

**MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN HEINEMAN
SEPTEMBER 5, 1995**

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in special session at the Fearington House Restaurant, Jenny’s Board Room, Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 7:30 AM, on September 5, 1995.

Present: Chairman Uva Holland; Vice Chair Betty Wilson; Commissioners
Margaret Pollard, Henry Dunlap, and John Grimes; County Manager
Ben Shivar; and Clerk to the Board Sandra B. Lee; Congressman Fred Heineman
and Robert W. Dilks

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 8:50 A.M.

MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN HEINEMAN

Chairman Holland welcomed those in attendance and turned the meeting over to Congressman Heineman.

Congressman Fred Heineman met with the Chatham County Board of Commissioners at the Fearington House Restaurant in Jenny’s Board Room to discuss issues of concern to the County’s citizens.

Congressman Heineman stated that it is difficult to know whether the bills will work their way down to the House and whether they will be signed; that he can not predict how things are going to affect Chatham County and that he does not know how funds will be allocated.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PLT)

The County Manager stated that he understood that a bill had passed both Houses but there was no appropriation made for it; that basically, the County’s interest from it comes from Jordan Lake which is 40,000 plus acres that have been taken off the tax rolls and controlled by the courts; that up until the current time, the County has received approximately \$32,000 each year from the federal government for payment in lieu of taxes; that when that potential is compared to its potential prior to the lake being there for development, the payment remains pittance as to the revenues that the County might receive from the property; that the County realizes some benefits from the lake but also realizes that a lot of burden is placed on law enforcement and emergency medical services; that the County has some very high direct expenditures as a result of the lake; that the bill that passed would have authorized a doubling of that amount for the County; and that the County would like to see support appropriation of full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program.

Congressman Heineman stated that he had no update on payment in lieu of taxes regarding Chatham County.

Federal Funds for Utility Infrastructure & School Construction

Congressman Heineman stated that nothing, as yet, had been discussed by Congress with regard to federal funds for utility infrastructure and school construction.

Chairman Holland stated that the County is very interested in water and sewer if there are funds available.

Siting of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Facility

Bob Dilks stated that Orange and Wake Counties agree with Chatham County's position regarding the low-level radioactive waste facility.

The Congressman suggested that the Commissioners meeting with the Governor to discuss their concerns but he had no further information on which to update the Commissioners on the low-level radioactive waste facility.

Banks/Insurance

- Congressman Heineman stated that banks want to sell insurance; that insurance companies do not want banks to be able to sell insurance; that the outcome is uncertain; that they are trying to generate competition; that banks will be able to sell insurance if the State commissioners tell them they can.

Commissioner Grimes stated that what the banks see is a large deposit of money coming in; that there is a lot of insurance policies that have annuities to them; that it would be a great source of deposits if they could reinvest insurance money.

Welfare & Health Care Reform

- Congressman Heineman stated that he would keep the Commissioners updated as soon as he has information on the process of how the block grants are going to work their way down and what is going to be available. He encouraged the Commissioners to keep in touch with his office regarding these matters.

Commissioner Pollard stated that the County's portion of Medicaid has more than doubled in the last few years and she wondered what kind of relief the Congressman sees for local government in that area.

Congressman Heineman stated that there had not been a lot of talk about Medicaid; that there has been a lot of talk with regard to Medicare; that some states have issued vouchers for Medicaid; that they issued a certain amount of vouchers which can be used to buy into a health care/managed health program;

Bob Dilks asked for a meeting with the County Manager to discuss issues of concern.

Uva R. Holland, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board