

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the board room, Suite 209 of the Anson County Government Center.

Commissioners present: Anna Baucom, Chair
Ross Streater, Vice Chair
Bobby Sikes
Dr. Jim Sims
• Harold Smith
Vancine Sturdivant
Jarvis Woodburn

Staff members present: Megan Garner, County Manager
Bonnie M. Huntley, NCCCC Clerk to the Board
Rita James, Data Processing
Larry Newton, Assessor/Interim Planner
Rodney Diggs, Emergency Management/Fire Marshal
Ben Kane, Environmental Health
Evonne Burr, Health Department
Dr. Fred Thompson, Health Director

Others: Scott Forbes, County Attorney
Janine Rywak, Extension Director

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, welcoming those in attendance. Reverend Terry A. Little, West Deep Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Wadesboro, North Carolina delivered the **Invocation**.

Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners: Chairman Baucom asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions. Vice Chair Streater shared that he attended the Toys for Tots banquet and accepted an award on behalf of the board. Commissioner Sturdivant announced that this year they were able to supply toys for 3,632 children and offered thanks to board members for what they did. Commissioner Sturdivant then gave an award to Dr. Thompson and Evonne Burr at the health department thanking them for their part. Commissioner Sturdivant also offered thanks to County Attorney Forbes for the part he played. Commissioner Sims felt Commissioner Sturdivant should be the one to receive a trophy for all the work she did. Commissioner Woodburn asked if the board would hold a closed session for personnel with Chairman Baucom answering yes. Commissioner Woodburn stated that he had an item for the closed session. Motion to approve the agenda with the additions was

made by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Commissioner Sims. Motion carried unanimously.

Appearances:

Mr. Hyman – Faith Based Center of Hope: Commissioner Sturdivant shared that he was stuck in traffic and asked if we could come back to this later.

Jeff Boothby – TDA Branding Project: Mr. Boothby thanked board members for allowing them to speak. Mr. Boothby introduced Buzz Bizzell of Bizzell Design, Inc. explaining that about nine months ago they talked about the way finding and Branding project. Mr. Boothby thanked Chairman Baucom and Commissioner Woodburn for being a part of that board. Mr. Boothby shared that last night the Wadesboro Town Council approved the overall branding idea and design and the funding aspect is waiting on budget discussions. Mr. Boothby felt board members would be pleased with the cost, adding that it came in one-third of the cost for the overall county project. Mr. Boothby noted that they were focusing on phase one which is the signage and branding and phase two would include a visitor's center and other things. Mr. Bizzell stated that his company works with small towns all over the U.S. and what people see and what causes their phone to ring is the way finding signs that you see on the side of the road. Mr. Bizzell noted this was only a small part of the total program. Mr. Bizzell noted that their goal was to try to develop and pinpoint what gets visitors to stop in our community and spend money. At this point, Mr. Bizzell presented a power point presentation explaining the project. Prior to the meeting, board members were given a booklet containing the power point presentation. Mr. Bizzell felt one of the main attributes of the county that is marketable and attainable right now is the association with the Pee Dee Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Bizzell noted another was planned events, noting there was quiet a calendar full of planned events. Mr. Bizzell felt that roadside stands was one of the biggest visitor attractions. Mr. Bizzell noted a trend now was rustic weddings and venues to include farm houses, old mills and old barns, adding that this was a part of agri-tourism. Mr. Bizzell stated that in the summertime a majority of our traffic is going through Anson County to the beach and not coming to Anson County. Mr. Bizzell stated that the goal of their workshops was to develop ideas that would make someone want to stop here so they created Road Trip 74. Mr. Bizzell felt the most important page in the document was the steps to create the program and make it work. Mr. Bizzell noted that step one was adopting the brand as ours, adding that it did not require any money because TDA funded the bill. Mr. Bizzell noted that adopting the brand will allow them to move forward with the program. Mr. Bizzell stated that step number two was the design and development of the way finding program that is basically done with the exception of NCDOT. Mr. Bizzell noted that step three requires a little work but the ideas and concepts are the power house of the entire program. Mr. Bizzell felt Anson County's strongest tourist draw right now was the events and that by branding the county along with the events creates a stronger brand as we go through the years. Mr. Bizzell pointed out that step three could not be done unless number one was approved and number two could not be done if number one was not approved.

*Commissioner Smith joined the meeting at this point.

Mr. Bizzell mentioned that the Pee Dee Wildlife Refuge was an 80,000 acre area that the county could connect to. Mr. Bizzell felt it was a huge natural resource that no one knows about. Mr. Bizzell stated that once we have the countywide way finding program, which covers up and down highway 74, there was also an opportunity for each town to have its own banners and its own parking signage. Mr. Bizzell stated that 12 signs, going from one end of 74 to the other would cost \$46,560.00. Mr. Bizzell added that each participating town so far has a budget that would take that signage program closer to their downtown area or a destination and for an entire program the total budget was \$96,560.00. Mr. Bizzell added that once that was in place the visitor driving through Anson County would have a great idea of what is here. Mr. Bizzell shared some unique architecture pictures for phase 2. One of the ideas on how to make a first impression was an outdoor visitor's center on highway 74 to include restrooms and eventually a farmers market and event center. Vice Chair Streater mentioned the visitor's center and asked who would do this with Mr. Boothby feeling a public private partnership would be more realistic. Vice Chair Streater asked the cost to Anson County for phase one with Mr. Bizzell answering that all of phase one was \$96,560 and the county's portion was \$46,560. Vice Chair Streater then asked how that would be paid with Mr. Bizzell answering that usually payments are split between fiscal years. Vice Chair Streater agreed that while this was a good idea it would have to be considered at budget time. Motion by Commissioner Sims to approve the branding portion. Commissioner Sikes asked for clarification with Chairman Baucom saying the vote was to approve the Anson County road trip 74 concept. Mr. Boothby added that it was accepting the design information without funding included which would be part of the budget discussion later in the year. Vice Chair Streater offered a second to the motion. Commissioner Sims mentioned that highway 218 has become a major route for beach goers and felt they might want to consider a little signage there with Mr. Evans saying they were already looking at that and highway 52. Mr. Boothby stated that eventually all the highway corridors will have these billboards. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Boothby asked board members to keep them posted of any questions or items they need and they will make sure to return the information to keep the project moving forward. Vice Chair Streater asked Mr. Boothby if the TDA would be putting money in the project with Mr. Boothby answering that they have invested a little over \$18,000 and they will continue to do what they can.

