

February 20, 2006

The Union County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, February 20, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Formal Board Room, ninth floor, Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Monroe, North Carolina. The following were

PRESENT: Chairman Roger Lane, Vice Chairman Hughie Sexton, Commissioner Kevin Pressley, Commissioner Stony Rushing, and Commissioner Richard Stone

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Shalati, County Manager, Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, Don Perry, County Attorney, Christie Putnam, Assistant to the Manager/Interim Public Works Director, Kai Nelson, Finance Director, Brett Vines, Public Information Officer, members of the press, and other interested citizens

OPENING OF MEETING:

Chairman Lane opened the meeting, welcomed everyone present, and reviewed the public charge for the audience.

a. Invocation

Chairman Lane offered the invocation.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Stone introduced James Nicholas Long, who recently received his Eagle Scout Award. He stated that Nick is a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 169 and attends Piedmont High School. He said that Nick completed his Eagle Scout project in May of last year and received his award on February 12, 2006.

Commissioner Stone also introduced Ronnie Haigler, Scout Master for Troop No. 169, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary as a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America.

The Board members extended their congratulations to Nick on receiving his Eagle Scout award. He then called his fellow scout members in attendance to the front where he led the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

c. Informal Comments

Phil Paschal expressed his appreciation to the Board members and the County Manager for their hard work on behalf of the citizens of Union County. He recognized the residents from the Fairfield Plantation Subdivision in attendance tonight.

He spoke in support of Item 6 on the Agenda - Agreement with William Trotter Development Company in connection with Fairfield Plantation. He said that he had a few questions that he would like to have answered. Mr. Paschal commented that the residents of Fairfield Plantation have been taxpaying citizens of Union County for some 30 years. He stated in connection with the Twelve-Mile Creek Project, that the Fairfield Plantation Development was in Union County a number of years and was developed ahead of some of the other projects such as schools and large developments in the area. He said that today the County's work crews are within 100 yards of Fairfield's current plant working on the new Huntley Creek Station. Mr. Paschal stated that Fairfield Plantation's park has been used as a staging area for this project for purposes of ingress and egress for the construction equipment, and ditches will be dug through the middle of Fairfield's park. Further, he said that according to the construction workers on the project, the work is being laid now for the time when the Fairfield Plant is decommissioned and that development will be put on line with Union County.

Mr. Paschal questioned if the Agreement on tonight's agenda is a binding agreement that will guarantee the residents of Fairfield Plantation that sewer capacity will be available with Union County in two years. He said the time is right now with the construction equipment already being close to them. He asked that Fairfield Plantation be given priority for sewer capacity because of its longstanding position in the County and that the Fairfield Plant be decommissioned and the development put on line.

Lanny Openshaw addressed the Board regarding the proposed Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO). He thanked the Board for the forum that has been available through the County for discussions on the APFO. He stated that these discussions should inform the citizens of Union County of the extreme consequences of ignoring the impact of residential growth. Mr. Openshaw said that an APFO will not solve all of the County's financial problems and neither will commercial growth; however, he said that without an APFO, the taxpayers of Union County had better be sitting down when they open their tax bills.

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ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Pressley moved that the Board add to tonight's agenda an item to discuss the programming schedule of the Board of Commissioners' meetings with the local cable network. The motion was passed unanimously. The Chairman stated that this item would become 6b on the regular agenda.

With there being no further additions or deletions to the agenda, Commissioner Pressley moved adoption of the agenda as modified. The motion was passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

Minutes: Approved minutes of regular meeting of February 6, 2006

Finance Department: Approved Budget Transfer Report for January 2006

Finance Department: Approved Motor Vehicle Tax Refund Overpayments for January 2006 in the Total Amount of \$3,128.79

Tax Administrator: Approved the Seventh Motor Vehicle Release Register in the net grand total of \$16,043.92- for the period of January 1, 2006 through January 31, 2006

Tax Administrator: Approved Seventh Motor Vehicle Refund Register in the net grand total of \$1,288.23- for the period of January 1, 2006 through January 31, 2006

Tax Administrator: Approved Ninth Motor Vehicle Billing in the grand total of \$728,770.17

Board of Elections: Adopted Resolution for Sale of Personal Property Worth Less than \$30,000

RESOLUTION FOR SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY WORTH LESS THAN \$30,000

WHEREAS, Union County owns certain items of personal property that have become surplus for its current needs; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-266 permits the County to sell such property by private sale, upon authorization by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting and notice to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is convened in a regular meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Union County Board of Commissioners resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Commissioners hereby declares surplus and authorizes the County Manager to sell by private sale, or any other legal method, the following items of personal property:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

2. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall publish a notice summarizing this resolution, and no sale may be executed pursuant to this resolution until at least 10 days after the day the notice is published.
3. In the event it is determined that the value of the surplus property exceeds \$30,000, this matter shall be returned to the Board of Commissioners for further authorization.

