

**AGENDA  
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
MONDAY JUNE 7, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 BUDGET: Jack Veit, County Manager
2. PUBLIC HEARING ON SALE OF PROPERTY IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK: Jeff Wood, Economic Development Director
3. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – AGENDA TOPICS
4. CONSENT AGENDA
  - A. Minutes of May 17, 2021 Regular Session; Minutes of May 17, 2021 Reconvened Session; Minutes of May 19, 2021 Reconvened Session; Minutes of May 21, 2021 Reconvened Session
  - B. Tax Releases and Refunds
  - C. Request to set a Public Hearing for July 6, 2021 at 7:00 pm regarding the Chapter 160D Ordinance Updates
  - D. Recreation Budget Amendment
  - E. Sheriff K-9 Donation Budget Amendment

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS**

5. ELECTIONS – ADOPTION AND ACQUISITION OF VOTING EQUIPMENT – Meloni Wray, Director of Elections
6. CARTS – REQUEST TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL 5311 CARES ACT FUNDING: Kelly Walker, Transportation Director
7. SOLID WASTE: Steven Aster, Solid Waste Director
  - A. Budget Amendment for Convenience Site Hauling
  - B. Budget Amendment and Approval for Purchase of 241 Belltown Road, Ft. Barnwell
8. PLANNING – SUBDIVISION FOR APPROVAL (The Mill Phase 2 at Heritage

Farms – Final): Chad Strawn, Assistant Planning Director

9. SOCIAL SERVICES – CARES FUNDING: Geoffrey Marett, Social Services Director
10. WATER DEPARTMENT – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Al Gerard, Water Superintendent
11. SHERIFF: Chip Hughes
  - A. Retirement/Resignation Payouts
  - B. MRAP Up-fitting
  - C. Boat Up-fitting
12. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - SALE OF PROPERTY IN THE CRAVEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK: Jeff Wood, Economic Development Director
13. FINANCE: Craig Warren, Finance Director
  - A. Public School Building Capital Fund Application
  - B. Medical Examiner Budget Amendment
  - C. Register of Deeds – Increased Funding
14. APPOINTMENTS
15. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Arey Grady
16. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – GENERAL TOPICS
17. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit
18. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS
19. CLOSED SESSION

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 PM.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Jason R. Jones  
Vice Chairman Denny Bucher  
Chairman George S. Liner  
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe  
Commissioner Thomas F. Mark  
Commissioner E. T. Mitchell  
Commissioner Beatrice R. Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jack B. Veit, III, County Manager  
Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager  
Craig Warren, Finance Director  
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director  
Arey Grady, County Attorney  
Nan Holton, Clerk to the Board

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, County Attorney, Arey Grady, recited the following invocation:

*Gracious God of light and peace, we praise you for the way you have blessed our Nation and our County with a bounty of resources and talents. Enlighten us this day with a measure of your wisdom that we would use the gifts you have given us for the good of all. Where there is confusion, give us clarity of thought, where there is danger, cause us to walk carefully, and where there is injustice, help us to work diligently to eliminate it. Empower our Nation and our County to continue to be beacons of hope for the cause of freedom. Bless our leaders, that we might be guided by your precepts, and comforted by your grace. May the work undertaken in this place today be pleasing in your sight and directed by your will, for you live and reign as God forever and ever. Amen.*

*Based upon the invocation given by Reverend Sara A. Gausmannat, the February 5, 2003 session of the US House of Representatives*

Chairman Jones requested to amend the agenda by combining Item #16 Petitions of Citizens (General Comments) with Item #3 Petitions of Citizens (Agenda Topics). Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the agenda, as amended. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

Chairman Jones welcomed citizens back into the room tonight for the first time in over a year. He recognized former West Virginia State Senator, Russ Weeks, who recently became a citizen of Craven County.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 BUDGET**

County Manager, Jack Veit, reviewed that the proposed FY21-22 Budget was presented to the Board on May 17<sup>th</sup>, which was followed by several budget work sessions where changes were made. Mr. Veit highlighted there would be a 1.06 cent tax increase to fund school resource officers at every school in the County.

Commissioner Mark motioned to open the FY21-22 Budget Public Hearing at 7:04 pm. Commissioner McCabe seconded his motion and it carried unanimously.

1. Bob Brinson, 5012 Lakeshore Drive, New Bern, spoke in opposition to funding inclusive/equity positions and Critical Race Theory curriculum. He indicated the School Superintendent needs to define all the positions and provide their capital plans prior to funding.

