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*Be advised that we were unable to find information regarding the 1973 court case, changes in district lines from the past thirty years, or data comparing recent changes in election methods by other counties. Also please note that we are in possession of more comprehensive documentation for much of the data contained in this packet and will be happy to furnish it upon request. The court report for Patterson v. Siler City has been ordered and will be available for viewing upon its arrival.

NC Counties Election Methods
Sorted Alphabetically

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Alamance	161,076	5	al		4S	
Alexander	38,452	5	al		4S	
Alleghany	11,233	5	al		4S	
Anson	25,626	7	d		4S	
Ashe	27,218	5	al		2/4S	
Avery	18,072	5	al		2/4S	
Beaufort	47,547	7	l		4S	1
Bertie	19,881	5	dal		4S	
Bladen	34,393	9	m	6d; 3al; l	4S	2
Brunswick	131,726	5	dal		4S	
Buncombe	261,532	7	cda	6d; 1al	4	3
Burke	90,246	5	al		4S	
Cabarrus	205,473	5	al		4S	
Caldwell	83,303	5	al		4S	
Camden	10,359	5	dal	3d; 2al	4S	
Carteret	70,190	7	dal		4S	
Caswell	23,699	7	cda	5d, 2al	4S	
Catawba	156,949	5	al		4S	
Chatham	74,835	5	dal		4S	
Cherokee	29,216	5	cda		4	
Chowan	14,292	7	cda	6d; 1al	4S	4
Clay	11,488	5	al		4	
Cleveland	98,580	5	al		4S	
Columbus	56,941	7	d		4S	
Craven	103,735	7	d		4	5
Cumberland	329,604	7	cda	5d; 2al	4S	
Currituck	26,604	7	cdal	2al; 5dal	4S	
Dare	36,792	7	cda	6d; 1al	4S	
Davidson	167,105	7	al		4S	
Davie	42,727	5	al		4S	
Duplin	59,513	5	d		4S	
Durham	306,184	5	al		4	
Edgecombe	52,856	7	d		4S	
Forsyth	372,651	7	cda	1al; 6d	4S	6
Franklin	66,514	7	cda	2al; 5d	4S	
Gaston	218,527	7	dal		4S	
Gates	11,960	5	dal		4S	
Graham	8,837	5	al		4	7
Granville	59,975	7	d		4S	
Greene	21,522	5	al		4S	
Guilford	523,962	9	cda	8d; 1al	4S	
Halifax	51,815	6	cda	3d; 3al	4S	
Harnett	130,847	5	d		4S	
Haywood	62,277	5	al		4S	
Henderson	116,173	5	dal		4S	
Hertford	23,947	5	dal		4S	

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Hoke	53,343	5	al		4S	
Hyde	5,644	5	dal		4S	
Iredell	176,563	5	al		2/4S	
Jackson	43,116	5	cda	4dal; 1 al	4S	3
Johnston	194,705	7	dal		4S	
Jones	10,356	5	al		4	
Lee	59,337	7	cda	3al; 4d	4S	
Lenoir	57,477	7	cda	2al; 5d	4S	
Lincoln	83,251	5	al		4S	
Macon	35,413	5	dal		4S	
Madison	22,240	5	al		4S	
Martin	23,510	5	l		4S	8
McDowell	45,716	5	al		4S	
Mecklenburg	1,077,301	9	cda	3al; 6d	2	
Mitchell	15,237	5	al		2/4S	
Montgomery	27,865	5	cda	2al; 3d	4S	
Moore	97,597	5	dal		4S	
Nash	94,365	7	d		4S	
New Hanover	227,261	5	al		4S	
Northampton	20,709	5	al		4S	
Onslow	195,621	5	al		4	
Orange	142,365	7	cdal	2al; 5d	4S	
Pamlico	13,268	7	cdal	2al; 5d	4S	
Pasquotank	40,598	7	cdal	3al; 4d	4S	
Pender	60,999	5	dal		4S	
Perquimans	13,546	6	l		4S	1
Person	39,868	5	al		4S	
Pitt	176,424	9	d		4S	9
Polk	21,154	5	al		2/4S	
Randolph	144,672	5	dal		4S	
Richmond	44,892	7	al		4S	
Robeson	132,020	8	d		4S	
Rockingham	91,790	5	al		4S	
Rowan	141,917	5	al		4S	
Rutherford	67,796	5	dal		4S	
Sampson	63,143	5	d		4S	
Scotland	35,686	7	dal		4S	
Stanly	62,443	7	al		4S	
Stokes	46,728	5	al		4S	
Surry	72,843	5	dal	l	4S	
Swain	14,999	5	al		4	3
Transylvania	34,464	5	al		4S	
Tyrrell	4,138	5	l/al		4S	10
Union	228,171	5	al		4S	
Vance	44,862	7	d		4S	
Wake	1,048,771	7	dal		4S	

NC Counties Election Methods
Sorted Alphabetically

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Warren	20,133	5	dal		4S	
Washington	12,349	5	cda	4d; 1al	4S	
Watauga	56,170	5	dal		2/4S	
Wayne	124,945	7	cda	1al; 6d	4	
Wilkes	70,536	5	al		4S	
Wilson	82,035	7	d		4	
Yadkin	37,687	5	al		2/4S	
Yancey	18,199	5	al		2/4S	

Updated December 12, 2014

Source: NC Association of County Commissioners

TABLE ABBREVIATIONS Election method and descriptions:

al = All commissioners nominated and elected at large (pure at large).

d = All commissioners nominated and elected by district (pure district).

dal = Residence in district required, but nominated and elected at-large.

l = Limited voting plan.

cda = Combination of pure district and pure at large seats.

cdal = Combination of pure at large seats with some seats requiring residency in districts, but still nominated/elected at large.

S = If S appears beside length of term, means not all seats are up for election in the same year. TABLE FOOTNOTES

1. Limited voting system. Candidates file as a group for open seats and voters may vote for only 1 candidate. Both primary and general election results are determined by plurality.

2. Six members elected to numbered seats from 3 2-member districts; 3 at-large members elected concurrently. Primary result is determined by plurality, with each voter limited to 1 vote.

3. Chair elected separately.

4. Six members elected to numbered seats from 3 2-member districts for staggered 4-year terms; at-large member elected for 4-year term.

5. Two members nominated and elected by district; 5 nominated by district and elected at large across the 5 remaining districts.

6. One 2-member district; 1 4-member district; 1 at-large member.

7. Member elected with highest number of votes serves as chair.

8. Limited voting plan. One 2-member district; 1 3-member district. Voters in 2 member district may vote for only 1 candidate. Voters in 3-member district may vote for 2 candidates.

9. Six single-member districts; 3 consolidated districts formed by combining single-member districts.

10. Commissioners are elected at-large with a limited voting plan. Primaries are conducted on a partisan basis, with the top vote-getters in each party moving to the general election.

NC Counties Election Methods
Sorted by Population

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Tyrrell	4,138	5	l/al		4S	10
Hyde	5,644	5	dal		4S	
Graham	8,837	5	al		4	7
Jones	10,356	5	al		4	
Camden	10,359	5	dal	3d; 2al	4S	
Alleghany	11,233	5	al		4S	
Clay	11,488	5	al		4	
Gates	11,960	5	dal		4S	
Washington	12,349	5	cda	4d; 1al	4S	
Pamlico	13,268	7	cdal	2al; 5d	4S	
Perquimans	13,546	6	l		4S	1
Chowan	14,292	7	cda	6d; 1al	4S	4
Swain	14,999	5	al		4	3
Mitchell	15,237	5	al		2/4S	
Avery	18,072	5	al		2/4S	
Yancey	18,199	5	al		2/4S	
Bertie	19,881	5	dal		4S	
Warren	20,133	5	dal		4S	
Northampton	20,709	5	al		4S	
Polk	21,154	5	al		2/4S	
Greene	21,522	5	al		4S	
Madison	22,240	5	al		4S	
Martin	23,510	5	l		4S	8
Caswell	23,699	7	cda	5d, 2al	4S	
Hertford	23,947	5	dal		4S	
Anson	25,626	7	d		4S	
Currituck	26,604	7	cdal	2al; 5dal	4S	
Ashe	27,218	5	al		2/4S	
Montgomery	27,865	5	cda	2al; 3d	4S	
Cherokee	29,216	5	cda		4	
Bladen	34,393	9	m	6d; 3al; l	4S	2
Transylvania	34,464	5	al		4S	
Macon	35,413	5	dal		4S	
Scotland	35,686	7	dal		4S	
Dare	36,792	7	cda	6d; 1al	4S	
Yadkin	37,687	5	al		2/4S	
Alexander	38,452	5	al		4S	
Person	39,868	5	al		4S	
Pasquotank	40,598	7	cdal	3al; 4d	4S	
Davie	42,727	5	al		4S	
Jackson	43,116	5	cda	4dal; 1 al	4S	3
Vance	44,862	7	d		4S	
Richmond	44,892	7	al		4S	
McDowell	45,716	5	al		4S	
Stokes	46,728	5	al		4S	
Beaufort	47,547	7	l		4S	1

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Sorted by Population

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Halifax	51,815	6	cda	3d; 3al	4S	
Edgecombe	52,856	7	d		4S	
Hoke	53,343	5	al		4S	
Watauga	56,170	5	dal		2/4S	
Columbus	56,941	7	d		4S	
Lenoir	57,477	7	cda	2al; 5d	4S	
Lee	59,337	7	cda	3al; 4d	4S	
Duplin	59,513	5	d		4S	
Granville	59,975	7	d		4S	
Pender	60,999	5	dal		4S	
Haywood	62,277	5	al		4S	
Stanly	62,443	7	al		4S	
Sampson	63,143	5	d		4S	
Franklin	66,514	7	cda	2al; 5d	4S	
Rutherford	67,796	5	dal		4S	
Carteret	70,190	7	dal		4S	
Wilkes	70,536	5	al		4S	
Surry	72,843	5	dal	l	4S	
Chatham	74,835	5	dal		4S	
Wilson	82,035	7	d		4	
Lincoln	83,251	5	al		4S	
Caldwell	83,303	5	al		4S	
Burke	90,246	5	al		4S	
Rockingham	91,790	5	al		4S	
Nash	94,365	7	d		4S	
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Cleveland	98,580	5	al		4S	
Craven	103,735	7	d		4	5
Henderson	116,173	5	dal		4S	
Wayne	124,945	7	cda	1al; 6d	4	
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Brunswick	131,726	5	dal		4S	
Robeson	132,020	8	d		4S	
Rowan	141,917	5	al		4S	
Orange	142,365	7	cdal	2al; 5d	4S	
Randolph	144,672	5	dal		4S	
Catawba	156,949	5	al		4S	
Alamance	161,076	5	al		4S	
Davidson	167,105	7	al		4S	
Pitt	176,424	9	d		4S	9
Iredell	176,563	5	al		2/4S	
Johnston	194,705	7	dal		4S	
Onslow	195,621	5	al		4	
Cabarrus	205,473	5	al		4S	
Gaston	218,527	7	dal		4S	
New Hanover	227,261	5	al		4S	

NC Counties Election Methods
Sorted by Population

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Union	228,171	5	al		4S	
Buncombe	261,532	7	cda	6d; 1al	4	3
Durham	306,184	5	al		4	
Cumberland	329,604	7	cda	5d; 2al	4S	
Forsyth	372,651	7	cda	1al; 6d	4S	6
Guilford	523,962	9	cda	8d; 1al	4S	
Wake	1,048,771	7	dal		4S	
Mecklenburg	1,077,301	9	cda	3al; 6d	2	

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NC Counties Election Methods
Sorted by Election Method

County	Population, OSBM July 2017	No. of Comms.	Election Method	Combined Description	Terms of Office	Footnotes
Graham	8,837	5	al		4	7
Jones	10,356	5	al		4	
Alleghany	11,233	5	al		4S	
Clay	11,488	5	al		4	
Swain	14,999	5	al		4	3
Mitchell	15,237	5	al		2/4S	
Avery	18,072	5	al		2/4S	
Yancey	18,199	5	al		2/4S	
Northampton	20,709	5	al		4S	
Polk	21,154	5	al		2/4S	
Greene	21,522	5	al		4S	
Madison	22,240	5	al		4S	
Ashe	27,218	5	al		2/4S	
Transylvania	34,464	5	al		4S	
Yadkin	37,687	5	al		2/4S	
Alexander	38,452	5	al		4S	
Person	39,868	5	al		4S	
Davie	42,727	5	al		4S	
Richmond	44,892	7	al		4S	
McDowell	45,716	5	al		4S	
Stokes	46,728	5	al		4S	
Hoke	53,343	5	al		4S	
Haywood	62,277	5	al		4S	
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Burke	90,246	5	al		4S	
Rockingham	91,790	5	al		4S	
Cleveland	98,580	5	al		4S	
Rowan	141,917	5	al		4S	
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Cabarrus	205,473	5	al		4S	
New Hanover	227,261	5	al		4S	
Union	228,171	5	al		4S	
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Vance	44,862	7	d		4S	
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Rutherford	67,796	5	dal		4S	
Carteret	70,190	7	dal		4S	
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Chatham	74,835	5	dal		4S	
Moore	97,597	5	dal		4S	
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Martin	23,510	5	l		4S	8
Beaufort	47,547	7	l		4S	1
Tyrrell	4,138	5	l/al		4S	10
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Updated December 12, 2014

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6. One 2-member district; 1 4-member district; 1 at-large member.

7. Member elected with highest number of votes serves as chair.

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**North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
Number of Commissioners**

County	2008	2016	Difference
Alamance	5	5	0
Alexander	5	5	0
Alleghany	5	5	0
Anson	7	7	0
Ashe	5	5	0
Avery	5	5	0
Beaufort	7	7	0
Bertie	5	5	0
Bladen	9	9	0
Brunswick	5	5	0
Buncombe	5	7	2
Burke	5	5	0
Cabarrus	5	5	0
Caldwell	5	5	0
Camden	5	5	0
Carteret	7	7	0
Caswell	7	7	0
Catawba	5	5	0
Chatham	5	5	0
Cherokee	3	5	2
Chowan	7	7	0
Clay	3	5	2
Cleveland	5	5	0
Columbus	7	7	0
Craven	7	7	0
Cumberland	7	7	0
Currituck	7	7	0
Dare	7	7	0
Davidson	7	7	0
Davie	5	5	0
Duplin	6	5	(1)
Durham	5	5	0
Edgecombe	7	7	0
Forsyth	7	7	0
Franklin	7	7	0
Gaston	7	7	0
Gates	5	5	0
Graham	5	5	0
Granville	7	7	0
Greene	5	5	0
Guilford	11	9	(2)
Halifax	6	6	0
Harnett	5	5	0
Haywood	5	5	0
Henderson	5	5	0
Hertford	5	5	0
Hoke	5	5	0
Hyde	5	5	0
Iredell	5	5	0
Jackson	5	5	0
Johnston	7	7	0
Jones	5	5	0
Lee	7	7	0

**North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
Number of Commissioners**

County	2008	2016	Difference
Lenoir	7	7	0
Lincoln	5	5	0
Macon	5	5	0
Madison	5	5	0
Martin	5	5	0
McDowell	5	5	0
Mecklenburg	9	9	0
Mitchell	5	5	0
Montgomery	5	5	0
Moore	5	5	0
Nash	7	7	0
New Hanover	5	5	0
Northampton	5	5	0
Onslow	5	5	0
Orange	7	7	0
Pamlico	7	7	0
Pasquotank	7	7	0
Pender	5	5	0
Perquimans	6	6	0
Person	5	5	0
Pitt	9	9	0
Polk	5	5	0
Randolph	5	5	0
Richmond	7	7	0
Robeson	8	8	0
Rockingham	5	5	0
Rowan	5	5	0
Rutherford	5	5	0
Sampson	5	5	0
Scotland	7	7	0
Stanly	5	7	2
Stokes	5	5	0
Surry	5	5	0
Swain	5	5	0
Transylvania	5	5	0
Tyrrell	5	5	0
Union	5	5	0
Vance	7	7	0
Wake	7	7	0
Warren	5	5	0
Washington	5	5	0
Watauga	5	5	0
Wayne	7	7	0
Wilkes	5	5	0
Wilson	7	7	0
Yadkin	5	5	0
Yancey	3	5	2

Source: NCACC website

Demographic and Voter Data by Commissioner District (Page 1)

DISTRICT	Year	Pop White ¹	Pop Black ¹	Pop Other ¹	Pop Total	Pop % Hispanic ¹	Pop 18+ ²	Voters Dem ³	Voters Rep ³	Voters UNA ³	Voters Other ³	Voters Total ⁴
District 1	2010	10,764	946	1,133	12,843	9%	10,677					
District 2	2010	10,477	1,622	765	12,864	5%	10,163					
District 3	2010	9,667	2,180	615	12,462	5%	9,832					
District 4	2010	8,462	1,765	2,416	12,643	25%	9,476					
District 5	2010	8,867	1,880	1,948	12,695	21%	9,516					
District 1	2017	12,823	1,099	1,680	15,602	8%	13,210	4,977	2,995	5,318	40	13,330
District 2	2017	12,125	1,802	1,100	15,027	5%	11,915	3,885	2,981	4,101	60	11,027
District 3	2017	12,562	2,475	985	16,022	5%	12,841	5,338	2,512	4,588	61	12,499
District 4	2017	9,394	1,814	2,738	13,946	24%	10,556	3,430	2,141	2,649	37	8,257
District 5	2017	9,474	1,971	2,264	13,709	22%	10,388	3,090	2,255	2,203	36	7,584
District 1	2022	14,348	1,191	2,133	17,672	8%	15,076					
District 2	2022	13,458	1,932	1,383	16,773	6%	13,385					
District 3	2022	14,383	2,677	1,292	18,352	5%	14,783					
District 4	2022	10,383	1,856	3,091	15,330	24%	11,616					
District 5	2022	10,086	2,040	2,579	14,705	23%	11,046					

Notes:

¹US Census data used to aggregate district race totals based on US Census Block Group boundaries for 2010 data. 2017 & 2022 data estimates aggregated using Census Block Group data from Esri's demographic data repository. Hispanic population included in other categories.

²US Census data used to aggregate district gender and age totals based on US Census Block Group boundaries for 2010 data. 2017 & 2022 data estimates aggregated using Census Block Group data from Esri's demographic data repository.

³Voter Statistics obtained from Chatham County Board of Elections

⁴The total voters in District 1 exceeds the 18+ population. This is likely because some voters have not been removed from Board of Elections records (due to death or moving, etc.). The Board of Elections must have some proof in order to remove voters from the rolls. Source: Chatham County Elections Director.

About Esri data: http://downloads.esri.com/esri_content_doc/dbl/us/J10268_Methodology_Statement_2017-2022_Esri_US_Demographic_Updates.pdf

Demographic and Voter Data by Commissioner District (Page 2)

Population						
2010						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	Grand Total
White	10,764	10,477	9,667	8,462	8,867	48,237
Black	946	1,622	2,180	1,765	1,880	8,393
Other	1,133	765	615	2,416	1,948	6,877
% Hispanic	9%	5%	5%	25%	21%	13%
Total	12,843	12,864	12,462	12,643	12,695	63,507
2017						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	Grand Total
White	12,823	12,125	12,562	9,394	9,474	56,378
Black	1,099	1,802	2,475	1,814	1,971	9,161
Other	1,680	1,100	985	2,738	2,264	8,767
% Hispanic	8%	5%	5%	24%	22%	12%
	15,602	15,027	16,022	13,946	13,709	74,306
2022						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	Grand Total
White	14,348	13,458	14,383	10,383	10,086	62,658
Black	1,191	1,932	2,677	1,856	2,040	9,696
Other	2,133	1,383	1,292	3,091	2,579	10,478
% Hispanic	8%	6%	5%	24%	23%	13%
	17,672	16,773	18,352	15,330	14,705	82,832
Voters						
2017						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	Grand Total
Democrats	4,977	3,885	5,338	3,430	3,090	20,720
Republicans	2,995	2,981	2,512	2,141	2,255	12,884
Unaffiliated	5,318	4,101	4,588	2,649	2,203	18,859
Other	40	60	61	37	36	234
Total	13,330	11,027	12,499	8,257	7,584	52,697
Source: Same as Page 1						

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

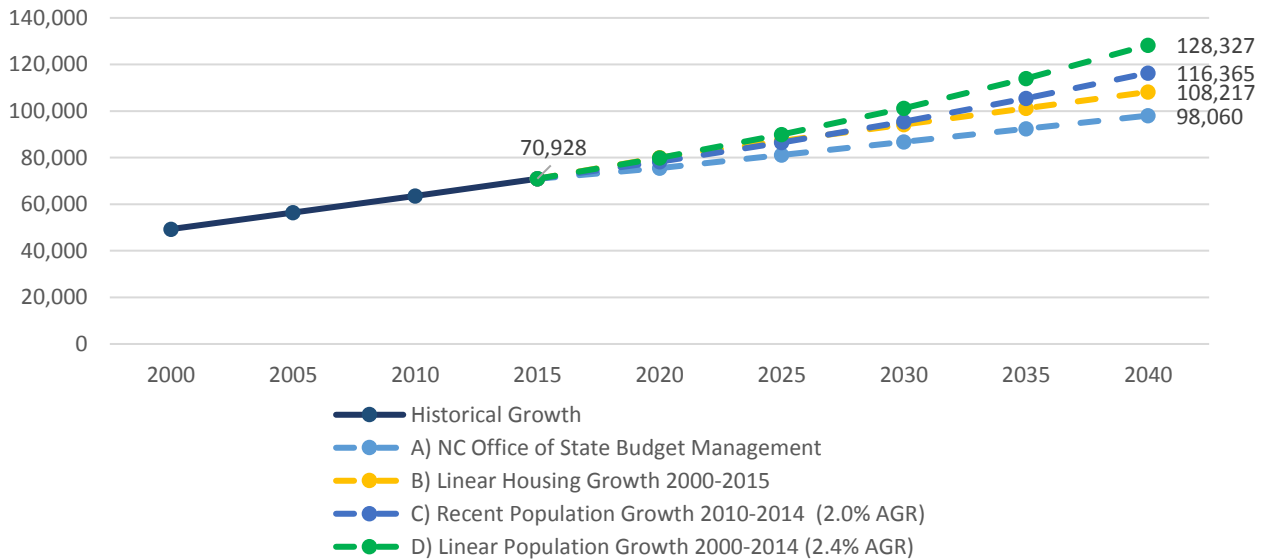
VR STATISTICS BY PRECINCT

PRECINCT	TOTAL VOTERS	Dem	Rep	Lib	Una	Rfm	Black	White	Am. Ind.	Asian	Multi Race	Other	Undesig	Female	Male	Undesig
	14	7	6	0	1	0	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	10	4	0
15 BYNUM	2,188	965	425	12	786	0	240	1,778	3	19	12	32	104	1,092	997	99
18 GOLDSTON	2,329	997	625	11	696	0	493	1,700	5	6	10	25	90	1,195	1,044	90
20 THREE RIVERS	1,944	665	600	8	671	0	351	1,415	10	7	11	20	130	942	881	121
21 HADLEY	1,540	494	414	10	622	0	30	1,404	2	6	5	18	75	772	691	77
24 HARPERS CROSSROADS	727	199	294	0	234	0	14	678	0	0	1	6	28	356	345	26
3 ALBRIGHT	1,751	574	630	2	545	0	148	1,505	6	5	3	24	60	871	815	65
30 HICKORY MOUNTAIN	1,721	611	501	13	596	0	243	1,375	5	2	6	24	66	853	802	66
42 NEW HOPE	1,731	492	595	10	634	0	97	1,507	5	15	10	27	70	857	809	65
45 OAKLAND	988	395	258	5	330	0	135	795	1	2	3	6	46	470	466	52
6 BENNETT	793	212	359	0	222	0	39	726	0	2	1	3	22	390	371	32
75 EAST WILLIAMS	3,988	1,105	1,215	6	1,662	0	226	3,350	5	107	16	101	183	2,149	1,681	158
78 WEST WILLIAMS	4,796	1,748	1,158	12	1,878	0	129	4,338	6	53	17	64	189	2,553	2,051	192
85 WEST SILER CITY	2,701	1,278	646	14	763	0	675	1,674	12	9	24	147	160	1,431	1,160	110
9 BONLEE	1,457	566	427	7	457	0	175	1,200	1	0	2	20	59	730	663	64
ESC114 EAST SILER CITY	4,112	2,183	874	24	1,031	0	1,275	2,235	7	17	33	243	302	2,164	1,765	183
MCH110 MANN'S CHAPEL	7,037	2,923	1,201	45	2,868	0	407	5,942	10	100	43	138	397	3,562	3,078	397
NWM117 NORTH WILLIAMS	5,652	2,121	1,296	17	2,218	0	445	4,571	9	120	31	135	341	2,920	2,423	309
PIT113 PITTSBORO	7,110	3,161	1,397	36	2,516	0	1,305	5,185	19	56	43	131	371	3,723	3,027	360
GRAND TOTAL	52,579	20,696	12,921	232	18,730	0	6,433	41,386	106	526	271	1,164	2,693	27,040	23,073	2,466

HOUSING AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Multiple sources were studied to determine likely growth rates for the county. Data sources included the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization, the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, the U.S. Census, and Esri. In addition, data was gathered from Preston Development, the company orchestrating the development of Chatham Park. Chatham Park is a planned development of 7,100 acres that could have up to 22,000 housing units at build out which is likely to take 40 years. A number of other large developments that are partially complete were inventoried. These include Briar Chapel, Chapel Ridge and others. A case study of Reston, Virginia was also studied. Based on this data four population projection alternatives are presented below.

FIGURE 21: POPULATION PROJECTIONS



Projection A is based on data from the NC Office of State Budget and Management. This source produces population projections to 2035 by county. This trend was extrapolated based on a linear curve to 2040. This is the lowest projection and assumes an Annual Growth Rate (AGR) of 1.35%.

Projection B is based on a linear housing growth projection that assumes the number of building permits per year will continue at the average rate that the county experienced between 2000 and 2015. This equates to 609 new housing units per year. A slightly decreasing average household size was factored into this projection (current average household size is 2.46, which has decreased from 2.47 in 2000).

Projection C is based on a continuation of the rate of population growth that the county experienced between 2010 and 2014 (2.0% AGR). This rate of growth is slightly lower than the rate experienced over the past 25 years.

Projection D is based on a continuation of the rate of population growth that the county experienced between 2000 and 2014 (2.4% AGR). This rate of growth is in line with the AGR between 1990 and 2014 (2.4% AGR).

A regular meeting of the Siler City Town Board was held on Monday, July 18, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Earl Fitts presiding. Invocation was given by Mayor Fitts; minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved by a motion from Syd Farrar, second by Adam Smith..

Commissioners Present: Syd Farrar
 Adam Smith
 Guy Smith
 Charles Turner
 Bill Collins

Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Town Attorney Sam Williams

SPILLWAY CONTRACT AMENDMENT: The contract with Crowder Construction Company for spillway work requires amendment due to additional rock excavation, installation of rip rap as requested by NCDOT and the NC Dept. of Natural Resources & CD, additional construction required for boat ramp access, and raising the intake floor. The additions, along with deletion of "temporary seeding" line item, bring the total contract change to an additional \$58,850.00. Bill Collins moved to approve Change Order No. 1 to the spillway construction project (Crowder Construction) in the amount of \$58,850.00. Second by Adam Smith; unanimously carried. (55-A).

STANDPIPE REPAINTING BIDS: Bids were received on May 26 for the repainting of a 500,000-gallon steel standpipe per attached schedule 55-B. Upon a motion by Charles Turner, second by Syd Farrar, the Board unanimously approved the low bid submitted by Tanks, Inc. of Madison in the amount of \$32,650.00 for the standpipe repainting project.

TRUCK BIDS: Public Works Director solicited bids for a 14-foot platform dump truck and a 2-ton cab & chassis per 88-89 fiscal year budget. The low bid was received from Chatham Motors in the amount of \$36,240.00, and Adam Smith moved that the Board award the bid to them. Motion seconded by Charles Turner; unanimously carried. (Schedule 55-C).

TAX REFUND: Due to an error in listing a vehicle, Robert W. Evans paid taxes on a duplicate listing. Correct tax was paid by World Omni Leasing Corporation, and the tax collector has requested Board's permission to refund the amount paid in error. By a motion from Bill Collins and second by Syd Farrar, the Board unanimously approved the refund in the amount of \$42.93 to Robert W. Evans for 1987 taxes paid in error. (schedule 55-D).

LAND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT: Town Manager presented a proposed agreement between the Town and The Wooten Company for professional services rendered in connection with the development of a land use plan for Siler City. Such a plan is considered a vital and important need for the Town's use in making long-range plans and setting goals for Siler City. The contract will be executed in three phases: 1) pre-planning; 2) plan development; and 3) plan review and adoption. Total cost for their services is \$10,000.00. Charles Turner moved to authorize Mayor Fitts to sign the contract with The Wooten Company for land use development plan for Siler City in the amount of \$10,000.00. Motion seconded by Syd Farrar; unanimously carried. (schedule 55-E).

PATTERSON-PENDING LITIGATION: Manager reported that the Town was served with papers today (7/18/88) in reference to the "Dan Patterson" lawsuit. Mr. Shivar reported that Michael Crowell, who has been assisting the Town in the electoral system change process, has recommended that the Board sign an authorization to allow him to respond on behalf of the Commissions and the Entity concerning the pending litigation. After signing the appropriate forms, the Board returned the papers to Mr. Shivar for forwarding to Attorney Crowell.

PROJECT PRIORITIES: Board entered into in-depth discussion on the many projects to be undertaken by the Town during the current and future fiscal years. Various projects discussed were water and sewer facility expansions, industrial and economic development for Siler City, sewer extension to Industrial Park, bond referendum for water, sewer and recreation projects, ordinance enforcement, annexation, and floride for our water. Concerning ordinance enforcement, Manager advised that our current Code should be reviewed for legal compliance by a qualified organization such as the NCLM. Once our ordinances are deemed "enforceable", various departments within the Town structure would be responsible for many of the provisions of the Code. An assessment of the Town staff should be initiated to determine if additional personnel are required to handle efficient enforcement. Manager reminded the Board that both the "reservoir" and "airport" projects need to be completed first before attempting to undertake too many other activities. He suggested that first, he be allowed to file a full report with them concerning projected costs for water and sewer improvements including rate information. The Board can then decide exactly

over

A regular meeting of the Siler City Town Board was held on Monday, August 1, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom. Charles Turner gave the invocation, and minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved by a motion from Adam Smith, second by Bill Collins.

Commissioners present: Adam Smith
 Syd Farrar
 Bill Collins
 Guy Smith
 Charles Turner

Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Town Attorney Sam Williams

CDBG PROGRAM AMENDMENT PUBLIC HEARING: Public hearing was declared open by Mayor Fitts in order to receive comments from local citizens concerning program amendments to the 1986 Community Development Program. The CD engineers (Wooten Company) have advised that approximately \$10,092.00 of surplus funds will be available for use on the Lincoln Heights sidewalk to Fourth Street. No one was present with comments, and the hearing closed. Syd Farrar then moved to approve amendments as recommended by the engineers to the '86 CDBG program including the expenditure of surplus funds in the amount of \$10,092.00 for the sidewalk project. Motion seconded by Charles Turner and unanimously carried. (schedule 57-A).

PLANNING DIRECTOR POSITION RECLASSIFICATION: In order to make Siler City's "Planning Director" salary more competitive with other town's of comparable size, the Manager has recommended an upgrade of the salary level. Bill Collins moved to revise the Town's current class specification for the position of Planning and CD Director from Grade 14 to Grade 18. Motion seconded by Guy Smith and unanimously carried.

BOND REFERENDUM: Upon the recommendation of the Manager and based on advice received from the Local Government Commission, the Board unanimously voted to set a bond referendum for various capital projects on November 8, 1988. Motion was made by Adam Smith, seconded by Syd Farrar. Among items discussed for possible inclusion in the bond issue were: 1) upgrade of the WWTP from 1.8 mgd to 4.0 mgd; 2) Blood Run Interceptor; and 3) new recreation complex or extensive renovation to the Paul Braxton facility. The Recreation Director is currently working on a request for proposals for the rehab of the existing facility versus construction of a new complex. Correction of alum sludge problems at the water plant, which had previously been discussed as a part of the bond referendum, is such a necessary priority that the Manager felt it should be dealt with now by using existing capital reserve monies. All Board members agreed that information on the various issues to be voted on should be distributed as soon as possible to the general public via Chamber of Commerce participation and the local media since each item is of vital importance to the citizens of Siler City.

ENGINEERING CONTRACTS: Fred Hobbs and Joe McGougan were present to discuss the upcoming projects relative to the bond referendum and to formally present their contracts for engineering services to the Board. Upon a motion by Bill Collins and second by Adam Smith, the Board unanimously approved contracts with Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates for design work reference expansion of the WWTP facility (\$124,000); construction of alum sludge facilities at water treatment plant (\$35,500); and paving of the 5000-foot runway and installation of lighting system at the Blair Municipal Airport in the amount of \$62,370.00. (schedules 57-B, C, & D).

ANNUAL TAX REPORT: The annual report from the tax collector concerning total tax levy and collections through June 30, 1988 was presented to the Board for their information. (schedule 57-E).

PATTERSON LITIGATION: Commissioner Syd Farrar expressed anger and resentment over the fact that legal action against the Town, brought on by Dan Patterson in reference to Siler City's election process, has been filed the the Civil Assistance Clinic of the UNC School of Law, an organization supported by the local citizens' tax money. He moved that the Board authorize the Town's attorney in the matter--Mike Crowell--to write a letter in their behalf to our state representatives to express the local Boards' dissatisfaction with tax money being used to support a lawsuit against the Town of Siler City. Motion seconded by Bill Collins. Voting "FOR": Comms. Farrar, Collins, Turner and Adam Smith. Voting "AGAINST": Commissioner Guy Smith.

There being no further business, eht meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Wanda Y. Ingold
 Wanda Ingold, Town Clerk

Earl B. Fitts
 Earl B. Fitts, Mayor

A regular meeting of the Siler City Town Board was held on Thursday, October 6, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Earl Fitts presiding. Charles Turner opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes of the September 19, 1988 meeting were unanimously approved by a motion from Bill Collins, second by Syd Farrar.

Commissioners present: Charles Turner
 Guy Smith Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Bill Collins
 Adam Smith Absent: Town Attorney Sam
 Syd Farrar Williams

ELECTORAL SYSTEM COMMITTEE REPORT: The Town Board was presented with the official report from the Electoral System Committee concerning their recommendations for changes to the Town's electoral process. Rev. Larry Leake, Chairman of the Committee, stated that the Committee believed their proposed recommendations would help to implement fair representation of minorities on the Town Board. Other members of the Committee present for discussion were Larry Cheek, Kathryn Scotton, Sam Adams and Margaret Jourdan. The report issued by the Committee summarizes their activities since inception last March and details the proposed five-district, two at-large plan. They have also made recommendations concerning the transition of the current Board to the new system. The report and recommendations are attached as "schedule 7-B". Attorney Mike Crowell, who has guided the Committee through their activities, was present to answer any questions the Board or audience might have concerning the election changes. Barry Hayes (WNCA) questioned how the five-district system will effect current voter precincts. Mr. Crowell noted that the Board of Elections will have to work out this matter, but it should not present too large a problem since Town elections occur at times when there are no other state and national elections to contend with. Dan Patterson reiterated his objections to the proposed plan stating that he felt there should be no at-large seats or staggered terms for Commissioners. On the whole, he stated that the plan was still discriminatory toward minorities. The Town Board expressed appreciation to the Committee for their fine work and dedication to meeting their objectives. Mr. Crowell also pointed out that the Committee approached their work with an attitude to not only suggest a system that would get a minority on the Board but would be good for the Town as a whole. Charles Turner moved to approve a resolution proposing a new election method for the Town of Siler City (five district/two at-large), said resolution requesting that Siler City's legislative delegation make the required arrangements to implement enactment of the proposed electoral system changes by a special act of the General Assembly. Motion seconded by Syd Farrar and unanimously carried. (schedule 7-C).

AUDIT REPORT: Bobby Wood and Linda Ward were present to discuss the annual audit of fiscal year 87-88 financial records. Mr. Wood reported that overall, the Town is in very good financial condition with a net increase in fund balance in the General Fund as \$52,605; and in the Enterprise Fund, he reported a fund balance of \$759,478. Following the audit discussion, Town Manager Shivar recommended approval of the standard LGC audit contract for audit services for the upcoming fiscal year by Mr. Wood's accounting firm. Upon a motion by Bill Collins and second by Charles Turner, the Board unanimously approved contract with Bobby Wood, CPA in an amount not to exceed \$16,565 for FY 88-89 audit services. (schedule 7-D).

PRIMARY-SECONDARY FIRE DISTRICTS: The General Statutes require that cities and towns establish primary fire districts which include principal business areas. The Fire Chief has recommended a certain area of the central business district as the primary area, and Siler Crossing, Chatham Square and Park Shopping Center are suggested as the secondary fire districts. Discussion centered on the primary district boundaries and whether or not this particular area should be enlarged to accommodate additional blocks. Bill Collins moved to table the matter until a later date pending further information and clarification of the boundaries within the primary fire district. Motion seconded by Syd Farrar and unanimously carried.

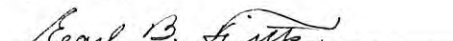
TAX REFUNDS: Upon a motion by Syd Farrar and second by Charles Turner, the Board unanimously approved tax refunds to Earl Langley in the amount of \$17.01 due to listing error and to Virginia Boling in the amount of \$45.90 due to a corrected valuation. (schedule 7-E).

REZONING REQUEST: Charles Turner moved to hold a public hearing on November 7, 1988 for consideration of a rezoning request by Gary Lenox. Motion seconded by Adam Smith and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


 Wanda G. Ingold, Town Clerk


 Earl B. Fitts, Mayor

Sch. 7-A: Tax charge-offs

SILER CITY
ELECTORAL SYSTEM COMMITTEE

Report and Recommendations

September 21, 1988

The Electoral System Committee appointed by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Siler City on March 30, 1988, reports as follows:

1. The Committee has held six regular meetings, several work sessions, and one public hearing. All these meetings were duly publicized and open to the public. The work of the Committee has been reported regularly and thoroughly in the local press.

2. At the first meeting Rev. Larry Leake was elected Chairman.

3. The Committee consulted with Michael Crowell, attorney; Beverly Paige, Community Development Director; and Ben Shivar, Town Manager; concerning the history of elections in Siler City, the demographics of the town, election methods used by other towns, the requirements of the Voting Rights Act and the one-person/one-vote rule, and other matters related to the Committee's mandate.

4. The Committee decided that it wished to consider the use of election districts and that a town census was needed to have reliable data for drawing districts. The Committee undertook a census which showed a current town population of 4574, of whom 3274 are white and 1300 black. Maps were prepared showing the population by race for each block in town.

5. The Committee directed staff to draw district plans for three, four and five districts. The plans presented by the staff are included in the Committee's minutes. Each follows major streets or natural boundaries as much as possible in drawing equal-size districts. It is possible to draw one district with a black voting majority when three or four districts are used, and it is possible to draw two districts with black voting majorities when five districts are used.

6. On July 20, 1988, the Committee voted to hold a public hearing on a proposed plan to increase the Board of Commissioners from five to seven members, electing five from districts and two at-large. The five districts are those

presented to the Committee by the staff and shown on the attached map.

7. A public hearing was held on August 17, 1988, on the Committee's proposed plan. As indicated in the minutes for the hearing, over 20 citizens attended and almost all who spoke supported the proposed plan.

Recommendations:

The Committee recommends that beginning with the 1989 election the Board of Commissioners consist of seven members, five elected from districts and two at-large. The commissioners should continue to serve staggered four-year terms. In years after 1989, to maintain staggered terms, three district commissioners and one at-large seat should be elected together, and the other two district commissioners and other at-large seat should be elected at a separate time. The Mayor should continue to be elected at-large for a two-year term. Because some commissioners will be elected from the town at-large and some only from districts, the Mayor Pro Tem should no longer be the commissioner who receives the most votes in the election but instead should be chosen by the Board. Elections should continue to be nonpartisan, plurality elections. The Committee discussed but chose not to recommend adding a run-off requirement for the district elections.

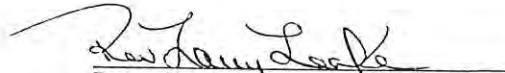
The Committee recommends this plan for the following reasons: (a) by creating five districts the plan will provide an opportunity for black voters to elect at least two of the seven commissioners, matching their share of the town's population; (b) by using of districts it will assure that all sections of town will be represented on the Board of Commissioners; (c) by including at-large seats it will assure that the Board will still serve the interests of the entire town; (d) by retaining the use of staggered terms it will assure that the Board will always have some experienced members; and (e) by keeping an odd number of members it will make deadlocks unlikely.

The Committee also believes that this election plan will not require significant alterations in coming years. The new board will be large enough to accommodate growth in the town. Because the Committee conducted its own census and drew districts on that basis, it is unlikely that significant changes in district lines will be required after the 1990 census. The Committee also believes that the election plan will provide an equal opportunity for black citizens to elect candidates of their choice, meaning that further changes will not be required because of the kind of Voting Rights Act


litigation other local governments in North Carolina have recently faced.

To assure a smooth transition to the new election plan and continuity in the Board of Commissioners the Committee also recommends a transition plan which will allow each of the present commissioners to serve the remainder of his term. That plan is attached.

Adopted by the Committee this the 21st day of September 1988.


Rev. Larry Leake, Chairman

ATTEST:


Wanda G. Ingold, Town Clerk

SILER CITY
ELECTORAL SYSTEM COMMITTEE

September 21, 1988

Proposed Transition To New Election System

Assign present commissioners to seats as follows:
 Designate Collins as commissioner for District 3
 Designate G. Smith as at-large commissioner
 Designate Turner as commissioner for District 4
 Designate A. Smith as commissioner for District 5
 Designate Farrar as at-large commissioner
 Allow each incumbent to serve remainder of his term
 Elect new commissioners according to the schedule below

1989: Elect District 1 commissioner for 4-year term
 (no incumbent in this district)
 Elect District 2 commissioner for 2-year term
 (no incumbent in this district)
 Elect District 5 commissioner for 4-year term
 (A. Smith term expires)
 Elect one at-large commissioner for 4-year term
 (G. Smith term expires)

[After 1989 election, Collins (District 3), Turner (District 4) and Farrar (at-large) would still be on board since their terms do not expire until 1991]

1991: Elect District 2 commissioner for 4-year term
 (term of person elected in 1989 expires)
 Elect District 3 commissioner for 4-year term
 (Collins term expires)
 Elect District 4 commissioner for 4-year term
 (Turner term expires)
 Elect one at-large commissioner for 4-year term
 (Farrar term expires)

1993: Elect District 1 commissioner for 4-year term
 Elect District 5 commissioner for 4-year term
 Elect one at-large commissioner for 4-year term

1995: Same as 1991

1997: Same as 1993

TOWN OF SILER CITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 6, 1988

Resolution Proposing New Election Method

WHEREAS, this Board and Mayor on March 30, 1988, appointed the Electoral System Committee to consider and recommend alternatives for electing town commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has met in public session monthly since March, has conducted a town census, has prepared a new election plan including maps with proposed election districts, has held a public hearing on that plan, and has now recommended a plan to the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the plan recommended by the Committee appears to meet the goals of providing an equal opportunity for black citizens to elect candidates of their choice, of providing stability and continuity to local government, of allowing the Board to function without deadlocks, and of not needing substantial change in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, the plan recommended by the Committee appears to have the support of a consensus of all interested citizens of the town, both black and white;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Siler City Town Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The members of the North Carolina General Assembly representing Siler City are requested to introduce in the 1989 session and have enacted legislation changing the method of electing the Siler City Board of Commissioners.

2. The new election plan should follow the recommendations of the Electoral System Committee, which are:

- a. The Board of Commissioners should consist of seven members, five elected from districts and two from the town at-large.
- b. The five districts should be as drawn on the map presented by the Committee.

- c. All commissioners should be elected for four-year terms, with the terms staggered by electing three district commissioners and one at-large commissioner together and electing the other two district commissioners and the other at-large commissioner on a different schedule.
- d. The Mayor should continue to be elected at-large for a two-year term.
- e. Elections should continue to be nonpartisan, plurality elections.
- f. The Mayor Pro Tem should be selected by the Board of Commissioners from its members.

3. As recommended by the Committee, the new plan should be implemented beginning in 1989. To do so, the legislation should designate the incumbent commissioners as commissioners for the following seats:

William F. Collins (term ends 1991) -- District 3
 Guy David Smith (1989) -- At-large
 Charles L. Turner (1991) -- District 4
 Adam Smith (1989) -- District 5
 Sydney D. Farrar (1991) -- At-large

Successors should be elected as the terms of those incumbents expire in 1989 and 1991. When the new seats are included, the following seats would be elected in 1989:

District 1 (four-year term)
 District 2 (two-year term)
 District 5 (four-year term)
 At-large (four-year term)

In 1991, the following would be elected, all for four-year terms:

District 2
 District 3
 District 4
 At-large

In 1993 and every four years thereafter commissioners from Districts 1 and 5, and one at-large commissioner, would be elected. Elections in 1995 and every four years thereafter would be the same as in 1991.

4. Counsel for the Town shall draft legislation as stated in this resolution and present it, with a copy of the resolution, to the legislators representing Siler City.

5. The Board of Commissioners expresses its gratitude to the Electoral System Committee for its work. The Committee is commended for developing a plan which is fair to all people and areas of the town.

Adopted this 6th day of October 1988.

Earl B. Fitts
Earl B. Fitts, Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda G. Ingold
Wanda G. Ingold, Town Clerk

Present and voting for:

Commissioners Turner, Collins, Jarran, Guy Smith & Adam Smith

Present and voting against:

None

Absent:

A special meeting of the Siler City Town Board was held on Wednesday, January 25, '89 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Earl Fitts presiding. He opened the session with prayer.

Commissioners present: Syd Farrar
 Adam Smith
 Charles Turner
 Guy Smith
 Bill Collins

Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Town Attorney Sam Williams
 Attorney Michael Crowell

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Fitts advised that the purpose of the special session was for discussion of pending litigation. Syd Farrar moved that the Board go into executive session for discussion of said pending litigation, and Charles Turner seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

After reconvening at 4:53 p.m., Bill Collins moved to set a joint public hearing with our legislative delegation tentatively scheduled for February 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom in order to conduct a hearing on our proposed districting system. Motion was seconded by Charles Turner. During discussion, Commissioner Farrar stated that our legal counsel had pointed out that Siler City had presented a "model program" in going about the districting plan and had satisfied all legal requirements. All citizens attending the previous public hearings, both white and black, had expressed whole-hearted support for the proposed changes with only one person in opposition. Mr. Farrar felt that our legislative officials should have enough trust in Siler City's elected officials and in Michael Crowell to know that all previous proceedings concerning the change in the electoral system was done in a fair and just manner. Therefore, Mr. Farrar advised that he did not believe another public hearing was necessary.

