafford was first on the agenda to present the FY 2006-07 Audit Report. Mr. Brafford stated the County had received an unqualified opinion which is the best a county can receive. He reiterated a point that was made last year regarding the new GASB pronouncement that will become effective in June 2009. Currently, if a retiree has been employed with the County for 15 years, the County continues to pay for their health insurance, which is funded out of the current year expense. Under the new GASB rule, Counties will have to determine how much that cost will be and that amount will have to be booked as a liability, thus reducing the fund balance by said amount. Mr. Brafford stated that actuaries would need to be hired in order to make the necessary projections.

The County's total fund balance had increased to \$14.9 million and the undesignated balance increased to \$10.3 million. The property tax collection rate had also increased from 92.9% to 93.4%.

Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes to receive the FY 06-07 audit report as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and unanimously approved.

The next appointment, Mr. Brian Short, was unable to present his monthly report due to sickness, so County Manager Jerry L. Ayscue made a few remarks on his behalf regarding the recent traffic accident involving a Greyhound bus and tractor/trailer truck. He stated that Fire and EMS personnel responded from the Vance County Fire Department, Vance County Rescue Squad, Kittrell VFD, Bearpond VFD, Emergency Management, Sheriff's Department, and Highway Patrol. Two victims were transported via air medical service to UNC Chapel Hill. Six victims were transported

by ambulance to Maria Parham Medical Center, and the remaining victims were transported by school buses. Mr. Short was very pleased with the fact that the cell phone signal from the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief provided the helicopter pilot an exact landing location.

Chairman Wright stated that there was a lot of high level coordination with this rescue and Mr. Short is to be commended for his part in the event.

Public comments were heard next. Mr. Mark Nezbitt spoke in opposition to the Interbasin Transfer which is a transfer of water from one river basin to another. He noted that the City of Henderson is in the process of requesting a permit from the State for water to be transferred to another basin in Creedmoor. If this happens, the natural flow of water to the Albemarle Sound will be disrupted and he encouraged the Board of Commissioners to stand in opposition of this interbasin transfer.

Chairman Wright suggested that this matter be referred to the County Manager in order to involve the appropriate committee and make a recommendation back to the full Board regarding this matter.

At this time, motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt, seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright, vote unanimous, that the Board approve Budget Amendments #24, #25, #26, and Budget Transfer #3 as follows for the purposes noted therein:

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Budget Amendment #24			
General Fund			
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Contracted Services	10-520-500045		5,000.00
Contingency	10-999-500099	<u>5,000.00</u>	_____
Total Debits & Credits		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00

Purpose: To appropriate funds to pay for architectural services at the jail.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 7, 2008

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**Budget Amendment #25
General Fund**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Salaries & Wages	10-601-500001		10,938.00
FICA	10-601-500005		750.00
Group Insurance	10-601-500006		1,539.00
Retirement	10-601-500007		539.00
Travel/Training	10-601-500014		1,109.00
Departmental Supplies	10-601-500033		119.00
Dues & Subscriptions	10-601-500053	170.00	
Insurance & Bonds	10-601-500054	<u>1,325.00</u>	
Total Debits & Credits		\$ 1,495.00	\$ 14,994.00
Total Increase in Expenditures			\$ 13,499.00

Revenues

Smart Start Program	10-370-437020	\$ <u>13,499.00</u>	
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 13,499.00	

Purpose: To appropriate additional State funding for Smart Start. No County funds needed.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 7, 2008

**Budget Amendment #26
General Fund**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Maintenance Equipment	10-517-500016		827.23
Maintenance Vehicles	10-517-500017		7,275.00
Departmental Supplies	10-517-500033		5,795.44
Uniforms	10-517-500036		<u>8,963.61</u>
Total Increase in Expenditures			\$ 22,861.28

Revenues

Sheriff's Interdiction Funds	10-359-435917	\$ <u>22,861.28</u>	
Total Increase in Revenues		\$ 22,861.28	

Purpose: To appropriate Interdiction funds to cover additional expenditures in Sheriff's Department. No County funds needed.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 7, 2008

**Budget Transfer #3
General Fund**

Expenditure	Code	Debit	Credit
Salaries & Wages	10-606-500001		2,232.00
FICA	10-606-500005	110.00	
Group Insurance	10-606-500006	201.00	
Retirement	10-606-500007	39.00	
Program Expense	10-606-500033	2,902.00	
Insurance & Bonds	10-606-500054	_____	<u>1,020.00</u>
Total Debits & Credits		\$ 3,252.00	\$ 3,252.00

Purpose: To transfer funds in accounts to reflect actual expenses for Parenting Program.