At 7:10 pm, Commissioner McCabe motioned to close the Public Hearing; seconded by Commissioner Liner and approve unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON SALE OF PROPERTY IN INDUSTRIAL PARK**

Economic Development Director, Jeff Wood, stated that an eight (8) acre tract of land in the Craven County Industrial Park was advertised to be sold for \$160,000.

Commissioner Mark motioned at 7:11 pm to open the Public Hearing; seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried unanimously. There was no one signed up to comment. At 7:12 pm Commissioner McCabe motioned to close the Public Hearing; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark and carried unanimously.

**PETITIONS OF CITIZENS**

1. Lillian Creger, Ridgewood Trail, New Bern – opposition to CRT in schools
2. Glenn Fink, 646 Goose Creek Rd.- opposition to CRT in schools
3. Richard Harrop, 909 Caracara Dr.- opposition to CRT in schools

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the consent agenda, inclusive of the Minutes of May 17, 2021 Regular Session, May 17, 2021 Reconvened Session, May 19, 2021 Reconvened Session and May 21, 2021 Reconvened Session, Tax Releases and Refunds (*Credits = \$1,831.38; Refunds = \$127.87*), Request to Set a Public Hearing for July 6, 2021 at 7:00 pm regarding the Chapter 160D Ordinance Updates; Recreation Budget Amendment and Sheriff K-9 Budget Amendment. Commissioner Liner seconded the motion, which carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*Recreation*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1015910-38301 Donations	\$500.00	1015910-42601 Main/Repair Bldgs/Ground	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

**Justification:** This is a donation from the Craven Chains for the concrete tee pads at the Creekside Park Disc Golf Course.

*Sheriff's Office*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1014310-38301 Misc. Donations	\$380.00	1014310-43246 K-9 Supplies	\$380.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>

**Justification:** The Craven County Sheriff's Office has received two donation checks (\$50.00; \$330.00) to support the Craven County Sheriff's Office K-9 program. These donations will help pay for various expenses, including medical care, dog food and other K-9 related needs.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: ELECTIONS – ADOPTION AND ACQUISITION OF VOTING EQUIPMENT**

Director of Elections, Meloni Wray, presented the Board with information and provided a handout about new voting equipment.

She highlighted that after the Board of Elections received \$93,050 in awarded HAVA Funds, funds being approved on March 1, 2021 were the following:

- Witnessed Voting System Demonstrations
- Tested the Voting System, and
- Obtained 5/13/2021 NCSBE approval for the purchase of ES&S Voting System 5.2.4.0

Ms. Wray stated that the Board of Elections is seeking the final step for approval of adopting and acquiring the recommended ES&S Voting System 5.2.4.0 including ExpressVotes (ADA compliant voting machines), and ElectionWare for reporting results from the Craven County Board of Commissioners to replace current voting system ES&S Unity 3.4.1.1.

She addressed that the equipment needs to be encumbered or purchased by June 30, 2021, and reimbursement will be sought from the State on funds spent for this HAVA Grant.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve adoption and acquisition of voting equipment, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

Ms. Wray answered questions about not using modems with voting equipment and indicated these were approved unanimously by the Board of Elections.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: CARTS – REQUEST TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL 5311 CARES ACT FUNDING**

Transportation Director, Kelly Walker, reported that Craven Area Rural Transit System (CARTS) has been awarded an additional \$78,030 in 5311 CARES Act operating funds. This brings the total CARES Act rural funding to \$1,156,650. A period of performance extension from June 30, 2021 until June 30, 2022 was provided to all transit systems for 5311 (rural) CARES Act funding. She stated that CARTS anticipates using the additional funds during the FY2022 budget year and will submit a budget amendment request at such time one is needed.

Ms. Walker requested authorization for the Chairman to sign the agreement for a 5311 CARES Act Rural Grant Funding total of \$1,156,650.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the updated NCDOT agreement for the 5311 CARES Act Funding, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: SOLID WASTE***Budget Amendment – Convenience Site Hauling*

Solid Waste Director, Steven Aster, reported that since the beginning of the year, the Solid Waste Department has seen a significant increase in volume of trash and citizens visiting the Convenience Sites. This increase of usage has lead to record setting numbers of trash and waste boxes being emptied. This increase in numbers at Convenience Sites has put the Solid Waste Department in a shortfall for Fiscal Year 20-21, in the Convenience Site Hauling line (1014721-44067).

He relayed that the Department budgeted for 346 pulls (waste boxes emptied by contractor) per month for FY 20-21. With two months remaining in the FY 20-21, the Department has been averaging 356 site pulls per month.

