

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 15, 2004

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Superior Courtroom, Courthouse Circle, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 6:00 PM on March 15, 2004.

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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:07 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.

AGENDA

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of a request for approval of Board Minutes for regular meeting held March 01, 2004 and work session held March 01, 2004

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

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

- A. **William Goins Drive**
- B. **Lees Point**
- C. **Ever After Lane**

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

3. **Funds Acceptance from NC Division of Environmental Health:** Consideration of a request to accept funds in the amount of \$5,913.19 awarded to the Health Department's Environmental Health Division from the NC Division of Environmental Health

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

4. **Sketch, Preliminary and Final Approval of "Survey for Russell Marks":** Consideration of a request by Russell Marks for sketch, preliminary, and final approval of "Survey for Russell Marks", consisting of one (1) non-residential subdivision lot on five (5) acres, off SR #1011, Old US #1, Haw River Township

As per the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation, sketch, preliminary, and final approval of the plat was granted with the following conditions:

1. The plat not be recorded until staff has received a copy of the easement for the driveway encroachment.
2. All landscaping as required by the Chatham County Appearance Commission and the storm water basin shall be installed prior to certificate of occupancy being issued.
3. All lighting shall conform to the proposed Chatham County Lighting Ordinance.
4. All signage shall be as permitted by the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance.
5. Should outside trash containers be used, they should have a screening fence per the design guidelines.

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

5. **Sketch Design Approval of "Laura Hills":** Consideration of a request by Richard E. Fox for subdivision sketch design approval of "Laura Hills", consisting of 18 lots on approximately 60 acres, off SR #1509, Laura Johnson Road, Hickory Mountain Township

As per the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation, sketch design approval of the plat was granted with the following conditions:

1. Easements A, B, and C shall be built to a minimum standard of a 16 foot wide travelway with four (4) inches of crush and run stone for the entire length of the easements(s).
2. Each easement shall have a cul-de-sac with an adequate turn-around

which has a roadbed with a radius not less than forty (40) feet. The radius of the right-of-way of the turn-around shall not be less than fifty-five (55) feet.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Allison Weakley, 311 Boothe Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, asked that while the Board considers expansion of County-wide water services, that they also consider the quality of water that they are proposing to pipe to constituents. She stated that she was very concerned that Chatham was not doing everything within its power to protect its public water source. She presented information stating that she would like for the Board to be aware of what is at stake if actions are not taken to address further pollution in Jordan Lake as follows:

- It is a well-known fact that the upper New Hope area of Jordan Lake is considered “impaired” by the State due to excess nutrients (i.e. nitrogen, phosphorus). But it should also be known that the quality of the water in our public drinking water source is directly impacted by increased nutrient loads.
- As you may be aware, high levels of organic matter (i.e. algae) in water sources is largely caused by excessive nutrients from runoff. When water is treated with chlorine for disinfection, as it must be for drinking purposes, the chlorine interacts with carbon (from organic matter) to form trihalomethanes, or THMs, and other disinfection byproducts (DBPs).
- Long-term exposure to THMs is linked with cancer and can lead to liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems. Further, a study published in 2002 by scientists from the Centers for Disease Control, EPA, UNC Public Health, and others showed that exposure to these DBPs also pose risks to women of reproductive age (especially to pregnant women).
- According to the 2002 Annual Water Quality Report for the North Chatham Water Treatment Plant, which serves almost 8000 Chatham residents, the reported annual average level of THMs (87.7ppb) were above current standards.
- Stage 1 EPA regulations now require values less than 80 ppb, and that will change to 40 ppb in the coming years with the approval of Stage 2 regulations.
- It’s important to note that annual averages do not show peaks during the year, such as in summer when THMs are typically at their highest. This makes sense, because algae levels tend to be at their highest during summer.
- Stage 2 EPA regulations will eventually require changes to Stage 1 regs and require that water supply systems calculate averages differently, and to report short-term peaks in THMs and other disinfection by-products.
- To mitigate the formation of THM, many water treatment plants depend on secondary treatment that involves adding more or different chemicals, such as

chloramines (chlorine and ammonia gas), to the treatment process. However, the by-products produced from these types of treatments are also raising significant concerns.