Adopted this the 20th day of February, 2006.

ATTEST:

S/Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board

s/Roger Lane, Chairman

EXHIBIT "A"

Date Acq	Asset#	Description	Mfg Serial#	Vendor/Mfg	Acq Value
10/13/1992	2659	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4986	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2660	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4999	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2661	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4995	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2662	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	5009	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2665	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4966	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2666	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4906	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2667	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	5003	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2668	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4968	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2669	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4909	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2670	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4950	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00
10/13/1992	2671	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	4954	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,285.00

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10/26/1998	2618	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	18323	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/26/1998	2629	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	18322	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2619	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21760	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2620	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21761	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2621	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21762	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2622	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21763	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2623	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21764	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2624	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21765	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2625	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21766	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2626	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21767	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2627	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21759	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2628	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21768	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2632	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21758	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2633	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21757	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2634	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21756	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2635	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21755	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/12/2000	2636	VOTING MACHINE, MODEL "C" AVC ADVANTAGE	21754	SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	5,400.00
10/13/1992	2796A	VOTING CARTRIDGE READER		SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	7,500.00
10/13/1992	NA00657	VOTING SOFTWARE, AVC ADVANTAGE		SEQUOIA PACIFIC VOTING EQ	25,000.00

Revision to Operation Requirements at Agricultural Services Center: Approved the following revisions to the Operation Requirements:

Room Configurations	Room Rates	Rate Differentials	Payment Terms	After Hours Fees	Security Personnel	Media Production Personnel	Equipment Rentals	Caterer	Decorations	Set-up & Take-down Clean-up	ABC
Pre-function area 3 Sections @ 4,160 sq. ft. ea.	\$200 - \$300	Room rate for events sponsored by and related to the educational mission of agencies housed within the Center are waived	50% paid (non-refundable) within 14 days of contract with remaining balance due 14 days prior to event	TBD	Licensee must contract directly with the Sheriff's Office Licensee responsible for cost; min. 3 hrs.	Licensee must contract directly from pre-qualified media production list Licensee responsible for cost	Licensee must contract directly from pre-qualified media production list Licensee responsible for cost	Licensee must contract directly from pre-qualified caterer list Licensee responsible for cost	Licensee must contract directly with pre-qualified caterer list Licensee responsible for cost	Set-up and take-down performed by caterer <u>Center Costs to perform service included in room rates.</u> Clean-up performed by caterer <u>Center Costs to perform service included in room rates.</u> Licensee responsible for cost Sponsored events for agencies housed in the Center are not required to use caterer for this function. Agency director must be present at sponsored events.	No consumption of alcohol on premises
Outside Patio Area Pre-function and Outside Patio Areas available for use provided no other events are scheduled in the Center	\$100 - \$150	Lower room rate for non-profit and tax-exempt status organizations Cooperative Extension Director and/or his designee are authorized to execute License Agreement for use of the Center			Requirement for security established based on risk assessment						

Health Department: Approved change in fee rates charged by the Health Department for Depo Provera from \$53.06 to \$47.75 and IUD Mirena from \$395 to \$407.70 due to a change in fee rates by Medicaid.

Amend Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 21, 2005, to Meet Requirements of the Wording of the North Carolina Department of Transportation Community Transportation Program Resolution as follows:

"UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT:

- a. ***FY 07 Community Transportation Program Assistance Grant Application (Advertisement was Published -- No Public Hearing was Requested)***

Chairman Stone recognized Pat Beekman, Homeland Security Director, to present this item on behalf of the Transportation Department.

Mr. Beekman stated that the action that was being requested was for the Board to authorize the submission of the grant application in the total amount of grant funding of \$321,216 with a County share of \$39,043 in the FY 2007 budget. He said that it is a reoccurring grant that the County applies for each year that covers administrative and capital grant projects. Mr. Beekman explained that the administrative portion of the grant covers 80 percent of the Transportation Director's salary and 85 percent of the Coordinator and Billing Representative's salaries as well as benefits, market indirect costs and employee training. He further explained that the capital portion of the grant reimburses 90 percent of the costs of six vehicles eligible for replacement in FY 2007.

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review. The application for a major development permit for a project requiring sketch plan review may not be submitted until after the staff has provided the developer with its comments and recommendations based upon this review.

UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

a. Adoption of Budget Amendment #25 Appropriating \$61,535 to Union County Public Schools' Current Expense Budget

Commissioner Stone moved adoption of Budget Amendment #25 increasing School Current Expense by \$61,535 and Fund Balance Appropriated by \$61,535 to provide Union County Public Schools supplemental appropriation to offset sales tax to be distributed to Charter Schools.

In response to a question by Commissioner Rushing whether this item was related to a possible lawsuit by the Charter Schools against the school system, Mr. Nelson stated that he could not speak specifically to the discussions between the Charter Schools and the school system since Union County is not a participant in those discussions. However, he stated that he could address this specific request by the schools. He explained that the schools receive a portion of the local option sales tax as a result of the supplemental school tax levy. He stated that it was his understanding that while the schools have been forwarding a portion of the supplemental school tax to the charter schools, they have not been forwarding portions of the local option sales tax to the charter schools. Mr. Nelson said that amount for the current fiscal year is approximately \$61,000. He stated that the schools have requested that the County supplement their current expense budget in that amount so that they can forward that portion of the local option sales tax to the charter school.

Commissioner Rushing stated that the Board has been told in the past that the County cannot fund the charter schools. Mr. Nelson stated that this appropriation is actually going to the Union County Public Schools. Commissioner Rushing further asked if in the future, the schools would plan for this appropriation in their budget and there would not be an annual request for additional funding in the middle of the year. Mr. Nelson stated that this was correct.

Vice Chairman Sexton, who serves as the Board of Commissioners' school liaison, expressed his support of the charter schools and the Union County schools by stating that he would be supporting the motion.

Following the discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

b. Adoption of Union County Public Schools Capital Project Ordinance #45 Providing Additional Funding for Architect Services in Connection with Classroom Additions

Vice Chairman Sexton stated that at the December 5, 2005, meeting, the Board of Commissioners appropriated \$500,000 for architectural services for additional classrooms and in order to complete the work, an additional \$195,000 is needed.

Vice Chairman Sexton then moved adoption of Union County Public Schools Capital Project Ordinance #45 providing additional funding of \$195,000 for architect services in connection with classroom additions. The motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

a. Agreement with William Trotter Development Company - Fairfield Plantation

Commissioner Pressley moved to authorize the Manager to approve the Agreement between Union County and William Trotter Development Company with discussion.

Chairman Lane recognized Christie Putnam, Interim Public Works Director, to answer any questions that the Board might have regarding this matter.

Commissioner Pressley asked if there were any way to address the concerns that had been expressed tonight by Mr. Paschal during the informal comments.

Ms. Putnam responded that the current construction project would provide a portion of the needed infrastructure to take Fairfield Plantation offline. Further, she stated as far as being able to accept the flow now, the County is approaching capacity at the Twelve-Mile Creek Plant, and it would not be advisable at this time to accept the flow from the Fairfield Plantation Development. She said that the completion time for the contract for the expansion project for the Twelve-Mile Creek Plant is 27 months. Ms. Putnam added that the Public Works' staff fully supports the Fairfield Plantation Project explaining that it is good for the residents as well as for environmental issues.

In response to a question by Commissioner Rushing, Ms. Putnam explained what the process would be to begin work to bring the Fairfield Plantation Development on line immediately. Ms. Putnam stated there are no measures that the Public Works Department can do than is being done for the Fairfield Plantation Development. Further, she stated that the Public Works Department is not forwarding the permit applications for flow to the State for new development of large residential subdivisions until such time as the expansion project is completed.

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Commissioner Rushing asked if he were to make a substitute motion tonight to begin the process tomorrow for the Fairfield Development, what would be the process for doing so. Ms. Putnam responded that the process would be the same process that she had explained earlier. She stressed that she was concerned that at some point, the current capacity at the Twelve-Mile Creek Plant would be absolutely full, and outstanding permits exist. She stated that it could potentially not allow existing permits to come to fruition.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Rushing offered a substitute motion to direct staff to forward the permit application for the Fairfield Plantation Development to the State to begin the process tomorrow to bring them on line with the County sewer in an effort to get this matter resolved as soon possible.

Ms. Putnam stated that she believed that forwarding of the permit could be reasonably addressed because the permit does not expire, but that project would have to be designed by an engineer. However, she said that she would still request that the instructions for the contract be that the flow not be accepted until the plant expansion is on line.

Chairman Lane asked guidance from Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, if the substitute motion substantially changed the original motion. Mr. Crook responded that he would view Commissioner Rushing's motion as an amendment to the original motion.