Notification: Vance County Board of Commissioners
January 7, 2008

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt, seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, vote unanimous, that the Board approve the following Refunds as requested by the Tax Office:

**REFUNDS
December 2007**

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Ricky D. Small	2006	6.78	Vehicle Tax
Jose M. Navarrete	2006	3.14	Vehicle Tax
Travis D. McLendon	2007	11.76	Vehicle Tax
Jon P. Heiderscheit	2007	66.25	Vehicle Tax
Jon P. Heiderscheit	2007	26.50	Vehicle Tax
Jacinta Velazquez	2007	25.20	Vehicle Tax
Linda H. Coleman	2007	5.16	Vehicle Tax
Charles W. Burwell	2007	30.90	Vehicle Tax
Joyce Maynard	2006	1.34	Vehicle Tax
Vickie Edwards	2007	70.50	Vehicle Tax
Carrie Cheek	2007	17.01	Vehicle Tax
Alonzo Bowen	2006	2.36	Vehicle Tax
Roy P. Lynch	2007	25.68	Vehicle Tax
Shirley T. Davis	2006	1.48	Vehicle Tax
Thomas Melvin	2007	5.49	Vehicle Tax
Ernest Williams	2007	48.65	Vehicle Tax
Golf Carts Unlimited	2007	125.40	Vehicle Tax
Claude Kerley, Jr.	2006	5.83	Vehicle Tax
George E. Talley	2007	2.53	Vehicle Tax
William Parrish, Jr.	2007	5.16	Vehicle Tax
Richard M. Murphy	2006	1.83	Vehicle Tax

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Brandy White	2007	5.74	Vehicle Tax
Lawrence Ellington	2006	8.90	Vehicle Tax
Melissa Holland	2006	5.20	Vehicle Tax
Yvonne B. Gregory	2006	19.74	Vehicle Tax
Bennie L. Harris, Jr.	2006	1.15	Vehicle Tax
Kandiace L. Newhouse	2006	1.22	Vehicle Tax
Travis D. McLendon	2007	.36	Fire Tax
Jacinta Velazquez	2007	.80	Fire Tax
Ricky D. Small	2006	.22	Fire Tax
Linda H. Coleman	2007	.18	Fire Tax
Charles W. Burwell	2007	1.00	Fire Tax
Joyce Maynard	2006	.04	Fire Tax
Vickie Edwards	2007	2.30	Fire Tax
Carrie Cheek	2007	.57	Fire Tax
Alonzo Bowen	2006	.08	Fire Tax
Roy P. Lynch	2007	.80	Fire Tax
Golf Carts Unlimited	2007	4.07	Fire Tax
Claude Kerley, Jr.	2006	.19	Fire Tax
George E. Talley	2007	.11	Fire Tax
Brandy White	2007	.21	Fire Tax
Lawrence Ellington	2006	.30	Fire Tax
Melissa Holland	2006	.18	Fire Tax
Bennie L. Harris, Jr.	2006	.04	Fire Tax
Kandiace L. Newhouse	2006	.04	Fire Tax
Total		\$ 542.39	Fiscal y-t-d - \$ 5,819.14

Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes that the Board approve Ambulance Charge-offs in the amount of \$7,466.67 for those persons deceased with no estate listing. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports and Recommendations

Human Resources Committee. Mr. Ayscue requested the Board to allow filling the following position vacancies which have been endorsed by the Human Resources Committee:

Sheriff's Department

Deputy Sheriff

Fire & Ambulance

Firefighter/EMT-I

911

Telecommunicator

Department of Social Services

Social Worker II

Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, to approve the position requests as presented.

Public Safety Committee. This Committee met and discussed the formation of a committee to address concerns of deer hunting with dogs. The Committee chose from a list of solicited volunteers and recommended the following persons be appointed to serve on the Deer Hunting Advisory Committee: Sears Day, Preston Floyd, Angie Garrett, Marion Lewis, Danny Norwood, Chuck Parrish, Dale Reese, Richard Reitmeyer, Randy Umstead, and W.A. West.

