

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 07, 2012

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 6:00 PM on May 07, 2012.

Present: Brian Bock, Chairman; Walter Petty, Vice Chairman;
Commissioners Mike Cross, Sally Kost, and Pamela Stewart

Staff Present: Charlie Horne, County Manager; Jep Rose, County
Attorney; Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager; Vicki
McConnell, Finance Officer; Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the
Board; and Lindsay Ray, Deputy Clerk to the Board

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Cross delivered the invocation after which the Chairman invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bock welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Bock explained that there had been a request to remove the following item from the Consent Agenda and place it on the Regular Agenda for discussion:

- Item #2 Surplus Property: Vote on **Resolution Declaring Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Said Property** on a request to declare one 2003 Freightliner Bookmobile as surplus and authorize the disposal of the property under the authority of the County Manager

Commissioner Petty moved, seconded by Commissioner Kost, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted request as follows:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Minutes:** Approval of Board Minutes for the Regular Session held on April 16, 2012, the Joint Town of Siler City and Chatham County Meeting held April 12, 2012, and the Budget Retreat held on January 19, 2012

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

2. ~~**Surplus Property: Vote on Resolution Declaring Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Said Property**~~ on a request to declare one 2003 Freightliner Bookmobile as surplus and authorize the disposal of the property under the authority of the County Manager

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion.

3. **NCDOT Street Addition – Stoneview:** Vote on a **Resolution #2012-20 for the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads in the Fearington Subdivision – Stoneview**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

4. **NCDOT Street Addition – Findley and Rushing:** Vote on a **Resolution #2012-21 for the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads in the Fearington Subdivision – Findley and Rushing**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

5. **NCDOT Street Addition – Bladen and Macon:** Vote on a **Resolution #2012-22 for the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads in the Fearington Subdivision – Bladen and Macon**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

6. **NCDOT Street Addition Burwell:** Vote on a **Resolution #2012-23 for the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads in the Fearington Subdivision – Burwell**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

7. **Southern Health Partners:** Vote on a request to renew agreement with Southern Health Partners for inmate medical care, letter attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

8. **Ethernet Service for Emergency 911 Centers:** Vote on a request to approve a five-year Products and Services Agreement between Centurylink and Chatham County for the Ethernet connection between the primary and backup 911 centers

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

9. **Naming of Private Roads:** Vote on the request from citizens for the naming of private roads in Chatham County as follows:

A. Henrys Elm Lane B. Devine Way

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

10. **Motivational Interviewing Training Funds:** Vote on a request to accept \$7,373.00 in funds awarded to the Chatham County Health Department from the Women’s and Children’s Health Section of the Division of Public Health

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

11. **Home Care and Community Block Grant Appointment:** Vote on a request to appoint the following five applicants to a one year term:

- Tom Akins
- Helen Antipov
- Robin Hill
- Vanessa Kennedy
- Diane Swift

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

12. **Triangle South Workforce Development Board Appointment:** Vote on a request to appoint George “Bud” Benecoster, by the full Board.

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

13. **Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Appointment:** Vote on a request to re-appoint Patrick Barnes to a three year term, by Commissioner Petty. Vote on a request to appoint Steve Trimberger to a three year term, by Commissioner Bock

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

14. **North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department:** Vote on a request by the North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department’s to purchase land, buildings, apparatus, and equipment, post notice of a public hearing, conduct a hearing, and secure financing through tax exempt borrowing

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Bill Sommers, 29 East Madison, Fearrington Village, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“I appreciate this opportunity to give my thoughts on two issues that are facing the Board this evening: a) the requirement of voter identity cards prior to voting; and b) hydraulic fracturing in North Carolina.

I am opposed to the voting oversight proposal. The United States has gone through some 234 years since our Constitution was promulgated starting with controls and limitations on voting rights. Our otherwise good history has been marred by restrictions on voting. And we have slowly with great pain made our country live up to its moral obligation so that all its residents can vote in local, state and national elections. We have suffered through wars, corruption, and a vile focus on selected people who for many years could not vote in our democratic elections. Thus it is a negation of our history to find that in our own County, additional restrictions maybe be applied via the proposed resolution before the Board that will require the presentation of voter identification cards prior to voting in local elections. Have our local electoral administrators identified substantial fraudulence in our voting process? Is there a report on our voting process which identifies the need for this ominous restriction on voting? I think not.

Rather I see this effort as a demeaning procedure, aimed at the aging, the county’s newcomers and those unschooled in our procedures when there is no reason and presentation of facts to substantial this menacing proposal.

On Items 18 ad 19, I suggest that the Board shift their attention to the resolution proposed by Commissioner Kost. While I do believe there is a need to carefully move toward the use of natural gas against our costly reliance on foreign fuels. However, as much current research and experience indicates, the dynamic push for “fracking” has endangered many communities set against the extraction method and which will return a substantial profit to many companies that emphasize gain without a parallel method of provide protection to people and their lands. I refer you to a recent review of two books on this important subject, a copy of which I leave for the Commissioners’ review and appraisal.

In closing I would like to offer a small revision of a famous poem by Dylan Thomas:

*Do Not Go Gentle into a fracking night.
Our souls should rave against the fouling of our life*

And strive for better answers in this dying of the light

*Though wise men give us reasons sublime
We must examine what they are and what they do
Thus find a reasoned way to act.... before we say good night!*

Thank you.”

Randy Dye, 173 Olde Farm Road, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“A US Appeals Court, on April 17th of this year, ruled Arizona may require voters to show photo identification at the polls. Therefore our own federal government has agreed with photo ID requirement. This should resolve any further questions regarding supporting Photo ID. The NC General Assembly photo ID bill that was vetoed by our outgoing Governor, who has chosen not to run for reelection and has discredited herself so intently of even suggesting to suspend elections will go down as treasonous behavior in NC history. The NC voter ID bill will be brought back and passed when Perdue leaves office.