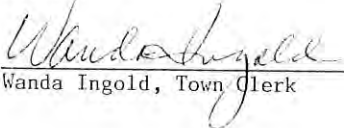
A vote was then taken on the matter with Commissioners Collins, Turner, Guy Smith and Adam Smith voting in favor of the motion. Commissioner Farrar voted against.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



 Mayor Earl Fitts

ATTEST:



 Wanda Ingold, Town Clerk

The Siler City Town Board held a public hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 1989 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Earl B. Fitts presiding. The purpose of the hearing was to elicit comments from the public concerning the Town's proposed district system which was approved by the Town Board on October 6, 1988 following the unanimous recommendation from the Electoral System Committee.

Commissioners Present: Charles Turner Legislative Delegation:
 Guy D. Smith Senator Wanda Hunt
 Bill Collins Senator Russell Walker
 Syd Farrar Representative Joe Hackney
 Adam Smith Representative Ann Barnes

Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Town Attorney Sam Williams
 Attorney Michael Crowell

Electoral System Committee:
 Larry Leake, Chairman
 Sam Adams
 Margaret Jourdan
 Alexander Graves
 Kathryn Scotton
 Larry Cheek
 (Commissioners Adam Smith and Bill Collins
 also served as members of this committee.)
 Absent: Frank Swain

INTRODUCTION: Mayor Earl B. Fitts opened the meeting with the invocation. After explaining the purpose of the hearing, Mayor Fitts reported that the proposed five-district, two-at-large districting plan for Siler City had been introduced in the State House of Representatives by Joe Hackney and Ann Barnes. Following the introduction of the Town's legislative delegation, Mayor Fitts called on Attorney Michael Crowell to give background information on the formation of the Electoral System Committee and the work they had accomplished thusfar.

BACKGROUND: Speaking to an audience of approximately 70 interested citizens, Mr. Crowell reported that in the early part of 1988, the Town Board realized that problems existed with our current electoral system in reference to minority representation. The Electoral System Committee was appointed by the Board to study various election processes and to recommend one which would provide equal opportunity for citizens to elect representatives of their choice. The Committee conducted their own Town census and, from that data, developed a five-district plan, two of which have an effective minority-voting majority. The "5-2-1 Plan" will divide the Town into five districts with one Town Board member elected from each district utilizing staggered four-year terms; two Town Board members elected "at-large" for four-year terms; and the election of a non-voting Mayor every two years. Elections would continue to be non-partisan. A public hearing was held by the Committee on August 17, 1988 for citizen input on changes to the election process. All present at that hearing, except for one, expressed approval of the Committee's proposed "5-2-1" plan. The Town Board approved the plan on October 6, 1988 and then requested that our legislative delegation make the required arrangements to enact the electoral system changes by a special act of the General Assembly. Currently, a lawsuit against the Town is pending in the courts, filed in reference to alleged violations of the Voting Rights Act and pertaining to the Town's current method of elections.

OTHER COMMENTS: Mayor Fitts introduced Rev. Larry Leake who presided as Chairman of the Electoral System Committee. He reiterated the reasons for the appointment of the Committee and discussed the group's methods for collecting census data and their evaluation of same. On the basis of that evaluation, the Committee made the decision to recommend the "5-2-1" voting system to the Town Board.

Commissioner Adam Smith, who was one of two Board members to serve on the Committee, was introduced by the Mayor. He commented on the Board's actions in unanimously approving the recommendation of the Committee, saying that the proposed system presented a fair and equitable solution to the lack of minority representation.

PUBLIC HEARING: The following individuals spoke in favor of the proposed "five-district, two at-large" system:

1. Alexander Graves (409 E. 11th St.)
2. Madeline S. Graves (409 E. 11th St.)
3. Albert McClain (715 E. Hill St.)
4. Lizzie H. Glover (511 E. 6th St.)
5. J. F. Edwards (911 N. 6th Ave.)
6. Rev. Robert Siler (625 E. 5th St.)
7. John Snipes (329 E. 11th Street)
8. Don Tarkenton (Pineforest)
9. Bessie Hedrick (Siler City)
10. Larry Cheek (N. Fourth Avenue)
11. Omega Herring (411 E. 7th St.)
12. Kathryn Scotton (Hodge Street)
13. Cindy Edwards (306 S. Dogwood Ave.)

A regular meeting of the Siler City Town Board was held on Monday, April 3, 1989³⁵ at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Earl Fitts presiding. The invocation was given by Adam Smith. Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved by a motion from Syd Farrar, second by Charles Turner.

Commissioners present: Bill Collins
 Guy Smith Town Manager Ben Shivar
 Syd Farrar
 Adam Smith Town Attorney Sam Williams
 Charles Turner

RUTH SMITH REZONING: Jack Brewer, Planning Board Chairman, was present to discuss his board's recommendation to approve the Smith rezoning request. Public hearing was declared open, and those speaking in favor of the change were Doug Ellis and Ruth Smith. No one spoke in opposition, and the hearing closed. Discussion centered on the barrier to be placed along residential lot lines adjacent to the road to the tract if said road is used as the actual ingress/egress. Board members expressed a preference for evergreens as a visual screen as opposed to fence construction. Charles Turner then moved to approve the request by Ms. Ruth Smith to rezone a 38-acre tract located off N. Chatham Ave. approximately ½ mile south of Hwy 421 from A/R to Industrial subject to the use of some type of evergreen barrier along lot lines to protect existing residents from noise and air pollution. Motion seconded by Adam Smith and unanimously carried.

'BURGER KING' ANNEXATION REQUEST: Upon a motion by Bill Collins and second by Syd Farrar, the Board unanimously approved a resolution directing the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of a petition for annexation into the corporate limits a tract of land owned by R.A. Quinn, Samuel J. Wornom, Eugene Horne and George Perkins (Burger King site, Hwy 64 E). Schedule 35-A.

CERT. OF SUFFICIENCY, NATURE CONSERVANCY: Syd Farrar moved to accept the certificate of sufficiency presented by the Town Clerk concerning non-contiguous annexation of property located on Hwy. 421 North and owned by the Nature Conservancy, and also to set public hearing on the question of said annexation for May 1, 1989. Motion seconded by Charles Turner; unanimously carried. Schedule 35-B.

AIRPORT LAND EXCHANGE: Bill Collins moved to approve the attached resolution 35-C authorizing the Town Attorney to proceed with an exchange of town property for certain real property owned by Ben S. Foust located at the Blair Municipal Airport. Motion was seconded by Charles Turner and unanimously carried.

PLANNING BOARD APPT.: Adam Smith moved to reappoint William Herring to a three-year term to the Siler City Planning Board effective April 21. Motion seconded by Syd Farrar; unanimously carried. Board requested that the Manager prepare a resolution of appreciation for Jimmy Vann, a 19-year veteran of the Planning Board who has resigned effective March 31.

OVER-, UNDER-PAYMENTS OF TAXES: Upon a motion by Bill Collins and second by Adam Smith, the Board unanimously approved a resolution to allow the Tax Collector to make adjustments for small underpayments and overpayments of taxes per G.S. 105-357. Schedule 35-D.

LANDSCAPE BIDS: Only one bid was received for the Town's annual landscaping work. Bill Collins moved to approve the bid submitted by Oakmont Landscaping for spring maintenance at City Hall, Oakwood Cemetery and the downtown pear trees at a price of \$3,415.00. Motion seconded by Charles Turner; unanimously carried. Sch. 35-E. Board then requested that the Manager solicit prices for timber borders around each pear tree in the downtown area.

LANE/OSMER REQUEST: McKivett Lane of Lane/Osmer Realty in Greensboro (representing Nature Conservancy reference non-contiguous annexation) reported that his company had several parties who were very interested in the Hwy 421 industrial site that is currently under petition for annexation. He requested consideration by the Board in making the annexation effective around June 9 so that permits could be obtained from the city only. Any later effective date would require the issuance of permits from both the county and town. Manager will study the matter and report back to the Board at a later date.

STREET IMPROVEMENT BIDS: Lee Paving Company has submitted the lowest price per ton for street resurfacing. Other companies submitting bids were Riley Paving and Thompson-Arthur. Adam Smith moved to approve bid submitted by Lee Paving at a price of \$24.71 per ton. Second by Guy Smith; unanimously carried. Schedule 35-F.

TANK DEMOLITION: Bill Collins moved to award bid for the demolition of two water storage tanks (garage on N. Dogwood; Clapp Hill) to Davis Rigging & Welding Inc. in the amount of \$18,747.00. Second by Syd Farrar; unanimously carried. Sch. 35-G.

over

APRIL 3, 1989

RESOLUTIONS OF INDEMNITY: Acting on the advice from the IRFFNC Risk Management personnel, the Town Manager recommended approval of resolutions of indemnity which will protect the personal assets of Town employees and officials in the event of a lawsuit in which said employees are named as defendants. Syd Farrar moved to approve attached resolution of indemnity (sch. 35-H) for Town officials and employees under certain claims or civil judgments, and to approve a resolution establishing a procedure for the handling of claims and lawsuits against the Town, its officials and employees. Motion seconded by Charles Turner and unanimously carried.

ESCROW AGREEMENT: The Town Board considered a proposed escrow agreement between Town Attorney Sam Williams and G & M Milling Company concerning Siler City Mills property. Said agreement will require the company to deposit \$25,000 with Mr. Williams as Escrow Agent, said funds to be used for demolition and clean-up costs of the property if terms of the foreclosure sale concerning the posting of a satisfactory performance bond are not met. Bill Collins moved to authorize the Town Attorney to execute the attached escrow agreement between himself (Attorney) and G & M Milling in reference to the Siler City Mills property. Motion seconded by Charles Turner. Commissioner Farrar then requested permission to abstain from the vote due to a conflict of interest. Commissioner Collins then moved to allow the abstention, and Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved. A vote was then taken on the original motion, and it passed unanimously with Commissioner Farrar duly abstaining. (schedule 35-I).

SIGNS ON DOT R-OF-W: Upon a motion by Bill Collins and second by Adam Smith, the Board unanimously voted to table consideration of a resolution to allow signs on the DOT right-of-way pending further investigation by the Manager.

ZONING TEXT/FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS: Bill Collins moved to set public hearings for May 1, 1989 for consideration of possible changes to Article XIII of the Zoning Ordinance and for consideration of changes in the fee schedule for administrative review of planning-related activities. Motion seconded by Adam Smith and unanimously carried.

CAPITAL PROJECTS--WWTP/INTERCEPTOR BUDGET ORDINANCE: Bill Collins moved to approve attached ordinance establishing a capital projects budget for the wastewater treatment enlargement and interceptor construction, said budget totaling \$3,644,825. Motion seconded by Charles Turner and unanimously carried. (schedule 35-J).

AGENDA DEADLINES: Upon a motion by Bill Collins, second by Adam Smith, the Board unanimously requested that their agenda packets be delivered on or before the Wednesday prior to board meeting dates.

CHATHAM CO. DOG ORDINANCE: There was general agreement among the Board members to allow Commissioner Charles Turner to appear before the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to request that they consider Siler City as part of their jurisdiction in the enforcement of a county dog ordinance. Consideration of the ordinance will take place at the April 17 county commissioners' meeting.

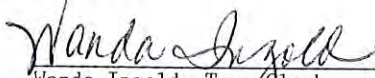
ELECTORAL SYSTEM LITIGATION: Mayor Fitts announced that the lawsuit initiated by Dan Patterson concerning discrimination in the election process had been dismissed upon request by Mr. Patterson.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



 Mayor Earl Fitts

ATTEST:



 Wanda Ingold, Town Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM DIVISION

DAN PATTERSON,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	Civil Action No. C-88-701-D
)	
SILER CITY, NORTH CAROLINA)	
MAYOR AND TOWN COMMISSION; EARL)	
FITTS, Mayor of Siler City;)	
CHARLES TURNER, WILLIAM)	
COLLINS, ADAM SMITH, SYDNEY)	
FARRAR and GUY SMITH, Town)	
Commissioners of Siler City;)	
CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)	
BOARD OF ELECTIONS; and BETTY)	
WEST, Supervisor of Chatham)	
County Board of Elections,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

AMENDED COMPLAINT

Plaintiff files this amended complaint as of right pursuant to Rule 15(a), F.R.Civ.P.

THE NATURE OF THE CASE

1. This is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief against the use of at-large elections for the Mayor and Town Commission of Siler City, Chatham County, North Carolina, and to enforce the provisions of the First, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 1973.

JURISDICTION

2. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28

U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343 (a)(3) and (4), and 2201. This suit is authorized by 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973j(f) and 1983.

PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Dan Patterson is a black registered voter of Siler City, North Carolina.

4. The Defendant Mayor and Town Commission of Siler City is a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina and is the governing body of Siler City.

5. Defendant Earl Fitts is a resident and is the mayor of Siler City. He is sued in his official capacity.

6. Defendants Charles Turner, William Collins, Adam Smith, Sydney Farrar and Guy Smith are residents of Siler City and are the members of the Town Commission. They are sued in their official capacities.

7. Defendant Chatham County Board of Elections is a public body of the State of North Carolina and Chatham County and is responsible for the conduct of elections for the Mayor and Town Commission.

8. Defendant Betty West is the Supervisor of the Chatham County Board of Elections. She is sued in her official capacity.

FACTS

9. The administration and governance of Siler City is vested in a mayor and five member Town Commission. Terms of office are staggered and are for four (4) years. Elections are at-large and are non-partisan. A majority vote requirement is in effect and there is no district or ward residency requirement.

10. According to the 1980 Census the population of Siler City is approximately 4,621 people, of whom approximately 3,294 (71.3%) are white and approximately 1,327 (28.7%) are black. Blacks are a minority of persons 18 years of age and older who are eligible to register to vote.

11. Blacks are a minority of registered voters in Siler City.

12. Blacks are a politically cohesive and geographically insular minority in Siler City and the candidates of their choice are usually defeated by whites voting as a bloc.

13. There has been a history of private and official discrimination against blacks in North Carolina, Chatham County and Siler City, including discrimination against blacks attempting to vote and participate in the political process.

14. Blacks in Siler City bear the effects of discrimination which hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process.

15. Voting in Siler City is along racial lines.

16. No, or only a token number of, blacks have ever been elected Mayor or to the Town Commission of Siler City.

17. Blacks in Siler City have less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice.

18. The policy underlying at-large elections for Siler City is tenuous.

19. The purpose and the result of holding elections at-large for the Mayor and Town Commission is to deny or abridge the

right of blacks to vote on account of race or color.

20. The use of staggered terms of office, a majority vote requirement, non-partisan elections and the lack of a district or ward residency requirement for the Mayor and Town Commission enhances the dilution of minority voting strength.

21. The next regularly scheduled elections for the Mayor and Town Commission are in 1989.

22. There is a real and actual controversy between the parties. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law. Plaintiff is suffering irreparable injury as a result of the actions of the Defendants and those actions will continue unless enjoined by this Court.

23. The actions of the Defendants complained of are under color of state law and under color of the Defendants respective offices as officers and agents of the State of North Carolina.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

24. The actions of the Defendants in holding elections at-large for the Mayor and Town Commission, including the use of staggered terms, a majority vote requirement, non-partisan elections and no district residency requirement, result in the denial or abridgment of the right to vote on the basis of race or color in violation of the rights of Plaintiff guaranteed by Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

25. The present method of electing the Mayor and Town

Commission was enacted and is being maintained with the racially discriminatory purpose of diluting the voting strength of black residents of Siler City in violation of the rights of Plaintiff guaranteed by the First, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States and 42 U.S.C. § 1973.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that the Court grant the following relief:

(1) Assume jurisdiction over this action;

(2) Enter a declaratory judgment that the actions of the Defendants in maintaining at-large elections for the Mayor and Town Commission of Siler City is in violation of the rights of the Plaintiff secured by the First, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States, and 42 U.S.C. § 1973;

(3) Enjoin the Defendants from holding further elections under the current apportionment of the Mayor and Town Commission and from failing to enact a new method of elections which utilizes district voting and meets the applicable standards of the Fourteenth Amendment and Sections 2 and 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973 and 1973c;

(4) Grant Plaintiff his costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 19731(e) and 1988; and,

(5) Retain jurisdiction of this case and grant Plaintiff such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ratliff *f l m u m permission*
 ALICE RATLIFF
 Civil Assistance Clinic
 School of Law
 University of North Carolina
 102 Rocky Ridge Road
 Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514
 (919) 962-4107

Lacylin McSweeney
 LAUGHLIN McDONALD
 NEIL BRADLEY
 KATHLEEN WILDE
 DEREK ALPHRAN
 American Civil Liberties Union
 Foundation, Inc.
 44 Forsyth Street, N.W.
 Atlanta, Georgia 30303
 (404) 523-2721

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served the defendants with the attached amended complaint by mailing copies, first class postage attached, addressed as follows:

Mayor and Town Commission
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Earl Fitts, Mayor
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Charles Turner, Commissioner
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

William Collins, Commissioner
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Adam Smith, Commissioner
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Sydney Farrar, Commissioner
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Guy Smith, Commissioner
City Hall
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Chatham County Board of Elections
County Courthouse
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Betty West, Supervisor
Chatham County Board of Elections
County Courthouse
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

This 14th day of July, 1988, at Atlanta, Georgia.

Laughlin McDonald
Laughlin McDonald

Chatham News

activities, interests and news of the people of Chatham County

ty, N.C. 27344

Thursday, July 14, 1988

32 Pages

Price - 25¢

Lawsuit challenges town electoral process

By Bob Wachs

In the midst of its efforts to create a system insuring the election of blacks to the town board, Siler City now finds itself the target of a federal lawsuit designed to accomplish that task. (See related story, page C-1.)

Since the suit was filed, however, one of the plaintiffs, the Rev. Robert Siler of Siler City, president of the Ministerial Alliance of Chatham County, has said he was dropping his name from the suit. (See related story in this issue.) The Ministerial Alliance is comprised of approximately 35 black ministers in and around Siler City.

The suit was filed in Middle District Court in Greensboro last Friday but as of the middle of the week, town officials have not been served with it. Town manager Ben Shivar, Raleigh attorney Michael Crowell (representing the town in its efforts to redesign the electoral process), and mayor Earl Fitts all said they had not seen the suit.

Fitts is named as a defendant in the case, along with the five members of the town board, and Chatham County's board of elections and its secretary, Betty West.

The town has 20 days to file an answer to the suit. The answer may take several forms --- the town may

agree with it, decide to contest it, or attempt to settle before it goes before a judge.

The suit was filed by Dan Patterson, a Siler City black who unsuccessfully sought a seat on the board in the town's last election. And Patterson says the suit should have been expected.

"I don't see why anybody should be surprised the suit was filed," Patterson said. "I had said all along that when the committee finished its census and drew its plans that I'd take a look at it and consider my plans.

"It's not like they walked in this morning and it's the first time they saw it."

Patterson has contended since February, when he formally filed a complaint to the town in the form of several letters to local officials, that the present at-large system discriminates against blacks and makes it difficult, if not impossible, for blacks to be elected to seats on the town board.

In its 101-year history, Siler City has seen one black win a seat on the board. George Edwards was elected in 1975 but lost a re-election bid four years later.

Patterson says even if the committee comes up with a plan, he's not interested in it. One reason is timing. The committee is pointing toward putting a new plan into effect for the 1989 elections. Patterson says that's too long.

"Why continue with a discriminatory system?" he says. "You could take the census and other information and sit down and come up with something in 30 minutes."

He says he wants a special election set for this November. "You could have a September filing period for 20 days," Patterson says, "and then hold the election in November."

In the meantime, Crowell, who was hired by the town to guide it through the process of making changes in the system, says there's no way an election could be held

that quickly. He also says what Siler City is doing "is a model for other cities.

"Filing a lawsuit in mid-July doesn't leave time to have one before 1989," he says. "That would create problems for the board of elections. You have to go back to the voter registrations and assign people to districts. It takes time just to get things in place."

Crowell, who has represented a number of other North Carolina town and municipal governments in similar situations, says he thinks the suit is asking the town to do something it already is doing.

"It's common in lawsuits such as this for the plaintiffs to ask the courts to stop any pending elections and order new ones," he says.

(See "Suit", Page 11-A)

Siler withdraws suit support

A Siler City man, who originally entered into a lawsuit challenging the town's method of electing board members, says he's taking his name off the suit.

The Rev. Robert Siler, president of the 35-member Chatham County Ministerial Alliance, says he's dropping his support of Dan Patterson's suit because he was misinformed.

Town manager Ben Shivar said there's little doubt in his mind the town will change its course. "We don't see there's anything to negotiate," he says.

"I think the suit is unfair and absurd. It's clear we're making efforts to implement changes and our cooperation is rewarded with a lawsuit."

Patterson says more suits coming

Law suits will be forthcoming against the Chatham County commission, the county school board, and the town of Pittsboro, seeking to have all three change the way members are elected.

That's the word from Dan Patterson in the aftermath of his suit filed last week against the Siler City town board.

Patterson had earlier in the year said he would enter suit against all four but so far only the Siler City suit has been filed.

"I'm in the process of drawing up suits against the town of Pittsboro, Chatham County county commissioners, and the board of education," he said this week.

"One reason I didn't file them at the same time as the Siler City suit is I'm still getting the facts together and also we didn't want all of them together.

"I'd say within three to six weeks we'll bring lawsuits."

Patterson's attorney, Laughton McDonald, southern regional director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said in a telephone interview this week that those suits "have been discussed in preliminary ways but nothing has been finalized yet."

Last November Patterson sought to have the county postpone both the school board and county commission elections. But commissioners refused to do so.

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(FTON POE Jack) Poe, 72, of died Thursday (7- Carolina Hospital lengthy illness. ive of Chatham from Chatham ras a member of nited Church of

; were held at 2 -9-88) in Hanks Church of Christ v. William Rich ett.

s wife, Mrs. Ang- ighter, Mrs. Carol ro; sisters, Mrs. ittstboro and Mrs. ylock of Cary; Poe of Apex and ittstboro and one

be made to East quad. y Griffin Funeral

. HARGROVE Hargrove, 85, of died Friday (7-8- Chatham Hospi- several months t. A native of ly, she was a er employee of me and was a y River Senior

ere held Sun- 3:00 p.m. in the st Church, where r with the Rev. e Rev. Garland g. Burial was in y.

y a daughter, Burgess, Rt. 2, Virgil H. Fox of vo grandchildren lchildren. y, be made to im County or to Family Support

Clyde Teague, Tommy Culber- son, Herbert H. Perry Jr., Lewis ie Culberston.

DOLPHUS NEWBY
Dolphus Newby, 62 of Siler City, died Sunday (7-10-88) at his home. Funeral was 11 a.m. Wednesday (7-13-88) at North Fifth Avenue First Baptist Church, of which he was a member.

He was a native of Chatham County and an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 277 and was an employee of Wrenn Brothers.

Surviving are wife, Mrs. Jennie Lynn Matthews Newby; sons, Robert Newby and Rodriguez Newby, both of Siler City; mother, Mrs. Channie Newby of Siler City; brothers, Tom Newby and Fred Newby, both of Siler City; sisters, Mrs. Beulah Brewer and Mrs. Maggie Baines, both of Siler City; and four grandchildren.

JAMES GREGORY OLDHAM
James Gergory Oldham, 21, of Route 1, Staley, died Monday afternoon, July 4, as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Oldham was a native of Randolph County and was employed by Wright's Frame Shop.

Surviving are mother, Mrs. Virginia Brady of Carthage; father, Keith Oldham of Siler City; step-father, James Brady; sister, Michelle Oldham of Route 1, Siler City; step-sister, Miss Rhonda Marie Brady of Carthage; maternal grandmother, Mrs. Peggy G. Smith of Route 1, Staley; grandfather, Virgil W. Ferguson of Greensboro; grandmother, Mrs. Jean Stuts of Siler City; great grandmother, Mrs. Mattie Eva Williams of Siler City.

Funeral service was conducted at 1 P.M. Thursday at the Loflin Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Tom Hill officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery.

WALLACE WADE BARE JR.
Wallace Wade (Wally) Bare Jr., 19, of 311 Picket Circle, Liberty, died Monday afternoon, July 4, as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Bare was a native of Chatham County and was an employee of Wright's Frame Shop in Staley.

Surviving are parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wade Bare Sr. of the home; brother, Stephen Bare of the home; paternal grandmother, Mrs. Edith Foust Bare of Liberty; maternal grandmother, Mrs. Frances Hamer of Siler City; great grandmother, Mrs. Geraldine Bawyer of Pulaski, Virginia.

Funeral service was conducted at 11 A.M. Thursday at First United Church of Christ in Liberty, where he was a member, with Rev. Thomas Hoffman and Rev. Reginald Dawkins officiating. Burial followed in Fairview in Liberty.

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38

Suit

(Continued from Page 1-A)

"Typically what happens in a suit like this is if the court finds the present system violates the Voting Rights Act, it will order the town to develop a new electoral plan.

"That's what we're doing," Crowell says.

Patterson's attorney, Laughlin McDonald, director of the southern region of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in Atlanta, disagrees.

"There's no way to guarantee the city will adopt any of this," he says.

"I've heard it before in many places and it all sounds good. But I don't think voting rights should be political... they shouldn't be anything but factual."

McDonald said the typical response in a town or city whose electoral system is challenged is to appoint "a bi-racial committee to make some recommendations.

"I'm all but convinced," he says, "that it would be voted down (in Siler City). Blacks shouldn't have to sit back and wait."

McDonald also said going to court isn't a last resort. "Basically people have the right to do this," he says. "And it seems to me the black community is best served by this method."

Patterson also says he has another complaint with the electoral advisory committee's actions in addition to the timing of their proposals, namely that he wasn't involved in the process of changing Siler City's system.

"My primary interest is for the community," he says, "but since I made the initial request I should have had the opportunity to serve on it, although I wouldn't have. I wanted them to meet with me and the NAACP and enter into negotiations."

Patterson says the committee will not be able to be fair in its deliberations and decisions since blacks compose a minority of its members. The nine-member group, appointed by mayor Fitts, includes five whites and four blacks.

"If the four blacks wanted a plan, the minority would have been outvoted five to four if it came down to it," he says.

"With two town board members on it, they would have influenced the decision. You know Adam Smith and Bill Collins would go with the majority," Collins and Smith are the town board members sitting on the advisory committee.

Patterson said he signed the suit June 27 but it was not actually filed until almost two weeks later. "My attorney is not registered to practice law in North Carolina," he said, "so the Clinic (the Civil Law Assistance Clinic of the University of North Carolina Law School) filed it."

That Clinic is a part of the law school where students, under the guidance of their law school faculty, are given the opportunity to become involved in actual cases. "It's a practical experience situation," McDonald says.

"Once the court sends the suit," Patterson says, "the town must answer in 20 days. If they don't send it back in 20 days, federal marshals will come for their arrest.

"That'd be something to see, wouldn't it."

The suit asks the elimination of all at-large voting for town board and the establishment of a pure ward system as the only basis for electing board members.

In a pure ward system, only residents living in a ward may run for a seat from that ward and only residents of that ward or district may vote for the candidate(s) running from that ward.

The electoral reform committee has been considering a number of possible alternatives (see story, page C-1). Among those alternatives are a system of districts and a system of a combination of districts and at-large. Patterson says seven districts are needed to provide adequate representation for Siler City's almost 30 per cent black population.

"I first mentioned a ward system for blacks back in 1981," Patterson says. "One commissioner said he'd mention it to the others. He did and they weren't interested," Patterson says. He declined to name the commissioner.

"I've been after them since August of '87. I talked with Ben Shivar (Siler City town manager) and he promised me on several occasions he'd sit down and talk with me and he never did," Patterson says. "I repeatedly called him and left messages to call me but he never did."

"Then I asked (commissioner) Charles Turner and he said we'd talk. I asked him on election night and he said they'd look into it. I never heard from either one.

"Then in February (of 1988) when I felt like everyone thought if they'd ignore me I'd go away that I'd just make it formal.

"They should think about that," he says, "that I didn't file the same complaint then. I tried to go to the town and work it out with them. They should be thankful for that."

In his initial letters, Patterson signed them "Plaintiff," even before a suit had been filed. "The only reason I did that," he says, "is the law says a plaintiff is one taking or initiating action. I felt the only way I could get action was to sign it 'plaintiff' and go to the papers."

In those same letters, Clifton Stone, president of the eastern branch of the Chatham County NAACP was listed as a co-plaintiff. His name does not appear on the lawsuit, however.

"He's not a resident of Chatham County," Patterson says. "He lives in Chapel Hill." Albert McClain, a Siler City resident, is president of the western branch of the NAACP. His name does not appear as a plaintiff on the law suit either.

"He told me," Patterson says, "if we'd not already brought suit he was looking to do one in October."

The county board of elections and its secretary Betty West are named as defendants since they conduct elections for the town.

"Naming them," Patterson says, "keeps them from doing anything to hold an election for the town of Siler City. The injunction prevents them from having a filing period, from printing ballots, anything like that."

Patterson also says charges he's seeking publicity are untrue.

"It saddens me to bring a law suit," he says, "but it's just something that has to be done. I'm not after the publicity. I just want the people of Siler City to know what I'm doing."

Crowell said in one newspaper account that Patterson has been interested in getting his name in the newspaper for some time.

"I don't want any publicity," he says. "My only request is to bring minority leadership alongside majority leadership into one big family."

"I have had to seek alternative means to do it.

"It saddens me," he says, "to see town officials respond in such a critical and chastising way. I think I've been totally open with the town, I've conducted myself well, and I've not been critical and chastising."

Patterson was particularly upset about one newspaper account of the lawsuit filing in which town commissioner Bill Collins termed the suit "astinine."

"I couldn't believe Bill would say that, being a public official," Patterson says. "To me that sounds like defamation of character. We'll take a look at that. You can be mad but just don't characterize people like that. You're supposed to know better than that."

"The reason the law suit was brought was not to challenge the town but to make sure voting rights language was included (in any changes)," he says.

"There needs to be protection for minorities, women, the elderly, handicapped, and others who think they don't have any chance to win in an election. We need to get them involved. I want this to represent them," he said.

Crowell says the law suit makes no difference to the work of the committee. "I haven't seen the lawsuit so I'm at a disadvantage but I assume we'll go ahead with the process we're already into. Obviously we'll have to think about the effect of the suit on the work."

Crowell also said the Siler City situation was "unique."

"Most attorneys (for the plaintiff) I've been involved with would be tickled pink to see a town doing what's been done here. It makes me wonder how well they know what's going on in Siler City."

He said the standard request of similar law suits is for "the courts to give the town the opportunity to develop its own electoral plan first. Then you decide when to order the new plan to take effect, taking partly into account when you usually have elections."

Crowell also said that when the town retained him that he assumed all correspondence with Patterson on the town's behalf and that Patterson failed to communicate with him upon request.

"I responded to Mr. Patterson several times but I never had the courtesy of any response."

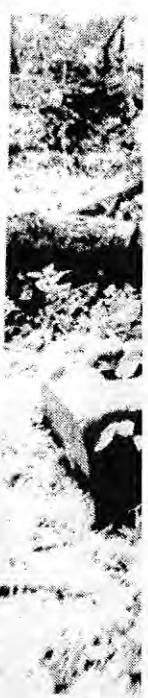
The stone says:

JOHN L. son of William and Fannie Headen

Died July 9, 1858

Aged 17 years 6 mo's and 27 days

He was a noble youth full of love of kindness and gave promise of a life of great usefulness



BROKI

School board okays new budget

By J. Ward Best
The Chatham County Board of Education reviewed the approved budget for the coming school year. The new budget totals \$4,435,718 for expenses, and includes \$279,539 in teacher supplements. The majority of programs reviewed by the board will realize an increase in the coming school year, but two areas will lose money. Expenses for administration will decrease by \$27,692, a 10.34 percent difference from last year's figure of \$267,750.

Funding for vocational Chatham school money in the \$106,000 was taken gram. Last year \$235,374 was cut from the coming school year. Other expenses include 17.06 percent. Teacher supplement 89 school year is \$147,539 over last year's of \$279,529.

"I feel like should Chatham County Superintendent Perry Harris the increased teach

Teachers present letter of support

During the Chatham County Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Ricky Hall presented a letter to the board in support of Northwood High School and its former principal Barry Burns. The letter was in response to an article appearing in the News and Observer June 23 that many teachers and administrators at Northwood feel was inaccurate and unfair to the teachers' rights at Northwood. Burns has since stated the incidents were not the reason for his leaving. The faculty at Northwood also stated that the News and Observer article presented the school and councilor Jean Perry unfavorably. The letter was read at the meeting, and contains signatures of 35 faculty and staff members along

For Siler City's elections . . .

Committee chooses 5 wards, 2 at-large

By Bob Wachs

Siler City's electoral reform committee has proposed a new system

Hearing set

A public hearing has been set to discuss the newly-proposed 5-2 electoral system plan adopted by the electoral reform committee last week.

The committee set Wednesday, August 17 as the date for the meeting. Time is 7 p.m.

It will be held in the courtroom upstairs in city hall.

At that session, the public is invited to comment not only on the proposal chosen by the group but on others that were considered. That includes a three-district and four-district plan.

"I want to emphasize," says Mike Crowell, the Raleigh attorney retained by the town to help guide it through the process, "that at this meeting people should feel free to come in and propose other plans."

"Although the most attention will be on the committee's plan, anyone is free to suggest alternates."

Whatever plan is finally agreed upon still must pass approval before the town board. The committee was given until Oct. 1 to come up with a recommendation.

Town board member Bill Collins, one of two members of that board on the committee, expressed confidence at the committee meeting last week that a plan would be adopted by the board assuring minority representation on city council.

to replace the town's "at-large" process.

By an 8-1 vote at a meeting last Wednesday, the group agreed on a plan of five districts and two "at-large" seats.

The committee also decided it wanted to keep the system of staggered terms, to insure there would always be some continuity on the board.

In two of those districts, black residents will have over a 60 per cent majority, which should virtually insure the election of a black to the town board from those districts.

Prior to that decision, the nine-member panel had discussed a number of options at length. Those options included four districts with two at-large and the mayor having a vote as well as five districts, with two at-large and the mayor having a vote.

In the end, the lone negative vote was cast by Frank Swain. After the meeting he said his vote was on the basis of wanting the mayor to have a vote.

"I'm 99 per cent happy with this (the adopted plan)," he said. "I just think the mayor should take a stand and have a vote."

Swain also expressed concern that with the 5-2 system with the mayor a separate office, town citizens will never be able to vote for a majority of their representatives.

"You can vote for your own district representative," he said, "plus the two at-large. That's three out of seven. I know there's no way to include everything but as a citizen of Siler City, I'd like to be able to vote for more board members."

Swain said several residents of the town had expressed similar concerns to him in recent weeks while the committee was considering its options.

The 5-2 plan was not the first one submitted during the committee's hour and a half meeting.

Committee member Sam Adams suggested a proposal of four districts, two at-large, and giving the mayor a vote, in effect creating a seven-member board.

Adams said the plan "allows minority representation and a large enough at-large vote to prevent citizens from becoming complacent about who's representing them."

Committee members have discussed from time to time whether board members elected from a ward or district would feel more obligated to represent their district only than the town as a whole.

"It also gives the mayor a stake in local government's decision making," Adams said of the 4-2 plan.

Adams also proposed a staggered term arrangement, saying "It

(See "Wards", Page 11-A)

Law suit answer likely next week

The town of Siler City has not yet they don't send the federal mar-

rom
ser-
un-

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... 75 per cent of the town's
usage of water.

Wards

(Continued from Page 1-A)

wouldn't be wise to pick up and say here's a brand new set (of board members).

"The problem is how do we get it in place."

Committee member Alexander Graves then spoke, saying he preferred the 5 district--2 at-large plan. "That gives us a little more representation," he says, "with the possibility of two minorities on the board."

The 4-2 plan considered by the committee created one district with over 60 per cent black population and another at almost 40 per cent. That plan, as were all those considered, was based on population data put together by Michael Crowell, the Raleigh attorney retained by the town to guide it through the process of making changes.

Crowell is an expert in the field of voting rights and has worked with numerous other towns and local governments in the state in recent years in making changes in the ways boards are elected.

Also discussed during the evening was the question of the size of the board. Crowell produced data showing of the 70 towns in the state with populations similar to Siler City (between 2500--5000), 40 had five member boards; 16 had six board members; and 10 had four members.

In the end, the 5-2 measure prevailed, largely to accommodate the 25 per cent black population of the town. Two minority members out of a total of seven covers the 25 per cent figure while one out of six (as might happen in the 4-2 system) is only slightly over 15 per cent, below the population percentage.



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NEWS of Chatham

Thursday, August 4, 1988

Siler City receives okay for lawsuit extension

By Bob Wachs
Siler City has received a 30-day extension to respond to a lawsuit filed against its method of electing town board members.

Raleigh attorney Michael Crowell said from his office Tuesday that he had received word just hours earlier. "We received a signed order today from the clerk's office giving us until Sept. 6 to reply," he said.

The town had been served with the suit July 18 and had 20 days to frame and file a response without having judgment made against it if it failed to do so.

Crowell, an expert in voting rights cases, said such an extension was "standard procedure." Crowell was retained by the town, on the advice of the N.C. League of Municipalities, to help guide it through the process of making changes in the voting method that would improve the chances of blacks and other minorities to win seats on the town board.

"One benefit of this to the town," he said, "is that we'll be farther along in the process (of making changes) done by the advisory committee and there will have been a public hearing on the matter."

At its regular meeting last week, the electoral advisory committee recommended the town board consider the adoption of a plan calling for five districts and two at-large seats. In two of those districts, blacks would have at least a 60 per cent majority, virtually insuring the election of minorities to the board.

The committee also set Wednesday, August 17 at 7 p.m. as the date and time for a public hearing on the recommendation. The public session will take place in the courtroom of city hall.

Local observers are saying any delays in opening the suit will make it less likely a special election will be held before the next regularly scheduled one in November of 1989.

"I don't think there will ever be a need to try the suit," Crowell said. "I believe before it ever gets to that point the town will likely have adopted a new procedure for the fall election in 1989."

"For one thing, the normal course of events would make it sometime next year before the trial is heard. And by then the town will have its work done and presented to the General Assembly. Our position," he says, "is that will moot the suit." Crowell cited a Robeson County experience earlier this year in

which a similar situation occurred. In that county a suit was brought against the electoral process for the school boards there. At that time there were four city school systems and one county system.

In the spring a merger was approved, uniting those systems. "And the lawsuit is now being dismissed as moot," Crowell says, "since the county has done what has been asked in it."

In a related matter, the Siler City town board Monday night instructed town manager Ben Shivar to write himself or with Crowell's assistance a letter to the legislators representing the town that expresses its dislike of the involvement of the University of North Carolina in the suit.

The Civil Assistance Clinic of the UNC School of Law is acting on behalf of Dan Patterson, who filed the suit against the town. Patterson is represented by the Atlanta office of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) but since Laughlin McDonald, the ACLU's Southern Region director is not licensed to practice in North Carolina, the suit was actually filed by Alice Ratliff of the Law School clinic.

In the Monday night board meeting, town commissioner Syd Farrar brought up the idea of the letter, saying "I have no problem with Dan Patterson filing a suit if he feels he's been wronged. That's his right and privilege as an American."

"I do have a problem, though, with my tax money being used to do it. I want a letter to our representatives saying we don't appreciate it."

To Farrar's remarks, commissioner Bill Collins then said "Amen" and board member Adam Smith said "Me, too. If you'll make the motion, I'll second it."

One commissioner expressed some reservation about the matter, however. Guy Smith said "With something this serious each of us should give some serious thought to it. We don't know the consequences. Maybe we ought to think about it for awhile."

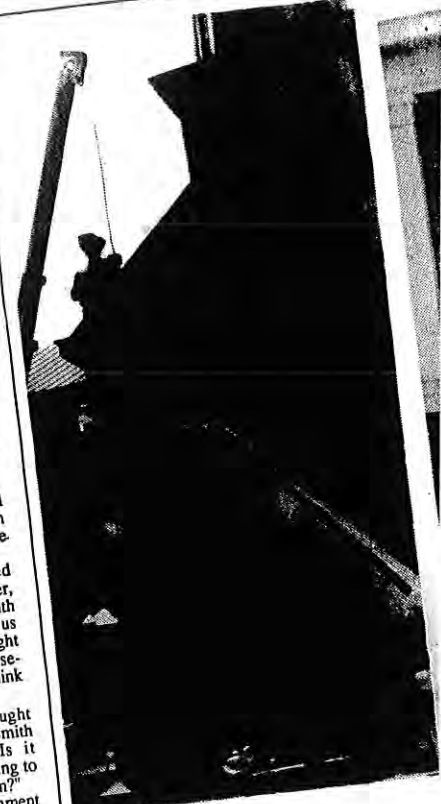
Farrar replied "I have thought about it, Guy, for a month." Smith then asked the question "Is it throwing sour grapes? Is it going to do good? Is it going to do harm?"

Farrar's response to that comment was "In my opinion it's not sour grapes. It has to do with me as John Q. Public and a taxpayer and having my money used to sue me."

After some further discussion the board voted 4-1 to have Shivar or Crowell write the letter, with Guy Smith casting the vote in opposition.

Crowell said Tuesday afternoon he was not surprised at that action. "I'm not surprised the board would ask for the letter," he said, "and I'm not surprised at their concern."

Crowell said he and Shivar would discuss the matter.



Leaving t

Educators okay bus driver funds

By J. Ward Best
Chatham County Board of Education members approved spending measures for bus drivers and athletes during Monday's meeting.

Chatham County Schools, still needing 13 drivers for the coming school year, increased drivers' salaries from \$1.25 to \$1.50 last year's pay scale. The increases bring Chatham County in line with the state-based average of \$6.37.

The county scale increases with the number of years of experience of each driver. Beginning drivers will now earn \$5.50 an hour - \$1.25 more than last year. Hourly wages increase up to 15 years' experience to a maximum of \$7.50 an hour.

With the average bus route taking an hour and a half according to

Cotten, Chatham Schools spent \$286,430 last year on drivers' pay.

Expenses for student athletes also jumped this year.

Board members approved a recommendation from Cotten to buy insurance to cover medical bills between \$3,000 and \$25,000.

A total of 880 students participated in varsity and junior varsity sports last year. If this year's figure is the same, the insurance will cost \$8,580 - \$9.75 per person.

Cotten, who recommended the proposal and Standard Life and Casualty Insurance Company as the best company for insurance, said any student participating in more than one sport was counted twice. He estimated the actual amount of students needing coverage at 700.

Chatham

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VASELINE PETROLEUM JELLY

MINUTES
 CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 SPECIAL MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
 MAY 11, 1994
 PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

Representative Culp questioned Cary's right to claim extra territorial jurisdiction ("ETJ") surrounding this proposed annexation. The County Attorney stated that they would not have an ETJ because the County has subdivision regulations, building codes and zoning ordinance in place. He noted that if a County is regulating those three things, then there is no ETJ for an annexed area.

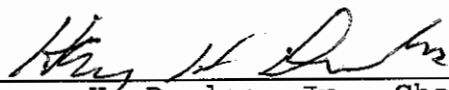
Senator Lee recommended that the County asked the Institute of Government to study the annexation laws and advise the County of its rights in that regard. Representative Barnes noted that there has not been support from the Legislature to block jurisdictions from coming across county lines in the past. Representative Hackney noted that one of the few ways to legally block annexation by one jurisdiction is by annexation by another jurisdiction or the establishment of a new town or city.

The County Manager noted that the Board is setting up a meeting with Town of Cary officials to discuss this matter and the possibility of reaching an annexation agreement.

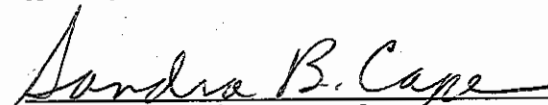
REDISTRICTING

Commissioner Holmes stated that the Democratic Party has requested that the County districts be redefined. She asked if this matter could be handled in the short session. Representative Hackney noted that only "non-controversial" matters could be handled during the short session. Representative Barnes stated that she would advise her staff to assist the County in obtaining and assembling the required information.

There being no further business to be discussed, the Board thanked the Legislative delegation for its support, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.


 Henry H. Dunlap, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:


 Clerk to the Board

the full cost of administration of these fees and other similar items. He believes the staff should be directed to do more thorough research and present a detailed report to the Board of Commissioners.

STAR Team Report: Consideration of approval of contract allowing County to contract with North Chatham Fire Department

Ben Shivar, County Manager, stated that he had talked with the County Attorney and the contract still has a few provisions which need to be worked out. He stated that he will have it ready by the next meeting.

Manager Evaluation Process: Consideration of forms for possible use of Manager's performance evaluation

The Manager stated that he desired development of a standard evaluation format to be used by the Board of Commissioners in evaluating the Manager's performance. He felt that this was important so that both he and the Board would understand what is expected of the Manager in the way of his performance. He stated that he would have the performance appraisal prepared on County stationery by the next meeting.

Method of Nominations: Consideration of a procedure for filling vacancies on the Board of Commissioners

Renee Dickson, Assistant to the Manager, spoke regarding the Board of Commissioner Rules of Procedure adopted earlier this year. She stated that no provision was made for filling vacancies on the Board or in appointing individuals to the Board to fill vacant seats or electing the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board. She explained that the method the Board currently uses is to take nominations and vote on each candidate. This procedure then places Board members in the uncomfortable positions of having to vote against a candidate.

Commissioner Holmes moved to accept the Resolution amending the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Rules of Procedure to include provisions for making appointments on the Board of Commissioners. The motion died for lack of a second.

Redistricting: Consideration of a request from the Chatham Democratic Party concerning voting districts

The Manager presented a list of the experiences of Dare, Johnston, Duplin, Nash, and Wilson Counties in redrawing their district lines. He stated that a number of them had done so because of the threat of court action because of minority representation.

Chairman Dunlap proposed the Board secure the services of Attorney Michael Crowell's office and Jerry Cohen at the legislature to go through the material we have and work with percentages, numbers, and possibilities and get a proposal that is fair.

Hubert Oakley, from Mann's Chapel precinct, spoke from the floor saying that the resolution had been amended by the Democratic Party to include the school board.

Commissioners Dunlap and Holmes both stated that they preferred five members. Commissioner Holland also spoke about the issue and stated that after having talked to different people regarding the number of members, was advised to stay with five members.

Commissioner Hanner moved to go with the Chairman's recommendation. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Holmes moved to change the regularly scheduled meeting date from Monday, September 19, 1994 to Monday, September 26, 1994. Commissioner Hanner seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Holmes stated that she would like to tour the Beard House. She stated that at the next night Board meeting, she would like to receive oral reports from Melanie Underwood and Mott Blair regarding economic development and what the Economic Development Commission is doing. She asked the Manager when the old grocery store would be demolished to provide more parking. She further stated that in this month's issue of *County Lines*, she read where people had won awards for innovative ideas. She expressed a desire that department heads be given an opportunity to read them and submit their own ideas to the publication. She stated that one of her favorites was a street network map book from Randolph County of which the same could be done for Chatham County and sold at cost now that E-911 has been implemented.