Mr. Hyman – Faith Based Center of Hope: Mr. Hyman shared a brochure about his company. Mr. Hyman explained that they started working in Anson County in 2015 and had the pleasure of working with Keith Gaskins and Rodney Diggs. Mr. Hyman stated that they were general contractors out of Wake County and they met Commissioner Sturdivant while they were building a church in Lilesville. Mr. Hyman noted that while the Faith Based Community Center is still in its infancy stage, it is important to know the heart felt passion they have to see this project come to fruition. Mr. Hyman shared that they have worked across the state on DOT projects,

municipalities and for the UNC system but he assured everyone that the Lilesville project would receive the same quality work they give to every project no matter the location. Mr. Hyman added that they trade locally so money will stay here. Mr. Hyman asked the boards support and blessing for this project. Commissioner Sturdivant stated that Steve and Lynn Whitlock donated a building and they invited Mr. Hyman to look at the building and found it can be preserved. Commissioner Sturdivant added that someone will be checking for asbestos and to determine the age of the building, adding that depending on when it was built they may be eligible for historical money. Commissioner Sturdivant added that in the late 80's she started working with youth in her home teaching them how to read and it has grown so that she is now using churches. Commissioner Sturdivant stated that she plans to make a Lilesville Community Center. Commissioner Sturdivant added that just because the name is Lilesville it is for Anson County and they will do afternoon tutoring programs, continuing education and GED programs and they plan to feed the homeless. Commissioner Sturdivant stated that Toys for Tots and her afternoon program will also operate from this building. Mr. Hyman commented that if it once was it can certainly come again. Chairman Baucom was hopeful that the way finding program could help direct people to the small towns. Chairman Baucom voiced appreciation to Mr. Hyman for his work in the community.

Stuart Hill – Audit Presentation/Amended Contract: Alan Thompson stated that before the board should be two documents; one is an audit report and the other is a presentation summary. Mr. Thompson referred to the presentation summary asking board members to turn to page 4. Mr. Thompson stated that they issued a report that the financial statements are materially correct and they issued an unmodified report, which is a quote unquote clean report. Mr. Thompson noted the purpose of page 4 was to pull out some key numbers inside the audit report and lay them in the first column to the left and then they lay out the four previous years' audited numbers beside it in order to get a feel for what the context is of the current numbers and a feel for if there is a trend that is positive or negative and not just a number that is good, bad or indifferent. Mr. Alan reported total fund balance in the general fund is \$13,370,053 and if we were to go back to 2011 it would be \$10,794,836 so we have a very positive trend in our fund balance. Mr. Thompson stated that our unavailable fund balance was \$2,059,042, restricted at \$4,591,168, general fund expenditures at \$25,680,160 and fund balance available as a percentage of general fund expenditures at 44.05% and unassigned fund balance at 6.7% and the unassigned fund balance as a percentage of the general fund expenditures at 26.7%. Mr. Thompson noted that he met earlier with the County Manager and finance staff and they talked about what shape the county is in and his comment back was that the county was in excellent financial shape for a county of our size. Mr. Thompson stated that the other thing that was real exciting is the low amount of debt for Anson County. Mr. Thompson stated that they do eleven counties in the state and it is amazing how little debt we have and the positive cash flow we are generating. Mr. Thompson felt everyone involved should be congratulated on running a county that smooth with as

little debt as we have. Mr. Thompson mentioned revenues over and under expenses before transfers from the general fund \$1,161 positive and the water fund and waste water fund at \$286,086 and a negative of \$221,827 respectively. Mr. Thompson stated that the net position between those two enterprise funds declined but the cash position increased because between the two funds there is about 1.7 million dollars in depreciation/amortization which are non-cash expenditures so that both funds end up with a positive cash flow, which is what you are looking for in your proprietary funds and that is excellent. Mr. Thompson stated that the property tax rates have stayed the same over the entire five year period. Mr. Thompson referred to the collection percentages at 94.4 and the collection percentage excluding motor vehicles is 93.91. Mr. Thompson stated the reason they show them different is because for a long time before DMV took over collecting vehicles, normally the vehicle tax collection was a drag on the overall collection percentage and now it has flipped flopped where DMV collections are actually positive towards our collection percentage. Commissioner Sims asked how our tax collection looked compared to other counties with Mr. Thompson saying he would answer that in a minute. Mr. Thompson stated that our total fund balance was definitely a positive trend. Mr. Thompson shared that General Statutes says that we must have 8.33% and we are significantly above the statewide average. Chairman Baucom questioned page 6 and the chart with the blue line asking what was going on with that with Mr. Thompson answering it was simply saying our general fund was over one million dollars in the positive for the current year. Ms. James added that that was the year that we did the courthouse renovation and we spent cash for that. Mr. Thompson referred to the property tax rates compared with the group weighted average saying the group weight average in this case was very close to the statewide average. Mr. Thompson added that he doesn't have the current year's group weighted or statewide averages yet but in 2014 it was 92.41% vs. 97.97 and the current collection is 94.44%. Mr. Thompson shared that most counties are seeing an uptick for June 30, 2015 because that is the first full year DMV took over vehicles. Mr. Thompson referred to page 4 showing our total levy amount of \$13,638,608 and page 10 shows that the ad valorem taxes are 52.88% of our total revenue so when our collection percentage each point is around \$136,000 so very point we can get closer to the statewide average would increase our general fund fund balance that year. Mr. Thompson noted the chart on page 10 shows our dependent the general fund is for ad valorem taxes and what a great percentage the ad valorem taxes are of the total revenue of the county. Commissioner Sims stated that he was asking our percentage of collection for 2015 and how that compares with other counties similar to us in terms of percentage of collection. Mr. Thompson noted that the figure on the bottom of page 8 was not a statewide average in red as it was a group weighted average which are counties of similar size in the state of North Carolina. Mr. Thompson stated that when you look at that red line and it says 97.97% that is counties of similar size in the state. Commissioner Sims commented that it was higher than us with Mr. Thompson saying yes by about 3%. Mr. Thompson added that most of their counties that are rural are in the 96 range but DMV did kick them up by a half to three-quarters of a percentage point for last year. Ms. James stated that last year our collection rate was 92.41%. Mr.