This bill also allows for free photo ID paid for at tax payers' expense, as not to infringe on any low income NC citizens. So when the Chatham County Commissioners vote on their resolution to support voter ID, tread lightly for some of you that might vote no. The Chatham County voters will be watching and will be advised who voted for and against it.

Thank You.”

Sonny Keisler, 3006 River Forks Road, Sanford, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“I am here tonight to endorse the fracking resolution contained in agenda item number 19. This resolution asks the North Carolina General Assembly to maintain current laws in North Carolina that prevent hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling.

As a land owner in Chatham County, I think this resolution adequately protects the surface water and the groundwater located on my property. I have been told my property - located off Alton King Road in Southern Chatham - is the site of one of the earliest coal mines in central North Carolina. Whether the land also contains commercial quantities of natural gas remains to be seen. However, regardless of natural gas deposits, I think fracking should not be allowed unless the water resources located on my property are fully protected.

Thank you.”

Kathleen Hundley, 136 Rocky Falls, Southeast Chatham County, Sanford, NC, presented her comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“I am here to speak tonight on Fracking and to support the resolution by Sally Kost. After the presentation in the winter by the Fracking Expert from the Northeast, I surely thought the Board of Commissioners understood the mind of Chatham County residents who attended that meeting concerning the question of whether or not to open Chatham County to fracking. A collective message expressed at that meeting and other BOC meetings since then was – and is – a resounding NO”! I’ll repeat a few of the reasons behind that response, all of which have already been presented to this August board.

Chatham County has experienced severe drought in the past few years. During the drought, rivers, ponds and reservoirs have sunk to critical levels and required water rationing in many nearby communities. There is no rationale for putting us in an even more serious water dilemma by combining fracking, which will require untold amounts of water just to get started, with the potential for changes in climate that could / might see us in another drought, if not this year, then next or the next.

Many families in this county rely on wells for their supply of water. It has been established that the chemicals required for the Fracking process have contaminated wells and local water tables, making wells unfit for use. Where do those of us who have wells and rely on them go when our water source is no long usable?

The very drilling that makes fracking work has been see to disturb the rock / shale that supports the land. This has been seen and identified through earth quakes in and adjacent to current drilling sites where fracking is being drilled.

Truck travel on existing highways will damage the road, create much more congestion, and more roads will be built to accommodate bringing materials in, including water, and taking waste water out. If fracking happens, say goodbye to the beauty that is visible along our major highways. Prepare also to see much more road kill along the sides of these frantic arteries.

The many jobs that the expert noted that would come to Chatham County for the fracking process would not be management or scientific jobs; those would come from the natural gas companies that operate the process. What relatively few jobs that would be available for Chatham County workers would be what could be called “grunt” jobs – non-skilled hard work positions with compensation at low range per-hour pay. This truth has been confirmed from other areas of the county that agreed to fracking.

North Carolina will not, certainly Chatham County will not realize any of the natural gas extruded from the clay basin that stretches under Chatham and Lee counties. The gas realized from any drilling done here would go directly into to country-wide pot. We stand to lose a great deal of the necessities of life – water, stable land, abundant wildlife – and the results we stand to gain don’t balance the scales.

Let me say once again, loud and clear – “NO” to fracking in Chatham County.”

Diana Hales, 528 Will Be Lane, Siler City, NC, presented her comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“Resolutions on hydraulic fracturing. I urge you to read the draft NC legislation called the “Clean Energy & Economic Security Act” proposed by the Legislative Research Commission. It will be introduced during the short session beginning next week. This draft was published mid-April BEFORE the final DENR study report and the Attorney General’s report on Consumer Protections were submitted.

There are several things in this legislation you should know BEFORE you vote on any resolution on hydraulic fracturing.

1) The membership of the Legislative Research Commission has no members from affected areas. Most of the committee is from the western counties. They have no skin in this game.

2) The Bill includes many of DENR’s recommendations, BUT it eliminates the major provision to keep environmental permitting within DENR so air, land, and water permitting can be coordinated. AND, DENR’s report called for further research on open wastewater pits, air toxics protection for landowners, air emissions, groundwater resources in the Triassic basin, and determination of the extent of the shale gas resource. Those studies are missing from this legislation.

3) The proposed law says the new Oil and Gas Board shall have authority concurrent with DENR. HOWEVER, DENR can only issue orders on the rules made by the Oil and Gas Board. In Part 3, Sections 2 through 4, DENR is specifically prohibited from stopping any drilling, construction, or operation of oil or gas production and storage related to injection wells; it must allow the use of hydraulic fracturing fluid; and cannot enforce any rule that would have the effect of prohibiting such activities. They have ZERO authority over industry interests and rules developed by the Oil and Gas Board.

4) The Oil and Gas Board composition. Nine members will be appointed, several from oil and gas industry; an economist familiar with energy markets; a geologist experienced in oil and gas exploration and development; ONE environmental scientist with “experience in environmental restoration, remediation, and mitigation of contamination resulting from industrial activities;” and one private landowner, a member of a County BOC and a member of a Town Board in the Sanford sub-basin. Two things stand out to me: this is industry top-heavy and no one with “industry” experience will be local, and the sole environmentalist is the person with expertise in “mitigation of contamination resulting from industrial activities.” That tells me they are expecting problems. Does this sound “environmentally safe” to you?

5) Further, local government will have its hands tied. You can charge a \$30,000 impact fee per well, BUT you may not create any ordinances that place limitations on this industry. See Pages 51 to 53 of this bill. Is this what you want in Chatham? Challenge this Bill!!

6) All preparation for permitting must be completed by July 1, 2014. On July 2, the industry can get their permits and begin drilling. This Bill denies DENR and local government the ability to protect our air, land, and water from a predatory industry. Challenge this Bill!

Mary Nettles, 80 Milliken Road, Pittsboro, NC, representing the NAACP, Branch #5377, stated that the Branch was chartered June 10, 1957. The Branch Members decided that voter registration would be their primary focus. Fifty-five years later, they still support that effort and now support early voting and same-day registration and voting. The barriers for registering and voting are all eliminated in Chatham County. They feel that it is not necessary to prove their citizenship again. She stated that their fight now needs to be to redirect and eliminate any requirements to have to show proper identification. They ask that the Board of Commissioners take a stand against voter ID.