The Manager informed the Board that after having spoken with Mark Ashness, that Mark had planned to use the old grocery building for a period of 3-4 years to relocate the maintenance staff to allow for expansion in the Byrd Building of the Home Health Agency. He stated that there were additional parking spaces located across from Webster-Wieland Dealership. These will be available for rent after the month of October, when the Town of Pittsboro no longer needs them due to their town renovation project.

The Manager suggested that the Commissioners might like to tour the site of the water treatment plant during the next day meeting to pinpoint that location. He also stated that Frances Wilson had submitted ideas to *County Lines* regarding arrangements with the tax building a year or so ago.

LUNCH RECESS

The Chairman asked for a motion to recess for lunch. Commissioner Hanner moved to recess for lunch. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) and the meeting was recessed at 12:02 p.m.

Commissioner Holmes moved to reconvene the meeting. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) and the Chair reconvened the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Redistricting: Mr. Keith Brown, 101 Tripp Road, Pittsboro, NC, thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak on redistricting. He asked the Board to look at making precincts the basic political unit rather than to continue to use townships. He said the combination of both was confusing at times. He also asked the Board to consider increasing the number on the Board from five to seven members. He stated that seven members would insure that the County did not lose its voice of rural citizens. He stated that he would be glad to help the Board with this process if called upon to do so.

Chief Wildlife Officer, Julian Alman told the Board that he would be happy to answer any questions they might have regarding the deer population. Mr. Alman stated that in order to change the season for hunting deer, it would take an act of the General Assembly and would not be allowable by action through the Commissioners. He stated that the Legislature can initiate the regulation changes as far as the either sex season, but it

Commissioner Holmes moved to approve the Library Policy regarding lost and damaged materials, a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

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

Amberly Annexation: Consideration of a status report on Amberly Annexation

Ben Shivar, County Manager explained that for a number of months, the Town of Cary has had under consideration an annexation request from Simanco, Inc. for the proposed Amberly planned unit development, approximately half of which will be in Chatham County. A recent significant change was made in the proposal when the developers removed the golf course from the original plan. The acreage left will be used for the other mixed uses contained in the plan, most of which will be residential. The overall acreage of the proposal will remain the same. He stated that it was his understanding that the petition for annexation expires at the end of this month and will expire without being acted on. Dan Camp with Simanco, Inc. has advised that his company will repetition for annexation next month. Since the original petition has expired and the original proposal has changed, a new public hearing may be necessary. He stated that it is also important to note that the development proposal, independent of the annexation issue, must be approved by the Cary Planning Board, but it may be possible to do that simultaneously with the annexation issue.

Consulting Services Contract: Consideration of an amendment to contracts previously approved by the Board for Geosciences Management Institute and Radioactive Waste Management Associates

Commissioner Holmes moved to accept staff recommendation to approve contracts for \$6,000 for Geosciences Management Institute, and \$45,409 for Radioactive Waste Management Associates without requiring business automobile liability or professional errors and omissions coverage when not carried by the firm, a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

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

MANAGER'S REPORTS

Ben Shivar, County Manager advised the Board of Commissioners of the response received from Michael Crowell regarding redistricting. He stated that Mr. Crowell has agreed to do the work for the County and the Manager has prepared some precinct and township maps and materials to be sent to him. He stated that he expects to have alternatives available to present to the Board at the October 17, 1994 meeting.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Pollard stated that the friends and family of the Reverend Mattie Walden are having a banquet in her honor at Best Foods in Siler City on October 1, 1994 at 6:00 P.M. She said that she thought it would be nice for the staff to draft a letter in her honor.

The Manager stated that he had also received a letter regarding the banquet and advised that it was intended to be an invitation to the entire Board.

Commissioner Holmes moved that Renee Dickson draw-up a Resolution #94-40A in honor of the Reverend Mattie Walden. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

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

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

2. **Approval of Out-of-State Travel to Attend American Public Health Association in Washington, DC:** Consideration of approval of out-of-state travel for educational purposes for Brenda Truitt, PHN Supervisor, and Wayne Sherman, Health Director

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

3. **Debt Write-Off for General Health Services and Home Health Divisions of the Health Department:** Consideration of approval of debt write-off for the General Health Services and Home Health Divisions of the Health Department

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

4. **Acceptance of State Monies for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Efforts:** Consideration to accept additional State monies totaling \$1590 ,Budget Amendment #11, for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention efforts

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

5. **Approval of Reduction in State Environmental Health Funds:** Consideration of approval of \$420 in State Environmental Health Funds, Budget Amendment #12

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

6. **Home Health Fee Schedule:** Consideration of increase in Home Health fees for Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Social Work visits

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

7. **Tax Releases:** Consideration of a request for approval of Tax Releases

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

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

There was no one who wished to speak during the Public Input Session.

PRESENTATION BY MICHAEL CROWELL

Michael Crowell, Attorney and redistricting consultant, presented the Board with several different maps showing some of the options available for the election of County Commissioners. He explained the most popular size board is one of five members. He stated that Chatham County currently utilizes residency districts of unequal population size, but a move to residency districts will allow for more equitable population representation. Approximately twenty counties in the State use this method of election. Over half of the counties use true at-large elections where anyone in the county can run for any seat on the board and everybody in the county votes on the commissioners. The remainder of the counties use election districts in which only the people who live in the district can vote from the commissioner from that seat. He stated that

the purpose of a one-person one-vote is to see that each voter gets to vote for about the same number of commissioners.

He stated that if the County wishes to change the districts and make them more equal in population, they would need to go back to the legislature and ask the legislature

to pass a local act changing the district lines as they did in 1975 when the lines were established. A County referendum could also be held changing the County lines. He stated that the Commissioners did have authority to change township lines but not district lines. He advised that if the Commissioners did go to the legislature, that they include in that legislation the authority to make changes to lines in the future on their own without having to go back to the legislature.

Mr. Crowell suggested to the Board that as they look at the lines, they worry less about population as it appears on the hand-out maps and think more of what the natural areas of the County are in terms of representation. The purpose of the election method presently in place, residency districts, is to assure that there is representation of the major geographic areas of the County and that the Commissioners are answerable to the entire County not just a portion of the County.

When questioned by Commission Holmes regarding the advantages of a five member board, Mr. Crowell stated that a five member board is easier to get together for a meeting; large enough to cover the different areas of the county to have different points of view represented and small enough for commissioners to know each other and function well.

Commissioner Holmes stated that she favored precincts instead of townships which was the general consensus of the Board.

Mr. Crowell suggested that individual Board members try different combinations on the maps.

Commissioner Holmes moved to bring the redistricting issue up for further evaluation and discussion at the November 7, 1994 meeting. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

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

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The Chairman opened the meeting to the public.

Public Hearing

-
Public Hearing to Rename Public Road: Public meeting to receive public comment to rename public road from John Bowers/Pleasant Hill Church Road to Pleasant Hill Church Road

Catherine Sutton, 4029 John Bowers/Pleasant Hill Church Road, spoke in favor of shortening the name to Pleasant Hill Church Road due to the difficulty in placing the entire name on forms, mailing labels, on most computers programs, and in efficient mail delivery. She stated that there was also history to be considered as the Pleasant Hill Church was organized in 1850 and the road has been called Pleasant Hill Church Road by area citizens for a long time.

Public Hearing to Rename Public Road: Public meeting to receive public comment to rename

Habitat for Humanity: Consideration of a request by Habitat for Humanity to endorse its application for a \$20,000 affordable housing grant

Commissioner Holmes moved to direct staff to compose a letter endorsing Habitat for Humanity's application for a \$20,000 affordable housing grant from the Federal Home Loan Fund to help fund the construction of two houses on lots in the Crestview Subdivision as evidenced by the County selling these two lots to Habitat for a nominal amount. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER'S REPORTS:

Ben Shivar, County Manager reported that there would be a report available on Impact Fees at the November 21, 1994 meeting.

The Manager gave a report on the sale of school bonds. He stated that the bond sale date has been set for December 6, 1994; that based on discussion with bond council, local government commission, and school system, it is felt that the most appropriate amount to sell will be six million dollars. During the next fiscal year, nine million dollars in bonds are expected to be sold; it is estimated that the initial cost of the schools will be higher than originally anticipated; that a total of eight to ten cents on the tax rate is needed to support the entire bond issue.

Resolution Requesting that the Farmers Home Administration Conduct a Public Hearing and Develop an Environmental Impact Statement: Consideration of a Resolution Requesting that the Farmers Home Administration Conduct a Public Hearing and Develop an Environmental Impact Statement

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Commissioner Pollard moved to adopt **Resolution #94-58 Requesting that the Farmers Home Administration Conduct a Public Hearing and Develop an Environmental Impact Statement.** Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

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LUNCH RECESS

The Chairman asked for a motion to recess for lunch. Commissioner Holmes moved to recess for lunch. Commissioner Hanner seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) and the meeting was recessed at 12:04 p.m.

Commissioner Holmes moved to reconvene the meeting. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) and the meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION BY MICHAEL CROWELL

Michael Crowell, Attorney and redistricting consultant presented the Board additional maps with two alternatives: (1) five single member districts and (2) two two-member districts and one one-member district. He stated that in considering future growth within the County, it would be preferable if the district in the northeastern part of the County where most of the growth has occurred during the last several years had the fewest number of people to accommodate the growth that is likely to occur. He stated that it was convenient

to have precinct lines followed but not necessary. Mr. Crowell strongly suggested that the Commissioners be given the authority to review the lines after every census and make adjustments if needed.

After further discussion, Commissioner Holmes moved for each Commissioner to take Mr. Crowell's maps home, let the Manager know in order of preference which three maps each Commissioner prefers, and that the County Attorney prepare a resolution for the next meeting. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Pollard stated that she had attended a teleconference on Criminal Justice Act of 1994. She stated that she hopes the staff will vigorously pursue grants for prevention and enforcement and that most grants require a 25% match.

Commissioner Holmes stated that she hopes the Board will continue meeting with Siler City, Goldston, and Pittsboro Towns next year.

The Manager stated that he had a press release ready for announcing the hiring of the new Public Works Director with Board approval. He stated that the person under consideration is Mr. James E. Stewart who has 33 years of experience in civil engineering, land surveying and land planning.

Commissioner Holmes moved to approve the hiring of Mr. James E. Stewart as public works director. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Pollard stated that she and Commissioner Holland had attended the Education Roundtable where there was considerable discussion regarding equalizing the school expenditure per child to assure that each child in North Carolina has equal access to education.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Holmes moved to go out of Regular Session and into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and property acquisition. Commissioner Hanner seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Pollard moved to go out of Closed Session and into Regular Session. Commissioner Hanner seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Chairman Dunlap moved that he be allowed to leave the meeting. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) and Commissioner Holland assumed the Chair.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Condemnation Resolution: Consideration of a resolution to proceed with condemnation proceedings for solid waste/recycling centers

Commissioner Holmes moved to adopt **Resolution #94-59 Authorizing Notice of Intent to Institute an Action to Condemn Property**, that area in bold lines shown upon Exhibit "A" hereto as "Proposed Site" and a non-exclusive easement 60 feet in width from US Highway 15-501 to the "Proposed Site", a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Cindy Bland, attorney for Deep River Minerals, Inc. stated that she felt this is the right project, in the right place, at the right time; that this business will be an important part of manufacturing in Chatham County; will offer a boost to the tax base; will be an investment in the community; and there are no wetlands or historical sites to consider.

Jim Clippard, 3301 Christian Avenue, Roanoke, VA, a member of the Deep River Minerals management team, spoke in support of building Deep River Minerals, Inc.

David Hepple, 12006 Whiteland Way, Columbia, MD, President of Deep River Minerals spoke regarding location of the proposed facility and answered questions regarding its operation.

Dewey Seagroves, 6855 Old US #1, New Hill, NC, adjacent property owner, spoke in favor of the proposed facility.

Melanie O'Connell Underwood, Economic Development Director for Chatham County, offered three reasons in support of the facility: (1) No hazardous chemicals involved; (2) Employment benefits; (3) Area in land use plan designated as industrial

Jane Scott, 6536 Beaver Creek Road, New Hill, NC, spoke against locating Deep River Minerals, Inc. at the proposed site.

Public Hearing

Approval of Request for Conditional Use Light Industrial District With a Conditional Use Permit: Consideration of a request by Dial-Call Company for a conditional use light industrial district with a conditional use permit for a communication tower on 5.58 acres owned by Elton Chevalier on the south side of US #64 in New Hope Township

Maureen Mannion, 1300 Hightower Trail, Atlanta, GA, property acquisition specialist, stated these services are user driven and with the population and growth within the County, the tower is a necessity.

Mashaal Ammadiieh, 8000 Pegenor Parkway, Suite 600, Cary, Site Development Manager, was present to answer questions from the public. There were none.

Mohamed Sharif, 3109 Westinghouse Blvd., Charlotte, NC, Radio Frequency Project Manager, was present to answer questions from the public. There were none.

REDISTRICTING

- Ben Shivar, County Manager, stated that the County Attorney had prepared a draft redistricting resolution which requests that the General Assembly redistrict the Board of Commissioners and authorize the Board to establish districts.

- Michael Crowell, Attorney and redistricting consultant, answered questions pertaining to redistricting alternatives.

Commissioner Holmes moved to adopt the **Resolution #94-62 Requesting the General Assembly to Redistrict the Board of Commissioners and to Authorize the Board to Establish Districts.** Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

After further discussion, Commissioner Pollard moved that District 1 and District 2 elect commissioners in 1996 for four-year terms; District 3 elect a commissioner in 1998; District 4 be divided into two sections and elect two commissioners. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes wins the four-year term while the second place-candidate wins a two year term; after which Board members will be elected for four-year terms to put Districts 1 and 2 and one of District 4 (to be designated 4a and 4b) running at one time. In two years, District 3 and the other District 4 commissioner will be voted on. Commissioner Hanner seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

PLANNING AND ZONING

Approval of Request for Amendment to Conditional Use Permit: Consideration of a request by Rebecca D. Crabtree for a conditional use light industrial district and a conditional use permit for storage tanks of liquefied petroleum gas on one acre on the southwest corner of the intersection of SR #1539 and SR #1540

Commissioner Pollard moved to accept the Planning Department and the Planning Board recommendation that the request be denied due to inadequate evidence to make

the required findings. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Chairman Dunlap voting against the motion.

Approval of Request for Conditional Use Light Industrial District and Conditional Use Permit: Consideration of a request by Bill Akridge for conditional use light industrial district and conditional use permit for a mini-warehouse storage facility on 2.48 acres on the South side of SR #1724 (Old Lystra Road) in Williams Township

Commissioner Holmes moved to deny the Planning Department and Planning Board's recommendation that the five findings be made and the request be approved as submitted. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Holmes, Pollard and Holland voting for and Commissioners Dunlap and Hanner voting against the motion.

Approval of Request for Amendment to Conditional Use Permit: Consideration of a request by Bruce and Alice Martindale for an amendment to their conditional use permit for an interior design shop on .9 acres on the west side of SR #1008, for a conditional use business district for several conditional use permit businesses

Commissioner Pollard moved to accept the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation that the five findings be made and the request be approved with the following conditions:

1. Floor Space: The maximum building area allowed shall not be larger than the existing 1700 square feet.
2. Building Setbacks: Minimum 65 feet front; 50 feet side; 50 feet rear.
3. Parking: A minimum of five (5) off-street customer parking spaces plus one (1) space for each employee. Parking spaces shall be gravel or better surface and no closer than ten (10) feet from a property line or street right-of-way.

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TO REDISTRIBUTE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD TO ESTABLISH DISTRICTS

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY
AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Board of Commissioners hereby requests its legislative delegation to introduce and secure passage of legislation at the 1995 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly to realign the Commissioner Districts according to the plan adopted by the Board of Commissioners on November 21, 1994 and set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

Section 2. That the Board hereby requests its legislative delegation to also include in the legislation requested in Section 1 hereof necessary provisions to:

A. Authorize the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to change the Commissioners Districts without the necessity of further authority from the General Assembly; and

B. To provide that within 3 months after publication of the census by the United States Census Bureau, the Board of Commissioners will review the census and if significant imbalance exists within any of the Commissioner's Districts, the Board of Commissioners will take appropriate action to correct the imbalance.

The foregoing Resolution was introduced by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner HOLLAND, and adopted by the Board of Commissioners on November 21, 1994 by a vote of:

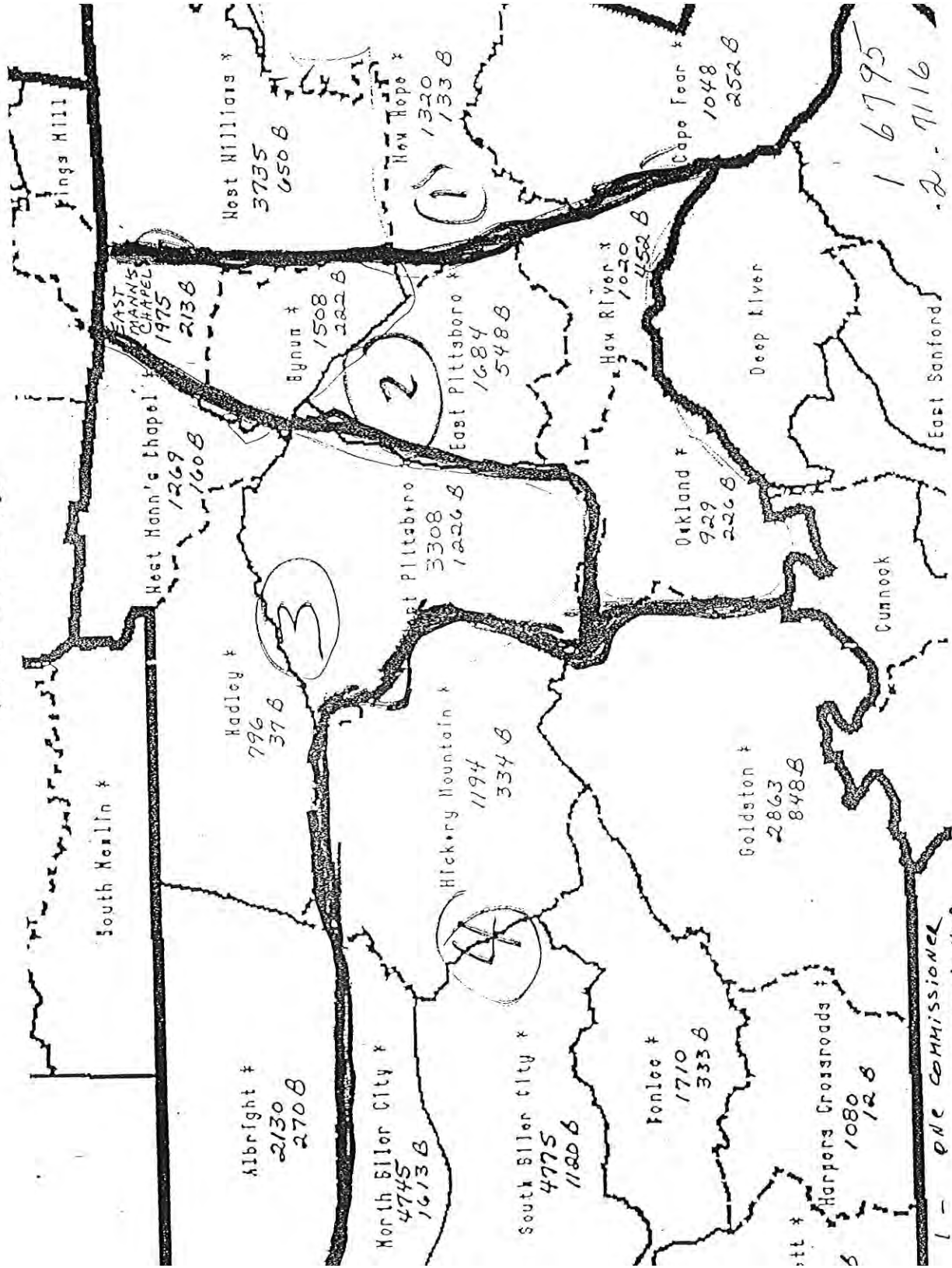
Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Henry H. Dwyer
Chairman

The Board of Commissioners are to Authorize The Board to Establish Districts

CHATHAM COUNTY
PRECINCTS



- 1 - ONE COMMISSIONER
- 2 - ONE COMMISSIONER
- 3 - ONE COMMISSIONER
- 4 - TWO COMMISSIONERS

1 6795
 2 7116
 3 7503
 4 17345/8

Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Commissioner Dunlap moved to authorize the staff to negotiate for purchase the secondary site for the proposed Crutchfields convenience center site, provided that mutually agreeable terms could be reached. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Appointment of Commissioners to all Boards and Committees: Consideration of appointments of Commissioners to all boards and committees

Commissioner Wilson moved to appoint Commissioner Pollard to the Board of Health. Commissioner Dunlap seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Commissioner Pollard moved to appoint Commissioner Wilson to the Economic Development Board. Commissioner Dunlap seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Commissioner Dunlap asked to be excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Commissioner Pollard moved to excuse Commissioner Dunlap from the remainder of the meeting. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

- The County Manager informed the Board that he had been negotiating for someone on an interim basis for the showing of property, meeting with perspective clients,

and helping the County with some of the duties of the Development Office since Melanie O'Connell Underwood will soon be leaving.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Pollard asked about the renaming of Raymond Street.

The Manager stated that this issue would be on the February 27, 1995 agenda.

Commissioner Pollard asked how the Economic Development position is progressing.

The Manager stated that he expects the issue to come up on the next agenda. He stated that the sub-committee of the Economic Development Committee has recommended that the position be formed as a non-profit position as in much the same manner as Lee County has done.

After further discussion, it was suggested that a meeting between the Commissioners, the Economic Development Committee, and the person with whom the Mangaer is negotiating to temporarily take over the position take place. It was decided that the meeting should be held prior to the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioner's meeting at 4:30 pm on February 27, 1995.

Commissioner Holland questioned where the County stands on the redistricting issue.

The Manager explained that the County had received a draft of the legislation from Michael Crowell. He stated that it has been sent to the County Attorney for review and will be included as part of the County package to take to the legislators in March.

Commissioner Wilson questioned the issue of impact fees.

The Manager explained that he and the Planning Director are comparing the differences in impact fees to see if the one they have has weak points that need to be changed. He stated that once that is in order, consultants will probably need to be hired to develop the data, the rationale, and justification for the fees. He stated that this will be a mammoth undertaking.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Wilson moved that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0) and the meeting was adjourned at 3:48 pm.

Uva R. Holland, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Lee
Clerk to the Board

personnel issues; that the Board of Health has adopted a resolution asking the County to oppose the repeal of the population limit in a provision of the general statute which would allow consolidation of Human Service Boards; that the Director of Library Services has requested: (1) supporting an increase in the appropriation for state aid to libraries to \$18 million (And if the bill was passed, Chatham County would receive an additional \$100,000 in state aid.); (2) support and approval of public library construction grants from the state; (3) adequate funding of the State library.

Commissioner Grimes stated that during the last month or so, he had had a lot of people contact him from different parts of the County to express their disagreement on how the bill for redistricting, the vote, and timing of the vote were done.

Commissioner Grimes moved that the local bill for redistricting be removed from the legislative agenda for reconsideration at a future date to be brought back before the Commissioners for reconsideration.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Holland asked that the Commissioners talk with the Legislators about elected or appointed Superintendent of Public Education and that they talk about support for local schools.

Commissioner Pollard asked that the Commissioners seek State funding for public education with specific reference to low-wealth supplemental funding programs and small school funds and support from the Legislators for maintaining state educational expenditures and increase funding for counties that find themselves with rapidly growing school populations and that because we are the "bedroom county" for industrialized counties, we need some special help.

Commissioner Dunlap stated that the redistricting issue came to the Commissioners when the Democratic Convention was held; that they stated that they wanted the Commissioners to immediately redistrict; that the Commissioners took it under

advisement and had at least three or four open sessions where comments were received from the audience; that an attorney was hired and numerous proposals were put forth by him and others; that the Board, on the timing, was done as to when the Board could make a decision; that there was ample time for constituents to have read about it and presented their own plans; that those people have not submitted anything in writing to affirm their position; that they have waited nearly six months to voice their concern and present new plans; that he cannot understand their objections and why they waited until the day before it is to be presented to the Legislators for the issue to be brought up.

Commissioner Grimes stated that there is a perception in the fact that it was passed by a lame duck board; that they do not think that a lot of other plans, as far as where the lines were drawn, was given adequate consideration; that the timing may not be good, but a lot of people have come to him within the last two weeks to voice their concern.

Commissioner Grimes moved that the redistricting issue be reconsidered at a future time.

The motion died for lack of a second.

The Manager asked how the Board felt about the request from Johnston County regarding the 1% sales and use tax which was proposed for school capital needs.

Commissioner Pollard stated that she had problems with the additional sales tax.

questions regarding the preparation of the FY 1995-96 budget, Commissioner Dunlap asked to be excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Commissioner Pollard moved to excuse Commissioner Dunlap from the remainder of the meeting. Commissioner Grimes seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Wilson moved to recess the meeting until Monday, March 20, 1995 at 9:00 A.M. Commissioner Grimes seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0) and the meeting was recessed at 5:20 PM.

The meeting was reconvened by the Chairman at 9:17 AM on Monday, March 20, 1995.

BOND ORDER

The proposed "**Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,300,000**", a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, was read by the County Attorney. He explained that the bond order needed to be acted upon after a public hearing on same; that the Public Hearing would be held on March 29, 1995 at 7:00 P.M.

The County Attorney read the **Resolution Asking for A Public Hearing on the Bond Order and Directing the Finance Officer to File a Debt Statement and Directing that Notice of this Hearing be Published in the Newspaper**, a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Commissioner Wilson moved to adopt **Resolution #95-14 Asking for A Public Hearing on the Bond Order and Directing the Finance Officer to File a Debt Statement and Directing that Notice of this Hearing be Published in the Newspaper**. Commissioner Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

REDISTRICTING

The County Manager explained that at the Legislative Delegation, the issue of Redistricting was raised; that we need a local bill to that affect; that at least one member of the Delegation mentioned that they had received phone calls expressing some concerns about the proposal which had been adopted; that Commissioner Grimes had also reiterated some concerns that he had; that the Delegation suggested that the Commissioners possibly revisit the issue; that it would be better for them if we had a consensus on the issue, and

that the Board decided after the discussion with the Delegation, that the issue would be revisited in some manner.

Commissioner Grimes informed the Board of concerns expressed to him over the last several months regarding the redistricting plan as presented to the Legislative Delegation and the timing of the vote on this particular plan. He stated that he had met with Keith Brown from Bynum over the weekend who has worked on redistricting plans; that he expressed to Mr. Brown some of the concerns of the phone calls he had received; that Senator Teena Little also stated that she had received phone calls from people in the areas bordering Moore County and that they felt like they, being in rural areas, with two Commissioners out of Siler City, do not feel like they are being represented from a rural flavor; that the new redistricting plan does not ensure a rural district such as the old redistricting plan the County had operated under for many years, especially the district that took in the Hickory Mountain Township, Gulf Township, and over into the Haw

River Township; that a lot of individuals liked the school board and the County Commissioners operating under the same plan as under the old redistricting plan/lines; that under the new plan, one of the school board members will have to run in a district already occupied by a school board member. Commissioner Grimes stated that he asked Mr. Brown if he would try to work out some districts that would: (1) Try to ensure a representative from a rural area that would give rural representation for those living in the rural areas; (2) See if he could come up with lines that could be used for both the school board and the County Commissioners, making sure that no Commissioner, as the Board is presently constituted, would run against another Commissioner and that no school board member would run against another school board member as that board is presently constituted. He stated that for many years, the Republican citizens of Chatham County have felt like they have not had very much input into the proceedings; that for them to finally have a representative elected to County government, have a chance to have a voice in some proceedings that will affect the County in the electoral process, they felt slighted; that this is where the timing problem came in; that Mr. Brown came up with a plan that he thinks can be studied and worked on and perhaps approved.

Commissioner Grimes moved to reopen the Redistricting Plan for reconsideration at this time.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Pollard stated that in the redistricting plan proposed in October, that there were more opportunities for rural people to run for office; that they can run from Albright, Harper's Crossroads, or any one of the rural areas; that she shares the concern for rural representation on the Board, and she thinks there is even greater opportunity in the new proposed plan.

Commissioner Wilson stated that we need to remind ourselves that everyone in the County votes for every candidate, so it is not that one district is going to elect one person, as they are elected County-wide.

The County Attorney stated that he felt the Board needed to communicate to the Legislative Delegation the result of the consideration taken this morning as they had asked the Commissioners to take another look at the proposal.

Commissioner Grimes asked that a copy of the minutes of this meeting be sent to the Delegation concerning motions that were made and those that died from lack of seconds.

IMPACT FEE LEGISLATION

The Manager stated that there are four areas in our existing ordinance that need consideration. Those areas are as follows:

- 1) Fees Within Municipalities: - He suggested that language be added that would authorize us to access the fee within municipalities in the County, to be contingent upon agreement with that municipality; that if impact fees are left strictly to schools, the Commissioners would be in a good negotiating position, as that is not a service cities duplicate.
- 2) Debt Payment: He stated that the legislation needs to allow for fees collected to be used for the retirement of debt incurred to finance projects such as general obligation school bonds or certificates of participation.
- 3) Number of Fee Districts: He stated that this needs to be clarified, as it is more of a technicality, although it might have policy implications. He suggested that the distinction be made clearer in the

provide, contract for the provision of, or certify the availability of child, maternal, family planning, home health, adult and dental health services, as well as public health laboratory services and activities/services to control communicable diseases, for all individuals within the jurisdiction of the local health department (Chatham County)

The County Manager stated that in contrast, DSS follows rather strict guidelines in qualifying individuals for County programs they administer; that the differences in approach seems to reflect the differences in state and federal law regarding these agencies various programs; that as a matter of concern, DSS asks each applicant who applies for services their residence status; that this is very strictly regulated by the Federal Government; that individuals are qualified in a variety of ways and DSS reports very few are denied services because of failure to meet requirements, although it occasionally happens; that the DSS staff believes most do not apply unless they have proper documentation; that generally, if the applicant is known by and is in good standing with the immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), services are usually provided.

He stated that both agencies state that their current policies are based on current state and federal law; that it appears that the County has very little flexibility in changing these procedures; that it may be discriminating to try to ascertain residing status unless all individuals are asked that question; that a final point to note is that there are a number of undocumented persons who work and pay the necessary taxes which suggests the services they may use.

Commissioner Dunlap moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard to recess for lunch. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

LUNCH WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and asked the Manager to proceed with the discussion on redistricting.

Redistricting

The County Manager stated that this matter was placed on the agenda as a means of raising the issue since the General Assembly dealt with the County's request in a different way than had originally been requested; that what has come out of the General Assembly is a bill which permits the County itself to do any redistricting that it wishes to do, and that it requires a public hearing be held before any action is taken; that since we had requested a specific plan, there raises a question as to where the Board goes from here; that the reason for putting it on the agenda is to get some direction as to how the Board would like to proceed; that if the Board does not take any action, the districts that are in place now will be the ones that will remain in place unless the Board takes some other kind of action.

MANAGER'S REPORTS

The County Manager stated that in the budget message final copy, he felt that it was important to add a section to expound on mandated programs since that was a directive from the Board and that there was a further reduction in the Manager's budget to 3%.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Pollard expressed an uneasiness about how the Community Development Block Grant

Board of Health Reappointments: Consideration of three reappointments to the Chatham County Board of Health

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap, to approve reappointments to the Board of Health as follows: James Schwankl to the physician seat, Tracy Hanner to the veterinarian seat, and Van Romine to the optometrist seat, effective July 1, 1995 through June 3, 1998. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Board of Health Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to fill unexpired public member term

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to appoint Rachel H. Stevens as a public member to fill the unexpired term of Elva Butler, effective July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard that the service of Elva Butler to the Chatham County Board of Health be acknowledged in the form of a resolution.

Appearance Commission Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to the Appearance Commission

This appointment is to come before the Board at a later date.

Recreation Advisory Board Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to the Recreation Advisory Board

This appointment is to come before the Board and be made by Commissioner Dunlap at a later date.

Jury Commissioner Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to the Jury Commission

This appointment is to come before the Board at a later date.

Domiciliary Home Care Committee Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to the Domiciliary Home Care Committee

Commissioner Dunlap moved, seconded by Commissioner Grimes, to appoint Bessie Hedrick to the Domiciliary Home Care Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Year End Budget Amendments: Consideration of approval of budget amendments numbered 44 through 77

Commissioner Grimes moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to approve **Budget Amendments #44-#77**, copies attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Redistricting Issue: Consideration of a request to set a public hearing on Redistricting

Commissioner Dunlap moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to set July 17, 1995 as the date on which to hold a public hearing on the redistricting issue.

Commissioner Pollard withdrew the second to the motion.

Commissioner Grimes moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap, to set August 21 as the date to hold a public hearing on redistricting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Personnel Ordinance: Consideration of a request to rescind Chatham County Personnel Ordinance as Ordinance and adopt as Resolution

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Grimes, to rescind the personnel ordinance adopted September 15, 1986 and all amendments thereto subsequently adopted and to adopt **Resolution #95-24 to Rescind the Personnel Ordinance and Adopt the Chatham County Personnel Policy**, and at each place where the term "Personnel Ordinance" is used in the present document that the same is deleted and the term "Personnel Policy" is substituted in lieu thereof; and each place where the word "ordinance" appears, the same is deleted and the word "policy" substituted therefore. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

Ben Shivar, County Manager suggested that the Board visit the water plant and the new health department building in Siler City.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

There were no reports from Commissioners.

Communications Antenna Removal: Consideration of a request to remove a communications antenna from one facility to another facility

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap, to authorize the Sheriff to sign a contract with a consultant to determine whether it is feasible to locate an antenna on the Governor's Club water tank at a cost, not to exceed \$15,000. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Dunlap stated that he had received an answer to his question regarding the collection center policy which was added to the agenda as Item #32. No action was taken.

Commissioner Grimes moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to recess the meeting for five minutes. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Resolution #95-25 To Adopt the Interlocal Agreement and to Join the Health Insurance Trust Group Self Insurance Fund for Health, Dental, Life and Disability Risk Sharing: Consideration of a resolution to adopt the interlocal Agreement and to Join the Health Insurance Trust Group Self Insurance Fund for Health, Dental, Life and Disability Risk Sharing

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to authorize the County to enter into the contract for the purpose of health insurance and life insurance through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Health Insurance Trust provided the contract is consummated on or before July 1, 1995. However, this action is void unless the County is able to obtain health insurance and accidental life insurance from said Trust without being required to obtain other types of insurance offered by the Trust. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Approval of a Statement of Result of Special Election: Consideration of approval of a Statement

4. **Proclamation #95-32 Recognizing the Role of the Family in Chatham County:**
Consideration of approval of a proclamation recognizing the Role of the Family in Chatham County, a copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

5. **Private Roads:** Consideration of a request for the naming of the following private roads:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | 1) Amber Lane | | 6) Harley Farms Hill Road |
| | 2) Cherokee Drive | | 7) Hidden Field Lane |
| 3) Cub Creek Drive Ext. | | 8) Harrington Drive | |
| | 4) Eventers Ridge Road | | 9) J. B. Morgan Road |
| | 5) George Helen Circle | | 10) Matthews Drive |

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

There was no one who wished to speak during the Public Input Session.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Public Hearing

Redistricting

The County Manager explained that several months ago, the Board of Commissioners scheduled the issue of redistricting for a public hearing. He stated that this action was taken as a result of a local bill adopted by the General Assembly which placed final decision on redistricting with the Commissioners, provided that a public hearing was held prior to the final decision; that the Board will be free at any time to adopt a redistricting plan; that the purpose of the public hearing was to solicit comments on proposed redistricting for Chatham County.

John W. Butts, PO Box 319, Siler City, NC, stated that in regard to County redistricting, each Commissioner is faced with a decision that has far-reaching ramifications regarding the citizens of Chatham County; that a number of smoke screens have been created for the Commissioners to try to hide behind; that the initial smoke screen was the issue of proportional representation; that another smoke screen is that the plan adopted by the school board is a Republican plan; that another smoke screen is that the Commissioners are bound by the decision of the out-going Board. He challenged the Commissioners to adopt the Board of Education plan already passed into law which he said offered fair representation to all of Chatham County and all of its citizens.

Bessie Hedrick, 2762 Hamp Stone Road, Siler City, NC, stated that she was interested in unifying Chatham County. She stated that she wanted the County to get together and take care of the districts which it has; that she feels that if the Commissioners exercise their prerogative, that they will come up with a plan for fair representation.

Patrick Miller, 108 Turtle Creek Road, Apex, NC, thanked the Board for the opportunity to express

his opinions concerning redistricting. He stated that he offered his support for the plan adopted by the school board; that the issues that are important to him in setting the district lines are: 1) Do they follow precinct lines? 2) Is the population properly balanced allowing for expected growth in appropriate areas of the County? 3) Do the districts for all elected County officials follow the same lines? He stated that when all is said and done, he wants the Commissioners to be able to say without reservation that they have done the best job they could do, and that they truly believe their decision is the best one for the citizens of Chatham County.

Tony Antonelli, 1957 Mays Chapel Road, Sanford, NC, Chairman of the Chatham County Republican Party, stated that the present plan was adopted two weeks after the elections in 1994; that they had no public input whatsoever; that there was no input from the other side of the County; that when this was done, a quarter of the voters in Chatham County were ignored; that this was a classic way of silencing the opposition; that there has to be harmony in the County in order to move the County forward; that the plan adopted totally broke down the integrity of the district; that the school board did not even adopt the same plan as the Commissioners; and that he supports the plan of the school board that maintains a rural district in Chatham County.

Jim Diggs, Route 6, Box 375, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that the Orange County people have always felt isolated from the government of Orange County because of the southern population control; that if a rural district is set out in the southern part of Chatham County, it will be isolated from the population of Chatham County and it will get out-voted every time unless the other four Commissioners see fit to cooperate; that the best way that the Commissioners will represent the County and give everyone fair representation is to district the County in somewhat a north-south situation to give the County representation of population in rural areas.

Wayne Phillips, Box 87, Bennett, NC, thanked Ed Holmes for giving the County the system which they now have. He stated that one district is primarily rural; that if the school board uses one plan, the Commissioners should use the same plan; that it helps in the rural areas to identify the elected officials.

Will Heiser, 225 Kentview Drive, Pittsboro, NC, thanked the Commissioners for holding the public hearing on redistricting. He stated that the present districts are unbalanced regarding population distribution by townships; that this has been brought about by the rapid expansion of the northeast section of the County; that the plan proposed by the Commissioners in 1994 was an attempt to redistrict based on precincts; that although this plan had a better balance of population, it groups together non-homogenous areas; that before any plan is adopted, he believes that the principles on which that plan is based should be agreed upon by all Commissioners and clearly enunciated to the public; that this policy should include: 1) combining like areas by precinct to obtain equal population representation; 2) providing at least one district to represent the rural, agricultural areas; 3) making the Commissioner districts and school board districts the same, as has been the practice in the past. He stated that as secretary of the school board, he knows that if the school board districts differ from the Commissioner districts, the preparation and handling of ballots for voting will be complicated by needing different ballots for Board of Education and Board of Commissioner elections, even in the same precinct. He recommended that the Commissioners adopt the school board plan for the Commissioner redistricting plan.

Margie Ellison, 40 Cedar Terrace, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that she had listened to the many references made to an east/west division that exists in Chatham County. She asked the Commissioners to consider plans that allow the County to be able to see themselves as a County operating in unison and one that works together; and that all citizens must be equally represented.

Keith Brown, 101 Tripp Road, Pittsboro, NC, helped advise the school board plan, stated that the plan adopted in November, 1994 addressed several of Chatham County's most pressing problems. He stated that the plan adopted divided the County among three districts; that Chatham County is plagued by division,

stereotypes, and rivalries by linking northern Chatham, Pittsboro, and southern Chatham; that the plan adopted takes a step toward breaking down the barriers that divide the County; and he asked that the Commissioners consider the plan adopted by the school board as a model for the Board of Commissioners' districts. He emphasized that this plan is merely temporary and that by the year 2000 the plan will not be suitable for the next decade. He stated that the school board plan accomplishes three goals: 1) It keeps the districts roughly even in population. 2) It keeps the number of Commissioners at the current level of five. 3) It preserves the predominately rural district in the southern part of the County. He presented the Commissioners with a handout which included a variation to the school board plan. He stated that this new plan addresses the problem in the western part of the County; that it will not require any Commissioner to face elections in the years 1998 and 2000, with the drawback being that it splits Siler City between two single-seat districts; that it is predicted that Chatham County will have a population of approximately 45,300 by the year 2000, an increase of 6,500 people over the 1990 total; that the bulk of the increase will be northern Chatham; that the lines will need to be redrawn to take these new residents into account; that among the choices that the County will face will be increasing the number of Commissioner seats to seven, eliminating the rural district, or transferring a seat from the western end of the County to the eastern end; that the County has five years in which to decide among them or to find new choices; that in any event, this time must be spent in building bridges among the various localities in Chatham and tearing down the barriers, stereotypes, fear, and mistrusts; and to be open to new ideas and situations.

Barbara Sheppard, Route 2, Box 228, Glendon Road, Siler City, NC, respectfully requested that the school board redistricting be considered so that all areas can be represented equally.

Liz Cullington, Route 6, Box 1126, Pittsboro, NC, spoke in favor of adoption of the current school board plan. She stated that she agreed with Parick Miller's comments; She added that although Commissioners are elected County-wide, they have to live in the district to run and feels that that is very important.

Joe Everette, 1468 Martha's Chapel Road, Apex, NC, stated that he supports the school board plan; that it is important to preserve the rural district; that if the geographic boundaries were not important, then everyone could run at large; that he lives in the north end of the County, his mother lives in the southern end, and he finds that the areas do not have a lot in common.

Don Tarkenton, PO Box 682, Siler City, NC, stated that he felt it was unfortunate that people had been talking about districts referred to as a Democratic plan, a Republican plan, a school board plan, or a County Commissioner plan as he did not feel that they were any of these things. He thanked Keith Brown for the time and effort he had put into coming up with a proposal that seems to be fair to all the citizens of Chatham County and meet many of the goals the citizens have addressed; that we have the opportunity to put behind personal considerations, considerations of a small group of individuals, families, corporations; that we have the opportunity to bring forth the convenience of the voting public and one that is fair to everyone; that whichever plan is chosen has to be convenient for the people of Chatham County because people must be encouraged to vote; that if there are two separate districts, one for the school board and one for the Commissioners, it will discourage the people from voting because it has been made difficult to understand. He encouraged the Commissioners to consider the plan adopted by the school board.

Hubert Oakley, 350 Polks Landing Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that in the 1990 census shows that 66.7% of the total growth in population of Chatham County was in District 1; that one district in the County actually lost population; that everyone thinks that the school board introduced their plan first; that the County Commissioners tried to choose a plan that would not put some of the Commissioners running for re-election against each other and that would keep the districts the Commissioners were in; that he believes that there should be five different districts; that the school board has done the same thing where no two school board

members are in the same district.

Commissioner Dunlap stated that this situation started after the Democratic Primary; that Mr. Oakley had introduced a resolution that was approved a year ago last March; that it was discussed several times; that there was an open meeting where people came to give their views on the subject; that Keith Brown needs to be given credit for all of the plans because he made a lot of plans; that the school board adopted their plan in January, 1995, after having seen it one week; that the Commissioners looked at their plan for quite a while; that as he listened, he was inclined to believe they are right; that at that time, the input received was leaning toward a different way and that he appreciates all of the interest shown.

Commissioner Grimes stated that in reference to the plan that was adopted by the school board, that if the plan was to be used as a plan for the Commissioners redistricting, then no sitting Commissioner would be running against another sitting Commissioner and neither would any sitting school board member be running against another sitting school board member; that the complaint he has heard in reference to the plan adopted at the November 21, 1994 Commissioners' meeting, was that if that plan had been adopted by the school board, in order to keep simplicity for the voters and the district voting lines the same, there would have been sitting school board members running against other sitting school board members; that the plan adopted by the school board puts no sitting member of the school board running against each other and if that plan was to be adopted by the Commissioners, no sitting Commissioner would be running against another sitting Commissioner.

The Chairman called for a five minute break.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Chatham County Board of Adjustment

Request for a Variance from the Setback Requirements of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance: Consideration of a request by Phillip A. Moder for a variance from the setback requirements of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance on lot number 84 Willow Way of Chatham Development in Baldwin Township

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

The Chairman administered the oath/affirmation to those who wished to make public comment.

The Chairman recognized Senator Fred Hobbs in attendance and stated that he would be speaking to the Commissioners later in the meeting.

Phil Moder, 84 Willow Way, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he rented his home with an option to buy; that he has made considerable improvements to the house; that he spoke with the realtor who told him that he could build a garage on the property; that he has obtained written permission from both of his neighbors who would be affected by the addition; that he needs a garage to complete the work on his house; that his neighbors are pleased that he has moved in because the property has been rented for twenty years.

Gus Fraser, 83 Green Tree Trail, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he supports Mr. Moder and his request for variance; that he has no objections, and that he urges the Commissioners to approve this request.

George McLean, 85 Willow Way, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he has no problem with the building

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to appoint Margaret Pollard, E. T. Hanner, Tom Harbin, Cassie H. Wasko, Dale Williams, Wayne Sherman, Gloria Williams, Robert Hall, and Elizabeth Edwards to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Board of the Council on Aging Appointment: Consideration of appointment to the Board of the Council on Aging

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Grimes, to appoint Betty Wilson to the Board of the Council on Aging. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Recreation Advisory Board Appointment: Consideration of an appointment to the Recreation Advisory Board

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to appoint Ken Jeffries to the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

- **Telephone System in Siler City Health Department:** Consideration to accept a bid for the telephone system in the new Health Department Building in Siler City and to fund an additional \$16,335 needed to purchase the system

Commissioner Grimes moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap, to take \$15,873 from the Bryds Building renovation funds to pay for the telephone system in the new Siler City Health Department Building. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

County Computer System Upgrade: Consideration to award bid to Associated Systems, Inc. for \$30,834.20 to upgrade the County's computer system

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to award the bid to Associated Systems, Inc. for \$30,834.20. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Redistricting

The County Attorney explained that in order for the redistricting plan to be in place for the 1996 elections, the Commissioners would need to take action at this meeting. He stated that copies of several earlier proposals plus an additional plan have been distributed.