Because of this increase, Mr. Aster requested that the Board approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$39,000 to cover the remaining two months for Convenience Site Hauling.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$39,000, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

***Solid Waste Department***

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1010000-39901 Fund Balance	\$39,000.00	1014721-44067 Convenience Site Hauling	\$39,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>

***Budget Amendment and Approval of Purchase of 241 Belltown Road, Ft. Barnwell***

Mr. Aster relayed that the Board previously approved a purchase agreement for the property located at 241 Belltown Road, Fort Barnwell, NC. Subsequently, staff has obtained a survey, environmental assessment, and a title exam for this property. Those due diligence items show that the property is acceptable for the County’s intended use. In turn, the County is in position to close on the purchase of the property in the coming weeks. He stated that staff and legal counsel recommended that the Board authorize the County to move forward with closing on the property.

To proceed, Mr. Aster requested a budget amendment in the amount of \$19,000 be approved. This amount reflects the purchase price of \$15,000, \$1,000 for environmental assessment, and \$3,000 in settlement cost and legal fees.

Commissioner Jones stated that the address on the settlement statement needs to be corrected. Attorney, Arey Grady, indicated he would make that edit prior to signatures.

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$19,000 and approve closing on the purchase of the real property located at 241 Belltown Rd., Ft. Barnwell; and to authorize the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Clerk, County Manager, Assistant County Manager and County Attorney to take such action as may be reasonably necessary for same. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

***Solid Waste***

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1010000-39901 Fund Balance	\$19,000.00	1014721-47302 Capital Outlay – Other Improvements	\$19,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: SUBDIVISION FOR APPROVAL (THE MILL PHASE 2 AT HERITAGE FARMS – FINAL)**

Assistant Planning Director, Chad Strawn, stated that the Planning Board met on April 22, 2021 and recommended the following Subdivision for approval:

**The Mill Phase 2 at Heritage Farms – FINAL**

- Property is owned by Blades Road, LLC
- Engineered by Thomas Engineering, P.A. and surveyed by Herbert J. Nobles, Jr. PLS
- Property is located within TWP 5 off of Blades Rd. (SR 1715)
- Parcel ID 5-013-25000
- Subdivision contains 14 lots on 8.06 acres
- Lots will be served by Craven County Water and proposed individual septic systems.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to approve The Mill Phase 2 at Heritage Farms Final Subdivision, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and unanimously approved.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: SOCIAL SERVICES – CARES FUNDING**

Social Services Director, Geoffrey Marett, requested to budget additional funding received from the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) under Title III-B of the Older Americans Act (OAA), Nutrition Programs under Title III-C of the (OAA), National Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) under Title III-E of the (OAA). There is no match required.

Mr. Marett requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*DSS 1015212 Adult and Senior 1015217*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1015217-33119 CARES Act	\$20,000.00	101517-47302 C/O Other Improvements	\$20,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: WATER – BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Water Superintendent, Al Gerard, announced that the Water Department switched contractors for installing new taps earlier in the year, and the prices increased because of the new contract fees. The Commissioners approved an increase in Tap Fees charged to customers, which has generated additional revenue because of an increase in construction. He stated that the Water Department averages 100-120 taps per year and has already done 83 taps for far in FY20-21. Staff potentially sees another 30+ taps to complete the rest of FY20-21, therefore, Mr. Gerard requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$40,000.

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the following budget amendment, as requested, in the amount of \$40,000.00. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved in a roll call vote 7-0.

*Water*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
6000000-35001 Fees – Tap On	\$40,000.00	6007010-41508 Tap Installation	\$40,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: SHERIFF**

*Retirement/Resignation Payouts*

Sheriff Chip Hughes announced that Sgt. William Marsh after many years of dedication to Craven County, has decided to retire. He had accumulated an astounding amount of payable time throughout the years adding up to \$49,456.19. There have been other resignations with payable time due in the amount of \$10,914.00. Sheriff Hughes stated that no notices for the retirements nor the resignations were given before the budget was created for the current fiscal year and, therefore, were not budgeted for. Sheriff Hughes requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$60,370.19.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$60,370.19, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*Sheriff's Office/4310*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1010000-39901	\$60,371.00	1014310-41002	\$47,739.00
Current Year Fund Balance		Full Time Salaries	
		1014310-41101	\$ 3,652.00
		FICA	
		1014310-41102	\$ 5,175.00
		NC Retirement	
		1014310-41104	\$ 2,387.00
		Worker's Comp (LEO)	
		1014310-41105	\$ 1,418.00
		401L (LEO)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$60,371.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$60,371.00</b>

*MRAP Up-Fitting*

Sheriff Hughes requested that funds be transferred to the Maintenance/Repair - Equipment line to cover the cost of Up-fitting for the MRAP, as well as a small amount to cover recent boat expenses. This line is where all expenses for the MRAP and boat were directed to go and the invoice amount will deplete the account beyond what is available for the remainder of the year. He explained that these expenses were not budgeted for at the start of the fiscal year because the MRAP was purchased later in the fiscal year.