- The best approach for preventing THMs and other DBPs in water supplies is to reduce the amount of carbon available in the source water to react with the chloride. And the best way to reduce carbon is to prevent erosion and excessive nutrients (runoff) from polluting the water source.
- Excessive nutrient loads and algae growth are perennial problems in Jordan Lake already, as is reflected in the high THM levels reported by Chatham County, Cary, and other local municipalities that depend upon eutrophic waters as their drinking water supply.
- Cleaner source water will require definitive action to reduce soil erosion, reduce nutrient runoff, and to control wastewater discharges into Jordan Lake.
- Without a strong commitment from Chatham County to protect Jordan Lake, our public water supply, many citizens feel they cannot support the expansion of the water supply.

Joyce Baird, 370 Gallup Road, Chapel Hill, NC, thanked Commissioner Atwater for his representation on the Board. She thanked Commissioner Pollard for her service to the County over the years asking that she continue her support of the ideals and issues that she has championed over the years. She stated that she didn't feel that residential development was the only game in town; that she doesn't believe that Chatham should simply be a place for people to sleep at night; that she hopes that the Board is not leaning toward approving it; that she thinks the Board should vote "no" for The Homestead; that the Planning Board has spent many valuable hours of their time working on planning issues; that they give careful consideration for not a whole lot of money; that they spend a lot of their own time; that they have a stake in Chatham County; that over the years, she has seen the Planning Board recommendations ignored; that when they are ignored, it is a slap in the face to the time and effort they have put into the County; that she appreciates the careful consideration the Planning Board gives to issues; and that they should continue championing the ideals she holds in Chatham County.

Larry Ballas, 139 Indian Creek Lane, Apex, NC, thanked Commissioner Atwater who went to the Cary meeting to talk about the Forrest Oaks project; that he represented the Board very well; that he feels it is very important to the people living in eastern Chatham County to learn of Cary's intentions; that there is a lot of development going on in Chatham County; that he previously pushed for non-polluting industry on the main corridors; that he doesn't know if there is enough help in Chatham County to do the things needed to bring a good, non-polluting tax base in the County; that a person has a right to sell their land; that the type of development that would occur in those areas is determined by rules that have been set up by people who have been elected by the people in that community; that the Board speaks for the people; that zoning regulations are made so that only certain things can come in; that one of his concerns is that they are going in the wrong direction in trying to fill the needs of the County tax-wise by bringing in people instead of things for people to do; that the only thing that is really productive in the County is Jordan Lake; that it brings in a lot of people but those people do not supplement a lot things that go on in this area; that high-tech, non-polluting business needs to be brought in the way other counties are doing; that Chatham is in a much better position to do it than others because of its location; that there is no better place to attract business because they can go in both directions; that if there is not enough help, he hopes the Board will call on its people in Chatham County to volunteer for these areas of expertise to bring some quality development to the area which would

benefit all areas of the County; that all segments of government should work with its people, including private industry, to see how they can help Chatham County develop in a way that it will allow services to come in to generate a tax base so that in an organized way, people can be brought in and they can live a quality of life that is what they think Chatham County should be.

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- **North Carolina Department of Transportation:** Presentation by the North Carolina Department of Transportation on Highway #64

David Wasserman, Project Manager, NCDOT Statewide Planning Branch, gave an overview of the US #64 – NC #49 corridor study from Raleigh to Charlotte and Raleigh to Statesville. He stated that the study charge was to develop a master plan to serve the travel needs of the people and freight to and through Central North Carolina for the next twenty-five years; that the study, initiated in the fall of 2003, utilizes a “tiered” process to reduce and refine a range of transportation alternatives into a comprehensive corridor improvement program; that the study’s analysis procedure identifies regional transportation deficiencies, evaluates an array of corridor improvements and culminates in a comprehensive improvement program that is financially feasible, environmentally sensitive, cost effective, and serves the travel needs for a variety of users; that US #64 and NC #49 are distinctive in character, serving as a “Main Line” as well as a “Main Street”; that preserving, protecting, and improving the essence of the corridor while planning for future mobility are central to the study; that in order to make certain that the US #64 - NC #49 Corridor Study recommendations are in concert with community vision and needs, the NCDOT assembled a Corridor Development Team (CDT) to oversee the study; that this multi-agency team represents a comprehensive knowledge of the regional study area; that organizations represented on the Study CDT include: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NCDOT, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Piedmont Triad Rural Planning Organization (RPO), NW Piedmont RPO, Lake Norman RPO, Rocky River RPO, and Triangle Area RPO.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- ***Public Hearing:***

- **Communications Tower Plan Public Hearing:** Public hearing to receive public comments on the 2004 Communications Tower Plan

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

Bob Ekstrand, Attorney-At-Law, explained the specifics of the search area for the annual communications tower plan, the important corridor for which they are seeking coverage, and Cingular’s need for coverage.