Heather Johnson, 449 Foster Lane, Pittsboro, NC, explained that she had voted during the first couple of days of early voting; that she showed her driver’s license; and a gentleman told her that it was not necessary to show an ID. She stated that he found two “Heather Ellen Johnsons”, one in Chatham County and one in Orange County. The name listed in Chatham County had her old address and did not match her driver’s license. He then asked for her ID. She asked what would have happened if she had not supplied her identification. She stated that what troubles her about opposition to the bill shown by Commissioner Kost is that she thinks they would want to support integrity in our elections. Why the talking point is that there is not enough fraud in order to require voter ID is a requirement concerns her. She stated that it was like the former Board of Commissioners that selectively decided which laws they would follow when they decided not to comply with the ICE Resolution requirements. She would like to see our County stand strong for the laws that we have and for this Board to continue to act in that regard. What seriousness of fraud is needed before we determine that we now need to have voter ID? There have been enough incidences of fraud to show that this is harmless in its effort to ensure that we have integrity in our elections, not to disenfranchise anyone. She asked that the Board of Commissioners stand by their promises.

Reverend Anthony Davis, 24 Hawks Spiral Way, Pittsboro, NC, Pastor of Mitchell Chapel, A.M.E. Zion Church, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“To whom it may concern: There are many of us gathered here tonight in opposition to House Bill 51 and Senate Bill 52. We stand to express our distain for this legislation or any legislation of its kind.

We are challenging our County commissioners to say no to House Bill 51 and Senate Bill 52. Any resolution in support of this bill in the name of this county would be a misrepresentation of a significant number of its residents. This bill is not good for Chatham County nor is it good for North Carolina. This bill will give rise to ineffectual laws and does

absolutely nothing to address the most frequent ways fraud happens. Also if severely underfunded a mere \$600,000 for photo IDs and voter education. These resources should be invested in education where we will get the real return on our investment.

We realize that in the absence of facts, gives birth to fictitious paranoia and policies that seek to fragment our communities. I stand tonight being one-man representing many voices in Chatham County, expressing our concerns to the majority party, that we are opposed to The Voter ID Bill. Legislation of this nature will seek to disenfranchise over 500,000 voters in the state of North Carolina. In our state, voter fraud is already a felony with hefty fines. Therefore, the true deterrent to voter fraud are not ID's - but instead fines and imprisonment. And it's working. Here are the facts! From 2004-2010 only five votes for every 1 million votes cast in North Carolina involved fraud. That is 0.000005% it appears that in this battleground state, the motives of the majority party is clear- we will win by any means necessary. So the goal of this bill is not to enhance the democratic process but instead, they are launching a fourth-quarter tactic, designed to suppress the base of the party of opposition.

Voter suppression was wrong in Mississippi. It was wrong in Alabama, and it was wrong in Georgia. We stand to say that the Voter ID Bill, and suppressing the vote is wrong for North Carolina.”

Catherine Regula, 91602 Stoney Brook, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that there is nothing like a photograph to help people identify you, even if it's an old photograph. She stated that the postal service is dying from lack of funds and since they already take passport photos, why not expand the program to add extra photograph equipment. It would be the most economical way to do this so that people cannot complain about the expense. Some people might have to telephone for an absentee ballot which does not require an ID, so they are not denied the right to vote.

Dave Carter, 2111 Baycourt Trail, Orange County, Hillsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“On October 29, 2002 The **Help America Vote Act** was signed into Federal Law. This act requires any voter who had not previously voted in a federal election to show current and valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter. This bill was promoted by not only the late Senator Helms, but it was defended and supported by Senator John Edwards and the current VP of the United States, then Senator Joe Biden. This act gave a little more structure to the integrity of the system surrounding our **privilege** as citizens to Vote in the Federal Elections. This act is why new voters are required to provide Identification when registering to vote in Federal elections.

I searched public documents and can find no reference to opposition to HAVA by any current member of the Board here in Chatham. One could infer, that based on this, the members are either ignorant of the law which was put into affect ten years ago or they have each accepted it as reasonable to protect the integrity of our voting processes. Many days this year, including today, I drove a motor vehicle, each time I carried a form of Identification. On the 21st of March, I received a letter via Certified Mail at the Post Office in Hillsborough. I was asked to show my ID. In late April, I purchased a .22 cal Rifle. I was asked for my ID. If I did not have my ID, I would not have been allowed to purchase the rifle and thus exercise my RIGHT guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. On May 6, I purchased a small quantity of Sudafed to help with Spring-time allergies. I was asked for my ID. On the 8th of May, I visited the Early Voting in Hillsborough and voted. When I presented myself to vote, I was asked to present my ID to verify. I had my ID ready. In recent weeks, there have been proven cases of voter fraud in several states. Anyone saying that there have been no cases of verified voter fraud in the State of North Carolina may be correct. The trouble is: You first have to catch someone at the act. In 2010, the clerk at the Board of Elections misheard me when I gave my information and gave me a neighbor's ballot. I called her attention to his and she corrected the entry. If MISTAKES can be made, can't intentional fraud be made as well? I was honest and helped keep the integrity of the

voting process. What if I had ill intentions? All I had to do was keep the mistakenly allocated ballot, vote it, then return later and vote my own.

My condolences to the family of Clyde Reid Perry, Sr. in Silk Hope. He passed away on April 26 this year. I have brought with me his Obit from the Chatham News. In addition, I have his ACTIVE voter record from the NC State Board of Elections. If I was a nefarious person, could I not have someone who is an elderly activist vote in the stead of Mr. Perry? If it is required that potential voters PURCHASE an ID specifically for voting purposes, then I vehemently oppose any and all legislation which may be proposed. This is because this amounts to a poll tax. However, if free or existing forms of Identification are to be used to guarantee the integrity of our election process, then I would gladly support it.”

