

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 05, 2009

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 9:00 AM on January 05, 2009.

Present: Chairman George Lucier; Vice Chair, Sally Kost; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck, County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Jep Rose; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 9:05 AM.

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked the Board minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda to be reviewed and returned to the Board for approval at their January 20, 2009 Board of Commissioners’ meeting and that a discussion of “Legislative Goals” be added to the Work Session Agenda.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted requests as follows:

1. ~~**Minutes:** Consideration of a request for approval of Board Minutes for Work Session held December 15, 2008 and Legislative Delegation Meeting held December 18, 2008~~

The Minutes were removed from the Consent Agenda to be reviewed and returned to the Board for approval at their January 20, 2009 Board of Commissioners’ meeting.

2. **Funds Acceptance for Health Department:** Consideration of a request to accept recurring additional General Aid-to-County funds in the amount of \$40,326.00 awarded to the Health Department

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

3. **Funds Acceptance for Health Department:** Consideration of a request to accept Family Planning Funds in the amount of \$10,570.00 awarded to the Health Department from Women’s and Children’s Health/Women’s Health
The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

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

4. **Funds Acceptance for Health Department:** Consideration of a request to accept reallocated Random Moment Time Study funds in the amount of \$931.00 awarded to the Health Department

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

5. **Budget Amendments:** Consideration of a request to approve Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget Amendments, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

6. **Grant Application:** Consideration of a request to apply to the General Mills Foundation – Champions for Healthy Kids for grant funds in the amount of \$10,000.00, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

7. **Grant Application:** Consideration of a request to apply to the Office of Violence Against Women for Chatham County Interagency Arrest Grant in the amount of approximately \$400,000.00, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

8. **ABC Board Reappointments:** Consideration of a request to reappoint Roy Siler and Walter Harris to the Chatham County ABC Board by the entire Board

9. **Resolution for Addition of Streets to North Carolina System of Secondary Roads:** Consideration of a request to adopt **Resolution #2009-01 for Addition of Streets to North Carolina System of Secondary Roads – Strowd Mountain Subdivision**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Paul Messick, attorney, stated that he is representing some residents of the Bynum community located north of Pittsboro and on the south side of the Haw River. He referenced an article in the *Chatham Record* last week and stated that the residents have been concerned by action taken by Chatham County before the Christmas holidays concerning the lot owned by the County for a number of years and used for canoe access to the Haw River. Recently, the County solicited the efforts of Progress Energy to clear the service utility right-of-way. It seems that Progress Energy got carried away and perhaps cleared more than they had a right or were asked to clear. They ended up clearing more land than the County owned in the vicinity and to make matters worse, there was no prior notice to any of the residents in the neighborhood. They saw the Progress Energy folks at work and inquired as to what was going on. They were advised that the County had asked that they clear as much as they could because the County had plans for the property. His clients were naturally curious about the plans for the property. The newspaper stated that there was going to be some type of riparian buffer demonstration project. His clients have also heard that it is going to be a park, that it would be fenced, that there would be lights, that there would be more traffic than already exists at the property which is located at the intersection of Old Bynum Road and Bynum Beach Road at the southern terminus of the old bridge (closed to vehicular traffic but open for pedestrian traffic). The residents are confused by the apparent anomalous situation where the County has developed rules and regulations during the last two years for the protection of the environment requiring developers to have to contact the neighbors where they propose to develop. It doesn't appear that the County has had the same interest in doing the same thing for its own property. In trying to find out who was responsible, it was unclear because Parks and Recreation has been out there as well as Environmental Resources. He was told by the Public Works Director that there are no plans for the development of the County parcel. Obviously, the article in the newspaper has stated something different. His clients are confused and he hopes that the Board of Commissioners will see fit to inquire into it and ask that the residents get the same protection as they have asked other folks to receive from private developers. He thinks that there is no question that this was a land-disturbing

activity; that the definitions incorporated into the new ordinance clearly talk about existing vegetation being removed as being a land-disturbing activity. His clients would like to have the opportunity to give input into any plans that might be developed for the property. They are concerned about the existing uses of the property and that it has already caused a number of public safety issues. To exacerbate that is going to cause even more dissension and disruption of their lives in Bynum. He asked the Board to do the same for the residents of Bynum that they are asking other people to have to do as well, "What is good for the goose is good for the gander."

