

January 19, 2010

The Union County Board of Commissioners met in regular meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, first floor, Union County Government Center, Monroe, NC. The following were

PRESENT: Chairwoman Kim Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Tracy Kuehler, Commissioner Allan Baucom, Commissioner Lanny Openshaw and Commissioner A. Parker Mills, Jr.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Al Greene, Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board, Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, Kai Nelson, Finance Director, Matthew Delk, Assistant County Manager, interested citizens, and members of the press

OPENING OF MEETING:

INVOCATION: The Chairwoman called the meeting to order and recognized Commissioner Openshaw who gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Chairwoman led the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

FEATURED COMMUNITY BENEFIT ORGANIZATION:

Jim Stubbs thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to provide information about the Literacy Council of Union County, which he stated has been operating in Union County for about 11 years. He said that during that timeframe it has served approximately 1200 adult learners and trained approximately 650 volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with students. Mr. Stubbs emphasized that what people need to know is that illiteracy does exist in Union County and pointed out that one in five adults in this county function at the lowest levels of literacy. He detailed some of the problems of adult illiteracy such as not being able to fill out an employment application, not being able to help one's own children with their schoolwork or to read a note from the child's teacher.

He detailed how volunteers can become tutors and their responsibilities when meeting with the clients. Mr. Stubbs said it is the goal of the tutors to get their clients up to reading at grade level five. He explained that the tutors meet with the clients one-on-one for about an hour or two a week.

Mr. Stubbs said that the Literacy Council does offer small group instruction on English as a second language and this is made available to help people get accustomed to the community and by working in group settings the clients sometimes feel more comfortable.

He said that the Literacy Council can also work with multiple sessions that help with citizenship skills, financial literacy, health literacy, and emergency preparedness. Mr. Stubbs explained the goal is to provide topics that people would be interested in and would need to know.

Mr. Stubbs reported that the Literacy Council also has computer labs and the software programs work with the individuals so that they can come and work with a tutor. He said that there is approximately ten hours of one-on-one computer skills training as well as reading literacy skills to make sure the individual has a commitment to the amount of time that they will need to devote to meeting one-on-one with the tutor. He stressed this program is very much a commitment for the tutor and for the student.

The supporters of the Literacy Council, Mr. Stubbs said, are individuals, churches, community groups, and businesses across the county. He said that it also partners with churches and libraries so that there can be locations provided to meet one-on-one with the students.

Mr. Stubbs explained that the Literacy Council does not require any money upfront for its services; these services are provided free of charge and typically adults who are in need of these services do not have the extra funds to give toward paying for this service.

He emphasized that the mission of the Literacy Council is simple: to improve the quality of life in our community and to expand individual potential by teaching adults to read, write, speak and understand the English language. Mr. Stubbs said that the Literacy Council could be assisted by people who would want to volunteer to be tutors or people who want to participate in fundraisers, and he mentioned that there is an adult community spelling bee going to be held in the spring. He said that \$25 can buy one level of books for a student; \$50 can cover the cost of refreshments for a training workshop. Mr. Stubbs explained that different levels of funds can help with the agency.

He expressed appreciation to the County for the funding that it has provided to this organization over the past years and asked that as the Board talks about its forthcoming budget that it keep in mind the Literacy Council.

Mr. Stubbs announced that there is a tutor training class in February for volunteers who are interested in participating in the program.

The Chairwoman thanked Mr. Stubbs for his comments.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

Chairwoman Rogers recognized the following individuals for the level of service as stated:

FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

Cheri Conley
James Eason
Wanda Howard
Clara Lopez
Linda Brown
Scott Helms
Amy Smith

DEPARTMENT

Communications
Environmental Health
Health
Health
Social Services
Tax Assessor
Transportation/Nutrition

TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Jeff Knight
Richard Watkins
Matthew Hefner
Fred Spruill

DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health
Inspections
Sheriff's Office
Sheriff's Office

FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE

David Finley

DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health

INFORMAL COMMENTS:

Chairwoman Rogers announced that four people had registered to speak and outlined the rules for Informal Comments and noted that all comments are limited to three minutes.

The Chairwoman recognized Linda Paxton, Mayor of the Town of Stallings, who presented a Resolution to Request Equitable Distribution of Union County Sewer Capacity. She announced that the following are also present in support of this resolution: Libby Long,

Mayor of Fairview, John Quinn, Mayor of Indian Trail, Larry Raley, a developer, and Scott Vickery, also a developer, as well as citizens who would be living in the downtown core if the town could offer sewer.

She stated that the representatives present are requesting that the Board of Commissioners revisit the decision it made on January 4 that would approve the application of EPA grant funds to the Eastside Wastewater Collection System. Mayor Paxton said that she understood the effect of that decision is that it will use all the remaining available sewer capacity. Mayor Paxton said that her group's question is: how did the Eastside project get to be top priority. She reported that she had looked at the Sewer Master Plan on the County's website and, although there may have been some updating, the Eastside Collection System was not mentioned in the Sewer Master Plan on the website. Mayor Paxton said that Matthew Delk, Assistant County Manager, stated that it was approved in the CIP but said that it is difficult for her to understand how this project jumped ahead of some of the others projects with more urgent needs.

Mayor Paxton stressed that Stallings has projects that would immediately add jobs and increase the tax base of the town and county. She reminded that they had a veterinarian hospital that was approved in May 2007 and the project was not able to be built because it was only allocated 2,400 gallons per day of sewer, and it needs 4,000 gallons per day. She also noted that the Asian Market that was to have located in the old Winn Dixie building had to scale back its proposed seating for the restaurant because the plan did not have adequate sewer capacity. She said at this time the shopping center is for sale and most of the store fronts are vacant, and it is becoming a blight on the town.

She said at the Council's last meeting, it approved a beautiful office building for the First Choice Eye Care Center on Lawyers Road, but the owners will have to construct their building on a septic system.

Mayor Paxton said the entire area that Stallings has designated as its downtown core is located on what they call a gray-line sewer system. She said they have septic tanks or interceptor tanks and four-inch lines. She said it is impossible to have any kind of commercial development within that core.

She said that several years ago Mike Peterson, a resident of Stallings, was required to go on the County's sewer system, but it does not work. Mayor Paxton said in 1989 his property was rezoned as B-4 and the Tax Office valued it at \$3 million, and he has paid taxes on that amount for a number of years. He had a million dollar offer for the property contingent upon it having water and sewer. Mayor Paxton said that Mr. Peterson carries his bath water and the water from his sink outside to water the lawn because the tank that the County provides him has to be pumped each time it reaches 2,000 gallons. She stressed there is no reason that anyone should have to live with that situation.

Mayor Paxton reiterated their request for the Board of Commissioners to revisit its decision, set some priorities that would allocate sewer in a more equitable manner so all the towns and the existing customers could have their needs addressed before putting future anticipated needs ahead of the current needs.

The Chairwoman introduced the next speaker, Brian Matthews, Town Manager of Stallings. Mr. Matthews said he supported the comments of the Mayor and stated his goal is to stress to the County that Stallings is not here in an adversarial capacity. He reported that the town had never engaged in helping the County to develop the County's CIP, but the town is part of the County and it should have helped. He said that Stallings' dilemma is that it has lots of needs of which perhaps the County has not been made aware, which he thought is part of the issue. He stressed it is not just capacity for Stallings but it is also the collection system. Mr. Matthews said that capacity is the big word on everyone's mind and capacity is important. However, he said for the Town of Stallings, the collection system is so inadequate that even if the town received capacity there are many properties that could not be developed to their highest and best uses. He emphasized that situation is not good for the County or for Stallings.

Mr. Matthews said that Stallings would like to work with the County to let the Commissioners know some of the town's dilemmas and it needs to help the County be able to increase the tax base within Union County. He said he wanted to stress that the issue is not only about capacity but it is also about the collection system. He said the town realizes that it needs to get involved with the County and that it cannot rely on the County to do everything for the town.

The next speaker was Libby Long, 117 Highway 218W, Monroe, Mayor of Fairview. She stated that much has been made in the media recently about the east versus west regarding issues confronting Union County but noted that Fairview is neither east nor west but is due north so; therefore, she respectfully requested that Union County send sewer lines north to Fairview.

She noted that her area seems to be getting passed over for any kind of access to sewer and it seems that the new money that the County has allotted to the Wingate-Marshville area is going to be used primarily for Project Legacy. Mayor Long stressed that there are more pressing needs in Union County than Project Legacy. She said at this time Project Legacy is only a concept and pointed out that recently Fairview had approved a zoning change for a Dollar General Store and the Council feels that it is now on the way to becoming a town. Mayor Long stressed, however, that Fairview needs sewer if it is going to attract commercial development. She explained to attract their residents to buy in Union County that it must make markets available to them.

Mayor Long said that for years it has been rumored that a wastewater treatment plant is being planned for the northern end of the County; however, she said it has never been determined that Fairview could obtain sewer capacity. She reiterated that Fairview needs sewer and encouraged the County to develop a system that would allocate sewer capacity equitably.

