

Approved December 15, 2008

December 1, 2008

The Union County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, December 1, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room, First Floor, Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Monroe, North Carolina. The following were

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Allan Baucom, Commissioner-Elect Tracy Kuehler, Commissioner A. Parker Mills, Jr., Commissioner Lanny Openshaw, and Commissioner-Elect Kim Rogers

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Al Greene, County Manager, Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Matthew Delk, Assistant County Manager, Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, H. Ligon Bundy, Attorney at Law, members of the press, and interested citizens

**OPENING OF MEETING:**

Al Greene, County Manager, who presided over the meeting until the Chairman was elected, convened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

***Invocation:***

Reverend Tim Cruise, Senior Pastor of Shining Light Baptist Church, offered the invocation.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

Joseph Ellison of Shining Light Baptist Church led the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and followed with playing on trumpet the song "God Bless America."

**OATHS OF OFFICE:**

Tracey Clinton, Mayor of the Village of Wesley Chapel, administered the oaths of office for Commissioners-Elect Tracy Kuehler and Kim Rogers. Commissioners-Elect Kuehler was accompanied at the podium by her husband, Richard Kuehler, and sons, Chase and Cade Kuehler, as she received her oath of office. Commissioner-Elect Rogers was accompanied at the podium by her husband, Michael Rogers, and daughters, Brittany Rogers and Jenna Rogers, as she received her oath of office.

***a. Commissioner-Elect Tracy Kuehler:***

**OATH OF OFFICE  
UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

I, Tracy Kuehler, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as County Commissioner, so help me God.

I, Tracy Kuehler, do solemnly swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina and to the Constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain, and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Tracy Kuehler, do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of Commissioner for the County of Union according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

s/Tracy Kuehler

Union County Commissioner

s/Tracey Clinton, Mayor of Village of Wesley Chapel  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 1st day of December, 2008.

***b. Commissioner-Elect Kim Rogers***

**OATH OF OFFICE  
UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

I, Kim Rogers, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as County Commissioner, so help me God.

I, Kim Rogers, do solemnly swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina and to the Constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain, and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Kim Rogers, do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of Commissioner for the County of Union according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

s/Kim Rogers  
Union County Commissioner

s/Tracey Clinton, Mayor of Village of Wesley Chapel  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 1st day of December, 2008.

***b. Register of Deeds – Crystal Crump:***

The Honorable Chris Bragg, District Court Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Crystal Crump, Register of Deeds. Mrs. Crump was accompanied at the podium by her husband, Tony and sons, Brandon and Matthew Crump, as she received her oath of office.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF UNION

**OATH OF OFFICE  
FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS**

I, Crystal D. Crump, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Register of Deeds, so help me God.

I, Crystal D. Crump, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Crystal D. Crump, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and truly, according to the best of my skill and ability, execute the duties of the office of Register of Deeds for the County of Union, in all things according to law; so help me, God.

This 1st day of December, 2008.

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Crystal D. Crump, Register of Deeds

Sworn to and subscribed before  
me this the 1st day of December, 2008

Chris Bragg, District Court Judge

After receiving their oaths of office, Mr. Greene asked that Commissioners Kuehler and Rogers join their fellow board members at the meeting table. Mr. Greene offered congratulations to Commissioners Kuehler and Rogers and to Mrs. Crump.

He expressed appreciation to Commissioner Baucom who served as the previous Chairman and stated that it had been a pleasure to have served under Commissioner Baucom's chairmanship since coming to Union County.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

*a. Chairman*

Mr. Greene opened the floor for nominations for the Office of Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Baucom nominated Commissioner Openshaw for the Office of Chairman.

With there being no further nominations, Commissioner Mills moved that the nominations for the Office of Chairman be closed. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Greene asked for a vote on the nomination of Commissioner Openshaw. With Commissioner Openshaw having received five votes, Mr. Greene declared him to be the Chairman.

***b. Vice Chairman***

Mr. Greene opened the floor for nominations for the Office of Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Kuehler nominated Commissioner Rogers for the Office of Vice Chairman.

With there being no further nominations, Commissioner Mills moved that the nominations for the Office of Vice Chairman be closed. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Greene called for a vote on the nomination of Commissioner Rogers. With Commissioner Rogers having received five votes, Mr. Greene declared her to be the Vice Chair.

Mr. Greene asked that Commissioner Openshaw and Commissioner Rogers move to the podium to receive their oaths of office and requested that Judge Bragg administer the oaths.

***a. Chairman***

**OATH OF OFFICE**

**Chairman, Board of Commissioners**

I, Lanny Openshaw, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Chairman, so help me God.

I, Lanny Openshaw, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the Constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Lanny Openshaw, do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Union according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

S/Lanny Openshaw, Chairman

S/Chris Bragg, District Court Judge  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 1st day of December, 2008.

*b. Vice Chair*

OATH OF OFFICE

**Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners**

I, Kim Rogers, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Vice Chairman, so help me God.

I, Kim Rogers, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the Constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, Kim Rogers, do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Union according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.

S/Kim Rogers, Vice Chairman

S/Chris Bragg, District Court Judge  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 1st day of December, 2008

The County Manager passed the gavel to Chairman Openshaw to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS' BONDS:**

Commissioner Baucom moved approval in block of the bonds for Sheriff Eddie Cathey in the amount of \$5,000 and for Mrs. Crystal Crump, Register of Deeds in the amount of \$25,000. The motion was passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEES' BONDS:**

Commissioner Mills moved approval in block the bond for the Finance Director in the amount of \$100,000 and the bond for the Tax Administrator in the amount of \$60,000. The motion was passed unanimously.