Mr. Shalati assured that no one would be happier than the Public Works staff, who has been working with the Fairfield Plantation community, to connect the community to the County's sewer system yesterday. However, Mr. Shalati pointed out that in addition to all the information that Ms. Putnam has explained to the Board, there are additional provisions that exist whereby some corrections and repairs would have to be made to the existing system in Fairfield Plantation before they could be connected that have not been discussed. He said that he understood the importance of this matter to the Fairfield Plantation community, and he did not want to create a false hope that they could be connected before the two-year period. Mr. Shalati assured that no one would be connected ahead of the community effective today, because nothing can occur until the agreement with Trotter is executed. He said that the staff will endeavor to connect the residents to the County's system as soon as possible, but he wanted to make sure that the residents understand that it might take up to two years when the Twelve-Mile Creek Plant Expansion is complete.

Vice Chairman Sexton asked Ms. Putnam what would be the difference in the process under the substitute motion as compared to the original motion. Ms. Putnam said that her understanding of the substitute motion would allow the Fairfield Development to go ahead and proceed with the design and the permitting of the line. She said that she would again request that action be delayed until 2008 for acceptance of the flow. She reiterated the points made by Mr. Shalati that there are several milestones noted in the agreement that must be met before the actual flow can be received which includes infrastructure improvements within the development as well as a payment to the County to cover the costs of the infrastructure to provide service to the development.

Ms. Putnam assured the Board that the staff has worked very diligently on the agreement and has done everything possible to expedite the process.

Vice Chairman Sexton stated that he was going to vote against the substitute motion and support the original motion, because he believed that the objective and wishes of the people as far as putting the plan in motion could be expedited much more efficiently by proceeding in the fashion that has been laid out by staff.

Commissioner Pressley asked if a permit could be received for zero flow for the Fairfield Plantation Development. Ms. Putnam stated that she was unsure if a zero flow would obtain the results that Commissioner Rushing wanted to accomplish. She stated that if an applicant applies for a flow permit, then the applicant is required, in accordance with the current policy, to pay one-half of the capacity fees up front. She said that she was not sure that the developer would want to pay these fees up front when he would not be receiving any benefit for two years.

Mr. Shalati added that zero flow permits are good for new development that would not be discharging any flows immediately. He said that in this situation there are approximately 194 homes that are ready to discharge today. He offered that as the plant expansion approaches, the staff would apply in advance so that from day one when the State has certified that the plant is ready to receive the flow, the flow would be going to the plant. Mr. Shalati stated that the Fairfield Plantation Development is a priority to both the County and to the State because it would be eliminating a wastewater treatment plant from discharging into Goose Creek, which is desired by the Division of Water Quality, U. S. Fish and Wildlife and all other related agencies. He said that it was also important to Union County as a service provider.

Commissioner Pressley asked if the contract would be effective tonight if approved by the Board. Mr. Crook responded that the motion was to approve subject to the Manager's approval. He said that the contract is still in the final legal review, and he anticipates that review to be concluded this week. He stated that the Agreement would not be final tonight, but upon final legal review, it would go to the Manager for signature.

Commissioner Rushing asked Commissioner Pressley if he would accept the amendment as a friendly amendment to his motion rather than a substitute motion.

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Commissioner Pressley asked Ms. Putnam as far as the Heelsplitter Mussel issue was concerned, would it be better to go ahead and forward the permit application to the State now than to wait for two years. Ms. Putnam replied that the Fairfield Plantation project would always be a good project no matter when it occurs.

Chairman Lane added that from what he perceived from Ms. Putnam's statements, it would appear that it would be in the negative if the Fairfield Plantation project were permitted because the developer would have to pay money up front and wait 27 months until the plant is brought on line.

There was discussion regarding contacting the developer to see if he were willing to go ahead and pay the fees up front for the permit. Mr. Shalati stated that even if the developer were to go ahead and pay the fees, it would not guarantee the community that it would be connected. He stressed that the problem is available capacity and said that there are several other items contained in the agreement such as contributions toward the pump station construction. Furthermore, he explained that the existing system needs upgrades that are required under the agreement. He emphasized that an agreement is much more legally binding than a permit, because the permit could be rescinded. Mr. Shalati said that his main concern is not to create a feeling for the community that they would be connected in two or three months, and the County would not be able to deliver.

Commissioner Pressley did not accept the friendly amendment to his motion.

