

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 16, 2003

The Board of Commissioners ("the Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the District Courtroom, Courthouse Annex, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 6:00 PM on June 16, 2003.

Present: Chairman Tommy Emerson; Vice Chair Carl Outz; Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Bob Atwater, and Bunkey Morgan; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Assistant County Manager, Paul Spruill; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:20 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

- Chairman Emerson invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance after which he delivered the invocation.

Chairman Emerson explained that the Board had just come out of a Closed Session to address a memorandum each member had received from the former Public Works Director; that a copy of the memo will be released to the press and others who would like to have a copy of the letter; that the Board discussed personnel matters revolving around the memo and allegations made in the memo; that the County Attorney has reviewed the memo from a legal perspective for any improprieties; that it is the opinion of the Board, based upon all information reviewed, and that there is nothing that merits further action from the Board at this time.

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that a copy of the memo dated 5-23-03 from former employee Ron Singleton concerning certain engineering projects involving Chatham County be sent to the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers with an appropriate letter from the County Attorney requesting their review and recommendation of any matter affecting professional standards of engineers. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

AGENDA

- The Chairman asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agendas.

- The County Manager asked that an appointment/reappointment to the Jury Commission be added to the Agenda as Item #18A.

Commissioner Atwater asked that an appointment to the Revenue Bond Authority be added to the Agenda as Item #18B.

The County Manager asked that Item #14, Consideration of a request to approve Budget Amendments be deferred until the next Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Commissioner Morgan asked that an appointment to the Human Relations Committee be added to the Agenda as Item #18C.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Agenda with the noted requests. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Consent Agenda The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of a request for approval of Board Minutes for Regular Meeting and Work Session held June 2, 2003

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

2. **Road Names:** Consideration of a request to approve a request from citizens for the naming of private roads in Chatham County as follows:

1. **Whisper Lane**
2. **Cottonwood Lane**
3. **New Rhododendron**

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

3. **Reappointment of Tax Collector:** Consideration of a request to reappoint the Chatham County Tax Collector for a six-year term to expire July, 2009

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

4. **Reappointment of Board of Health Members:** Consideration of a request to reappoint three Board of Health members to three seats with terms expiring June 30, 2003 as follows: Jan Lienau (PO Box 90, Pittsboro, NC) to the pharmacist seat, Dr. Paul Mitchum (422, North Ivey Avenue, Siler City, NC) to the dentist seat, and Jackie Tatum (24 Windy Ridge Road, Chapel Hill, NC) to the registered nurse seat effective July 1, 2003

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

5. **Sketch Design Approval of "Bobcat Point Subdivision, Phase III, Lots 84-88":** Consideration of a request by Ricky Spoon Builders for subdivision sketch design approval of "Bobcat Point Subdivision, Phase III, Lots 84-88", consisting of approximately 16 acres, off SR #1558 (Henderson Tanyard Road), Hadley Township

As per the Planning Board and Planning Department recommendation, sketch design approval of the plat was granted as submitted.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

6. **Sketch, Preliminary, and Final Approval of "Subdivision of Tract C of the Peggy R. Boggs Property"**: Consideration of a request by Peggy Boggs for subdivision sketch, preliminary and final approval of **"Subdivision of Tract C of the Peggy R. Boggs Property for John H. Norwood, Jr."**, consisting of 2 lots on approximately 10 acres, off SR #1526, (Parker Herndon Road), Baldwin Township

As per the Planning Board and Planning Department recommendation, the plat was approved as submitted with the following condition:

1. No additional subdivision lots may be created on this same property for a period of 24 months from the date of approval by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

7. **Final Approval of "Strowd Mountain"**: Consideration of a request by Mark N. O'Neal, Pickett-Sprouse Real Estate on behalf of Syd Alexander, Personal Representative for the Irene H. Strowd Estate for final approval of **"Strowd Mountain"**, consisting of 21 lots on approximately 105 acres, off SR #1539 (Crawford Dairy Road), Baldwin Township

