

WORK SESSION AGENDA
February 17, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.
Montgomery County Commissioners Conference Room

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners met in a work session on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in the Montgomery County Commissioners Conference Room. *Chairperson Morris called the meeting to order and the following was heard:*

A motion was made by Commissioner Corbett to call the meeting to order. Commissioner Copeland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ABC Board Restructuring Discussion

Chairman Jackie Morris announced that Chris Watkins had court today and he would not be here in time to discuss the restructuring of the ABC Board.

Chairman Morris explained a little of the process of the restructuring and reorganization of the ABC Board since the liquor by the drink passed during the election.

Members of the Board asked if a public hearing was necessary and County Manager Lance Metzler said he would find out and let them know.

New Positions Discussion for Social Services

Mrs. Lisa Rolan, Finance Director and Mr. Jim Sanders, Social Services Director were present to discuss new positions requested for Social Services.

Mr. Jim Sanders presented the following information:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DSS
Requested New Positions (3)
FY July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 (12 Months)

New Position	Grade/ Step	Annual Salary	Annual Benefits	Total	County Funds	Federal Funds
<i>Food & Energy Assistance Caseworker II</i> Priority	63/01	26,436	9,772	36,208	18,104 50%	18,104 50%
<i>Medicaid Caseworker II</i> Priority	63/01	26,436	9,772	36,208	18,104 50%	18,104 50%
<i>Admin. Support Accounting Clerk</i> Priority	61/09	29,868	10,380	40,248	20,124 50%	20,124 50%

TOTAL				\$112,664	\$56,332 50%	\$56,332 50%
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Requested New Positions (3)
March 1, 2009 – June 30, 2009 (4 Months @ 33.33%)

New Position	Grade/ Step	4 Month Salary	4 Month Benefits	Total	County Funds*	Federal Funds
<i>Food & Energy Assistance</i> Caseworker II Priority	63/01	8,812	3,256	12,068	6,034 50%	6,034 50%
<i>Medicaid</i> Caseworker II Priority	63/01	8,812	3,256	12,068	6,034 50%	6,034 50%
<i>Admin. Support</i> Accounting Clerk Priority	61/04+	9,956	3,460	13,416	6,708 50%	6,708 50%
TOTAL				\$37,552	\$18,776* 50%	\$18,776 50%



Montgomery County
Department of Social Services
Office of County Director
 102 E. Spring Street * Drawer N * Troy, NC 27371
 Tel: (910) 576-6531 * Fax: (910) 576-5016 * State Courier Number: 03-96-15
 James S. "Jim" Sanders, Director * Sandra Cagle, Finance Manager * Susan Allen, Personnel Assistant

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lance Metzler, County Manager

FROM: Jim Sanders, Director

DATE: January 29, 2009

Commissioner Matheny asked Finance Director Rolan if the County could afford the positions and Mrs. Rolan said yes.

The Board agreed to carry this forward to the regular session.

Badin Lake Fish Study Review from State

Mr. Gene Ellis, Alcoa, Mrs. Julie Clark, Interim Health Director, and Mr. Jon Vinroot, Environmental Health Supervisor were all present and discussed the Badin Lake Fish Study Review from the State.

Badin Lake Fish Study February 11, 2009

Background

Badin Lake in Stanly and Montgomery counties, N.C. is a popular recreational area for fishing, boating, and swimming. Chemical analyses of sediments collected from Badin Lake in 1996, 1997 and 2007 indicated elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). PCBs and PAHs are groups of complex organic chemicals known to cause potential adverse ecological and human health effects from ingestion, inhalation, or direct contact.

Purpose of the study

In June, 2008 Stanly County officials asked the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services to:

- Review existing Badin Lake environmental data to determine if consuming fish from Badin Lake poses a health risk to the public
- Identify health data gaps
- Make recommendations to protect public health

How was the fish study conducted?

In late summer of 2008, the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Quality collected fish from three areas of Badin Lake, the northeast, northwest and southwest.

- Different species of fish were collected to get a representation of the fish people eat in the area, and species of fish that might have different concentrations of contaminants depending on the type of food they eat.
- The fish were analyzed for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). These substances have the potential to move from sediments and water into living organisms, and between different living organisms, in the aquatic environment. Humans may be exposed to PCBs and PAHs in aquatic environments by contact with contaminated water or sediment, or by eating contaminated fish.