Thompson stated that the finance staff did a good job getting them the needed information and feels our overall recording keeping was in good shape. Mr. Thompson again felt financially the county was in good shape but we need work in terms of tax collection percentage. Commissioner Sims felt Rita and Tiffany needed a thank you for such good work. Commissioner Smith added and also the people in tax collections.

Public Addresses to the Board: Chairman Baucom noted that she would hold everyone to a two or three minute time limit.

Priscilla Nunn: Ms. Nunn noted she was excited about the branding, adding that her building on East Wade Street was actually the first theater in Anson County and was called the Lyric Theater. Ms. Nunn asked if there was any grant money available to help remodel her building she would gladly take it. Ms. Nunn mentioned the new requirements for those individuals that accept EBT or receive aid for food. Ms. Nunn shared that the new changes are that they have to either work for 20 hours, go through an education program for 20 hours or volunteer work. Ms. Nunn stated that she just found out that the SPCC bus that has the computers on it would be a good resource for individuals to take some of the education because right now what they are planning on doing with the bus is to take it to one of the prison areas and make it available for staff to use because they do not have computers at one of the prison areas. Ms. Nunn asked if the county could get the bus back in action and let it go to the communities so individuals could use it to learn computer skills. Ms. Nunn asked board members to speak with the Community College about using it for what it was purchased for. Vice Chair Streater noted that Commissioner Woodburn was a member of the College Board of Trustees and he might could answer the question. Commissioner Woodburn stated that he made a note of that. Ms. Nunn shared that she talked with Toby McLaurin and he told her what they were using it for.

Denise Lee thanked board members for letting her speak. Ms. Lee stated that it has come to their attention that Anson County is being targeted for coal ash. Ms. Lee stated that the landfill in Polkton was wanting to take the coal ash and it was a very toxic waste that can also be radioactive. Ms. Lee shared that they want to bring it in by rail which also causes a problem and is a threat to the dispersion in the air. Ms. Lee noted one reason Duke Energy wants to get this off their site is because it then dilutes their liability and who ends up in the future taking the liability for this ash will be Anson County citizens. Ms. Lee stated that when this landfill closes the contamination stays there. Ms. Lee voiced a concern for the leachate and shared that it was so toxic that our waste water treatment plant was not prepared to handle this type leachate. Ms. Lee stated that in talking with Chairman Baucom she learned the landfill was planning to put the leachate in holding ponds on site. Ms. Lee shared that the EPA has admitted that even with a lined holding pond it will eventually leak. Ms. Lee noted another issue is areas where the ash has been disposed the citizens have complained of odors like Sulphur and that is another issue. Ms. Lee stated that we would be looking at water contamination, property values, air pollution and felt it was too dangerous to let happen

here. Ms. Lee shared that a professor of biology at Wake Forest expressed concerns about the treatment plant handling the waste stream as well as the fact that while the liners might be a stopping point for the leachate it will not contain it over time. Ms. Lee shared several handouts of information with board members. Ms. Lee added that the particles were so fine they could be inhaled and because of their toxicity they could affect the body. Ms. Lee asked if anyone had ever talked about air monitoring around the landfill. Ms. Lee was of the opinion that Duke should be made to keep this on site adding that there is technology where they could solidify the ash and keep in on site but instead they want to target poor rural communities. Vice Chair Streater stated that the state was calling all the shots on the coal ash with Ms. Lee feeling there were things the county could do. Ms. Lee added that the county was supposed to protect the citizens and not Duke. Commissioner Smith asked if the landfill was already receiving this with Ms. Lee answering not yet but they want to. Vice Chair Streater shared that the state says it is not hazardous with Ms. Lee saying the state was using a TCLP test and the EPA has said the test does not go far enough to determine just how toxic it is. Commissioner Smith felt Ms. Lee was right about this and it may already be accepted by the landfill.

Carey Rogers mentioned that the ponds will bleed out in the rain and eventually will lead to the river. Commissioner Sims shared that the creek below the landfill was the largest and the main creek in Anson County and goes into the Pee Dee right above where we take water out. Mr. Rogers voiced a big concern for our drinking water. Mr. Rogers explained that leachate was the toxic soup that usually goes to our waste water treatment facility to be treated and returned to the river. Mr. Rogers felt it was worse being in ponds because it was not getting treated at all. Mr. Rogers felt we could tell Waste Connections we would not accept their leachate. Mr. Rogers shared a copy of a Resolution from Person County saying they would help the board put together a Resolution declaring a moratorium on the coal ash. Mr. Rogers asked board members to approve a Resolution focusing on the water treatment plant saying we don't want the leachate. Mr. Rogers shared that he was originally from Flint Michigan and noted the issues they were having with their water saying we don't want to have the same issues. Mr. Rogers stated that water is life and we can't afford to mess with it and as a commissioner board they are responsible for making sure they keep the people safe. Mr. Rogers asked board members to think about if Waste Connections gives more tax money that the people. Commissioner Sikes voiced that he has been again the coal ash ever since it has been talked about and wants the board to look at every avenue they can to see if there is anything we can do about it.

Truett Wright felt his problem was the same as everyone in the county was having. Mr. Wright was of the opinion that Sheriff Reid did not have enough deputies to patrol and protect the citizens of Anson County. Mr. Wright stated that every time he comes to Wadesboro he is passed by a truck driver on a double yellow line driving 70 miles per hour. Mr. Wright stated that Sheriff Reid said he could not hire enough deputies because of the low pay. Mr. Wright stated that last week he was coming to

Wadesboro and two trucks from Kannapolis passed him in a safe zone but they were traveling 70 mph and he was driving 55. Mr. Wright would like to see this problem under control before a truck drivers kills a bus load of children or innocent people. Mr. Wright would like for Anson County to be known for something other than meth labs and driving as fast as you want through Anson County.

Chris Sanford thanked board members for the opportunity to speak. Mr. Sanford noted the objective tonight was to bring a greater awareness to the board about the current issues surrounding the daily operation of the animal shelter. Mr. Sanford felt a public private partnership would improve the existing operation. Mr. Sanford stated that the operation of any public institution, including the shelter, must be taken seriously by those individuals who have been placed in a position of leadership and trust. Mr. Sanford noted their issues as follows: oversight and direction, accurate and up-to-date shelter information, efficient utilization of current staffing levels, antiquated animal intake system, rescue/adoption procedures and documentation, scheduled facility maintenance, state inspections, implementation of shelter best practices, updated policies and procedures and excessive kill ratios. Mr. Sanford shared that he has close to 100 hours of volunteering at the shelter since Christmas Day and right now it is not a shelter they are proud of. Mr. Sanford feels we can make a positive change and turn this around in 2016 with the leadership and guidance of the board.