As per the Planning Board and Planning Department recommendation, final approval of the plat was granted as submitted with the following condition:

1. The plat not be recorded until a road maintenance agreement for the private portion of the roadway is received and approved by staff.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

8. **Final Approval of "Bobcat Point Subdivision, Phase III, Lots 77-83"**: Consideration of a request by Ricky Spoon Builders, Inc. for subdivision final approval of **"Bobcat Point Subdivision, Phase III Lots 77-83"**, consisting of seven (7) lots on approximately 36 acres, off SR #1558 (Henderson-Tanyard Road), in Hadley Township

As per the Planning Board and Planning Department, final approval of the plat was granted as submitted.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Approval of Board of Adjustment Minutes: Consideration of a request to approve Board of Adjustment Minutes for meeting held June 2, 2003

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to recess as the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and convene as the Chatham County Board of Adjustment. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Chairman Emerson asked to be excused from voting on the minutes due to a possible conflict of interest.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to excuse Chairman Emerson from voting on the Board of Adjustment Minutes. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

The Vice Chair presided over the approval of the Board of Adjustment Minutes.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the June 2, 2003 Board of Adjustment Minutes. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to adjourn as the Chatham County Board of Adjustment and reconvene as the Chatham County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Edith Hubbard, Chair of the JOCCA Board, distributed a copy of the Joint Orange Chatham Community Action, Inc. (JOCCA) audit for year ended June, 2002. She stated that it was a clean, unqualified audit; that they have had a few rocky years; that they are back on track; that their executive director has turned the agency around; that the issue which brings her to the Board is the unfortunate article published in the Chatham News; that it was a personnel matter which they hoped would get handled and resolved; that the full board has reviewed the complaint and the allegations and resolved the matter to the full satisfaction of all board members; that there was a unanimous decision from the JOCCA Board of Directors that there was no wrong doing and no instances of financial impropriety; that there were some issues, in terms of management of the organization, that the board needed to handle and it was done; that she is pleased to report from their investigation as a board, all of the matters have been addressed and resolved.

Nick Robinson, Chair of the JOCCA Personnel Committee, stated that he had served on the board for over five years; that the JOCCA organization just wants to help poor people in Chatham and Orange Counties; that it started helping in the 1960s; that there have been times when there were problems; that the board has been reconstituted; that he is happy to report that there have been a lot of positive changes; that the issue which arose in the newspaper did arise out of a personnel issue; that many willing volunteers sat on the board where they dissected each and everything that happened in connection with this matter; that he alone dedicated over 47 hours of his time to hearings, meetings, and decision making on this issue; that the two people who complained were represented by an attorney throughout the proceedings; that they had hearings before their board; that they have been working on this for a long time; that he can say with absolute confidence that the JOCCA Board of Directors feels confident that the resolution of it was appropriate in all instances; that they are limited, to a certain degree, as to what they can say about it because there are aspects of it that relate to personnel decisions; that they tried very hard to resolve the matter with the main complainant, the one whom he believes is the source behind the article in the newspaper; that when they could not resolve the issue, he took his complaint to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and filed a discrimination against the JOCCA agency; that it was dismissed by the EEOC and is no longer an issue; that over the years, JOCCA has requested and, he believes, earned the Board's commitment to them. He asked that if the Board had any questions, they let them know, and that they would be happy to answer them.

Ms. Sanchez thanked the Board for the opportunity to come before them.

Ms. Hubbard and Mr. Robinson answered questions from the Board.

The Board acknowledged that a Commissioner appointment needs to be made to the JOCCA Board.