Barbara Alotis, 570 Woodbury, Pittsboro, NC, stated that in 2011, the North Carolina Legislature submitted a Photo ID Bill to the governor who in turn vetoed it. In short, this bill entitled, “An Act to Restore Confidence in Government” spells out how a photo ID requirement would work. Counties would have to make a special voter identification card available free to anyone lacking a conventional photo ID such as a driver’s license. This stands in stark contrast to the State’s long-standing practice of having registered voters announce their names and addresses at the polls and sign-in under penalty of a federal felony for misrepresentation. That system has produced vanishingly few verified incidents of fraudulent voting. What drives the impulse to require government-issued ID’s in order to vote? Republicans have convinced themselves that there is a big problem. Tellingly, concern over the issue arose in recent years with the influx of illegal immigrants from Mexico. These folks, it’s assumed, surely would vote Democrat if they voted; therefore, North Carolina must have a voter fraud problem and a need to restore voter confidence in government. The near-certain results of imposing a photo ID are longer lines at the polls for everyone and the imposition of a barrier to participation in our democracy by some other qualified voters who now have to take an extra step in order to continue voting. This is a move back to the days of a more-restricted voter franchise and days we should not look back on with pride. The Republican Legislature has failed to produce any significant voter fraud in this State. The bill will cost the taxpayers more money, create a problem when there is none, and cause havoc and expulsion of citizens of their right to vote in a democratic society.

Lynn Fass, 101 Markham Plantation, Apex, NC, stated that where there is a fracking well, there is going to be a pipeline. She stated that we have got to redo the thinking on this. No resolutions on the upcoming General Assembly Agenda, is ludicrous. We are talking about putting the first fracking well near the fault line of AR Shears and Hamill Nuclear Power Plant. We have wells, animals, people who depend on good water in North Carolina. This is toxic. She stated that she did research on the pipeline in the United States. We are 25,000 miles around the earth at the equator. As of 2007, there were 305,000 miles of natural gas pipeline in the US alone. Enough is enough. Chatham County has to stand firm and not allow fracking.

David Fass, 101 Markham Plantation, Apex, NC, stated that on the “opinion page” of the southwest Wake newspaper on April 29th, Chairman Bock submitted his rationalization for increasing the housing density east of Jordan Lake in Chatham County from one dwelling per three to five acres to one dwelling per acre. The article states that one of his principals is the property rights of residents in the area. After public input sessions in 2006, 2009, and 2011, there in not one plan that proposed anything less than two dwellings per acre with much of the area, one dwelling per five acres or one dwelling per three acres. It is not the homeowners who are residents in this area of Chatham County or want lower density that will adversely affect their quality of life and the impact on Jordan Lake. It is a very small number of landowners who do not even live here who intend to develop their land by adding as many homes as they possibly can. He stated that he was not anti-development, but development should be compatible with the neighborhood and take into account the impact that it will have on the environment, the additional rate to the County as compared to the corresponding expenditures for the added population, quality of life, and long-term effects on Jordan Lake. Chairman Bock also states that all the ordinances are in place to protect Jordan Lake but his voting record certainly doesn’t support this statement. He stated that he hopes

he is a man of his word and decides on the density issue based upon the residents input instead of the few non-residents who are more concerned about their pocketbooks than the majority. This decision will forever impact the environment, the lake, water quality, availability of drinking water for thousands, taxes, and quality of life for the residents of the area. Chairman Bock is going to be remembered long after his term of office, based on his decision.

Jennie DeLoach, 484 Boothe Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that her well is 350 feet deep and gets one and one-half gallons per minute. Chatham County is filled with people like her. There are more people in Chatham County with wells than there are on city-county water. She stated that she has been in Chatham County long enough to remember neighbors calling her to tell her that their well had gone dry. Water is a very precious resource, but it is not guaranteed. In 2007, Chatham County was under mandatory Stage 3 water restrictions. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council currently, as of May 1st, has most of North Carolina classified D-1 (moderate drought conditions) until further notice. They strongly urge the implementation of drought response actions. How could we possibly be considering fracking? She stated that she lives seventeen miles from the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant. We live near an earthquake fault. If fracking is so safe, why did Dick Chaney exempt it from the Clean Water Act? Until the restriction is removed from the Clean Water Act, how could we consider fracking? She urged the Board to take as much time as needed while debating the merits of fracking, think about the citizens of this County, and what fracking will do to their daily lives. She stated that you don't miss the water until you've been fracked.

Martha Girolami, 473 Mt. Pisgah Church Road, Pittsboro, NC, presented her comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“I am against the Resolution in Support of Voter ID Prior to Voting. I think the voter ID requirement will disenfranchise voters in our State. We have fought long and hard to make voting INCLUSIVE. North Carolina is not Chicago which was notorious many years ago for ballot box stuffing, voter registration fraud, dead voters voting, etc. We have a few glitches but not pervasive corruption stemming from voters voting multiple times. An earlier speaker believed that an address error in the voting book next to her name would lead to pervasive fraud without a voter ID system....illogical thinking in my opinion.

Disenfranchisement often occurs by placing identification impediments in the path of voters. This was true in the past and will be true today for the poor, students, those without access to cars, the elderly, many of our Black citizens...a very unsavory and un-American result.

A voter ID program cannot be implemented with a shred of fairness during this election year. ONLY SIX MORE MONTHS until the election. How can you identify and inform everyone affected and process their ID's in time for the Election. You can't and you will shut out so many. So please no resolution for voter ID this year...it's an unfair idea and way to late to do it before the election.

I support Commissioner Kost's Fracking Resolution #19. A Dr. Glass with the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke said in a Fracking presentation for the New Hope Audubon, in January, that gas shale was about 400 feet under my 350 foot well. So really how Can I support fracking at all in NC? The shale layer is so shallow and fractured/leaky that the groundwater will be contaminated right away from a frack well.

The weaker resolution #18, that I oppose, in the third whereas says “the preliminary report makes several suggestions as to protections and practices that should be in place prior to approval.....”. Really this is so inaccurate. The STRONGER report and the DENR report on fracking list hundreds of requirements that must be implemented to attempt to make a frack well not pollute, blow up etc. Maybe 1000's.