The Chairwoman introduced Mayor John Quinn, Town of Indian Trail. Mr. Quinn shared his thoughts, after having reviewed the Board of Commissioners' recent meeting regarding the aforementioned sewer project, and stated that in watching the meeting on television that it appeared to him there could be the perception, if not the reality, of some that the wastewater project that was proposed was designed possibly to encourage development in the eastern part of Union County at some point in the future while more serious needs exist in the western side of Union County—namely in the Town of Indian Trail where the major growth has taken place. Mr. Quinn said that within his town business growth has been put on whole in part because of the lack of sewer capacity and water availability. He said that the Indian Trail Town Council was concerned enough to contact the County and as a result Mr. Goscicki came out and was very patient in waiting for about two and half hours to address the Council and give his perspective, which was helpful. However, Mayor Quinn said the concern remains that the Indian Trail citizens and residents support a large percentage of the County's operations now through their taxes and their needs should be considered. He said the residents of Indian Trail are looking for a better quality of life and that can only be achieved by facilitating the expansion of its business base and the resulting services that will take place. Mayor Quinn stressed that this request should be priority number one. He said it would appear that the citizens should advocate that the funds go to fix what is broken and finish what is started before considering speculative development concepts. He said the County needs businesses to provide jobs and services where the people need them. Mr. Quinn said that after this is accomplished, the residents should then support development on the eastside of the County or where else it is for the good job opportunities and projects that it will bring. He said he thought this would be a reasonable way to support the economy as a whole. Mayor Quinn said that next week his Board would be considering a Resolution on this issue.

In closing, he emphasized focusing on priorities and meeting the citizens' needs first.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

The Chairwoman announced that there is a request to pull from the Consent Agenda the Board of Commissioners' Rules of Procedure to permit a minor grammatical change.

With there being no other changes to the agenda, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler moved that the agenda be approved with the one addition – Board of Commissioners' Rules of Procedure. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman announced that the Rules of Procedure will be considered as Item 8A.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Openshaw that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Approved Minutes of January 4, 2010

NC 2010 Adopt-a-Trail Program Grant Application: Authorized staff to develop and submit an application for the State Adopt-a-Trail Program in the amount of \$5,000

Tax Administrator:

- A.) Approved Seventh Motor Vehicle Billing in the grand total of \$1,035,504.22
- B.) Approved Sixth Motor Vehicle Release Register for the Period of December 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009 in the Net Grand Total of \$7,905.95-
- C.) Approved Sixth Motor Vehicle Refund Register for the Period of December 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009 in the Net Grand Total of \$2,246.22-
- D.) Approved Releases for December 2009 in the Grand Total amount of \$51,439.12

2009

Acct #	Name	Release #	Totals
08066024A	PURSER KENNETH LANE	6121	171.09
01036004 01	GADDY PEGGY T	6126	1,962.15
09339001B	CENTRAL UNION CHURCH OF CHRIST INC	6127	6,121.06
02211025A	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	6128	300.58
G6123018	HINSON FARMS LLC	6132	10,368.35
03183018A	BAKER JOE EDWARD JR & EDWARD BAKER	6120	667.59
09231239	LARA FREDDY & WIFE WALKIRIA	6137	750.85
02303055A	HORNE C W	6138	708.36
06147008A	DOW ROBERT B TRUST	6139	15,297.40
50080880	PURSER KENNETH LANE	6144	3.65
50103401	AUTOSTAR SOLUTIONS	6145	543.58

50093002	MORGAN COMMUNITIES OF CHARLOTTE LLC	6146	1,087.17
50096440	OOH & AAH QUILTED DESIGNS	6147	122.67
50091861	LAMBERT JEREMY ROBERT	6148	70.02
50099423	HINOTE LLOYD HUBERT JR	6150	131.24
50101549	STARR MARK E	6153	105.95
07018013	RITCH RAMELLE H	6155	455.85
50079825	PENEGAR HOYLE L & BOBBIE P	6156	32.94
50097657	EICHENSEHR DANIEL C	6157	34.45
50025523	ROYAL LANDSCAPE SERVICE INC PRIMIERS TRAINING ACADEMY INC % DAVID R BAIL	6158	105.32
50095196	BOSTIC PROPERTIES OF INDIAN TRAIL LLP	6159	22.31
07048072A	SELLECK MARK A & WF SUE LYNN	6160	222.67
06057003D	HONEYCUTT BRUCE A	6161	143.29
08135014C	HOLLISTER OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC	6162	158.54
06072249	MYERS HARRY SPENCER & WIFE DEBORAH	6163	340.40
08231104	HOLLISTER OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC	6165	333.03
06072248	D & R DEVELOPERS LLP	6166	6,774.84
09177064	THOMAS KENNETH E	6167	11.02
09292007	KELLY DEBORAH K	6168	177.89
07069133	KELLY DEBORAH K	6175	373.12
07069212	KELLY DEBORAH K	6176	36.19
07069150	KELLY DEBORAH K	6177	51.29
07132004B	CHESTNUT OF UNION LLC	6178	1,943.22

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Totals-2009			49,628.08
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2008				-
02211025A	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	6129	300.58	
50093002	MORGAN COMMUNITIES OF CHARLOTTE LLC	6154	945.36	
06057003D	SELLECK MARK A & WF SUE LYNN	6164	143.29	
				-
Totals-2008				1,389.23
2007				-
02211025A	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	6130	208.21	
50095044	ALEXANDER WILLIAM LARRY	6149	27.17	
				-
Totals-2007				235.38
2006				-
02211025A	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	6131	186.43	
Totals-2006				186.43
GRAND TOTALS				51,439.12

E) Refunds for December 2009 in the Grand Total amount of \$4,025.36

2009				
Acct #	Name	Release #		Totals
50067286	GRIFFIN INDUSTRIES INC	6151		2,401.33
50083523	ROBINSON'S DAY CARE NURSERY	6152		8.10
06189071	GETZ W WALLACE & JEAN H	6169		150.51
08237038	OLD GATE DEVELOPERS LLC	6133		98.08
Totals-2009				2,658.02

2008			
08066024A	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6122	171.09
50080880	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6140	3.55
06189071	GETZ W WALLACE & JEAN H	6170	146.30
08237038	OLD GATE DEVELOPERS LLC	6134	98.08
Totals-2008			419.02
2007			
08066024A	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6123	96.73
50080880	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6141	2.71
06189071	GETZ WA WALLACE & JEAN H	6171	156.44
08237038	OLD GATE DEVELOPERS LLC	6135	28.44
Totals-2007			284.32
2006			
08066024A	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6124	119.05
50080880	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6142	3.34
06189071	GETZ W WALLACE % JEAN H	6172	140.08
08237038	OLD GATE DEVELOPERS LLC	6136	25.47
Totals-2006			287.94
2005			
08066024A	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6125	103.65
50080880	PURSER KENNETH LAND	6143	2.91
06189071	GETZ W WALLACE & JEAN H	6173	138.60
Totals-2005			245.16
2004			
06189071	GETZ W WALLACE & JEAN H	6174	130.90
			-

Totals-2004	130.90
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GRAND TOTALS	4,025.36
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Finance: Approved Budget Transfers Report for December 2009

Library:

- A.) Approved Budget Ordinance Amendment #30 to appropriate funds for State Grant for Public Education in the amount of \$13,639 (no additional County funding required)

BUDGET AMENDMENT

BUDGET	Library	REQUESTED BY	Martie Smith
FISCAL YEAR	FY2010	DATE	January 04, 2010

INCREASE

DECREASE

Description

Description

State Grant for Public Education	13,629		
Operating Expense	13,629		

Explanation: Appropriate additional funds for State Grant for Public Education.

DATE _____

APPROVED BY _____

Bd of Comm/County Manager
Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT

CREDIT

Code

Account

Amount

Code

Account

10561100-5381-1800

Professional Svcs

13,629

10461100-4468-1800

State Grant for Public Ed

13,629

Total	<u>13,629</u>	Total	<u>13,629</u>
Prepared By	<u>awl</u>		
Posted By	<u></u>		
Date	<u></u>	Number	<u>30</u>

B.) Approved submission of EZ Library Services and Technology Act Planning Grant Application in the amount of \$20,000 (no County match required)

Social Services:

A.) Special Children Adoption Fund: Approved Budget Ordinance Amendment #28 to appropriate additional State funds to enhance the Adoption Services Program in the amount of \$15,000 (no additional County funding required)

BUDGET AMENDMENT

BUDGET DSS REQUESTED BY Dontae Latson
 FISCAL YEAR FY2010 DATE January 04, 2010

INCREASE

DECREASE

Description

Description

Operating Expenses	15,000		
State Revenue	15,000		

Explanation: Appropriate additional funds for the Special Children Adoption Fund used to enhance the adoption services program

DATE _____

APPROVED BY _____
 Bd of Comm/County Manager
 Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT

CREDIT

DATE _____

APPROVED BY _____

Bd of Comm/County Manager
Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT

CREDIT

<u>Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	
10553160-5399-1509	Public Assistance	161,124	10453160-4340-1509	Federal Funding	161,124
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Explanation:

Appropriate additional federal funding for the WIC Peer Breastfeeding Counselor program. Funds will be used for professional services and training.