Robin Sanford stated that she has been volunteering at the shelter and she was hoping it was going to be different from what she saw. Ms. Sanford stated that she has looked through the budget and feels there are ways we can find money and turn the shelter around. Ms. Sanford stated that she has had an opportunity to talk with people from New York to Florida now that we are on the map but she feels we need to get policies and procedures in place to rescue the dogs out. Ms. Sanford stated that people are willing to help us and even those from the shelter in Chesterfield County, South Carolina are willing to come help us. Ms. Sanford feels we need to take everything people are sharing with us and put it in motion. Chairman Baucom voiced a thank you to all the volunteers and those dedicated to the animal shelter. Vice Chair Streater asked Ms. Sanford what she felt it would take to put this in motion with Ms. Sanford answering communication with whoever is in charge and get action going. Ms. Sanford stated that she would like to see more information on the shelter website. Ms. Sanford shared that there are some incredible stories of dogs being rescued and it is up to us to get them on our social media site to share with everyone. Mr. Sanford noted that in the log book at the shelter, from June 1 to December 31st they had seven volunteers that came to the shelter. Mr. Sanford felt that was partly due to the current leadership. Mr. Sanford stated that people were being turned away and phone calls were not being returned and a host of other issues going on. Mr. Sanford felt they needed a volunteer coordinator to help get the volunteers back on track and Mr. Kane has a meeting scheduled for Thursday night to start the process. Mr. Sanford stated that there were a lot of people willing to come in and help and they also have

community service workers that could lend a hand. Vice Chair Streater asked whose hands should this be put in with Chairman Baucom thinking the boards.

Commissioner Woodburn felt that overall the animal shelter was a very worthwhile and needed project for the county but feels we fell short of looking at the overall needs and what it was going to take to make it work effectively. Commissioner Woodburn feels at this point we need to get a group together and determine what it would take to run an animal shelter effectively, take the policies and procedures from other places and adopt something for Anson County. Commissioner Woodburn stated that it may be personnel, or policies or actions taken in certain cases. Commissioner Woodburn stated that the community got behind it and we went with it but now he thinks we should have taken a little more time and slowed it down to take a closer look to see what it was really going to take to make it work like it should work. Chairman Baucom stated that we threw people in there to do the job without adequately defining and describing the job. Vice Chair Streater asked if we could assign this to Evonne and the County Manager to look into it and bring something back to the board. Commissioner Woodburn felt it needed to happen expeditiously. Chairman Baucom voiced that she would like to be involved. Chairman Baucom then asked Evonne and the County Manager if they were willing to do this with both saying yes. Mr. Kane spoke saying they have been working on this problem. Mr. Kane stated that when he was first handed this he started pushing things the way he wanted them done, adding that they are not there yet but they do have a new program coming to better assist intake and outtake. Chairman Baucom voiced that they don't have a computer at the front desk with Mr. Kane saying one has been ordered and should be delivered soon. Mr. Kane stated that they will be putting together policies and procedures and they are working towards making the necessary changes that need to be made. Chairman Baucom commented that we got the building and the community responded very positively and we just stood back and that was not fair to those charged with managing it or to the 93% of the animals that have been euthanized. Vice Chair Streater asked if Mr. or Mrs. Sanford or both would serve on the committee with both answering they would gladly serve. Motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, that we assign a special committee consisting of Chairman Baucom, Evonne Burr, Robin Sanford or Chris Sanford or both and our County Manager. Vice Chair Streater asked for a report at the March meeting and then monthly. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Matters:

Conditional Use Permit: Commissioner Sims voiced that it was his understanding that the zoning was ok with the neighbors and that the participant that will have the vehicles, the wrecker and the building will provide adequate screening which is required by the planning board and if he does that, which he understands he has agreed to do, then he see no reason not to approve it. County Attorney Forbes noted that we have to have questions and answers on this first. Chairman Baucom shared that we have this ethics thing and it says that if there is any kind of benefit or

relationship or appearance of such you need to disclose it. Chairman Baucom wanted to make it known that this young man was a second cousin to one of her favorite sons-in-law. Chairman Baucom stated that it would not make a difference but she wanted to make it known. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to open the Public Hearing in reference to the Conditional Use Permit for ATR Wrecker Service. Motion carried unanimously. In the Public Hearing, it was discovered that the required advertisement had not been done therefore Commissioner Smith withdrew his motion with Commissioner Woodburn withdrawing his second. After discussion, it was agreed that the proper notice would be given starting with the March 10th Anson Record and the Public Hearing would be held at a recessed meeting on Monday, February 22 beginning at 5:30 PM.

Requested Fee Changes for the Planning Department: Mr. Newton stated that the planning board approved the new fees. Mr. Newton stated that they discussed raising the cell tower/telecommunication fee but he had not looked into it far enough to see if it needs an increase. Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Wireless Communication	currently \$200.00 – increase to \$400.00
Variance Application	currently \$200.00 – increase to \$400.00
Special/Conditional Use Permit	currently \$200.00 – increase to \$400.00
Rezoning Application	currently \$200.00 – increase to \$400.00
Manufacturing Home Permit	currently \$200.00 – increase to \$400.00
Cell Tower	currently \$2,500.00 – no change

2018 Reappraisal RFP's: Mr. Newton stated that they sent out RFP's for our 2018 reappraisal to the same three companies that they sent to in 2007 with the exception of CLT/Tyler since they were usually substantially higher than the other providers. Mr. Newton stated that he researched other companies approved by the Department of Revenue either by phone conversation, email or through websites and they do things other than reappraisals for counties. Mr. Newton felt the companies submitted were the three best qualified providers of this service, and those were Pearson's Appraisal Services, Wampler & Eanes Appraisal Group and Assessment Solutions. Mr. Newton noted that Pearson did the last reappraisal and he felt they did a good job. Mr. Newton felt Wampler and Eanes has as much depth as Pearson and called attention to the restrictions included in their quote saying they did come back and waive the restrictions. Mr. Newton stated that in their proposal they asked for representation after the reappraisal on the local level and to the Property Tax Commission at no additional charge. Mr. Newton felt Assessment Solutions was a good company but they don't have the depth the other two have. Mr. Newton stated that they are not doing a full list and measure but a walk around which means they will visit all the properties and anything that does not match the property tax card will be remeasured and if it visually looks like it matches the tax card they will move on to the next property. Mr. Newton pointed out that Pearson's Appraisal Services gave us