Chairman Lucier stated that he had been out to look at the site because a couple of residents had let him know what had transpired; that he was surprised by the amount of clearing as he feels that it was more than was expected; that he would like to ask Fred Royal, Environmental Resources Director, to make a few comments on behalf of the County with regard to what led up to this and what the plans might be to deal with it and how to involve the neighborhood. Chairman Lucier stated that Mr. Royal had prepared a memorandum that he just received today, indicating Mr. Royal's recommendation on how to move forward and possibly restore some of the damage.

Mr. Messick stated that there were people from Bynum in attendance who wished to make public comments and that Mr. Royal's comments had not been shared with the community.

Ruth Lucier, 215 Bynum Road, Pittsboro, NC, stated that she lives just up from the cleared area; that in light of what information has been provided, she would urge the county to take two positive steps; that first, she would urge the county to adopt a policy of not removing trees or shrubbery from county land in a clear-cut manner in any residential neighborhood without first talking one-on-one with neighbors whose land would be immediately affected; that this is a policy of neighborly courtesy; that second, she would urge the county to adopt a policy of preserving as much county-owned land as possible for the purpose of the enjoyment of nature through quiet walks and river access; and that this is a policy of natural environmental preservation. She further stated that the last time she attended a meeting of this kind it concerned a possible clear-cutting by the county of all the buffer trees in front of the houses that would be adjacent to the soon-to-be Bynum ball field at the Earl Thompson Recreational Area, including those that would otherwise provide buffer area in front of homes; that in that instance, the Board of Commissioners voted to leave the area natural and no one has regretted it; that she hopes that the commissioners there today will vote for the restoration of the area so that the small spot of land by the Bynum Bridge, donated by environmentalists, can again become a miniature arboretum and a sustainable natural gift for future generations.

Rufus Dalton, 371 Bynum Road, Pittsboro, NC presented oral and written comments in their entirety as follows:

"I'm Rufus Dalton and I live at 371 Bynum road. My wife Karen and I own the property at the foot of the old bridge in Bynum adjoining the canoe access property the county now has some plans for. We live in a house that sits above the canoe access property that has recently been clear cut and we can see and hear most of what goes on down there. We also have two rental houses across the street from the canoe access and their property abuts the county property down at the river. We've had a history of problems with people down on that property from shootings in the middle of the night, loud music, hollering from bridge to river, river to bridge, obvious drug traffic and just your basic trespassing. This, makes me, my wife and our tenants very uncomfortable. I'm afraid by opening this county property up we're going to add to these problems and make our location a less desirable place to live.

It seems to me that at some point there was some idea to do something with this new county land: riparian restoration, small park, or what? Not being informed of whats going on to the property next door sure added stress to the holiday season. Mr. Royal has repeated to me the immediate plans are only for riparian buffer repairs for educational uses. So does this mean that there may be intermediate or future plans for this property that are merely concepts at this point. I don't have confidence that we're getting the whole picture, if there is a whole picture. If there is a plan all the neighbors need to know it. We live too close to be left out of the loop. Just since clearing this property we've had to re post our property because people

come to the county land and then walk up river to the land our tenants rent. This makes our neighbors uncomfortable. Just yesterday there was a motorcycle riding around the county's land. I dread thinking there may be a park here someday. Every time I drive by the river access on 15-501 I've seen vandalism, trash problems and graffiti there and I think making our canoe access more open, with or without a park, will bring similar problems to this residential area. We need to know what the real deal is.

I care a lot about this part of the river. I got married here 23 years ago and put a canoe on the river here 40 years ago. I knew back then it would be a great place to live and it has been for 29 years and I don't want to see it messed up.

Karen and I have offered to donate appropriate plants and planting to the border of this canoe access property so it won't have to be cut over again by the power company and be an eyesore and problem to the neighborhood. But we need to know it will not become a more open area inviting problems to us and our neighbors.