DATE _____

APPROVED BY _____

Bd of Comm/County Manager
Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT

CREDIT

Code

Account

Amount

Code

Account

10551152-5311-1363

Travel

200

10451152-4316-1363

Federal Grant

4,905

10551152-5312-1363

Travel Subsistence

300

10551152-5395-1363

Educational Expend.

605

10551152-5381-1363

Professional Services

3,800

Total 4,905

Total 4,905

Prepared By aar

Posted By _____

Date _____

Number 32

B.) Susan G. Komen Grant Funding: Approved Budget Amendment #31 to appropriate additional funding for the Susan G. Komen Grant in the amount of \$4,648 (no additional County funds required)

BUDGET AMENDMENT

BUDGET Health REQUESTED BY Phillip Tarte
 FISCAL YEAR FY2010 DATE January 19, 2010

INCREASE

DECREASE

Description

Description

Contributions and Donations 4,648

Medical Services 4,648

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Total	<u>4,648</u>		Total	<u>4,648</u>
	Prepared By	<u>aar</u>			
	Posted By	_____			
	Date	_____		Number	<u>31</u>

Resolution of The Union County Board of Commissioners Adopting Regular Meeting Schedule for 2010 (Supersedes Resolution adopted by the Board on January 4, 2010).

Adopted the resolution as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADOPTING ITS REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2010**

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution on January 4, 2010, adopting its regular meeting schedule for 2010; and

WHEREAS, since adoption of the resolution on January 4, 2010, it has been determined that the regular work sessions shall begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, first floor, Union County Government Center; and

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of Commissioners wishes to adopt a new resolution adopting its schedule of regular meetings for 2010, which includes the meeting times and place for its regular work sessions and which shall supersede its resolution adopted on January 4, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Union County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following regular meeting schedule for 2010:

January:

Monday, January 4 - Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 13 - Work Session

Tuesday, January 19 - Regular Meeting (Monday, January 18 is a holiday, and in accordance with the Board's Rules of Procedure, the regular meeting will be held on Tuesday)

February:

Monday, February 1 - Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 10 - Work Session

Monday, February 15 - Regular Meeting

March:

Monday, March 1 - Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 10 - Work Session

Monday, March 15 - Regular Meeting

April:

Monday, April 5 - *(No meeting will be held on Monday, April 5)*

Wednesday, April 14 - Work Session

Monday, April 19 - Regular Meeting

May:

Monday, May 3 - Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 12 - Work Session

Monday, May 17 - Regular Meeting

June:

Monday, June 7 - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 9 - Work Session
Monday, June 21 - Regular Meeting

July:

Tuesday, July 6 - Regular Meeting (Monday, July 5, is a holiday, and in accordance with the Board's Rules of Procedure, the regular meeting will be held on Tuesday)
Wednesday, July 14 - Work Session
Monday, July 19 - Regular Meeting

August:

Monday, August 2 - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 11 - Work Session
Monday, August 16 - Regular Meeting

September:

Tuesday, September 7 - Regular Meeting (Monday, September 6, is a holiday, and in accordance with the Board's Rules of Procedure, the regular meeting will be held on Tuesday)
Wednesday, September 8 - Work Session
Monday, September 20 - Regular Meeting

October:

Monday, October 4 - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 13 - Work Session
Monday, October 18 - Regular Meeting

November:

Monday, November 1 - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 10 - Work Session
Monday, November 15 - Regular Meeting

December:

Monday, December 6 - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 8 - Work Session
Monday, December 20 - (*No meeting will be held on Monday, December 20*)

The regular meeting schedule in effect prior to 2010 will resume in 2011, unless further modified by the Union County Board of Commissioners.

Pursuant to prior action of the Board of Commissioners, the regular meetings held on the first and third Mondays of each month (or on the next day, if a holiday) shall be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, first floor, Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Monroe, North Carolina.

The regular work sessions shall begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, first floor, Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Monroe, North Carolina.

Adopted this the 19th day of January, 2010.

Revisions to Board of Commissioners' Rules of Procedure – moved to regular agenda

Finance: Approved Motor Vehicle Tax Refund Overpayments for December 2009 in the amount of \$4,226.89.

Letter of Support of The Town of Waxhaw's Application for Designation as a Preserve America Community: Authorized Chairwoman Rogers to send a letter in support of the Town of Waxhaw's application.

Information Only: No Action required

- 1.) Department of Inspections Monthly Report for December, 2009.
- 2.) Monthly Report for Personnel Department for December, 2009.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

The Chairwoman recognized Brett Vines, Public Information Officer, to make his announcements.

Mr. Vines stated that the Health Department as a part of its flu-prevention outreach is offering to go to businesses and industries in the County to provide H1N1 vaccinations to employees. He said they would provide this service to any shift and would provide the clinic to the employer at no cost. He asked that any interested company contact the Health Department at 704-283-4813 for more information and to schedule a clinic.

He further stated that the County is now providing recycling for electronic waste to households and businesses. He said this service is also without charge and there are six collection sites that will accept recycled electronic waste: Union County Landfill, Sun Valley Collection Site, City of Monroe, Piedmont Collection Site, Parkwood Collection Site and the Armfield Mill Collection Site. He said some of the items that will be accepted are computer monitors, televisions, laptops, stereos, and radios. He said that businesses can only send recycling material to the landfill and will need to make an appointment at 704-233-9289. Mr. Vines said a complete list of items that will be accepted for recycling is itemized on the County's website at www.co.union.nc.us. He noted that the collection sites are open at different times and the times are listed on the website under Public Works.

The Public Information Officer announced that Cooperative Extension is offering a beginner Bee Keepers Class on Saturday, January 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Ag Center and the cost is \$10. He noted additional information can be obtained by calling 704-283-3742.

He also announced that on January 30th there will be a 4-H concert at the Ag Center at 6 p.m. The admission fee is \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door and anyone six and under will be free. He announced the locations where tickets could be purchased and that proceeds will benefit the Union County 4-H Foundation.

Mr. Vines reported that the Union County Masters Gardeners are having a rain barrel sale and a tree seedling sale. He outlined how to preorder and obtain the rain barrels.

The Public Information Officer also mentioned that the 2009 Union County Report is now available online. He said it is a 24-page report that highlights all the important events and news that transpired during the year 2009. He said in previous years it had been printed, but it is being placed online to save money and distribution will be easier on the website. He noted that the County's website receives 14,000 to 15,000 hits a week. He also said that upon request the document could be emailed.

Chairwoman Rogers asked if any copies of this report will be placed at the Library for review.

Mr. Vines said it would not be a problem to make some copies available to the library branches.

AGREEMENT WITH KAUFMAN HALL & ASSOCIATES:

The Chairwoman recognized the County Manager to make the presentation. Mr. Greene said that the staff has reached a point with KaufmanHall & Associates that it now has an agreement that can be recommended to the Board for its approval which takes into account a lease option that the Board directed to be incorporated into the agreement. He asked Mr. Nelson to give the Board an overview and reported that the Staff Attorney is prepared to give a legal overview, if requested to do so.

Mr. Nelson stated that as the Board is aware this agreement culminates many months of review by staff and the Commissioners. He said that today there are two requested actions: (1) relates to adopting Budget Ordinance Amendment #34, which would appropriate the funds to engage the contract and (2) authorize the County Manager to approve a contract with KaufmanHall & Associates, Inc. for provision of strategic and financial advisory services in connection with the disposition of the County's hospital asset.

He explained the scope of services contemplates two scopes. He said one scope is more abbreviated and less expensive and the other scope is somewhat longer. Mr. Nelson said that both scopes have the following in common-- both have three phases. He went on to explain that Phase I relates to the transaction and planning development, Phase II represents partner selection and Phase III represents transaction and execution. He said that in connection with Phase I, the Transaction, Planning and Development, the contract contemplates KaufmanHall having a number of meetings with the Board and those meetings will focus on the following efforts (1) relates to spending time educating the Board on various strategic partnerships, (2) relates to the development of the Board's partnership goals and what it is specifically interested in and spending time on developing the transaction strategy whether it is one party or multiple parties. He said that would conclude with identifying the target list of proposed partners. Mr. Nelson said that at that particular stage either in the abbreviated stage or in the lengthy and more costly stage, the Board of Commissioners will have a decision to make before it would proceed to the preparation of the descriptive memorandums and the development for a Request for Proposals (RFP's).

The Finance Director said that if the Board, following these strategic partnership decisions, elects to pursue a one-party effort, the fee will be \$575,000. He stressed that the Board of Commissioners would have to make that decision in Phase I prior to the development of the Confidential Descriptive Memorandum, which is essentially a comprehensive offering statement to potential proposers. He reiterated that if the Board made the decision to pursue a one-party approach, the fee would be \$575,000 broken down as follows: Phase I - \$75,000, Phase II - \$150,000 and Phase III - \$350,000. However, he said if the Board continues with the preparation of the Confidential Descriptive Memorandum, essentially a very formal Request for Proposals, and a somewhat lengthier process, the fee would potentially be as high as \$800,000 with the components as follows: Phase I - \$150,000, Phase II - \$250,000 and Phase III - \$400,000. Mr. Nelson said that Mr. Crook structured this so that in any stage of any phase if the Board decided to terminate the efforts, the County would only owe the prorata share of that amount of the phase of work completed to that date. Mr. Nelson explained the Budget Ordinance Amendment contemplates appropriating approximately one million dollars in additional revenue as noted in the Commissioners' information and that revenue would be available in the budget due to the hospital's performance this year.