Sheriff Hughes requested that the Board approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$4,000.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$4,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 6-1 in a roll call vote, there being one "Nay" from Commissioner Liner.

*Sheriff's Office*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1010000-39901	\$4,000.00	1014310-42602	\$4,000.00
Current Year Fund Balance		Maint/Repair – Equipment	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>

*Boat Up-Fitting*

Sheriff Hughes requested the forfeiture funds to be used to cover the cost of the up-fitting that was done on Marine #1. This boat was purchased with forfeiture funds and was sent to B&G for installation of necessary equipment.

He requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of 7,328.00.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$7,328.00, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 6-1 in a roll call vote, there being one "Nay" from Commissioner Liner.

*Sheriff's Office*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1154313-33414	\$7,328.00	1154310-47301	\$7,328.00
Substance Abuse Tax		Capital Outlay Over \$5,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,328.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,328.00</b>



**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – SALE OF PROPERTY IN THE CRAVEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK**

Economic Development Director, Jeff Wood, stated he was enthusiastic to bring this project to the Board. He introduced the founder of ASI, Felipe Rodriguez, Shawn Ronko and Trinity Ronko. He reported they have a facility in James City with four employees but wish to purchase an eight (8) acre tract of land, consisting of Lot 19-6 and two acres to be subdivided from Lot 19-7 located in the Craven County Industrial Park. Mr. Wood indicated they are a great partner for the industrial park and will be bringing an addition of 24 more employees with this transition.

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the sale of property to ASI, Inc., seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: FINANCE**

*Public School Building Capital Fund Application*

Finance Director, Craig Warren, reported that each year both the Board of Education and the Board of County Commissioners jointly approve a project application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. This application is required in order to draw down lottery proceeds that have been allocated to Craven County by the State in the Public School Building Capital Fund. He stated these funds are restricted and can only be used for school construction projects or to retire debt incurred as a result of school construction projects.

Mr. Warren stated that the school board has already approved the application.

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the application, seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*Medical Examiner Budget Amendment*

Mr. Warren relayed that Craven County has experienced an increase in the number of autopsies performed by the Chief Medical Examiner's Office. He stated that expenditures year to date are running 13% ahead of last fiscal year and have exceeded original budget estimates. The current fee for each autopsy performed is \$1,750.00. It is estimated that \$30,000.00 will be needed through the remainder of this fiscal year.

Mr. Warren requested that the Board approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$30,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*Medical Examiner*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1010000-39901 Current Year FB	\$30,000.00	1014370-440028 Medical Examiner	\$30,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>

*Register of Deeds – Increased Funding*

Mr. Warren reported that the Register of Deeds (ROD) collects a real estate excise tax on all real property transactions recorded. Of the amount collected, approximately 48% is remitted to the North Carolina Department of Revenue on a monthly basis. He stated that additionally, 1.5% of all fees collected by the ROD excluding excise tax are required to be set aside and remitted to the ROD supplemental pension fund. Collections to date are running ahead of schedule creating a projected shortage in this account. It is estimated that \$305,000 will be needed through the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mr. Warren requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$305,000.00.

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the following budget amendment, in the amount of \$305,000.00, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

*Register of Deeds*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1014190-31403 Excise Tax	\$300,000.00	1014190-44502 State Fees	\$300,000.00
1014190-34400 ROD Fees	\$ 5,000.00	1014190-4113 ROD Pension	\$ 5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$305,000.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$305,000.00</b>

Chairman Jones stated for the record that \$300,000.00 goes back to the state, and only \$5,000.00 goes back to the supplemental pension fund.

**APPOINTMENTS**

*Pending*

Chairman Jones reviewed the following pending appointments:

- Adult Care Home Advisory Committee
- Community Child Protection Team
- Craven/Pamlico Regional Library
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- Regional Aging Advisory Board
- Voluntary Agriculture District Advisory Board

*Current*

*Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council*

Commissioner Liner nominated Steve Coffey for appointment to replace Rick Zaccardelli on the EMS Advisory Council. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Coffey was appointed by acclamation.

*Juvenile Crime Prevention Council*

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Marissa Byer, Clint Rowe, Stacy Huss and Billie Mathes for reappointment on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. There being no additional nominations, the slate was reappointed by acclamation.