Jenny Megginson, 131 Jenny's Way, Pittsboro, NC, stated that Chatham County Head Start is facing a potential crisis and needs the community's help; that the program is in danger of losing forty of its one hundred twenty slots (1/3 of its enrollment) unless appropriate classroom space can be found in the Pittsboro area within the next week; that Telamon Corporation, the group who manages the Chatham-Wake County Regional Head Start Program may decide to close the Pittsboro program and transfer its forty slots to Wake County's program if a suitable site is not found before June 25, 2003; that this loss of Head Start spaces for the County's economically-disadvantaged young children would be devastating; that forty slots impacts a lot more than forty children; that this loss would come at the same time that the Pittsboro Montessori program is struggling to find a new location and the demand for child care in eastern Chatham County is an all-time high; that she is the newest member of the two-county Head Start Policy Council, one of only two members from Chatham County; that learned about the proposed transfer at their last meeting and was shocked to find out how little time they had to act; that they are working hard to find a new site that meets requirements and is in the right location; that a good facility in Moncure is available, but for only twenty children and that the Telemon staff worries that the busing distance is too far for the children who live primarily in the Pittsboro/Bynum area; that they are currently exploring every location they hear about; that they hope that folks in the community who know of a possible location for a Head Start classroom or for the Montessori program will get in touch with her or with the Head Start office in Siler City; and that they will need all the help that they can get.

Bob Knight, 406 Chimney Rock Lane, Sanford, NC, stated that he was surprised to see JOCCA back on the front page of the newspaper again so soon; that this should send a clearer message to the Board as to how dangerous merit raises can be in the wrong hands; that it doesn't appear JOCCA fears anyone because the last Board of Commissioners could not ask for an investigation into the mismanaged \$400,000 intended to pay for a housing program; that even though Chatham has given over \$35,000 each year in the past; that Mrs. Sanchez said that she inadvertently approved her own pay raise by just signing the list of people who should get the merit raise but that he couldn't believe someone would get a raise between \$4,000 and \$10,000 in one year; that that prompts other questions, "How many other papers has Mrs. Sanchez inadvertently signed? Why does she still have a job? What else does Mrs. Sanchez have to hide for not wanting to answer Johnny Whitfield's on-going questions?"; that most likely, this matter would never have surfaced had it not been for a disgruntled employee; that Mrs. Sanchez most likely would not have felt compelled to return her merit raise which she inadvertently signed; that he is glad to see more people stepping up to the plate and bring out facts everyone should know; that the Board of Commissioners should set up a fund to reward whistle blowers for reporting mismanaged funds and other ways of doing things that would save taxpayers money; that he would hope that the Board would step up and say "no" to JOCCA until there is a published report on the \$400,000 mismanaged funds. He thanked the Board for hearing his comments.

Gerald Totten, 108 Petty Road, Siler City, NC, stated that the night's meeting might be Assistant County Manager, Paul Spruill's last commission meeting in Chatham County since he has accepted a position as the County Manager of Beaufort County as of July 14, 2003. He stated that he has only been with the County three short years but has, in his opinion, made a very positive impact on the County with his almost boundless energy and ability to make order out of chaos as far as fiscal answers are concerned; that he will miss his courtesy, his professionalism, and his willingness to be of help to all folks. He wished him well and stated that he hopes the future bodes well for him.

Sam White, 45 Maverick Ranch Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that as membership chairman of the Financial Accountability for Chatham Taxpayers (FACT) group invited everyone to attend their quarterly

