

Minutes  
 Catawba County Board of Commissioners  
 Regular Session, Monday, October 2, 2006, 9:30 a.m.

**Appointments**

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council	408	10/02/06
Lake Norman Marine Commission	408	10/02/06
Nursing & Rest Home Community Advisory Committee	408	10/02/06

**Catawba County Schools**

Bunker Hill/Oxford Sewer Project	408	10/02/06
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**Economic Development**

Revisions to contracts with Gregory Wood Products and P1	408	10/02/06
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**Public Comment**

Request for Special Use Permit for Veterinary Hospital	408	10/02/06
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**Public Health**

Reduction in fee for influenza and pneumococcal pneumnonia vaccines	408	10/02/06
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**Revaluation**

Adoption of Proposed Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules	409	10/02/06
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**Social Services**

List of Fee Collected	408	10/02/06
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**Tax**

Annual extension for listing personal property and delegation of authority	408	10/02/06
Adoption of Proposed Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules for Revaluation	409	10/02/06
Report and Settlement of 2005 Tax	409	10/02/06

**Utilities and Engineering**

Award of contract for Bunker Hill/Oxford Sewer Project	408	10/02/06
Pesticide Division Grant	408	10/02/06
White Goods and Tire Management Grant	408	10/02/06

The Catawba County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 2, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in the 1924 Courthouse, Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 30 North College Avenue, Newton, North Carolina. This regular session followed a Special Work Session which had commenced at 7:30 a.m. and recessed at 9:20 a.m. and would reconvene after the adjournment of the regular meeting.

Present were Chair Katherine W. Barnes, Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker and Commissioners Glenn E. Barger, Lynn M. Lail and Barbara G. Beatty.

Also present were County Manager J. Thomas Lundy, Assistant County Manager Joellen Daley, Assistant County Manager Lee Worsley, Interim County Attorney Debra Bechtel, Attorney Anne Marie Pease and County Clerk Barbara E. Morris.

1. Chair Katherine W. Barnes called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. Commissioner Lynn M. Lail led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker offered the invocation.

4. Commissioner Barger made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 18, 2006.
5. Recognition of Special Guest: Chair Barnes welcomed all present.
6. Comments for Items not on the Agenda.

Drs. Jane A. Barber, DVM and Scott Matthews, DVM, from Terrell came forward to request the Board revisit the request for a proposed Special Use Permit allowing for a Veterinary Hospital in a residentially zoned area. This request was made over four years ago and no action was taken at that time. Dr. Barber contended that the rapidly growing areas of Sherrills Ford and Terrell have a need for a veterinary hospital to service the needs of the community. It is their belief that a site in the residentially zoned area would be more convenient for pet owners and that commercial property in the area is too expensive to make a veterinary hospital feasible. Chair Barnes said that the Board was in the process of reviewing the zoning ordinances and this request would be considered in that review. She then asked if anyone else wished to speak. Nick and Betty Vincent and Susan Hunsucker from Terrell came forward to state their strong support of Dr. Barber's request. Drs. Melissa Zepley and Andrew Zepley, mobile vet providers, supported Dr. Barber's request as they have difficulty meeting all the needs of the people in Sherrills Ford and Terrell. Vice-Chair Hunsucker asked Dr. Barber if her specialty included large animals and she said she did have the credentials and experience with large animals. A dog breeder also came forward to recommend the Board approve the request as Dr. Barber's experience would benefit her in her business.
7. Presentations:

Chair Barnes stated that the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Paving Priorities for Catawba County listed on the agenda was postponed to the October 16, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting.
8. Appointments:

Vice-Chair Hunsucker recommended the appointment of Danny Hearn for a first term on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council in the Business Community Category. Commissioner Barbara Beatty recommended Paul Carter for a first term on the Lake Norman Marine Commission and Commission Lail recommended the appointment of Pat Jones as an Industry Appointee to the Nursing & Rest Home Community Advisory Committee. These recommendations came in the form of a motion. The motion carried unanimously.
9. Consent Agenda:

County Manager J. Thomas Lundy presented the following seven items for the Board's consideration:

  - a. A request to award an engineering contract to McGill Associates to do the design bidding, construction and post construction work on the Bunker Hill/Oxford School Sewer Project which also includes the Riverbend Middle School – the total amount of the contract would be \$235,500. The engineer was selected jointly by the County and the City of Conover. This project is a result of a \$3 million state grant to provide sewer to those three schools.
  - b. The Board previously entered into two economic development agreements with Gregory Wood Products and P1 Catawba Development Corporation (a pallet company) which work together but are also part of the County's larger Eco-Complex. P1 is in need of additional property. P1 and Gregory Wood Products have jointly agreed that they could transfer five acres. The Board was requested to modify both the economic development agreements to reduced Gregory Wood Products' acreage by 5.14 and transfer that acreage to P1 – and what is included in that transfer is the appropriate cubic yards of earthen materials (the original contracts required these entities to give the County the earthen materials for use at the landfill for cover).
  - c. Recommendation by the Board of Health for a reduction in influenza and pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine fees in the amount of \$13 each. The fee had just been increased reflecting the cost of the vaccine to the County but those increased fees hadn't had to be used. The charge will now be \$24 for influenza and \$37 for a pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination.
  - d. In accordance with State Statute, a report from Social Services listing that they had collected \$111,486.26 in fees.
  - e. Request for an annual extension for listing personal property and the delegation of this authority to the Tax Administrator allowing individuals until April 15<sup>th</sup> if they can show good cause that they need the extra time.

f. Request to accept a North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division Grant from the Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund in the amount of \$4,635. It will help with the purchase of three trailers that will be located at Blackburn, Newton and Oxford sites as well as educational material and signage.

g. Request to accept a North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Waste Management Grant from the White Goods Management Program and approve an application for a grant from the Tire Management Program and upon receipt, accept the Grant. The White Goods grant in the amount of \$1318 will help offset some of the County's expenses in the clean up of illegal white goods. The Tire Management grant is up to \$25,048 which would help offset expenses incurred in the County's Fall 2005 Big Sweep Campaign.

All of these items, with the exception of the Social Services fee collection, were recommended for approval by subcommittees. Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Departmental Reports.

h. Tax Department:

1. Randy Moose, Tax Administrator, presented a request for the adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules for the Catawba County. In accordance with NCGS 105-317(c), the Schedule of Values must be formally presented to the Board not less than 21 days before the meeting at which it will be considered. After the formal presentation the Board must notify the public through newspapers of general circulation that it has received the schedule and that it is open for inspection at the Assessor's office. The notice must also inform the public that a public hearing will be held, giving the specific date, time, and place. This public hearing must be at least seven days before the Board's adoption of the schedule. The Board held a the public hearing on September 18, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room of the 1924 Courthouse. In this presentation, Mr. Moose requested the Board of Commissioner adopt the Schedules of Value for the Catawba County 2007 Revaluation. Commissioner Lail made a motion to adopt this schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Jackie Spencer, Tax Collector, presented the Report and Settlement of 2005 Tax, Fiscal Year July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, as required by General Statute 105-352, 105-373. The report read as follows:

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2005 TO JUNE 30, 2006  
CATAWBA COUNTY 2005 TAX YEAR

REAL ESTATE / PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES - COUNTY AND FIRE DISTRICTS

ADJUSTED LEVY as of 6-30-06 ..... \$ 59,926,161

BALANCE OF A/R as of 6-30-06 ..... \$ 1,115,531

COLLECTIONS as of 6-30-06 ..... \$ 58,810,630

PERCENTAGE COLLECTED as of 6-30-06 ..... 98.14%

I, Jackie A. Spencer, do hereby affirm that this is a true and accurate report concerning the tax levy of Catawba County, North Carolina, for Fiscal Year 2005/2006, 2005 tax year.

This is the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie A. Spencer  
Tax Collector, Catawba County

NORTH CAROLINA, CATAWBA COUNTY

I, Kay M. Bowman, Notary Public, do hereby certify that Jackie A. Spencer, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledge the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires March 24, 2007

COLLECTIONS FROM OTHER SOURCES

Real and Personal Property Taxes

Interest...2005 and Prior Years..... \$ 274,375  
Prior Years 1993-2004...Principal-County & Fire.... \$ 837,575

Vehicle Tax

Collected 2005...County & Fire Districts. .... \$ 5,132,140  
Prior Years 1997-2004...Principal-County & Fire.... \$ 647,652  
Interest on Vehicle Tax...2005 & Prior Yrs..... \$ 90,895  
Prepaid Tax Distribution on 2006 County Tax..... \$ 66,885  
NSF Check Charges..... .. \$ 4,404  
Garnishment & Attachment Fees..... \$ 17,894  
Privilege Licenses..... \$ 26,528  
Gross Receipts Tax...(Tax on Rental Vehicles)..... \$ 52,188  
Fees for Deed and Map Copies..... . \$ 1,162

\* Municipal Collection Charges:

Cities @ \$3.15/bill & \$2.68/bill Out of County..... \$ 126,78  
Cities Fees of 1 1/2% on Auto Tax Collected..... \$ 37,179

\* MUNICIPAL COLLECTION CHARGES

Brookford 305 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 960.75  
Catawba 617 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 1,943.55  
Claremont 1,108 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 3,490.20  
Conover 4,980 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 15,687.00  
Hickory 20,942 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 65,967.30  
103 (Burke County) Bills  
x \$2.68 = \$ 276.04 \*\*.....\$ 66,243.34  
Long View 2,543 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 8,010.45  
445 (Burke County) Bills  
x \$2.68 = \$ 1,192.60 \*\*.....\$ 9,203.05

Maiden 2,121 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 6,681.15  
 Newton 7,168 Bills x \$3.15 = \$ 22,579.20

TOTALS 40,332 Bills \$126,788.24

\*\* No data processing was done by Catawba County's ITC for these Burke County Bills. \$2.68 represents the cost of collection.

2005 COLLECTIONS INFORMATION BY CITY AND TOWN

Real Estate and Personal Property

	LEVY	COLLECTED	OUTSTANDING BALANCE	PERCENT
Brookford	\$ 97,334	\$ 95,813	\$ 1,521	98.44
Catawba	261,816	250,763	11,053	95.78
Claremont	1,455,364	1,447,376	7,988	99.45
Conover	3,405,990	3,333,302	72,688	97.87
Hickory	19,386,282	19,123,102	263,180	98.64
Hickory/Burke County	200,557	200,506	51	99.97
Long View	933,420	908,273	25,147	97.31
Long View/Burke County	97,511	92,537	4,974	94.90
Maiden	1,196,154	1,182,134	14,020	98.83
Newton	3,415,30	3,322,748	92,559	97.29

D. Vehicle Collections

	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL
Brookford	\$ 5,948	\$ 47	\$ 5,995
Catawba	17,930	156	18,086
Claremont	47,264	271	47,535
Conover	209,613	978	210,591
Hickory	1,297,613	6,636	1,304,249
Long View	66,134	514	66,648

Maiden	61,911	563	62,474
Newton	235,469	2,017	237,486

**STATUS OF COLLECTION PERCENTAGE AS OF JUNE 30, 2006**

Fiscal Year 7-01-04 thru 6-30-05  
Tax Year 2004

Adjusted Levy	\$ 57,533,332
Collections	57,110,213
Outstanding Balance (Real Estate & Personal Property)	423,119
Percentage Collected	99.26%

Fiscal Year 7-01-03 thru 6-30-04  
Tax Year 2003

Adjusted Levy	\$ 57,030,057
Collections	56,766,562
Outstanding Balance (Real Estate & Personal Property)	263,495
Percentage Collected	99.54%

E. PRIOR YEARS COLLECTION RESULTS

FISCAL YEAR	TAX YEAR	LEVY	PERCENTAGE COLLECTED
1979/80	1979	11,062,367	91.92
1980/81	1980	11,723,000	97.01
1981/82	1981	12,341,738	97.98
1982/83	1982	12,769,270	98.85
1983/84	1983	14,364,144	99.43
1984/85	1984	15,016,524	99.46
1985/86	1985	15,023,711	99.30
1986/87	1986	17,970,927	99.12
1987/88	1987	17,385,223	99.31
1988/89	1988	17,812,972	99.35
1989/90	1989	21,676,434	99.34
1990/91	1990	22,611,620	99.19
1991/92	1991	27,682,982	99.30
1992/93	1992	28,240,644	99.20
1993/94	1993	28,280,279	99.64
1994/95	1994	29,570,920	99.61
1995/96	1995	33,664,697	99.61
1996/97	1996	34,868,643	99.57

1997/98	1997	37,850,343	99.50
1998/99	1998	39,189,655	98.98
1999/2000	1999	47,323,073	98.76
2000/2001	2000	49,092,961	98.53
2001/2002	2001	51,214,653	98.52
2002/2003	2002	53,182,726	98.47
2003/2004	2003	57,179,727	98.30
2004/2005	2004	57,597,987	98.24
2005/2006	2005	59,926,161	98.14

Commissioner Barger made a motion to adopt the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Other Items of Business: None.
12. Attorneys' Report. None.
13. Manager's Report. None.
14. Adjournment. Chair Barnes adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m. and stated the Board would move back into the Special Work Session which had been recessed earlier.

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Katherine W. Barnes, Chair  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

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Barbara E. Morris, County Clerk