Commissioner Dan Brummitt noted that it appeared that some districts were being represented more heavily than others and asked if there were any volunteers from other districts. Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, Public Safety Committee member, responded that the majority of those chosen was done so on a first-come basis. There were also several volunteers that represented the same hunting club, so the Committee took that into consideration and tried to choose only one person from each club.

Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes to approve the recommendation from the Public Safety Committee as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright and unanimously approved.

Intergovernmental Committee. Mr. Ayscue explained that a meeting has been requested with the City during the month of January to discuss the recommendations by the Police Chief and Sheriff to disband the Interagency Drug Enforcement Unit. Once the City finalizes its committee appointments, a date will be scheduled for the meeting.

Properties Committee. This Committee met and discussed the former library and museum appraisals and offered the following recommendations to the Board:

Ad Hoc Committee: It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chairman to appoint the members of the Properties Committee as an ad hoc committee to meet with City representatives to discuss disposition of the museum and for former library.

Museum. The Committee recommended that the Board of Commissioners take the necessary steps (as determined by legal counsel) to proceed with the sale of the museum building on Garnett Street, at the price of at least the appraised amount of \$60,000. Both the County and City will have to declare the museum as surplus property.

Former Library. The Committee would like to have a discussion with City representatives before finalizing a recommendation to the full Board.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt to declare the museum building on Garnett Street as surplus property contingent upon the City of Henderson taking similar action and

then take the necessary steps to sell said property. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown to authorize Chairman Wright to appoint the members of the Properties Committee to serve as an ad hoc committee to meet with City representatives to discuss the disposition of the former library. This motion was seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes and unanimously approved.

Planning & Environmental Committee. Mr. Ayscue explained that a meeting of the Planning & Environmental Committee will be set for January to develop guidelines for the Community Heroes Program as recommended by the Appearance Commission.

Pending Business

County Water Project. Mr. Ayscue noted that a work session with County Commissioners and the project engineer, Fred Hobbs, has been scheduled for Thursday, January 10 at 3:00 p.m. Following the work session, a meeting will be scheduled for some time in January with the Citizens Advisory Committee and the project engineer.

Filling of Key Positions. County administration has been recruiting and interviewing to fill two key positions - Environmental Manager and Finance Director. The County continues to advertise and interview for the Environmental Manager position. Recruitment for the Finance Director is nearing its final stages and an announcement will be made as soon as it is appropriate to do so.

County Manager's Report

Schools Request for Lottery Funds. Mr. Ayscue explained that the Vance County Board of Education requested the use of existing lottery funds in the amount of \$17,280 to be used for planning and design services for expansion of the existing cafeteria at E.O. Young Elementary School. One of the smaller projects originally requested in a larger funding/construction package and discussed by the Education Committee, the construction cost for this project is estimated to be \$216,000. The Schools have expressed the pressing need to move forward with this project due to the very limited space in the cafeteria and associated problems. Proceeding with the project will obviously decrease the amount that the Schools will need to finance for its larger construction package. The use of lottery funds requires action by both boards, and the Board of Education has taken action accordingly.

Chairman Wright questioned where the balance of the funds come from. Mr. Ayscue replied that lottery funds could be used for the balance if needed.

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright to approve the use of lottery funds in the amount of \$17,280 for planning and design services for expansion of the E.O. Young Elementary School cafeteria. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown and unanimously approved.

Economic Development Grant Application. Mr. Ayscue reported that businesses in the close vicinity of Northern Vance High School have expressed a need for sewer service. The NC Rural Economic Development Center has a grant program that will assist with funding and is based on the number of jobs created. The County will have to be the grant applicant. The business owners have indicated a willingness to commit to the creation of the required number of jobs in order to qualify for the economic development grant funds. They have also agreed that if for some reason they do not create the number of jobs that they commit to, they will pay their proportionate share of the local match.