I would like to see the borders of the county land planted in with plants that do not have to be clear cut by the power company. Leave a rustic path to the river for canoeists and fishermen and nature lovers and not open it up with easy access for any yahoo with a full cooler and a boom box!"

Fred Royal, Environmental Resources Director, stated that he apologized that the Progress Energy clear-cutting occurred prior to the public meeting, which was the original intent; that when he met with Progress Energy on the site, they indicated that they would be willing to wait to do the work in 2009 and then they realized that the budget was an issue, so they came out and did it in 2008; and that regrettably that did occur and a notice did not happen.

He further stated that the issue is that there is no plan for the land and that other than riparian restoration, the vegetation that was cleared was Privette Russian Olive, which is an invasive species; that the only current plan is to continue removing invasive species and then replant with native vegetation; that there will be a meeting on January 17, 2009 to go over this and solicit public input; and that it is also a work day to do some plantings.

Chairman Lucier asked if the neighborhoods have been notified of the meeting on January 17, 2009.

Mr. Royal stated that the only notification process that has occurred so far has been advertisement on the *Chatham Chatlist* and the article in the newspaper. He stated that the article did describe the date of the meeting.

Chairman Lucier asked who the best person in the neighborhood to send the invitation to; that they were trying to figure out the best way to inform the neighborhood; that it would be helpful to get the word out; that if a list can be provided to Mr. Royal, that it would be helpful.

Mr. Royal stated that the purpose of the meeting on the 17th was to describe what has happened to date, what the county is planning to do, and to do replanting. He also indicated that specific proposals by Ms. Lucier and Mr. Dalton would be reviewed.

Mr. Messick stated that the people that lived there might be interested in the plan before the meeting on the 17th.

Chairman Lucier clarified that the meeting on the 17th was to finalize the plan and to gain reaction from the community and come back to the Board of Commissioners for adoption.

Commissioner Thompson asked that even though there was only a short amount of time before the meeting, could the county do a mailing to residents within a certain distance of the site.

Mr. Messick suggested that property owners within 1,000 feet be notified; and that the property owners would like to know if there is a plan.

Chairman Lucier asked that the memorandum provided by Mr. Royal be included in the notification.

Mr. Royal stated that they were trying to secure the Ruritan Club in Bynum for the meeting, which will begin at 10:00 AM.

Chairman Lucier stated that Mr. Royal and the county have apologized for the excessive clearing that was done, and the focus should now be on restoration and working together toward that common goal. He further stated that Progress Energy should be notified that in the future, that someone from the county should be out there to make sure our interests are being met and our stringent buffer protections are honored.

Commissioner Kost asked that a letter be sent to Progress Energy letting them know that we would have wanted work to happen after the community meeting and let them know that we expect this type situation to never happen again.

Mr. Messick also noted that to the extent to which this property becomes an institutional use, that it is in the Town of Pittsboro's extra-territorial jurisdiction and someone should be talking to them.

Karen Dalton, 371 Bynum Road, Pittsboro, NC presented oral and written comments in their entirety as follows:

"My name is Karen Dalton and I reside at 371 Bynum Road, Bynum. I am extremely upset over what the county and what Mr. Royal has done to the boat access property at the base of the Bynum bridge.

We resent the fact that we the residents were not informed of this plan for this parcel. The once beautiful natural piece of land has been shredded.

Mr. Royal we do not trust you and we are also very suspicious of your intent for future plans regarding lights, picnic table, grill, etc. We do not need a park in our neighborhood, we have enough problems with vandalism - now you have opened up for more problems.

I feel that you, Mr. Royal have done a poor job at supervising, or should I say lack of supervision on this parcel when you knew Progress Energy was coming to clear cut. You have devastated out neighborhood. You have taken this on as a personal project without considering local residents at all.

We are sick of this destruction!!! We'd prefer for you to just "go away!"

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Employees of the Month: Presentation of December and January Employees of the Month

Carolyn Miller, Human Resources Director, explained that she would be presenting both the December and January Employees of the Month due to a previously scheduling conflict in December.