Also in #4 under the “Be it further resolved....” Part, it says “in the event of any damage will require the gas industry to make all necessary repairs at the industry's expense.”

One thing is for sure is that environmental damage and health effects are not reparable, not reversible. You don't catch up those benzene molecules and stop having lung problems after a 'repair'.

Finally, county and municipal regulations and ordinances that are in the way of a profitable, comfortable frack job will just be dismissed. Chatham will lose so much control over its future. Non fracking land owners will lose, lose, lose options for other land uses. Pre-emption of regulations will happen over and over. Forced pooling and pipelines will force more 'takings' from landowners. Additionally, if there are hundreds of acres with mineral leases in our county....those acres are tied up for any future use for possibly 75 years. What a chill on our economy that will be."

BOARD PRIORITIES

Surplus Property: Vote on **Resolution Declaring Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Said Property** on a request to declare one 2003 Freightliner Bookmobile as surplus and authorize the disposal of the property under the authority of the County Manager

Commissioner Stewart moved, seconded by Commissioner Petty, to adopt **Resolution #2012-24 Declaring Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Said Property** on a request to declare one 2003 Freightliner Bookmobile as surplus and authorize the disposal of the property under the authority of the County Manager.

Commissioner Kost stated that she had asked this item to be removed from the Consent Agenda because she does not support getting rid of the bookmobile.

Commissioner Cross stated that he wished they could keep the bookmobile in operation; however, he stated that he would support the motion because nothing will happen with the bookmobile within the next two and one-half years. It has now been sitting a year which is very bad for any vehicle. If we are not going to use it, it needs to be sold.

Chairman Bock called the question. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Kost opposing.

FY 2012-2013 Recommended Budget Presentation: Presentation of the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

The County Manager gave a brief overview of the proposed General Fund budget stating that total General Fund is \$88,038,075; proposed Water Fund is \$5,852,867; and the Waste Management Fund is \$3,485,295. The proposed tax rate is \$.6219; total property valuation, \$8.9 billion; anticipate one penny generates \$872,932; total property tax revenue is \$55,612,300; and General Fund Fund Balance appropriation \$4,964,392.

Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager, presented a PowerPoint of the FY 2012-2013 Recommended Budget. She stated that the theme for this year's budget is "Positioning the County for the Future"; that they believe this budget does move the County into the future; and that it also results from the specific direction received from the Board. She reviewed Commissioners' directions, targeted budget cuts, additional expenses, school funding, revenue projections, the Capital Improvements Program, and Non-profit Agencies funding. The PowerPoint follows in its entirety:

Chatham County

FY 13 Recommended Budget

Budget Process (Pages 12-13)

- ▶ Staff is presenting the Manager's Recommended Budget—*this is just the 1st step*
- ▶ Before the budget is finalized, commissioners will:
 - ▶ Hold 2 public hearings to hear from the public (May 21 and 22)
 - ▶ Hold up to 3 budget work sessions in May and June
 - ▶ Make changes based on public input, etc.
- ▶ Goal is to have the budget finalized on June 18—must be adopted by June 30

▶

“Positioning the County for the Future”

- ▶ The recommended budget results from Commissioner direction to:
 - ▶ Not increase taxes
 - ▶ Implement as much of the pay plan as possible
 - ▶ Continue with the new jail
 - ▶ Make targeted cuts to address additional required expenses—cuts were discussed during the budget retreat
- ▶ Cuts made in FY 12 help the county avoid a tax increase for new expenses



Additional Expenses

- ▶ Operating the new justice center, \$837K
- ▶ Pay study implementation, \$1.3 million
- ▶ Increased debt contribution, \$1.3 million
- ▶ Increased capital outlay/CIP, funded from fund balance
- ▶ Manager also recommends an additional \$800K for Chatham County Schools, requested by the Board of Education
- ▶ Manager recommends one-time transition funding for the Arts Incubator



School Funding

- ▶ Chatham County has provided good support to the school system throughout the recession
 - ▶ The recommended budget includes:
 - ▶ \$226,119 in ongoing funding, which represents the county's annual savings in delaying the high school for one year, as approved by the Board of Education
 - ▶ \$400,000 in one-time funding requested by the Board of Education
 - ▶ \$173,881 in funding from the general fund (ongoing)
 - ▶ The budget does subtract one-time funding given in FY 2012 (BOE budget does not)
 - ▶ Staff worked with school administration on a revised presentation format
-

▶

“Targeted Cuts”

- ▶ Discussed during the retreat
 - ▶ Negotiated with departments and agencies
 - ▶ Cuts made include:
 - ▶ \$78K reduction in attorney fees
 - ▶ \$45K reduction in funding for EDC
 - ▶ \$200K reduction in contingency
 - ▶ Reduce the number of BOC meetings (\$45K savings from county attorney retainer)
 - ▶ \$110K reduction in Health Department through reorganization
 - ▶ \$55K reduction in Planning by eliminating code enforcement position
-

▶

Summary

- ▶ The recommended budget is \$3.9 million more than the FY 2012 Amended Budget
- ▶ No tax increase is proposed for the county, but 5 fire departments are requesting increases
- ▶ Capital and one-time expenses would be funded by a \$5 million fund balance appropriation



In Summary

- ▶ The recommended budget continues the past practice of good financial stewardship and moves the county forward to take on new responsibilities and invest in its people and schools



Highlights

- ▶ Overall, revenues are expected to increase in FY 2013, including:
 - ▶ 2.5% increase in statewide sales tax; no growth in local sales tax
 - ▶ 1.9% increase in property tax base
- ▶ The recommended fund balance appropriation is \$5M, \$4M was appropriated in FY 2011 and \$1.6M in FY 2012



Major Funds

- ▶ General Fund: \$88M, 5% increase
- ▶ Water Fund: \$5.9M, 1% increase
- ▶ Waste Management: \$3.5M, 14% increase