Unidentified persons asked questions.

- ***Zoning Request:***

Zoning Approval of Conditional Use District with Conditional Use Permit: Consideration of a request by Mark Ashness and/or Cynthia Sax Perry on behalf of Jordan Lake, LLC and Holland and Rebecca Gaines for a zoning approval of an RA-40 District with a Conditional Use Permit for a Planned

Unit Development, **“The Homestead at Jordan Lake”**, consisting of 475 residential units, fitness facility and community/institutional use on approximately 577 acres, off Big Woods Road [SR #1716], in Williams and New Hope Townships

Keith Megginson, Chatham County Planning Director explained that this request was discussed during the January, February and March Planning Board meetings; that much of the information included in said attachments was not provided at the public hearing when sworn testimony was received; that some of the information was distributed at the March Planning Board meeting; that this one request consists of two parts; that the first part is a request to change the zoning of land zoned RA-5 district to RA-40 district; that this change would allow lot sizes to change from an average of five acres with minimums of three acres to a clustering of lots averaging not less than 40,000 square feet; that Section 17.3 of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance Parts B and C address district changes; that Section 17.3B.4 and 5. read as follows: “4. The changed or changing conditions, if any, in the area or in the County generally, which make the proposed amendment reasonably necessary to the promotion of the public health, safety and general welfare. 5. The manner in which the proposed amendment will carry out the intent and purpose of the adopted Land Development Plan or part thereof.”; that Section 17.3 C reads in part as follows: “If the applicant believes that the development of his property in a specific manner will lessen adverse effects upon surrounding properties or otherwise make the rezoning more in accordance with principles underlying the County’s comprehensive zoning plan, he shall apply for rezoning to the appropriate conditional use district and simultaneously apply for a conditional use permit specifying the nature of his proposed development.”; that the decision to change a zoning district is a legislative decision; that it is considered that the existing zoning district is appropriate and the burden to show a reason for a change rests on the applicant; that the decision to change the zoning for The Preserve north of the proposed The Homestead was based on the 1986 Land Development Plan, the changed conditions of US #64 being widened to four lanes, Big Woods Road being paved, the availability of county water, and the Commissioners’ belief that the proposed development as it related to waste water and stormwater management was equal to or better than that provided by the RA-5 zoning district; that the changed conditions mentioned above were in place when the Commissioners adopted the Land Conservation and Development Plan in 2001 and retained the RA-5 district zoning on the Gaines property; that the applicants have presented information of why they think a district change is justifiable and opponents have presented information why they think it should remain unchanged.

Mr. Megginson stated that the second part of the applicants’ request is for a conditional use permit for a Planned Unit Development with the design shown in the application booklet; that the decision to approve a conditional use permit is a quasi-judicial decision; and that the Board is required to make the following five findings listed in Section 15.1 of the County Zoning Ordinance:

1. The use requested is among those listed as an eligible conditional use in the district in which the subject property is located or is to be located.
2. The requested conditional use permit is either essential or desirable for the public convenience or welfare.
3. The requested permit will not impair the integrity or character of the surrounding or adjoining districts, and will not be detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the community.
4. The requested permit will be consistent with the objectives of the Land Development Plan.

5. Adequate utilities, access roads, storm drainage, recreation, open space, and other necessary facilities have been or are being provided consistent with the County's plans, policies and regulations.

He stated that the Board needs to consider the five required findings based on the current conditions and the existing Land Conservation and Development Plan stating that it is important to consider that the change in zoning for The Preserve does not guarantee the findings can be made based on the plan proposed for The Homestead; that if the findings cannot be made then the request should not be approved; that considering the subdivision approval of Windfall Creek to the south of The Homestead, the Planning Department emphasizes the conditions 1 and 2 recommending public roads.