Ms. Miller introduced Emily Foushee, Information Systems Administrator, as the December Employee of the Month. She stated that Emily has been employed with Chatham County for nearly 31 years; that she was the MIS Department before we even knew what that was; that Emily was responsible for maintaining the backbone of our operations, including all of the financial, payroll, and tax systems.

Ms. Miller then introduced Jeremy Poss, Geographic Information Systems Manager, as the January Employee of the Month. She stated that Jeremy was responsible for interfacing with both internal and external customers, and always does an excellent job at meeting their needs, even when they are not sure what those needs are; that he saved the county a tremendous amount of money by reworking the GIS website to make it more user friendly; and that he is a true asset to Chatham County.

Chairman Lucier expressed his appreciation for Ms. Foushee's and Mr. Poss' efforts, stating that they both are critical to the smooth operations of the County. He extended congratulations on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

2009 Board and Committee Assignments: Discussion of 2009 Board and Committee assignments

Chairman Lucier stated that for each of the boards, there is either a commissioner that is a member or a liaison to that board; that each commissioner has nine or ten boards or commissions they are assigned to; that they need to formally approve the list and formal appointments such to boards such as the Board of Health.

Commissioner Kost stated that she is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) representative, but at the last meeting the MPO asked for an alternate, so she asked Chairman Lucier if he is willing to serve as the alternate to the board.

Chairman Lucier stated that he would be the alternate.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that on his list, he wanted to make clear that his position on the Affordable Housing Task Force is not a voting position; that it needs to be fixed on the list.

Chairman Lucier stated that it might be helpful to do a press release on this so that everyone knows who is responsible for which boards; and that the Board of Commissioners profiles on the website should be updated to reflect the list.

Commissioner Thompson stated that the Board may want to include the Pittsboro Planning Board in the future and assign a liaison from the Board of Commissioners; and that he is already the liaison to the Siler City Planning Board.

Chairman Lucier stated that for each of the boards and committees, some of the lists look out of date on the website; that it might be a good idea to give each commissioner a member list for their assigned boards, along with a board chair or department contact in order to verify the accuracy of the list; and that over the next few months, the lists can be brought up to date; and that boards are filled by a variety of types of appointment but formally approved by the full board.

Commissioner Kost moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adopt the 2009 Board of Commissioners' Committee assignments, including the addition of Chairman Lucier as an alternate to the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager had not reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Housing Authority Board Appointment:

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Kost, to appoint Gary Cox to the Chatham County Housing Authority (Section 8) Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Kost requested that in the future, names and information of proposed appointments be provided prior to the meeting so that commissioners are fully informed.

Chairman Lucier stated that this was a topic for the afternoon work session.

January 20, 2009 Work Session:

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if the Board of Commissioners would consider moving the previously scheduled work session on January 20, 2009 to January 21, 2009 due

to the presidential inauguration. He proposed holding the work session on January 21, 2009 at 9:00 AM stating that there would be no dinner recess before the meeting on January 20, 2009.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to hold the Board of Commissioners Work Session on January 21, 2009 at 9:00 AM. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Moncure Strike:

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he is concerned about the strike in Moncure and how long it has been going on; that it would be great to have some resolution for both sides; that it seemed to be at a stalemate; that he didn't know if there was any mediation or facilitation in bringing the sides together with a third party; that he would like the Board of Commissioners to consider sending a letter to the parties (Atlas Holdings and the Union); that the County might offer help through the Dispute Settlement Center in Orange County; and that it would be well served and reasonable and a show of good faith by the County. He further stated that if there is a consensus, a letter could be drafted and approved at the next meeting.

The County Manager asked if the County would pay for the mediation.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he is suggesting that the County do that as the cost of having these people in a dispute is expensive.

The County Manager asked if the strikers are part of the union or is the union supporting the strikers that are out there.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he believed that the people on strike are union personnel and that it may be both.

Commissioner Cross stated that he recalled when the discussion surrounding off-duty Sheriff's deputies at the plant in marked cars was held, that the Board of Commissioners offered assurances that the Board's only participation in the strike was related to public safety issues.