**INFORMAL COMMENTS:**

Reid Phifer, a resident of Forest Hills School Road, Marshville, North Carolina, stated that the Board was fortunate to have Commissioner Kuehler on the Board. He said that she had legal knowledge, which was a great asset.

Mr. Phifer distributed information to the Board regarding Pinky Marsh's rodeo. He said that he has never attended a rodeo or a horse race on Mr. Marsh's property. He said that he liked the wording of the oaths that were administered tonight stating that they "solemnly swear that I will be faithful to the State of North Carolina and to its constitutional powers and will defend the Constitution of the State." Mr. Phifer stated that this is one of the concerns that he believes the Board needs to address. He questioned whether



Union County is going to adhere to the North Carolina General Statutes and laws on bona fide farm related issues or is it going to dismiss being faithful to the part of the oaths of office referring to the State of North Carolina and its constitutional powers.

He referred to the written information that he provided to the Board referencing the powers contained in the General Statutes given to the Board. He said that the information contained the definition of Agriculture and Agri-Tourism. Further, he said that David McLeod, who he referred to as the top legal authority in the State of North Carolina on agricultural law, sent him an e-mail and letter referencing agri-business to Mr. Phifer. Mr. Phifer said that he had also included other written materials. He encouraged the Board to find out the facts in this matter. He offered if the Board had any concerns with nuisance issues on Mr. Marsh's property to talk with the deputies who work that area.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Chairman Openshaw requested the following additions to the Agenda: 1) Oath of Office for James Johnson, Jr., Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, which would become Item 9a on the regular agenda; 2) modify the wording of Item 11 – Appointment of County Attorney to Appointment of Interim County Attorney and Discussion of Staff Presenting a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in connection therewith to the Board at its December 15, 2008, regular meeting; and 3) modify the wording of Item 12(b)(4) to delete the wording of “making the Sunshine list free to anyone seeking electronic correspondence” to add “the creation of a citizen notification e-mail list.

With there being no further additions or deletions, Commissioner Mills moved adoption of the Agenda as amended. The motion was passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Commissioner Mills moved approval of the items listed on the Consent Agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** Minutes of regular meeting of November 17, 2008.

**Employees' Crime Insurance Coverage:** Employees' Crime Insurance Coverage Policy Limits of \$250,000 with a \$1,000 deductible for most losses.

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR - OATH OF OFFICE FOR JAMES JOHNSON, JR.,**  
**:- (This item was added to the Regular Agenda at the Request of Chairman Openshaw):**

Judge Chris Bragg administered the Oath of Office to James Johnson, Jr., Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF UNION

**OATH OF OFFICE**  
**FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR**

I, James Johnson, Jr., do solemnly affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Union Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, so help me God.

I, James Johnson, Jr., do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, James Johnson, Jr., do solemnly swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of the office of Union Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, according to the best of my skills and ability according to the Soil and Water Conservation District Laws of North Carolina, so help me, God.

This 1st day of December, 2008.

c/James Johnson, Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed before  
me this the 1st day of December, 2008

s/Chris Bragg, District Court Judge

**APPOINTMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**

Chairman Openshaw stated that he had spoken with each of the other members of the Board individually and received their input on the Board and Committee assignments. He requested that the Clerk make note that the Board review either in a retreat or a work session the Committees for attendance and whether the Board wishes for the Commissioner-Representatives to continue to be voting members on the boards and committees. He stated that he did not have information on the Community Transportation Improvement Program Advisory Board, Transportation Advisory Board or the Yadkin Pee Dee Board of Directors. He stated that unless the Board has information on these boards or someone wants to be appointed to these boards, he would suggest that those appointments be deferred to the Board's December 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

Commissioner Baucom responded that the Yadkin Pee Dee Board of Directors is a viable board. Chairman Openshaw said that he did not have information on this board although he serves on that board. He stated that he had not received notification of the meetings of that board. Commissioner Baucom said that he attended one meeting in the previous year, but it had been attended primarily by staff from the upper Yadkin Basin to the Pee Dee Basin. He stated that it was a large group and primarily deals with issues that are very concentrated to the technical components. Chairman Openshaw said that perhaps a member of the County staff could be assigned to attend these meetings. He stated that unless a Board member wanted to volunteer to serve on that board, this appointment could be researched and brought to the Board again on December 15. He presented the following slate of appointments:

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| 1. | Agricultural Advisory Board                        | Commissioner Baucom                        |
| 2. | Catawba River Water Supply Project Governing Board | Commissioner Kuehler<br>Commissioner Mills |

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| 3.  | Centralina Council of Governments                                   | Chairman Openshaw<br>Alternate: All Commissioners    |
| 4.  | Centralina Economic Development Commission, Inc. Board of Directors | Chairman Openshaw                                    |
| 5.  | Community Transportation Improvement Plan Steering Committee        | Deferred to December 15, 2008                        |
| 6.  | Criminal Justice Partnership Program Advisory Board                 | Commissioner Mills                                   |
| 7.  | Farmer's Market Committee   | Commissioner Baucom                                  |
| 8.  | Fire Commission   | Commissioner Kuehler                                 |
| 9.  | Health Board  | Commissioner Baucom                                  |
| 10. | Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee              | Commissioner Baucom                                  |
| 11. | Indigent Health Care Committee                                      | Commissioner Baucom                                  |
| 12. | Job Ready Partnership Council                                       | Commissioner Mills                                   |
| 13. | Juvenile Crime Prevention Council                                   | Commissioner Mills                                   |
| 14. | Library Board of Trustees   | Commissioner Kuehler                                 |
| 15. | Local Emergency Planning Committee                                  | Commissioner Kuehler                                 |
| 16. | Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization                | Commissioner Kuehler<br>Alternate: Vice Chair Rogers |
| 17. | Parks and Recreation Advisory Board                                 | Chairman Openshaw                                    |