Mr. Megginson further stated that the Planning Board Chairman, George Lucier, has stated that he will present the Planning Board's discussion and recommendations by way of a separate written report; that the Planning Board did not take a separate vote on the request for a zoning district change but considered it within the context of the five required findings for the conditional use permit request; that the Planning Board, by a vote of seven to three with one abstention (due to conflict), approved a motion to not approve the conditional use request; that the Board discussed the request not meeting the required findings numbered 2,3,and 4 listed above; that the Board went on to consider the conditions proposed by the Planning Department staff and recommended unanimously the eight conditions by the staff with condition number nine as an addition as follows:

1. Roads within the development shall be public roads dedicated to the State of North Carolina.
2. Roads shall provide access to adjacent undeveloped properties by way of dedicated public right-of-way. The exact locations shall be determined prior to preliminary subdivision plat approval but shall include consideration of the lands of Swan, Seymour, DeLoach, Corn, Burnette, Hayes, and McLean.
3. The Community/Institutional tract shall not be used for such use. If the Planning Board wants to retain such use it is recommended that a site plan be submitted to the Appearance Commission for consideration of access, lighting, buffering and other site-specific details. Said plan shall be considered by the Planning Board and approved by the Board of Commissioners prior to construction.
4. There shall be utility access easements to the properties listed above in #2 as well as to The Preserve near the location of lots 113 and 114 and the proposed road connection with The Preserve.
5. There shall be a minimum 100-foot buffer along the lands of Corn and Burnette.
6. Road improvements to Big Woods Road as recommended in the letter from Jayson B. Clapp with Ramey Kemp and Associates dated October 16, 2003 shall be installed prior to final subdivision plat approval.
7. The lighting within the development shall conform to all provisions of the recommended county lighting guidelines dated September 2, 2003

8. Storm water management within the critical area shall follow the provisions of a memorandum from Mark Ashness to Keith Megginson dated December 30, 2003.
9. An environmental impact assessment shall be required.

He stated that during the January Planning Board meeting, the Planning Department made a recommendation that the zoning district change request from RA-5 to RA-40 be approved and the five findings could be made with the eight listed conditions and that it was also recommended that if the developer was not in agreement with the conditions that the request be denied.

He further stated that considering the information submitted by the applicant upon request by the Planning Board and that submitted by those opposed to the development and that this information was not provided under oath at the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners may want to consider having another public hearing on the request. He stated that this would allow all relevant information related to the conditional use permit to be provided under oath; that the next regular evening Board meeting at which the hearing could be held is April 19, 2004; that the request could then go to the Planning Board May 4, 2004 and return for the Commissioners' consideration on May 17, 2004; and that if the Board is inclined to deny the zoning district change request, there is no need to have another public hearing since this is a legislative decision and information upon which the decision is based does not have to be provided under oath.

George Lucier, Chatham County Planning Board Chairman, stated that the Planning Board spent a lot of time on The Homestead application. His report is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The Board also accepted a minority report attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the rezoning with maps contained within the applicant's booklet and with a condition, if the project is accepted, that the environmental assessment is done.

Commissioner Outz seconded the motion.

The County Attorney provided Chairman Emerson with a document to accomplish the motion.

The Chairman read An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of Chatham County.

Commissioner Morgan withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Outz withdrew his second to the motion.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve **An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of Chatham County**, previously read, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The Planning Director explained that the request was a two-part process; that unless the Board is inclined to also approve the conditional use request, there is a risk of rezoning the property without also considering the conditional use; that if the applicant has requested straight zoning district instead of conditional use district, any and all the uses permitted within the RA-40 zoning district could be located

there and most of them are residential.

The Chairman called for a vote. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Atwater dissenting.

After further discussion, Commissioner Pollard moved to approve the Planning Department's recommendation with the inclusion of an additional condition which would include the environmental assessment.

After further discussion about public roads, access to adjacent lands, and density in the WSIV critical area, Commissioner Pollard withdrew her motion.

Commissioner Pollard moved to approve **Resolution #2004-7A for Application for a Conditional Use Permit for Jordan Lake Limited and Holland and Rebecca Gaines**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Commissioner Pollard read the resolution in its entirety. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion.

The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Atwater opposing. The resolution is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a five-minute break.

BOARD AND COMMITTEES

Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint members to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee the Full Board (2)

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to appoint John Tanner, Chatham County Department of Social Services, PO Box 489, Pittsboro, NC, to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to appoint Lucille Whitt, Chatham County Health Department, 296 Bruce Coggins Road, Sanford, NC, to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee by Commissioner Outz (1)

Commissioner Outz deferred his appointment to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee until a later date.

Child Fatality Prevention Team Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint members to the Child Fatality Prevention Team by Commissioners Pollard (1), Morgan (1), and Emerson (1)

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to appoint Mary Linker, PO Box 130, Pittsboro, NC, to the Child Fatality Prevention Team. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Morgan deferred his appointment to the Child Fatality Prevention Team until a later date.