What are the study results?

No PAHs were detected in the fish.

Concentrations of PCBs in some catfish and largemouth bass were greater than the N.C. Division of Public Health level of concern (LV). The level of concern is the maximum concentration of a substance the state of North Carolina has determined as a level of safe exposure.

Consumption Limitations

Based on the results of the study, the N.C. Division of Public Health recommends that:

People should limit their consumption of catfish and largemouth bass from Badin Lake to no more than 1 meal per week due to PCBs.

Due to an existing Mercury Advisory for fresh water fish caught in N.C., women who are pregnant, nursing, or of child-bearing age, and children younger than 15 years of age should not eat any catfish or largemouth bass.

What are PCBs?

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are mixtures of up to 209 individual chlorinated compounds (known as congeners). They do not exist naturally in the environment. PCBs have been used as coolants and lubricants in transformers, capacitors and other electrical equipment. Products made before 1977 that may contain PCBs include old fluorescent lighting fixtures and electrical devices containing PCB capacitors, and old microscope and hydraulic oils.

How do PCBs enter the environment?

PCBs enter the air, water and soil during their manufacture, use and disposal; from accidental spills and leaks during their transport; and from leaks or fires in products containing PCBs.

PCBs do not break down easily in the environment and may remain there for very long periods of time. PCBs can travel long distances in the air and be deposited in areas far away from where they were released.

How can PCBs get in the fish?

PCBs in the water and soil are taken up by small organisms and fish in water. They are taken up by other animals that eat these animals as food. PCBs accumulate in fish, reaching levels that may be many thousands of times higher than in the water itself.

How can PCBs affect my health?

Small amounts of PCBs may cause:

- Anemia
- Acne-like skin conditions
- Liver, stomach, and thyroid gland problems
- Immune system changes
- Behavioral changes

- In children, effects may include:
 - Reduced birth weight

- Problems with motor skills
- Impaired short-term memory

Impaired immune response

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have identified PCBs as possible carcinogens.

Additional Information

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts17.pdf

www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/fish/current.html

State of North Carolina

Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Public Health

www.ncdhhs.gov www.ncpublichealth.com

Badin Lake Frequently Asked Questions

Is it safe to eat fish from Badin Lake?

In general, it is safe to eat most fish from this lake except for catfish and largemouth bass, which contain elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and mercury.

Women who are pregnant, nursing, or of child-bearing age (15-44), and children under 15 should not eat any largemouth bass or catfish caught from Badin Lake. All other persons should not eat more than 1 meal per week of these fish.

The PCB advisory applies only to Badin Lake. The **mercury consumption advisory** for largemouth bass is a statewide advisory and affects all waterways in the state. The catfish advisory is for areas of NC south and east of Highway I-85.

Is it safe to handle contaminated fish?

Yes. It is safe to pick up, clean and handle all of these fish.

Is it safe to swim in this lake?

Yes. It is also safe to boat, wade, swim and do other activities in the water. Skin contact with the water or sediment does not represent a health risk.

What are the symptoms of PCB poisoning?

Consuming large concentrations of this chemical over a long period of time can cause health problems. Some negative health effects may include damage to the liver, stomach, thyroid gland, immune system and reproductive system. PCBs are a possible carcinogen. If you worry that you might be sick as a result of PCBs consumption, contact your family physician or OEEB/NCDPH at 919-707-5900.

How can mercury affect my health?

High levels of mercury can cause serious damage to the brain, nervous system and kidneys.

Children under 15 and developing fetuses are at greatest risk from the harmful effects of mercury.

Why were the fish analyzed for PCBs at Badin Lake?

Previous environmental investigations indicated the presence of elevated quantities of two contaminants, PCBs and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), in the lake sediment. No PAHs were found in the fish.

Stanly County Officials asked the N.C. Division of Public Health’s Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch to:

Review existing Badin Lake environmental data to determine if consuming fish from Badin Lake represented a health risk to the public;

Identify what additional studies were needed to determine if people could be affected by eating the fish from Badin Lake; and

Make recommendations to protect the health of the public.

Will additional fish from this lake be tested? What about other lakes? Why?

The N.C. Division of Public Health is not planning to do any additional testing. Additional testing would be considered if evidence of a potential health risk comes to our attention. The current data available does not suggest an additional health risk in other waters.