business meeting at Best Foods Cafeteria in Siler City on Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at 7:00 PM. He stated that they were hoping to find better means of communication and cooperation between the various government agencies in Chatham County; that they hope to make a difference somewhere along the line; that there are some organizations in Chatham County of which they are very proud: 4-H; that there are some organizations in Chatham County that should start with the 4-Ds: County organizations that defraud, disguise, digress, and disperse; that a lot of times the people of Chatham County feel that they have been deceived, dumbfounded, disgusted, dimwitted; that it is time to change it around; that it is time to draw the hard line; that all he knows is what he reads in the newspaper; that he read about the questioned JOCCA payments; that they have an audit by the state board which says that JOCCA went wrong when they contacted all of its home repair work to be done by OCHR, a for-profit subsidiary of JOCCA; that former Senator Jesse Helms' Office which states that there is \$418,000 of JOCCA money and \$112,000 of Smart Start money; that this is the third time which he has been before the Board asking that the Board ask the State Bureau of Investigation to investigate the matter; that a club should be formed to defrock the leader of County management, one to disinfect the system of mismanagement in Chatham County, dismantle the barriers that have stood between County government and the citizens who elected the Board of Commissioners to run the County, and disseminate the information that can be understood. He asked that the County Commissioner Chairman be asked to write a letter to the SBI asking for a full investigation of the missing \$418,000 JOCCA funds and the \$118,000 Smart Start funds.

Jack Roberson, 89 Roberson Road, Pittsboro, NC, voiced concern with the unlimited budget which he stated that the North Chatham Fire Department is receiving. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has to beg for funds for employees while the fire department gets a ten percent raise while the Board struggles with a 1.4 or 1.8 percent raise for County employees; that the North Chatham Fire Department budget is unlimited; that they bought a \$700,000 ladder truck which can reach only eight percent of the driveways in their district and three percent of those do not even have water; that the Board did not have to approve it; that the ladder truck spends more time at shows and parades than it does at fires because a few people wanted a "show truck"; that they are also in the real estate business; that he is uncertain if that is legal; and that they also rent property. He asked if the fire department's board had to answer to the Board of Commissioners.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Roberson for his comments and stated that the Board would look into the matter.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a five-minute break

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Public Hearing:

Bond Order: Public hearing to receive public comments on the Bond Order authorizing the issuance of \$13,500,000 general obligation refunding bonds

The County Attorney explained that the Bond Order authorizing the issuance of \$13,500,000 general obligation refunding bonds of Chatham County was introduced at the June 2, 2003 Board of Commissioners' meeting and published in the Chatham Record on June 5, 2003 with a notice that the Board would hold a public hearing on the Bond Order at the night's meeting; that the Finance Officer filed with the Clerk to the Board, a statement of debt complying with the provisions of the Local Government Bond Act; that the statement filed showed the net indebtedness of the County to be 0.4726% of the assessed valuation of the

property of the County taxation; and that a motion should be made to begin the public hearing for the purpose of discussing the Bond Order.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to begin the public hearing for the purpose of discussing the Bond Order. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

There was no one present who wished to make public comments.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to close the public hearing. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to adopt the Bond Order as introduced without change. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

PLANNING AND ZONING

Annual 2003 Communication Tower Plan Requests: Consideration of a request to approve the Annual 2003 Communication Tower Plan Requests: **Alltel Communications** requests three co-locations and one tower height extension; **Cingular Wireless** requests two co-locations and one new tower site; and **AT&T Wireless Services PCS** requests eleven co-locations and one new tower

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to accept the Planning Board and Planning Department recommendation that the following requests for the 2003 Communication Tower Plan be approved:

1. AT&T Wireless Services – eleven collocations and one new tower on Gade Bryant Road as proposed
2. ALLTEL Communications – three collocations and one tower height extension to 199 feet as proposed
3. Cingular Wireless – four collocations as proposed

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Request for Conditional Use B-1 Business District with Conditional Use Permit for Mike Hubbard: Consideration of a request by Mike Hubbard for a Conditional Use B-1 Business District with a Conditional Use Permit for a catering operation and other uses as follows: appliance sales and service, bicycle sales and service, camera shops, churches, gift shops, heating, plumbing, electrical, cabinet and similar shops, interior design shops, jewelry sales and service, goldsmith, landscape design business, landscaping and grading business, office--business, professional and governmental, office--engineering supply and similar services, public and private schools, training and conference centers, repair shops, retail stores and personal service shops, on 2.00 acres (formerly Patton's Rest Home property), off East Cotton Road (SR #1712), in Baldwin Township