Commissioner Baucom requested an explanation as to the reason the money is available. Mr. Nelson responded that in preparing the 2009-2010 (current) budget, the County based the rental payments from the hospital on its 2008 financial year performance. He pointed out that was the most recent year that the hospital had completed. He reminded that the payment to the County is the greater of the network development fee payable to CHS or \$1.4 million. He said that in connection with the 2008 year, the hospital had a reasonably good year from an Operating Income Statement but anyone that had a 401K statement knows investments did not perform very well. Mr. Nelson said it was the hospital's losses that contributed to this base line payment of \$1.4 million. He clarified it was the losses in investment income not in the balance of financial performance of the system. Mr. Nelson said that to fast forward to this year, based on the hospital's own admission, this is probably a record performance year for the hospital. He said this was not only in terms of operation but also investment income has returned remarkably well. He said that by calculating the improvement, he estimates the rental payment this year will probably be closer to \$3 million. He said the County budgeted only \$1.4 based on the 2008 performance.

Commissioner Baucom asked if that explanation meant the hospital was performing nicely. Mr. Nelson agreed that this year the hospital is doing very well. Commissioner Baucom said that it appears because they are performing quite nicely, if the budget proposal passes, the hospital would be funding the hiring of the firm to take and develop the hospital's demise.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler stated that apparently the lease has been extended and amended in the past and never had this type of firm work for the County. She asked for confirmation that it is the staff's opinion that even in a lease negotiation of the magnitude of this one that KaufmanHall is needed as the County's expert in moving forward in this plan.

Mr. Nelson agreed.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler moved that the Board of Commissioners adopt Budget Ordinance Amendment #34 to amend Outside Agency – CMC-Union Rental Income by \$1,000,000 and to increase Operating Expense by \$1,000,000 to appropriate CMC-Union rental income to provide for KaufmanHall & Associates’ contract and legal services for hospital disposition. She further moved that the County Manager be authorized to approve and execute a contract with KaufmanHall & Associates, Inc. for the provision of strategic and financial advisory services in connection with the disposition of the County’s hospital asset.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

BUDGET	<u>Outside Agency - CMC-Union</u>	REQUESTED BY	<u>Kai Nelson</u>
FISCAL YEAR	<u>FY2010</u>	DATE	<u>January 19, 2010</u>

INCREASE

DECREASE

Description

Description

Rental Income 1,000,000

Operating Expenses 1,000,000

Explanation: Appropriate CMC-Union Hospital rental income to provide for KaufmanHall contract and legal services in with hospital disposition.

DATE _____

APPROVED BY _____

Bd of Comm/County Manager
Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT

CREDIT

<u>Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	
10558800-5381	Professional Services	1,000,000	10458800-4860	Rental Income	1,000,000
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Total	<u>1,000,000</u>	Total	<u>1,000,000</u>
Prepared By	<u>aar</u>		
Posted By	<u> </u>		
Date	<u> </u>	Number	<u>34</u>

The Vice Chairwoman asked for some explanation as to how this would move forward with meetings, etc.

The Chairwoman responded that she and the County Manager could work out the schedule for the process.

Commissioner Baucom asked the County Attorney if indemnification was a concern of KaufmanHall & Associates and is the county at risk with the contract for anything that KaufmanHall & Associates would do as a contractor for the County.

Mr. Crook responded that his answer would pertain to County liability, and he would prefer to answer this question in closed session.

Chairwoman Rogers said that she is not inclined to go into closed session in that the County has larger contracts than this one and there is always a risk of legal liability to almost every situation.

Commissioner Baucom requested to go into closed session.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler asked Mr. Crook if he was okay from a legal standpoint as to the way the contract is written.

Mr. Crook replied that he was.

Commissioner Mills pointed out that a Commissioner has a question that cannot be answered in open session and, in his opinion, the Commissioner's request should be honored.

At 7:45 p.m., Chairwoman Rogers declared a five-minute break to allow Commissioner Baucom to receive an answer to his question from the attorney.

At 7:50 p.m., the Chairwoman reconvened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Baucom stated that he would vote against this motion because he believed it is economically the wrong time to take such action. He pointed out that this contract is for the hiring of a consultant and has nothing to do with selling the hospital. He said he was not supportive of selling the hospital in these challenging times and pointed out that there still exists a ten-year life on a lease contract.

Commissioner Openshaw noted that the staff has requested this action and has asked for the expertise of KaufmanHall & Associates. He said the staff believes assistance is needed regardless of lease or sale.

The Chairwoman called for a vote on the motion.

The motion passed by a vote of three to two. Chairwoman Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler and Commissioner Openshaw voted in favor of the motion and Commissioners Baucom and Mills voted against the motion.

REVIEW OF SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) GRANT:

The Chairwoman deferred to Commissioner Openshaw to present this item.

Commissioner Openshaw apologized for asking some of the right questions during the last meeting but unable mentally to provide the right solution, which would have been to table action on the EPA grant. He said he agreed with those who spoke that there should be an equitable distribution of sewer. Commissioner Openshaw said that what was proposed is that Wingate and Marshville have inflow and infiltration problems and lots of water is getting into their pipes that should not be there. He said what was proposed to the County was to build a big pipe to take care of that extra water. Commissioner Openshaw said that was an analogist to having a big hole in the roof of your house and instead of fixing the roof, installing a big pipe to let the water run away from the house.

Commissioner Openshaw moved to suspend action on the EPA Grant and direct staff to present an overview of water and sewer in the Yadkin Basin. He said this presentation is to include a review of all CIP projects eligible for the grant and the presentation will be followed by discussion of existing and potential new projects and a prioritization of all CIP projects. He further requested that staff include on a map all currently approved commercial projects separated by river basins.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said that she actually had a list of questions but it sounds to her that her questions might be more appropriately asked at that time if the Board moves forward with this motion.

Mr. Greene explained that the Public Works Director is prepared to answer questions and make comments. He said the staff firmly believes that the project should go forward. He said that there is a sewer line that needs to be upgraded and repaired, and it is in an area of the County that can be provided additional sewer capacity unlike other areas of the county where the County does not have any treatment capacity. The County Manager assured that to allow this project to move forward will not delay improvements in Stallings, Indian Trail or any other community. He emphasized that to not pursue the improvements will not speed up a solution for Stallings, Indian Trail or any other community and requested the Board allow the Public Works Director to explain why the line needs to be improved. Mr. Greene said this project was underway long before he came to Union County and there are problems associated with the existing infrastructure that need to be corrected. He again reiterated that this project does not take away from any other area of the County. Mr. Greene said that on the CIP the problems in other areas have been addressed.

Commissioner Mills stated that it was his understanding that when there was heavy rain there was actually sewage that spills out in the eastern part of the county.

Mr. Goscicki responded that was correct. He said there are three wastewater pumping stations that serve the eastern portion of the County and two of those have had some chronic problems over the last several years and the third has intermittent problems. The third has had better conditions recently; unfortunately, due to the downturn in the operation of Pilgrim's Pride. The improvement project was designed to deal with the issues of the County's lift stations that have periodic overflow problems during inclement weather conditions. He said it is also designed to take advantage of the fact that the County currently has 2.65 million gallons of capacity contracted for with the City of Monroe in the Monroe Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Goscicki said the County's structural limitations only allow it to bring approximately 1.9 million gallons per day to that plant. He said there are two issues. He stated one issue is that the County has contract capacity that the County is not fully availing itself of by not being able to bring the flow there because there are physical constraints in the system that require operational and compliance issues. Mr. Goscicki said that as pointed out by Commissioner Openshaw, Wingate and Marshville are two of the County's principal customers there and he listed a few other customers. He said this is one project that his department wants to get ahead of the curve in order to prevent future problems.

He responded to comments made earlier in this meeting which implied that this grant money was new found money. He reminded that as mentioned when the grant application was previously presented to the Board, this application goes back to 2001 and 2003. He said that was when the appropriations were made. Mr. Goscicki emphasized that this money had been part of the County's planning process for the entire planning process time period. He explained that what is being done is not adding any project, not taking away a project, or changing priority but is shifting where the money is going to be spent. He said this project is part of the grant money and he is moving money from projects that his department knows cannot be approved by EPA to one that has been identified that could be approved by EPA.

Chairwoman Rogers noted that there is a perception that this money could be used for other projects and then she heard the Public Works Director say it was approved in the CIP. She said that what she wanted to know is: are there other current projects that this EPA grant money could go to that would more quickly generate revenue or economic development?