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| 18. | Partnership for Children, Inc. Board of Directors (now Union Smart Start)       | Vice Chair Rogers   |
| 19. | Piedmont Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Board | Deferred until December 15, 2008<br>(Chairman Openshaw stated that Commissioner Mills had said that he would volunteer for this appointment if no other Board member volunteered to serve.) |
| 20. | Rocky River Rural Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee       | Commissioner Baucom<br>Alternate: Chairman Openshaw   |
| 21. | Transportation Advisory Board   | Deferred until December 15, 2008  |
| 22. | URMC/CMC-Union Board of Directors   | Vice Chair Rogers<br>Commissioner Kuehler   |
| 23. | URMC/CMC Trustee Council  | Vice Chair Rogers   |
| 24. | Yadkin Pee Dee Board of Directors   | Deferred until December 15, 2008  |
| 25. | School Liaison  | Vice Chair Rogers   |

Chairman Openshaw reiterated his requests for information regarding the Community Transportation Improvement Plan Steering Committee, Transportation Advisory Board, Yadkin Pee Dee Board of Directors, and Piedmont Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Board.

Commissioner Mills asked staff for an update on the Crisis Center as proposed by Piedmont Area Mental Health. Mr. Delk, Assistant County Manager, responded that it was his understanding that Piedmont Area Mental Health is still in the diligence period

on the building that it has identified as a possible location for the center. He said that representatives of Piedmont Area Mental Health had planned to give the Board an update on this matter several meetings ago, and because of a scheduling conflict, they were unable to attend that meeting. He offered that the staff could request that the report be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

Commissioner Mills added that it is an active board and it is difficult for him to attend meetings in Cabarrus County for that board.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Baucom moved approval of the Commissioner appointments to the boards and committees as proposed by the Chairman. The motion was passed unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY (Item was Modified to Read Interim County Attorney as requested by Chairman Openshaw):**

Chairman Openshaw noted that staff had recommended the appointment of Ligon Bundy as Interim County Attorney.

Commissioner Mills moved to appoint Ligon Bundy to serve as Interim County Attorney. He said that Mr. Bundy has done an outstanding job representing the County, and he would highly recommend his appointment as Interim County Attorney.

Vice Chair Rogers asked for a point of clarification of Commissioner Mills' motion and questioned whether the motion was for the appointment of Mr. Bundy as Interim County Attorney and to direct staff to bring a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to the Board at its December 15, 2008, meeting. Commissioner Mills agreed that this was the intent of his motion.

Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, interjected that he believed the intent would be to bring the proposed Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to the Board on December 15, and not the responses to the RFQ. It was agreed that this was the intent of the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

**ITEMS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER OPENSHAW FOR AGENDA:**

- a. *Seating Arrangement*

Chairman Openshaw stated that he believed this item had been addressed.

***b. Procedure Amendments and Additions:***

***1. Discussion of a Return of Show of Hands and Verbal Voting***

Commissioner Mills moved approval for the Board to return to voting on agenda items by a show of hands and verbal voting.

Vice Chair Rogers asked for a point of clarification of the motion whether it was for the Board to vote by a show of hands in lieu of voting electronically. Commissioner Mills stated that was his understanding.

Commissioner Baucom asked Mrs. West, Clerk to the Board, which method of voting would be easier for her to count the votes. Mrs. West stated that if the votes were to be by a show of hands, that it would be better for the Chairman to state the vote verbally because of the difficulty for her to see the show of hands.

Chairman Openshaw suggested that the Board vote by both a show of hands and electronically. Commissioner Baucom asked for an explanation of the purpose of changing the voting method of the Board. Commissioner Kuehler said that she thought it was ironic that the Board members had been voting tonight by both a show of hands and electronically. She said that having been a member of the audience in previous meetings, that the electronic vote on the screen is shown so fast, that unless the audience has memorized where each Board member is sitting and they are constant viewers, it is difficult to determine the votes of the Board members.

Commissioner Baucom offered a friendly amendment to the motion that the Board signify its votes by both the showing of hands and electronically, which was accepted by Commissioner Mills.

Vice Chair Rogers asked what would rule in the event of an inconsistent vote between the show of hands and the electronic vote. It was noted that the vote by the show of hands would rule in that event.

Following the discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

## **2. *Discussion of Removal of Timer Box from Proceedings:***

Chairman Openshaw explained that this was the timer box for the informal comments. He stated that this would place a tremendous burden on the Chairman to keep track of time on the comments.

Commissioner Mills moved discussion of the proposal. He stated when he was Chairman during his previous term on the Board, there was no timer box. He said that it is much more personal not having the timer box but the Chairman is more interactive with the speaker if the Chairman keeps the time. He stated that it should be the Chairman's prerogative of whether or not to have the timer box.

Chairman Openshaw said that he had heard complaints about the timer box because the speakers become distracted with the lights on the timer box. He stated that many of the speakers that come before the Board are nervous and are not accustomed to speaking in public. He said that the light is distracting and breaks up the continuity of their comments. He asked if it were possible to have the light flash red when the time limit has expired without the warning. Vice Chair Rogers suggested moving the timer box so that it could be seen by the Chairman or the Clerk but away from the podium.