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to accept the Planning Board and Planning Department recommendation and approve the request with the following ten (10) conditions:

1. The request be approved for the following uses: catering operation -- office - (business, professional, governmental); office – (engineering supply and similar sales and service

- including blueprinting, photostatting and similar services); landscape design; gift shops; jewelry sales and service; interior design shop; churches; public or private school, training, conference center; camera shop; retail stores and personal service shops similar to those services listed dealing in direct consumer and personal services.
2. Landscaping/buffering be as stated above and as recommended by the Chatham County Appearance Commission. All required landscaping/buffering must be installed prior to November 30, 2003 and must be maintained properly.
 3. A delivery and loading area be designated at the rear of the structure.
 4. A document shall be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds prior to the occupancy of the structure regarding the septic easement for the subject property which is situated on the adjacent Hubbard property.
 5. The applicant shall comply with all applicable regulations of the North Carolina and United States Department of Agriculture. All required permits must be obtained prior to commencing operation of the catering operation. All permits must keep in good standing and have no violations of said permits.
 6. All required Chatham County environmental health permits and Chatham County building permits must be obtained prior to occupancy of the structure.
 7. All commercial driveway construction requirements by the NCDOT must be met prior to a certificate of occupancy being issued.
 8. The private easement must be maintained to an all weather travel surface standard at all times.
 9. Lighting requirements shall be as follows:
 - The maximum light level shall be 0.5 maintained footcandle at any property line.
 - All floodlights shall be installed such that the fixture shall be aimed down at least forty-five (45) degrees from vertical. These lights shall be positioned such that any such fixture located within fifty feet (50) of a public street right-of-way is mounted and aimed perpendicular to the right-of-way, with a side-to-side horizontal aiming tolerance not to exceed (15) degrees from perpendicular to the right-of-way.
 - All flood lamps emitting 1,000 or more lumens shall be aimed at least sixty (60) degrees down from horizontal or shielded such that the main beam from the light source is not visible from adjacent properties or the public street right-of-way.
 - The height of all outdoor lighting, shall not exceed thirty-seven (37) feet above finished grade.
 10. Parking spaces are to be installed proportionately and prior to the leasing of tenant spaces.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Request to Declare Property Surplus and Convey Unneeded Property: Consideration of a request to declare property surplus and convey unneeded property as follows:

- 1.) UNIX terminals from Cooperative Extension to South Central District
- 2.) Cell phones from Sheriff's Department to nonprofit programs aided by the department

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to adopt **Resolution #2003-23 Declaring Property Surplus and Conveying Property** and declaring the following property surplus and conveying unneeded property as follows:

- 1.) UNIX terminal from Cooperative Extension to South Central District
- 2.) Cell phones from Sheriff's Department to nonprofit programs aided by the department

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The resolution is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

FINANCE OFFICE

~~**Budget Amendments:** Consideration of a request to approve Budget Amendments~~

This item was removed from the Agenda and deferred until a later date.

APPOINTMENTS

Chatham County Planning Board Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint members to the Chatham County Planning Board by Commissioners Pollard, Morgan, and Outz

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to appoint Angela Brown, 322 Clarence McKeithan Road, Sanford, NC, to the Chatham County Planning Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to appoint Jennifer Andrews, 1000 Duncan Farm Road, Siler City, NC, to the Chatham County Planning Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to reappoint Winnie Smith, 5009 Corinth Road, Moncure, NC, to the Chatham County Planning Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Ag Advisory Committee Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Chatham County Ag Advisory Committee by Commissioners Outz (2), Atwater (1), and Pollard (2)

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to reappoint Bill Gowins, 6305 Silk Hope Gum Springs Road, Siler City, NC, to the Ag Advisory Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to reappoint Andy Upshaw, 752 Jay Shambley Road, Pittsboro, NC, to the Ag Advisory Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to reappoint Hilda Glosson, 738 Mt. Olive Church Road, Pittsboro, NC, to the Ag Advisory Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Chatham Trades, Inc. Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a replacement for former Commissioner Rick Givens to the Chatham Trades Board of Directors by the Board of Commissioners

This appointment was deferred until a later date.