options to cut cost. Mr. Newton noted that they were going to a paperless reappraisal, adding that they will be using onboard GIS on laptops and digital instruments in the field to be live online. Mr. Newton stated that they will get a digital copy of all they do and will retain all the work done in the field. Mr. Newton recommended Pearson's Appraisal Services at a cost of \$14.90 a parcel for about 21,000 parcels and a total cost of \$312,900.00. Mr. Newton noted the last reappraisal started in April 2008 and ended in March of 2010. Mr. Newton stated that notices were sent out after January 1 and he would like to do that again this time. Mr. Newton shared that in 1994 the reappraisal brought the tax rate down 18 cents, in 2002 it brought it down 10 cents and in 2010 it brought it down 13 cents. Mr. Newton shared that the state monitors our sales and we do a report for them four times a year. Mr. Newton stated that they analyze our sales and give us a sales ratio figure by April 15th every year. Mr. Newton stated that last year it was 111 and for 2015 it was 106 or 107. Mr. Newton explained that based on the state's report if we are assessing at 106 we are above the market. Mr. Newton stated that they also give us a COD report which gives us a level of how consistent our reappraisal is. Mr. Newton noted that our COD is good which means that our reappraisal is pretty consistent. Mr. Newton stated that for the next two years they will be picking up arm length sales to set the values for the neighborhoods in the county based on sales in the area. Mr. Newton added that in January 2018 they will determine what each neighborhood is worth. Mr. Newton stated that years ago it was impossible to say that we would have a tax increase in a reval year but he doesn't expect that this time. Mr. Newton thinks we will be relatively flat in 2018. Mr. Newton feels markets have not recovered and are not where they were at one time. Again Mr. Newton predicted it to be flat in 2018, adding that he doesn't look for an increase but he doesn't think we will lower the tax rate either. Motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, to follow Larry's recommendation and chose Pearson's Appraisal Service and that we use their CAPS program. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Baucom asked when they would start with Mr. Newton answering probably April.

BID PROPOSALS PER RFP

(1) Pearson's Appraisal Services

Walk Around Per Parcel \$16.70 @21,000 parcels = \$350,700.00
Photos Furnished at no additional charge.

(See Additional Options)

CAPS (COMPLETE APPRAISAL PROCESS SOLUTIONS) Per Parcel \$14.90 @21,000 parcels = \$312,900.00
CAPS (No Bond) \$14.60 @21,000 parcels = \$306,600.00
CAPS (No Bond & County Picks Up New Construction Per Parcel \$14.30 @21,000 parcels = \$300,300.00
& Discoveries and Provides Clerical/Data Entry.

(2) Wampler & Eanes Appraisal Group

Walk Around Per Parcel \$16.50 @21,000 parcels = \$346,500.00

(WAVED / ADDENDUM) Note: (1) Informal Hearings – Contractor will provide sufficient number of qualified appraisers up to 15 days.

(2) Appeal to Property Tax Commission – No charge for one year, then 75 dollars (\$75.00) per hour, plus travel.

(3) Assessment Solutions

Walk Around Per Parcel \$16.75 @21,000 parcels = \$351,750.00

Note: **"Their Bumper to Bumper Program"** The bidder will provide qualified representatives to assist the County before the Board of Equalization and Review, Property Tax Commission and/or the Court of Appeals relative to the reappraisal project at no additional cost to the County for the effective span of the Schedule of Values (up to eight years) after the revaluation project is completed.

General Notes: (1) Walk around would require improvements to be measured if the improvements do not match tax card sketch.

(2) Photo were not requested in the RFP but they usually run \$1.50 to \$2.00 per improved (14,643) parcels. Vacant parcels and tracts of land are not provided with photos.

(3) **Parcel count** will be greater than 20,466 as listed in our RFP, that is a current parcel count and not January 01, 2018. (Parcel count came from CLT/Tyler) Estimate for 1/01/2018 is approximate 21,000 parcels. Parcels counts do not increase in straight transfers but only when parcel are divided. We actually have parcels being combined into one from time to time for tax purposes.

The Connect NC Bond and Resolution: Chairman Baucom shared that the Board has prepared a Resolution in support of the bond issue. Chairman Baucom noted that it will be on the March 15th ballot and encouraged everybody to think this through and understand what it can mean to Anson County and vote in favor of it. Janine Rywak presented the following information about the bond issue. Ms. Rywak stated that this was the first state bond that has been put on a ballot since 2000 and they have entitled it Connect NC. Ms. Rywak shared that it would be on the March 15th primary ballot and felt that was a bit unusual instead of being in the general election in the fall. Ms. Rywak shared that it was a \$2 billion bond package and if it passes the funds will be invested in higher education through the UNC system and the Community College Systems, and it will impact agriculture and infrastructure projects throughout the state. Ms. Rywak shared that the funds are targeted to come to 73 counties across the state. Ms. Rywak shared handouts with those present and they included a listing of everybody that has been allocated funds. Ms. Rywak stated that they have been told that the bond will not require a tax increase because the state has paid down and paid off a lot of existing debt so if this bond is passed, the debt service would replace old debt so no new funds in the state budget would be needed. Ms. Rywak noted the benefit to agriculture is through the Plant Science Research Complex at North Carolina