Commissioner Baucom asked if the intent of the item was to remove the timer box or the removal of the three-minute time limit for the comments. It was stated that the time limit would still be three minutes for each speaker. Commissioner Baucom questioned how the individual speaker could be aware of the time. Chairman Openshaw said that he did not mind giving the speaker a signal that his/her time was about to expire. Chairman Openshaw said that he was agreeable with having the timer remaining at the podium and flashing red when the time had expired with no warning signal or with moving the timer box to a location where the Chairman and the Clerk could see it. Commissioner Baucom said that he was comfortable with that decision being that of the Chairman and made that suggestion.

Chairman Openshaw moved that the timer box be moved from the podium to a location where it could be viewed by the Chairman and the Clerk. Commissioner Baucom stated that he did not believe a motion was necessary, and Chairman Openshaw agreed that the timer box would be moved as he had proposed.

## **3. *Discussion of Adding an Item Entitled "Old Business" to the Agenda:***



Chairman Openshaw suggested adding an item to future Board agendas entitled “Old Business” to come before the new business. He said that the Board would recognize these are issues that it has dealt with before, and it would be more informative to the public and easier for the citizens to recognize that these are issues that have been in progress.

Vice Chair Rogers moved approval to add an item to future Board agendas entitled “Old Business.” The motion was passed unanimously.

**4. Discussion of Creating a Citizen Notification E-Mail List (Title of Agenda Item was Amended at the Request of Chairman Openshaw):**

Chairman Openshaw moved to direct staff to develop a citizens’ e-mail notification list.

He explained the concept behind this proposal was that the item originally requested was for the agenda to be provided at no charge to the persons included on the Sunshine List. He said that the cost for that information has been \$10. He stated that he would like to make as much information available to the citizens as possible. He said that the staff had informed him that the General Statutes sets out that the County “shall charge a fee of \$10” for inclusion on the sunshine list. He stated that he was looking for a way to broaden the distribution of the meeting information.

Commissioner Mills agreed that it was a good idea and suggested that the Public Information Officer add a link to the website that would allow citizens to request being added to the e-mail notification list. Mr. Greene stated that he thought that the staff could accommodate the request. He said that the statute is unclear and might have been written prior to electronic communication. Mr. Crook said that the statute had been written earlier, but he thought what was being suggested of having a separate e-mail listing would work fine. He explained that under the statutory Sunshine List, there are penalties for violation if the County fails to give notice to the members of the Sunshine List. He said that the suggestion for the Citizen E-Mail Notification List would be a good faith effort to give notice electronically without payment of the fee. He further said that if a person is on the Sunshine List, it is mandatory that the \$10 fee must be paid. He offered his assistance to work with the Clerk to develop a way to have the Citizen E-Mail Notification List.

Chairman Openshaw added that he would like included in the e-mail notification notices and agendas those of the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment, the Land Use Plan Steering Committee and any other boards that that might be deemed appropriate.

Following the discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

**5. Discussion of Having the Agenda Provided to the Commissioners in Hard Copy and Electronically:**

Vice Chair Rogers stated that she realized that the Clerk's Office might not always receive electronic copies of all documents for the agenda. She said that it would be beneficial to her to receive electronic copies of the agenda packages. The Manager asked if providing the agenda to the Board on a thumb drive would be acceptable, and the Vice Chair agreed that it would be acceptable. He explained that the staff is hesitant to e-mail the agenda because of the possibility that it might not be transmitted by the internet provider due to the size of the files. Commissioner Baucom pointed out that the Clerk was already providing the agenda to the Board in hard copy format and on a removable thumb drive.

No action was taken by the Board on this item.

**c. Discussion of Holding a Standing "Work Session" on the Second Wednesday of the Month from 11:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. Starting in January:**

Chairman Openshaw said that he thought the work sessions would be particularly important to the newly elected Board members. He said that no one knew what the duration of the work sessions would be, but he would like to give these a try and see how they go.

Commissioner Baucom asked for an explanation of the purpose of holding the work sessions. Chairman Openshaw responded that there were a number of questions that arise about different issues and the work sessions would be a way for the Board to delve into some complexity on the issues during the work session and to obtain information from staff on various issues. He said that he did not have any particular examples. Commissioner Kuehler said that one of the prime examples would be the Governance Session held by the Board in August of this year. She said that the issues could be discussed in a more open environment rather than during a regular Board meeting. Commissioner Baucom said that his thoughts were that if work sessions were needed, they could be called. He said that the suggestion was to hold a work session on the second Wednesday of every month but noted that a work session might be just as necessary prior to the first Board meeting of the month. Chairman Openshaw said that if an additional work session is needed, one could always be called. He said that if there were a standing work session scheduled every month, then if there were no issues to be discussed at the time of the work session, it could be cancelled.

There was discussion about the timing of the distribution of the agenda for the meetings. Commissioner Mills said that he was looking at it from a standpoint that if the agenda for the second regular meeting of the month were complete at the time of the work session, the agenda could be distributed to the Board members at the work session and eliminate the cost of the courier. Mr. Greene stated the Clerk often works late on Wednesdays to send the agenda out, but the staff could work toward having the agenda completed to hand out during the work sessions.

Vice Chair Rogers moved to hold a standing “Work Session” on the second Wednesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting in January. The motion was passed by a vote of four to one. Chairman Openshaw, Vice Chair Rogers, Commissioner Kuehler, and Commissioner Mills voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Baucom voted against the motion.

***d. Discussion of Televising Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and Board of Equalization and Review Meetings:***

Vice Chair Rogers said that she has heard a number of comments from citizens stating that they would like to have access to the meetings of the Planning Board, Board of Adjustments, etc., but many times these boards meet when citizens are either at work or spending time with their families.