Mr. Goscicki explained that he and his staff looked very earnestly but EPA came back and said that the best way to maintain the grant money is to find a new project; the old projects do not qualify and recommended the County find a new project that could go fairly quickly if this money could be applied to it. He stressed that time is of the essence because this money has been hanging out through Congressional appropriations since 2001-2003. He said that EPA cannot pull the money away but Congress can and the Congressional Budget Office can say that this money has not been spent and it will not be re-appropriated. The Public Works Director said that he and his staff studied very carefully to find a project that would comply with EPA regulations and clearly the project proposed is the one that came to the top of the list. He noted that 78 percent of the wastewater CIP is to generate new capacity within the County. Mr. Goscicki said that 66 percent of the water CIP is to generate new water capacity in the County.

He stressed that is a construction grant, not a design grant, and this is the only project that falls within the regulations. He briefly described the status of other projects reviewed that were determined would not qualify for the grant funds.

Mr. Goscicki said that there seems to have been concerns expressed that by approving this project the County is taking away capacity from other areas. He reiterated that this is not true. He said the project will generate some capacity; it will take the County from 1.9 mgd to 2.6 mgd, which is 700,000 gallons of wastewater capacity that will create additional capacity to be used in the eastern part of the County. The Public Works Director pointed out on a map what the County's Wastewater System looks like and what facilities will be upgraded. He noted there is no physical connection between this system and the rest of the system in Crooked Creek, Twelve Mile Creek and Six Mile Creek which will be interconnected with the diversion project into Twelve-Mile Creek but stressed that there is no way, even if pipes were in the ground tomorrow, there is additional capacity for those projects. He said that if there were pipes placed in the ground tomorrow in the Indian Trail area, there would be no additional sewer capacity available.

Mr. Greene said that the most important thing for Public Works and for every customer of the County's system including every municipality that relies on Public Works to remember is that the County gets the \$2 million grant, because it will save everybody \$2 million.

Commissioner Baucom noted that this project does not impact the tax rate. He stressed that for utility service expansions funds are generated within the Enterprise Fund.

Mr. Goscicki agreed.

Commissioner Openshaw agreed that the project would not hit the taxpayers in the pocket with the tax rate, but it would hit the users of the system with a rate increase.

Commissioner Mills asked if by putting these three lift stations in and moving ahead with this project, would the County be increasing its capacity from 1.9 million gallons per day to 2.6 million gallons per day. He asked for verification that this would be at the Monroe Wastewater Treatment Plant. Commissioner Mills asked if there is a line along Hwy. 75 and asked at what point the line ends.

Mr. Goscicki stated there is no line from the Monroe Plant going out Hwy. 75.

Commissioner Mills said he was searching for a way to help the fire department in that area.

Mr. Goscicki said that is the point; this project is isolated and designed to help this area. He assured that this plan had been in the Public Works' Master Plan for at least the last six years.

The Public Works Director said that tentatively he has selected an engineering firm to prepare the next Water and Sewer Master Plan update and is negotiating a contract with them now. He said he hoped to bring this to the Board soon. He said one of the key elements is to look at those issues, and he has instructed the firm to do outreach to meet with every municipality within Union County as well as their planning departments to study their master plans and determine where their service areas are projected so these areas can be incorporated into the County's Master Plan.

Commissioner Mills asked how the County could jumpstart a plan by partnering with the City of Monroe.

Mr. Goscicki replied that he thought his department owed the County an analysis to determine what is the most cost effective solution to the County – is it building a new northeast wastewater treatment plant that would serve the growth in the northeast part of the County or contracting with Monroe and pumping it to Monroe. He said that these two alternatives were discussed in the CIP.

Chairwoman Rogers said as a new Commissioner and in an effort to keep to the topic of the agenda that she knew sewer was a black hole and she knew that for years the County has tried to come up with an allocation system, etc. She said what was difficult for her personally is making piecemeal decisions when the Board does not have a big picture. She said that with every decision made as far as

water and sewer, the Board needs to be as economically driven as is possible. She stressed there is a valid concern from the Mayors that there is a need for additional economic development.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler asked for the cause of the pump station overflows.

Mr. Goscicki stated that the plants are aged so that the reliability of the system is older and there is limited pipe capacity so some of these pumps are running fulltime and there is also the problem with wet weather flow increases. He noted there are bottlenecks in the pipes and pump stations. He said the goal is to move forward and alleviate these bottlenecks.

The Vice Chairwoman next asked what the current usage is for Marshville and Wingate, both average daily and peak.

Mr. Goscicki said that he did not have those numbers with him.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler asked what the responsibilities are of Wingate and Marshville in maintaining their system and the inflow and infiltration issues based on the existing contracts.

Mr. Goscicki replied these agreements are very dated and have been amended a number of times and the Wingate contract lapsed October 31 and there is some question as to whether or not the Marshville agreement is still in effect. He said his office has been having some preliminary discussions with the Town officials.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler asked at what point in time would the County address that it might do everything that it needs to do to fix the County's pipe and system and questioned if Marshville and Wingate are not doing the same.

The Public Works Director replied that he did not know if inflow and infiltration have been a problem for seven or eight years and most of the project has been on the books for this amount of time because the County has contract capacity with the City of Monroe and does not have the physical ability to use it. He said the driving factor in this project is that the County has 2.65 million gallons of wastewater capacity that it is paying for and paying debt service on, but the County can only make use of 1.9 million gallons per day because that is all that can reach the plant. He said the Town of Wingate is moving forward with an Inflow and Infiltration Mitigation Project, which was supposed to have begun last month, but that he does not know the status of Marshville's plans. Mr. Goscicki said he had discussions with Wingate but has not had any substantive discussions with Marshville.

The Vice Chairwoman asked if the Wingate/Marshville area is the only area that the sewage could come from in order to go to the Monroe Plant. Mr. Goscicki replied that was true. He explained that this was the only area that was piped. He agreed that the County could build anything the County wanted. He said that the County could build a pump station, force main, and cross the County, but the question would be is this most cost-effective way to deal with the wastewater issue. Mr. Goscicki said that his department is moving forward with the Board's approval with an analysis of how to expand Twelve Mile Creek. He reported that engineering analysis is underway and a report is expected from the consultants in the April timeframe. Mr. Goscicki said the County would need to go beyond that and this is the point of a Master Plan. He questioned should the County go from 2.6 mgd in Monroe to 5 mgd or 7 mgd, etc. He said he could not provide these answers as these would have to come from a Master Plan and the Director listed some of the steps that would have to be followed to get those questions answered.

In response to a question from Commissioner Baucom, Mr. Goscicki said that this is the only sole project to move forward, and if this project does not move forward, he would need to look at a number of short-term projects that have been identified but not yet designed. He stressed that this is the only project that the County has designed and is ready to go that complies with the regulations of EPA.

Chairwoman Rogers said there is a motion on the floor and asked Commissioner Openshaw if this discussion is leading toward resolution or an answer to the question. She said that she did not mind discussing the issue, but if the discussion is not moving closer toward resolution, she would suggest going to a work session.

Commissioner Openshaw replied that he had a page of responses to that, and he would like to say that this is the last bit of sewer that remains in the entire County and there is no guarantee that the County will expand Twelve Mile Creek and, hopefully, the County can hopefully expand with Monroe but said the real issue is "what can be done to help Wingate and Marshville with their inflow and infiltration problems." He said as he is looking at the CIP there are about 14 projects that the County could do.

Mr. Goscicki responded that the challenge is that there is nothing else ready to move forward which is eligible for the grant funds and expressed concern that the grant funds would be lost.

Commissioner Openshaw said that he would personally like to meet with Wingate and deal with the inflow and infiltration problems but said I & I problems need to be fixed in Marshville before moving forward. He said he needed visual maps and said, if capacity is developed, there is still no user for it at the other end but noted there are towns waiting in line for capacity on the other side of the County.

Chairwoman Rogers asked that Commissioner Openshaw restate his motion for clarification: Commissioner Openshaw moved to suspend action on the EPA Grant and direct staff to present an overview of water and sewer in the Yadkin Basin. He said this presentation

is to include a review of all CIP projects eligible for the grant and the presentation will be followed by discussion of existing and potential new projects and a prioritization of all CIP projects. He further requested that staff include on a map all currently approved commercial projects separated by river basins.

Chairwoman Rogers said that she thought it might be beneficial to have a work session and notify all municipalities that the County will be having this meeting so that the answers could be cleared. She noted that sewer is confusing.

The County Manager interjected that this is not a confusing project but is a very straight forward project and pointed out that the Board heard its Public Works Director say that there is wastewater going on the ground and the County is not in compliance. He said the County has a solution and a project designed and can possibly safeguard the \$2 million grant. He said he had difficulty understanding the dilemma or the questions.

Chairwoman Rogers said that for her the question was the smaller projects scattered throughout the County, and she did not know if these are some of the issues being mentioned by the municipalities present tonight.