Commissioner Terry E. Garrison, Economic Development Commission member, stated that the EDC Board is aware of this grant opportunity and fully supports this action.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt, seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, vote unanimous, to authorize the County to proceed with applying for funds for connection of several businesses with a gravity flow sewer line to the existing line at Northern Vance High School, with any local funding match requirement to be satisfied by the creation of new jobs or financial contributions by the local businesses.

Black History Month Resolution. Mr. Ayscue explained that February is recognized at the national level as Black History Month. The Board of Commissioners acted last year to designate February as Black History Month in Vance County and indicated its desire to do so each year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Terry E. Garrison, seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright, vote unanimous, to adopt the following resolution to designate February 2008 as Black History Month in Vance County:

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RESOLUTION
by the
Vance County Board of Commissioners
to designate
February as Black History Month in Vance County

WHEREAS, for over eighty (80) years the month of February has been observed nationally as an opportunity to recognize black history and the countless contributions made to society by African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, Carter G. Woodson, a Washington, D.C. author, editor, historian, and publisher, is credited with choosing the second week in February in 1926 to defend black humanity and highlight the accomplishments of his ancestors; and

WHEREAS, when the United States of America celebrated its bicentennial in 1976, the second week of February was extended to include the entire month; and

WHEREAS, the Vance County Board of Commissioners wishes for all citizens to understand and appreciate the value added to the Vance County economy and overall community by African-Americans of all socio-economic levels.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vance County Board of Commissioners does duly designate February as Black History Month in Vance County, and in doing so, does recognize the significant contributions to society made by people of African heritage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vance County Board of Commissioners does encourage schools, churches, civic organizations, businesses, and citizens of all races and color to participate in the celebration of Black History Month in Vance County during February 2008.

This, the seventh day of January, 2008.

Danny W. Wright (signed)
Danny W. Wright, Chairman

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Recipient's Plan to Further Fair Housing. Mr. Ayscue stated that Community Development Block Grants regulations require that a fair housing plan be adopted and implemented. He recommended that the document be approved in order to comply with the Program requirement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Terry E. Garrison to approve the Recipient's Plan to Further Fair Housing document as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright and unanimously approved.

The next item presented was a Resolution of Commendation to firefighters and emergency rescue personnel. Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, to approve the resolution as presented.

Chairman Wright stated that an unfortunate house fire had occurred where some great heroism was displayed. Chairman Wright read the following Resolution of Commendation and Hicksboro Volunteer Fire Department Chief Chad Blake, Captain Jodie Watkins, Lieutenant Tommy Bennett, and Firefighter Carlton Lee Norwood were recognized and presented said Resolution as follows:

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R E S O L U T I O N
of
C O M M E N D A T I O N
of
Firefighters and Emergency Rescue Personnel
by the
Vance County Board of Commissioners

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vance County are very fortunate to have excellent volunteer and career firefighters and emergency medical services personnel who constantly dedicate themselves to protection of life and property, often at their own personal risk and safety; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2007, the Hicksboro Volunteer Fire Department responded to a house fire and medical alarm at 3600 Hicksboro Road where two senior citizens, Wilson and Nellie Knott, were entrapped; and

WHEREAS, Hicksboro VFD personnel, including Chief Chad Blake, Captain Jodie Watkins, Lieutenant Tommy Bennett, and Firefighter Carlton Lee Norwood, heroically placed their own lives in great danger by entering the burning building to rescue the Knotts, and through their selfless efforts are credited with saving the life of Mrs. Knott while making valiant and relentless attempts, although unsuccessful, to resuscitate Mr. Knott; and

WHEREAS, these firefighters, with the help of additional personnel from Hicksboro VFD, Townsville VFD, Watkins VFD, Epsom VFD, the Vance County Rescue Squad, and the Vance County Fire and Ambulance Department, worked diligently to rescue Mr. and Mrs. Knott and save their property while exposing themselves to significant personal risk and peril.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Vance County Board of Commissioners does highly commend the abovementioned emergency personnel from all involved emergency organizations for acts of outstanding heroism in responding to the tragic house fire on December 7, 2007; **AND FURTHER** expresses its appreciation for the ongoing commitment of all volunteer and career firefighters in Vance County.

THIS, the seventh day of January, 2008.

Danny W. Wright (signed)
Danny W. Wright, Chairman

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Members of the Knott family were also present and offered their gratitude to the firefighters and emergency rescue personnel.