She moved to direct staff to research the cost and logistics of televising these meetings in order to determine if it would be feasible to televise the additional meetings. Commissioner Kuehler pointed out that there is a conflict in that the Board of Adjustment meets on the first Monday of the month at the same time that the Board of Commissioners meets, so, therefore, there would have to be a change in the meeting times of the Board of Adjustment. Commissioner Mills noted that it was his understanding that the motion was only to research the cost of televising the additional meetings. He suggested that the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board meetings could be televised but since the Board of Equalization and Review is not meeting at this time, that it would not need to be considered at this time.

Commissioner Baucom asked for clarification of the motion and if it were to include a recommendation from staff of whether it is feasible cost wise. Vice Chair Rogers agreed to amend her motion to include a recommendation from staff regarding the feasibility of televising the additional meetings.

Following the discussion, the motion as amended was passed unanimously.

***e. Presentation of an “Invitational” Letter for Municipal/Board of County Commissioners’ Meetings:***

Vice Chair Rogers stated that when she was a member of the School Board, the citizens wanted to see more open communication by the Board. She said that she had prepared a draft letter to the municipalities. She read from the draft letter as follows and moved to present the invitational letters to the municipalities:

“One of the Board of Commissioners’ goals is to increase communication between the Board of Commissioners and the municipalities for the betterment of all. As a first step, we would like to hold a joint meeting with your municipal council. The suggested agenda would consist of the following:

1. A brief presentation of your municipal goals and short-term plans
2. How the county can better serve your municipality --- list top three (3) items
3. Suggestions for county process improvements that will aid municipality governance
4. Suggestions for aiding economic development with your municipality

She reiterated that the purpose of the invitational letter would be to begin to open the lines of communication with all of the municipalities. She said that she personally would like to hear what the municipalities’ issues are, how the Board can better serve them as a County, and ways to work toward uniting everyone.

Commissioner Baucom asked if the proposal would be a once a year meeting. Vice Chair Rogers said that it would basically be opening the door of communications. This would be a first meeting, and she would imagine that based on the results of the meeting such as discussing the municipalities’ top three items, process improvements, etc., there might be future meetings as decided by the Board.

Commissioners Baucom and Mills questioned how these meetings would work in conjunction with the Mayors-Commissioners Issues Conference (MCIC) meetings. Vice Chair Rogers explained that this would be the Board of Commissioners and each of the municipal boards sitting down face to face. She said that there are 14 municipalities, and it would take awhile for the Board of Commissioners to meet with all 14 municipal boards. Chairman Openshaw suggested that meeting with one municipal board per month seemed to be a realistic number. Vice Chair Rogers said that it was possible that the Board would be able to meet with two municipal boards per meeting. She stated that the logistics of the meetings would need to be worked out. She said that her proposal was to send the letter out and then work on the logistics of what would work best with the municipal boards.

Commissioner Mills said that it might be possible to utilize one of the monthly work sessions as decided by the Board tonight to meet with the municipal boards. Vice Chair Rogers agreed that might be a possibility but added that it would be nice for the Board of Commissioners to be able to meet with the towns in their areas so that the area citizens could attend the meetings. Chairman Openshaw said that there would need to be input from the towns regarding the proposed meetings.

At the request of Commissioner Baucom, Vice Chair Rogers repeated her motion to present the Invitational Letter to the municipalities to open the dialogue between the Board of Commissioners and the municipalities. The motion was passed unanimously.

***f. Direction to Staff to Create “Conflict of Interest” Form and New “Application Form” to include “Conflict of Interest” Form for People Applying to Various Boards to be Brought to the Board at Its December 15, 2008, Meeting.***

Commissioner Kuehler stated that this had been an issue during the campaign and she knew that this Board has voted on it several times. She said that she had prepared a draft of what her interpretation to be of the meaning of a conflict of interest. She said that she knew there had been hesitation regarding this issue because it would be asking for applicants’ portfolios and their bank accounts, etc. She stated that this is not a financial tool but is meant to make the public aware of the business affiliations of persons applying to serve on appointed boards and committees, which could be possible conflicts of interest as well as land ownership.

Commissioner Mills stated that the Board had discussed this matter several times. He said that he thought the forms could be accomplished in a way that could be helpful to the county and respectful to the applicants. He asked the Senior Staff Attorney if applicants complete a disclosure form and a conflict of interest form, were these forms public documents.

Mr. Crook responded that staff had done work on disclosure forms before, but it was not adopted by the Board. He explained that the State provisions protect the disclosure forms of appointees, and those forms only become a public record once there has been an appointment. He noted that there is no such protection for local boards. He said that was one of the concerns that Commissioner Mills as well as some of the other Board members had at the time that the forms were discussed Board earlier. He stated that he had developed a proposed disclosure form as well as a modified application if the Board would like to review those forms in addition to what Commissioner Kuehler has drafted.

Commissioner Mills suggested that if the Board is inclined to adopt the disclosure forms, then it should do it right. He said that he thought it would be a mistake if the Board were to pick and choose what boards would need to complete the disclosure forms. He said that he thought all of the forms should apply to all of the boards or none, and the questions would be whether the forms would be required retroactively for Board appointments or for future appointments. He said that he could see the arguments for both sides. He stated that in order to make the correct decision on the forms, he thought it would require more time than allowed before the next meeting. He said that he thought the State did not require disclosure forms for advisory boards, and if the Board was going to supersede what the State requires, it would need to take time to determine the State's requirements and compare the requirements of other counties. He also said that there would probably need to be some type of training involved with the boards. Commissioner Mills said that this had not been discussed but there is no type of enforcement and questioned who would serve as the gatekeeper for the forms. He asked what the repercussions would be of finding out six months later that a member of a board should not have voted on an item at the time it was discussed. He asked if this would nullify the vote. He emphasized that there were a number of questions that need to be answered. Mr. Crook cited the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as a good example of an advisory board that had been created by the Board of Commissioners for the purpose of providing advice to the Commission. Commissioner Mills encouraged the Board that if it were going to adopt the disclosure form, that it be done correctly and not piecemealed. He suggested the possibility of holding a public hearing on this issue and said that there might be some people currently serving on some of the boards and committee who do not wish to disclose their assets, and this would give those members an opportunity to resign if they desired to do so.