Chairman Lucier stated that any involvement would not be advocating one side or the other, just providing an opportunity for the sides to come together.

Commissioner Vanderbeck clarified that it was strictly the use of a neutral third party to help bring the sides together and that resolution was the end goal.

Commissioner Kost stated that she has been approached by many citizens about what the County's role could be stating that it would be a small price to pay for mediation if both sides could be brought to the table. She stated that this has been going on since June.

Commissioner Cross stated that it was made clear to the Chairman and himself that those jobs had been replaced permanently.

Commissioner Thompson stated that the Board of Commissioners needed to exhaust every possibility in seeking resolution to this matter; that they are only offering to bring the two sides to the table; that this approach may be the last resort; that he didn't see where this would be a bad thing to do; and that it is up to the parties to take up the offer; that he did have a question about the county paying for the services; and that it may lead to expense down the road based on what they do in this situation.

Jep Rose, County Attorney, stated that he did not think it was a precedent that they couldn't turn someone down in the future.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he requested that the County Manager look into the cost of the mediation so the Board of Commissioners has an idea about the cost expected.

Chairman Lucier stated that it would be helpful to find out what efforts in that regard may already have transpired; that he believed the sides had already talked, but did not know if there were mediation discussions.

Commissioner Kost asked if this was an issue that Esther Coleman, Human Relations Director, could be involved in from the Human Relations standpoint.

Chairman Lucier stated that this item will be on the January 21, 2009 Work Session Agenda, and that Commissioner Vanderbeck will work with staff to come up with a proposal.

Metropolitan Planning Organization:

Commissioner Kost stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will be voting on the Long Range Capital Transportation Plan on January 14, 2009. She stated that the plan will be through the year 2035; that in December, Chairman Lucier was still representing the County on that Board and made it clear that Chatham County was not happy that they had not received any of the road improvements that they have requested; that there was a staff meeting later in December which she and a member of the Planning staff attended; that what was agreed to by the staff was that all of the road widenings would be in Durham and Orange Counties and none for Chatham County but that they would call-out certain road improvements that are buried deeper into the plan; that she has not seen an updated proposal but she will be asked to vote on it on January 14th; that ideally, she would like to bring to the Board all of the facts but she doesn't have them yet due to the holidays, etc.; and that it may be that, with the Board's permission, she may be voting against the Long Range Plan.

Chairman Lucier stated that at his last meeting, he informed the chair of the MPO that unless the road improvements were included in some way, he would have to vote against it; that that vote was postponed until the January meeting, so what Commissioner Kost is saying is fully consistent with what he had said in December.

Commissioner Kost stated that she wanted to bring it before the Board in case anyone had a problem with it.

Chairman Lucier explained that the road concerned are the upgrades of Jack Bennett and Lystra Roads and improving that corridor all the way up to Stagecoach Road and Highway #751 up to Interstate 40; that because of the projected increase in population projected for north east Chatham County, it certainly seems that those road improvements must be included. He stated that Commissioner Kost would not have any problems from his perspective voting against it if those are not included. Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that Commissioner Kost had his support as did Commissioner Thompson.

Chairman Lucier stated that they had received information on the Cary study regarding pollution to Jordan Lake depending upon the different possible plans for the west side of Jordan Lake which is the joint plan between Cary and Chatham County; that they received a copy by email and haven't had a chance to go through it in detail due to its length; that there are a couple of problems with it; that Chatham County is not involved in definitions and the assumptions made in the plan; that they were done by Cary; that they seem to have a Cary/Chatham Joint Plan and then a commissioners different view of it; that the joint plan is what the Commissioners want and not what the Planning Staffs of the two entities have put together; that they are asking for less dense development on the west side of Jordan Lake and an interest in protecting the east side of the lake as best as they can; that the way that the tables are written with the joint plan and then with the Commissioners' proposal, it is really not an accurate description; that another major problem was that they only looked at the wastewater treatment plant versus the septic tank in terms of wastewater disposal in terms of estimating nitrogen and phosphorous; that they did not consider the impact of nitrogen and phosphorous from dense development that comes from pesticide use on lawns, etc.; that he thinks that pesticide use on residential properties per acre exceed agricultural use by ten fold (homeowners use ten times more pesticides per acre than farmers use); that this was not included, so in his mind, the study is invalid; that this point was brought up at the last joint meeting that the proposed study would have to include the impact of dense residential development on nutrient releases into the lake which was apparently not done.