Mr. Goscicki interjected that all of the smaller projects are strictly reliability improvements. He said it is dealing with other projects that were specifically identified. He said some are just place holder projects. He said that the staff could review the CIP list with the Commissioners all day and all night but there are no projects on the list that could be identified that are going to alleviate the capacity issue. He said he is prepared to come back to the Board within the next month or two and start talking about wastewater capacity allocation updates. He pointed out that when the Board approved the sewer allocation plan two and half years ago, that plan specifically earmarked 450,000 gallons for future allocation. So, he noted, there is earmarked capacity that has not been allocated for which this Board can establish an allocation policy. The Public Works Director said there was some anticipated additional capacity when the diversion project between Six Mile Creek and Twelve Mile Creek was completed. He said there is a possibility of the County recovering capacity from projects that have not moved forward. Mr. Goscicki said there are approximately 260 wastewater projects on the books at this time and said there is a significant amount of those projects that have only moved forward partially or have not moved forward at all. He said they are reviewing this and had planned to come forward within the next couple months to discuss how to deal with the short-term allocation until the Twelve-Mile Creek Plant can be expanded or the County can buy more capacity some place else.

Commissioner Mills offered a substitute motion to move forward with the original motion that was approved unanimously at the last meeting.

Chairwoman Rogers ruled that procedurally there does not exist a provision for a substitute motion and a substitute motion is an amendment to the main motion and the amendment must be germane to the main motion; and, therefore, the proposed amendment is out of order because it is totally opposite to the main motion that is on the table.

She noted that procedural rulings come through the Chair.

Chairwoman Rogers said it does not sound from the discussions that the Board is reaching a comfort level for Commissioner Openshaw and said that she looks to Commissioner Openshaw for his knowledge and will admit that sewer is not her area of expertise. She said she wanted to make sure that there is a comfort level for Commissioner Openshaw.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler reported there is a work session coming up on the 26th and asked if this issue could be discussed during this meeting.

The County Manager interjected that date is not workable because the Board has a CIP plan to adopt, a budget that it has to begin work with, and a contract with KaufmanHall & Associates to sell the hospital. He said it is not conceivable to do this on the 26th and he did not know when it would be conceivable to hold the workshop. He said there are very serious matters ahead with the CIP that began last fall and are lingering. Mr. Greene said the staff cannot begin the budget until the Board gets through its CIP review.

Chairwoman Rogers asked Commissioner Openshaw if it would be possible, instead of a full-board workshop, for him to meet with the County Manager and Public Works Director to ask and get answers to his question.

Commissioner Openshaw agreed but said this is a very complex issue and the Board needs to know exactly what is going on and everything must be tied together. He said he could see many ways this could go. However, he said if this is what the Board wants him to do, he would be glad to do so.

Commissioner Mills asked what had happened between the last meeting and the Board's unanimous vote and to the point of discussion tonight.

Chairwoman Rogers said that she would answer that there have been people addressing the Board and expressing their views that the Board is doing the wrong thing. She said she had never seen a Sewer Master Plan and she was not going to make a decision in a vacuum and stressed she wants the facts before making the decision. She said she has been asked questions that she cannot comfortably answer, and she would like to be able to answer them before a decision is made.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said when the issue was previously discussed it was more in terms of the grant process and the minutes that were approved tonight indicated that Commissioner Openshaw raised a concern about the best use of the funds and actually made a friendly amendment to the motion to include Indian Trail, Unionville, and some other areas in the purview, which apparently now in retrospect was absolutely a moot amendment. She said she acted under the information being added that the County was going to look at those to only later come back and realize that was not going to happen. Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said that apparently she did not understand the complexity of what was going on and she still has some questions.

After discussion of the motion on the table, which was made by Commissioner Openshaw, the motion passed by a vote of three to two. Chairwoman Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler, and Commissioner Openshaw voted in favor of the motion and Commissioners Baucom and Mills voted against the motion.

Chairwoman Rogers asked Commissioner Openshaw to meet with the Public Works Director and the County Manager.

ANSON AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT UPDATE:

The Chairwoman recognized the County Manager who in turn briefly explained the item and recognized the Public Works Director to explain the item in more detail.

Mr. Goscicki noted that there have been a number of meetings predating his time with the County on possible expansion of the Anson Agreement as well as renewal of the Anson Agreement. He said the current agreement expires in the April 2014 timeframe and there were provisions that would allow renewal of the agreement. He said that over the course of the last year there were discussions about expanding that capacity commitment from Anson County from the current four million gallons per day to six million gallons per day. He reported there have been meetings between members of this Board and members of the Anson Board of Commissioners along with county staff. Mr. Goscicki said there have been follow-up meetings with the staff of both counties to hash out the issues and come to a better understanding. He reiterated that as Mr. Greene had pointed out that at the request of Anson County, Union County crafted it as essentially a Re-amended and Restated Agreement rather than amending it so that there would be a clean document that reads on it own. He pointed out some of the salient points that are included in the agreement are: the original agreement was a 20-year agreement that would expire in 2014 and what is being proposed is a 30-year extension that would take the contract to 2044. Mr. Goscicki said it is being further proposed to Anson County that Union County have two ten-year automatic renewals to the agreement unless either party gave notice five years in advance of that renewal date of its desire to terminate or not to renew the contract.

The Public Works Director said there is a series of phasing within this contract. He said the contract now provides for four million gallons of water per day on the County's part and the County cannot physically take that amount until such time as the Anson improvement project is completed. He stated at that time, the County's minimum monthly take or pay will jump from 30 millions gallons per month to 40 million gallons per month. He said that the Phase II improvement is what the County will need to complete to be able to take six million gallons per day. Mr. Goscicki said the improvements going into the ground at this time will have the capability of getting six million gallons per day into the Wingate tank but the County will need to make additional alterations to get the water into the distribution system. He said the master plan will determine what else needs to be done in terms of other inter connecting pipelines, booster pump stations, etc. He reviewed some of the other changes and corrections that have taken place in the proposed agreement. Mr. Goscicki reported that the Agreement stipulates that of the construction updates that Anson will have to complete prior to supplying this volume of water to Union County, that Union County will pay 33 percent of the cost of those improvements.

After hearing the update, the Chairwoman asked what action Mr. Goscicki and Mr. Greene were expecting from the Board. She said she had many questions and asked if it would be better for the Commissioners to mark up the document with their questions so the staff could come better prepared to answer these questions.

Mr. Greene asked that the Board allow the staff to go ahead and send the proposed contract to Anson's staff and Commissioners to give them time to also ask questions. He assured that the staff would work through whatever questions the Board may have through whatever process the Board would prefer.

Commissioner Baucom asked if a motion is needed or would consensus be acceptable.

The Manager stated that he thought consensus would be acceptable and then direction on the process to be followed for the Board's questions.

The Chairwoman proposed that in order to give staff time to prepare answers to questions that the Clerk send to each Commissioner a Word document of this Agreement so each could insert their questions and track changes. She said the questions could be sent to the staff and then it could be brought back to the Board to respond to the question. Chairwoman Rogers agreed it could simultaneously be sent to Anson County.

With there being no opposition to the consensus statement, Chairwoman Rogers thanked Mr. Goscicki for his presentation.

Commissioner Openshaw asked Mr. Goscicki if there have been any projections done on what it will cost the county on a thousand gallons per day when the Catawba Plant is expanded.

Chairwoman Rogers asked Commissioner Openshaw to direct this question to the Public Works Director off line since this is not part of the presentation.

UNION COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS REPORT:

The Chairwoman recognized the County Manager to introduce the persons present representing The Partnership for Progress.

Mr. Greene recognized Maurice Ewing and Michael Trotter to present the Union County Partnership for Progress Report. He said it had been some time since the County had received a quarterly report because of scheduling difficulties on the County's part and not that of Mr. Ewing.

Mr. Ewing said he would be happy to report to the Board on the time schedule it prefers and will either present in person, in writing, or on a one-on-one basis.

Mr. Ewing reported that at this time there is a ten percent unemployment rate in North Carolina and particularly in Union County. He said the numbers are from 2007 to 2009 and he thought the important thing to see is that 3,600 people were unemployed in 2007 and there are 9,605 unemployed now. He noted there has been a very serious jump and pointed out that their review of this information provides that a great majority of the unemployed are related to the construction industry. Mr. Ewing noted there has been a loss of plenty of manufacturing employees but there has not been a loss of manufacturers. He said that was a good sign because as the economy recovers many of the workers will be called back. He said it is thought that the construction industry will have greater difficulty recovering than will manufacturing. He said there will be recovery in the larger taxpayers over a course of time, and it will be faster than construction.

He said that financing is a critical component to construction and financing particularly for commercial projects is very benign.

Mr. Ewing highlighted the New Industry Report by stating that for the current fiscal year there have been three projects that have located in Union County for an investment of about \$2 million dollars with 44 jobs announced. He said in fiscal year 2008-2009, which was the last fiscal year, there were five projects and investment of \$10.6 million with 37 jobs announced. He said the Partnership was established in 2004 and the first projects came to fruition in 2005 and from that time until today, there have been 27 projects that the Partnership has worked on that have located in Union County for investments of \$420.9 million dollars and 1160 announced jobs.

Michael Trotter expounded on Business Retention and Expansion. He said there have been efforts to reach out to existing businesses in Union County. Mr. Trotter said there is a statistic in the economic development community that 80 percent of all jobs and investments are created by existing businesses within a jurisdiction. He said generally the County's growth is within the existing businesses. He reported that since July, the Partnership for Progress has met with 39 different companies throughout the county. He said that from January 2009, the Partnership for Progress met with 75 companies. Mr. Trotter said that of the 75 companies that the Partnership for Progress met with, there have been nine expansion opportunities and two have moved plants from other areas to Union County.

He reported that they have received 38 client inquiries since July searching for sites or buildings, and that all inquiries received are contacted. He said since January 2009, the number of client inquiries is 76. Mr. Trotter reviewed how leads are obtained. He stated that of the 76 projects, 16 projects are still considered to be alive. He explained that the Partnership continues to track projects and make contacts until the projects are dead.

Mr. Trotter said there are 51 available buildings in Union County which is a two-edged sword in that although it is good to have a vacant building when a business comes along, it means there is no existing business in the building. He said there are 41 sites and water and sewer is an issue with the sites.

After having presented the program, Mr. Trotter opened the floor for questions.

Chairwoman Rogers said she understands that it is important to continue contacts with existing businesses but asked what is being done to bring in new business. She questioned what is being done aggressively rather than passively.

Mr. Ewing responded that one of the Partnership's best resources is the Charlotte Regional Partnership, and stated that he is active with the organization and serves on that Board. He said many leads from economic development come from these sources, from other people although they can also make contacts through travel. He said for revenue purposes some travel has been curtailed but he has increased their intense contacts with lead sources. He said his office has a policy that every lead, every company, every chance that can be found to locate a project or to engage in a project will be followed up. He said a project is chased until it goes dead for one reason or the other.

Mr. Ewing said there are many initiatives that are common in his business such as trade shows, but he had never found them too beneficial, but there are target industry initiatives that are generated or driven by the Charlotte Regional Partnership, and he capitalizes on those whenever possible. He said for this year he has curtailed the high-cost items and relied on those faithful sources and other people who

provide the in-bound leads. He said their intense efforts with existing companies are very worthwhile. Mr. Ewing said they found one business that is going to expand but there is no guarantee that it is going to expand in Union County.

Chairwoman Rogers asked about the interaction of the Partnership for Progress with the leadership in the municipalities.

Mr. Ewing responded that he is committed to the concept of being available and encouraging the municipalities to tell him or to allow them to help the towns determine what they would like to do in the area of economic development. He said there are some communities of the 14 in Union County that do not want to engage in it. In fact, Mr. Ewing said he was meeting tomorrow with two of the new City Council members from Waxhaw and had recently met with representatives of Stallings and Indian Trail. He said that he and Mrs. Long, Mayor of Fairview, recently had exchanged emails.

Chairwoman Rogers asked if the Partnership for Progress had conducted any municipality group sessions and encouraged them all to come in for information and interaction. She said that one of her main goals is to increase the County's economic development and said she is looking for some out of the box ways to do that. She agreed that the Partnership for Progress should be marketing Union County in some of the northern states. She reported that she had received an interest call but was uncertain as to the best way to direct the call.

Mr. Ewing said that he would be pleased to talk with her about the project that she is familiar with or with Mr. Greene to develop a strategy that would allow his department to seek that source. He said there are two sacred cows in his business: one is the client and the other is the lead source. Mr. Ewing said they treat the lead source the same way as they treat a client. He said there are some industries that show great interest in Union County in order to obtain better incentives from where they are located now. He said this situation occurs frequently. Mr. Ewing said he would suggest that she give his office the lead and hold him accountable for chasing the project and reporting.

With there being no other comments or questions, Chairwoman Rogers thanked Mr. Ewing for the report and said that she expected that at least quarterly the Board will be receiving these reports.

RULES OF PROCEDURE:

The Chairwoman stated the next item is from the Consent Agenda – the Rules of Procedure. She recognized the Vice Chairwoman who had a grammatical change.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler stated that on page five (c) where it states “the board is discouraged to add items to the agenda.” She said she believed it should read “the board is discouraged from adding items to the agenda.”

Chairwoman Rogers said that on page four (e) it should be a deletion of “that note”.

The Vice Chairwoman asked if there is still a \$10 fee. The attorney responded there is a fee for a hard copy but there is not a fee for emails. He said that question raises another good point in that the Chairwoman had some changes that she wanted to make to the Rules and there are a number of legal changes that should be made to comply with current laws. He said he had not had time to go back and revise the Rules, but he would be doing so in the future.

The Chairwoman moved to approve the amendments to the Rules of Procedure pending legal review by Mr. Crook and his staff. The motion passed by a vote of four to one. Chairwoman Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler, Commissioner Baucom and Commissioner Openshaw voted for the motion. Commissioner Mills voted against the motion.

EARTH DAY 2010 SPONSORSHIP:

The Chairwoman recognized Ed Goscicki, Public Works Director, to explain this item.

Mr. Goscicki asked the Board to endorse the County’s continued participation as a joint sponsor and organizer of an Earth Day festival with the City of Monroe and to authorize the staff to proceed with planning and coordination of the event, which is tentatively scheduled for April 17. He stated that last year was the first time the County had joined with Monroe in this event.

He said this year’s event will be similar in nature to last year’s. He said the County’s participation will be in organizing and the County will not be putting up money; however, the City of Monroe is contributing some material and supplies that they have such as tables and providing electricity, etc. He said the event is going to be open to the public and private sector entities such as Master Gardeners, US Forest Service, Wingate University Environmental Club, Union County Public Works, City of Monroe Storm water, American Chemical Society, Union County Environmental Health, the Beekeeper, Boggs Paving, etc. He stated that the goal is to bring together vendors, private entities and public entities that have an interest in the environment so they can showcase what they do and what the citizens can do to protect the environment.

He said that Union County does not have a household collection program and this event will be used to provide one. He said that at this event household hazardous waste, electronics, tires, motor oil and other items that require environmentally safe disposal will be

collected by the County's licensed contractor who will dispose of these items. He stated that approximately \$30,000 was budgeted this year for that program, and the County's contractor will be onsite. He said that last year the cost was approximately \$15,000.

Motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Kuehler to endorse the County's continued participation as a joint sponsor in Earth Day. The motion passed unanimously.

CFO RECRUITMENT EFFORT:

The Chairwoman recognized the County Manager to present this item.

The County Manager stated that Kai Nelson, Finance Director, has announced his plans to retire this summer and stated that although he does not appreciate the notice, he does appreciate the length of the warning. He said that he and the Personnel Director have talked with a number of people around North Carolina – the Local Government Commission, the School of Government, local governments and a host of contacts that the Finance Director has in the industry and through these efforts it has been determined that there is not a strong pool of applicants that would have the qualifications and experience that Union County would require. He said a number of jurisdictions in the past year – some smaller and some larger than Union County – have had serious difficulty in obtaining a Finance Director and have extended their searches more than one time. Mr. Greene said that the County has had a good experience with Waters Consulting who helped with the Public Works Director search.

Mr. Greene said that Waters Consulting has prepared a proposal to perform a search for the Finance Director and has offered the County a very attractive price of \$15,500 plus project related expenses not to exceed \$7,500.

He recommended that the Board accept the contract proposal from Waters Consulting in an amount of \$15,500 plus project related expenses not to exceed \$7,500 and to authorize the County Manager to execute the agreement pending further legal review that the Staff Attorney might want to make.

Commissioner Baucom moved that the contract proposal from Waters Consulting to perform a search for a Finance Director be approved in an amount of \$15,500 plus project related expenses not to exceed \$7,500 and that the County Manager be authorized to execute the agreement pending further legal review by the staff attorney.

Commissioner Openshaw asked Mr. Nelson if he had government experience when he came to work for Union County. Mr. Nelson responded that he came from Fayetteville, North Carolina, where he was responsible for the business relationships that exist between the

City of Fayetteville and its Public Works Commission. He said that prior to that employment, he had been in the banking business. He said he had a combination of both private sector banking experience and public sector financial experience.

He asked Mr. Nelson if he has expressed an interest in continuing to do consulting work with Union County. Mr. Nelson responded that it wanes based on the day of the week but acknowledged that he had expressed that interest.

Commissioner Openshaw said that based on the bankers that are in Charlotte that he would prefer to see some private sector searches done and then potentially have Kai Nelson as a mentor or to be available when needed.

The County Manager asked if that suggestion is in lieu of the contract with Waters.

Commissioner Openshaw said he was fine with the contract but that suggestion could be given as direction to Waters.

Chairwoman Rogers asked if in the search for Mr. Goscicki did the Manager exceed the three days that were included in the contract. She said she noted that it is \$1,500 a day plus expenses if more than the three days are needed.

The Manager responded that the three days would be sufficient.

Following the discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CHAIRWOMAN'S INVOLVEMENT IN INTERVIEW PROCESS:

The Chair stated that she has discussed this item with Mr. Greene. Chairwoman Rogers said she believes that she or the Board should be involved in the interview process for the Finance Director. She said that she and Mr. Greene had a good, honest discussion and came to point of agreeing to disagree. She said that he does not recommend the action; however, she said that she feels strongly that this is a key position in the County government and that with her personal experience in both finance and human resources that her involvement in the interview process would be a benefit. She said this was not her saying that she would be involved in anyway in the hiring decision in that she understands that provision is in his contract but she feels strongly that she should be included in the interview process.

Motion was made by Chairwoman Rogers that she be included in the interview process for the hiring of the County's Finance Director.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler asked if this is one of the positions where a committee would be part of the interview process and the Chair would be one of several participants. Mr. Greene replied that he had not hired a department head director without the benefit of a committee in many years.

Commissioner Baucom stated that he respectfully disagrees with the Chairwoman and her involvement in the hiring process. He stressed the hiring is the responsibility of the County Manager. Commissioner Baucom said that one of his concerns is that if she is sitting in the interview whether individually or part of a committee, that the applicants clearly understand that the Chairwoman is an elected position and is political, and it takes away the aspect that this hiring process is done based on merits, based on job description, and based on qualifications of these applicants and puts the influence of the political arena into the hiring process.

He said if future applicants look at the process, they will see that Union County's department heads are interviewed in the political arena rather than by the County Manager and a committee put together by the County Manager. He said he disagreed on those grounds and that he did not know that the Chairwoman's qualifications are any better than any other commissioner.

The Chairwoman stated that she would be fine with the input and involvement of the full board.

Commissioner Baucom interjected that he was not fine with the involvement of the full board. He said he thought the Board was micromanaging and delving into areas that are absolutely not the Board's responsibility. Commissioner Baucom said it concerns him that this Board of Commissioners would even think of going in that direction.

Chairwoman Rogers responded that it has been no secret since she has been on this Board that she is more hands-on and views things a little differently than what has occurred in the past. She said she agreed with the State Statute 153(a) 82 and 153(a) 76 that gives her the right to participate in the interviewing process and the UNC School of Government that promotes involvement from Commissioners.

Commissioner Mills stated that this evening's meeting has been full of ironies. He said that last week there had been a work session regarding the hospital and he made a motion for Commissioners and staff to come into a room to make decisions and that had been voted down. He said the Chairwoman made a statement that said: "it has been pounded into the Commissioners' heads about the County Manager form of government. I understand that. We need to provide staff with the information that they can carry forth, and the more Commissioners get involved at a personal level, the more convoluted it becomes." Commissioner Mills said the Commissioners have a decision in the hospital issue but the County Commissioners do not have a decision in hiring a finance director. He stressed the Manager and his staff are very capable and that he thought the Chairwoman's involvement would create problems farther down the road. He noted that the only positions that the Board of Commissioners can hire are the County Manager and the Clerk to the Board. He said he thought the

County Manager form of government is working fine, and the County Manager did a great job in selecting Mr. Goscicki and thought he would do a fine job in hiring a finance director.

Chairwoman Rogers said there have been recent times when the County Manager and staff have recommended a direction and that Commissioner Mills had voted against the recommendation. She said that he had disagreed with the action and that is where she is now. She said she disagreed with the action and there are State Statutes that support her position. Chairwoman Rogers said her intent is not to micromanage but is to try to assess and assist. She said Mr. Greene does not have to listen or take her advice but that she is very hands on and she feels that is why the citizens elected her to office.

Commissioner Baucom asked for clarification on the Statutes being referenced by the Chair. The Staff Attorney stated that he believed she referenced 153(a) 82, which is the County Manager's powers and duties and also 153(a) 76, which is the Board of Commissioners authority to organize county government.

Commissioner Baucom asked for an interpretation of the Statutes giving the Chair that authority.

The County Manager stated that in all due respect to the question he would be concerned that the Staff Attorney is in a position as a staff person and that the Board would not want to put him into a difficult position. He said he thought it might be more appropriate to have a response from the County Attorney.

Commissioner Mills asked if action could be deferred until the Board hears from the County Attorney. He said that the Chairwoman has cited several Statutes that she says allow her request and that he is not sure if these pertain to this question.

Commissioner Baucom interjected that his package did not include copies of the material being referenced.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said she knows the Statutes being referenced and these were reviewed when Mr. Bundy was the acting Interim County Attorney. She said these Statutes give the Board authority to hire not to terminate the staff. She said that the last Board gave that statutory right to the County Manager in his sole discretion. The Vice Chairwoman said she did not believe the motion gives the Chairwoman authority to interfere in that right to hire or to take that ability from the Manager but said it is her understanding that the Chairwoman is merely requesting to be involved in the committee that the County Manager admitted that he hasn't hired without for many years.

County Manager Greene addressed Vice Chairwoman Kuehler's comment about his having admitted something. He said he had intended to be quiet but thought he needed to respond to that statement. Mr. Greene said he had put his concerns in writing and will not reiterate those but will say that this action will hurt Union County going forward not only in attracting qualified candidates for department head level positions but also first and foremost for the position of County Manager. He said that while he stated, he would not say he admitted, that he used committees to hire department heads he did not think anything should be assumed by that. He said that procedure was a professional way to hire.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler corrected that the County Manager stated that he used committees. She said she had in no way meant that he had admitted to something that she was catching him on. She said it was the wrong choice of words on her part.

Commissioner Openshaw stated that he had lots of confidence in the Chairwoman's ability and that he understood and hears the County Manager's position. He said that good points have been made on both sides, and he would look at it as one person representing the board. He reviewed the procedure used in hiring the County Manager and said he thought that in hiring the Finance Director it could also be followed as that is a valued position. He said he had no problem with having one commissioner involved but agreed that it is the County Manager's decision to hire all department heads.

Chair Rogers called the question which passed by a vote of three to two. Chairwoman Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler, and Commissioner Openshaw voted in favor the motion. Commissioners Baucom and Mills voted against the motion.

Chair Rogers then called for a vote on the motion for her to be involved in the interview process. The motion passed by a vote of three to two. Chairwoman Rogers, Vice Chairwoman Kuehler and Commissioner Openshaw voted for the motion and Commissioner Baucom and Commissioner Mills voted against the motion.

ANNOUCMENT OF VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

The Chairwoman announced the following vacancies:

- a.) Adult Care Home Advisory Committee (3 vacancies)
- b.) Board of Equalization and Review (2 vacancies as of February 2010)
- c.) Nursing Home Advisory Committee (3 vacancies)
- d.) Region F Aging Advisory Committee (1 vacancy)
- e.) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (Substance Abuse Professional)

- f.) Union County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority (2 vacancies for unexpired term ending May 2014)
- g.) Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (5 vacancies)
- h.) Union County Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee
- i.) Health Board (two citizens at large)
- j.) Fire Commission (two vacancies)
- k.) Planning Board (two vacancies for regular members and one vacancy for alternate members as of April 2010)

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Greene reminded that the staff is working toward a work session on January 26 for the purpose of continuing discussions of the CIP and Mr. Merritt has asked for time with the Board in closed session.

He said that the staff has been getting lots of questions and comments about potential retirement of county debt. He said that Mr. Nelson has put together a memo relating to the wisdom or the calculation that would be used to determine if retirement of debt would be appropriate or prudent. He distributed the information this afternoon and thought it would be best to give this out tonight.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said she had no comments.

Commissioner Mills asked the status of a resolution brought forward about third-part contracts.

In a request from the Chairwoman for more information, he reminded that Vice Chairwoman Kuehler had brought forth a resolution that she had asked the Board to vote on and it was deferred to the Fire Commission. He said he is curious as to its status and would like to have an update in the near future.

Vice Chairwoman Kuehler said that she could give the County Manager an update later.

Commissioner Openshaw asked Matthew Delk, Assistant County Manager, the date for the next MCIC meeting.

Mr. Delk replied that due to the projected absence of some key staff an email was sent to the MCIC email list proposing to reschedule the meeting on February 25. He said he did not have the email in front of him but would get back with the Commissioners with this information.

Commissioner Openshaw congratulated James Mungo for being chosen Citizen of the Year by a group of “A Few Good Men” for his community involvement. He also congratulated Jack Olin for being chosen Republican of the Year and Kay Feldman for being selected Republican Woman of the Year by the Republican’s Men Club.

He also congratulated the workers at the Crime Stoppers’ BBQ, which he thought had been the most successful one yet.

Commissioner Baucom said he was perplexed by action taken tonight by this Board when it rescinded action taken unanimously at the last meeting to use the \$2 million EPA grant on a project that was already approved in the CIP and has been identified as the only applicable project in the county that can utilize the grant money without jeopardizing the loss of the grant money by the county. He said he could not understand that action.

He addressed his concern about the people in Haiti and said the citizens of that nation deserve our thoughts and prayers as do the workers who are there attending to the needs of the people. He encouraged contributions to the American Red Cross.

Commissioner Mills said he was a member of the Waxhaw-Weddington Rotary Club which has already raised \$25,000 and is looking to partner with two other Rotary Clubs to try to purchase a solar water system in Charleston to take to Haiti, which is what they are seeking funds to purchase.

The Chairwoman said she did not have any additional comments and would entertain a motion to adjourn.

With there being no further comments or discussion at approximately 9:55 p.m., Commissioner Baucom moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.