At this time, motion was made by Commissioner Terry E. Garrison that the Board approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 3, 2007 as presented by the Clerk to the Board. This motion was seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, that the Board approve the following Rebates for November 2007 and December 2007 as requested by the Tax Office:

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REBATES
November 2007

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Charles & Cynthia Dickerson	2005-07	323.19	Value Correction
John K. Foster, Jr. Heirs	2007	214.64	Value Correction
Martina P. Solorio	2007	54.70	Listing Correction
St. John's Episcopal Church	2007	27.60	Listing Correction
Douglas W. Vaughan	2007	1.47	Listing Correction
Marshall White	2007	252.44	Value Correction
Carolyn A. Yarborough	2007	311.51	Value Correction
Total		\$ 1,185.55	Fiscal y-t-d - \$ 35,222.88

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REBATES
December 2007

NAME	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
Rudolph & Cindy Abate	2007	187.31	Value Correction
Larry D. Benjamin	2007	12.65	Listing Correction
Harriette H. Butler	2007	18.10	LLP Released
Kenneth & Elizabeth Catlett	2007	5.13	LLP Released
Harold W. Clayton	2007	46.29	Listing Correction
Robert & Jacquelyn Hubbard	2007	184.00	Value Correction
Newcap, Inc.	2007	183.95	Value Correction
George & Lou Ann Parker	2007	184.00	Value Correction
Frank H. Pendergrass	2007	42.69	Value Correction
Jerry Woods & Tonya Boyd	2006-07	130.17	Listing Correction
Gregory S. Wright	2007	36.89	Listing Correction
Total		\$ 1,031.18	Fiscal y-t-d - \$ 36,254.06

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Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, seconded by Commissioner Dan Brummitt, vote unanimous, to re-appoint Robert S. Hight and Braxton Poythress to the Vance County Industrial Facility and Pollution Control Finance Authority for a six-year term.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt that the Board approve a road petition to add Hunstone Road, E. Waycliff Road, Waterfall Road, Sandstone Road, North Cinnebar Court, and South Cinnebar Court to the State System and forward same to the Department of Transportation for consideration. This motion was seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner J. Timothy Pegram, seconded by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown, vote unanimous, that the following monthly reports be received and filed:

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See on file monthly report, 911 Emergency Operations

See on file monthly report, Vance County ABC Board

See on file monthly report, Administrative Ambulance Charge-offs

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, Tax Office

See on file monthly report, Veterans Service Office

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The Board then discussed the use of a consent agenda. A sample consent agenda was presented and included items such as budget amendments, tax refunds and rebates, ambulance charge-offs, minutes, road petitions, and monthly reports. Chairman Wright stated that these items may be joined together and approved by one motion. If there is any reason a board member wishes to discuss an item, it may be removed from the consent agenda and dealt with separately. Items may also be added or deleted from the consent agenda as necessary.

Motion was made by Commissioner Deborah F. Brown that, beginning in February 2008, a consent agenda would be used to include items such as budget amendments, tax refunds and rebates, ambulance charge-offs, minutes, road petitions, and monthly reports. This motion was seconded by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes and unanimously approved.

At this time, Mr. Ayscue made a few remarks regarding the upcoming retirement of Finance Officer Jerry Tucker. He noted that Mr. Tucker has been with the County for 19 years and has been responsible for 19 unqualified audit reports. He stated that Mr. Tucker has personified an honest public servant and expressed his pleasure in working with Mr. Tucker for the past 19 years.

Mr. Tucker thanked the Board for the privilege of working with the County over the past years. He told the Board that the citizens of Vance County are very fortunate to have them as Board members because they take the citizens' interests and concerns at heart while maintaining and providing government services. He also thanked his staff for their hard work over the years.

Chairman Wright stated that it has been a pleasure working with Mr. Tucker and the most important asset of any organization is its employees. He wished Mr. Tucker well in his much-deserved retirement.

Commissioners Garrison, Brown, and Eddie Wright echoed these remarks and thanked Mr. Tucker for his service, loyalty, and dedication over the years and stated that he will be sorely missed.

As there was no further business, at 7:20 p.m. motion was made by Commissioner A. Scott Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Eddie L. Wright, vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

Approved and signed February 4, 2008.

Chairman