Will you be testing the fish in other lakes in North Carolina?

The Division of Public Health does not conduct routine testing of lakes. This type of investigation is very expensive. We conduct testing, with the help of other state agencies, when there is evidence of a potential health risk.

What is the source of the contamination at Badin Lake? Where are PCBs coming from?

This investigation was designed to determine if a fish advisory was needed for Badin Lake. This investigation is not designed to determine where the contamination is coming from. The type of study needed to identify the source is not the type of evaluation that North Carolina Division of Public Health performs.

Is there a way to know the source of the contamination at Badin Lake?

That is a question that can only be answered by environmental contamination experts. The North Carolina Division of Public Health is not qualified to answer those questions.

What is the N.C. DPH qualified to answer?

We can answer questions about potential or existing health risks to people from environmental contamination, but we cannot identify the source of the contamination. Our focus is the study of risks to human health.

Will other studies be conducted to determine the source of the contamination at this lake?

The type of study needed to identify the source is not the type of evaluation that North Carolina Division of Public Health performs.

Mr. Ellis said Stanly County asked if the fish are safe to eat. The study released found 70 fish had PCBs. The advisory says not to eat more than one serving of the fish from the lake for a week. He said signs will be posted.

Commissioner Corbett said in reading the newspaper, Alcoa did not take all of the responsibility for the problem. Mr. Ellis said we did.

Commissioner Matheny stated he had received a lot of emails regarding this.

Mrs. Julie Clark, Interim Health Director and Mr. Jon Vinroot with Environmental Health gave a history of this issue.

Mr. Vinroot said it isn't a problem with ingesting the water, but ingestion of the fish is. Mrs. Clark stated the State has the ability to test for PCBs. Commissioner Corbett stated that Mr. Vinroot brought this problem to the Board of Health. Mrs. Clark stated that she was going to be on a conference call with Montgomery and Stanly County representatives as well as the State in the morning.

The Board discussed the Relicensing Settlement Agreement with Mr. Ellis and Mr. Chip Connor. Mr. Connor said we support the relicensing settlement agreement by Alcoa. He said it is a good balance. It represents many needs. He said I support Alcoa, I know who they are and what they are.

He said as long as there is a profit, there will be motive to keep the lake as it is. He stated there is a new system to handle the lake in drought conditions. He said the issues are more important than if we can get the boats in the lake or not.

Mr. Ellis said what Chip said is accurate. If you look at the economic standpoint, it is advantageous to keep water levels.

Commissioner Corbett stated that he heard it said that everyone should suffer equally.

Chairman Morris said Montgomery County's lake areas are very important.

Boards and Committee Board Appointments

The Board discussed the following:

Discussion of Current Board Formation Policy

The following amendment was proposed:

1. Appointments to Boards and Committees shall not exceed a four- (4) year term with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms with a two- (2) year waiting period prior to reappointment to the same Board; with the exception of Boards and Committees that have established by-laws.

The Board agreed to carry this forward.

The Board agreed on the following regarding Board Appointments:

- Airport Committee Appointments – Get more information and come back to the Board
- Utility Committee Reformation & Commissioner Appointment – Gary Tyler & Ron Kincaid on Utility Committee; the Board discussed and asked if there was a conflict of interest in Hobbs Upchurch and Russell Underwood serving on the Utility Committee. County Manager will check with Attorney Hollers nad report findings at the next meeting.
- Appointment of PTCOG Delegate and RPO Delegate for Montgomery County - Chairman Jackie Morris
- Information Technology Commissioner Appointment – Commissioner Jim Matheny
- Sandhills Mental Health Commissioner Appointment – Commissioner Anthony Copeland (from citizen appointment to BOC appointment & citizen vacancy will have to be filled.)
- Transportation Advisory Board (RCATS) Commissioner Appointment – Commissioner Copeland
- BRAC Executive Committee Commissioner Appointment – Commissioner Edgar Morris
- Recycling Committee Reformation Discussion – The Board discussed this committee and decided to reform the Committee and ask Larry Mabry and Bruce Turner to serve on the committee.

The Board agreed to carry forward the appointments they had agreed upon.

Finance Officer Report

Lisa Rolan, Finance Director presented the following:

RFP for Auditing Services Fiscal Year 2009

Mrs. Rolan presented the RFP for Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2009 to the Board.