Capital Improvements Program (Page 32-33 & Appendix D)

- ▶ Funds the first phase of the Annex renovations, \$1.5M
 - ▶ Completes the up fit of temporary superior court for MIS, \$70K
 - ▶ Delays the high school 1 year, -\$226K (given to schools in operating)
 - ▶ Moves ahead with replacements of high school gym HVAC systems, JS Waters Roof, and stadium restrooms
 - ▶ Funds planning for agriculture center and renovation of old jail, \$63K
-



Chatham County Schools (Pages 77-78)

- ▶ Keeps school Capital Improvements Program projects on track, except high school
 - ▶ Increases current expense funding by \$800K
 - ▶ Maintains teachers supplement
 - ▶ Maintains capital outlay appropriation, \$1.8M
-



Non-profit Agencies (Pages 129-135)

- ▶ Volunteers felt strongly that Arts Incubator should be funded
- ▶ Developed 2 scenarios for transition funding:
 1. \$34K from the nonprofit pot
 2. \$51K from another source (one-time funding)
- ▶ Manager recommends Option 2 at \$34K; funds would come from contingency
- ▶ Written recommendations from panels will be provided
- ▶ Commissioners have \$10,000 to allocate directly

▶

Budget Process (Pages 12-13)

- ▶ Staff is presenting the Manager's Recommended Budget—*this is just the 1st step*
- ▶ Before the budget is finalized, commissioners will:
 - ▶ Hold 2 public hearings to hear from the public (May 21 and 22)
 - ▶ Hold up to 3 budget work sessions in May and June
 - ▶ Make changes based on public input, etc.
- ▶ Goal is to have the budget finalized on June 18—must be adopted by June 30

▶

Commissioner Cross asked if the County had heard anything from the Arts Incubator regarding their refinancing efforts.

Ms. Paschal replied that before any money is released to the Arts Incubator, Staff wants to talk with them and make sure they know what their plans are and that they have a plan with which Staff is comfortable.

Resolution in Support of Requiring Voter Identification Prior to Voting in Local Elections: Vote on Resolution in Support of Requiring Voter Identification Prior to Voting in Local Elections

Commissioner Petty moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to adopt **Resolution #2012-25 in Support of Requiring Voter Identification Prior to Voting in Local Elections.**

Commissioner Petty stated that his idea was not to restrict a person's opportunity to vote but to clarify that person's opportunity to vote. He stated that he has a voter registration card that he has carried in his wallet since 1976. When you register to vote, you receive one. All you have to do is take it with you to the polls, as it shows who you are, that you are a resident in the county, and that you have the right to vote. It is not intended to be a restriction, and he feels it is necessary so that people will know that you are who you say you are. Without voter ID, how do we know that there has been no fraud? He further stated that there has been no evidence of break-ins in the Agricultural Building parking lot, but he guesses that everyone locked their vehicle before they came inside. It is the same thought process. In order to maintain the opportunity to vote, we need to protect that right by making sure it is done right. It is not intended to be a restriction, but a clarification. If there is a cost associated with it, then he would support funding it. It shouldn't cost anyone any money to have identification in order to be able to vote. He stated that he hopes the rest of the Board feels the same way.

Commissioner Stewart stated that she received a large number emails asking her to support the requirement for voter ID. Her dad said that the first time he voted in the early 1950's, he had to show his voter registration card in order to vote. Today, you cannot get medical services and some medications from a pharmacy without a photo ID nor cash/write a check, etc. There are many things that require some form of ID. She stated that she wanted to ensure that the integrity of every person's vote is protected. It doesn't matter who you are. It's about protecting everyone. Many things require an ID. This would give the people who do not have an ID the opportunity to get one and allow them to have access to other services. She stated that it is not an over-reaching thing to ask people to show an ID.

Commissioner Petty stated that the greater problem is voter apathy. People are not turning out to vote and don't understand the importance of it.

Commissioner Kost stated that in 2008, Chatham County had the highest voter turnout in the entire State. Our goal is to have 100% of all eligible voters voting, with this resolution, we will never have that 100%. There are approximately 500,000 people that have been estimated that would not have identification; therefore, they would not be able to vote. She stated that it seems to her that we have given a solution without first determining what the problem is. She stated that she is very analytical. The first thing done in an analysis is: 1) Determine the problem and the magnitude of the problem. 2) If it is determined that there is a problem, then you explore the various options to address the problem. So, she asked why are we not looking at all of the various options? She stated that she also thinks that the various options need to address every type of voting that we have. How is voter ID going to help when there is voting by mail, how will it be addressed and also One-Stop and Election Day? She stated that in order to develop a solution, all of them must be addressed. All of the various options have to be analyzed including the effectiveness and cost. She has seen staggering numbers about what it would cost to implement stating that she doesn't know if that is true. Before we jump to a solution, we need to understand what the problem is, how much it would cost, and the effectiveness. Once efficiency and effectiveness have been evaluated, an overall strategy needs to be determined for implementation of the solution including how any additional programs and regulations will be paid for. It should be free because the Supreme Court has said that people cannot be charged to vote as it would be a Poll Tax. If we do have voter ID, it has to be provided to every voter freely and it will have a cost, whether it at the state or local level. All taxpayers will pay for it. We need to determine what source of revenue will pay for it. If the voter ID is determined to be the most effective solution, then we need to develop a well thought out plan to ensure that all eligible voters have the required identification at no cost. Before we jump to a solution, we need to

find out how we are going to get to these 500,000 people to make sure they have that identification. There has to be some sort of rollout and some sort of plan. If new regulations are required in the voting process, she feels that they need to urge that these regulations are phased in, perhaps being optional the first few campaign cycles, and that a vigorous and aggressive education campaign needs to be initiated. She would further like to see in the “Whereas” clauses, an insertions to read: “Whereas, it is the desire of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that we ensure that we hold elections that are fair and valid; and Whereas, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that we do not deny the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county.” Her “Therefore be it resolved...” would be the six points that she went through from identifying the problem to the solutions. She stated that she would like to substitute these points into the proposed resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that we do not deny the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners urges the General Assembly to do the follows:

1. Determine if there is a problem with voter fraud in North Carolina.
2. If it is determined that there is a problem, explore various options to address this problem. The options need to include all means of voting; by mail, at one-stop early voting, and voting on Election Day.
3. Analyze the various options including effectiveness and cost;
4. Once evaluated for efficiency and effectiveness, determine an overall strategy for implementing the solution, including how additional programs/regulations will be paid for.
5. If the voter photo identification is determined to be the most effective solution (if a problem is determined, then develop a well-thought out plan to ensure that all eligible voters have the required identification at no cost to the voter.
6. If new regulations are required in the voting process, we urge that these regulations are phased in, perhaps being optional the first few campaign cycles, and that a vigorous and aggressive educational campaign is initiated.