Chairman Emerson deferred his appointment to the Child Fatality Prevention Team until a later date.

Child Fatality Prevention Team Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint a Law Enforcement Officer and EMS/Fire fighter to the Child Fatality Prevention Team by Full Board

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to appoint Captain Joe Birchett to the Law Enforcement seat on the Child Fatality Prevention Team, effective June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2006. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to appoint Tom Bender to the EMS/Firefighter seat on the Child Fatality Prevention Team, effective June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2006. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Human Relations Committee Appointments: Consideration of a request to appoint members to the Human Relations Committee by Commissioner Pollard (1) and Commissioner Outz (2)

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to appoint Vanessa Jeffries, 1221 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro, NC, to the Human Relations Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Outz deferred his appointments to the Human Relations Committee until a later date.

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to appoint Mary Harris, PO Box 692, Siler City, NC, to the Human Relations Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Board of Equalization and Review Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Chatham County Board of Equalization and Review by Full Board (1)

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to appoint Kenneth Scheffel, 50001 Brodgen, Chapel Hill, NC, to the Board of Equalization and Review. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to appoint Betsy Hedrick, PO Box 946, Siler City, NC, to the Chatham County Board of Equalization and Review. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Solid Waste Advisory Board Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Solid Waste Advisory Board by Commissioner Morgan (1)

Commissioner Morgan deferred his appointment to the Solid Waste Advisory Board until a later date.

Agriculture Advisory Board Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to

the Agriculture Advisory Board by Full Board (1)

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to appoint Richard Bradley, PO Box 1172, Pittsboro, NC, to the Agriculture Advisory Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Chairman Emerson stated that he would like for the Agriculture Advisory Board to look at the possibility of escheating the sale of development rights stating that it might be a way of helping farmers and at the same time preserve farm land and decrease some of the friction with regard to developers.

Piedmont Conservation Council Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Piedmont Conservation Council by Full Board (1)

This appointment was deferred until a later date.

Town of Pittsboro ETJ Planning Board Appointment: Consideration of a request to appoint an ETJ member to the Town of Pittsboro Planning Board

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to appoint Jimmy Collins, 1867 Hanks Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, to the Town of Pittsboro ETJ Planning Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Refunding of School Bonds: Consideration of a request for approval of interest rates and maturities for refunding school bonds

The County Attorney explained that the Board needed approval of the resolution approving the interest rates and maturity. He read the resolution in its entirety.

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve **Resolution #2004-08 Approving Interest Rates and Maturity of Refunding of School Bonds**. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The resolution is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager had no reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Joint Meeting with Town of Cary:

Chairman Emerson asked the County Manager to arrange a meeting with the Town of Cary on Monday, March 22, 2004, if possible, and let the Board know the specifics as to time and location.

County Parking:

Commissioner Outz asked about designated parking for citizens coming to County offices to pay taxes and take care of business.

The County Manager stated that this had not yet been addressed due to the paving of the new

parking areas but would be discussed in the near future.

North Chatham Fire Department:

The Finance Officer stated that the North Chatham Fire Department is asking for permission to borrow approximate funds in the amount of \$360,000 for fire department renovations; that in accordance with the General Statues, a public hearing must be held prior to approval; that an applicable elected representative of the legislative body of the governmental unit may appoint any person to conduct the public hearing; that the North Chatham Fire Department has requested that Fire Chief John Strowd conduct the hearing; that it be held at the North Chatham Fire Department Station #1; and that the fire department will comply with posting of the notice.

The Chairman appointed Mr. John Strowd to conduct the public hearing for the North Chatham Fire Department to consider borrowing funds in the amount of \$360,000.00 for addition to and renovation of main fire station located at 45 Morris Road and for addition to and renovation of fire station #4 located at 4055 Chicken Bridge Road.

Rescue Squads:

Commissioner Pollard asked who performed the adequacy audits for the rescue squads and whom would be held responsible if it was determined that they were found to be inadequately staffed on a twenty-four hour basis. She asked if the County could leave the audits to the State if the County would first be named in a lawsuit.

The County Manager stated that were looking into rescue squad issues and that information would be forthcoming at a later date.

Community Development Block Grant Funds:

Commissioner Outz asked if anyone had visited the County to talk about the Block Grant Funds for the low-income housing shortage.

The Finance Officer stated that they do not currently have a State contact because of personnel changes at the State level.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Atwater moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, 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 8:50 PM.

Thomas J. Emerson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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