State and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Ag and Consumer Sciences Lab. Ms. Rywak noted those two projects would be \$179 million. Ms. Rywak added that it was to increase our economic growth in the state's agriculture industry as well as secure our food safety. Ms. Rywak stated that agriculture was already an 80 billion dollar industry in the state and in 2014, \$240 million of that came to Anson County. Ms. Rywak stated that if the bond passes the idea is to be able to push agricultural to a \$100 billion a year industry in the state. Ms. Rywak mentioned that the NCDA lab will be for veterinary, food, drug and motor fuel testing. Ms. Rywak added that their current facility was built in the 1950's and with population growth you can understand that they are severely undersized and needs upgrading to keep up with the 21st century. Ms. Rywak shared that the long range goals of the projects for agriculture are to make North Carolina the silicon valley of plant sciences. Ms. Rywak stated that it was estimated that over the next 25 years, 84% of all jobs in the U.S. that are agriculture related will be in the plant sciences field. Ms. Rywak pointed out that no funds from this bond, if it passes, will come back to the Anson County Agri-Civic Center. Ms. Rywak noted there was no direct monetary benefit for construction for the Agri-Civic Center. Ms. Rywak stated that the benefit to us and the Ag center would be indirectly from the innovation to resource we would get from the plant sciences complex as well as any cost savings the county could realize through other opportunities through the bond. Michelle Brock, South Piedmont Community College, stated that if the bond passes, North Carolina Community Colleges would receive \$350 million and of that, South Piedmont would receive just over \$3 million. Ms. Brock stated that they would use that for renovation and repair of both Union County facilities and Anson County facilities. Ms. Brock stated that they will have to determine how to split the funds equitably between the counties. Chairman Baucom asked who would make that decision with Ms. Brock answering their board. Commissioner Sturdivant asked how many were on the board from Anson County with Ms. Brock thinking it was a 21 person board and Anson County was equally represented. Ms. Brock stated if the bond passes the bond could be used for new construction or repair and renovation and if they use it for new construction there is a county match requirement but if they use it for repair and renovation there is no county match requirement. Ms. Brock felt this was an important piece and they would be able to improve their Anson and Union facilities at no cost to Anson and Union county government. Ms. Brock noted that lots of their projects have been on their deferred maintenance list for at least 10 years and a lot of them have been coded as priority A, meaning they are pretty critical. Ms. Brock shared that they would replace the air handler in the Garibaldi building, which is where most of their administration is housed. Ms. Brock noted the building was built in 1977 and the air handler is original to the building. Ms. Brock shared that the cost to replace would be \$500,000. Ms. Brock shared that they would also replace the HVAC in the Watson building, adding that the Anson County Early College is housed in this building and it was built in 1980 as a vocational building but over the years it has changed into a classroom and office space. Ms. Brock noted that the HVAC was not designed for that and was very inefficient. Ms. Brock noted a third project they would target with the money would be repair of their sidewalk on the Polkton campus. Ms. Brock again noted

that there would be no county match requirement for these bonds funds. Ms. Brock shared that their deferred maintenance list was 1.9 million dollars and it would go a long way towards their list but it would not mitigate the continued support they need from Anson County Government. Adam Kiker, of LKC Engineering, stated that the word they are getting on the bond package is just over \$309 million in funds for water and sewer infrastructure. Mr. Kiker stated that what they are hearing now is just over a hundred of that will be disbursed in grant funds. Mr. Kiker felt there would certainly be an opportunity for Anson County to get funding for not just the water infrastructure that we have talked about but there may be other opportunities for water and sewer infrastructure in the county that would qualify for some of that funding. Mr. Kiker stated that they feel the passage of the bond would present us with opportunities to fund projects that we have had difficulty funding over the years. Chairman Baucom shared that Senator McInnis is determined that we get some money from the state to build the large waterline. Chairman Baucom stated that he started out with eight million and the last time they talked he said he was going for sixteen million. Chairman Baucom feels there is a lot of opportunity here for us to be able to meet that need without plunging so very deeply in debt. Chairman Baucom asked everyone to vote for the bond to get Anson County and North Carolina moving again. County Attorney Forbes stated that they could spend money to educate but they could not spend money to promote and felt the Resolution should be just fine. County Attorney Forbes added that as individuals they could do what they want to do but as far as spending public funds they could educate. Chairman Baucom asked if the Resolution was a problem with County Attorney Forbes answering no. Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Vice Chair Streater, to approve the Resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

**A Resolution of the Anson County Board of Commissioners in Support of North Carolina
Governor Pat McCrory's Connect NC Bond Proposals**

WHEREAS, Governor Pat McCrory has proposed a \$2.85 billion bond initiative intended to connect North Carolina cities and towns in the 21st century by building roads, upgrading technology, constructing and improving educational facilities, enhancing medical services, supporting our military installations, improving parks and recreational facilities, and building and improving port and rail infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, these strategic investments, as proposed, are designed to benefit every community across this great State and will create jobs and improve the quality of life and environment for every North Carolinian; and

WHEREAS, because of North Carolina's fiscal strength and strong balance sheet, no tax increase will be required to fund these bonds, and in addition, the State's Triple A bond rating will be preserved; and

WHEREAS, by not addressing our serious infrastructure deficiencies now, our State will lose its ability to compete in the future, interest rates will go up, costs to taxpayers will increase, congestion will worsen and jobs will not expand at the rate needed to sustain a healthy and vibrant North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of North Carolina must be allowed to make the important decision of investing in the opportunities provided to our future generations through the Connect NC bond initiative; and

WHEREAS, South Piedmont Community College will receive \$3,189,221 which can be used for new construction, repairs and renovations on campuses in both Anson and Union counties.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anson County Board of Commissioners supports Governor McCrory's Connect NC Bond initiative and encourages the General Assembly to allow North Carolina's citizens to vote on this critical bond proposal to ensure North Carolina's future on the global stage.

ADOPTED, this the 2nd day of February 2016.

Animal Shelter Monthly Update and Animal Shelter Staffing Positions

Request: Chairman Baucom stated that she sees requests for positions and feels the board can take these under advisement. Dr. Thompson spoke saying that in order to put the monthly report in context, the shelter opened in April 2014 and at that time it was staffed with a director, two animal control officers and two part-time shelter workers and that is the staffing they have today. Dr. Thompson stated that they have capacity at the shelter for about 100 animals; about 75 dogs and 25 cats. Dr. Thompson stated that on average they bring in about 100 animals a month and sometimes a little less and sometimes a little more. Dr. Thompson stated that historically they average about 10 local adoptions a month and that has resulted in the very high euthanization rate you heard about earlier tonight. Dr. Thompson felt that in order to bring that down and sustain it they will have to work with rescue groups. Dr. Thompson stated that around Christmas they met with Chairman Baucom and she asked them to try to put a moratorium on euthanization for healthy adoptable animals and they have tried to do that and the end result is that they are holding more animals for longer periods of time. Dr. Thompson stated that in January they brought in 75 dogs and 19 cats and they had their best month ever relative to rescues. Dr. Thompson noted they had 35 dogs and 2 cats rescued, explaining that rescue groups came and took them from the shelter. Dr. Thompson stated that they had 15 dogs and 3 cats adopted locally and as we speak tonight they are holding 70 animals at the