Commissioner Kost moved this as an amendment to the original motion. Commissioner Cross seconded the motion.

Chairman Bock called the question for a vote on the amendment.

Commissioner Petty stated that he would agree to the last “Whereas” as he feels it is acceptable as every citizen should not be denied the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county; however, he stated that he did not feel they would want to confuse the issue by adding all the other points because what he was suggesting was very simple. Everyone already has their voter registration. It is just a matter of showing it. There is no reason there are 500,000 people that are not registered voters. If they went to register to vote, they have a form of identification. He asked why that couldn’t be used.

Commissioner Kost stated that one of the points made at the last meeting was why not match signatures. She stated that she feels you have to determine if there is a problem, then evaluate the solutions to address the problem. She sees this resolution coming up with a solution without understanding the magnitude of the problem and without fully evaluating all of the various options to address if there is a problem.

Commissioner Petty stated that you should not wait until there is a problem. He asked how one knows there is a problem until something like this is enacted. It is a proactive approach. It doesn’t have to be anything elaborate.

Chairman Bock stated that most of the night’s comments are anti-photo ID. He thinks that a photo ID is a good idea; however, the resolution does not support the bill that is now in play. It is his belief that the General Assembly is going to go into session this month

and a Voter ID Bill will be passed. He stated that he feels it is important that they hear from the counties in order to be more flexible as it currently says a photo. The resolution does not say photo ID. It says, "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners respectfully supports any state legislation which thoughtfully and prudently reasonably requires voter identification and which identification is readily accessible to all voters." The legislature needs to hear that is acceptable to the counties. He stated that he feels that covers Commissioner Kost's "Whereas"; however, if the Board wants to add the other "Whereas", it will have to be another amendment as it now says all six of those points.

Commissioner Kost stated that she was striking some of the other "Whereas" and inserting the "Whereas, we want to ensure that we want to hold elections that are fair and valid." She stated that she believes that is the common ground.

Chairman Bock asked if "Whereas, these great struggles have given all of us the right to vote; but now it is time to reaffirm for all citizens the right of an honest voter not to have his or her legitimate vote cancelled out or diluted by an illegal vote" does not say all legitimate voters have the right to vote. He stated that he could agree with the other sentence.

Commissioner Kost stated that the most important thing is the action of the "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED". She clarified that she did understand that Chairman Bock's resolution did not include a photo ID. She was addressing identification, not just voter ID.

Chairman Bock stated that he thinks that the ones who support voter ID are open to lots of different ideas. Everyone that registers gets a Voter Registration Card. It is free to everyone. It is the thoughtful, reasonable, and prudent requirement. He stated that he had a long discussion with Reverend Davis who outlined his objections to the resolution after which he outlined his support of the resolution. He doesn't think that they agreed; however, they had a nice discussion. He stated that one of the things Reverend Davis mentioned was the disenfranchisement of the minority vote. He stated that he didn't agree that was what they were trying to do, but in the essence of trying to find out if that is true, he did some research and find some studies that said that a voter ID disenfranchises a minority vote. He did not find any. He found lots of studies that said "may, could, or it's possible". He found some studies that compared voter turnout before and after a voter ID was required. He reviewed other facts that did not appear that voter ID suppressed any votes but actually increased overall. There was no evidence that counties with higher percentages of minority, poor, elderly, or less educated populations suffered any reduction in voter turnout. The only consistent and statistically significant impact of photo ID in Indiana was to increase voter turnout in counties with a greater percentage of democrats relative to other counties. He stated that the studies that have actually been done do not support the idea of disenfranchising voters. The problem regarding voter fraud is that they do not know it is there as it is a perfect crime. We know that there are thousands on the North Carolina voter rolls that no longer live in the State, no longer alive, or no longer eligible to vote for one reason or another. Anyone can go to the polls and say they are that person and vote. If someone later turns up and says that that person didn't really vote, there is no way to track down the person that said they were them. He stated that he thinks that is important to note. Even a small amount of fraud is important to stop in close races. It can't be said that there is a small amount of fraud so there is no problem. We do know that the 2010 Chatham County Board of Commissioners race was won by less than 2%. We know that the 2004 Presidential election was won by less than 2%. We know that the 2000 Presidential election was won by .5% of the vote. We know that in 2004 in Chatham County, Kerry beat Bush by five votes. It doesn't take too much fraud to have a significant impact on voter turnout. Some sort of reasonable ID, not to prove you are a citizen, but to prove you are who you say you are. He stated that he does not feel that is a burden.

Chairman Bock restated the motion to accept the six amendments.

Commissioner Kost stated that if someone has had their voter ID since 1976, for a female who got married, her name perhaps will not match. How does this address voting by mail? She stated that if someone wants to cheat, they are going to find a way to do so. She stated that she is not sure that what is being proposed is going to fix the problem. She stated that Reverend Davis made the point very well.

Chairman Bock stated that he thought Commissioner Kost might be suggesting that if you can't fix every problem, then you fix no problem.

Commissioner Kost reiterated that the starting point was to figure out if there was a problem.

Commissioner Petty stated that this was a step of phasing it in as it might be required at a later date to have some other form of identification.

Commissioner Kost stated that this does not fix fraudulent voting. If someone wants to cheat, they are going to do so. It would be a felony and that in itself would be the biggest deterrent there is.