Chairman Openshaw said that the motion was to bring a suggested disclosure form and application form to the Board at the December 15, 2008, meeting.

Commissioner Mills also questioned the liability of the County if persons were disqualified from serving on a board because of their assets. Commissioner Kuehler asked if the form were completed by an applicant and he/she were not appointed, would the County be required to retain the form or if it could be destroyed. Mr. Crook responded that the County would be required to retain that information in accordance with the State Records Retention Schedule. He confirmed that the information would not be protected and would be a public record.

Mr. Crook suggested that he could present to the Board for its December 15, 2008, meeting what the Board had been provided earlier with some commentary and then perhaps the Board could evaluate previous communication.

Vice Chair Rogers said that she knew there had been a lot of discussion by the previous Board about this issue and a lot of work by the staff. She stated that she did not know that the Board needed to reinvent the wheel, but for her, the Commissioners complete this form and she would also like to see any board complete this form that has any type of responsibility. She said that this was something that she heard during the campaign that citizens want to see. She stated that there did not need to be a public hearing for her to know where the citizens stand on the issue. She stated that Commissioner Mills had brought up some valid questions that she thought the Board needed answers to such as where are the teeth, who would enforce it, what are the consequences, and should the forms be required retroactively or for future appointments. She said that she agreed with Mr. Crook that she thought the form had already been created, and she would like to see that come to the Board on December 15 along with a brief summary of the staff's work and then determine what the new questions are. Commissioner Mills said that he thought it should be a policy that is tangible and one that the citizens can review.

Following the lengthy discussion, Chairman Openshaw repeated what he thought the motion had been and that is to direct staff to bring the draft "Conflict of Interest" form and new "Application Form" to the Board at its December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Vice Chair Rogers offered a friendly amendment to the motion as restated by the Chairman that the staff also include a summary of what work has been completed on this issue and asked if this would be acceptable to Commissioner Kuehler. Commissioner Kuehler stated that she had not made a motion.

The restated motion as amended was passed unanimously.

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATION:**

- 1. Resolution by the Union County Board of Commissioners Requesting that the North Carolina General Assembly Make No Changes to the Composition of the Union County Board of Commissioners:***

Vice Chair Rogers moved to direct staff to draft a Resolution by the Union County Board of Commissioners requesting that the North Carolina General Assembly make no changes to the composition of the Union County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Openshaw said that this Resolution would be presented to the Board at its December 15, 2008, meeting and welcomed any input from the Board.

Vice Chair Rogers explained the purpose of her motion is to say that the Board of Commissioners wants to govern itself and it does not want the General Assembly to step in and tell the Board how to govern. She said that she believes the citizens have the right to say how they want to be governed by vote, by action, and any other method. She said that the proposed resolution would request that the General Assembly make no changes in the composition of the Board. She stated that she is not opposed to looking at changes in the composition of the Board but stressed that she is opposed to the General Assembly deciding what the changes are going to be.

Commissioner Baucom questioned if the Board were voting tonight on the Resolution or if it were voting to direct staff to prepare a resolution that will come back to the Board. Vice Chair Rogers clarified that the motion was to direct staff to create such a resolution and to bring the draft resolution to the Board by December 15. She offered that she had a sample resolution.

Following the discussion, the motion was passed by a vote of three to two. Chairman Openshaw, Vice Chair Rogers, and Commissioner Kuehler voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Baucom and Mills voted against the motion.

**2. *Furthermore, that the Commissioners Rescind the Instructions Given to Staff on May 19, 2008, to Work with the State Legislators to Increase the Number of Union County Commissioners to Nine***

Vice Chair Rogers moved to rescind the instructions given to staff on May 19, 2008, to work with the State Legislators to increase the number of Union County Commissioners to nine.

Chairman Openshaw said that there have been some experiences in the past when staff has come back to the Board and stated that no one had told them to do or not do what the Board has directed, and the Board wanted to make sure that the record is set straight on this item.

Commissioner Mills said that he understood that there are certain issues that the Board members are going to disagree on, but he was glad to hear Vice Chair Rogers state that she was open to looking at the possibility of expanding the Board. He further said that the Chairman's comments in the newspaper on this subject were also welcome. He stated that if the Board could be expanded and add a couple of seats, he would be agreeable, and he hoped that the Board could look at that in the future.

Commissioner Kuehler stated that it had been said before and she wanted to reiterate it tonight that even the citizens who were in favor of district representations were opposed to the process of how it was being done. She stated that the legislators in Raleigh do not know what is occurring in Union County, and they are not the ones that should be deciding the number of people on the Board.



She explained that the intent of the motion was to allow the Board to determine what is best for the County and let the citizens speak by putting it to a vote.

At the request of Commissioner Baucom, Vice Chair Rogers repeated her motion. Commissioner Mills said that if the Board were to come up with a different plan for expanding the Board, he would be glad to vote in the affirmative, but as it is now, there is no other option, and he would be voting against the motion. Commissioner Baucom said that he would like to hear the alternative plan. Commissioner Kuehler responded that is something that needs to be determined from discussions by the Board. Commissioner Baucom said that without an alternative plan, he too would be voting against the motion. He said that he would like to have an option to increase the size of the Board.