Audit Response Letter to Local Government Commission

She presented the Audit Response Letter to the Local Government Commission as well as proposed Financial Policies she is drafting for the Board to review in a future meeting. She explained that by cutting the budget 15%, we are controlling expenditures.

Commissioner Corbett said he felt the letter was too generic.

Commissioners Edgar Morris and Jim Matheny asked questions on the current fund balance and how to figure it.

Chairman Morris said he doesn't want to committee the Board to certain criteria in the letter.

Commissioner Copeland asked if we could get another extension on the letter. County Manager Lance Metzler said if we do it will affect our SRF Loan funds.

Commissioner Matheny suggested that the language be expedited. Chairman Morris agreed.

Mr. Metzler said we will modify the letter and send it around for everyone's signature.

Commissioner Matheny said the policies are commendable.

Chairman Jackie Morris and Commissioner Edgar Morris said we need to complete this before next week.

Discussion on Problems on Correll Road

County Manager Lance Metzler discussed the problems on Correll Road with the Board. After some discussion regarding waiving the minimum fee for the homes that are having issues, Commissioner Corbett asked if this would affect the terms of the loan for the water line.

Mr. Metzler said he would report his findings back to the Board at the next meeting.

Approval of Resolution to Apply for Economic Recovery Stimulus Bill Funding

Wes Carter with Hobbs Upchurch and Associates presented a request to approve a resolution to Apply for Economic Recovery Stimulus Bill Funding. The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT
TO APPLY FOR
ECONOMIC RECOVERY STIMULUS BILL FUNDING

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and the North Carolina the Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction of wastewater or drinking water system improvements; and,

WHEREAS, Montgomery County has need for and intends to apply for funding for the following projects:

- 1) Phase 2 Water Mains, which includes approximately 19-miles of varying diameter (2.5" to 8") mains throughout Montgomery County (transmission and distribution); and,
- 2) Water Treatment Plant High Service Pump Station and Electrical Upgrade (compliance, treatment, transmission, and distribution); and,

WHEREAS, Montgomery County intends to request state loan and/or grant assistance for the project; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE Board of County Commissioners of Montgomery County, NC:

That Montgomery County, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That Montgomery County will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners agree to include in the grant/loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of Montgomery County to make scheduled repayment of any loan, to withhold from Montgomery County any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of a loan.

That Montgomery County will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Jackie Morris, Chairman of the Board, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of Montgomery County with the State of North Carolina for a loan and/or grant to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That Jackie Morris, Chairman of the Board, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That Montgomery County has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 17th day of February, 2009 at the Montgomery County Administration Building located at 102 E. Spring Street, Troy, North Carolina 27371.

Jackie Morris, Chairman
Montgomery County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board

The Board agreed to carry this forward.

Montgomery County Health Department Community Health Assessment Presentation

Mrs. Brenda Caudill, Health Educator, Mrs. Rhonda Peters and Mrs. Julie Clark, Interim Health Director presented the Montgomery County Health Department Community Health Assessment Presentation to the Board of Commissioners.

Items to Carry Forward to the Regular Session

The Board agreed to carry the following items forward:

- New Positions for Social Services
- Board & Committee Appointments

- Resolution to Apply for Economic Recovery Stimulus Bill Funding

Recess

There being no further business Chairperson Morris recessed the meeting until the regular session at 6 p.m.

Jackie Morris, Chairman

Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board

Montgomery County Commissioner's Meeting

February 17, 2009

Chairperson – Jackie Morris

Vice Chairman – Dolon W. Corbett

Commissioner – Anthony Copeland

Commissioner – Jim Matheny

Commissioner – Edgar Morris

County Manager – Lance L. Metzler

Finance Officer – Lisa L. Rolan

Clerk to the Board – Laura B. Morton

County Attorney – Russell J. Hollers

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Assembly Room. All Board Members were present. *Chairperson Jackie Morris reconvened the meeting and the following was heard:*

Consideration of the Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Corbett, supported by a second from Commissioner Edgar Morris. The motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

Invocation

Rev. David Speering of Troy Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Recognition of Sheriff Jeff Jordan for Award of D.A.R.E. Executive of the Year

Chairman Jackie Morris recognized and congratulated Montgomery County Sheriff Jeff Jordan who received the award for D.A.R.E. Executive of the Year.