*Coastal Carolina Regional Airport Authority*

Commissioner Liner nominated Jeff Wood for appointment to fill the seat of Leslie Hunter on the Coastal Carolina Regional Airport Authority. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Wood was appointed by acclamation.

*Craven County Planning Board*

Commissioner McCabe nominated Nadia Anderson for reappointment on the Craven County Planning Board. There being no additional nominations, Ms. Anderson was reappointed by acclamation.

*Fire Tax Commissioners*

Chairman Jones nominated Carl Barwick and Chad Anderson for reappointment on the Fire Tax Commission. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Barwick and Mr. Anderson were reappointed by acclamation.

*ABC Board*

Commissioner Limer nominated Kenneth Morris, III for appointment to fill the seat of Charles Collins on the ABC Board. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Morris was appointed by acclamation.

*Upcoming*

Chairman Jones reviewed upcoming terms due to expire in June/July, 2021.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: INITIAL OFFER TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY – 2036 CARACARA DR., NEW BERN (PARCEL NUMBER 2-050-337)**

County Attorney, Arey Grady, reported that Craven County has received an offer in the amount of \$4,000.00 for this real property, which was acquired through a tax foreclosure, with past due taxes and costs of foreclosure totaling \$3,852.43. The tax value of this property is \$5,080.00.

He stated that should the Board of Commissioners approve this transaction, the proposed resolution should be adopted, which will in turn authorize advertisement for upset bids. Once the upset bid process is concluded, this transaction will be brought back before the Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Commissioner Mark motioned to adopt the following resolution accepting the initial offer and to advertise for upset bids. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**CRAVEN COUNTY  
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING OFFER TO PURCHASE  
SUBJECT TO UPSET BIDS**

WHEREAS, Craven County owns certain real property identified as Tax Parcel Number 2-050-337 (hereinafter “the Real Property”), the Real Property having been acquired by Craven County in deed recorded in Book 2924, Page 586 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County; and,

WHEREAS, Craven County has received an Offer to Purchase the Real Property, a copy of said offer being attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and,

WHEREAS, the Craven County Board of Commissioners is authorized to sell Craven County's interest in real property pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §160A-269.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CRAVEN COUNTY THAT:

1. The Craven County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the initiation of the upset bid process for the Real Property by advertising notice of the offer to purchase in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute §160A-269.
2. The County Manager, the Assistant County Manager, the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and/or County Attorney are authorized to take all actions necessary to accomplish the transactions contemplated by this Resolution.

ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2021.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

County Manager, Jack Veit, acknowledged the recent retirement of Thelma Spivey and her long career with Craven County CARTS.

Mr. Veit inquired of the Board's pleasure to have Finance Director, Craig Warren, move forward with creating the FY21-22 Budget Ordinance. Commissioner Mark indicated he had issues with the current budget, as proposed, and requested another work session. The Board was in consensus to meet on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm to reconvene another budget work session.

### COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

*Commissioner Mark* commented on an upcoming CarolinaEast Hospital Board meeting and their recent affiliation with the UNC System.

*Commissioner McCabe* provided a report from his recent RPO meeting on various construction projects.

*Commissioner Mitchell* requested approval to invite the Military Affairs to the Convention Center for a public forum.

*Commissioner Liner* thanked all who participated in the Memorial Day Celebration at the courthouse. He requested and received approval from the Board to direct staff to create a Resolution recognizing Dr. Doyle's contributions to Craven County.

*Commissioner Smith* reminded the public of the need to get their vaccinations to further eradicate COVID-19 from the area.

*Commissioner Bucher* reflected on the Sun Journal's recent headline stating that School Superintendent Dr. Doyle was getting a \$212,000 severance package upon resigning. He indicated the Board of Education was moving money from their Fund Balance to cover this expense, but it is still the taxpayer's money. He remarked for the public's benefit that the School Board of Education is responsible for setting the curriculum; that the Board of Commissioners' responsibility is to fund their facilities and therefore have limitations in controlling the Board of Education's other decisions.

### CLOSED SESSION

At 8:09 pm Commissioner Mitchell motioned to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318(a)4 to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in Craven County. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark and approved unanimously.

At 8:42 pm, Commissioner McCabe motioned to return to Open Session. His motion was seconded by Commissioner McCabe and carried unanimously.

There was nothing to report from Closed Session.

At 8:43 pm, Commissioner Mitchell motioned to recess until Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 3:30 pm in the Commissioners' Boardroom for a budget work session. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark and carried unanimously.

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Chairman Jason R. Jones  
Craven County Board of Commissioners

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Nan Holton  
Clerk to the Board