Following the lengthy discussion, the Chairman called for a vote on the substitute motion. The substitute motion failed by a vote of one to four. Commissioner Rushing voted in favor of the substitute motion with Chairman Lane, Vice Chairman Sexton, Commissioner Pressley, and Commissioner Stone voting against the substitute motion.

A vote was then called on the original motion made by Commissioner Pressley. The motion passed by a vote of four to one. Chairman Lane, Vice Chairman Sexton, Commissioner Pressley, and Commissioner Stone voted in favor of the motion with Commissioner Rushing voting against the motion.

DISCUSSION ON CABLE PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE (Added at the Request of Commissioner Pressley):

Chairman Lane recognized Commissioner Pressley at this time for discussion on this matter.

Commissioner Pressley stated that there have been a number of people concerned about the times being changed for airing of the Board of Commissioners' meetings on the local cable station. He asked what could be done to have the meetings aired at more acceptable times so that more citizens would be able to watch the meetings. He asked if the Board could direct Pat Beekman, Homeland Security Director, to look into this matter and see if at least one more prime time could be received so that more citizens would be able to watch the meetings.

Mr. Beekman offered that he would research the times that the meetings are being aired on both cable channels and report back to the Board before the next Commissioners' meeting. He asked that if the Board members receive any future concerns regarding the programming schedule, that these concerns be forwarded to him so that he could address them from a staff level.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Chairman Lane announced that there is one vacancy on the Centralina Workforce Development Board representing the private sector/business representative due to a resignation.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

a. Union County Agricultural Advisory Board

The Chairman recognized Commissioner Stone, who serves as the Commissioner-Representative on this board, for this item.

He stated that there are three vacancies on this board, and the Chairman of that board has submitted three individuals' names that he has contacted who would like to serve on this board.

Commissioner Stone nominated Everett Medlin, Greg Hargett, and Richard Simpson to serve on the Agricultural Advisory Board as recommended by the Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Board.

With there being no further nominations, Everett Medlin, Greg Hargett, and Richard Simpson were appointed to serve by acclamation on the Agricultural Advisory Board.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

The Manager was out of the room at the time that the Chairman called for his comments, and, therefore, the agenda moved forward with the Commissioners' Comments at this time.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

There were no Commissioners' comments by Commissioners Rushing, Pressley, or Stone.

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Vice Chairman Sexton again extended his congratulations to James Nicholas Long and the other members of Boy Scout Troop 169 who were in attendance tonight. He said that he thought it was interesting that less than two percent of scouts receive the Eagle Scout award.

Chairman Lane shared that he had attended a meeting with Senator Richard Burr, which took place at the Chamber of Commerce this afternoon. He said it was a very good meeting where the Heelsplitter issue and the bypass were discussed.

He stated that the report from the Inspections Department for January 2006 showed 83 percent of the permits issued during January was for residential and 16 percent of the permits was for commercial industrial. He said that this was an improvement over the prior month's percentage.

Chairman Lane reminded the Board and the audience that the March 6 meeting had been deleted from the regular schedule.

At this time, a motion was made by Commissioner Stone to adjourn the regular meeting.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

The Manager asked if the Board would like to hear his comments at this time.

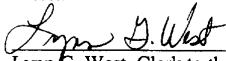
Chairman Lane recognized Mr. Shalati for his comments.

Mr. Shalati distributed advanced copies of the County's 2005 Annual Report. He stated that the report would be published in the Winter 2006 edition of the *Carolina Smart Shopper Magazine*. He said that the magazine should be mailed later on this week to 50,000 single-family homes in Union County. He stated that the County would save more than \$10,000 by using this publication to distribute the annual report, which features the Union County Historic Courthouse on the front cover of the magazine. Mr. Shalati stated that the report shares with the citizens the accomplishments of Union County government and how their taxes are being spent.

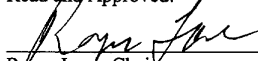
He also provided an update on the NACo prescription card. He said that the NACo prescription discount drug card continues to save Union County residents money on their prescriptions. He stated that in January, 470 cardholders had 1,284 prescriptions filled with 1,124 of those prescriptions being discounted. Mr. Shalati further said that the total retail price for all prescriptions filled was \$65,445 with the total price being paid of \$52,545 which resulted in a savings of approximately \$13,000. He stated that the average price savings per prescription was \$10.03 or 19.7 percent. He said that during the first five months of the program, \$48,726.52 were saved on prescriptions utilizing the discount drug card.

With there being no further comments or discussion, the Chairman called for a vote on the earlier motion by Commissioner Stone to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was passed unanimously with the Board members voting by rising from their chairs.

Attest:


Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board

Read and Approved:


Roger Lane, Chairman