Presentation of Retirement Plaques

The following were presented retirement plaques:

Trent Pardue – Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

Linda Byrd – Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

Overview of Rules & Procedure

County Manager Lance L. Metzler gave the overview of the rules and procedures for the meeting.

Public Hearing – Proposed Sewer Rates for Springdale Heights Community

Chairman Morris recessed the regular session and called to order a public hearing on the proposed sewer rates for the Springdale Heights Community.

County Manager Lance Metzler proposed the following rates:

**Montgomery County Sewer System
Proposed Sewer Rates 8-8-08**

Springdale Heights Customer Base

29 Low to Moderate Income Homes (To Be Hooked Up by the Project)
17 Non-LMI (Hook up to be at the discretion of the Owner and/or Montgomery County)
46 Potential Customers

40 Estimated Actual Hook-ups (6 vacant homes)
200 gpd Estimated Usage per customer

\$5.00 / 1000 gallons is the wholesale rate per agreement with Troy

Estimated O&M Costs

\$5,500 Estimated Annual O&M Costs

\$458 Estimated Monthly O&M Costs

\$1,224 Estimated Monthly Wholesale Cost to Troy at \$4.57/gallon and 200 gpd @ 40 customers

\$1,682 Estimated Monthly Expenses

Proposed Monthly Bills

Minimum Bill \$11.50 (Based upon your monthly O&M divided by 40 customers)
Per 1000 gallons \$5.10 (Ten cents higher than rate from Troy)

1000 gal bill \$16.60
3000 gal bill \$26.80
5000 gal bill \$37.00

There will be an estimated 40 new customers.

Chairman Morris opened the floor for public comment.

Former Commissioner George Knight of 2773 NC Hwy 109 S in Mt. Gilead spoke. He said he feels that Troy is unfairly charging too much for their sewer rates. He said the former Board of Commissioners worked with them on their water rates and they should help the County out now. He also extended his appreciation to County Manager Lance Metzler for all of his help with this project. Mr. Knight said he remembers 50-60 years ago, residents in South Troy were trying to get sewer and now they will have it.

Chairman Morris thanked Mr. Knight for all of his hard work on this project.

Chairman Morris closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular session.

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Copeland, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the sewer rates for the Springdale Heights Community as presented above.

Public Forum

The following spoke during the public forum:

Mr. Harvey Mack of 980 Windblow Road was present. He was present to discuss Fibrowatt. He said he thought this was all behind us and it was dead and gone. But it isn't. He said it is a travesty. Mr. Mack said what comes out of those smoke stacks is pure arson. He said if we burn chicken manure we are going to pollute the soil. He said that is why Sampson and Duplin Counties did not want it to come there. If they are not asked, they don't tell. He said let's take another look. It will not create new jobs, it will probably cost jobs. He said send them back to Virginia without a project.

Consent Agenda

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Morris and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following consent agenda:

- Approval of Sheriff's Office Records Retention and Disposition Plan.
- BA 24/09–Social Services/Energy Assistance/CIP– No additional county money required - \$38,321

County Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Lisa Rolan presented the following:

Red Flag Policy and Identity Theft Prevention Program

In a motion made by Commissioner Copeland, seconded by Commissioner Matheny, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the Red Flag Policy and Identify Theft Prevention Program & Resolution.

Monthly Financial Statement

Mrs. Rolan presented the Monthly Financial Report to the Board.

Water Meter Financing Approval Update

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Morris, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the water meter financing.

Voluntary Ag Districts/BRAC

Dr. Benny Hampton and Ms. Jamie Warner were present. They invited the Board to the Cattleman's Dinner on Tuesday, February 24th. They said they would appreciate the Board attending.

Chairman Morris told Dr. Hampton and Ms. Warner that the Board would be in Raleigh that night and would be unable to attend.

They explained that a lot of towns and counties are going to Voluntary Ag Districts. This would be in the form of an ordinance for the Board of Commissioners to approve.

They also announced a meeting that would take place in April.

Presentation from RC&D

Mr. Terry Myers, NRCS Liaison/RC&D Coordinator provided the Board with information on Resources Conservation and Development (RC&D).