shelter. Dr. Thompson stated that the Board of Health meeting in January, they spent about two and one-half hours discussing the need to bring down the euthanization rate, improve the daily operations of the shelter, better public relations and related issues. Dr. Thompson pointed out that John Ballard, Chairman of the Board of Health was with them tonight, and at the end of January they submitted a staffing request to county administration. Dr. Thompson explained that they have a paid shelter worker there four hours a day, seven days a week and they are requesting to double that to eight hours a day, either by increasing the two part time workers to full time or hiring two more part-time shelter workers. Dr. Thompson felt it was not rationale to expect a four hour a day worker to clean for 70 animals but in addition to that he really needs a paid staff member eight hours a day, seven days a week so that they can better utilize volunteers. Dr. Thompson explained that they do not have paid staff at the shelter on Saturday afternoons as the paid worker goes home around noon. Dr. Thompson shared that some of the volunteers have asked for keys to the shelter but at this point, and until he has had a chance to work with the County Attorney and others, he does not think it is a good idea to give keys to the unpaid volunteers. Mr. Thompson felt it was a mistake when the shelter opened to not have any clerical support, adding that they were in need of this position. Dr. Thompson noted that the only person available to greet the public at the shelter was the Animal Services Director since the animal control officers were mostly in the field and there is only one part-time worker there at a time and they are in back cleaning. Dr. Thompson added that if the shelter director, or vet-Tec, was giving shots or was out of the building for whatever reason, there is no one there to greet the public or answer the phone. Dr. Thompson stated that in order to work with rescue groups over time they need an on-line searchable data base so they can go online and identify what animals they have and whether or not they fit their criteria. Dr. Thompson noted that last week after they met with county IT staff and they came and put a computer at the front desk and they are ready to purchase pet point solutions, a standard shelter software package. Dr. Thompson felt if they had a receptionist/adoption counselor they could take the digital photo of the dog when it comes in, fill out the online form and upload it to pet point solution and that would track the animal from the time they come to the time they leave. Dr. Thompson felt this would allow the various rescue groups to go online and determine what we have. Dr. Thompson noted that they were looking for a full time clerical support person that would be the receptionist all the time but they would also serve as the adoption coordinator and they are requesting to go to eight hours a day, seven days a week with a paid shelter worker. Dr. Thompson stated that everybody that works at the shelter cleans but the primary responsibility of the animal control officers is animal control. Chairman Baucom asked what they do when not in the field with Dr. Thompson answering they clean and help out at the shelter. Chairman Baucom asked if there was documentation of why an animal is picked up and brought to the shelter with Mr. Kane answering that they have an intake form they the fill out when they pick up a dog, whether it is owner turn in, stray or bite case. Chairman Baucom then asked if they go out finding strays or do they have a report to come get the stray with Ms. Wilson saying most of the time someone calls about a stray. Ms. Wilson stated that by state law they

hold the stray 72 hours. Vice Chair Streater was of the understanding several people want to volunteer their time at the shelter and asked if they could also be capable of doing some office work with Ms. Burr answering that some have answered the phone and have done some clerical work. Vice Chair Streater asked if they could not put some of the information in the computer with Ms. Burr answering yes. Mr. Kane then asked what happens if they don't show up. Mr. Kane agreed volunteers were needed but if the volunteer that was trained to handle adoptions does not show up what will they do then. Vice Chair Streater understands some of the volunteers have been turned away with Mr. Kane answering not since he has been there. Commissioner Smith asked the liability if a mean dog were to bite a volunteer with Mr. Kane saying they sign a volunteer release form, adding that each dog that comes in that is aggressive has aggressive written on the form in front of them. Chairman Baucom then asked County Attorney Forbes the meaning of the release with County Attorney Forbes answering that anyone that volunteers should know that under North Carolina law the likelihood of getting bit or scratched would be very obvious and therefore there would be an assumption of the risk. County Attorney Forbes noted that you can't sign away negligence and as long as we are not negligent on what we do or entrap someone. Commissioner Sturdivant asked if the volunteers were in the back cleaning and accidentally reach over and were bitten by a dog, was that considered an accident with County Attorney Forbes answering yes and they could not sue us for that as that would be a foreseeable danger of what they were doing. Commissioner Sims felt the animal shelter needed help and felt the board could do a little something to help them. County Attorney Forbes suggested checking with our insurance to see if we are protected. Ms. Sanford offered that the pet point system has incredible volunteer insurance at a low cost. Ms. Wilson added that rabid dogs are quarantined and have no contact with volunteers. Commissioner Sturdivant asked who cleans that area with Ms. Wilson answering her, Thomas and Mark since they have had their rabies vaccine. Chairman Baucom asked how long they keep one with rabies with Ms. Wilson answering 10 days. Mr. Kane corrected saying if it is a rabid animal or if they think it is rabid, unfortunately they euthanize and the head is sent to the state. Mr. Kane noted that a bite case where they don't know if the animal is rabid or not is kept for 10 days to watch it and see if it does have rabies. Ms. Wilson added that if it dies in the 10 day quarantine they send it off for testing. Dr. Thompson noted that they desperately need to use volunteers better than they have in the past but he really needs enough paid staff to meet the minimum daily operating conditions that they have seven days a week. Dr. Thompson added that if he did not get the two part-time shelter workers some help he will probably lose both of them. Chairman Baucom felt the board needed to move on this and incrementally improve the pool of people to help manage the shelter and the resources. Chairman Baucom felt we needed someone at the intake, thinking the prime time for adoptions would be over the weekend so we need to have some way to staff the shelter on the weekend. Chairman Baucom added that it makes her mad every time she goes to Tractor Supply on a weekend and they have dogs and cats there from Union and Richmond counties. Chairman Baucom felt it needed to be our animals they are trying to help get adopted.