Chairman Bock stated that he didn't feel it was the seriousness of the crime that prevents someone from committing it. It is the likelihood of getting caught and punished.

Commissioner Petty asked if the motion includes all six points in the amendment.

Chairman Bock called the question for the amendment to the resolution as stated by Commissioner Kost. The motion failed two (2) to (3) with Commissioners Bock, Petty, and Stewart opposing.

Commissioner Petty moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to amend the resolution to include the one statement, "Whereas, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that we do not deny the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county".

Chairman Bock called the question to vote on the amendment to add the clause "Whereas, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that we do not deny the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county". The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Chairman Bock called the question to vote on the original resolution as written with the inclusion of the clause "Whereas, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that we do not deny the right to vote to any citizen who is qualified to vote in this county". The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Cross and Kost opposing.

Resolution on Hydraulic Fracturing in North Carolina: Vote on Resolution by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Urging the General Assembly to Exercise Caution and to Take as Much Time as Needed While Debating the Merits of the Extraction of Natural Gas in North Carolina

Commissioner Kost asked if there was a way to handle the next two resolutions in order to minimize duplication and maximize efficiency.

Chairman Bock stated that there are two resolutions, one that he proposed after attending many public input sessions and listening to many citizens. He suggested that the Board consider his resolution that said "go slow" and does not support the current bill that is being discussed. He stated that he would be willing to pull his resolution and not have a resolution if Commissioner Kost would agree to pull her resolution.

Commissioner Kost asked if the Chairman and she could draft a resolution that they agree on in order to find common ground.

Chairman Bock stated that he was willing to do that; however, he felt the Legislature might act before they could prepare a new resolution.

Commissioner Kost asked if they could find the time in their busy schedules to do so. Chairman Bock replied, yes; however, they have to start from the assumption that they are not going to end up with a resolution that says “don’t frack” as he is neither for nor against fracking.

Commissioner Kost stated that if they don’t succeed, they don’t succeed, but at least she thinks they should try.

Commissioner Stewart stated that she does not feel that the economic and financial impact of fracking has been addressed. She stated that there are many issues, including the investments required by the counties, need to be addressed and whether it would be feasible; also, who gets the money and how is it recouped.

Commissioner Kost stated that if any other Board Members have points that they want the Chairman and her to consider while writing the new resolution, to send them within the next couple of days.

Resolution to Support Traditional Public Schools in Chatham County: Vote on a Resolution to Support Operation and Reform Efforts of Traditional Public Schools in Chatham County to Prepare Students for Life in the 21st Century

Commissioner Kost moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adopt **Resolution #2012-26 to Support Operation and Reform Efforts of Traditional Public Schools in Chatham County to Prepare Students for Life in the 21st Century**, 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:

Joint Chatham/Cary Subcommittee Meeting:

The Joint Chatham/Cary Subcommittee Meeting will be held in the Agricultural Building Auditorium on Tuesday, May 08, 2012 at 9:00 AM.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Green Building and Sustainable Energy Advisory Committee:

Commissioner Kost distributed a copy of the annual report of the Green Building and Sustainable Energies Committee stating that they were asking for direction from the Board of Commissioners. Many of their appointments expire in June. If the Board has any feedback, please let her know prior to her meeting with them the next day at 6:30 PM.

Election Day:

Commissioner Kost reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

Chatham/Cary Density Changes:

Commissioner Petty asked for clarification prior to the Joint Chatham/Cary meeting regarding density. He stated that he didn’t think they changed anything; that they left it as it was before any negotiations began.

The County Manager stated that was correct and that the proposal was to leave it as it is.

Chairman Bock stated that it did not increase the density from what is currently allowed and already in our ordinances.

Commissioner Petty stated that there was also some talk about not allowing anything but conventional septic systems.

Chairman Bock stated that staff was working on language to that effect.

Commissioner Petty stated that if it could be done it would have only created restrictions because if you could only get a traditional system approved, then they wouldn't be able to do anything and in turn, it would have strengthened it.

Commissioner Kost stated that it would have taken away more development rights, and it was State permitted.

County Water Lines:

Commissioner Stewart stated that she would like to address water issues with the citizens of the County, especially in the western part of the County and in Moncure, where there are water line loops that are not closed.

Commissioner Petty stated that he had had citizens tell him that they had paid water fees years ago and never gotten water. He asked the cost of the fees.

The County Manager stated that the Board of Commissioners, at that time, contemplated putting the water in the County. Some people paid \$25.00 in advance to reserve a tap

Commissioner Petty asked if there were County records, or if the citizens would have to produce their own receipts.

The Finance Officer stated that notice was given and every opportunity was given for citizens who have their receipts to have their deposits returned.

Commissioner Petty asked for clarification on the number of customers per mile of pipe. The County Manager stated that it also included those signed up and paid because of the requirements in the water system districts who voted for it. That is the average it would take to recoup over time the cost of the investment of putting the infrastructure in the ground.

Commissioner Cross stated that it takes that to get a USDA loan.

Commissioner Stewart stated that the Board needs to look into what it would take in order to provide these people with water.

Commissioner Petty asked if there was any way to get a USDA loan and then find other funding to cover the areas that can't come up with twelve or thirteen houses per mile.

The County Manager stated that there were a couple of problems. There was also the requirement of paying the fee up front and a lot of citizens do not have the fee to pay. The other thing is best time to extend the line and get the fees was during the severe drought when people were without water.

Board Presentations:

Commissioner Stewart asked that paper copies of presentations be provided to the Board prior to the Board of Commissioners' meetings.

RTRP State of the Region Breakfast Meeting and North Carolina Assembly Day:

Commissioner Cross stated that he would be attending the RTRP State of the Region breakfast meeting week after next. Toward the end of the month, he will be attending the North Carolina Association Assembly Day.

He stated that he appreciated the budget meeting schedule change in order to accommodate his previously scheduled meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Petty moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Brian Bock, Chairman

ATTEST:

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