Mr. Harvey Mack said RC&D has helped Montgomery County. He said Mr. Myers is not allowed to ask for money, but I can, he said please support RC&D.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Lance L. Metzler presented the following report:

NACo Prescription Drug Program Update

- Commissioner Matheny brought the NACo Prescription Drug Program at our last meeting and asked that we look in to providing this for our citizens.
- You all asked that I have our attorney review the program and provide comment.
- Russ has reviewed the Program and has a few concerns. He is working with NACo to get these questions resolved and should have something back to you all at the March meeting.

Indian Heritage Trail

- The Piedmont Triad Council of Government developed an Indian Heritage Trail Byway for the Department of Transportation to consider and they accepted the proposal.
- It is a byway that promotes the Indian Heritage we have within our COG.
- It will end at the mural in Mt. Gilead and include Town Creek Indian Mound.
- The COG is requesting that the Commissioners support them by approving the enclosed resolution.

In a motion made by Commissioner Edgar Morris, seconded by Commissioner Copeland, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the resolution in support of the byway for the Indian Heritage Trail.

Jail Project Update

- The jail is still on target without any delays. We are actually a little ahead of schedule.
- We are starting to get request to provide tours of the jail.
- If you are interested in having a tour then please let me know.

Board of Equalization

- The Board of Equalization will be holding reviews on April 21st and May 19th at 5:00 p.m.
- The County Commissioners are the Board of Equalization and the dates are an hour before your regularly scheduled meeting time.
- Their role is to hear any taxpayer who owns or controls property taxable in the County.
- The hearing is usually an appeal to the listing or appraisal that the tax department conducted and the taxpayer is not satisfied with the results.
- If a taxpayer is not satisfied with the Board of Equalization's decision then they have the right to appeal to the State Property Tax Commission.

Essentials of County Government

- Commissioner Corbett attended the Essentials of County Government given by the School of Government in Winston Salem this past week and the rest of us will be attending the classes in Raleigh on the 24th thru 26th.
- I can assure you there is a lot to learn and you will have opportunities to meet those instructors who know North Carolina law and governmental procedures and you will also meet representatives from other localities.

Department Head Retreat

- The department head retreat went very well and they formulated strategies to meet the goals that were set by you all.
- Chris, Laura and I will work together to formulate a day to meet with you all and the department heads to approve the goals, strategies and objectives so we can get the ball rolling on achieving the goals that you all set.

Drafting Local Bills

- You have a letter from Melanie Wade Goodwin informing us that the deadline for local bills to be drafted is March 18th and will be introduced to the House in April.
- Are there any local bills that you all are interested in?
- I have one requesting that we localities be allowed to collect back utilities prior to the transfer of property in the Register of Deeds office. We can currently go after back taxes but not utilities.
- The only way we can go after back utilities is through the debt set off program for income taxes and no other way.

Senior Program Presentation

- The Council on Aging is inviting all of you on March 17 to attend an Aging Awareness Supper from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in Troy to update all of you on the activities for the senior citizens before your next meeting.

Items Carried Forward

Correll Road

In a motion made by Commissioner Matheny, seconded by Commissioner Corbett, and so the motion carried unanimously to eliminate all late fees and penalties and waivers for customers on Correll Road from the water user agreement by waving the \$14 charge until adequate pressure is provided, this is contingent upon this action not effecting the County grant/loan agreement.

DSS Positions

In a motion made by Commissioner Edgar Morris, seconded by Commissioner Matheny, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the three new positions for Social Services (*Food & Energy Assistance - Caseworker II; Medicaid Caseworker II; Admin. Support Accounting Clerk*)

Boards and Committees

In a motion made by Commissioner Matheny, seconded by Commissioner Corbett, and so the motion carried unanimously to appointment the following: PTCOG – Chairman Jackie Morris; Information Technology – Commissioner Matheny; Sandhills Mental Health – Commissioner Copeland; RCATS – Commissioner Copeland; BRAC Executive Committee – Commissioner Edgar Morris.

Board Policy

In a motion made by Commissioner Copeland, seconded by Commissioner Corbett, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following amendment to the Board Policy:

1. Appointments to Boards and Committees shall not exceed a four- (4) year term with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms with a two- (2) year waiting period prior to reappointment to the same Board; with the exception of Boards and Committees that have established by-laws.

SRF Resolution

In a motion made by Commissioner Copeland, seconded by Commissioner Edgar Morris, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the SRF Resolution as presented in the work session.

Adjournment

There being no further business Chairperson Morris adjourned the meeting.

Jackie Morris, Chairman

Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board