Veterans Services Update: Lula Jackson, DSS Director, stated that she wanted Ted Ward, our Veterans Services Officer, to give the board an update on veteran's services in North Carolina. Ms. Jackson noted that North Carolina has done a lot to draw attention to Veterans services and felt that Anson County did an exceptional job when selecting Mr. Ward as Veterans Service Officer because he has brought a lot of attention to Veterans needs in Anson County. Mr. Ward shared a handout with board members to read at their leisure noting the resource guide was something the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs and the county veteran's service officers have put together with other identities in the state. Mr. Ward stated that it has all the state and federal benefits and all the local resources that are available to our veterans in North Carolina. Mr. Ward shared that the 2015 report was something they were very proud of in the state. Mr. Ward stated that in the last couple of years the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs partnered with the county veterans service officers and before they were like overseers but with the change of leadership the department has been appointed by the Governor. Mr. Ward stated that it gives them a little more power as now they have someone actually sitting at the table to be heard by the people that can change the laws. Mr. Ward added that now the key people in place are veterans making us more aggressive in moving forward with the veterans program. Mr. Ward noted the information in the 2015 report was from 2014 with Mr. Ward feeling the number shown of 1,667 was low because that just considers veterans but they have wives and dependent children. Mr. Ward added that we were losing veterans every day through natural attrition and the younger veterans are not relocating in Anson County because of economics. Mr. Ward shared that he entertains every veteran and their family member that comes to the office and he is proactive by having events to get people engaged to their benefits. Mr. Ward noted that as 2014 we were a little over 10 million dollars and when he came on board in 2010 and in 2011 and 2012 we were between seven and eight million as far as benefits coming in to veterans in the county. Mr. Ward noted a lot of their benefits are intangible like health care and every veteran they enroll in health care is one that does not have to go to social services or the health department. Mr. Ward pointed out that North Carolina was number two nationally in most improved rate for servicing veterans which means that now we are more proactive in reaching out with major events. Mr. Ward pointed out that one of the people sent to Winston Salem to help with the backlog was an Airborne Army veteran and we were the first to start a program where a veteran now can report to a one day event and if he has all his information and evidence with him he can get a decision on the spot. Commissioner Smith voiced that we were grateful to the President and his family and the Vice President who took hold of this thing. Mr. Ward shared that he has three major events a year with one being Memorial Day, scheduled for May 31st to honor our fallen comrades killed in combat. Mr. Ward stated that they also do an enhancement fair every September where they bring in all the resources they can to the Lockhart-Taylor Center and they have four to five hours for people to get firsthand information. Mr. Ward stated that he met with the DSS Board and proposed, that because of the lack of support for Veteran's Day, to change the date from November 11 to November

10. Mr. Ward felt that because November 11th is a holiday, by changing to the 10th will allow more school participation. Mr. Ward added that Mr. Freeman was onboard and they hope to get the school children involved in the celebration as well as more community involvement. Mr. Ward added that the Governor gave approval to set aside \$179,000 for all 100 counties in North Carolina as a stipend to help with training. Mr. Ward explained that because counties such as Mecklenburg and Wake have a greater influx of Veterans organizations that give big time support they agreed to not solicit for these funds and to concentrate on the smaller counties. Mr. Ward stated that he put in a request for \$5,000 and is waiting on the response. Commissioner Smith stated that we were most grateful to the two first ladies because they made it possible that no base was closed in North Carolina. Mr. Ward noted that the Governor has a working conference call every week on Monday and you can call and listen in to see what is happening around the state. Mr. Ward was of the belief that if we stay plugged in and stay the course that one day we will see a Vet Center in Anson County because geographically we are between Chesterfield, Richmond, Stanly, Montgomery and Union counties as long as we can justify around 10,000 vets. Commissioner Smith asked if he was asking for a change in the date with Mr. Ward saying he was seeking support for the change since the Social Services Board already approved the change and Veterans Services falls under their umbrella. Ms. Jackson shared that in the past the board has supported all veteran's activities. Vice Chair Streater felt the board needed to do better for our veteran's. Vice Chair Streater added that Mr. Sanford helps with donations to the celebrations and felt each board member needed to do more personally to help with the activities. Mr. Ward noted that he was connected with the regional office for Wendy's out of Indiana and he can reach out to the local stores in Rockingham and Wadesboro since the franchise has agreed to always provide the chili. Vice Chair Streater stated that last year Commissioner Sturdivant volunteered at the celebration and she and Ms. Jackson's staff really worked hard. Commissioner Sturdivant stated that had it not been for Wendy's they would not have fed all the people. Mr. Ward voiced that Wendy's has been there for the past four years. Commissioner Smith felt we could not do enough for veterans. Commissioner Sims commented that he felt Mr. Ward was doing a good job and making good decisions. Chairman Baucom thanked Mr. Ward for all he does.

Reactivate the Personnel Advisory Board: County Manager Garner stated that per our Personnel Ordinance we are required to have a three person Personnel Advisory Board to hear grievances that have already made it through the department head, the County Manager, the Board of Commissioners and the final level of appeal is the Personnel Advisory Board. Chairman Baucom asked if these would be people not associated with county government with County Manager Garner answering they could be non- employees and it would be nice if they had some HR background. Chairman Baucom was of the understanding this board would appoint three people and there would be staggered three year terms. Chairman Baucom stated that to start with one person would serve three years, one two years and one just one year and that is when the rotation would begin. Chairman Baucom asked if staff would be able to recommend

some nominees for this board. Commissioner Smith recommended bringing names back. Motion by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, to reactivate the Personnel Advisory Board and to bring back names at the meeting on the 22nd. Vice Chair Streater asked those bringing back names to check with that person first to make sure they would be willing to serve. Motion carried unanimously.

Dates for Planning Retreat: After discussion, board members agreed to hold the retreat on Saturday, March 5th beginning at 8:30 A.M. here in the board room.

Old Business:

Fire District Maps: Mr. Diggs stated that they have been working on this for a couple of years and we have already approved the six mile districts. Mr. Diggs noted there was some miscommunication between him and the state fire marshal's office in Raleigh as he was under the assumption that ISO would draw the six mile districts from the fire departments but they will not. Mr. Diggs stated that the county finally got the program through GIS to draw the routes. Mr. Diggs stated that in looking over the maps getting them ready to send to Raleigh he noticed that Peachland Polkton was one fire district. Mr. Diggs stated that it was actually two fire districts but one fire tax district and both chiefs have been wanting to split the fire tax districts. Mr. Diggs stated that they were trying to get the lines drawn for the fire districts so they didn't go through someone's property and we could split the fire tax district and have their fire districts separated from now on. Mr. Diggs shared a copy of the maps with board members saying the pink was Peachland and the green was Polkton. Mr. Diggs added that both chief's approve the maps. Motion by Commissioner Sikes, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Sikes, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to go into **closed session** for personnel pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of employment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. Motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to recess until 5:30 P.M. Monday, February 22, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Bonnie M. Huntley, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board

Meeting time: 4 hr. 30 mins.