Chairman Openshaw asked that the Board's discussion be by raising of the hands and allowing the Chairman to recognize the speaker.

Vice Chair Rogers said that the minutes of May 19, 2008, indicated that the Board instructed staff to work with the State Legislators. She reiterated that the motion is that the Board does not want staff to work with State Legislators, but the Board wants to be the one to decide along with the citizens. She said that there is not an alternative plan but there has not been input from the citizens. She said that she is not against an expansion of the Board of some kind or at looking at alternatives, but she does not have an alternative plan. She offered that she could provide an alternative plan next week.

Commissioner Baucom suggested that since there would probably not be any interaction between the staff and the legislators regarding this issue, that the matter be tabled until an alternate plan could be presented to the Board.

Vice Chair Rogers said that the Board has asked staff to create a resolution under Item g(1) tonight and this action is to rescind the previous instructions given to staff regarding this matter to work with the State Legislators.

Chairman Openshaw asked if Commissioner Baucom were offering an amendment to the motion. Commissioner Baucom moved to table the matter to allow an alternative plan to be presented to the Board by the second meeting in January 2009. Commissioner Kuehler said that Commissioner Baucom's motion would effectively leave the previous directive to the staff in place.

Chairman Openshaw repeated the original motion and offered an explanation of that motion. He asked for discussion on the substitute motion to table the matter.

Commissioner Kuehler noted that a number of the towns had adopted and presented resolutions of their own. She said that she is not willing to vote to table the matter.

Commissioner Baucom said that what he has heard and read in the newspaper is that Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Kuehler are open to looking at a possible expansion of the Board, and he would like to see an option come back to the Board for doing so before the Board votes on the motion. Chairman Openshaw said that he too was opposed to tabling the matter, because he wanted to get the directive to the staff off the record. He stated that he was perfectly willing for the Board to decide on a framework to reach out to the public on this issue.

With there being no further discussion, the Chairman called for a vote on the substitute motion. The substitute motion failed by a vote of two to three. Commissioner Baucom and Commissioner Mills voted in favor of the substitute motion. Chairman Openshaw, Vice Chair Rogers, and Commissioner Kuehler voted against the substitute motion.

The Chairman then called for a vote on the original motion which passed by a vote of three to two. Chairman Openshaw, Vice Chair Rogers, and Commissioner Kuehler voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Baucom and Mills voted against the motion.

Commissioner Mills stated that at some time in the future, he would like to hear the comments of Chairman Openshaw, Vice Chair Rogers, and Commissioner Kuehler on the possible expansion of the Board. Chairman Openshaw said that if the Board would like, this item could be discussed at a future meeting. Commissioner Mills said that he would like for it to be discussed at a work session.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**

Chairman Openshaw announced vacancies on the following Boards and Committees:

- a. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC): 1) District Attorney or Designee; 2) Substance Abuse Professional; 3) Two Persons Under Age of 18; and 4) Juvenile Defense Attorney
- b. Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee
- c. Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- d. Board of Health (Vacancy for a Licensed Optometrist; Nurse, Engineer, and Citizen Representative)

- e. Union County Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee
- f. Farmers Market Committee (Vacancy for a member at Large)
- g. Library (Vacancies Representing: Marshville (1); Waxhaw (1); Weddington (1) and One Member at Large)

Chairman Openshaw added that he sits on the Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee, and it is the best committee that he serves on and it is very well run.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Al Greene, County Manager, offered his congratulations to Vice Chairman Rogers and Commissioner Kuehler and said that the staff looks forward to working with the entire Board over the next two years.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Baucom welcomed Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Kuehler to the Board and said that he looked forward to working with them. He said that he did not expect that they would agree on all things nor were they supposed to agree on all things, but he asked that they help him to understand their proposals. He stated that he was a firm believer in Stephen Covey and his seven habits, and one of those was to help him understand.

He congratulated Dr. Gwen Perkins on being named Woman of the Year and Bobby H. Griffin, Attorney at Law, for being named Man of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. He said that these were significant accomplishments for both Dr. Perkins and Mr. Griffin and the recognitions were well deserved.

Commissioner Mills complimented the Board on a good meeting tonight. He said that he loved seeing women excel in areas usually dominated by men. He stated that he has three daughters so he loved to see barriers being broken down. He stated that he had the pleasure of serving with former Commissioner Susan Drake. He said that there has only been two other women who have served on the Board, Susan Drake and Ruth Helms.

He stated that the coat drive ended today, and the community support has been outstanding. He said a lady from Waxhaw dropped off 12 new coats at his cleaners today for the coat drive. He noted the donations of Rea View Elementary School and Marvin Ridge High School. He said that over 1100 coats were donated last year, and this year's donations were going to break that record.

He encouraged anyone else that might wish to donate to the coat drive to do so. He explained that the coat drive was to provide coats to children through the Christmas Bureau.

He offered his congratulations to Commissioners Openshaw and Vice Chair Rogers on being elected as Chairman and Vice Chair respectively.

Commissioner Kuehler also offered her congratulations to Chairman Openshaw and Vice Chair Rogers on their elections as Chairman and Vice Chair. She also expressed appreciation to the citizens who helped her get elected as a Commissioner. She recognized those citizens who have reached out in an effort to get to know her since her election and who have expressed an interest in working together for the betterment of the County. She said that was the reason she ran for office of Commissioner. Commissioner Kuehler said that some of the country's greatest cities have emerged because an industry or industries have moved into the area and built homes for their employees and then retail and offices followed. She said that somewhere along the line, possibly because Union County is so close to Charlotte, the County fell into the mantra of build the rooftops and then the industry will follow. However, she said that as the fastest growing county in North Carolina and the seventh fastest growing county in the nation, Union County has the rooftops but has fallen behind on the business part of the equation, and the tax base as a result of that is a little lopsided. She said that she has heard the claim that there is a mindset in the County, "I'm the last one here, nobody else should move in." Commissioner Kuehler said that she really did not believe that is what they think, but they are very concerned about preserving the quality of life and the reason that people move to Union County such as the schools, the rural feel, the agriculture. She stated that the job of government is to provide service and safety to its residents, and Union County has grown faster than its infrastructure and its resources, and the customer service has been compromised.