Commissioner Wilson introduced a plan similar to that of the Chatham County School Board on which a lot of people spoke in favor at the public hearing. She stated that she felt it was important to make a change at this time and have five districts; that the plan is Michael Crowell's Plan #4 with modifications; that the plan works numerically well and accommodates the expected population increase.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to adopt Crowell's Plan #4 with modifications to create five districts for five commissioners as shown on the plan.

After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Pollard called for a vote. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Grimes and Dunlap dissenting. A copy of the plan is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
 MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22, 1994 MEETING

The Chatham County Board of Elections met in the Board of Elections Office at 11:00 a.m. with all members present: W. Everett Billingsley, Chairman; Will M. Heiser, Secretary and Mary Harris, Member.

Will Heiser made a motion that the minutes of the April 15th meeting be approved. Mary Harris seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Will Heiser made a motion to approve the following absentee voter applications: applications with ballots numbers 19, 29, 48, 49, 61, 62; applications requesting ballots to be mailed numbers 75, 76, 83, 84 and one-stop voter applications numbered 11-20. Mary Harris seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

At the request of the Board of Elections, Attorney Ed Holmes, who was a member of the legislature at the time the present redistricting plan took place, briefed the Board of statutes on redistricting in Chatham County.

Will Heiser made a motion to appoint Garland Foushee to serve as Republican Assistant for the Haw River Precinct. Mary Harris seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. to meet again as necessary before the May 3rd Primary.

Will M. Heiser

Will M. Heiser
 Secretary

Attest:

Betty West
 Betty West
 Supervisor

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Drawing Lines

Redistricting the Chatham County Board of Commissioners

by

Keith J. Brown

Drawing Lines

Times, and circumstances, change. The ability to adapt to these changes is the hallmark of successful organisms and institutions. In acknowledgement of the inevitable changes in population distribution, and with a desire to preserve the equality so recently and bloodily won, the framers of the United States Constitution required the reapportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives following each decennial census. Other units of government, such as state legislatures, have taken this opportunity to redraw their own district lines at the same time. Unfortunately, the commissioners' districts in Chatham County have not been redrawn since 1972, when the North Carolina Legislature found it necessary to draw the lines itself. The intervening years have seen substantial population growth in Chatham, coupled with dramatic shifts in population distribution. Lines that were acceptable in 1972 were outdated by 1980, and by 1990 were monuments to unequal representation. This report is presented to the commissioners of Chatham County in the hope that they will acknowledge the problems presented by the current districts and move promptly to alleviate the inequities created by these obsolete districts.

The Problem

Table 1 shows the population totals for 1980 and 1990 by current (1972) district. This table also shows the degree of under-representation for each district; under-representation is defined as the percentage of a district's population in excess of the population of the average district. Districts with a negative value are over-represented; these districts have fewer people than the average district. Thus, by 1980, District 1 had nearly twenty percent more people in it than the average district, while District 4 had eleven percent fewer people than it should. By 1990, this imbalance had ballooned to nearly fifty percent under-representation for District 1 and nearly twenty percent over-representation for District 4. The First District, with 77 percent more people than the Third District, has the same number of seats as the Third District. Obviously, the bulk of the population growth in Chatham has

been in the First District's area, but this growth has yet to be reflected in the district lines.

Criteria and Restrictions

While redistricting is in essence nothing more than drawing lines on a map, it is necessary to first establish the criteria by which those lines should be drawn. These are the rules by which the various combinations of districts can be evaluated. The primary criteria used in devising the solutions presented later are:

- a) equality of population -- Equal numbers of people are entitled to equal numbers of representatives. With a population of 38,759 and five commissioners, there should be one commissioner for every 7,752 people in Chatham County. Expanding the board to seven members would yield one representative for every 5,537 people.
- b) contiguity of districts -- Districts should form a coherent geographical mass. As shown by recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings, oddly-shaped, meandering districts are looked upon with suspicion.
- c) integrity of townships -- While townships serve no real governmental function in North Carolina, there is a tradition in Chatham County that commissioners' districts follow township boundaries.
- d) homogeneity of districts -- Wherever possible, urban/suburban areas and rural areas are placed in separate districts. With the other criteria having higher priority, this was the most often violated guideline.

Possible Solutions

The solutions presented here are not exhaustive; anyone with a map showing the townships of Chatham County, a breakdown of population by township, pencil, and paper can easily devise other alternatives. These districts are presented as starting points. For instance, board might choose to have four members elected from districts and a fifth member elected at large, or any combination of districts and at-large elections.

Option 1: County-wide at-large elections

Figure 1 shows the first possibility -- eliminate district lines completely. All five commissioners would be elected at large, and could come from any part of the county. Orange County uses this system and illustrates the greatest shortcoming of this method -- all the commissioners there are from a single township. While this could possibly happen in Chatham County as well, it seems much less likely here. Population in Orange County is unimodally distributed; Chapel Hill Township has far more people than the rest of the county. While Matthews Township in Chatham is larger than any other single township here, it is not nearly as overpowering; there is a balance between the northeastern townships and the southwestern ones. A more likely scenario would have the board split between the eastern and western halves of the county. This method is the only one that would not require redistricting following each census.

If the idea of county-wide elections for commissioners is retained, this option is only one to provide true representation. Under the current system of districts and county-wide voting, a resident of Albright Township has as much claim to be represented by the District 1 commissioner as by the District 2 commissioner, since he cast ballots for both positions.

In the days when travel was difficult and communicating with county government meant an all-day trip in a horse-drawn wagon, having commissioners elected county-wide but based in specific geographic areas was an adequate solution to the problem of providing easy access to government officials. Today, with more rapid means of both travel and communication, the system no longer serves this function. Indeed, the current system works against representation by restricting candidates to geographical areas while requiring them to run county-wide.

True representation with districts would require that only the residents of a particular district vote on the commissioners for that district. A recent Federal Court ruling on North Carolina Superior Court elections overturned a long-standing system of district-nomination, state-wide election for justices. If this ruling is not overturned on appeal, it is unlikely that a similar system would be acceptable for county commission elections.

Option 2: 5 commissioners

Option 2 preserves the current number of commissioners, but allocates them more equally across the county. The First and Third Districts each have two seats, while the remaining commissioner is elected from the Second District. As shown in Table 2, no district is more than 2.5% above or below the average in terms of population. The districts are cohesive enough to pass the "aesthetic" test of redistricting recently established by the courts, and seem to be relatively homogeneous in terms of urban vs. rural groups.

Option 3: 5 commissioners

In statistical terms, Option 3 is the best of all the choices presented here; there is no more than a 1.5% deviation from the mean for any district. The First District consists of Pittsboro and the northeastern subdivisions; the Third District takes in Siler City, Goldston, and the smaller towns in the southwestern portion of the county; and Second District consists of mostly rural portions of the county. The greatest drawback to this set of districts is geographical; the northern and southern ends of District 2 are connected by only a narrow strip of land between Hickory Mountain and Oakland Townships.

Option 4: 7 commissioners

Another possibility would be to increase the size of the board of commissioners in Chatham County to seven members. Figure 4 and Table 4 show the results of this expansion. The First and Second Districts would each elect two commissioners, while the Third District would have three seats. Statistically, this system is not as pleasing as the other options given before, because the range of deviation from the mean is greater. Aesthetically, it is less than ideal because the Second District sprawls across the county, from Albright to Cape Fear. Still, it does meet all all the criteria set forth earlier.

Option 5: 7 commissioners

On statistical grounds, this plan is slightly less preferable than the previous option, but it is more acceptable on the grounds of contiguity and homogeneity. The northeastern portion of the county is linked together, as are the western and central portions. Even though District 1 has roughly 5% fewer people than the average, it is important to keep in mind that these figures are now four years old. The bulk of Chatham County's population growth over the past decade has been in this area, so it is likely that by now this 5% deficit has been reduced or even eliminated.

Other Options: Districts and At-large Elections

These are by no means the only choices available. One possibility is to combine district and at-large elections. For instance, it would be possible to produce four districts with roughly equal populations, then elect the chairman at large from the entire county. The chairman could serve either a four-year term or a two-year term. With a seven-member board, there could be four districts, two "super-districts", and a chairman elected at large. A seven-member board would also allow six districts plus one at-large seat.

Implementation

Putting any of these plans into effect in time for the 1994 elections would be difficult, if not impossible. The 1996 elections are the likely goal for implementation. Option 1 would be the simplest to implement; all that would need to be done would be to declare the 1996 elections open to anyone in the county. The difficulty in implementing the other options is primarily political; it might be necessary to force two or more incumbent commissioners to run against each other. For instance, Option 3 would combine the home townships of the current representatives from Districts 3 and 4 into one two-member district, leaving the new Second District without an incumbent, and forcing the current holders of three seats to battle for the two remaining spots. If the new representative from the current Second

District is also from Center Township, the other options could all be implemented without such a confrontation. Options 4 and 5 might require the first occupants of one of the added seats to serve a two-year truncated term in order to schedule subsequent elections properly.

Conclusion

Even though some of these options are uncomfortable, they represent a sincere attempt to correct a problem that has existed for nearly two decades. I have endeavored draw lines as evenly and fairly as possible, given the limitations set forth earlier. It is, of course, the Board's right to reject all these plans and substitute another that will provide fair and equal representation for all residents of Chatham County. Drawing lines to ensure fair representation is a vital part of our democracy; I am sure that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners will not shrink from this task. If the Board so desires, I would be glad to work with the Planning Department or the Board of Elections to present further alternatives.

Current (1972) Districts

Figure 1

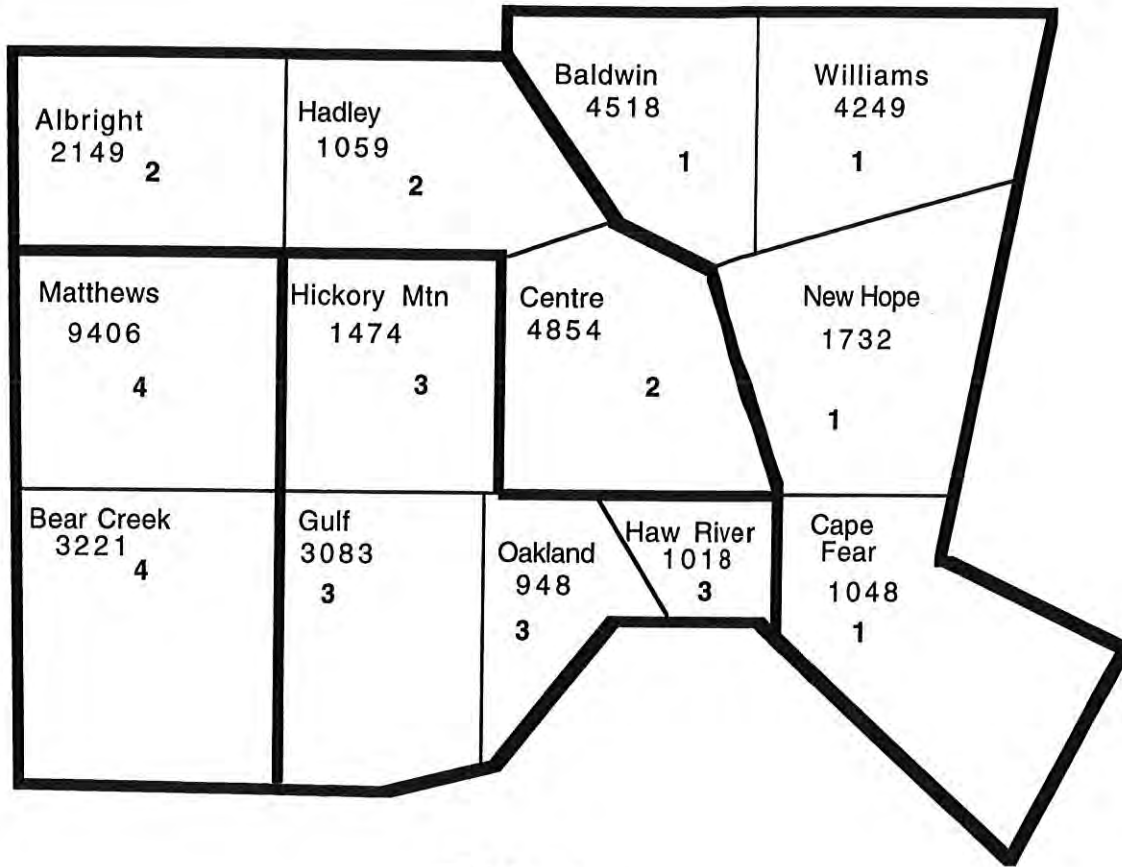
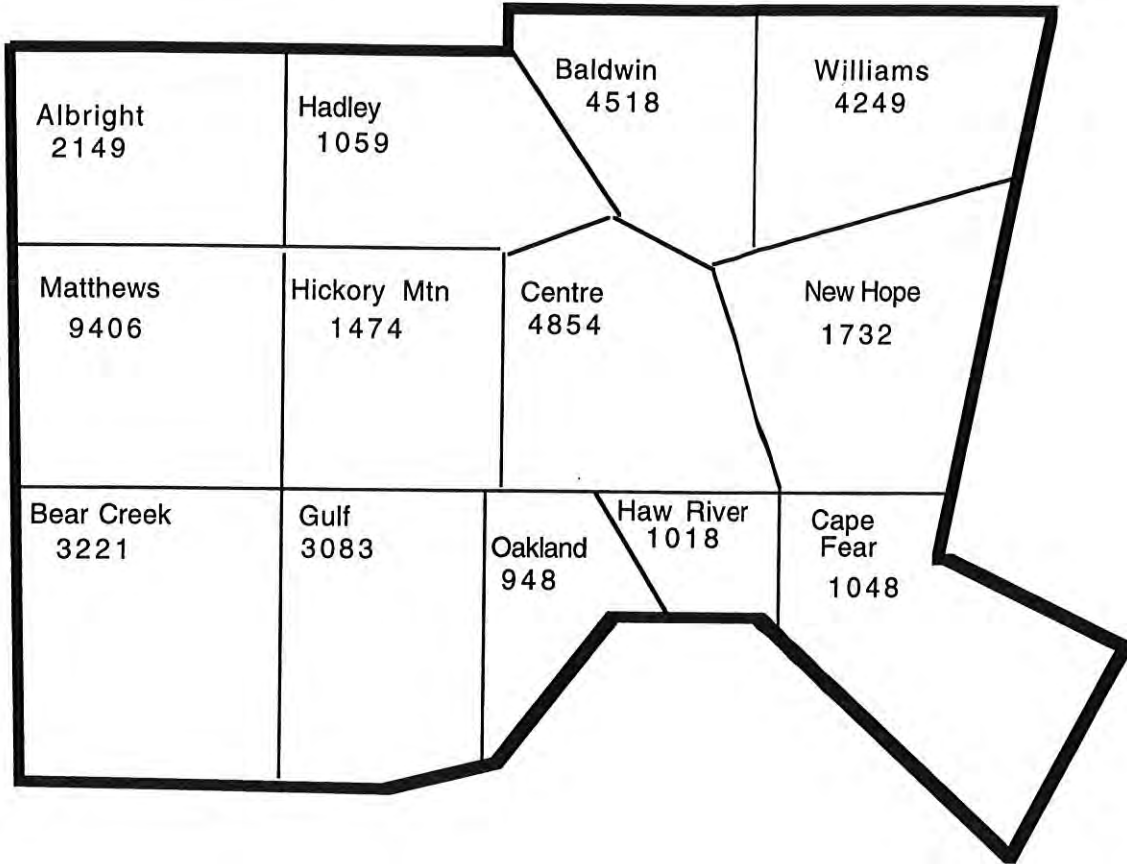


Table 1

Population Totals and Percentage of Under-representation

<u>District</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>1980 Totals</u>	<u>1980 Percentage</u>	<u>1990 Totals</u>	<u>1990 Percentage</u>
1	1	8,006	19.79%	11,547	48.95%
2	1	7,152	7.01%	8,062	3.99%
3	1	6,413	-4.04%	6,523	-15.85%
4	2	11,844	-11.38%	12,627	-18.55%
	5	33,415		38,759	

Option 1 At-large Elections



Option 2 Districts

Figure 2

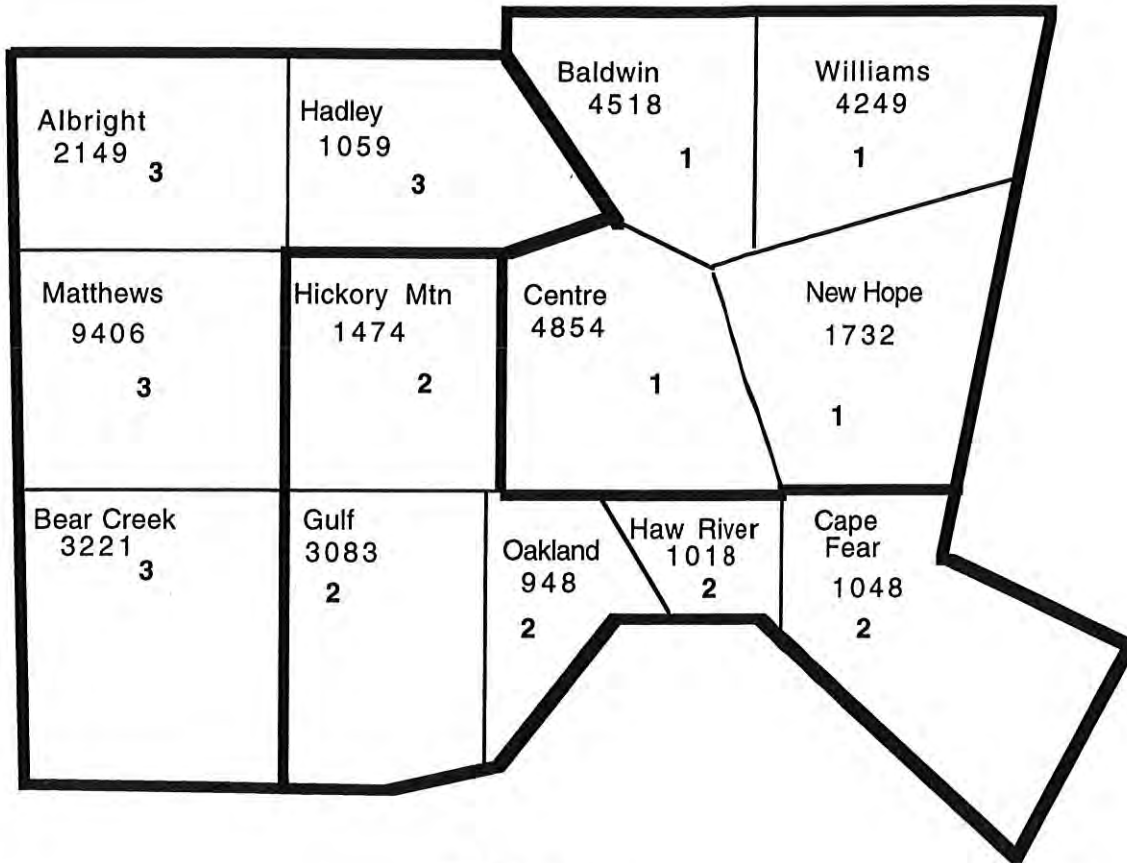


Table 2

Population Totals and
Percentage of Under-representation

<u>District</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>1990 Totals</u>	<u>1990 Percentage</u>
1	2	15,353	-0.97%
2	1	7,571	-2.33%
3	2	15835	2.13%
	<u>5</u>	<u>38,759</u>	

Option 3 Districts

Figure 3

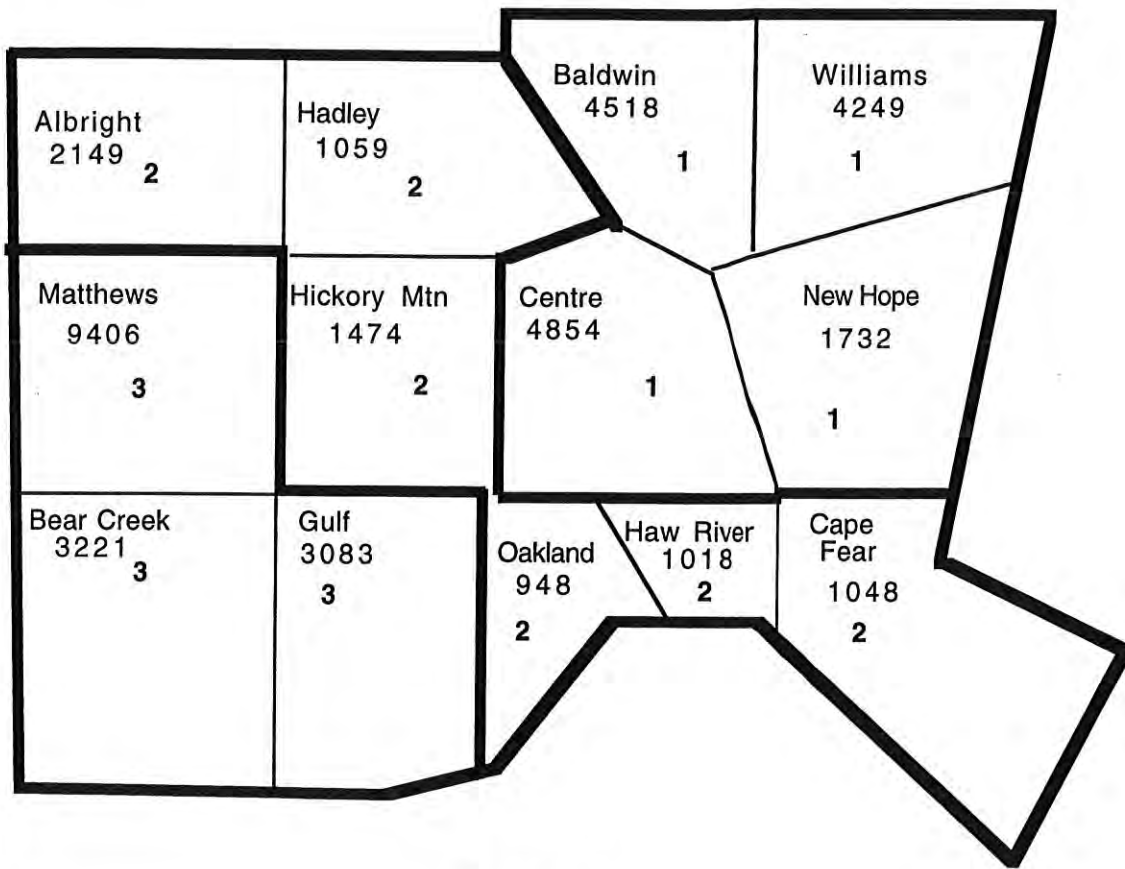


Table 3

Population Totals and Percentage of Under-representation

<u>District</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>1990 Totals</u>	<u>1990 Percentage</u>
1	2	15,353	-0.97%
2	1	7,696	-0.72%
3	2	15,710	1.32%
	<u>5</u>	<u>38,759</u>	

Option 4 Districts

Figure 4

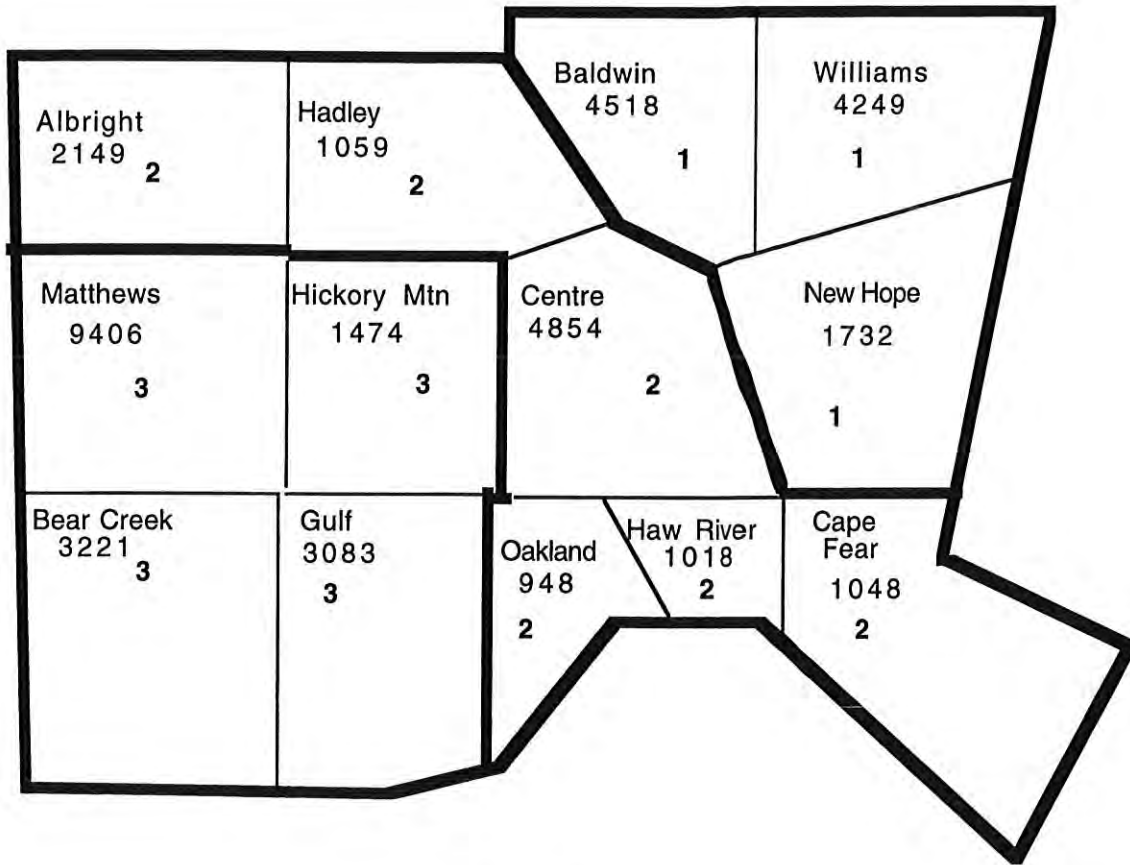


Table 4

Population Totals and Percentage of Under-representation

<u>District</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>1990 Totals</u>	<u>1990 Percentage</u>
1	2	10,499	-5.19%
2	2	11,076	0.01%
3	3	17,184	3.44%
	<u>7</u>	<u>38,759</u>	

Option 5 Districts

Figure 5

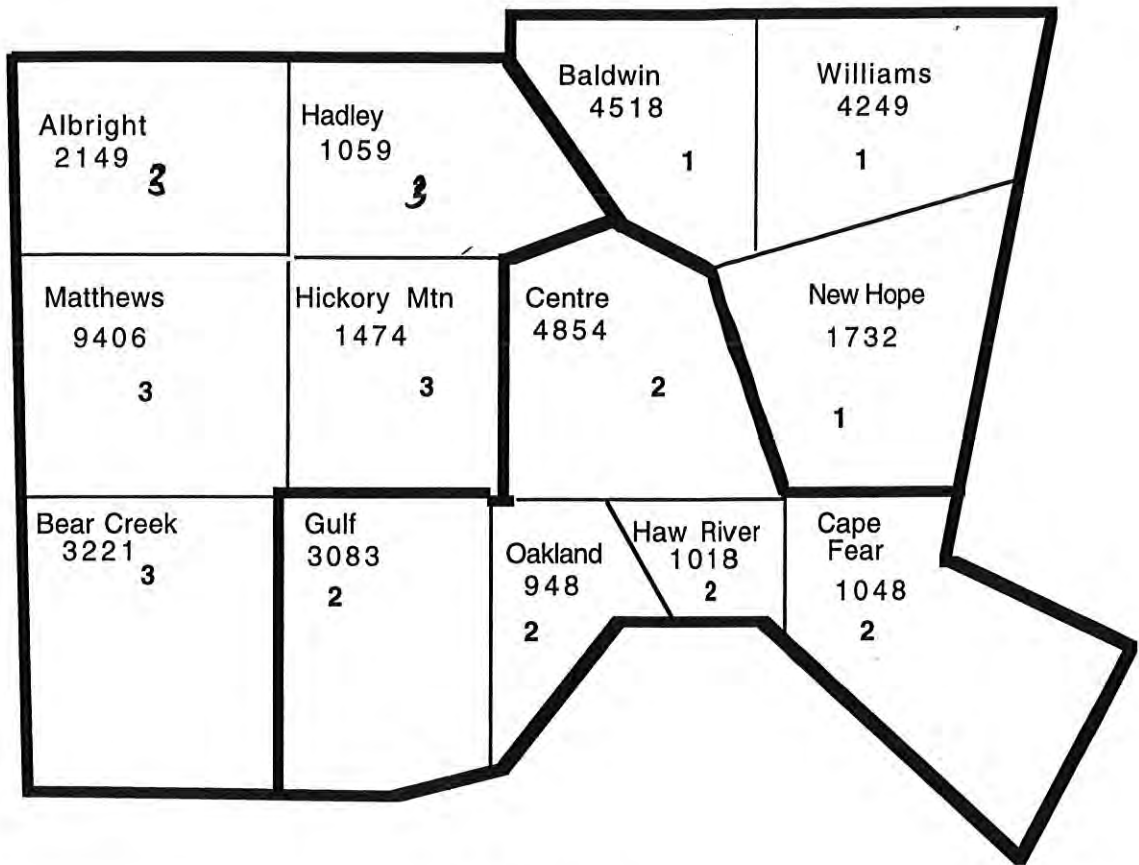


Table 5

Population Totals and Percentage of Under-representation

<u>District</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>1990 Totals</u>	<u>1990 Percentage</u>
1	2	10,499	-5.19%
2	2	10,951	-1.11%
3	3	17,309	4.20%
	<u>7</u>	<u>38,759</u>	

May 9, 1994
 Margaret Pollard was appointed by
 Bd. of Commissioners to fill unexpired
 term of Gus Marchison. The Bd
 refused 3 names given by Dem. Party.

Date of first term

Henry Dunlap - 1971
 Uva Holland - 1992
 Margaret Pollard - 1992
 John Grimes - 1994
 Betty Wilson - 1994



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 1995

MADE IN U.S.A.

county Commissioners

District 1 - Uva Holland
 Baldwin, Cape Fear, New Hope & Williams Townships)

District 2 - Betty Wilson
 Albright, Haully & Center Townships)

District 3 - Margaret Pollard
 Gulf, New River, Hickory mtn., & Oakland Townships)

District 4 - Henry Dunlap & John Grimes
 Bear Creek & Matthews Townships)

Changed Nov. 95 - Switched Dist. Numbers

Battle brewing over Chatham districting

By JOANNA BLAIR

Correspondent

PITTSBORO — The pressures of urban growth, especially from Chapel Hill, are forcing a political battle in Chatham County over whether to redraw boundaries of county commissioners' districts.

On one side are residents of the fast-growing northern Chatham suburbs of Chapel Hill, who contend that they don't have adequate representation on the Board of Commissioners.

On the other side are commissioners from the still-rural sections of the county who see no need to change a system that benefits their rural constituents.

Under the existing system, commissioner candidates must reside in geographical districts but run for election county-wide.

Residents of northern Chatham want to either redraw district lines to produce more proportionate representation, or to eliminate districts completely.

"In the days when travel was difficult and communicating with county government meant an all-day trip in a horse-drawn wagon, having commissioners elected county-wide but based in specific geographic areas was an adequate solution to the problem of providing easy access to government officials," said Chatham County resident Keith J. Brown.

He notes that districts were last redrawn in 1975.

"The intervening years since the last redistricting have seen substantial population growth in Chatham, coupled with dramatic shifts in population distribution," said Brown, a computer consultant at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "Lines that were

by 1980 and by 1990 were monuments to unequal representation."

The five-member board represents four districts, as follows: District 1, northeast Chatham, with 11,547 population and one commissioner; District 2, central and northwest Chatham, with 8,064 population and one commissioner; District 3, southern Chatham, with 6,523 population and one commissioner; and District 4, western Chatham, with 12,627 population and two commissioners.

Between 1970 and 1990, District 1 had the fastest growth rate — 50 percent — while District 4 had an 8 percent increase over the same

period of time. District 2 had a 20 percent increase and District 3, a 10 percent increase.

There are more than 41,000 residents in Chatham County, an increase of more than 10,000 since the 1970 census.

Nearly 20 years have passed since the districts were last redrawn to achieve population balance. Then, as now, the commissioners were unable to come to agreement on redistricting, and the redistricting was imposed on the county by the N.C. General Assembly, as allowed under state law.

The 1975 redistricting was based

on the Supreme Court's one-man, one-vote doctrine — that one person's vote in one district has the same weight as one person's vote in another district. That doctrine further requires that the variance among districts not be greater than 10 percent. The five districts in Chatham range from a high of 38.9 percent of the total county population to a low of 8.4 percent.

Edward Holmes is a former state representative who in 1975 took the redistricting issue to the legislature after commissioners couldn't reach agreement.

"It had been on the commissioners' agenda for a long time with no

agreement among them," Holmes.

Again the commissioners can agree on whether or not to redistrict. The subject came up at meeting in March 1993, and Chatham County resident H. Oakley presented information showing District 1 had the highest population and fastest new growth rate based on the 1990 census. He suggested that commissioner representation be re-evaluated.

The commissioners agreed to set up a committee to evaluate

▶See CHATHAM, Page A13

Chapel Hill News
Easter Sunday April 3, 1994

▶ Chatham

Continued from Page A3

data and make recommendations. The committee was to be established in May, with each commissioner appointing a member.

But in April, board Chairman Henry H. Dunlap Jr. said he opposed a redistricting study. He cited the opinion of the county's consulting attorney, Michael Crowell, that Chatham was "in compliance." The commissioners voted to drop the issue, with only Mary Hayes Holmes voting in favor of researching the matter of equal representation by population. She is the wife of Edward Holmes, the former state representative.

Crowell's reasoning is that at-large voting in Chatham County makes it unnecessary to balance commissioners' districts by population. "Residency districts have no state or federal requirement to remain within the ten percent variance, because all voters in the county vote on all candidates," he said.

Robert Joyce, an attorney at UNC's Institute of Government, agrees. "There is no statute, either federal or state, which requires redistricting based on the number of residents, because the filing is based on residence and voting done at-large."

However, lawyer and Chatham County resident Staples Hughes strongly disagrees. "It's my understanding that the districts must first be balanced equally, which is not the case in Chatham County."

Dunlap, the commissioners' chairman, says he hasn't ruled out redistricting in the future. "Probably we will have to consider redistricting some time in the future," he said.

No group has formally petitioned the commissioners for redistricting, although several residents of northern Chatham have approached Commissioner Uva Holland, who represents District 1. "I have assured those that have asked that I will look into the matter," Holland said.

The issue may get addressed through a political route. At a meeting in March, Democrats from the East Mann's Chapel precinct adopted a "resolution concerning the need for redistricting or reapportionment of seats for Chatham County Board of Commissioners." The resolution will go to the county

Democratic Party this month and, if approved, to the state Democratic Convention.

Meanwhile, Keith Brown, the northern Chatham resident, has taken on the task of preparing a report outlining several recommendations for possible ways to redistrict Chatham County. He hopes to present his findings to the commissioners for consideration.

"I was curious as to where all the commissioners came from," said Brown. "I discovered the eastern part of the county, which is one-third of the population, was in one district with only one commissioner. The numbers for the rest of the population was out of proportion."

Brown moved to Chatham County two years ago. He is typical of residents in the northeastern section of the county, where many commute to work in Chapel Hill or Research Triangle Park. The most significant increase in population in the county has taken place in Baldwin and Williams Townships in District 1, the areas closest to Chapel Hill.

In addition, the senior citizen population has increased by 65 percent over the last 20 years in Chatham County. Again, most of the increase is in the northeastern section of the county, where residents enjoy a rural atmosphere close to medical facilities, universities and cultural activities.

Chatham County's neighbor, Orange County, uses a county-wide at-large election system. The greatest shortcoming of this method — all the commissioners are from Chapel Hill.

The outcome of the commissioners' redistricting is expected to affect the Chatham County Board of Education, whose members are elected the same way as commissioners.

When North Chatham Elementary School opened two years ago, administrators had to immediately install classroom trailers because of rapid growth in the area. A new school is scheduled to be built for northeast Chatham during the 1994-95 school year along with additional classrooms for North Chatham Elementary.

Based on population projections provided by the N.C. Department of Human Resources, if the growth continues as rapidly as it has been going, it is possible these facilities will be too small before they are completed.

Chatham Record

1 at Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Thursday, August 25, 1994

30 Pages

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County begins process of redrawing districts

By Bob Wachs
Staff Writer

Chatham County's five commissioners Monday night, late in their lengthy meeting, turned the key to start the process of redistricting the county commission and school board.

Chairman Henry Dunlap proposed the board secure the services of an attorney and a legislative staff member to help put the process together.

"I'd propose getting somebody from (Raleigh attorney) Michael Crowell's office and Jerry Cohen at the legislature to go through the material we have," Dunlap said. "They could work with the percentages and the numbers and possibilities and get a proposal that's fair."

Crowell is a partner in the Raleigh law firm of Tharrington, Smith, and Hargrove and is regarded as a national expert in voting rights and municipal districting matters. He devised the plan Siler City put in place when it switched from a total at-large basis to one of districts several years ago.

The issue of redistricting the county has come up from time to time recently. In April, the county Democratic Party, meeting in its annual convention, presented a resolution calling on the board to look at the issue.

That resolution pointed out that most of the population growth had occurred in the northern and eastern portions of the county and said its representation was out of line with its population. Presently the county has four districts. Two commissioners come from District 4, which includes Siler City and represents approximately 32 percent of the county's population.

District 1, the most populous district with approximately 30 percent

of the county population, has one member on the board.

Districts were last drawn for Chatham County almost 20 years ago when Ed Holmes of Pittsboro was a member of the state House of Representatives.

At the time the Democratic Party adopted its resolution, a report prepared by Keith Brown, a resident of north Chatham, was submitted. That paper outlines several possible alternatives to the current board.

At Monday night's commission meeting, Brown and others supporting the proposal were present. Dunlap acknowledged their presence and said, "We're not going to hide behind this. It will be an open process that we hope won't take long. We invite your participation. If this weren't a regular meeting we'd invite your comments now."

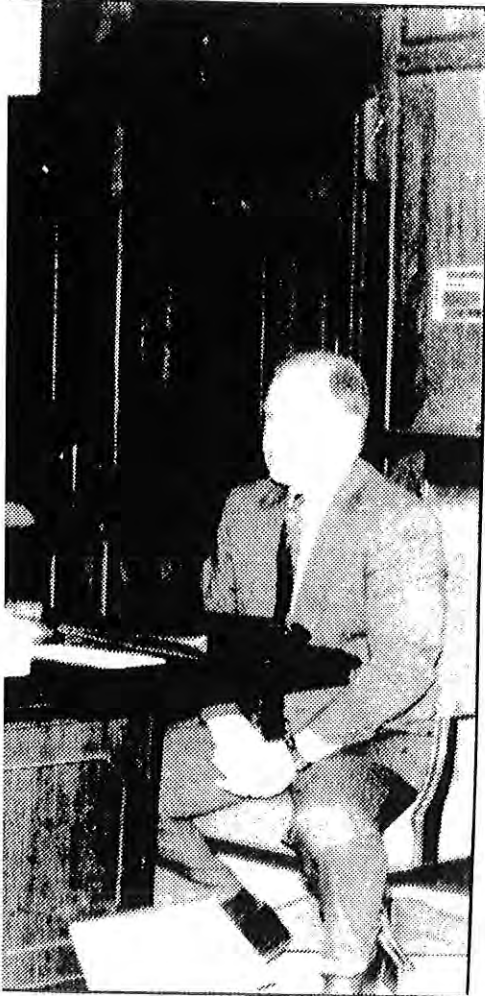
After the meeting, north Chatham resident Hubert Oakley, a longtime supporter of redistricting, chastised the board for not allowing Brown to speak. "He's been trying to get on the agenda," Oakley said. "He asked to be on in July but that was a day meeting and hard for him to get off work."

"Henry said he wanted something official from the party but the only thing we had was a resolution that hadn't been amended to include the school board." At this week's meeting, Dunlap pointed out that the resolution he had seen did not include that board as a part of the measure.

Oakley spoke from the floor, saying the resolution had been amended by the party to include the school board.

County manager Ben Shivar said Tuesday that not including Brown

(See 'Districts,' Page 13-A)



of that term must be filled at the next scheduled election. Pollard, appointed by voters in May to serve until the election, will be replaced by Republican Tony Antonelli. Seated at right is County Manager Johnny Butts. (Photo by Jeralie

ham Record

about . . .

ning

d from Page 1-A

income families or individuals on Anthony Street in Pittsboro.

JOCCA has asked the town for "assistance and cooperation in obtaining tax-exempt status from the town of Pittsboro for these dwelling units."

While recognizing that a decision concerning the request will be made under the jurisdiction of Chatham County, town board members were not enthusiastic about the removal of these properties from town tax rolls.

They went on record as opposing the request.

Taxes paid to the town in 1993 for these homes was \$837.29.

Robert Beal's request for a rezoning of a portion of his property from R-10 to C-2 was approved. This allows for enough property to create a one-acre C-2 zoned lot, as per the planning board's recommendation.

ners vote to change lot rthern Chatham County

a county land-use process that works well. I see no reason to change."

Board member E.T. Hanner spoke up at that point. "In the short term," he said, "I see no reason to change. But Mary said the county might put in water and sewer and that it would benefit more money to the county for one acre. I go along with that."

At a public hearing July 18, officials of both Chapel Hill and the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) were among the persons asking commissioners to leave the area RA-90. Those persons said they feared increased density in the

Districts

Continued from Page 1-A

on the agenda was an oversight but that he would be welcome to have that opportunity.

"I don't have any final say on what the agenda is," Shivar said, "but I have no problem with Mr. Brown being on it and I don't think the board will. He will probably be asked to be on the next one."

At this week's board meeting, Shivar and his staff presented a list of the experiences of other counties in redrawing their district lines recently. A number of them had done so because of the threat of court action, in part to make sure of minority representation.

Board member Mary Hayes Holmes said that issue was not a problem in Chatham County and encouraged her counterparts to consider remaining at five members. "Even Durham County, as big as it is, has only five members," she said.

Vice chair Uva Holland also spoke about that issue, saying she had talked with board members from a number of counties. "Some have had five (members), some have had nine, some 11," she said.

"They all told me to stay with five, that we would be better satisfied."

ernors Club, Fearington Village, and Carolina Meadows — in the area as an alternative.

The issue of changing the zoning surfaced at a commission meeting in March. At that meeting, board members authorized a study of the matter and proposed the public hearings.

Holmes, who has been identified with more strict development regulations through her service on the board, said on several occasions prior to this week's board meeting that the tighter requirements of RA-90 were "unfairly penalizing ourselves." She also said it was in

Centers

Continued from Page 1-A

relationship where there's confidence and trust between the helper and helpee. ... (The center) must serve as a bridge to outside services available."

Four goals for resource centers are listed in the grant application packet:

- Enhance every child's development and ability to attain academic and social success;
- Ensure a successful transition from early childhood education programs and child care to the public school;
- Assist families in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency, and;
- Mobilize public and private community resources to help children and families in need.

Grant money for the project is available from the state Department of Human Resources and totals \$200,000 a year for three years. After three years, projects should then be eligible for at least partial funding or possibly more. None of the money, however, can be used for construction of a new facility.

Three to five grants may be awarded, according to information in the grant application packet.

Lail said the grant application would probably be made through Joint-Orange/Chatham Community Action, Inc., but administered through a local team of facilitators, of which the state requires 30 percent to be families. That team could also include city and county leaders and department heads from local businesses.

"This is our opportunity to participate in the undeniable changes that are coming to our way of life," Lail said. He later termed the task at hand, culminating ideas to write the

grant, to be "monumental," by having a chance somewhat of a precedent communities near the Trian

Caldwell County current Family Resource Center.

A portion of Friday's which included guest speakers from the areas of human services, public education, was a group of five groups discussing such topics where the center would be needed and resources of planning and design of the staffing and volunteer transportation, and overall zation.

The five groups that assembled, not to segregate but to offer an unbridged opinion of various sections of society: the Hispanic/Latino community, the African-American community, the Caucasian community, and Government Department Heads, and Elected Officials Local Business Representatives.

Some suggestions that came during a wrap-up discussion all the groups were to use the Chatham Middle School for the center when the school is built and for the center to have its own paid staff. A suggestion was that the center be open seven days a week.

Those who met Friday encouraged to attend another meeting this Friday (Aug. 26) from 7 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., again at Family Ministries. This will be for discussing the progress and getting more participants. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch.

Board decides no to change terms

By Bob Wachs
Staff Writer

Members of the Chatham County Planning Board will still have to be off the board at least one year after serving two terms before they can be reappointed.

dinance says, "that Planning Board members shall represent the practical, the geographic, socioeconomic, sexual and racial makeup of the county."

Messinson told board

Townsend promoted to vice president



SHANNAN TOWNSEND

Shannan Spence Townsend of Siler City, has been promoted to Vice President of First Union National Bank of North Carolina. She will be doing corporate underwriting.

Prior to her promotion, Townsend was Assistant Vice President/Charlotte and Greensboro; Corporate Banker in Charlotte, and Commercial Lender in Greensboro. She joined First Union in September 1987.

A graduate of Wake Forest University, Townsend is the daughter of Ed and Becky Spence of Siler City. She and her husband Doug, have one daughter, Virginia Anne.

County board tables decision on tax on motel, hotel room

By Bob Wachs
Staff Writer

A public hearing at Tuesday's county commission meeting on a resolution to enact a room occupancy tax drew just one speaker on the matter.

And after hearing from that person — Richard Delaney, general manager of the Fearington House and Inn — board members agreed to wait until their next meeting on Sept. 19 to make a decision.

In May, during the recent "short session" of the N.C. General Assembly, the legislature passed a local bill to allow Chatham County to levy an occupancy tax of up to three percent of the gross receipts for room rental. The law requires that the county conduct a public hearing on 10 days notice before voting on the proposal.

Delaney told commissioners his firm has a concern that such a tax would be detrimental to travel and tourism in the county. "It's been shown an occupancy tax has hurt tourism," he said. "Large groups planning for conventions turn elsewhere."

Preliminary figures from the county manager's office estimate a three percent tax would produce slightly over \$45,000. Of that amount, it is projected the Fearington Inn would pay slightly more than \$26,000, more than half the total tax revenue. An attorney for the Inn told assistant to the county manager Renee Dickson that such a tax would be "unfair."

Delaney also asked commissioners Monday about distribution of the revenue. "If it's passed," he said, "we'd like to know about the distribution. Would there be a public committee for distribution?"

During its earlier discussions about the prospect of such a tax, board members said they would propose spending the revenue on travel, tourism, and other measures that would promote those activities in the county.

Wording of the bill passed by the legislature requires that type of disbursement. The county must spend at least two-thirds of the net proceeds from the tax to promote travel and tourism. The remainder

must be spent on tourism-related activities.

Under the requirements in the bill, "promote travel and tourism" means advertising or marketing an area or activity, publishing and distributing pamphlets and other materials, conducting market research, engaging in promotional activities that attract tourists or business travelers to the area, and administrative expenses related to those activities.

"Tourism-related activities" is defined as "expenditures that are designed to increase the use of lodging facilities in the county or to attract tourists or businesses travelers to the county." Under the law, that can include expenditures to construct, maintain, operate or market a convention or meeting facility, a visitors' center, or a coliseum or other expenditures that, in the judgment of the board, will promote tourism.

In deciding whether to ask the General Assembly for the bill, commissioners considered a number of questions. They included impact on local hotel and motel owners, the amount of revenue the county will collect, the response from organizations that promote travel and tourism, and a comparison of surrounding counties and what they do, if anything. Chatham County has five lodging

establishments. Fear an a other • B an av • S room \$30; • V an av • L an av Wi are b Wjü estirn twd, p estimi cent i motel \$45.0 one-tl county year's Cou board tax at memb memb the en board chairm the cu the; Com next b 19, at room i

Basis for Democratic Party request for new system . . .

County hears from citizen who wrote new district plan

By Bob Wachs
Staff Writer

North Chatham resident Keith Brown got his chance Tuesday.

Brown, who wrote a paper suggesting possible new districts for both the county commission and county school board, had wanted the opportunity to present his request and data to commissioners.

That paper served as the backbone and basis for a resolution adopted by the county Democratic Party when it met last summer. At that session, the party asked commissioners to look into revising the current system in favor of one it said would be more equitable.

Currently Chatham County is divided into four districts with five members of both boards. District Four, which includes Siler City, has two members. Brown's contention

is that the representation is out of line because both District 4 and District 1, which includes north Chatham, have the same percentage of population.

At the last board meeting, commissioners authorized county manager Ben Shivar to contact Raleigh attorney Michael Crowell, a nationally-recognized authority in voting and district matters. Crowell authored the plan that Siler City put in place when it moved from an all-at-large system to one including both at-large and districts.

Brown had hoped to appear before commissioners at their last commission meeting but was not placed on the agenda.

Tuesday afternoon he thanked board members for the opportunity and said county manager Ben Shivar "has explained the mix-up and I have no hard feelings."

Brown went on to say he had little to add to what was in his written report asking for new districts.

He did ask the board to consider several points as it moves along in the process.

One was to look at making precincts the basic political unit rather than continue to use townships. He said the combination of both was confusing at times.

A second request was to consider increasing the number of board members from five to seven. He said that move could insure the county did not lose its rural voice on the board. He also offered the board his services for the process.

Commissioners thanked Brown for his information and insight and said the process of looking at redistricting would continue.

N. Chatham Fire Department to take over county STAR team

Chatham County and the North Chatham Fire Department have agreed to a contract that places the county STAR team under the direction of the fire department.

Under that contract, the STAR (Special Training and Response) team will function as a countywide unit, concentrating on hazardous materials response and high level rescue.

Several weeks ago, North Chatham offered to house and accept responsibility for the STAR team and its operations. That offer came after a commissioners' meeting at which the team and its relationship with other emergency agencies was discussed.

At that meeting, county officials said they had a concern about insurance coverage for team members and their activities. STAR team leaders said they had been told by their carrier that they had adequate insurance to function.

At an August 8 county board meeting, commissioners agreed to accept North Chatham's offer, contingent upon a separate contract with the county for the service. County manager Ben Shivar and attorney Bob Gunn told commissioners that seemed the best arrangement to provide for the ser-

vices offered by the STAR team while at the same time minimizing liability for the STAR team, North Chatham Fire Department, and the county.

At the county board meeting this week, Shivar told commissioners the contract was agreeable to all parties. "Our primary concern has been the liability," he said, "of an organization we don't control using county equipment under hazardous conditions."

Associated with the contract was a budget request from the STAR team for \$10,000 for the 1994-95 fiscal year. Shivar told the board it was his opinion that since the STAR team was to be a countywide unit that revenues raised from the North Chatham Fire District tax could not be used for the team.

That request includes funds for training, insurance, supplies, equipment and truck maintenance as well as gas, oil, and tires, telephone, a computer and two foam units.

Commissioner Mary Hayes Holmes asked if the TEAM would have funds available to buy a new truck when the current vehicle has to be replaced. "Will they save money for a new truck," she said, "or ask for it at the time saying 'OK county, give us \$30,000 for a

truck.'? Would that money have to come out of fund balance?"

Shivar said fund balance or some other source would have to be made available.

Patrol has slow weekend

Highway Patrol troopers in Chatham County had somewhat of a quiet holiday this past Labor Day, according to Chatham/Lee District Acting 1st Sgt. J.B. Nipper.

There were no fatalities reported in Chatham County during the three-day weekend.

Although several one-car accidents were reported, most of those did not result in serious injuries, reports stated. The main highways, as expected, were heavily traveled, Nipper said.

Nipper added troopers conducted a few seat belt checkpoints during the day and "people are wearing their seat belts pretty good." Nipper said DWI totals for the holiday weekend mirrored that of any normal weekend.

Siler City board members sticks to 'clean-up' strategy

By Russ Smith
Staff Writer

Cleaning up Siler City's nuisance grassy areas and abandoned and junked cars has sparked somewhat of a controversy.

Commissioner Adam Smith brought up the idea to clean up unkempt grassy areas Aug. 15, during a meeting of the town commissioners. Smith read a town ordinance allowing planning director Reggie Scales to investigate the matter and issue notices to remedy the problem.

Tuesday night, Smith told commissioners he'd received a lot of positive comments from members of the public about the clean up. He also said he'd received some negative comments, too, but declined to specify.

Smith did speak, however, about a letter to the editor published in last week's Chatham News. That letter, from Sam Adams Jr., said although he maintained a belief residents should clean up the city, "I believe our city government should not cast stones when our city is a glass house."

Adams cited East and West Raleigh Street, North and South Chatham Avenue, North and South Second Avenue, and East and West Third Street as having overgrown areas. Adams also criticized city leaders for the authorization of new gravel to be put on the track at Boling Park.

"When it appears our city government takes as much pride in our city maintained property areas, right of ways, and ditches as it does in Boling Park (for example), then maybe our citizens will also in their personal property," he wrote. "Leadership by example."

Near the end of Tuesday's meeting, commissioner Smith pointed out that the above named streets were maintained by the state Department of Transportation and that he had no apologies for suggesting improvements at Boling Park.

As far as grassy areas, Scales said he'd issued 7 notices. Three of the

areas have been cleaned up, adding he expects to send out more notices.

Scales said property owners would probably have until mid-September to clean up. If they fail to do so, owners could face a \$100-a-day city penalty.

In a related matter, Scales said his sweep of the town for abandoned and junked cars on private property was going well, he said, adding he does most of that work on Wednesdays.

On Aug. 31, Scales said, 4 junked cars were towed.

Scal from t he pla man's Height whom remov Who on, the he wa said T board. warran The missed cause settled

Mayor names of task force members

By Russ Smith
Staff Writer

Five appointments were made to Siler City's Hispanic Task Force Tuesday night, officially completing the make up of the board.

Mayor Earl Fitts appointed to the board Hugo Lopez, a local Hispanic pastor, Beverly Crotts, program administrator for exceptional children for Chatham County schools, Sandra Coletta, a social service worker, Sue Fields, from the county health department, and Tommy Edwards, a teacher at Chatham Middle School.

The appointments came during a regular meeting of the Siler City Town Commissioners, held in the second-floor courtroom in city hall. The recommendations were unanimously passed by commissioners.

The new appointees will complement Siler City commissioners Robert Siler and Pem Hobbs who were previously appointed by the town board.

In an agenda memorandum, Fitts

said Sile the task the task debate i Hispanic City, in barriers, impact c

Fitts s expects suggesti non-His, and state

The H City has tion late dematic against where a much-he funds to Center. S to bridge Hispanic in Siler C No dat force ma sions abc issue.

Chatham County still has over 130 open-air "greenboxes" such as these on Oakley Church Road near Siler City. The old unstaffed facilities are difficult to monitor and are often subjected to all

manner of illegal dumping from unallowed materials to use (vents. Many of the locations attract stray animals (right) in sanitary. (Photos by Jeff Davis)

Illegal dumping still big problem in

By Bob Wachs

Chatham County officials just approved an advertising and public relations campaign aimed at luring tourists and vacationers to visit the county, touted as one of the last unspoiled scenic spots of the state and nation.

Whether that pans out or not remains to be seen but one thing is obvious.

If they come, to borrow a famous phrase from a famous movie,

there's one thing county leaders hope won't be seen.

Namely, the ugly open-air trash boxes and garbage sites, several of which are along busy highways such as U.S. 15/501 north of Pittsboro.

Hopefully, officials say, all those sites will be out of use by then. A total of four staffed recycling and collection centers remain to be opened from the ambitious program

of 12 begun several years ago. Two more — for the Siler City and Silk Hope areas — should be open by Christmas.

Meanwhile, even though the centers in use are performing well, those areas without them still are anything but garden spots. In addition to the site north of Pittsboro another sore spot is a location east of town on U.S. 64.

And, earlier this week, a "green-

box" site a few miles south of Siler City was a perfect example of all the improper uses of an old disposal site.

"Illegal dumping is a problem," said county solid waste warden Willie Womble. "We work on it all the time and have an ordinance against it but it still happens."

Illegal dumping can include a number of situations, including:

- throwing away a furniture;
 - discarding animal
 - dumping of trash than households; and,
 - disposal of trash
- Chatham county resident on Oakley Church Road those violations were maybe even all of the

Commissioners still split on districts

By Chris Goodson

A week after the Chatham County commissioners redrew county voting districts on a split vote, board members are still divided.

"I disagreed with them then and I disagree with them now," said Commissioner John Grimes, who was one of two commissioners who voted against the proposal.

Grimes said that the plan approved last Monday went against

the wishes of many county residents.

"They can't see rhyme or reason why this plan was any better than the one the school board adopted," he said.

The school board adopted a plan in March that divided the county into four districts along precinct lines.

Grimes tried unsuccessfully to present that plan, which was designed by Keith Brown, now the

County Democratic Party Vice-Chair, to the commissioners for discussion at a March 20 meeting.

Grimes said Monday that people have told him that they are upset about the new plan, and think that the school board plan should have been adopted instead.

The plan approved last Monday night was first presented by Commissioner Betty Wilson at meeting. The plan, a modification of a proposal by Michael Crowell, a

Raleigh attorney and expert on voting rights legislation, divides the county into 5 districts, each with one commissioner.

In the previous plan, district four had a larger population and two commissioners.

Wilson said that the old system was out of balance, and that having one district for each commissioner makes sense.

"It kind of spells things out," she said.

Wilson said that she knows that Grimes and others are not happy with the new plan, but that it is good for the county.

"It's just hard to get a plan that everybody's happy with," she said.

But Grimes said that his major concern is that the commissioners went against the recommendations of county residents who spoke at an Aug. 24 hearing on redistricting.

Grimes said that most of the 15 people who spoke urged adoption of the school board plan. He added that these people were from all areas of the county and from both political parties.

"It's not a political party thing at all," he said.

At last Monday's meeting, Wilson told Grimes that she might agree to the school board plan if it

After board decides not to reverse decision . . .

North Siler City precinct will vote at CCCC campus

Chatham County's Board of Elections has decided not to reverse itself in an earlier decision that moved the long-time North Siler City precinct from Chatham Middle School.

At an Oct. 17 meeting, the board of elections unanimously voted to move the polling place from Chatham Middle School to the Central Carolina Community Col-

lege campus — the old Henry Siler School on West Third Street.

The change was made, elections board executive secretary Betty West said, at the request of county Democratic Party chairman Charlie Bolton and North Siler City precinct chair Bessie Hedrick.

But another longtime Democrat Party official, Kathryn Scotton, registrar of that precinct, ques-

tioned the move. She said she was disappointed at the action of the elections board.

Scotton, who is black, said she had heard some people have said some white voters "are afraid and feel threatened because a young man was killed at a nearby part (a city park adjacent to the school).

(See 'Precinct', Page 13-A)



Until comm

Board land

By Chris G

Fearing misunde residents in the we county, and lack- qualified planning f board of commis last week to hold c wide land-use plan.

The land-use pla been the first step i wide zoning, a pro



(See 'Districts', Page 13-A)

Parades set in Goldston, Pittsboro

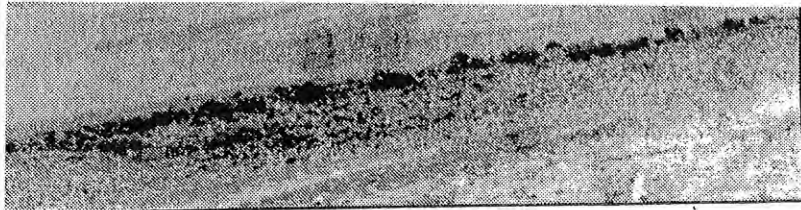
The annual Goldston Christmas parade is Saturday and this year there's something extra coming with it.

This year when the parade is over, instead of having to hurry back to his workshop, Santa will remain in town to visit.

Thanks to a special arrangement between Santa and his elves and the Chatham County Sheriff's Department, Santa will be at the sheriff's department office on South Main Street when the parade is over. Youngsters wanting to talk to Santa may come by the office.

The parade will begin at 1 p.m. and move through town south along Main Street. Organizers say there are a number of entries, including three local marching bands.

The Yuletide season officially



d (Continued from Page A-1)

ps there needs scheduled," he

usually devel- s enacted. The a detailed in- process, input and technical is not legally ctis a guide for tions and other

The commissioners allocated \$30,000 for a land development plan in the 1995-96 budget, with the intention of hiring a private firm to handle the complex task of compiling the plan.

But out of 12 firms solicited for proposals by the county, only two responded.

At a meeting earlier in the month, County Planning Director Keith Megginson said that neither of the

two firms submitting bids had the experience in land use planning that the county was hoping for.

At the Nov. 20, meeting the commissioners decided to wait until spring before resubmitting the project for bidding.

Grimes said that the extra time will allow for many small meetings, where people can have their questions about the land-use plan answered.

inct (Continued from Page A-1)

what percent of it moved," she

lton's request, him to have suitable place. prerogative of to change the ne it wished. oving the poll- secretary Will

Heiser made the motion to make the change and Mary B. Harris, who is black, offered a second.

At the board's meeting last week, Harris brought up the matter once again. She said she had heard from many citizens of Siler City opposing moving the polling place. Let-

ters from both Charlie Bolton and Bessie Hedrick were received favoring the change.

After considerable discussion, Harris made a motion to rescind the previous action and Heiser offered a second. The vote on the matter saw Heiser and board chairman Staples Hughes vote against the motion while Harris was in favor.

Districts (Continued from Page A-1)



were divided into five districts instead of four, but discussion was halted when Commissioner Margaret Pollard called the question, requiring a vote on Wilson's plan.

Wilson said this week that having five districts will make it easier for people to run for a seat on the board.

"It's better for the county," she said.

Grimes said that another problem with the plan adopted last week is that he and Commissioner Henry Dunlap will be affected the most even though they voted against it.

Grimes and Dunlap were both elected from district 4, but under the new system, Grimes is in district 5 and Dunlap is in district 4.

Grimes said that the fact that the commissioners from the eastern end of the county came up with a plan to redraw lines on the western end is upsetting to some people.

"I just can't see why they're taking it upon themselves to decide that," he said.

But Wilson said that Dunlap and Grimes have expressed the need for a five district system in the past because a two-seat district meant a larger race with more candidates.

"John and Henry have complained about having to run against four people," she said.

The issue of redistricting first came up in April of 1994, when the county Democratic party adopted a resolution at its annual convention asking the county commissioners to consider changing the districts, which were drawn in the early 1970s.

In November of 1994, the board adopted a redistricting plan by outgoing commissioner Mary Hayes Holmes that kept the number of districts at four, but evened out the population in each district.

This plan was sent to the state General Assembly, but was scrapped in June and replaced by a measure allowing the commissioners to redistrict themselves after holding a public hearing.

County elections officials said Monday that having five districts instead of four will not complicate the Board of Elections' job, or add any extra cost.

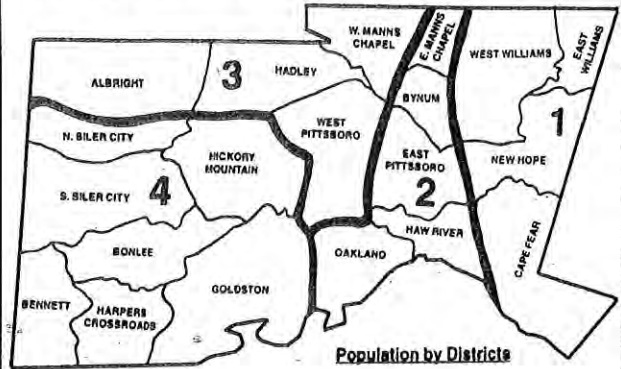
"It would just be another section on the ballot," said Betty West, Director of Elections.

All county residents can vote for all seats on the board, but the residency districts limit the number of people that can be elected from any one district.

The new districts were implemented in time to be used in the 1996 primary elections. Filing begins on Jan. 1.

shown as medium lines). Precincts are also shown (precinct names are in small capital letters; boundaries are shown with thin lines).

PLAN SENT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

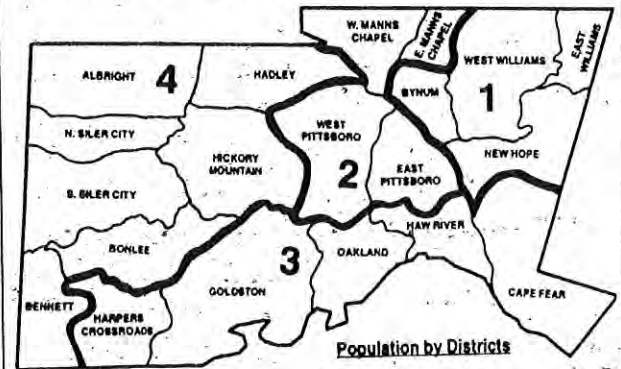


Population by Districts

1-	6,795	(1 seat)
2-	7,116	(1 seat)
3-	7,503	(1 seat)
4-	17,345	(2 seats)

This plan, based on precincts, was okayed unanimously by county commissioners in 1994 and sent to the General Assembly for approval. The legislature killed the plan, and passed a law allowing the county to redistrict itself after holding a public hearing.

PLAN ADOPTED BY SCHOOL BOARD



Population by Districts

1-	7,255	(1 seat)
2-	8,236	(1 seat)
3-	6,940	(1 seat)
4-	16,328	(2 seats)

While the discussion of districts was ongoing in the legislature, the county school board approved this plan. State law does not require that commissioners and school board use the same district lines, but although that was the case in Chatham since the early 1970s. County Commissioners John Grimes asked the board of commissioners to consider this plan but his recommendation failed for lack of a second.

Chatham News/Record Art

illy Beth Goldston s. Goldston retired career, she served)

Chatham News

Views, Interests and News of the People of Chatham County

Siler City, NC 27344 • Thursday, March 16, 1995

38 Pages • Price 35¢



Redistricting will get second look by board

By Bob Wachs

Chatham County may get a new plan for dividing the county into districts for seats on the county commission.

Then again, it may not.

It all depends on what the five-member board does over the next few days. The first formal opportunity for such discussion will come at a 9 a.m. meeting Monday, March 20.

That session is actually a continuation of the board's March 13 meeting, which was recessed until next Monday so it could legally comply with another matter. Initially the board had decided to recess that meeting to give county attorney Bob Gunn the opportunity to complete a resolution calling for a \$5.3 million school bond.

By recessing the session, the board avoided having to advertise the resolution, an event which could postpone the May school bond vote.

Now, however, following a Tuesday night session with members of the county's legislative delegation, commissioners find themselves needing to deal not only with the bond but with the question of redistricting.

At the heart of the matter is a plan approved in late November that creates four new districts for the county commission. The impetus for that action had come from the county Democratic party which requested last April that such a move be made.

The rationale behind the request was that the current District 1 (northeastern Chatham) had as much population as District 4 (western Chatham), which has two seats. The county was not in violation of any federal voting rights legislation since the districts are residency districts only and every county voter gets to vote for each seat on the board — the "one person, one vote" federal credo.

Commissioners nonetheless agreed to look into the matter. And

after weeks of meetings and discussions, including advice from Raleigh attorney Michael Crowell, a recognized authority on voting rights and districting, they unanimously adopted a plan put forth by outgoing board member Mary Hayes Holmes which created four new districts.

Although District 4 retains two seats, the number of constituents served by each commissioner is within a similar range.

That plan was scheduled to go to the legislature for consideration as a local bill, along with a request that commissioners also be given the authority to redistrict themselves each 10 years — based on the federal census — if any adjustment was deemed necessary to ensure equal representation.

Commissioners met in Raleigh Tuesday night with the House and

(See 'Districts', Page 13-A)

On redistricting seats . . .

School board takes no action so far

Although a proposal has been put forth for new districts for seats on the Chatham County board of commissioners, the five-member board of education, which presently elects members from the same district, is quiet on the new proposal.

Members of that board have made no formal decision about their preference — keeping the current or asking to join the new proposal — saying only they are studying the matter.

Board of education members have talked about the matter on numerous occasions. If they opted to join the new commission proposal, they would find themselves with one district with no

member and another one-district seat with two members.

"Our board is carefully looking at the issue," school superintendent Larry Mabe said, "but has not taken any action yet."

Board members do not appear enthusiastic about the new proposal. Member Cadle Cooper of Bynum said the new proposal would completely change the eastern end of the county and Susan Holt Helmer said the matter called for "serious study." Board member Gaynelle Armour said she wanted to take her time studying options, adding, "I don't want us to rush into something too quickly."

In appointing commissioners . . .

County Democrats may ask for change

By Bob Wachs

Officials of the Chatham County Democratic Party said this week a proposal may be made at the county convention April 22 to change the way Chatham County fills vacancies on the board of commissioners.

Party chairman Johnny Butts said he would not be surprised to see such a measure, likely in the form of a resolution, when the party convenes for its annual convention.

Any change in the current process would involve legislative approval. If a change were sought through a local bill, the deadline for such measures to be introduced — March 29 in the House of Representatives, about a week later in the Senate — will have passed by the time the Democrats meet.

Butts said he has heard from some party members unhappy with the way a vacancy was filled last

(See 'Democrats', Page 13-A)

Separate class . . .

number of Chatham County youngsters who do not think of — discipline. For an incident, turn to page C-1. (Photo by Jeff

Center . . .

Land condemned

Action on the matter duplicates a previous decision last August 8 in which the board agreed that the site was the preferred location for a center in the area. Since then, however, commissioners had instructed the county public works department to search for alternative sites.

For a period of time none were available. But Monday public works director Jim Stewart and recycling coordinator Matt Young told the board a two-acre site northwest of the crossroads at the inter-

(See 'Center', Page 13-A)

Veteran Siler City police officer resigns after restaurant incident

By Alan D. Resch
A veteran Siler City police

Robert Siler has identified the juvenile as his daughter and explained

magistrate realized the girl was a minor

given two choices: he could leave the scene in

The Chatham News . . . More About

Districts

(Continued from Page 1-A)

Senate members who represent Chatham County in what has become an annual affair. At those sessions, board members and county staff have an opportunity to discuss issues of local significance and to talk about possible local bills.

Legislators generally prefer that any local bill be non-controversial in nature and presented with a unified local front. Discussion Tuesday night quickly revealed that was not the case.

Commissioner John Grimes raised the same point he had raised in Monday's board meeting, specifically that he had conversations with a number of people who told them they were dissatisfied with the new proposal.

At least two other commissioners — Henry Dunlap and Betty Wilson — said they had not been contacted about the matter. During Monday's meeting, Grimes, the lone Republican board member, had made two motions dealing with redistricting but both failed for lack of a second.

One motion was for the issue not to be presented at all to the local delegation and the second was for the board to reconsider the matter.

Although neither was considered and the matter was, in fact, brought to the delegation's attention, it now goes back for another local look.

Sen. Tina Little said Tuesday night that she had also had some conversations with county residents unhappy with the proposal.

Grimes repeated his concern that the decision had been made by a "lame duck" board at its last meeting and that the new board, with two new members, had not had a chance to be involved in any way.

At the Tuesday night session, legislators told commissioners they had three options: submit the bill as is and see if it could be passed, not submit the bill; and submit it but hold it up in committee until commissioners could agree on a recommendation.

Board members opted for the latter and will take up the matter Monday.

Pittsboro gets street trees

By Jeralie Andrews

Jack-hammers and construction rigs are shaking up the streets of Pittsboro again but there's an end in sight — some greenery on the town's main street.

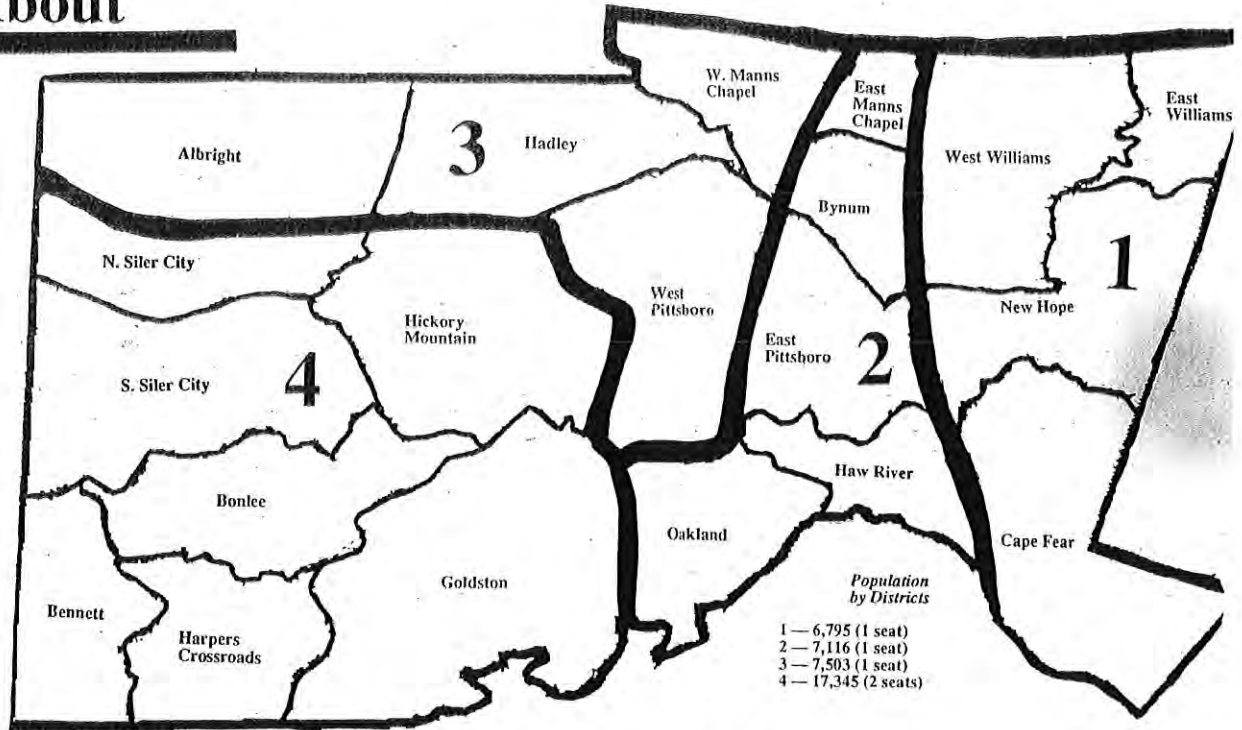
The N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) is now doing things its way, as far as the Robbins Opaia Hollies are concerned.

Instead of following the original plans — previously approved by DOT — to place the trees in boxes on the sidewalks, they are to be planted in the street in parking spaces.

But folks shouldn't worry about the trees hornning in on business parking spots. Town manager Ken Cornatzer said none will be lost. New space lines will be re-striped and parking spots will move closer to the courthouse circle.

There are a number of reasons why DOT had a change of heart about tree location. Underground conduit is the major consideration, Cornatzer said.

Never mind that DOT had previously approved and bid the plan. The decision showing the loca-



Current proposal for districts, which will get a second look

Center

(Continued from Page 1-A)

section of the Flint Ridge and Red Terry roads could be bought, even though it had been turned down at that same Aug. 8 meeting as an inappropriate location.

Young told commissioners the alternate site was not a good choice in and of itself and that it also deviated from criteria used in siting 10 other centers.

"At the sites where the county has constructed or purchased lands for convenience centers, all sites are located at major crossroads, along heavily-traveled primary roads and highways," Young said.

"The alternate site," he said, "is inappropriate," and listed a number of criteria, including:

- it's over one mile from the crossroads and nearly 1/2 mile up a secondary residential road;

- the only available access is the unpaved Red Terry Road;

- paving 350 feet of that road would cost \$8,500; and,

- traffic on what is strictly a residential dirt road would increase by 1,200 vehicles monthly.

Young also told board members that each month the center is postponed costs the county \$15,000.

"For each month the Crutchfield Crossroads siting process is delayed," he said, "the county pays \$12,500 in out-of-county disposal fees for waste collected from the unstaffed green box sites which serve the Crutchfield Crossroad and Siler City areas."

Young also said the county was paying almost \$2,500 in personnel costs and repairs to worn-out equipment.

"For the last round of centers constructed, each site averaged \$15,000 over the original \$125,000 budgeted," he said. "Future increases are increasingly likely the longer we take to complete the project."

Young cited two other concerns with additional delays.

"Since the Siler City and Crutchfield Crossroads centers need to be constructed at the same time," he said, "acquisition of land at Crutchfield Crossroads is delaying construction of the Siler City center as well."

That center will be built east of town just north of U.S. 64 on the Silk Hope Road.

And Young's second concern was what he called illegal dumping into the old greenbox dumpsters by out-

of-county residents. "We're continuing to subsidize solid waste disposal programs of neighboring counties which have all long ago closed off access to out-of-county dumping in their county," he said.

"In effect, Chatham County is like a funnel, with garbage coming in from all borders."

County attorney Bob Gunn also gave board members something to chew on when he told them there could be a problem with the county changing its mind on its condemnation of the Phillips property.

Gunn told the board the county had owned the land since January when it deposited what it considered to be a fair purchase price with the clerk of court and completed a title transfer.

"If we abandon it now, you've got some significant to the owner. There's also a question of how you get rid of property. There are lots of questions." One of the said, was all attorney fees parties.

Board vice chair Bett then offered a motion to with the earlier proposal. "We've spent a lot of time not to condemn something don't want to. But with and money spent, it's time on."

John Grimes made a motion and he, Wil board chair Uva Holland favor of the proposal Margaret Pollard and Her lap cast votes against the n

Democrats

(Continued from Page 1-A)

summer. "Based on being contacted and some concerns expressed, I expect to see it (a resolution)," he said.

"Anybody can present a resolution from the floor," Butts said. "They come from precincts and would then be referred to a resolution committee."

Democratic Party precincts all

Pittsboro tables county request for waste center site

By Jeralie Andrews

across the county will meet Thursday, March 30.

Presently North Carolina has two statutes dealing with how vacancies on boards of commissioners are to

be handled.

One of those says the board of commissioners or the clerk of superior court, if the board fails to act, "shall consult the county executive

committee of the appropriate political party before filling a vacancy, but neither the board nor the clerk of the superior court is bound by the committee's recommendation."

That is the system in Chatham County, as we other counties, operates. that procedure that led to the appointment of Margaret Pollard to complete the second year term. Pollard is set on the board in the general election for the two years of that term.

The other system, while most points, does have a difference. Its wording "shall the county executive advise the appropriate party before filling the and shall appoint the party



NEWS

Chatham County

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Decides not to reopen redistricting . . .

County board stays with plan

By Bob Wachs

Chatham County commissioner John Grimes was not a happy man after Monday's board meeting. His request to have the group consider a proposal to redraw commissioner district lines not only wasn't approved but he couldn't even get it on the floor for discussion.

After the meeting, Grimes said the action by other board members was "arrogant".

"What raised my ire," he said, "was that we were asked by our local delegation (in the legislature) to work out a plan agreeable with everyone and then come forward with one.

"After that request from them, my motion to reconsider the plan died for lack of a second. That means they don't intend to do anything different. It shows the rest of the board is not willing to work out a plan."

At the center of the request by Grimes is a proposed redistricting plan adopted by commissioners in late November, 1994. That plan *redraws the lines in use for both the county commission and school board since the early 1970's.* Grimes said Monday at the meeting that the plan was "politically benign."

Its primary feature is to make District 1 in northeast Chatham County and District 4 in western Chatham County more in line with each other's population.

Although Chatham County's districts are residency districts only

and the county is in compliance with all voting rights laws, there has been a movement in several quarters to redraw the lines for sometime. An impetus to that came from the county Democratic Party when it met for its annual county convention last April and adopted a resolution calling for such action.

Although commissioners are elected from districts, every voter has the opportunity to vote for each seat on the five-member board.

At that November, 1994 meeting board members adopted a plan put forth by outgoing commissioner Mary Hayes Holmes. That proposal would then have to go before the General Assembly for consideration as a local bill. Deadline for submitting those bills to the state House of Representatives is March 29.

At a board meeting earlier this month, Grimes raised the question of reconsidering the issue, saying he had received numerous calls and contacts expressing concern about the proposal. He said most of them centered around the timing of the adoption by what he has referred to as a "lame duck" board. Commissioner Holmes and board member E.T. Hanner both went off the board at the first meeting in December.

At the time Grimes made those comments, commissioner Henry Dunlap said he disagreed, adding that he had not had anyone come to him complaining about the

(See 'Districts', Page 13-A)

School board opts

re-
n-
d-
es
to

Districts

(Continued from Page 1-A)

proposal. "As much as I love you," he told Grimes, "I can't support this."

Last week commissioners met with members of the legislative delegation that represents Chatham County to talk about local issues and possible legislation.

At that session, those representatives encouraged county commissioners to come forth with a

recommendation on redistricting that would be suitable to all members of that board.

This week, Grimes again said he was concerned about both the timing and the plan itself. "One of my main concerns is the rural areas bordering Moore County," he said, presenting an alternative proposal to the one adopted by the board last November. In that measure, a dis-

trict running almost east to west across the south end of the county is created, with all of Pittsboro again in one district — which it isn't in the November recommendation.

"There's a possibility of having two commissioners out of Siler City," he said, "and none from a rural area."

Grimes said the question of timing — when the November proposal was approved — troubles him. "For many years," he said, "the Republican citizens of Chatham County felt they were second-class citizens. Now to have a member of the board they feel some slight and some wounds that had begun to heal have been opened again."

Grimes the reopen the reconsideration. "I don't hear Uva Holland lack of a second

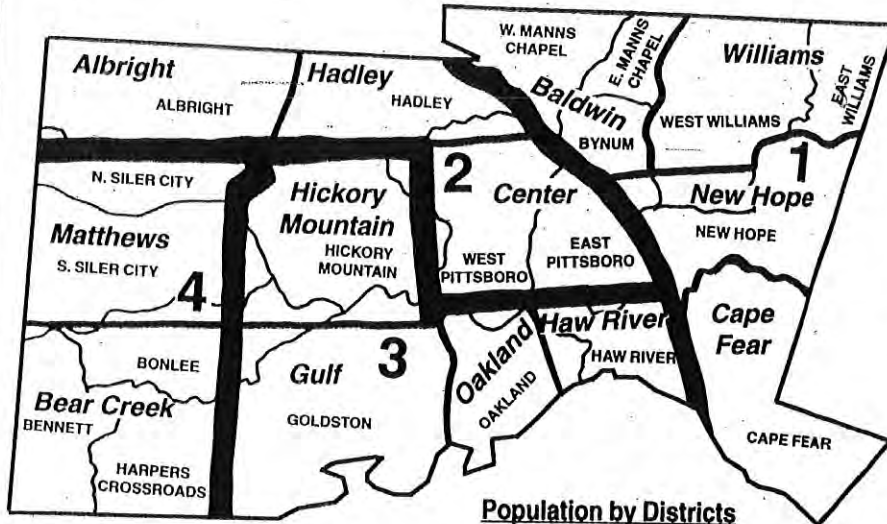
After the re-commissioners and vice chair in support of now goes to the "There is more for rural people member plan) concerned with on the board opportunity proposal."

Wilson said remind ourse county votes 1 ber."

Holland asl Bob Gunn if, to the deleg board's intent asked us to t there were any

PRESENT DISTRICTS (shown with heavy lines)

Based on Townships (italic, shown with medium lines)
(Precincts also shown, thin lines)



Population by Districts

1-	11,547	(1 seat)
2-	8,062	(1 seat)
3-	6,523	(1 seat)
4-	12,627	(2 seats)

School

(Continued from Page 1-A)

equal representation among the four districts, but also provides better population distribution within the districts.

"I personally like this one," he said, looking at the Grimes plan. Cooper said the plan even takes into consideration the growing population of northeastern Chatham County by making that district a small one.

Board member Susan Helmer agreed that the present system is too complicated and is not well balanced by population.

"I'm with Cadle," she said. "It has to be redistributed."

Cooper asked the board to decide on the plan Monday because the deadline for legislators to introduce bills for redistricting is approaching quickly.

"If you don't act on it we're going to have to stay with the old," he said.

Both the commissioners' plan and the school board version will now be considered in the North Carolina State Legislature as local bills.

Siler City gives nod to permit for school

By Milburn Gibbs
Siler City's new middle school is a step closer to breaking ground.

Siler City Planning Director Hank Graham recommended approval of the conditional use permit for the proposed Chatham Middle School, and the town board agreed at its meeting this week.

The proposed school will be located on a 100-acre site on the east side of South Second Avenue, north of Hancock Road (RPR 2117) (Dan Henry Siler Road), and south of College Street.

The board awarded the construction bid of \$10,500 under the Scattered Site Community Realization Grant award to McKoy's Construction, work items to be negotiated.

The bid is for housing rehabilitation for the property of Lydia Luterloh, located at 1307 N. Hodge Street, Siler City.

This is the final part of the 1993 grant money.

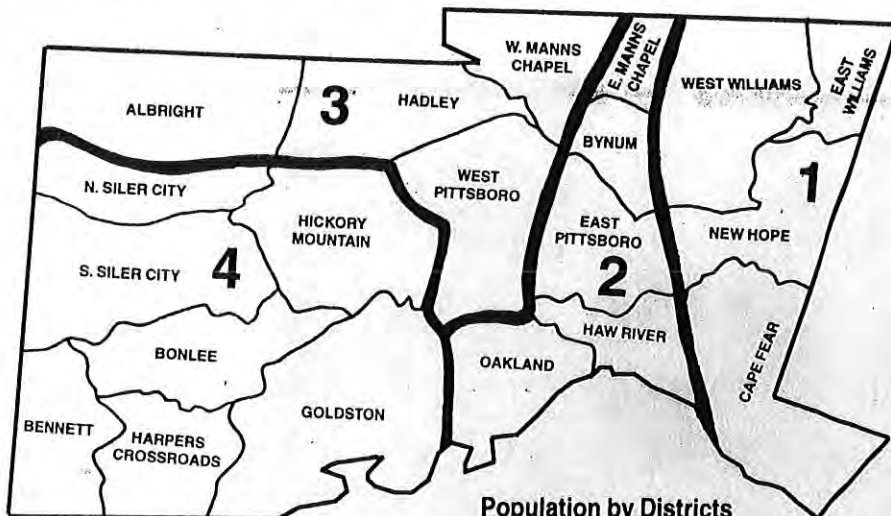
"1995 Project Graduation" requested a contribution from the town to help sponsor an alcohol and drug-free night to honor Siler City graduates.

The town board unanimously voted to participate with a \$150 sponsorship.

The board also approved a rezoning request from Townsends. An 11.262 acre parcel was approved as the site of a proposed office building, with parking.

BASED ON PRECINCTS

District plan adopted by County Commissioners last November and now being sent to General Assembly for consideration.

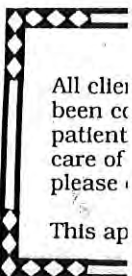


Population by Districts

1-	6,795	(1 seat)
2-	7,116	(1 seat)
3-	7,503	(1 seat)
4-	17,345	(2 seats)



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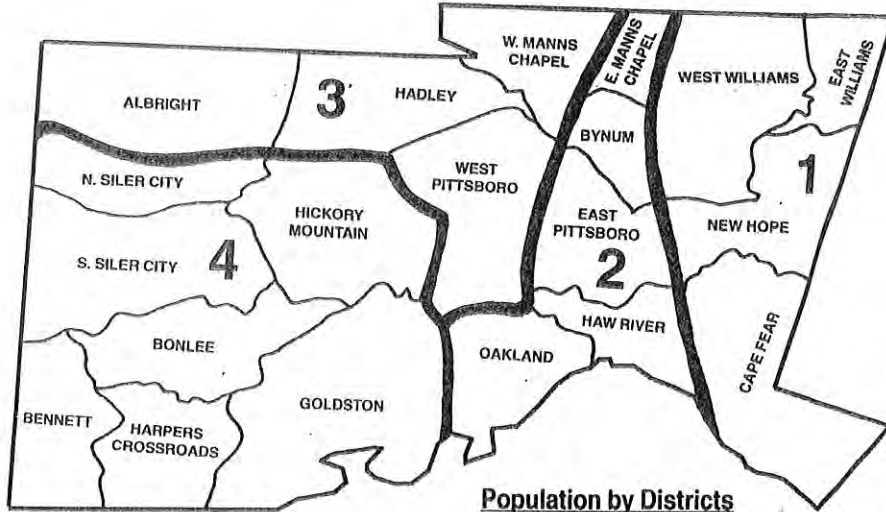
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District plan adopted by County Commissioners last november and now being sent to General Assembly for consideration.

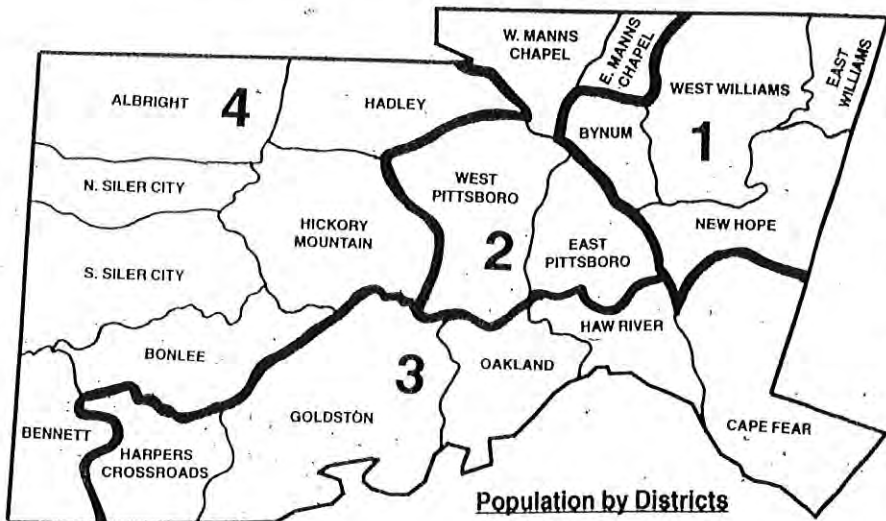


Population by Districts

- 1- 6,795 (1 seat)
- 2- 7,116 (1 seat)
- 3- 7,503 (1 seat)
- 4- 17,345 (2 seats)

BASED ON PRECINCTS

Districts proposed by Commisioner John Grimes and also adopted for use by County School Board this week.



Population by Districts

- 1- 8,390 (1 seat)
- 2- 10,383 (1 seat)
- 3- 8,730 (1 seat)
- 4- 20,101 (2 seats)

Graham recommended approval of the conditional use permit for the proposed Chatham Middle School, and the town board agreed at its meeting this week.

The proposed school will be located on a 100-acre site on the east side of South Second Avenue, north of Hancock Road (RPR 2117) (Dan Henry Siler Road), and south of College Street.

The board awarded the construction bid of \$10,500 under the Scattered Site Community Realization Grant award to McKoy's Construction, work items to be negotiated.

The bid is for housing rehabilitation for the property of Lydia Luterloh, located at 1307 N. Hodge Street, Siler City.

This is the final part of the 1993 grant money.

"1995 Project Graduation" requested a contribution from the town to help sponsor an alcohol and drug-free night to honor Siler City graduates.

The town board unanimously voted to participate with a \$150 sponsorship.

The board also approved a rezoning request from Townsends. An 11.262 acre parcel was approved as the site of a proposed office building, with parking.

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Record Art by Misty Powers

they have received approval for water supply from Chatham County Public Works for up to 40,000 GPD, but only 23,000 GPD wastewater is accounted for in the application; that it is unclear how the developer is implementing low impact development stormwater techniques; that low impact design stormwater techniques control stormwater more at its source than what is proposed in the request; that Cub Creek is already significantly negatively impacted by existing development in its watershed, most recently by Chatham Downs, and mitigation of further negative impacts is necessary to ensure that cumulative effects of development do not impair it further; that as a neighbor who will pass the development on a daily basis, she has an interest in its appearance; that a combination of shrubs with trees will provide a more opaque vegetated buffer; and that she is not clear if the development will be pedestrian friendly; that walkways are not apparent on the Site Plans. She summarized by saying that based on the application submitted, not all five required findings can be met, especially Finding #5; that for that reason, she encourages the Board to deny the request for a Conditional Use Permit at this time; that she understands the financial implication for the developer, but that he stands to make a tremendous profit from the development and the County has the right to have a more complete plan for such a comprehensive and complex wastewater project; that at the very least, the County should consider the following recommendations before this request is approved, given the location of the site along Cub Creek and its potential impacts on adjacent properties: 1) Increase stream buffer along Cub Creek to a minimum of 100 feet on each side; 2) Encourage use of low-impact development stormwater features that are distributed throughout the impervious site; and 3) Require more detailed wastewater treatment plan with map of sprayfield (or other disposal means) before sketch design approval.

Travis Blake, stated that he wanted to make it clear that he was from Chatham County; that he listens to people from other places who move into the County; and that the developments on which he is working are innovative and come from years of environmental experience. He answered citizens' questions.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a short break.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Commissioner Electoral Districts: Public comments on correcting Commissioner district population imbalances; Consideration of changing to electing commissioners by district; and Consideration of adding two additional commissioners

The Chairman explained the specifics of district imbalances.

Jeffrey Starkweather, 570 Old Goldston Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is a democrat and is the president of Chatham Coalition, which is a non-partisan; that he feels strongly that the County needs to redistrict as things are out of balance; that he is against voting by districts; that it will exacerbate tensions; that it will disenfranchise the rural and western parts of the County; that it will disenfranchise minorities; that he favors five districts with two at-large seats; that this is not the appropriate time during an election cycle; that one of the candidates on the ballot has come out in favor of this proposal; that when he moved here in 1972 commissioners were voted by district; that one of the reasons that it was changed to countywide voting by residency by district was the idea that the Commissioners should be representing all the people; that if we had also not had an African American elected to an office due to geography; that this minority is not in one district alone; that Commissioner-elect Thompson would not have won if the County had voted by district; that 67% of the voters are in the eastern part of the County; that if Commissioners were elected by district, they would not be aware of issues in other parts of the County; that this will highlight regional conflicts; that the advantage of adding two at-large commissioners would help reflect changes in population; that it would allow for more diversity on the Board; that Orange County would go to a blended system that votes by district during the primary and at large at the regular election; that the County should not be doing a referendum during this election; and that the County has time when the new Board gets into office to deal with this matter. Mr. Starkweather submitted comments

that he asked be made a part of the official record which are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Nick Meyer, 988 Boothe Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated his chief concern about districts is that it would be based on the numbers of the 2000 census; that the demographics have changed considerably in the last six years and will change again; and that the County needs to look at this long and hard to avoid as many unintended consequences as possible.

The Chairman stated that he had received a letter from Siler City Commissioner Sam Adams endorsing the redistricting idea and thanking the Board of Commissioners for bringing it to the citizen's attention. He stated that he had also received a letter from Goldston Mayor Tim Cunnup endorsing the idea.

Margie Ellison, 11538 Highway #902, Bear Creek, NC, stated that as she stood before the Board last night, she was disgusted; that as the Board considers this change, it will limit citizens rights; that it will create racial division; that she has spoken with over sixty citizens that do not want the Board to go forward; that redistricting requires a process of review and deliberation; that the consideration of a change appears to be an attack on the African American population and their community; that this change would be like politic genocide and would make their votes invisible; that this proposal will prevent people from working together; that this will divide the people, not unite them; and that she urges the Board of Commissioners to do what is in the best interest of Chatham County.

Carl Thompson, 67 Robert Thompson Road, Bear Creek, NC, stated that he wanted to go on record as being opposed to this option; that given the most recent population numbers, it is right to look at the districts; that changing the current system to elect by district will hinder African American election to the Board; that the African American population would feel betrayed; that his prior election to the Board was helped by Countywide voting; that this issue is of concern to leaders in the African American community; and that he believes the majority of the citizens believe that it is right and just that all members of our society deserve representation in local government.

Del Turner, 557 Clarence McKeithan Road, Gulf, NC, stated that she concurs with previous comments; that she is concerned that the plan will harm minority interests; that under the Voting Rights Act NC is a covered state; that Chatham County does not need to redistrict; that before 1965, there were a lot of discriminatory practices; that gap of previous years has been bridged by changes to allow for voting Countywide.

Karl Kachergis, 1417 Morris road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is not in favor of bringing this up at this time; that there is a need for some redistricting to adjust for population distribution; that Commissioners must campaign throughout the County; that they learn about the County; that election by district will imply competition; that it seems to have come up very suddenly; and that he urges that the Board table this matter and allow the new Board to tackle this matter.

Beverly Ann D'Aquanni, 856 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she thinks that the proposal will be detrimental and will only serve as a divisive factor; that she has been attending these meetings and she finds that she is disappointed by the actions of the Board; that our natural resources and way of life is being plundered and spoiled; that this will not be easily remediated.

John Bonitz, 144 Celebrity Dairy Way, Siler City, NC, stated that he is surprised that redistricting is being brought up for discussion; that it seems as though it was short notice; that it is contentious; that it concerns him greatly; that it is his understanding that the proposal was made by the Republican Party; that the language in the proposal was disturbing in that it asked for the immediate change of district boundaries; that redistricting is fundamental to democracy and the voting process; that he knows what it is like to be in the minority; that not long ago he voted for the extension of water lines in the Hickory Mountain precinct where he is vice chairman of the Democratic Party; that he is personally aware of persons with contaminated wells and having to pay exorbitant prices for bottled water; that it was a disappointment to him that the water lines were not extended; that this process could result in extreme

measures and should be embarked upon slowly and cautiously with ample opportunities for public input; that it should not happen before the fall election; that being concerned, he drafted language and presented it to the executive committee of the Democratic Party; that it was discussed and given some measure of favor by the Democratic Party that is in support of tabling this issue. He read the draft resolution presented to the Democratic Party. He stated that he is not opposed to the fact that there are changes that need to be made in the way Commissioners are elected; however, the present seems to be an inappropriate time to do so.

Joseph Weissman, 1359 Bradford Place, Fearrington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated that there is no question that the district lines must be redrawn; that the method of electing new commissioners is up for discussion; that there is plenty of time for debate; that the question about whether it is right to vote by district; that the idea of increasing the Board number is a terrible number; that there would be two classes of commissioners; that the only approach is to put this before the people for a decision; that the voting power of the commissioners is not changed; that he recommends letting the people vote on this matter.

Gene T. Brooks, 66 Nooe Street, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he has been a resident in this County for many years; that he has been concerned for a number of years; that the County needs to do things differently about how it elects people; that government is not representative anymore; that there is a disconnect between everyday people and their government; that redistricting is needed that helps people have contact with their elected officials; and that gerrymandering can be used both ways.

John W. Blair, 6125 US Highway #64 East, Pittsboro, NC, stated that this is a tough subject on both sides; that keeping it fair could be the best thing for the County; that this is a controversial issue but it is something that needs to be done to keep up with growth; and that this can bring the County together. He thanked the Board for the timely submission of the issue stating that he admires each Commissioner and that he is for the proposal.

Mary Nettles, 80 Millikin Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is speaking as a concerned African American in the County; that back in 1973 when Representative Holmes changed Chatham County from a commissioner nominated and elected by district, to a commissioner nominated by district but elected County-wide, he was thinking one person one vote; that Chatham County has grown so much within the last thirty years; that she believes in order to redraw the lines, have the commissioners to vote by district, two at-large, would be the best for the African Americans in the County; that a couple of years ago at the Democratic Convention, Gerald Totten introduced a resolution on this subject; and that she believes now is time to do something about it.

Kim Cotton, 1136 Sanford Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she does want her vote to count; that she is in favor of redrawing the districts; that she requests that the method consult the NC General Statutes; that if commissioners will represent districts, they should be elected by district; that a commissioner living in a district will know that district better than anyone else; that she opposes increasing the number of commissioners; that that additional cost would be added to the County; and that she is opposed to at-large counties.

Armentha Davis, 176 Lees Point, Moncure, NC, stated that she is in favor of redistricting because in the last election; she felt that the African American population was exploited; that she does not need to be told how to vote; and that in the Moncure area they need a commissioner that knows exactly what they need.

John Cross, (address unknown) stated that he supports the changes as proposed.

Mark Barroso, 110 Persimmon Hill, Pittsboro, NC, stated that this needs to be revisited; that there could be an advisory committee; and that he doesn't understand the urgency in the matter.

Gary Cox, 883 St. Luke Road, Goldston, NC, stated that the Goldston precinct is in favor of redistricting for representation in that area.

Karl Ernst, 711 Red Oak Drive, Siler City, NC, stated that he does support election by district; that he has long supported this idea; that this is the best way to provide fair and equitable representation to each voter and tax payer in the County; that in Siler City there are two districts; that he lives in District One; that he is the minority in his current district; that there is a lot of precedent to do this; that he is convinced that this is the best and most fair way to do this.

Martie Hipple, 170 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she has seventy-two (72) written statements from people in favor of this proposal; that she has been an advocate of voting in electoral districts for years; that minorities have true representation, primarily rural folks; that essentially Chatham County is two counties within one border; that due to the large population imbalance, people in the western part of the County have become discouraged; that the perception in the west is that Commissioners are not sensitive to their issue; that the cost of running for office would also be lessened if voting was done by district; and that no additional commissioners are needed. She reiterated that she is very much in favor of voting by districts where a candidate resides in the district and is voted on by those qualified voters of that district.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a short break.

Floy Oldham, 1276 Old Lystra Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he is there to encourage the Board of Commissioners to give them the opportunity to vote; that things have changed significantly; and that Chatham County is not the homogeneous group it use to be.

Roy Hipple, 170 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he thought the African American community would be supportive of this; that it would be better for each person to have their own Commissioner to talk to; and that the time has come to change the way commissioners are elected.

Richard Bradley, PO Box 1172, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he believes that Commissioners should be elected by district; that the cost of running in districts only would be cut down; that more people could afford to run; and that he doesn't believe it disenfranchises anyone.

John Gray, 123 Cub Creek Extension, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he was brought up to deal with people as human beings regardless of background; that people are making a decision like this that is racially biased; that he would prefer to have a Commissioner by and from a district; that it would give more people an opportunity to participate in the process; that he would like to have more choices; and that Commissioners should be responsible to the voters in their district.

Jesse Albright, 1423 Colridge Road, Siler City, NC, stated that one of the things that is important to him is freedom; that this would give them the opportunity to have someone in the district they live in to represent them; that independence is also important; and that voting by district will provide the best representation.

Jay Gatlin, 1797 Ed Clapp Road, Siler City, NC, stated that he is in support of electing Commissioners by district; and that the North West Water District may not have been voted down if there was a Commissioner in that district.

Ann Zimmerman, PO Box 213, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is in support of voting for Commissioner by district and asked that the Board of Commissioners just give them a chance to vote on the matter.

Cecil Wilson, 489 Holland Chapel Road, Apex, NC, stated that this item was originally to talk about population imbalance, not racial issues; that it would be better to sign up to run in a district and be voted on in that district; and that the County's system is outdated.

Bill Haiges, 401 South Dogwood Avenue, Siler City, NC, stated that he is in favor of redistricting; and that citizens should have an opportunity to vote on it as a County.

Sally Kost, 1101 New Hope Church Road, Apex, NC, that there are sixty-three (63) counties that have at-large representation; that she does support increasing the Board of Commissioners to seven members; that the issues are stretching the five members as it is; and that she cautions against using the 2000 census.

Commissioner Emerson moved that a public hearing be scheduled for August 21, 2006 for the purpose of input on a proposal to redistrict the five districts based upon the statutory requirements with a referendum that representatives for the commissioner in each district be elected from that district; that the Chairman appoint a committee consisting of the chairman or vice chairman of the Democratic and Republican Parties, a member of each party appointed by the executive committee of that party, Mr. Thomas Wagner as the mediator, as an advisory committee to work with the County information management people to develop the proposed districts.

Commissioner Outz seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Barnes opposing.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Appearance Commission: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Appearance

This item was deferred until a later date.

Board of Health: Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Board of Health

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to appoint Linda Ellington, 1924 West Third Street, Siler City, NC, to the Chatham County Board of Health. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Barnes and Cross opposing.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager reported on the following:

Redistricting Advisory Committee:

The County Manager asked if the redistricting public hearing was to be held on August 21, 2006, if the advisory committee was to be organized quickly.

The Chairman stated that the suggestion was to have the committee prior to the meeting and posted on the County's web site.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Manager's Contract:

Commissioner Cross stated that as a result of Closed Session to discuss personnel matters, the County Manager's employment contract was discussed; that it was compared with surrounding counties; and that the Board has come to an agreement on the contract.

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to approve the four-year employment contract for the County Manager. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The contract is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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

and heritage tourism; and that the North Carolina Triangle rates number six among the top fifty American cities for the most creative people.

Linda Douglas, 1079 Henderson Tanyard Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is a neighbor of Shakori Hills; that this is not about music; that this is not an issue of trying to keep anyone from having a good time; that it is an issue of being continued all hours of the day and night; that they are dealing with 296 hours of music that is not good for their community; and that she would like a comfort zone so that this is acceptable to all parties.

Cara O'Connell, 568 Roberson Creek Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is speaking in support of Shakori Hills and is confused that any live group needs a permit; that there are some gray areas in the ordinance; that there may be an overstatement by Ms. Douglas about the impact that Shakori has had on the community; and that she feels that a great deal of thought and consideration should be given to the ordinance before it is passed.

Carol Hewitt, 424 Johnny Burke Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated she volunteers to help with Shakori Hills; that she was unable to see this ordinance until Thursday; that she finds the whole thing murky; that the community should be able to understand it; that a task force is a great idea; that thousands of dollars are spent in Chatham for the festival, and that they need more than 48 hours in advance to get permits in order to book bands and space ahead of time.

Lissa Farrell, 1439 Henderson Tanyard Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated she is an organizer of Shakori Hills; that they do want to work with the community; that live music creates a gathering of people; that it would be a shame to discourage people from enjoying live music;

Jordan Puryear, 1439 Henderson Tanyard Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is also an organizer of Shakori Hills; that he apologizes to all those neighbors that they have affected; and that they are committed to being good neighbors.

Pam Smith, a local twenty-nine year business owner, stated that Shakori is a wonderful thing for the community; that they spend a lot of money in the community; that that they would want to meet with the neighbors; and that we are lucky to have this organization in the community.

An unidentified lady stated that she lives one-half mile from Shakori Hills; that she feels no vibration; that the organization is fabulous for the County; that it is really great for building community; that she doesn't hear the music at all on Friday nights; and that this organization is genuinely doing wonderful things for the community.

Captain Roy Allen stated that the proposed Noise Ordinance was developed because of the problem with the noise. He stated that there were many different types of noise; that he wants to apply the Noise Ordinance fairly and impartially for all the citizens of Chatham County.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Emerson moved to adopt the Noise Ordinance. The motion died for lack of a second.

After further discussion, Commissioner Barnes moved to table the matter until September 18, 2006. Commissioner Cross seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BREAK

The Chairman called for a short break.

Public Hearing on Redistricting: Public hearing to receive public comments concerning the

question of whether to redefine the districts from which the members of the Board of County commissioners are elected to make them more nearly equal

Dr. Tom Wagner, stated he was the mediator of the redistricting committee; that they had five guidelines for their tasks; that this was no easy task; that they considered at least sixteen different maps; and that the decision on the proposed map was unanimous.

Loyse Hurley, 16 Matchwood, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is speaking as a private citizen and Chatham Citizens for Effective Communities (CCEC). She stated that the proposed map has some deficiencies that others will address; that such a serious proposed redistricting process usually takes months of work whereas the committee actually spent less than three hours of meetings in preparing their map; that it utilizes population figures that are out of date; that it is a far cry from the constitutional requirement of "one person one vote" and should be rejected on those grounds alone; and that while they claim to have reviewed some sixteen maps and decided on this flawed one, there are other ways to redistrict and still meet the stated objectives. She presented a map which she stated accomplished the same goals and provides fewer complications. She stated that the map was produced using the redistricting computer system of the NC General Assembly; that she is not claiming that it solves all problems, but it is used tonight as an example of another way, among many, to accomplish the stated goals; that this map is better for the following reasons: 1) This map allows Commissioner Barnes his freedom of choice. Should he chose to run for reelection in 2008, he may do so, since Commissioner – elect Lucier and Commissioner Barnes would not reside in the same district. 2) Should Mr. Ernst win his election in November, his term would expire at the same time as Commissioner Thompson's and the two could run against each other in the normal political process. 3) It does not leave any one district unrepresented for two years. 4) This example has the populations approximately equal, based upon the 2000 census. Each district has slightly under 10,000 people. 5) This example map maintains the integrity of our towns. She stated that when one redistricts based upon population figures alone, it is difficult to consider precinct problems such as split precincts and several ballots in the same precinct; that the proposed map only splits these polling places further, since different ballots would be required for the Commissioners' race also; that multiple ballots for the Commissioners race, the decision of which voter gets which ballot based upon which address, will result in mass confusion for both poll works and the voters alike; that it also can result in election challenges of any results; that these problems cannot be easily resolved; that this example is no better nor is it any worse than the proposed map; that the proposed map has not had sufficient study to prevent all the problems it causes; that she wonders why a vote must be done now to implement a map in 2008 so close to its becoming obsolete with the 2010 census; that their basic Constitutional rights are involved and the citizens of Chatham County deserve a more thorough study and something better than this hastily put-together proposed map.

Bob Eby, 19 East Madison, Pittsboro, NC, stated that this subject is terrible for its timing, its process, and its results. He questioned why they waited until now to do so stating that there were no members on the committee from the northeast part of the County; that the committee could have used more up to date numbers than the 2000 census; that it is interesting that the one commissioner that has spoken out against growth may have his re-election compromised; and that he urges them not to adopt this awful map.

Larry Ballas, 139 Indian Creek, Apex, NC, stated we would get through this hearing if there were not applause after every speaker; that this map does not look good at first glance; that we need to make sure there is good representation along the eastern border of the County; that the infusion of people will be sizeable; and that it makes sense to wait until the next census is completed to redistrict.

Karl Kachergis, 1417 Morris Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he sat in on the committee; that none were mapmakers; that they were all in favor of voting by district; that if this must be done; that it needs to be studied for a longer time and by a larger committee.

Beth Kricker, 224 Buteo Ridge, Pittsboro, NC, stated that outgoing commissioners should operate in a holding pattern; that it is expected that outgoing officials should not introduce no new

legislation that will disrupt citizens; and that it appears that the outgoing officials are trying to come back in through a back door.

Karl Ernst, 211 Red oak Drive, Siler City, NC, stated that the population is changing with the northeast part of the County growing; that we may see smaller districts in the eastern part of the County; that this is not set in stone; and that citizens should be given an opportunity to vote on this issue.

Tom Vanderbeck, 8180 Old Graham Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is troubled by the argument that the current districts are undemocratic because they are not more equal in population; that under the current voting structure, each Chatham voter has one vote for each of the five commissioners; that one person, one vote, or, more accurately and even better, one person, five votes; that there is nothing to improve through redistricting; that the current districts fully comply with the law of the land and there is no conceivable future change in the County's demographics that will through that out of kilter; that a major benefit of the current residency district structure is that during the primaries and the general election, the voters of the entire County get to choose the best candidates from among people who may understand first-hand the problems of their own area, but who also must demonstrate a deep understanding of the best interest of the entire County; that he believes that the current district lines have served the County well in that way; that he is concerned that the proposed redistricting will dilute that important benefit; that in his successful race in May, he was able to debate County-wide issues with a candidate who claimed residency in the town limits of Siler City and those debates attracted wide attention; that giving Siler City and Pittsboro their own separate single commissioner districts will, he fears, only feed the monster of regionalism in the County; that he is troubled by the process; that the whole exercise was designed to punish Commissioner Barnes; and that the district lines should not be changed.

John Graybeal, 3396 Alston Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that this scheme is to get Chairman Morgan back in office; that it would be easy to draw more equal districts without combining two commissioners into the same district as the proposed map does; that it would be easy to draw new, more equal districts whose boundaries "follow roads and streams" without drawing a "safe district" for Chairman Morgan; that as many others have pointed out, the district voting system will hurt, no help, the election chances of minorities; that African-American support for this scheme is inexplicable; that the present voting system provides quite adequately for the representation of local interests; that Chairman Morgan and his teammates can only accomplish part of this plan by themselves; that acting alone, the Board of Commissioners can't require district voting; that for that, a referendum is required; that that should be rejected because the plan makes no sense because of Chatham's current position as a county threatened unevenly by development pressures; that Chatham needs commissioners with a long view who will deal with the threat to eastern Chatham but will not be blind to the threat to western Chatham that lies down the road; that commissioners holding only narrow district interests cannot be expected to deal effectively with this two-pronged threat; that the Board is taking plainly political steps that are not in the best interest of Chatham County or its citizens; that they are attempting to nail down long-term, expensive contracts hoping to prevent the new Board from dislodging them, depleting County funds, and committing the County to huge obligations, thereby attempting to impose upon successor Boards the burden of raising taxes; and that he urged the departing Commissioners to honor their exit by acting in the best interests of the public.

Louis Whitehead, 903 Sedgefield Drive, Siler City, NC, stated that we need to be fair to all residents of Chatham County; that we need to follow State law; and that we need to make sure our residents have equal representation.

Sally Kost, 1101 New Hope Church Road, Apex, NC, thanked Mark Barroso for bringing a good microphone to the meeting. She stated that she opposes the timing of drawing the map and the process followed to draw the map; that the map does not allow Commissioner Barnes to run for office in 2008; that there are other flaws with the map; that it was hastily drawn, the precincts are split within districts; that by approving the map with split precinct, the integrity of the election process is being jeopardized; that if Mr. Vanderbeck wins in the November election, District #4 has no commissioner; that by doing

this in the middle of an election cycle, it looks like sour grapes; that by doing it now, there are nearly 10,000 new residents in Chatham since the 2000 census is being used; that drawing new district lines should be done just after the census, not seven years after; that the Democratic Party overwhelmingly supported a resolution stating that this is the wrong time to be considering this action; and that they object to the process due to the following reasons: 1) The make-up of the map drawing committee was extremely limited. 2) The committee completed the work hastily as their report was a one-page limited summary. 3) A process that should have taken months was squeezed into three hours. She stated that the map should be rejected because it is ill-timed, ill-conceived, and ill-done.

Sonny Keisler, 3006 River Forks Road, Sanford, NC, stated that he is representing the Friends of the Rocky River; that they oppose the map; that it is an attempt to disenfranchise newcomers to Chatham County; that it doesn't give a voice to northeast Chatham; that it is undemocratic; that they support redistricting, but ask that the Board wait until 2010.

John Gray, 123 Cub Creek Extension, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that the districts have been researched thoroughly and there is no problem using the 2000 Census; that the issues are politics; and that the districts as they are drawn are appropriate.

George Lucier, 628 Redbud, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the map is nothing more than an attempt to reverse the election in May; that he wants to do what is best for Chatham County; that he wonders why the Board of Commissioners didn't do something about this previously; that District #1 is the highest population on the proposed map; that the map is already way out of date; that this proposal deprives Commissioner Barnes to run for re-election; that this map allows defeated candidates to run again soon; and that this represents politics at its worst.

Elaine Chiosso, 1076 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that redistricting does need to be looked at in a careful and democratic way; that she feels her rights as a citizen are being trampled on; and that she urges that the plan be rejected.

Don Lein, 130 Crosswinds, Pittsboro, NC, stated that Bunkey Morgan's name was never mentioned in the process; that the idea was to give the maximum impact to the minority population now and in the future; that he was actively involved when Margaret Pollard was elected; that the larger the area, the more cost involved in running; and that the Board of Commissioners should adopt the districts adopted by a bi-partisan committee.

Beverly Ann D'Aquanni, 856 Fearrington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated that Chairman Morgan could have initiated this issue months earlier; that the redistricting committee had less than one month to draw the new map; and that minority candidates won eight times in at-large voting.

Margie Ellison, 11538 Highway #902, Bear Creek, NC, stated that she does not trust the committee, process, or map; that it is an attempt to let Chairman Morgan run again in 2008; that the redrawing of maps is to cheat the voters from their ability to choose; that African-American votes will become invisible; that the Board of Commissioners is misleading the public; that old data is being used; and that this plan will not disenfranchise African-American voters.

Mark Teague, 170 Cow Path Crossing, Siler City, NC, stated that the County has been talking about redistricting for ten years; that there is no way to take the politics out of it; and that he appreciates what the Board does but that they do not get enough respect.

Robert Murdoch, 288 Luna Lane, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he opposes the referendum; that the timing is poor; that the citizens sent a very loud message; that it is clear that this Board does not have the best interest of the citizenry at heart; and that this is only one last attempt at serving the outgoing Commissioners.

Nick Meyer, 988 Booth Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that these are unfair districts; that District #1 already has fifty percent more voters than in other districts; that this is a clear violation of the

constitutional principal of one-person one-vote; and that collusion was involved in picking the committee.

Jay Gatlin, 1797 Ed Clapp Road, Siler City, NC, stated that the western side of the County has a different problem; and that they need someone to represent them who will help them with their issues.

Randy Voller, 21 Randolph Court, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is opposed to this map; that it is not properly representing municipalities; that the 2000 census is not reflective of the population; and that this is also the wrong time to consider this issue.

John Hammond, 848 Langdon, Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the population has increased approx. 27% in a decade; that currently based on this growth, the 2006 estimate is 59,737 and the 2008 estimated population is 63,190; that based on this growth rate, the population by 2010 will have increased by 35%; that most of the uncontrolled growth is in the eastern part of the County; that voter registration data between July 2005 and January 2006 showed that 892 new voters were added to the roles; that the geographic distribution of these voters shows that only 104 were in the western precincts while 788 were in the eastern precincts with the vast majority in the northeast; that for every new voter registered in the west, 7.6 voters registered in the east; that at the present time, current total population of the western precincts in the County is approximately 16,937 and the population of the eastern precincts is approximately 42,376; that if a fair redistricting was done in 2006, each Commissioner district should have 11,947 people to pass the constitution test of one-person one-vote; that as the next 30,000+ people move into the 12,000+ homes approved but not built, there will be an even greater shift in political power and the ratio of Commissioners will go to four Commissioners in the east and one in the west; that the 2010 census will show Chatham County with at least a population 70,000 or about 14,000 per Commissioner district and in the immediate years after 2010 with build-out from the uncontrolled growth approved by the present Board, the population will rise to 100,000 with the vast majority of the growth in the northeast; that this rushed and rigged redistricting effort using substantially out-dated population data is the last gasp of western rural region to keep their excessive representation on the Board of Commissioners; that a few landowners in the east that have sold out and now thousands of new citizens with new values have forever diluted the Board's political power; and that if this politically motivated, rushed, and rigged lame duck redistricting process makes it to the November election, it will fail for simple demographic reasons.

Joyce Cotton, 1221 North Pea Ridge Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she is very much in favor of the new districts; that she is a lifelong resident of this County and has studied the map carefully; that she served for sixteen years on the Board of Elections; that it was while she was serving on the Board of Elections that the precinct maps were for the first time based on natural boundaries; that she, along with other board members at the time, drove from one end of the County to the other numerous times; that the districts are grossly outdated; that she is concerned about equal representation to all people in the County; that the country was founded upon the premise of equal representation, the State of North Carolina must follow this principle, and so should Chatham County; that she has also closely followed the arguments that have been put forth concerning diluting minority voting rights; that as she looks at the statistics for the proposed new districts, it is her opinion that the new districts better favor the voting rights of minorities than where they currently have; that there will always be people who argue that the timing is not right no matter what is done when; and therefore, in the interest of equal representation, she urges the Board to vote for the new districts as they are proposed by the committee.

Jerry Markatos, 800 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is representing the Democratic Party, and that he was in attendance to present a resolution passed by the Chatham County Democratic Party to table the proposed maps. He read the resolution in its entirety.

Kim Cotton, 1136 Sanford Highway, Pittsboro, NC, thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and bring this issue to the table. She stated that electing commissioners by district would better serve citizens; and that she would like the Board to bring this issue to the voters of the County on how they want to be represented.

Ed King, 118 Baldwin Farm Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he supports previous speakers that spoke on demographics; that something this major should not be decided in three hours; that he is supportive of the Democratic Party; and that he opposes this map.

Marti Hipple, 170 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that her impression was that the map was to be considered, not the integrity of the Commissioners; that sixteen maps were considered; that two Commissioners live in very close proximity; that they tried not to divide the towns; that it was difficult to have Commissioners live in close proximity and be in different districts; that the population is based on the 2000 census; and that the map is not set in stone and can be redrawn after the 2010 census.

Mary Jackson, 625 East 32nd Street, Siler City, NC, stated that she is concerned how this represents itself to the general public as far as what is right and what is fair; and that she questions who will benefit the most.

Nancy Brown, 106 Persimmon Hill, Pittsboro, NC, questioned if the deadline for ballot ordering was midnight. She stated that there is unemployment and underemployment everywhere; and that the map is problematic because there are two Commissioners in the same district; that she thinks this could be challenged in court; and that she doesn't trust the map.

Shannon Plummer, 116 Thrift Street, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is the chair of the Chatham County Republican Party; that he served on the redistricting committee and considered it an honor; that everyone worked hard on the committee; that technological advances helped the committee look at different options; that this should have happened years ago is not an argument for it not happening now; that the Republican Party is the one that brought up this issue; and that it is at best humorous or at worst it could be labeled a conspiracy theory that Commissioner Morgan was behind the scene pulling the strings.

Ruth Biernoff, 198 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated she agrees with Nancy Brown's comments; that this was a disturbing issue; and that it might be best to use all of the citizens' energies to organize and be sure that the vote on November 7th is the way everyone would like it to go.

Ann Drake, 1050 Beaver Dam Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that she represents Chatham County Democratic Women; that their group is interested in citizen participation in government; that redistricting is a difficult problem; that it needs public discussion; that the process seems to be a bit rushed; that the Board of Commissioners should have provided a statement with regard to the current problems.

Roy Hipple, 170 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the redistricting should have been done in 2000; that he is ashamed that he has just heard many of the previous people advocate that North Carolina State regulations be ignored; that he was especially shocked to hear a commissioner-elect say the same illegal thing; that State law does not say that the number of registered voters be equal; and that it refers to equal population in each district.

Liz Cullington, 390 Rocky Hills Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she endorses the statements opposing the proposed maps; that there is no need to redistrict right now; and that two of the people on the redistricting committee had previously run for office unsuccessfully.

Jeffrey Starkweather, 590 Old Goldston Road, Pittsboro, NC, thanked those in attendance who have shown great citizen participation. He stated that respect and courtesy work both ways between citizens and those elected; that the process has been stated pretty well; that he attended three of the meetings; that he didn't think that the staff who were assisting were proficient in redistricting; that he didn't think enough time was spent on the plan with enough Commissioner input; that it has been stated by a number of people incorrectly that the County was required by law to redistrict; that there is a local bill that allows the County to redistrict; that the local bill states that we are voting County-wide; that we are not under the same restrictions of one-man one vote as we would be if the County went to district

voting; that the County is not required to have the exact same thing; that the County redistricted in 1975 and again once since that time; that he feels that redistricting does need to be done, but that the County needs to wait until there is plenty of time to complete a broad process with as many people as possible involved in the process.

Mike Fox, 350 Red Hill Lane, New Hill, NC, stated that there have been a lot of arguments as to why the map is or is not good or why it should or should not be done at this time; that there have been a lot of claims made in the bi-partisan effort; that it really is not a bi-partisan effort; that he during the last four years, there have been eight Commissioner seats up for reelection in the County; that Republicans have only filled two of those seats; and that the County election system should not be turned upside down at the request of a party that can not be bothered to participate.

Rev. Albert S. Williams, 5515 Old Greensboro Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he represents the members of his church; that if the districting remains as it is, the African-American population will be set back thirty years; and that he urged the Board of Commissioners to do what is right.

Thelma Sharon Garbutt, 595 Pokeberry Lane, Pittsboro, NC, stated that points she intended to make were already made tonight; that she questioned why this decision is being rushed; that Thurgood Marshall, Supreme Court Chief Justice, related that some of the most important decisions he made had to do with redistricting; and that she would like the Board of Commissioners to remember that.

Della Turner, 557 Clyde Simpson Road, Gulf, NC, questioned the rush to redistrict. She stated that the votes cast by African-Americans would be affected; that this issue affects all minorities and all others; that this is a moral decision that when done, most likely can not be undone; that enough is enough; that this is a travesty of local government; and that chaos, confusion, and divisiveness abound.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Barnes moved to recess the meeting and to continue on Tuesday, August 22, 2006.

After considerable discussion, the motion died for lack of a second.

The County Attorney read the redistricting resolution in its entirety.

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to adopt **Resolution #2006-45 to Redefine Commissioner Districts**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Barnes and Cross opposing.

Public Hearing on Altering the Structure of the Board and Method of Election (At-large or by district): Public hearing to receive public comments concerning the question of adoption of a resolution calling for a referendum on whether to alter the structure of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to provide that each of five Commissioners be nominated and elected by the voters of their district only

The Chairman opened the public hearing and stated that due to the number of people signed up to speak on this issue, the meeting would be recessed and continued on Tuesday, August 22, 2006.

RECESS

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to recess the meeting until Tuesday, August 22, 2006, 6:00 PM in the Superior Courtroom. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was recessed at 10:37 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22.1 OF CHAPTER 153A OF THE GENERAL
STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA REDEFINING COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Chatham County as it presently exists consists of five Commissioners nominated and elected from residency districts by the voters of the entire county; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 census indicates there is imbalance in the population of the several districts; and the Board of Commissioners finds as a fact that there is substantial inequality of population among the districts; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 153A-22.1 provides that upon finding a substantial inequality of population among the districts, the Board of Commissioners is authorized to redefine the districts by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to exercise the power granted it by G.S. 153A-22.1 by redefining the districts to make them more nearly equal in population; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, on August 10, 2006 and on August 17, 2006 as required by law; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on August 21, 2006, to afford citizens an opportunity to be heard on the question of whether to redefine the districts pursuant to GS 153A-22.1; and

WHEREAS, at said public hearing it appeared that there is substantial support for redefining the districts as set forth in this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners finds as a fact that there is substantial inequality of population in the districts from which its members are nominated and elected.

Section 2. The Board of Commissioners also finds as a fact that redefining the districts as set forth in this resolution will effect a reduction in the relative overall range of deviation among the several districts.

Section 3. For all primary and general elections for the office of county commissioner occurring after November 8, 2006, each of the five county commissioner districts shall consist of all territory within the boundary of the district, which boundaries are hereby fixed as follows:

District 1: Beginning at point (1) on the Chatham County Line at its intersection with the Durham-Wake County Lines; thence southerly following the Chatham-Wake County Line to point (2) at its intersection with the Little Beaver Creek Arm of B. Everett Jordan Lake, thence following B. Everett Jordan Lake in a westerly direction to point (3) at the B. Everett Jordan Lake Dam; thence northerly following the centerline of the flow of Haw River to point (4) at its intersection with Pokeberry Creek; thence northeasterly following the centerline of the flow of Pokeberry Creek to point (5) at its intersection with Bynum Ridge Rd (SR 1711); thence easterly following the centerline of Bynum Ridge Rd (SR 1711) to its intersection with Mt. Gilead Church Rd (SR 1700)(Point 6); thence northerly following the centerline of Mt. Gilead Church Rd (SR 1700) to its intersection with US 15-501 (Point 7); thence northerly following along the centerline of US 15-501 to its intersection with Manns Chapel Rd (SR 1532) (Point 8); thence westerly following along the centerline of Manns Chapel Rd (SR 1532) to its intersection with Rosswood Rd (point 9); thence northerly following along the centerline of Rosswood Rd to its intersection with East Branch Price Creek (point 10); thence northerly following the centerline of East Branch Price Creek to its intersection with the Chatham-Orange County Line (point 11); thence easterly following the Chatham-Orange and then the Chatham-Durham County Lines back to point (1), the beginning.

District 2: Beginning at point (1) at the intersection of the Chatham-Wake County Line and the Little Beaver Creek Arm of B. Everett Jordan Lake; thence following the Chatham-Wake, Chatham-Harnett, and the Chatham-Lee County Lines to point (2) at the intersection of the Chatham-Lee County Line and Rosser Rd (SR 2153); thence northerly following the centerline of Rosser Rd (SR 2153) to point (3) at its intersection with Mays Chapel Rd (SR 2155); thence northerly following the centerline of Mays Chapel Rd (SR 2155) to point (4) at its intersection with Pittsboro Goldston Rd (SR 1010); thence northerly following the centerline of Pittsboro Goldston Rd (SR 1010) to point (5) at its intersection with NC Hwy 902; thence westerly following the centerline of NC Hwy 902 to point (6) at its intersection with Alex Cockman Rd (SR 2163); thence northerly following the centerline of Alex Cockman Rd (SR 2163) to point (7) at its intersection with US Hwy 64; thence westerly following the centerline of US Hwy 64 to point (8) at its intersection with Buckner Clark Rd (SR 1561); thence northerly following the centerline of Buckner Clark Rd (SR 1561) to point (9) at its intersection with Dry Creek; thence in an easterly direction following the centerline of the run of Dry Creek to point (10) at its confluence with the Haw River; thence following the centerline of the run of Haw River to point (11) at the B. Everett Jordan Lake Dam; thence easterly following the centerline of the run of Little Beaver Creek Arm of B. Everett Jordan Lake back to point (1), the beginning.

District 3: Beginning at point (1) at the intersection of East Branch Price Creek and the Chatham-Orange County Line; thence southerly along the centerline of the run of said creek to point (2) at the intersection of East Branch Price Creek and Rosswood Road; thence southerly along the centerline of Rosswood Road to point (3) at the intersection of Manns Chapel Rd (SR 1532) and Rosswood Rd; thence easterly along the centerline of Manns Chapel Road to point (4) at the intersection of Manns Chapel Rd (SR 1532) and US 15-501; thence southerly along the centerline of US 15-501 to point (5) at its intersection with Mt. Gilead Church Rd (SR 1700); thence southerly along the centerline of Mt. Gilead Church Rd (SR 1700) to point (6) at the intersection of Mt. Gilead Church Rd (SR 1700) and Bynum Ridge Rd (SR 1711); thence westerly along the centerline of Bynum Ridge Rd (SR 1711) to point (7) at the

intersection of Bynum Ridge Rd (SR 1711) and Pokeberry Creek; thence southwesterly along the centerline of the run of said creek to point (8) at the intersection of Pokeberry Creek and the Haw River; thence northwesterly along the centerline of the run of Haw River to point (9) at its intersection with Dry Creek; thence westerly following the centerline of the run of Dry Creek to point (10) at its intersection with Buckner Clark Rd (SR 1561); thence southerly along the centerline of Buckner Clark Rd (SR 1561) to point (11) at the intersection of Buckner Clark Rd (SR 1561) and US Hwy 64; thence westerly following the centerline of US Hwy 64 to point (12) at its intersection with US 421 N; thence northwesterly following the centerline of US 421 N to point (13) at its intersection with the Randolph-Chatham County Line; thence northerly following the Randolph-Chatham County Line to point (14) at the southwest corner of Alamance County; thence easterly following the Alamance-Chatham and the Orange-Chatham County Lines back to point (1), the beginning.

District 4: Beginning at point (1) at the intersection of US 421 N and the Randolph-Chatham County Line; thence southeasterly along the centerline of US 421 N to point (2) at the intersection of US 421 N and US Hwy 64; thence easterly along the centerline of US Highway 64 to point (3) at the intersection of US Hwy 64 and Rocky River thence southeasterly along the centerline of the run of Rocky River to point (4) at its intersection with Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170); thence southerly along the centerline of Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170) to point (5) at the intersection of Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170) and Alston Bridge Rd (SR 2110); thence westerly along the centerline of Alston Bridge Rd (SR 2110) to point (6) at its intersection with US 421 S; thence southerly along the centerline of US Highway 421 S to point (7) at the intersection of US 421 S and S Chatham Ave Ext; thence westerly along the centerline of S Chatham Ave Ext to point (8) at the intersection of S Chatham Ave Ext and Glosson Rd (SR 1124); thence southwesterly along the centerline of Glosson Road to point (9) at the intersection of Glosson Rd (SR 1124) and Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006); thence southerly along the centerline of Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006) to point (10) at the intersection of Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006) and Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119); thence northerly along the centerline of Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119) to point (11) at the intersection of Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119) and S S Edwards Rd (SR 1121); thence northwesterly along the centerline of SS Edwards Rd (SR 1121) to point (12) at the intersection of S S Edwards Rd (SR 1121) and Brower Rd (SR 1120); thence northwesterly along the centerline of Brower Road to point (13) at the intersection of Brower Rd (SR 1120) and Airport Rd (SR 1100); thence northeasterly along the centerline of Airport Rd (SR1100) to point (14) at the intersection of Airport Rd (SR 1100) and W Third St (SR 1107); thence westerly along the centerline of W Third St (SR 1107) to point (15) at the intersection of W Third St (SR 1107) and US Hwy 64 W; thence westerly along the centerline of US Hwy 64 to point (16) at the intersection of US Hwy 64 W and the Randolph-Chatham County Line; thence northerly along the Randolph-Chatham County Line back to point (1) the beginning.

District 5: Beginning at point (1) at the intersection of US Hwy 64 W and the Randolph-Chatham County Line; thence easterly along the centerline of US Hwy 64 W to point (2) at the intersection of W Third St (SR 1107) and US Hwy 64 W; thence easterly along the centerline of W Third St (SR 1107) to point (3) at the intersection of Airport Rd (SR 1100) and W Third St (SR 1107); thence southerly along the centerline of Airport Rd (SR 1100) to point (4)

at the intersection of Brower Rd (SR 1120) and Airport Rd (SR 1100); thence southeasterly along the centerline of Brower Rd (SR 1120) to point (5) at the intersection of S S Edwards Rd (SR 1121) and Brower Rd (SR 1120); thence southeasterly along the centerline of SS Edwards Rd (SR 1120) to point (6) at the intersection of Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119) and S S Edwards Rd (SR 1121) ; thence southerly along the centerline of Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119) to point (7)) at the intersection of Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006) and Wade Paschal Rd (SR 1119); thence northerly along the centerline of the Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006) to point (8) at the intersection of Glosson Rd (SR 1124) and Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006); thence northeasterly along the centerline of Glosson Rd (SR 1124) to point (9) at the intersection of Glosson Rd (SR 1124) and S Chatham Ave Ext; thence easterly along the centerline of E Chatham Avenue Ext to point (10) at the intersection of US 421 S and S Chatham Ave Ext; thence northerly along the centerline of US 421 S to point (11) at the intersection of US 421 S and Alston Bridge Rd (SR 2110); thence southeasterly along the centerline of Alston Bridge Road to point (12) at the intersection of Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170) and Alston Bridge Rd (SR 2110); thence northerly along the centerline of Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170) to point (13) at the intersection of the Rocky River and Rives Chapel Church Rd (SR 2170); thence northwesterly along centerline of the flow of Rocky River to point (14) at its intersection with US Hwy 64; thence easterly along the centerline of US Hwy 64 to point (15) at its intersection with Alex Cockman Rd (SR 2163); thence southerly along the centerline of Alex Cockman Rd (SR 2163) to point (16) at the intersection of Alex Cockman Rd (SR 2163) and NC Hwy 902; thence easterly along the centerline of NC Hwy 902 to point (17) at the intersection of NC Hwy 902 and Pittsboro Goldston Rd (SR 1010); thence southerly along the centerline of Pittsboro Goldston Rd (SR 1010) to point (18) at the intersection of Pittsboro Goldston Rd (SR 1010) and Mays Chapel Rd (SR 2155); thence southerly along the centerline of Mays Chapel Rd (SR 2155) to point (19) at the intersection of Mays Chapel Rd (SR 2155) and Rosser Rd (SR 2153); thence southerly along the centerline of Rosser Rd (SR 2153) to point (20) at the intersection of Rosser Rd (SR 2153) and the Chatham-Lee County Line; thence westerly along the Chatham-Lee County Line to point (21) at the intersection of the Chatham-Lee and Chatham-Moore County Lines; thence westerly along the Chatham-Moore County Line to point (22) at the intersection of the Chatham-Moore and Chatham-Randolph County Lines; thence northerly along the Chatham-Randolph County Line back to point (1), the beginning.

Section 4. The commissioners seats of new districts shall be filled as follows:

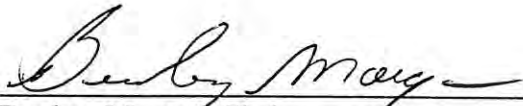
District 1. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 1 in 2010, and each four years thereafter.

District 2. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 2 in 2008, and each four years thereafter.


District 3. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 3 in either 2008 or 2010. Mr. Vanderbeck, candidate for election in 2006, resides in new District 3. If elected in 2006, he will serve his four term to expire in 2010, in new District 3. If he is not elected in 2006, then a commissioner for new District 3 would first be nominated and elected in 2008, and each four years thereafter. *

Section 7. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall, upon its adoption, publish this Resolution in full in a newspaper of general circulation in Chatham County. The Clerk shall also, not later than 10 days after the effective date of this resolution, file in the Secretary of State's office, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Chatham County and with the Chairperson of the Chatham County Board of Elections, a certified copy of this resolution.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, North Carolina held in Pittsboro, North Carolina at 6:00 o'clock p.m. on the 21st day of August 2006, the foregoing resolution was introduced by Commissioner Outz, seconded by Commissioner Emerson and adopted by a vote of three (3) FOR and two (2) AGAINST with Commissioners Barnes and Cross opposing.


 Bunkey Morgan, Chairman
 Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


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

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2006

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Superior Courtroom, 1 Hillsboro Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 6:00 PM on August 22, 2006.

Present: Chairman Bunkey Morgan; Vice Chair, Tommy Emerson; Commissioners Patrick Barnes, Mike Cross, and Carl Outz; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

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

Commissioner Barnes offered brief comments about redistricting prior to the beginning of the public hearing.

Public Hearing on Altering the Structure of the Board and Method of Election (At-large or by district): Public hearing to receive public comments concerning the question of adoption of a resolution calling for a referendum on whether to alter the structure of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to provide that each of five Commissioners be nominated and elected by the voters of their district only

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments.

Mary Nettles, 80 Millikin Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she registered and remained a democrat because she believes in the process; that she is dismayed that the party has turned into a dictatorship; that she looks forward to supporting the referendum in the November election; and that the African-Americans have been sold out.

Bill Sommers, 20 East Madison, Fearrington Village, Pittsboro, NC, stated that after last night, the redistricting was exposed for what it was; that the redrawn district map, based on old population data was flawed, skewed, and deceptive; that a return to district voting is an attempt to eventually return control to the currently discredited majority and eliminate the continuation of African-American entry into Chatham’s elected life; that history has shown similar attempts by politicians to redraw district lines for their own benefit; that one scenario would be to wait until the 2010 census and using the new date devise a representational system with seven county commissioners; that four would be elected from equally balanced districts and three would be elected at-large; and that such an organizational scheme or reasonable variations would reduce or eliminate Chatham County’s current political situation that has produced this discredited electoral scheme.

Barbara Lott, 1265 Adolph Taylor Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the comment that got her attention was that Chatham County had not changed in forty years; that forty years ago, segregation was still the law; and that she is asking the Board of Commissioners to vote for voting by district.

Max Cotton, 133 Pittsboro School Road, NC, stated that he is a native of Chatham County; that in his opinion one of the worst things that has happened was the legislation for at-large voting; that 1) Commissioners have been elected that were not the choice of the voters in their district; 2) That this will reduce the cost of campaigning; 3) That it will increase the number of candidates; 4) Reduction of dependence on political action committees and their influence; 5) Reduction in dependence of special

interest funds; 6) Voting by districts is a return to representative government; and that he urges the Board of Commissioners to place the item on the November ballot.

Sonny Keisler, 3006 River Forks Road, Sanford, NC, stated that they are opposed to district only voting; that they need to be able to vote for all commissioners, not just one; that they think it is a losing proposition; and they do not feel that it will pass.

Don Lein, 13 Crosswinds Estates, Pittsboro, NC, stated that a person can be responsive to fewer people; that the issues may be the same but may mean different things to different areas of the County; that voting by district is true representative government; that the election should be returned to the voters and let them decide on someone that can really represent them. He urged the Board of Commissioners to put it on the ballot.

Loyse Hurley, 16 Matchwood, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she represents Chatham Citizens for Effective Communities (CCEC); that for the past 3.5 years, CCEC has followed issues impacting County issues; that these issues are County-wide; that during this time, they have observed that the issues facing this County are diverse and complex; that there are issues related to water supply, waste disposal, justice system, schools, growth, laws and budget; that they affect and impact every single citizen in the County; that each and every Commissioner must be knowledgeable about each and every one of these issues; that the County has grown beyond the days where an issue can be isolated to a specific district; that these times require that all Commissioners represent all the people; that the County has moved beyond the days of small isolated neighborhoods; that the County needs to be treated as a whole and in its entirety; that since minority groups are diffuse throughout the County, district only voting prevents any minority from becoming a member of the Board; that this would be a step back in time; that local government must represent all the people, all the time, and representative of all those people must be allowed to serve all those people; that district only voting means that a Commissioner need only please his own district in order to be reelected; that it will lead to divisiveness, pork-barrel, politics, and special interests; that the needs of the entire County must be considered; that all citizens of the County should have a say in who can be elected and who continues in office; that the current system proves that; that at this critical point in time, Chatham can not afford to have Commissioners who are only dependent on their district for reelection; and that district only voting is outdated, outmoded, and totally unacceptable.

Bob Eby, 19 East Madison, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he apologized if he offended anyone by referring to them as a "lame duck"; that this public hearing was not well publicized; that last-minute scheduling is suspect; that district voting would create a board with parochial interests; that the County needs Commissioners that are well-informed about all the issues including planning, education, water supply, social services, affordable housing, recreation, public transportation, appropriately staffed County government and law enforcement; that it would take the County back to the 1970's when no African-Americans, representative of other minority groups, or women had ever been elected to the Board of Commissioners; that once County-wide voting was enacted, the composition of the elected officials broadened noticeably, which has been a benefit to all Chatham citizens; that it could lead to much "log rolling" and "pork barrel" decision making; that such a regressive change requires a favorable vote by all the County's citizens on a referendum; and that there is plenty of time for Chatham's citizens to decide to vote against this issue.

John Gray, 123 Cub Creek Extension, Chapel Hill, NC, asked that the people show respect for speakers and the Board stating that this is a serious business; that the consensus from last night was that redistricting is necessary; that he would like to have a Commissioner that is closer to home; that the elected official should be accountable to the public; that he would like to see the referendum on the ballot; and that a pool of people in one area should not have the control over the County.

Karl Kachergis, 1717 Morris Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is concerned at how divisive this is and has been for the County; that he feels the new Commissioners will be very representative; and that he asks that people give the new folks a chance.

Jay Gatlin, Ed Clapp Road, Siler City, NC, stated that he agrees with voting by district; and that the only option is to send it to the voters on November 7th.

Sally Kost, 1101 New Hope Church Road, Apex, NC, stated that based on the previous night's map vote, Commissioner Barnes had joined the "lame duck club", but not to worry, the voters would bail him out.

Gene Brooks, 66 Nooe, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is in favor of the proposition; that it is good to see an interest in democracy; that some people's passion for the cause got away with their manners; that one of the "midnight judges" was John Marshall; that most legislative bodies are elected by district; that this County is capable of being fair; that the government continues to be larger and larger every year; that if representatives could be elected by district, it would help the citizens.

Tom Vanderbeck, 8180 Old Graham Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that voting by districts will divide the County; that it is a recipe for pork-barrel politics; that it will silence African-American voters; that it will exacerbate the east-west tensions; that he wants Commissioners to represent the interests of all; that this proposal will leave one district unrepresented for two years; and that he appeals to Commissioners Emerson and Outz to vote against the referendum because it will marginalize the western vote.

Joyce Cotton, 1221 North Pea Ridge Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she supports district voting; that it will better enable citizens to voice concerns to their representative; that the cost of running for office is prohibitive; that many media avenues must be used in a campaign; that more people would run for office; that each Commissioner would better understand the needs of the citizens in their district; that 30% of the registered voters voted in the primary; that Commissioner-elect Carl Thompson would have won even if he did not have any black votes at all.

George Lucier, 628 Redbud, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he is in favor of County-wide voting; that Commissioners make decisions on a County-wide basis and should be elected County-wide; that offices are established on a County-wide basis; that he campaigned across the County; that he enjoyed campaigning outside his own district; that he feels that he can make informed decisions after campaigning; that he is a strong proponent of County-wide voting; that Commissioners should serve the entire County that they represent.

Marti Hipple, 170 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she has a packet of petitions, cards and letters supporting voting by district; that she revised her speech after last night; that mob rule was what was in place at the previous night's meeting; that all citizens should have a say in this County's government; that all they would like is for this referendum to be placed on the ballot to allow all citizens the opportunity to vote on the issue; that voting by district is true representative government; that one heavily populated area, such as northeastern Chatham County, would not be able to elect all the Commissioners; that Chatham County is a very diverse County and each district has different needs; that when a Commissioner is elected only by the people in a district, the Commissioner will better understand those needs; that a constituent would be more inclined to call on his very own Commissioner instead of approaching the Board of Commissioners as a whole; that it would be less costly for candidates to wage a campaign; that more candidates would probably file for seats; and that she asked the Board of Commissioners to put this on the ballot.

Elaine Chiosso, 1076 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that in 1972 when she moved to the County, Jim Crow signs were still up; that the legacy of racism was still alive; that Carl Thompson was elected both times by a large coalition of people that worked together across the County; that it is important that candidates must get out and experience the needs of others beyond their district; and that three of the districts encompass the Haw River watershed.

Roy Hipple, 1076 TC Justice Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the major employer in Chatham

County is still agriculture; that a common thread among people is that the folks in the eastern part of the County won't listen to those in the west; and that district wide voting will solve this problem.

Beverly Ann D'Aquanni, 856 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, stated she wondered why this is an issue; that she questioned if divide and conquer is the methodology; that district voting will cause problems; that Commissioners elected in May will prove that they will be representative of all in the County.

Jesse Albright, 1423 Coleridge Road, Siler City, NC, stated that he is in favor of voting by district; that fairness is the most important thing; that freedom to vote for someone that is a representative from the citizen's district is favorable; that when County-wide voting takes place, a citizen only has one-fifth of a vote; and that district voting is the only fair way.

Margie Ellison, 11538 Highway #902, Bear Creek, NC, thanked Commissioner Barnes for his courage and honesty. She stated that district voting will hurt the opportunity to elect an African-American; that voting rights must be protected; that Commissioners that have exacerbated the problems live in one's own district right now; that she would like to know why Commissioners are trying to make this change at this time; that all the citizens must be protected; that what is good for African Americans is good for the rest of the County; and that African-Americans' vote will become divided and invisible. She asked that the Board not allow the years of fighting for the right to vote and elect their choice be in vain.

Joe Weisman, 1359 Fearington Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that this is a very important issue; that the motives are irrelevant; that citizens must judge by actions, not presumed intent; that this issue will stand or fall on its own merit at the polls; that the founding fathers established a representative government; that currently the northeast corner is more influential because of numbers and wealth.

Nick Meyer, 988 Booth Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that if there could be fairly apportioned districts, then it may be a good thing; that District 1 has 150% of the population of any other district; that by the time there is a next election for a District 1 Commissioner, it will have twice the population; that when the majority takes away the rights of the minority, then mob rule ensues; and that by voting by district will take away the rights of those in District 1 because they will have ½ the vote.

Kim Cotton, 1136 Sanford Highway, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she wanted to apologize for the behavior of last evening for the lack of respect shown to the Board. She stated that she is in favor of voting by district; that there would be increased voter turnout; that running would be more economical; that the data may be out-of-date for the maps, but that the County has to start somewhere; and that she urged the Board to let the voters decide.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a short break.

Dave LeGrys, 111 Pokeberry Lane, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he trusts Commissioner Cross with his tax dollars; that he ran for Commissioner four years ago and had to appeal to voters across the County; that last night's decision may lead to political payback; that district voting will make it unlikely that an African American will be elected; and that republicans pushed this, but they have not been able to field candidates in the past.

Shannon Plummer, 116 Thrift Street, Pittsboro, NC, stated that it is not affordable to run for office; that many Republican candidates could not afford to run; that accountability is a benefit of district voting; that he commends those in the northeast for turning out to vote; and that district voting will encourage people to run.

Jeffrey Starkweather, 590 Old Goldston Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that it is unfortunate that time did not allow for the setting up a committee to represent both sides of redistricting with dialogue;

that the political action committee is designed to be a vehicle for the people to voice their preferences; that the accountability aspect of this is that they pushed for elections on the basis of issues; that the people support those issues then they elect people on the basis of those issues and hold them accountable; that someone who ran for the office who would not spell out what those issues were could not be held accountable; that the best predictor of future behavior is past practice; that there have been less and less congressional and legislative races bearing competition; that that is due, in part, to money and special interests; and that they could have much more influence if they could focus their money on a smaller area.

Mike Fox, 350 Red Hill Lane, New Hill, NC, stated that Carl Thompson lost in his district; that no African-American has been elected in the district system in the County; that when African-Americans get elected it is because voters in the northeast and other areas of the County combine their votes with African-American votes to elect them; that is why no African-Americans were elected before and they have been elected since; that anyone could have been elected because of County-wide voting; that a 40% African-American district in the County could probably not be drawn according to State standards; and that the results are that African-Americans are not elected unless there is County-wide voting.

Karl Ernst, 711 Red Oak Drive, Siler City, NC, stated that he is a proponent of this change for years; that he asked that the people be able to decide; that this is representation by population; that it would be more economical; that more candidates is a good thing and can be productive; that he is not a racist nor a shield for Chairman Morgan; that this is something that is done on a State and federal level; and that we can learn from the past but we need to move forward in order to deal with issues.

Mary Phyllis Horn, 24 Creekside Apartments, Pittsboro, NC, stated that not as many people turn out in races where there are many candidates; that in the last two elections, the people who spent more money didn't win; that each Commissioner already represents districts; that we need to get people out to vote; that she is for district voting; that we do not have the option to be divisive anymore; and that the County cannot afford to be selfish any longer and continue to progress.

Judith Ferster, 228 Carolina Meadows Villa, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that if the Board of Commissioners was a bicameral body like the US Congress, she might be able to accept that one body should be elected by and represent one district and that another body should be elected by and represent the whole County; that give the Board is unicameral rather than bicameral, she would rather have it more like the Senate than the House; that a county, even the largest one in the State, is not so large that each corner of it must retreat to consider its own issues in isolation; that many important issues that have figured large in recent elections, such as planning, economic development, education, and redistricting affect the County as a whole; that another is taxation which is also a County-wide issue; that since they need to consider and discuss these matters together, County-wide voting will serve them the best; and if there is a referendum on the November ballot to change the way they vote, she'll vote "no" and urge her friends to vote "no" also.

Richard Bradley, 929 NC Highway #87 North, Pittsboro, NC, stated that four years ago, 40% of the people voted; that a mandate should be representative of a true majority of the people; that everyone has a right to vote regardless of position. He also said that when the Clerk to the Board called "time" on speakers, after ten seconds if the speaker keeps talking that she should be able to activate a "trap door" under the speaker leading to a crocodile below.

Linda Sisco, 604 Mitchell Chapel Church Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she appreciates Commissioner Barnes willingness to stand up for his beliefs; that she is an opponent of district voting; that equal representation was not a part of this nation when it came into being; that prior to 1975, blacks were disenfranchised; that County Commissioners should represent all the people; that she proposes a test of issues for prospective Commissioners that if it cannot be passed about different areas of the County, then maybe the candidate should not run for the County Commissioner seat; and that district voting disenfranchises parts of the community.

Lori Sisco, 604 Mitchell Chapel Church Road, Pittsboro, NC, thanked Commissioner Emerson for

her brief history lesson on early Chatham County. She stated that a County Commissioner is elected by the County for all the people; and that voting by district is going the easy way instead of the right way. She asked that if they do not learn to grow together, how are they going to grow at all.

Ken Boggs, 371 River Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he has heard folks say that they want “their Commissioner” from “their district” and he is present to explore if this can work. He stated that the Commissioners operate nothing like the State Representatives and Congress; that at the State and federal level, there is an executive branch balancing act, the governor and the president balance the representatives; that this is not present with the Commissioners; that they are sort of a combination of the two with nothing to check their monopoly power; that there is no balance here; that if the County is prepared to make each district self-funding, prepared for each district to pay for its own schools and other public facilities, each district to manage its own affairs without interference from others outside that district, then it might be quite reasonable that they elect their Commissioner and the rest of the people have no say; that if the problems and funding are County-wide, if the schools, water, and other facilities are to be funded County-wide, if the benefits and draw-backs of the County’s growth are to be equally shared, and if his group is not a majority in any district whether it is farming or Haw River clean-up or whatever, then he cannot see why Chatham County cannot be divided into five little counties called districts; that based on their real opportunities and the consequent problems, everyone will do well together or go down the tubes together; and that election of Commissioners by districts just does not fit the citizens’ needs, conditions, or pocketbooks.

Herbert Gaines, 4284 Siler City Glendon Road, Bear Creek, NC, stated that he recommends that the referendum be placed on the ballot for the people to decide whether or not they should vote by districts; that he is personally in favor of his five County Commissioners being nominated and elected by the qualified voters of their district only; that he feels that this is the only way for all County citizens to have a fair and equitable opportunity to elect their leaders; that however thankless and difficult it has been, he appreciates the job that each Board member has done as the County’s elected officials; that as he told his young officers and soldiers in Vietnam, he salutes them for the superb performance under fire.

Della Turner, 557 Clyde Simpson Road, Gulf, NC, stated that as an African-American, she has a vested interest in switching from County minority to district vote; that when she heard of some people taking African-American situations and bringing them into this mess in the County, she was offended; that she didn’t grow up taking things for granted; and that the African-Americans of the 1960’s or 1970’s are not the African-Americans of today.

Alvin Reed, 481 Lydia Perry Road, Sanford, NC, stated that he is running for the North Carolina House District 54 which includes all of Chatham County and parts of Orange and Moore Counties; that he has come before the Board tonight to speak not directly on the issue of district voting, but rather indirectly on the issue of respect...respect for elected officials, respect for each other, respect for original intent, and most of all, respect for what is right; that he would like to quote Colonel Steve Acuff, USAFR who is running for the United States House District 4 for North Carolina, “ Bring a Bible and a friend to the polls.”; that he submits a proposition to the citizens of Chatham County and specifically to the Chatham Coalition; that if the Coalition will follow the Colonel’s advice, he will support the Coalition on this specific issue with every fiber of his being; and that if the Coalition will not follow the Colonel’s advice, he will fight the Coalition on this specific issue with that same vigor; that the choice is the Coalition’s choice. He quoted a verse in the Bible, “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth.” He thanked the Board for their time.

John Graybeal, 3396 Alston Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that in justifying his vote to adopt the district map, Commissioner Outz stated that many other political territories are divided into districts; that he referred to the district systems used for the NC House and Senate and to the US congressional district; that the implication of his comment was that the existence of these systems argues for use of a district system for voting in Chatham County; that regardless of where district voting is used and regardless of its merits or demerits in other places and for other purposes, the relevant question before

the Chatham Board now is what the effects of such a change would be in Chatham County and whether those effects would be good or bad; that several effects of going to district voting in Chatham are predictable and they are all undesirable; that some effects that have been identified are: 1) commissioners would focus on the needs of their local districts rather than on the needs and problems of the entire County; 2) A special version of this problem cited last night was the fact that a Commissioner from a western district could side with developer interests that would adversely affect citizens in the eastern part of the County, leaving eastern citizens helpless to deal with such a Commissioner; 3) The opportunities for minorities to be elected to the Board of Commissioners would be substantially reduced; that all of these effects are bad; that the Board of Commissioners should have a County, not a local perspective; that candidates should get to know the problems of the whole County, not just the problems of their district; that even though some counties went to district voting in the 1980's for the purpose of enabling greater minority representation, such a system should not be used where, as in Chatham County now, such a move would have the opposite effect; that many persons testified last night that moving to a district voting system in Chatham would have a major adverse effect on minority participation on the Board of Commissioners; that some of those supporting district voting argue that the present system means that eastern Chatham elects Commissioners for western Chatham and, in effect, deprives western citizens of full voting rights; that this argument fails to acknowledge that Chatham has a district system now and that the five Commissioners must reside in five separate districts; that even though they are elected at large, the present system means that the Commissioners should be and are especially mindful of the problems and concerns in their respective districts.

Mr. Graybeal stated that in dealing with these arguments, Commissioner Emerson said last night that the Board is not adopting district voting but submitting to the voters the question of which voting system to use; that those of them that supported the incoming Commissioners agree that Chatham voters are very wise; and that at the same time, the current Commissioners should be able on the basis of the evidence before them to decide that district voting in Chatham is a bad idea.

Floy Oldham, Lystra Road, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that he served on the board that drew up the map; that there have been many changes in Chatham County over the years; that Siler City use to rule the County; that the County does need to make a change; that they are present tonight to carry on democracy in Chatham County; and that the Commissioners are giving the citizens a right to exercise their right to vote.

Cynthia Crossen, 1116 Marshall Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that the process has not been respected in time and citizen input; and that she does not like the divisiveness that this has caused.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

The County Attorney reviewed the resolution calling for the referendum.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to adopt the **Resolution #2006-46 Pursuant to Article 4 of Chapter 153A of the General Statutes of North Carolina Calling a Referendum on the Question of Nomination and Election of One County Commissioner from Each of Five Districts**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Cross and Barnes opposing.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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

**RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF CHAPTER 153A OF THE GENERAL
STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA CALLING A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION
OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF ONE COUNTY COMMISSIONER FROM EACH
OF FIVE DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners as is presently exists consists of five members nominated and elected from residency districts by voters of the entire county; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on August 21, 2006, to afford citizens an opportunity to be heard on the question of whether to call a referendum pursuant to G.S. §153A-60 for the purpose of ascertaining the will of the registered voters on whether to alter the structure of the Board of Commissioners to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five districts by the voters of the district only; and

WHEREAS, at said public hearing it appeared that there is substantial support for holding a referendum pursuant to G.S. §153A-60 to ascertain the will of the voters on the question of whether to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five districts by the voters of the district only.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The proposed alterations are to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five districts by the registered votes of their respective district only. The boundaries of each of the five districts is set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
2. The proposed alterations will not affect the terms of any commissioner elected prior to December 1, 2006.
3. Upon approval by the registered voters of the County, the changes will be effective for all elections occurring after November 8, 2006. Commissioner seats for the new districts will be filled as follows:

District 1. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 1 in 2010, and each four years thereafter.

District 2. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 2 in 2008, and each four years thereafter.

District 3. One commissioner shall be first nominated and elected from new District 3 in either 2008, or 2010. Mr. Vanderbeck, a candidate for election in 2006, currently resides in new District 3. If elected in 2006, he will serve his four-year term to expire on 2010, in new District 3. If he is not elected in 2006, then a commissioner for new District 3 will first be nominated and elected in 2008, and each four years thereafter.

District 4. One commissioner shall be first nominated and elected from new District 4 in either 2008, or 2010. Mr. Ernst, a candidate for election in 2006, currently resides in new District 4. If elected in 2006, he will serve his four-year term to expire on 2010, in new District 4. If he is not elected in 2006, then a commissioner for new District 4 will first be nominated and elected in 2008, and each four years thereafter.

District 5. One commissioner shall be nominated and elected from new District 5 in 2010, and each four years thereafter.

4. The Chatham County Board of Elections is requested to place on the ballot for the November 7, 2006, election the question of whether to approve the above described alteration. It is also requested that the ballot to be used for said election be in substantially the following form:

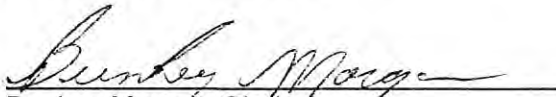
"Shall the structure of the board of county commissioners be altered to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five single member electoral districts of substantially equal population by the registered voters of the district only?"

_____ Yes


_____ No

5. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall, upon adoption, publish this Resolution in full in a newspaper of general circulation in Chatham County, and shall also transmit a copy hereof to the Chatham County Board of Elections.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, North Carolina held in Pittsboro, North Carolina at 6:00 o'clock p.m., on the 21st day of August 2006, the foregoing resolution was introduced by Commissioner Emerson, seconded by Commissioner Outz and adopted by a vote of 3 FOR and 2 AGAINST.


Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:


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

ATTACHMENT A

"Shall the structure of the Board of County Commissioners be altered to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five electoral districts by the qualified voters in each district only?"

Commissioner Outz stated that he thought that the Sports Arena was more of a Health Department issue regarding sewage, but that he thought it had been settled.

Noise Meters:

Commissioner Outz stated that he had heard that the noise meters at the Sheriff's Office had been auctioned off.

Chairman Morgan stated that it was his understanding that the old meters had been sold; that the new ones are operating efficiently; and that the noise should be taken care of with the adoption of the Noise Ordinance on September 18, 2006.

Voting by Districts/Referendum Concern:

Commissioner Emerson stated that he had struggled with the voting by districts/referendum issue and whether or not it should be brought up; that he thinks that it needs to be addressed; that he is not looking for a quarrel with anyone; that at the last public hearing where the issue of voting by districts/referendum was addressed, Commissioner Barnes made a statement that he had discussed the matter with Mr. Don Wright, State Attorney for the Board of Elections; that it was his (Commissioner Emerson's) understanding that Mr. Wright expressed the opinion that whereas what was being done was not illegal but that it was unethical; that Commissioner Barnes gave Mr. Wright's telephone number and stated that if anyone wished to talk with him (Mr. Wright) to call him; that he (Commissioner Emerson) did so; that he (Commissioner Emerson) talked with a gentleman who identified himself as Mr. Wright; that he (Commissioner Emerson) asked a specific question, "Did you consider the matter unethical or illegal?"; that Mr. Wright denied that he made that statement; that he (Commissioner Emerson) had tried to logically think the matter through; that he (Commissioner Emerson) doesn't think that Commissioner Barnes would deliberately tell an untruth; that if he did think that, he would have met with Commissioner Barnes privately, looked him in the eye, and said that; that he does think, however, that there was some misunderstanding or miscommunication; that he feels that perhaps Mr. Wright misunderstood the question; that there have been times in his life that he has made mistakes in communication in that he has wanted to hear something so badly that he heard what he wanted to hear; that everyone can continue with "he says and she says" and the situation will not get any better; that he doesn't advise doing that; that he thinks that it is important, since that it was stated in a public hearing, that his statement that there was some disagreement and confusion as to what was said by Mr. Wright be included in the public record.

Chairman Morgan said that he too called Mr. Wright; that he asked him directly about the comments he had heard had been made; and that Mr. Wright emphatically denied making the comments.

Commissioner Barnes stated that in his conversation with Mr. Wright, they discussed what was going on, and that the words he used to him were that it was "highly unethical".

Commissioner Emerson stated, "Let's move on!"

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman called for a five-minute break before the scheduled work session and adjourned the meeting at 9:28 AM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

2006 Wording on ballot

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER
REFERENDUM**

"Shall the structure of the board of county commissioners be altered to provide that one commissioner be nominated and elected from each of five electoral districts by the qualified voters in each district only?" (At present, all five commissioners are nominated and elected by the qualified voters of the entire county.)

YES

NO

June 19, 2006

Chatham County
Board of Commissioners
12 East Street
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Chatham County Commissioners,

Over the past few months, the Elections office has received several inquiries concerning the commissioners' current districts. I am writing on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Elections to ascertain if there is any interest among the Commissioners at this time in changing the current Commissioners districts to correct the population imbalances in the districts. Current district statistics are as follows:

- District 1 – 11,840 voters
- District 2 – 6,373 voters
- District 3 – 7,779 voters
- District 4 – 5,197 voters
- District 5 – 5,703 voters

North Carolina General Statutes #153.22 (a) states that: if a county finds that there is a substantial inequality of population among the districts, a Board may, by resolution redefine the electoral districts. Section g states that: This section shall not apply to counties where under G.S. 153A- 58(3) d, which states that members shall reside in and represent the districts according to the apportionment plan adopted, but the qualified voters of the entire county shall nominate all candidates for and elect all members of the board. Chatham County is not required to redistrict, but may if the County Commissioners choose to do so.

The Elections office is planning for future elections and is interested in determining if any such redistricting efforts may be contemplated by the Board of Commissioners in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dawn Stumpf – Director
Chatham County Board of Elections

map.

Some who addressed commissioners during the public comment session favored re-districting and election of commissioners by district, saying it would give county residents better representation in their elected government; others opposed it, arguing it would make for a more divisive county and could even hinder African American representation in county government.

In the end, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners voted 4-1 (commissioner Patrick Barnes cast the lone dissenting vote) to conduct a formal public hearing on the matter on August 21. Based on that input, commissioners may decide to let voters have the final say in the

ers are elected by districts, rather than at-large as they currently are.

If redesigned, the county would still have five districts and the new districts would become effective in 2008.

Karl Ernst of Siler City, a Republican seeking a seat on the Board of Commissioners in November, said district representation is "the best way to provide fair and equitable representation."

Margie Ellison of Bear Creek said changing to district representation would "severely limit the voting rights of Chatham County citizens."

Others merely asked that voters be given a chance to decide for themselves by having a referendum on the matter in November.

At county board meeting Monday . . .

Large crowd angr

By Randall Rigsbee

A standing-room-only crowd filled the large Superior Courtroom in Pittsboro Monday night for the first half of a meeting of the county Board of Commissioners that was so long (the agenda was six pages with a total of 45 items, including 11 public hearings) it was continued to Tuesday night.

center on US 15-501 across from Fearington Village.

The 3-2 vote — with commissioners Bunkey Morgan, Tommy Emerson and Carl Outz, all of whom are serving their last few months on the board, voting one way and commissioners Patrick Barnes and Mike Cross voting another — and the public outcry that

Commissioner Kost stated one of the things they needed to do was look at redistricting the Board of Commissioners, noting they had talked about looking at some sort of combination of district representation or a combination thereof. She asked where that would fall under their goals, noting they could begin the study process but they would need to talk about how to do that. She suggested they could have a goals category called "other" that things like that could be placed under.

Ms. Henzey asked then should "redistricting" be included as a goal.

Chairman Bock stated he did not think it was a goal; it was just something they needed to do. Ms. Henzey suggested creating an "action list" that would accompany the goals and would be a list of things the Board wanted to make sure happened. She asked if that was acceptable. Chairman Bock stated he believed it would be.

Mr. Horne stated that on the idea of redistricting, the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education had agreed in prior discussions to work jointly and try to make the district lines synonymous; that is, that the Board of Education would have a candidate in the same district as the Board of Commissioners. Now, he said, there were two Board of Education districts in the west side of the County whereas the Board of Commissioners had one. That might be a consideration as they went forward.

Chairman Bock asked if the Board of Commissioners drew the lines or did the Board of Education draw the lines and present them to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Kost stated that the State had to approve whatever was drawn. Mr. Horne stated that was correct, and they could enter into discussion if the Board wanted to pursue those discussions with the Board of Education.

Commissioner Kost stated they had the authority to draw redistricting lines for the Board of Commissioners, but the State approved the lines for the Board of Education. One of their legislative goals should be to change that because the State should not have to approve their Board of Education lines; the Board of Commissioners should be able to do that.

Commissioner Petty asked was it true that Chatham County could redistrict more often than the census.

Chairman Bock stated they could redraw the lines for the Board of Commissioners at any time they chose.

Commissioner Bock stated that was true, but it had to be supported by sound data.

Commissioner Kost stated they should have a joint meeting with the Board of Education since it had not been done in a while, noting she had spoken to the School Superintendent about getting a better picture of what they were looking at for the upcoming budget. There were several mutual issues, from capital projects to redistricting, that they should be discussing in the near future.

Mr. Starkweather stated that the reason why so many people were in favor of drawing the Board of Commissioner districts to match the Board of Education districts was because so many people in the Country were confused as to who they could vote for. He said it made sense to begin working on those issues, including what was the fairest way to represent people, through set districts as opposed to some mixed system. These were things that there had been a lot of public discussion on and there should be some process put in place. If they went to district voting, they would be changing their whole legal process because you would get to one person, one vote, which meant you had to be within certain percentages. You did not have to be within a certain percentages with Board of Commissioner districts. If you redistrict, they had to be more equal than they were prior to the redistricting.

Chairman Bock stated he believed that completed the major goals and the priorities they wanted to focus on for the next year or so.

Commissioner Stewart stated she had noticed the lack of technology in County government and the needs there. For example, they had talked about communications and the

DENR Correction:

Commissioner Kost stated that when she viewed Chairman Bock's webpage, a U-Tube video popped up from the DENR public hearing on the discharge line for the Haw River. The vote was taken on January 18, 2011 and it was the only meeting that she has missed. She stated that she did not vote for it. She supports infrastructure for the Town of Pittsboro. She doesn't think that they had the scientific data to say that was the right place for a discharge, and she wanted to correct the record that the entire Board endorsed it and she still had some outstanding questions.

Redistricting:

Chairman Bock stated that if anyone has looked at the redistricting maps since those numbers have come out that it is pretty obvious that the districts are out-of-whack when it comes to numbers represented in the districts. He stated that technically, it is ok because of the way they vote. They vote at-large so there is no requirement that they be equal. He stated that he thinks that they would all like for them to be as close to equal as possible. In looking at the way the last two redistrictings were done, one in 2006 where Chairman Bunkey Morgan had a committee of citizens get together, suggest a couple of maps, and then was adopted by the Board. Before the next election, however, that was changed. Then Commissioner Lucier basically worked with the GIS staff to come up with some maps, returned them to the Board for a public hearing and vote. He has decided that he and Commissioner Petty will work with GIS and come up with some recommendations on how to draw the districts. Since they are drawing them as close to equal as possible, they almost take care of themselves in making certain that the population is right. They will be working with them and will bring them back to this Board. From there, they will proceed to a public hearing and then adoption.

Commissioner Kost stated that there was a hastily thrown together committee to get the district-only voting as those districts were drawn for district-only voting. That was Bunkey Morgan's thing in 2006. Commissioner Lucier worked with staff to round it back out. It looked to be a political maneuver so an incumbent commissioner could not run for office. She thinks that those are two entirely different situations for why it was done by Commissioner Lucier versus a committee. She stated that she thinks if we are truly committed to citizens' input, we need to have a citizens' committee, not only to look at the district lines, but to look at whether we want to increase the number of districts to seven or another number. Do we want to go to district-only voting or a combination. She thinks those are questions that they have heard from the community and it needs to be studied; therefore, redrawing what they currently have is not being responsive to what they have heard from the community.

Action Audit/Broadband:

Commissioner Stewart stated that they had hoped that before now they could have gotten Action Audit to come to report back on the broadband findings in Chatham County. Because of scheduling problems, it is being delayed until late May. Once it happens, there will be a presentation to and discussion with the Board. There will be a town hall meeting after which and an opportunity to bring some of the providers together if they will attend. She stated that she also has someone from the ENC Authority who has agreed to come and give a presentation to the citizens letting them know what they are providing and where they play a part in the process. Action Audit will also answer any questions that anyone has. One of the reasons that this is so important and they want to get as many people as possible to attend, is that there is a map out the website which tells each individual if they put in their address, who their service provider is and what they have available. She thinks that there are some issues that what's there and what is actual are controversial. They want to be able to check people if they are there with computers that will be there. There will be more to come on this issue and may come to fruition in June. If there are people who have questions and want to discuss solutions as to how they get broadband into the County and hear some of the things and possibilities, it will be the perfect opportunity to do so.

Commissioner Kost asked if this would be a meeting of the entire Board. Commissioner Stewart stated that it was something that she was holding herself. Commissioner Kost stated that she would like to have it as the entire Board so that those resources may be utilized as opposed to holding individual sessions and the consultant would be there. Commissioner Stewart stated that it was indeed open for everyone to be there.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Chatham-Cary Subcommittee Meeting:

Commissioner Kost stated that the Cary-Chatham subcommittee would be meeting on June 29th, and she had raised some concerns. The plan was to have the maps on line one week prior to the meeting, and she would ask that they make it available much sooner. Ben Howell stated it was their goal to actually have the maps and the plan document on line a week prior to the meeting, noting that there was a great deal of work that would be required of staff. Commissioner Kost stated she understood the work aspects, but asked that the maps be posted as soon as possible. She also asked that the letters be mailed as soon as possible, noting that her concern was that they would be getting close to the July 4th weekend and people would be out of town. People in that area of the County were very interested in this, and she was simply asking for as much lead time as possible for citizens.

Redistricting:

Commissioner Petty stated they had been working on some ideas for redistricting, and they needed to target somewhere in the neighborhood of 12,700 citizens per district. They did have some maps of interest that they could begin looking at.

Commissioner Cross asked was that the only map coming forward.

Chairman Bock stated they had figured they would adjust it after they heard input.

Commissioner Petty stated they had tried to keep all the municipalities in one district, and follow major roads and bodies of water and other well-defined lines.

Commissioner Kost asked if feedback should be provided now or later.

Chairman Bock responded later would be better, but they did need to schedule a public hearing on that.

Commissioner Petty asked could that be done at the next meeting.

Commissioner Kost stated she would ask that they postpone the public hearing because June was typically a very busy time with the budget public hearings coming up. She suggested they wait and look at this again in July simply from a workload perspective. Or, she stated, they could look at it the second meeting of June after the budget was adopted.

Chairman Bock stated he would prefer to do it at the first meeting in June.

Commissioner Kost stated she believed they just had too much on their plate right now, and she was concerned that it was not only an overload for the Commissioners but an overload on the citizens.

Commissioner Petty stated the first meeting in June was June 6.

Commissioner Kost stated that would be right in the heart of the budget discussions. She stated she would prefer July, but would compromise on doing it at the second meeting in June.

Commissioner Petty asked if they had a feel for what the schedule would be on June 6.

Chairman Bock stated they would need to schedule the public hearing for the Watershed Review Board, as well as the text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. He stated he would prefer to do all of those public hearings at once.

Commissioner Petty stated he was inclined to agree with that.

Commissioner Cross stated he had no preference.

Commissioner Stewart stated she would prefer sooner rather than later. If they could do that on June 6, she was okay with that.

Commissioner Kost asked would there be a press release out for Wednesday's newspaper. Her concern was she did not see where the fire was here. If they did it the second meeting in June it would give the Commissioners more time to look at the issue and study it. Commissioner Petty and Chairman Bock had the advantage that they had been meeting with staff and understood the issues more. She would have to start from zero because all she had was the map with numbers she could not read. In fairness to her to give her time to really review it and understand it, she needed more than just two weeks.

Commissioner Petty stated they had tried to keep everyone in a district as it stood now, hit the 12,700 mark, to follow well-defined lines, and keep the municipalities in the same district and not split them.

Commissioner Kost stated that 751 which was District 1 was split and it was not connected to a major roadway. She believed that District 1 and 2 were somewhat strange.

Chairman Bock stated that District 1 basically was the first one they had done because it was the densest district. Once that one fell into place with the right number of people they had worked around that and made sure the municipalities remained in place.

Commissioner Kost asked was there any backup to that, such as demographics or population numbers and how the census tracks broke up. She stated she was not able to read the figures on the map.

Chairman Bock stated that was available through GIS.

Commissioner Kost stated she had tried to work with the Board on trying to respect when they asked for more time, and she was asking only that she be given more than two weeks to digest the information. She stated that the Memorial Day holiday was approaching and they had budget public hearings next week and a budget to work through. She stated she believed the Commissioners were overloaded and was asking for a little more time to digest the information on redistricting.

Chairman Bock stated he would be willing to compromise and hold the public hearing on June 20th. Commissioner Petty stated he would agree to June 20th as did Commissioner Stewart.

Chairman Bock stated there was a consensus that the public hearing would be scheduled for June 20. Commissioner Kost thanked the Board for that consideration.

Watershed Review Board:

Chairman Bock stated that if they had not already done so, a public hearing for the Watershed Review Board should be scheduled for June 6. Jep Rose, County Attorney, stated that the text amendment needed to be referred to the Watershed Review Board. Chairman Bock stated that had been done at the last meeting.

Commissioner Kost asked was that reflected in the minutes.

Mr. Sullivan stated that at the meeting last month there was discussion about two different items, with one related to the Watershed Review Board and its responsibilities and which current advisory board handled those items, and there was also a discussion about a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Staff needed clarification so they could proceed with legal advertisements.

Mr. Sullivan stated in looking at the minutes of the Watershed Review Board discussion, the motion was to refer the Watershed Review Board to the Environmental Review Board for comment. What staff needed was the specific language that the Commissioners wanted amended that they could then forward to the Watershed Review Board. Tentative language had been crafted for the last meeting in the event that the Board decided to proceed, which basically said if the Board wanted to shift responsibility from the Environmental Review Board to the Planning Board, then that would be the text change. The Board would need to vote in order to forward that to public hearing with a specific date and they could then place the legal ad for notification of the public hearing.

To that end I leave you with three thoughts:

The arts provide outlets for self-expression and new ways of teaching and learning. The arts bridge communities and celebrate histories. We need to embrace our Arts community.

And as Edward O. Wilson said:

“It's obvious that the key problem facing humanity in the coming century is how to bring a better quality of life -- for 8 billion or more people -- without wrecking the environment entirely in the attempt.”

And finally, as we approach the new millennium, we see how much remains to be done to give our young and future generations a better world to live in: a more peaceful society with a healthier, cleaner environment and a pattern of sustainable development which seeks to eradicate poverty. Education is the single most powerful means to improve the quality of life... the single most powerful weapon against poverty and intolerance. Education builds a culture of peace ... it empowers human beings, both young and adult, to be effective in their chosen sphere of activity ... education in its essence, opens doors to both personal and social development. ~ Federico Mayor”

Larry Ballas, 139 Indian Creek Lane, Apex, NC, stated that he was an environmentalist but one thing it appeared they never talked about was that it was not Chatham County that polluted a lot; rather it was people that were outside of the County. Setting up all these regulations within the County to prevent the citizens from doing what they needed to do was wrong. They really needed to teach those outside the County not to pollute Chatham County.

Mr. Ballas stated that last week it was mentioned by one of the Commissioners that prayer was settled law as far as not having the Commissioners pray or offer some kind of invocation, but that was not true. Their neighbors to the west in Forsyth County had that issue going before the Supreme Court, so in the next few months to a year that would perhaps be decided. Prayer was always welcomed in one way or another, whether it was generic or specific.

Mr. Ballas stated one problem he found in the County had to do with the unemployment rate, noting it was listed as being very good. But, they had to remember that a very large number of their people who worked and lived in Chatham County worked outside of the County, and they really did not know the metrics of the people who were unemployed and who lived in Chatham County and worked in the County, and that may be something much greater than the 7% that the State had determined. He suggested that the Commissioners try to determine what those metrics really were because it would help them in their economic development and would help them in determining what type of education they needed to add to get citizens educated in order to get jobs. Was the unemployment rate in Chatham County really for the people who lived and worked in the County something like 20% or 25%, and was it because so many people worked outside the County that the rates were determined to be much lower.

COMMISSIONERS' PRIORITIES

Public Hearing:

Public Hearing on Redistricting: Public hearing to receive public comments on redistricting. With census data available from 2010, the Board of Commissioners is considering election district (County Commissioner Districts) boundary adjustments to account for population changes based in the census. Three options have been developed for public consideration and feedback.

Cynthia Wertz, 425 Old Oaks Lane, Pittsboro, NC, presented her comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the Board as follows:

“My name is Cynthia Wertz. I live in Chatham County, and I am representing the League of Women Voters in Chatham County.

The League of The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. It encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major

public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League believes that congressional districts and government legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population. The League supports a redistricting process that is more equitable and transparent by establishing a non partisan or independent redistricting committee or citizen's group that is responsible for redrawing electoral districts. In addition, we believe electoral districts should be compact, contiguous, and respect political subdivisions or communities of interest.

The League is concerned about the process under which the three redrawn district maps were created, i.e., we are concerned about the transparency of the process. It would have been preferable to have had an independent citizens' redistricting committee oversee the drawing of new electoral districts for approval by the BOC. When political parties alone redraw the electoral maps, it creates suspicion in voters' minds of gerrymandering. As far as we know, the proposed redistricting maps were drawn without formalized citizen input. Receiving citizen's input on the proposed maps tonight is a step in the right direction, but without further citizen involvement, the process is flawed. Not knowing the full thought process used by BOC members in redrawing the districts makes it difficult for the League and voters to understand all the considerations made in creating the new districts and to judge how fair the proposed districts are in the voters' minds.

To be more specific:

1. Why hasn't the BOC worked with the Chatham County School Board to align their electoral districts? Each political entity has five districts; the districts used to align. It is very confusing to the voters that they vote in one district for a commissioner and another for a school board member and yet another for their Congressional and state legislative representatives. It is obvious that you were not considering aligning the districts because you put three incumbent school board members in a single district in Options 1 and 2. Yet, one of your criteria's in redrawing the Commissioner's districts was to ensure that no two incumbent commissioners were in any one district.

2. Communities of interest should be kept together. The Fearington community is split into two districts in Option 1, and Siler City is split into two districts in Option 2. Why? Are there other political subdivisions and/or communities of interest that have been split but may not be obvious on the proposed maps presented? Splitting communities of interest causes voting administrative issues. Administration of ballots during the election process (early voting and especially election day) will be much more difficult. For example under Option 1, some voters in Fearington would receive one district ballot and others would receive a different ballot both at the same precinct. With current administrative problems in the election process where some district lines are not coterminous with precinct lines, this would create more issues and more costs for the Board of Elections. While technology may make it easier to get information about which ballot a voter gets, there is still the tax payer's expense of printing multiple ballot forms, distributing them to the right place and in the right quantities, and the people in the polling place having to spend additional time making sure each voter gets the right ballot. With the plan to shorten early voting, more voters will likely be voting on election day or by absentee ballot. All of these situations will cost the county time and money to "get it right".

3. Because of the disbursement of the voting age population (VAP) of Chatham's African American and Hispanic residents, it is difficult to create a majority minority district, defined as one minority group that is 50% plus 1 more in population. Yet, Chatham's African American and Hispanic VAP together represents 26% of Chatham's VAP and have much to contribute. There are no districts drawn in Options 1 or 2 that would provide a "Coalition District" for Chatham's minority voters. While there is no strong evidence that would indicate that African American and Hispanic groups vote together on issues, a "Coalition District" would provide Chatham's minority voters a better opportunity over the next 10 years to have a representative member on the BOC, as their representation in the other proposed districts range from 15 - 48% in Option 1 and 16% - 40% in Option 2. Please consider a "Coalition District" in the final redrawn electoral maps, such as District 4, in the proposed Option 3 map, where the African American and Hispanic voting age population comprises 56% of that district. Redistricting must be completed by the end of 2011 so that candidates running for office in 2012 can file in February 2012. Thus, there is time to involve more citizens in the process of redrawing their electoral districts. There is time to work with the Chatham School Board, who is meeting tonight to discuss where their district lines should be drawn, to ensure that voting

districts align and that voter confusion is reduced. The League would like to work with both the Board of Commissioners and the Chatham School Board to help achieve more transparency in this process and more citizen involvement. All Chatham County citizens care about the future of their children, of themselves, and of their community. It is their future. Will they be able to choose their representatives or will you choose for them?

Thank you for your time and allowing me to speak tonight.”

Jeffrey Starkweather, 590 Old Goldston Road, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the Board as follows:

“Chairman Bock. You have aggressively promoted what you claim is your election victory right to implement the campaign ideology and policy platform you ran on. Your supporters clearly agree with you as we seen them parade up to this podium to proudly congratulate you and the majority for doing just that.

I would, of course, argue that this campaign platform push has at times been at odds with reality here in Chatham and is not in the best interests its residents. Regardless, this is your political right.

However, when it comes to the issue of reapportionment, you have abandoned at least three campaign promises: 1) drawing commissioner districts that match school board districts; 2) consideration of a seven-member board with a combination of district only and at large seats and 3) open government. These were specific campaign promises you made in writing.

Now, I suspect you would cite practical realities you are confronted with as a basis for abandoning these promises. But you have not let practical reality hinder your implementation of many other campaign promises, such as your steamrolling our environmental regulations and review processes.

As Commissioner Kost and I stated when we ran for office in 2008 and have consistently stated since, we support a fair citizen participation redistricting process that would seriously consider some combination of district only and at large seats with seven board members. In speaking to the Chatham Conservative Voice candidate forum in April 2008 I stated my preference would be a four district only and three at large seat combination but was open to other suggestions.

Cadle Cooper, who lost a close Republican primary contest to Mr. Bock, has told me he supports a 4-3 combination system because it would allow every voter to cast a vote for a majority of the seats. I would add that all three incumbent Democratic County Commissioner candidates in 2010 supported considering such a mixed system as part of deliberate citizen input redistricting process.

To be clear, I opposed the district only voting proposal on the November 2006 ballot for three reasons: 1) the process was unfair and hurried; 2) the district map was unfair and gerrymandered Commissioner Patrick Barnes from seeking re-election; and 3) it converted all seat to district only elections.

I still oppose a district only election system.

During the campaign, Mr. Bock wrote “ I support the BOEs’ request to have districts match the BOC districts.” Yet, you did not involve the school board in drafting your two proposed maps. The result was that three incumbent school board members were located in the same district.

Mr. Bock also wrote “I support the idea of 5 members being elected by citizens of their districts and two being voted by all the citizens.”

Most upsetting is that you have ignored your open government campaign promise by denying a legitimate request from Commissioner Kost that we set up a citizens’ task force to review and make recommendations concerning alternative maps, increasing board size, and consideration of election system of district voting only, at large, and a combination of both. But

it is not too late for you live up to these three campaign promises. Such a citizens' task force could do its work in a couple of months, as the Courthouse Task Force did.

Open government means more than letting citizens comment on or watch a video of the commissioners' discussing redistricting maps you and Commissioner Petty privately drafted. True open government includes citizen input and deliberation before decisions are made."

Heather Johnson, 449 Foster Lane, Pittsboro, NC, stated that with all the talk about government transparency and an open process involving redistricting there had been complaints about citizen input. She said here they were, at a public hearing, and there had been maps available on line for a week. There had been two town hall meetings, one in the western portion of the County and one in the eastern portion of the County, both of which had been publicized where public input was taken. One of the concerns about the process under which the redistricting was being done was that there was not a citizen advisory group. She wanted to remind everyone that back when Commissioner Lucier had taken over the process, he had removed it from a citizen advisory group that he had not agreed with and taken it upon himself. They had a citizen advisory group that was nonpartisan that followed State regulations and one public official had not agreed with it so he had taken it on his own and had redrawn the lines himself. He had not restored them to "pre-Bunky" lines; he had changed them again. So to continue to impugn Commissioner Bock on his leadership of this process was misguided.

Ms. Johnson stated that in a census-bearing year the citizens of Chatham selected the leadership who would redraw those districts. Consider this: the citizens of Chatham were very well aware that redistricting would take place in that election cycle, and they had chosen the leadership. They had seen quick, decisive leadership as soon as the census numbers had come in, and thankfully they had very smart lines that made sense and were logical, followed major highways, and fell in line with all of the State regulations regarding demographics. Therefore, she supported Map 2. She appreciated the work that had been done, and additionally she appreciated Ms. Kost's work as well. But, they did have leadership in Commissioners Petty and Bock and believed their work had been well publicized for some time to the entire community, and that spoke volumes.

Cathy Regula, 19206 Stonebrook, Pittsboro, NC, stated she supported Map 2 because it kept Ferrington in the same district. She also believed that that map was superior to the Kost map because it did follow major roads and township lines, and believed that the Commissioners were following the tradition in having meetings where citizens were present, although it could become chaotic to have too many. It was also true that these maps had been available and there had been adequate discussion on all the issues, and believed it was time to move on to the final stages of choosing maps.

Ms. Regula stated she believed that the Democrats had spoken often about wanting justice and fairness regarding the redistricting process, and it seemed to her that it was the Republicans that should get fairness and justice this time around. After all, it had been 140 years since they had had the choice and the opportunity to even make these decisions at all. Secondly, how fair and just were the Democrats for 140 years when they did the redistricting. And what about the gerrymandering that goes on right now and trying to undo the mess they had made of gerrymandering in this County and in this State. There was a time in this State when anyone who was not a Democrat could not get a job.

Ms. Regula stated when she had worked the polls during the last election and she had seen a Police officer in uniform but off duty try to vote the Republican ticket with a Republican sample ballot. One of the Democratic pollsters shouted at him "You had better vote Democrat if you want to keep your job." That was just last year, so things had not changed that much. It is time for justice and fairness for the Republicans in redistricting. It is their prerogative. The Democrats never had committees. The Democrats never shared the decision-making.

Linda Arnold, 55230 Broughton, Pittsboro, NC, urged the Board to consider Map 2.

Keith Horil, 1620 New Hope Church Road, Apex, NC, expressed his support for Map 2. After reviewing all of the maps and looking at what the objectives were for each, Map 2 was the least representative of gerrymandering and was the fairest overall. Map 2 was a very fair map that represented the citizens of Chatham County.

Commissioner Kost stated that she had worked on option 3 which was referred to as the Kost map but should be referred to as option 3. She asked if Mr. Horil would explain to her where he believed it was gerrymandered. Mr. Horil asked if the public hearing was a time for him to speak or a time for her to question him. Commissioner Kost stated she would like to hear the answer. Mr. Horil stated he declined to respond to that question at this time but would be happy to meet with her at a later time.

Commissioner Petty asked that the meeting remain honorable and respectful. They all had their opinions and that was what public input and public hearings were all about. They were glad to welcome all of those comments, but asked that it be offered in a respectful manner.

Ina Kimbrough, 10062 Fountain, Chapel Hill, NC, stated she had lived in another state in 2000 and had worked on the census there. She pled with the Board to be totally fair and to make sure that all demographics were included in redistricting. Otherwise, people would feel that they were not represented when they voted. She requested that the Board reconsider some of the decisions already made and make sure that everyone was included. She supported Sally Kost's redistricting plan.

Randolph Voller, 21 Randolph Court, Pittsboro, NC, stated that these maps should not put them in the position that they were at war politically. This was something where they could come together as a community working with the Board of Commissioners, hopefully the Board of Education, the municipalities and anyone else who wanted to participate in the process. This was not a Democratic party, Republican party, Libertarian party or unaffiliates; it was just an issue for them. These options were three tries at it, but believed they could look at the issue in depth and perhaps do a little better. Let's rewind the tape to 2006 when they had gone through the maps and they were doing the best job they could for the purposes they had in mind, but they had not had the U.S. census figures. The next Board in 2007 and for whatever their reasons had wanted to correct it, but they did not have the census figures either so the process was not perfect. But now, we have the census data. They have everything they did not have in 2006 and 2007 and a resolution from the School Board requesting that the Board conform the districts. The School Board would be requesting a bill from the Legislature to give them the ability to work with the Board of Commissioners. This was a unique opportunity for the citizens of Chatham County to come together and do it right.

Mr. Voller stated that the process had obviously worked before because the three new Board members were elected. No one ever thought that Republicans would be elected but they were. So, the system worked, the early voting worked, and it worked for both sides. It's about message. It's about what the people want.

Mr. Voller stated that he respected and understood the previous speaker who had talked about the 140 years of Democratic rule. At one time the Democratic party was everyone. It had conservatives, it had races, it had liberals and populace and everything in between. Then it started to fracture. To say that the Republican party of 1898 when Daniel Russell was the governor was the same as the one today was just wrong. Some people might say the new boss was the same as the old boss in Raleigh. It was still older white guys running the show. He was 42 and had younger siblings who did not believe they were being represented, so nothing had changed. But, they could change and this process was a part of that change.

Mr. Voller stated that it was not unusual for a public official to question a speaker. They did it in Pittsboro often if someone brought up something of interest. He did not believe Ms. Kost was being rude; she just wanted clarification.

Commissioner Kost stated that was exactly what she had wanted.

Larry Ballas, 139 Indian Creek Lane, Apex, NC, stated he was trying to understand what redistricting was in Chatham County. They had districts in which people had to live in order for everyone in the County to vote. It was not district voting they were looking at with redistricting; it was addresses. That meant that all of these maps were gerrymandered and not just one or two of them, because they all had borders on them and they were all eliminating someone from running for election in a particular district when perhaps they would have been able to without the redistricting. He did not quite understand what redistricting was doing in Chatham County other than establishing what someone's address was. It did not make them a better county and it did not make them a more representative government because everyone in the County would be

voting for every person in every election rather than by districts. So, it did not matter what the borders looked like except from the point of view that if they did not want you to run in a particular district they would draw a line and eliminate your address.

Mr. Ballas stated they needed to change the entire thing in order to have district representation and he was in favor of going to district only voting. They could have a few at-large seats that everyone would vote for, which was what they were doing now because all seats were at large even though they had to live in a particular district. There was no State law that he was aware of that required them to have districts, so why did they have districts. It was so that people could live at a certain address and then have fair representation based on addresses and not on the quality of candidates. The only reason they had districts was to eliminate or make sure that people lived within a certain boundary with a certain address, and it eliminated some people who perhaps would like to run for office. A good argument could be made that it was discriminatory in some ways, because it eliminated some people from running for office. What do districts really mean in this County?

Richard Bradley, 929 NC 87 North, Pittsboro, NC, stated that if they were going to have districts they should follow as distinct lines as possible, such as major highways, major rivers, and as close to township lines as possible. A map with the straightest line possible would also be better. And, you had to follow the State regulations in regards to demographics when you drew those lines. Therefore, he supported Map 2.

Mr. Bradley stated in regards to remarks made at the last meeting, there were some people who really needed to get a copy of the U.S. Constitution and read it. There were comments made at the last meeting that were attributed to the Constitution that were not found in that document. The President needed to get a copy and read it as well. It plainly said that if you ran for a federal office you could not take another office until you had fulfilled your previous elected term. It ought to be that way on the local and the State level and all the way up to Washington. When you get elected to an office, you should not be able to take another job with the government or run for another office until you finished the first one out.

George Lucier, 628 Redbud, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“Three redistricting plans have been put forward in order to address changes in census blocks between 2000 and 2010. The population shifts have been dramatic and it is appropriate to revise districts for Board of Commissioners’ residency requirements.

The proposals put forth by Commissioners Bock, Petty and Kost all have merit and all address the population changes that we have experienced over the last 10 years.

I am not here to advocate for any of the proposals. I am here to request that you establish a joint committee between the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education for the purpose of establishing districts that are agreeable to both Boards. I urge you not to make a decision on the BOC districts until this Joint Committee has had the chance to evaluate the three proposals and to come up with a different proposal if they so wish.

Now, I understand that the BOE has requested that the State Legislature allow them to set their own districts. I would be surprised if the legislature would not vote for a proposal agreed upon the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and Board of Education.

The Joint Committee should address the following areas.

1. Evaluate the three proposals that have been made public.
2. Evaluate whether the BOC and BOE should increase from 5 to 7 members.
3. Evaluate whether a mixed system of districts would work best for Chatham County. For example would it be best to have 4 members of each Board to be elected by district only voting and three to be elected at large by the entire county.
4. There may be other charges to the committee that you wish to establish.

You have an opportunity to work with the BOE on this important issue and to provide clarity on voting districts to the citizens of Chatham County. Please take advantage of it.”

John Graybeal, 3396 Alston Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that in regards to Ms. Johnson's comments he believed there was a very different situation if you had citizens who were chosen at large or from various different points of view involved in the map making process in the beginning as opposed to having maps placed on a wall that they only now had the opportunity to comment on. He rejected her claim that the opportunity for citizen input they had tonight, while wonderful, was in any sense the equivalent.

Mr. Graybeal stated that former Commissioner Lucier made an excellent point in suggesting that the maps they now had could be reviewed by the BOC and the BOE and perhaps other interested persons for purposes of determining whether or not they had something that made sense. The process was not over and that could still be done, and he strongly agreed with Mr. Lucier that it should be done. It was his understanding that the objectives that were recently set out for the districts by the Commissioners running for election was that they would basically not disturb any existing incumbents. On that basis he gathered that options 1 and 2 flunked that test. The map that Commissioner Kost had designed dealt with that situation as best as it could be dealt with, and to that extent it had merit over the other two.

Donna Kelly, 553 Holly Glenn Road, Pittsboro, NC, presented her comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

"When it comes to redistricting my most important concerns are even populations and boundaries as compact as possible. While it's important to have representation from each part of the county, currently reflected by residency in separate districts, it's more important for commissioners to base all decisions on what is best for the county as a whole. This is best reflected by countywide elections. On most issues there is a wide diversity of opinion spread throughout the county so I don't think any true representation by districts is possible on those issues. All concerns do need to be addressed and balanced as much as possible but commissioners shouldn't make decisions based on what's best for their district if it's at the expense of the rest of the county.

The most important issue is to keep the district lines as compact as possible so people can clearly see which district they are in. Hopefully the precinct lines will be redrawn as well to coincide with the new district lines where possible. The primary goal of any political process should be to encourage more involvement and the best way to do that is to keep things as simple and straightforward as possible.

With these things in mind I'd rank Option 2 as my first choice, followed closely by Option 1 with Option 3 as a distant third choice. Although it would be nice to keep Siler City in one district it makes for rather strange lines. Also, District 1 is more compact in Option 2. Option 3 has three very oddly shaped districts rather than one oddly shaped district in the other choices so that's why I'd rank it a distant third.

The Board of Commissioners should solicit input from the Board of Education since they're considering using the same districts, but it's not feasible to draw lines that would protect all 10 incumbents from both boards, especially when the current BOE districts are so unbalanced. While protecting incumbents is one way to avoid controversy I'm not sure it's really desirable to base districts that affect the entire county on where 10 people happen to live at this time."

Donna Worthington, 512 Park Drive, Siler City, NC, stated she had intended to speak during the Public Input session but would speak now although not on redistricting. A few years ago she had moved home to Siler City after a long absence. Since her return she had been greatly impressed by the improvements in development which had been made in Siler City and all over the County. However, it was disturbing that practically all the manufacturing base had been closed or outsourced overseas. Job creation was considered by most Americans to be their greatest challenge and that was what was facing their country now. Economic development must be their top priority in addition to education reforms that would provide skilled workers. The existing CCCC facility and the new Siler City campus was a prime example of development which would help alleviate their economic and unemployment problems. As well, the Siler City Arts Incubator project had much potential to put Siler City and Pittsboro on the map.

Ms. Worthington stated that in addition to possessing some of the most beautiful towns and rural areas in the State, Chatham County had so much potential for growth and job creation.

It offered a prime location near the nationally known three universities and the Research Triangle Park. It also provided a direct route to their coastal port, an excellent transportation system, and close proximity to airports. But the most critical need for development lay within its people. Chatham County could provide a hardworking decent workforce consisting of some of the finest hardworking people in the world whose gracious hospitality was well known.

Ms. Worthington stated she hesitated to end on a negative note, but on the local radio station she had heard comments about “the dictator” and “the evil coalition of north Chatham.” She was really disappointed in that. After coming back home to Siler City she was very shocked to hear that. One thing that should be considered was that divided they would fall, but united they would stand and prosper.

Diana Hales 528 Will Be Lane, Siler City, NC, stated that Jeremy Poss in the County GIS Office had really done the County very well. They gave Mr. Poss parameters that the Board was concerned about and he was able to use that information to create maps. The map was the representation of the population. The whole idea of redistricting had to do with population movement. The whole idea of representative democracy was to provide as equal a voice as possible, so district lines were where the population lived. Sometimes you would have very tiny districts because they had a large population, but others would be very broad because the population was more diffuse.

Ms. Hales stated she had been very interested in Mr. Lucier’s remarks, noting there was no rush here. The School Board wanted to have new districts and it seemed ridiculous to have two sets of districts: one for the School Board and one for the Board of Commissioners. They should be the same, because it was confusing enough between the precincts and the townships to add that additional problem to ballots where you had two different districts. There should not be a breaking of entities; cities such as Siler City or Pittsboro or even Ferrington which was in its own way a community. Option 3 handled a number of considerations including incumbency which was not handled in option 2, and would suggest along with Mr. Lucier’s recommendation that they actually work with the BOE and have another try at it. She was sure that Mr. Poss would be willing to spend the time with the Board and try to make the lines come out so that they had fairly equal populations in each of the districts.

Judi Andersen, 11415 Governors Drive, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that she had spent a long career in issue management and public policy. She could tell them both personally and professionally that so far, the process for redistricting lacked transparency and she thought deserved better treatment. She would like to echo what others had said about having a task force or some kind of a group of nonpartisans to provide input to the redistricting process and to recommend solutions for critical issues. Nothing short of a collaborative effort would reflect appropriately on the Board’s effort, because in some ways it did not look good on them. Nothing short of impartial forward-thinking deliberation would benefit all the citizens of the County, regardless of where the elected official lived.

Carol Kurtz, 27 West Madison in Ferrington Village, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she wanted to speak exclusively to the issue of not dividing Ferrington Village in regards to redistricting. On option 1 they had split a community that should be continuous, contiguous, and remain unified. They had talked tonight about the lines and doing what was logical, and it defied logic to separate and split Ferrington Village. Ferrington Village was a community of mostly seniors and they were no longer among the employed, which meant they had a lot of time for issues such as this one which would really raise the dander for many of them. They would get together with a lot of statistics and a lot of arcane legal points, and a lot of cartographers would get involved. You do not want to go there. It would be like putting your hand in a hornet’s nest. Just keep Ferrington Village together. And, they liked option 3.

Commissioner Kost stated that in the beginning Ms. Wertz, speaking for the League of Municipalities, had said that by doing this the way they had done it raised a lot of suspicion. If anything this public hearing tonight had really re-emphasized that. She had advocated at the beginning of this process to do what so many people had requested tonight, and that was to have a task force to study the issue to give it some credibility. It could be nonpartisan or it could be representatives of both political parties, the Green party and whoever, but again put it in the hands of the citizens because they had raised a lot of suspicion by doing it this way. That was why she had questioned Mr. Horil about his comment about gerrymandering, because to her gerrymandering would be for her to take option 3 and to look and see who could win, and that

was not what she had done. If they were not going to have a transparent and open process with citizens driving this, then she had wanted to present a map that did two things. She had wanted to try to protect the Board of Education members. The goals of maps 1 and 2 were to protect the County Commissioners, but this Board had agreed in March that they would have one in the same, and that they would have districts on which the BOC and the BOE would agree. That would be difficult because that would be ten incumbents across the County, and it was difficult to draw the maps and to make them balanced. That was what she was trying to do with map 3, not trying to see which one would be more advantageous for Democrats or Republicans. That simply was not what she was doing. So, if Mr. Horil were still present she would apologize if he thought she was trying to put him on the spot because that was not her intention. Her intention was to try to understand how he thought that she was doing any type of gerrymandering.

Commissioner Kost stated she had also tried to keep the townships together but it had become very difficult. She believed that in options 1 and 2 that they worked starting from the east and moved west, and she had done it the opposite way. Her goal was to keep the ETJ's for the towns together, but it had become difficult in the western part of the County simply because the numbers did not work. That was why Siler City had to be split. But, they knew that Pittsboro was under a great deal of growth pressure, especially with the Preston development, so she had tried to keep the ETJ together with the Town of Pittsboro. Finally, she had tried to keep together the far east of the County in the Cary-Chatham joint land use area because it was on the eastern side of the lake and some of that would eventually become Cary. She reiterated that there was no gerrymandering, and there was no Democrat versus Republican. That was simply her objective in trying to coming up with the third map.

Commissioner Petty stated that this issue was not something that would be decided tonight but would be taken back up at the meeting on July 18th. He was not sure what the proper protocol was for the Board to question speakers or for speakers to question the Board, and he respected Mayor Voller and his views. But, because many times they had so many speakers the Board had tried not to have any interaction with the speakers because it caused the length of input session to become cumbersome and oftentimes created debate. On both of the issues tonight they had tried to allow the speakers to say what they felt necessary and to listen to that input. He did not know that there was a protocol, but that was the overall process the Board had used in the past.

Commissioner Petty stated in terms of the maps, he had been involved in that process. They had tried to address the same issues that Commissioner Kost had mentioned in terms of keeping the townships together. It got somewhat difficult with Siler City already being split, and because they were accustomed to that they had left it the same. They had tried every way possible to marry everything up and keep the townships the same, but it just had not worked. However, all of the maps met the guidelines they had to follow in terms of demographics. The intent was to try to make it as clean and easy as possible and to follow the major corridors, roads and waterways to give them a well-defined line to make it easy for people to determine in which district they were located. The Board would take all of the input into consideration and they would discuss it again on July 18th.

The Vice Chair closed the public hearing.

PRESENTATION BY THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

This item was removed from the Agenda and rescheduled for the July 18, 2011 Board of Commissioners' meeting.

MINUTES

June 01, 2011 Budget Minutes:

Commissioner Kost stated at the June 1st budget work session they had had a very long dialogue with the Board of Education about various issues, but detail was lost in the minutes and was not included. She requested that the Clerk go back and capture some of those details from that budget work session, because it was not videotaped and she believed the minutes needed to reflect what the discussion was. She believed that the Board would be agreeable to that, and she had already spoken to the Clerk.

Board vote unanimously on it. Therefore, that was why Chairman Bock had again been contacted by phone in order to participate in the vote.

Commissioner Kost moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to approve the amendment to the Chatham County Educational Facilities Impact Fee Ordinance to correct section references from the Zoning Ordinance. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Petty ended the phone call to Chairman Bock.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager had no reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Redistricting:

Commissioner Cross made a plea to the Board majority, because he feared that at the next meeting the only time he would have to say this was just before the vote on redistricting. He would ask that they speak with the Chair and make an effort to put the BOC together with the BOE and get the districts straightened out together. If they did not want a citizens' committee that was one thing, but they did need to get the districts together and the two Boards needed to work together. He asked that they consider that, noting there was plenty of time to accomplish that.

Internet Meeting:

Commissioner Kost reminded everyone of Commissioner Stewart's Town Hall Meeting was on Thursday Night at 6:30 PM.

Commissioner Stewart stated she wanted to make a comment about what that meeting was about and what it was not about. She was trying to bring the service providers together with the citizens and talk about how they could go forward to improve the broadband service in the County, as well as how to get funded. One of the problems they had with getting funding was that in some ways they did not qualify, so they wanted to work with those providers and figure out ways that they could fill those gaps. That meeting would not be about finger pointing and saying that the providers were not doing this or that. It was an opportunity for questions to be asked and answered, and for citizens to hear from the providers about what they had thus far done and what they were doing today. Of course, because that was a business those providers would not be able to share what their specific plans were for the future because their competitors would be in the same room. She had had discussions with some of those providers one on one and they truly wanted to provide as much service to the County as possible, because that was what they were in the business to do. So, it was in their best interest to get broadband into Chatham County whether it was through special funding the County would qualify for or some other way. They were as eager to provide broadband as the citizens were to get it, and that had been made very clear. They only needed to work out how they would be able to achieve that with logistics being what they were and with the County being so rural.

Chatham-Cary Land Use Meeting:

Commissioner Kost reminded everyone that the Cary-Chatham Land Use meeting was scheduled for June 29th at North Chatham School at 6 p.m.

Sludge Sites and Sludge Application Maps:

Commissioner Kost stated that tonight Elaine Chiosso had made mention of a lot of information dealing with maps of sludge sites and sludge application. She believed that would be beneficial to have on the County's Website, and asked that staff please look over that information and come back on July 18th with a recommendation. That information was very factual and did not state a position one way or the other, but the ERB had made that request and she would like to follow up on it.

residence. Mr. Gress was present and would like to introduce himself to the Board, as well as John Lechner who was a member of the Weaver Creek Subdivision community.

Michael Gress, 56 Weaver Trail and the Applicant, stated that he had already had constructed the building with pretty much the same conditions over the last seven years that he had been living in the residence. He wanted to go about doing business in the right way, and the only thing that he was really asking for was to allow his employees to come on site and pick up materials, noting that was basically why he was going through this process. He still had the horses and a pasture, and the majority of the 4,000 square foot building was for his and his family's personal use.

Commissioner Kost asked had there been any resistance at all or any push back from any of his neighbors, noting there were eleven listed on his application. Mr. Gress responded not at all, noting he had had to place an amendment in his homeowner's application to allow his business and the neighbors had all signed the amendment. He had bricked the entire structure to match his house, so its appearance fit.

John Lechner, 53 Weaver Trail, stated he lived across the street from the storage building. He was a semi-retired real estate investor and had been in that business for 45 years. He wanted to state that that was the best looking storage building he had ever seen, noting that Mr. Gress had put a tremendous amount of time, talent, and his treasury into that building and the landscaping, and he believed it was a real asset to the neighborhood, the County, and the State.

Mr. Sullivan reiterated that the recommendation from the Appearance Commission was favorable.

Chairman Bock closed the public hearing and referred the matter to the Planning Board.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a short break.

Public Hearing on Redistricting: Public hearing to receive public comments on redistricting. With census data available from 2010, the Board of Commissioners is considering election district (County Commissioner Districts) boundary adjustments to account for population changes based in the census and will vote on same. Three options have been developed for public consideration.

Stephen Metelits, 77 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

"Redistricting is a difficult process. An important principle in this process is to maintain communities in a single district and to avoid splitting neighborhoods.

The Map 1 Option splits the Fearington Development which fragments the cohesiveness of the Fearington Village community and ignores a prime principle of keeping neighborhoods together.

As a 33-year resident of Fearington, I strongly object to splitting the Fearington Village community into separate voting districts."

Commissioner Kost noted that only Option 1 would split the Fearington development.

Randolph Voller, 21 Randolph Court, Pittsboro, NC, stated he wanted to incorporate his previous comments which were already on the record. He hoped that they were not finished with the process and perhaps they could involve the School Board, the municipalities, and others members of the public. But if this was all that they were going to have, then he would advise that they work with the School Board in this unique opportunity to conform the districts so that the school districts and the Commissioner districts were the same. That would be simpler and best for all of Chatham County. Although it was not a part

of this process, now that they had the federal and State districts available he would hope that the Board could perhaps weigh in and let the powers that be know that they were well with the Second and Fourth. He was not too excited that Pittsboro would be at the very tail end of the Sixth, but that was just a footnote.

George Lucier, 628 Redbud, Pittsboro, NC, stated that he had made comments at the previous public hearing and they were similar to what Mayor Voller had just stated. It was extraordinarily important that they set up a joint committee with the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners to arrive at districts that were mutually agreeable to both parties. For the reasons Mayor Voller had just said it made sense to have the districts the same so that Chatham County residents were not confused as to what district they were in. Mr. Lucier asked had they tried to work with the School board.

Chairman Bock responded that he had spoken to nearly all the School Board members. Mr. Lucier stated it would make sense to have a joint committee or even a joint meeting to work out any differences they might have. Chairman Bock stated that the public hearing was to receive comments and not hold a question and answer session.

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

“I’d like to contribute a few comments on the BOC’s tangled effort to re-design the voting districts within Chatham County. In one of the options presented to the public, the BOC has, in effect, suggested a division of Fearington Village into two separate voting districts.

The BOC should know, as I am sure it does, that Fearington Village has a longstanding history in the modern day expansion of Chatham County. The BOC’s of past years have given Fearington Village a most generalized approval for its basic development....and has approved various internal developments within the overall program for Fearington Village. Not all of us who live there have completely agreed with the details involved but in cooperation with the Planning Board and the Fitch Development Team these details have always been worked out to effect controlled development within a clearly defined area.

Now the BOC, in one of its proposals, has suggested that Fearington Village be divided into two election districts when all of our residents – Republican, Democrat and 3rd parties – agree and rely upon the fact that it is ONE, I Repeat – ONE voting district....to do otherwise is to force a division that is neither necessary nor of value.

In this context the BOC seems, if not intention to be focused on breaking apart the political values of a vibrant, political mature and unified place of living....regardless of our individual political leanings. It is as though the members of the current BOC are acting in the spirit of days gone by when territories, nations and regions were divided in order to infuse a kind of disintegration of the political and social values of integrated areas.

But I am certain that this BOC will not countenance such disintegration in Fearington or in any other part of the County. Our hope is with the enlightened aspect of your better spirit. Thank you.”

Cathy Markatos, 800 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that her precinct, the Hadley precinct, was the only precinct that had had two representatives so they had had the complication of two ballots so they knew about complications. Now, it would just be a matter of where the Commissioners came from, and she personally had looked at the maps and preferred Option 3. That option worked well for Hadley who were already used to some complications, and believed it also worked well for Siler City and Pittsboro. It would also work well for most other groups in the County.

Catherine Regula, 19206 Stone Brook, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that she lived in Governors Club and did not pretend to speak for 2,000 people in a very diverse community. She had lived many places but had never lived where there was such a diverse group of people. That was true of Fearington and any large community of people. If Governors Club was divided she did not feel it would be like putting up a Berlin Wall because it was just

redistricting. It was positive and refreshing to have some real change. Since they now had one half of a year of a new administration people should be more accepting of what went on, and it was natural that there would be opinions that were not their own. They had put up with it, and what went around would come around.

As far as redistricting she supported the Republican original Map 2 for many reasons. She did not think it was gerrymandered. If you wanted to see a gerrymandered district look at District 12 in the State. As far as people being confused about where they should or should not vote, give people credit because they would find out if they were voters.

Leonard Kreisman, 885 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC, presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

“I am also the Secretary to the Fearington Homeowners Association which represents over 1100 households. For many years the Gathering Place has served as the voting site for the entire village as well as those in the surrounding area. As the Commissioners know many of our residents are elderly and many have given up driving. Having the polling place in the midst of the Village is a great convenience. Splitting the Village would serve as a hardship for many of our residents. We understand that only one of the suggested proposals splits the Village. We would urge the Commissioners to approve either one of the proposals that does not make it more difficult for our residents to exercise their Constitutional right to participate in the electoral process. Thank you in advance for considering this appeal.”

Commissioner Petty stated that although the map designs were a work in progress you see things that made sense, and some of the comments made tonight about the Fearington area did make sense. When they had set out their major goals were to give a balanced district for all five districts and to follow major corridors that were easy to follow and differentiate where the lines were so they had wanted to follow major roads and bodies of water. Siler City was accustomed to being split already, and they had tried making it more complete but anytime you moved a line even a little it had a huge impact on the remaining areas. The Fearington issues brought up tonight made sense, and he agreed with that.

Commissioner Petty stated it was practically impossible to match the Board of Education and Board of Commissioners' district, and in fact none of the three options accomplished that. Their goal was to provide a balanced district across the County and not for their Commissioners and not necessarily for their Board of Education. They also intended to keep all current Commissioners in their existing districts, but that could not be one of their goals and keep Board of Education members in their current districts because it was practically impossible to do both. He had found it more important to keep Commissioners in their existing districts.

Commissioner Petty stated that in his opinion after doing some studying and hearing the input, he did not believe that Option 1 was the best option after all, although all three maps did meet their goal and were within the percentage of deviation. He found that would you tallied up the percentage of deviation in Map 2 that it worked out to zero, and when you looked at all three averages it worked out to about 5 points in Map 3. Considering all of those points, Map 2 presented a more well-defined line and it would be his recommendation that the Board accept Map 2.

Commissioner Petty moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to adopt **Resolution #2011-37 of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Adopting a Map Redefining the Board of Commissioners Residency Districts to Make Them More Equal.**

Commissioner Kost stated she wanted to provide some history as to why she had requested a Map 3 be drawn. There were several reasons, with one being that this Board in late winter had said that they wanted to work with the Board of Education and have a map that protected the BOE districts so that they would have one map. There were four districts for the BOE, and Ms. McManus and Mr. Leonard shared one. In the third proposal that was exactly what they had again, because it was impossible to put all five BOE members in separate districts. Another objective was that she had wanted to keep the towns together, but agreed that it was impossible to keep Siler City together. But, she had tried to keep the Town

of Pittsboro and its ETJ together because they knew with the Preston Development that they would see growth in that area. The third reason was that in District 1, which was her district, the hottest issue if you were on the east side of the lake was Cary. She had tried to keep the Cary land use planning area together, which she had done, but Option 2 had taken that district more to the west. She had tried to go south as well and keep the area east of the lake, because that was the number one issue in her district.

Commissioner Kost stated that was what she was trying to accomplish. During the first public hearing someone had said she had gerrymandered, and there was absolutely no gerrymandering by looking if they went to district only voting which party had the most to gain. She had not done any of that and had not played politics; she had just done it from a very analytical standpoint working with their GIS director. That was the reason she had developed Option 3, and she believed it was confusing for the community when they had different BOE districts and Board of Commissioner districts. They may say that the BOE incumbents will not run, but no one could predict that.

Commissioner Kost stated that one point that had come out of this was that they knew that over the last ten years District 1 grew by 34% but the numbers were skewed a bit. District 5 actually had the highest number of population, but over the next ten years it would balance out because they knew that the growth pressure was in the east. As they moved west, you would see that the numbers were higher because they knew the east would grow more so it would stay balanced just a little bit longer.

Commissioner Kost stated those were the reasons she had developed Option 3. Comments made at the last meeting she could not agree with more were that this process should have been done completely different from the way they had done it. It should have been done by a citizens group and taken completely out of the hands of the politicians because as the League of Women Voters' stated it made the whole process suspect. She did not think they had done a good job working with the BOE members; they should have been at the table with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Kost stated she would not support Option 2, but she had felt it was necessary to explain what the reasons were behind Option 3.

Chairman Bock stated that when you looked at any of the options, regardless of what you did some of the shapes were odd. That was because they had to be drawn based on Census tracks. The point was that those odd shapes were not because of any gerrymandering, because some of the Census tracks were bigger than others and some were odd shaped. The idea was to get each district to have roughly the same amount of population, with a target of about 12,800 and getting within a couple of percentages of each. What they had tried to do was, as Commissioner Petty had said, was that where possible follow major roadways, follow township lines, and follow a natural break where possible but that was not always possible.

Chairman Bock stated that on the issue of the BOE, he did not know that they had ever said that they wanted to protect the Board of Education districts, but had said it would be great if the BOE districts were the same as the Board of Commissioners districts and he agreed with that still. The BOE would have to redraw their districts and he would encourage them to adopt this Board's same districts. The question was would they want to, because it would put some of their members in the same district, so they had to look at whether they were trying to draw a district that represented the population of the County or were they trying to protect current elected officials. He could not see redrawing lines just to protect a current elected BOE member. The reasons their districts were so off was because they had not been redrawn in a very long time, so they would have to change their districts completely. He would encourage the BOE to adopt the County's, although they were under no obligation to do so.

Commissioner Stewart stated just for the record, Judy Anderson was present at the BOE meeting that was held in June which was prior to the meeting when this Board had begun discussing this map. That meeting was on Friday, June 10 which was just prior to this Board's Monday, June 13 meeting when they had first brought up these maps. A lot of people had asked why the Board had not gone to the BOE and talked with them first, and actually even before that the BOE had unanimously approved the resolution asking the NC

General Assembly to grant the BOE authority to redraw the residency districts for School Board members after each federal Census. In other words, the BOE had already gone to the State and said that they were going to redraw their districts, so they had made the first move. She assumed that the BOE had felt that they had a lot of work to do, and they had even mentioned that they were going to have to redo their entire structure. If you were to ask why didn't the Board of Commissioners approach the BOE, obviously they had begun talking about this long before the Board of Commissioners had presented the first maps. So, on both sides neither party had taken the initiative to approach the other, and obviously the BOE already had something in mind or had plans on what they wanted to do.

Commissioner Stewart said as the Chairman had noted, the BOE districts were somewhat different. If you looked at where the individual BOE members were placed, they ran into a unique situation where they would have two members in one district depending on what they ultimately decided. If the Board of Commissioners followed the BOE districts, then it would skew everything for the County.

Commissioner Kost stated the BOE went to the General Assembly because right now they did not have the authority to redraw their districts, and when the Board had met in March they had talked about that. According to the minutes from that March meeting the Board had agreed that they would try to come up with the same districts. As Commissioner Bock had just said they should not be protecting elected officials, but they had done it on their side so why hadn't they done it on the BOE's side. That was a double standard.

Commissioner Stewart stated she did not know that they could protect both.

Commissioner Kost stated that was why she had come up with Option 3, because Option 3 at least did leave it as it was now. In Option 2 you had three current BOE incumbents in one district.

Chairman Bock stated that regardless of which map the Board adopted, the BOE would have an issue, and they would still encourage them to adopt the County's map so that their districts matched. If the BOE chose not to do that, then that was their choice. But, if the real concern was that they did not want to confuse people and wanted the same districts, then regardless of which map was chosen the BOE could do that.

Commissioner Petty stated it was amazing how much impact moving a line over one road or one street or whatever had on the numbers. It was a hard task to move a line and determine what it did to the population numbers and make the rest of the County work out. That was quite a task, and when you had so many goals to try to reach, it became even more difficult. He believed what was now proposed was the best option they had.

Commissioner Kost asked what about her comment about the Cary land use area and splitting it into two districts.

Chairman Bock stated he believed the Cary land use issue was a Chatham County issue and not just an issue for the people who lived in District 1 or District 2. Anything they did there would impact the entire County, and that had very little to do with Commissioner districts.

Commissioner Kost stated she had to disagree with that.

Commissioner Stewart stated then basically Commissioner Kost was saying that it was easier if you were in a district to represent the needs of those people that were in that district as if it was just district voting.

Commissioner Kost stated she felt like she represented all the people in the entire County, but still trying to keep things intrinsic. On the east side of the lake the Cary issue was the biggest issue and she felt they needed to keep the interests together because this was a very diverse County.

Commissioner Stewart stated in her case, if you looked at District 4 you went from one extreme of the County to the other extreme of that entire district. If you were looking at the needs or issues that addressed that then you had even more of a diverse group.

Commissioner Kost stated but the land was fairly similar as far as the use, because most of it was agricultural land.

Commissioner Stewart stated it was agriculture, but based on geography there was a difference in the needs of those people and understanding them. For her, that was one of the things that she did not wholly agree with.

Commissioner Cross stated in reference to representing the people in District 1 and 2, he believed it was a fact that they did have their communications lighted up more from the people in that area concerning the Cary events. It was a County problem, and 82% of the eastern boundary on Map 2 was in District 2. It split a piece of Three Rivers, and even though Moncure was not a municipality the Moncure/Moncure industrial area was a highly recognized community. He was accustomed to serving that population just as he had demonstrated a time or two tonight as others would in their districts if contacted by someone with an issue. As far as the percentages in Commissioner Kosta's district, it was about 60/40 compared to 82/18, and he believed there would be additional pressure from Apex and Fuquay Varina and possibly Holly Springs with more voluntary annexations especially with that new wastewater treatment plant in New Hill. He would prefer not to have his community split, and he would prefer not to have 82% of the eastern border in one district, so he would prefer Option 3.

Chairman Bock called the question on the motion to adopt Option 2. The motion carried three (3) to two (2) with Commissioners Cross and Kost opposing.

Additional comments were submitted for the record and are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Other Matters:

Human Relations Commission Presentation: Presentation by the Human Relations Commission

Norman Clark, Acting Chair of the Chatham County Human Relations Commission and a native of Chatham County, noted that he was also a past elected official, having served on the School Board for one term. He noted he was here today on behalf of the current members of the Chatham County Human Relations commission who are Ilana Dubester, Vice Chair, Marry Harris, Secretary, Roy Barnes, Patricia Learned, Rev. Jerry Powell, Ivan Remnitz and Rev. David Scotton. He presented his comments to the Board and provided them in their entirety for the record as follows:

"I would like to start by sharing a brief account of how and why the Chatham County Human Relations Commission was created. A goal of the HRC is to help prevent and resolve issues related to human relations involving all persons living, working or trading in Chatham County.

During the last decade of the 20th century, Chatham County experienced a big demographic shift with the arrival of immigrants from Latin America and other parts of the globe. This shift presented our County with both opportunities and challenges. One of the opportunities was a renewed focus on addressing issues of race relations. In the late 90s, Mr. Charlie Horne, Chatham County Manager, met with local community leaders, clergy and the Board of Commissioners to discuss how to improve relationships between residents in the County. As a result of those meetings, on April 2000, the board of commissioners voted unanimously to establish the first Chatham County Commission on Human Relations and appointed a diverse group of volunteers to serve as commissioners.

Fast forward to 2004 when the Human Relations Commission met with County and community leaders and identified several areas of concern, including:

- . Educational achievement gap between whites and students of color
- . Lack of opportunities and recreational facilities for youth
- . Inadequate opportunities for persons of different backgrounds to meet and socialize

7/18/11

RESOLUTION OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADOPTING A MAP REDEFINING THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESIDENCY DISTRICTS
TO MAKE THEM MORE EQUAL

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County has authority pursuant to Chapter 80 of the North Carolina Session Laws of 1995 to redefine the residency districts for electing county commissioners if it finds substantial inequality of population between the districts; and

WHEREAS, the population of the current residency districts, as determined by the 2010 census, is set forth below:

Current Districts with 2010 Census Numbers

DISTRICT	Total Population	Total Population Deviation	Deviation Percentage Change +/-	Black Population	Hispanic/Latino Population
D1	17,088	4387	34.54	1191	1325
D2	12,223	-478	-3.76	2217	667
D3	12,031	-670	5.28	1812	502
D4	11,206	-1495	-11.77	1659	3205
D5	10,957	-1744	-13.73	1513	2529

WHEREAS, based on the 2010 census the total deviation between districts is 48.27% which the Board of Commissioners finds to be substantial inequality of population between the districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has caused to be prepared three (3) maps, designated as Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3 to redefine the residency districts to make them more nearly equal in population; and

WHEREAS, the population of the districts shown on the maps as Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3 and their respective ranges of population deviation is as follows:

Option 1

DISTRICT	Total Population	Total Population Deviation	Deviation Percentage Change +/-	Black Population	Hispanic Population
D1	12,859	158	1.24	993	1177
D2	13,021	320	2.52	1313	659
D3	12,518	-183	-1.44	2134	572
D4	12,430	-271	-2.13	1860	4183
D5	12,677	-24	-0.19	2092	1637

Option 2

DISTRICT	Total Population	Total Population Deviation	Deviation Percentage Change +/-	Black Population	Hispanic Population
D1	12,842	141	1.11	916	1148
D2	12,864	163	1.28	1566	724
D3	12,461	-240	-1.89	2259	564
D4	12,643	-58	-0.46	1798	3257
D5	12,695	-6	-0.05	1853	2535

Option 3

DISTRICT	Total Population	Total Population Deviation	Deviation Percentage Change +/-	Black Population	Hispanic Population
D1	12,351	-350	2.76	930	834
D2	12,659	-42	-0.33	745	2575
D3	12,551	-150	-1.18	681	1019
D4	12,878	177	1.39	1018	1527
D5	13,066	365	2.87	4854	2437

WHEREAS, at regular Board of Commissioners meetings held on June 20, 2011 and July 18, 2011, after providing public notice as required by law, the Board of Commissioners conducted public hearings on the three (3) proposed options; and

WHEREAS, after hearing from the public and considering the three (3) options, the Board of Commissioners has determined that Option 2 reduces the relative overall deviation in the districts and should be adopted as the residency district map for Chatham County;

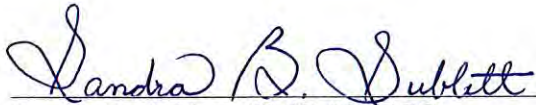
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners:

1. Option 2 adopted as Commissioner District Map. The Commissioner District Map designated as Option 2, and attached to this Resolution as Appendix 1 is hereby adopted as the Board of Commissioners Residency District Map for Chatham County.
2. Seats to be filled at initial election. The Commissioner seat for District 1 and the Commissioner seat for District 2 shall be filled at the initial election held under this Resolution in 2012 and the Commissioner seats for District 3, District 4, and District 5 shall be filled at the election held in 2014.
3. Filing of Resolution and Map. Not later than ten (10) days after the effective date of this Resolution the Clerk of Chatham County shall file in the Secretary of State's Office, the Office of the Register of Deeds of Chatham County, and with the Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Elections, a certified copy of this Resolution and the map attached Appendix 1.
4. Effective Date. This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED: July 19, 2011



Brian Bock, Chairman
Chatham County Board of Commissioners



Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk of Chatham County

I, Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular Board of Commissioners meeting held on July 18, 2011 in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina.

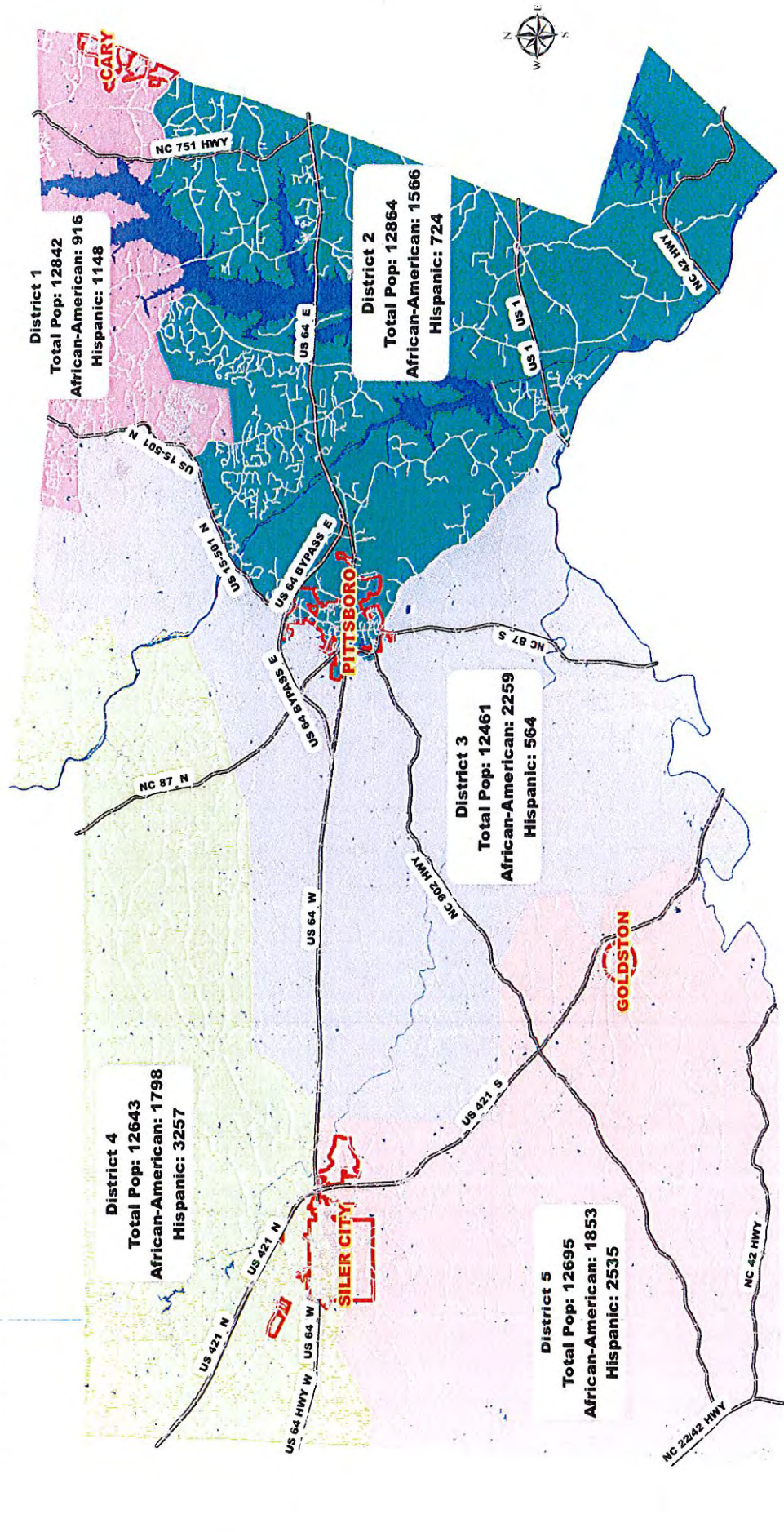
Witness my hand and the official seal of Chatham County, this 18th day of July, 2011.



Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk of Chatham County

[SEAL.]

PROPOSED BOARD OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS (Option 2)



CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
APRIL 19, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

2011?

The Chatham County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections office at 984 Thompson Street in Pittsboro. Maja Kricker, Craig Bray, Laurie Heise and Dawn Stumpf were present. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

No citizens were present for citizen input. The Director gave a report updating the board on projects in the office. The Town boards of Siler City and Cary will have to redistrict this year. We should get some reports sometime in June to update our Geocode. The Director also discussed the training for the staff for National Certification (CERA) in Elections. The staff will be out of the office from June 20th through June 24th. A temporary staff member will be here during that time. The Director gave information about the upcoming Poll worker informational session for the Party Chairs. That meeting will be held on June 7th. The Board moved their regular monthly meeting to that date instead of the third Tuesday.

The Board discussed the possibility of redistricting of the Commissioner's Districts and that they may change precincts after the local, state and federal redistricting was completed. There was also some discussion of challenges and how to better prepare poll workers for challenges to voters. The Board discussed their meeting calendar and it was decided to continue to conduct regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

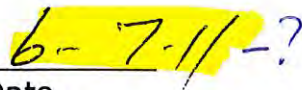
The Board decided to cancel the May meeting unless there is any new business that arises. The June meeting has been moved to June 7th to coincide with the Poll Worker informational meeting for Party chairs.

Craig Bray made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2011 meeting. Laurie Heise seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm with plans to meet again on June 7th at 5:30 pm.



Craig Bray, Secretary



Date



Dawn Stumpf, Attest