He asked Jason Sullivan, Assistant Planner, to review the plan from Chatham County's perspective and give comments to the Board of Commissioners at their January 21, 2009 Work Session. The comments will be considered and the information used to draft a response to Cary and at the same time, ask for an update in terms of the two Boards getting together again to discuss the joint plan

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he feels it will take a while for the local experts to go over the plan; that he would ask that the Board consider immediately sending a letter to acknowledge receipt of the study, stating that there were some concerns that need to be discussed and researched noting that the study was done before the new ordinances were in place; and send a copy of the ordinances with the letter and also stating that the moratorium regarding annexation has expired; and that with that in mind, with the anticipation of a new meeting set up to talk about these things, that would be appropriate.

Chairman Lucier stated that he believed that the old ordinances were used.

Commissioner Kost stated that she believed so; that she has read through it and found many assumptions in it; that she would hope that the Planning Staff could work with Mr. Royal in bringing his stormwater management expertise in reviewing it; that she would like to test some of the assumptions as most of them, were clarified with the Town of Cary engineers in what they should assume; and that she would like to support what Commissioner Vanderbeck has said, that the moratorium has expired and as far as she knows, that Cary hasn't extended it. She stated that because it was so difficult for two boards to schedule a meeting, perhaps they should proceed in anticipation of having a complete review of the report and schedule the joint meeting between the two Boards now.

Chairman Lucier asked if the Board was in agreement. By consensus, the Board agreed to proceed with scheduling the meeting. Chairman Lucier stated that Commissioner Vanderbeck had proposed sending a letter to Cary letting them know that they had received it and are in the process of reviewing it; and that they will review it in more detail on January 21st at their work session. He asked if Fred Royal would give a copy to the Environmental Review Board and ask for their comments.

Mr. Royal stated that their next meeting was to be held on Thursday, January 22nd.

Mr. Sullivan stated that it is more of a technical document; that he had not read the entire document; that he doesn't know how much benefit they will be able to provide from the Planning side with regard to the technical aspects; and that he suggests talking with Mr. Royal to provide input on the technical side. Chairman Lucier stated that he felt that they did need a technical review.

Mr. Sullivan suggested that the Board wait until their February 2nd in order to give the Environmental Review Board time to review it stating that he is uncertain when they meet again.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he thinks that the letter should be sent right away in order to set the stage for this as it will take time for technical review.

Commissioner Kost asked Mr. Royal if he was in agreement for the Board to discuss it on February 2nd. Mr. Royal stated that if he could review the document and give the Environmental Review Board a summary, they could possibly have it ready for the next meeting. He stated that he had not yet looked at the document.

Chairman Lucier stated that the Board would tentatively place it on their Agenda for the February 02, 2009 Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Board of Equalization and Review:

Chairman Lucier mentioned changing the bylaws and resolution that established the Board of Equalization and Review to allow longer service on that board than is currently allowed; that Col. Totten's term is just about up; that according to the bylaws, his term could not be extended; that this would not be a good time to lose him from the board as he is the only one who has experience with revaluation in the past; that his leadership on the board has

been truly outstanding; and that he has been well-received by the citizens as well as the Tax Office.

Westfall:

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if anyone knows of an update regarding the stabilization of the Westfall site from an environmental standpoint. He asked if anything had been done and if there was a plan. Mr. Hughes stated that the contractors had been working with the bank regularly; and that the last time he had talked with Jim Willis, he said that it had more or less been stabilized.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Kost, to adjourn as the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and convene as the Governing Board of the Southeast Chatham Water District. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting adjourned at 10:19 AM.

George Lucier, Chairman

ATTEST:

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