She pledged that her goal over the next four years is to restore faith in the system, to provide fair and transparent representation, was to put the needs and welfare of the taxpayers of this County first. She said that as she makes proposals and introduces policies, those goals will always be her litmus test and will always weigh her actions and decisions against the residents' interests and needs first. Commissioner Kuehler said that the Board has a lot of work and challenges ahead of it and she encouraged the citizens to get involved by volunteering. She referred to the County's financial issues and said that the County has the current distinction of having the highest debt per capita in the State. She emphasized the need for the County to keep the taxes low and to implement responsible growth plans. She said that it will take the vision and talent of its citizens to make that happen. She said just as every vote counts, every voice will help build prosperity, trust, and foresight for the future of the County. She said that citizen involvement is needed and appreciated, and she encouraged citizens to volunteer to serve on boards and committees.

Vice Chair Rogers offered her congratulations to Commissioner Kueher and Chairman Openshaw. She also expressed appreciation to those citizens across the county who helped work on her campaign to give her an opportunity to serve and to put their trust in her. She said that she was not one to speak from prepared speeches but she speaks from the heart. Vice Chair Rogers said that she is a public servant because she wants to serve and feels that is the path she should be on. She said that there needs to be people to run for office who will be the voice of the citizens. She stated that all one had to do is to turn the television on and see all the problems in the world. She stated her love for the country and her belief in the country and its system. She stated that she wanted to restore the citizens' faith in the government system at least at the County level, to have open government, and to think outside the box. Vice Chair Rogers said that she wanted the Board to have heated discussions and pointed out that she thought Commissioner Baucom had made a good point that the Board members will not always agree. She said that she hoped the public would not be looking for five to zero votes all the time. She pledged to work hard and to be truthful and honest. She said that her door was always open and she would need a lot of space on the County's e-mail system for all of her e-mails and responses.

Chairman Openshaw said that he had the opportunity to spend some time several years ago at the Christmas Bureau. He stressed that it was an impressive effort. He encouraged everyone to participate in the Christmas Bureau.

He said that he was delighted to have Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Kuehler on the Board. He said that he thought everyone would find them to be tremendous assets to the County. He stated that they did not always agree, but it was remarkable at the number of comments that Commissioner Kuehler had mentioned tonight that he would also be mentioning.

He stated that Union County like the rest of the country faces difficult economic times, and while the Board might not have the ability to meet all of the citizens' needs, it can meet the expectations of being treated well by those representing the County, those who work in County government, and those who have been elected to represent the citizens. He said that they work for the citizens and are here to serve the public. He invited anyone who did not feel that they have been treated in a manner of dignity, respect, and good character to let the Board know. He noted that the primary focus must be the citizens and not the well connected and special interests. He referred to Benjamin Graham, one of America's all time great investors, who said that all bull markets must end badly. He stated that Union County's growth was an artificially inflated bull market and like it has in the rest of the country has ended badly. Chairman Openshaw compared the County's growth to a teenager who has been given a race car. He said that there has little to no concern for the results of the County's subsidized growth and how the inevitable crash would hurt the County. He stated that as the seventh fastest growing county in the nation with a population of 10,000 or more, Union County is a poster for child of unsustainable growth. He said that the challenge for Union County is to learn to grow in a sustainable manner, not the pie in the sky promises of the growth that it has had, which has left everyone with its share of the highest debt for every man, woman, and child of any county in the

state, save one tiny one, with some assets to back it. He said that the County needs to prepare for tomorrow. He proposed that the County needs to grow concurrently with its resources. He stated that he believes the County should grow as its resources grow and not as it has done which is to outrun its sewer and water capacity, and overburden the roads and school capacity. He said that this shortcoming of the past has led the taxes to go up an average of 8.5 percent per year for the past six years, and this trend will probably continue. Chairman Openshaw said that Union County government comprises only seven percent of the County's budget, a relatively small part of the taxes. He said that the Board will do its part to cut costs, but it can only do so much. He said that the County needs to team up with and increase its communication with the municipalities, because all pay the price for any actions anywhere in the County.

He stated that much has been said about east versus west in the County but yet there is only one tax bill that comes to everyone in the County that says "Union County." He said that the cost of what is done on one side of the county affects the other side, and the costs of what is done in one town affects all of the County residents. Chairman Openshaw said that two years ago when he was sworn in, he pointed to the motto at the bottom of the County seal stating "Planned Progress." He said that as he pointed out at that time, this has been the key ingredient missing from the County. He stated that the drought and the financial calamity has given an important wake up call to look anew at its finite resources and to plan how it can best use its water and sewer capacity to create the kind of county that its citizens want to live in. Lastly, he encouraged the citizens to let the Board hear their concerns about their area of the County and to contribute some of their time to serve the County through their participation on one of the appointed boards along with the other civic-minded volunteers.

He offered appreciation to the Board and staff for their support and encouraged it to continue as the Board deals with this unique time in history.

At the conclusion of the comments and discussion, with the time being approximately 8:50 p.m., Commissioner Baucom moved to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.