Recreation Advisory Board Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint two members and reappoint one member to the Chatham County Recreation Advisory Board by Commissioners Morgan and Atwater

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to reappoint Allen Baddour, 147 Reeves Road, Pittsboro, NC, to the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to appoint Ernest Clemons, Jr., 1711 Farrington Road, Pittsboro, NC, to the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Jury Commission Appointment: Consideration of a request to reappoint a member to the Jury Commission

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to reappoint Claristine Bryant, 1669 Gade Bryant Road, Moncure, NC, to the Jury Commission for a second two-year term. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Revenue Bond Authority Appointments: Consideration of a request to reappoint two members to the Revenue Bond Authority

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to reappoint Victor Aldridge, 20 Fairway Road, Siler City, NC, and J. E. Boothe, Route 3, Box 240, Durham, NC, to the Revenue Bond Authority to serve six-year terms. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Human Relations Committee: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Human Relations Committee by Commissioner Morgan

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to appoint Michael Coffee, 850 Bish Road, Staley, NC to the Human Relations Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER MATTERS

Budget Ordinance: Consideration of a request to approve the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Budget Ordinance

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve FY 2003-04 Budget Ordinance (General Fund, Utility Fund, Special Revenue Funds), attached

hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

The County Manager reminded the Board that the Gulf-Goldston Sanitary District tax rate remains the same. Due to the on-going negotiations with regard to the future of the district at this point, the Manager reported, we are assuming district will remain in its current state.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve FY 2003-04 Budget Ordinance (Waste Management Enterprise), attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager reported on the following:

Capital Projects Ordinance:

The County Manager explained that the capital projects ordinance pertains to the parking lot to be constructed on the County's property formerly owned by Joe Tragesser.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the **Project Ordinance Concerning the Construction of a Parking Lot on the County's Property Formerly Owned by Joe Tragesser**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Master Plan for Industrial Site:

The Industrial Site Master Plan has been approved but staff needs direction from where to take the funds for payment.

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to take funds in the amount of \$7,500 for the Industrial Site Master Plan from contingency. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Southwest Park Update:

The Assistant County Manager explained that Mark Ashness, the project manager for the Southwest Park, recommended timber cutting of the 16.17 acres at the Southwest Park in order to bring in some revenue and to save time for clearing and grading contractors once bids are awarded. He stated that seven timber companies were contacted to submit bids to cut the unmarked timber and to leave the stumps; that the company will prepare to begin work on June 17, 2003 with a negotiable ending date; and that the timber job is to be completed by approximately July 17, 2003.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to accept an award to cut the unmarked timber in the Southwest Park to Triad Land and Timber in the amount of \$6,000. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Surplus Property in the Pittsboro-Moncure Road Haw River Township:

The Assistant County Manager explained that on April 07, 2003, the Board of Commissioners declared surplus the property located on Pittsboro-Moncure Road in the Haw River Township and recorded in the Chatham County Register of Deeds Office as follows: Deed Year 1999, Box 793, Page 1078; that an advertisement was placed in the Chatham News and Record on May 8, 2003 and was posted for thirty days as

a public notice; that Chatham County accepted sealed bids for thirty days; that the opening was scheduled for June 10, 2003; that one bid was received in the amount of \$4,000 from Mr. John Cross with the required bid deposit of five (5) percent.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to award to John Marion Cross the purchase of County owned property located on the Pittsboro-Moncure Road in Haw River Township for a price of \$4,000 to be paid to the County. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Pittsboro Community Cemetery Inc Property:

The Assistant County Manager explained that on April 07, 2003, the Board of Commissioners declared the property known as Lots 1A, 2A, 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14, 19, and 20 located on SR #1965 as surplus and authorized by resolution the advertisement of said property in a Negotiated Offer, Advertisement and Upset Bid process by the authority of NCGS 160A-269; that a bid was accepted from The Pittsboro Community Cemetery Inc. for \$25.00 to begin the process; that an advertisement was placed in the local Chatham News and Record the week of May 29, 2003; that no upset bid offers were received; and that the accepted bid from The Pittsboro Community Cemetery Inc stands as the highest offer at \$25.00.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to accept the bid from The Pittsboro Community Cemetery Inc in the amount of \$25.00 on property known as Lots 1A, 2A, 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14, 19, and 20. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). A copy of the deeds are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Earl Thompson Park Sign Update:

The new sign for the Earl Thompson Park is an anticipated two-three process and should be ready for installation by Odell & Sons at an approximate cost of \$400.00. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Atwater asked that former Commissioner Thompson's family be asked to view the new sign prior to installation.

Economic Development Funds for Industrial Park:

A letter has been sent to Mr. G. R. Kindley, at the Board's direction, to begin the process of looking for economic development funds available for roads on government-owned and developed lands.

Traffic Light at Mt. Gilead and Sugar Lake Road:

The Department of Transportation has investigated the placement of a traffic light at the intersection of Mt. Gilead and Sugar Lake Roads as part of the work with the S. T. Wooten issue; and that they have decided that there is not enough traffic to justify placement of a light at this time.

Appreciation to Paul Spruill:

The County Manager expressed his appreciation to Paul Spruill for his work for the County, the Board, and staff during his tenure with Chatham County. He wished him well and god speed in his new

position as the County Manager with Beaufort County beginning July 14, 2003.

- Chairman Emerson, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, extended best wishes to Paul Spruill for his continued happiness and success in the future and thanked him for his highly commendable and dedicated three-year service to Chatham County and wished him God-speed.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

State Mental Hospital:

Commissioner Pollard stated that she had not given up hope to have the State mental hospital situated in Chatham County; that the issue still has to go before the Senate; that she had called some people and looked at some data from Hoke, Roberson, and Scotland Counties; that they are the most extreme counties in terms of distance from Granville County; that there are 51,118 poor people residing in those three counties; that it would create a real hardship for them to have to travel the distance to Granville County; that the issue is if they have the capacity to pay for taking their loved-ones to the hospital and then making the necessary visits to stay in touch with them; that she has heard from other counties including Moore, Montgomery, Anson, and Richmond Counties; that approximately 8% of the families that live in Moore County, 10% in Montgomery County, 15% in Richmond County, and 15% in Anson County are below the poverty level, that she feels that this information should be presented to the County's representatives and consultant and that an organized effort with each county's action agency should be made to organize a mounted campaign with the senate to help situate the mental hospital in Chatham County.

Chairman Emerson and Commissioner Pollard stated that they would confer with the consultant regarding this matter.

Industrial Park Easement:

Commissioner Morgan reminded the Board that they have a commitment from Mr. Joe Luney on the 60 foot easement to Highway #64; that the commitment says that it is good as long as he owns the property or no later than December 1, 2003; that the Board must take action on the easement; that the County Attorney needs to take action with Mr. Luney; that the price of the land is zero; that if someone else purchases Mr. Luney's land, the easement will be forfeited; and that time is of the essence.

Tier 5:

Commissioner Morgan asked about making an effort to remove the County as a Tier 5 county. He stated that if the County could drop one tier, it would mean more money than most industry which could be brought to the County. He suggested that Representative Hackney be contacted with regard to this matter.

Commissioner Pollard suggested that the Board speak to the NC Association of County Commissioners stating that it was ridiculous that the tier was based on income rather than wealth.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried five (5) to zero, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Thomas J. Emerson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners