

Minutes  
 Catawba County Board of Commissioners  
 Regular Session, Monday, October 3, 2005, 9:30 a.m.

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The Catawba County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, September 6, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in the 1924 Courthouse, Robert E. Hibbits Meeting Room, 30 North College Avenue, Newton, North Carolina.

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

Also present were County Manager J. Thomas Lundy, Assistant County Manager Lee Worsley, County Attorney Robert Oren Eades and County Clerk Barbara E. Morris.

1. Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. Commissioner Barbara Beatty led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. The Invocation was offered by Commissioner Glenn Barger.
4. Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Joint Meeting with Hickory, Long View and Brookford Councils of September 19, 2005 and the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2005. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Recognition of Special Guests.  
Chair Barnes recognized all special guests and asked Debbie Bradley, Personnel Director, to introduce Bongeka Mbanya, a human resource director from South Africa who is visiting the States for 12 weeks – six weeks in Virginia and six weeks in Catawba County. Bongeka thanked the County Manager for the opportunity to come to the county. County Manager J. Thomas Lundy said the ICMA had been working in South Africa under a contract with USAID, specifically on ethics, and has worked with 17 different municipalities and as a part of that program there were two professionals who came to the United States. Chair Barnes then recognized Roy Carr from the NAACP who was in the audience and then congratulated County Manager Lundy on the conclusion of his year as President of the ICMA and said the Board appreciated the efforts Mr. Lundy devoted to the organization. Mr. Lundy said it was a great year and he enjoyed it and he appreciated the Board's patience and support and the staff's efforts while he was traveling.
6. Public comment for items not on the agenda. None.
7. Presentations.  
Commissioner Lynn Lail presented David Pruitt, Fire Marshal, with a proclamation declaring October 9 through 15, 2005 as Fire Prevention Week. Mr. Pruitt said the fire service appreciated the proclamation and stated the service pledged to continue to strive to make Catawba County citizens safer.

H. DeWitt Blackwell, Assistant Executive Director, Western Piedmont Council of Governments and Taylor Dellinger, Data Analyst, Western Piedmont Council of Governments came forward to present the 2005 CGEM Report on the Study of the Catawba County, Hickory and Newton-Conover School Systems which addressed the estimates of student population growth in these three school systems. Mr. Blackwell said this was the fifth presentation of this information and they were pleased with the accuracy of the predictions in this report and then turned the presentation over to Mr. Dellinger. Mr. Dellinger explained there was redistricting in the past two weeks due to these calculations. He further explained that the goal of this project was to develop a workable model using GIS technology that measures and estimates student population growth which is essential before school officials and planners can determine the need for, location and size of future school buildings within the County. Between 2000 and 2004 Catawba County's population grew from 141,685 to 148,797. Total resident population in the Catawba County system had increased from 93,337 in 2000 to 100,480 in 2004 with enrollments increasing by 397 students between 2000 and 2002 and 400+ between 2003 and 2004. Hickory's system resident population has grown 3.2% since 2000 to 33,048 but enrollment in the school system had dropped from 2000 to 2002 by 192 students – since 2002, the Hickory system had a net gain of 36 students to 4,303. The resident population in the Newton-Conover School System had grown 5.3% since 2000 to 17,079 and between 2000 and 2004 enrollment in the Newton-Conover system had increased from 2,651 to 2,700 students. Sherrills Ford School District was used as an example with Sherrills Ford Elementary, with a current capacity of 598, increasing from 721 in 2004 to 1043 in 2011 – which would be 74% over capacity.

Banoak, Blackburn and Campbell Elementary Schools showed similar trends with Middle and High Schools facing being 110% over capacity by 2011.

The redistricting plan resulted by using the CGEM model and student enrollments were calculated in the proposed districts for the 2006-07 and 2011-12 school years.

These numbers have been presented to the County School Board, the Hickory School Board and will be presented to the Newton-Conover Schools next week.

Mr. Dellinger said he would like to thank the three school systems and the County Staff for providing data. Mr. Blackwell then asked the Commissioners for any questions regarding the presentation. Chair Barnes pointed out that obviously high schools were going to be pressure points in the coming years in all three systems but noticed that Fred T. Foard, after a considerable addition had been made to that school, would be under capacity in 2011 and asked if that was discussed with the school board. Mr. Dellinger said it was discussed at the meeting and this occurred due to boundary changes and they are giving part of their students to the new Maiden High School, thus resulting in the under capacity figures. Commissioner Barger said if the projections were true, there is a 180 under capacity at Foard. Commissioner Lail asked about the students who are going to the program at CVCC – and Mr. Dellinger indicated that 90 students were in this program but he was unsure how many will go in the future and this program would help a little with overcrowding. Commissioner Beatty asked if he knew where these students going to CVCC were coming from – what schools - and he said 60 students were from the County system and 30 were from Hickory and Newton-Conover and Alexander Central. County Manager Lundy said that since the County Board of Education has made the decision to change the boundaries, a meeting was being arranged between the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> to give them a chance to present a more detailed plan. Mr. Blackwell said there were two areas that they intended to monitor very closely and these were the Mountain View area close to Exit 123 and the lake area. Commissioner Barger asked about the predictions for the St. Stephens area and Mr. Dellinger said it was a little over capacity but the addition at St. Stephens helped to keep that overage down. Chair Barnes asked if there were any projections on growth for Newton-Conover in terms of future capacities and Mr. Dellinger said their most likely area growth would be the Shuford area but he felt the growth toward the lake would be more significant than in that area. Commissioner Lail asked about the implementation of the international bacheloreate program offered by Hickory and Dr. Kirkman said he did not see any appreciable growth due to that program.

8. Appointments.

Commissioner Barbara Beatty recommended the reappointment of Trent T. Cloninger for a fourth term expiring November 30, 2008 on the Town of Catawba Planning Board. This recommendation came in the form of a motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Departmental Reports.

a. Social Services:

Bobby Boyd, Social Services Director and Doug Urland, Public Health Director, presented an informational report on the 2004-2005 DHR Social Worker/School Nursing Report.

Operating in the three county school systems, the DHR Teams originally consisted of nurses from Public Health, psychologists from Mental Health and social workers from Social Services. They helped students with behavioral, health, academic, emotional and relationship concerns in order to enhance the school experience for the children so they might be better able to learn and benefit from education. Due to financial considerations, the psychologists were removed from the team some years ago leaving the nurses and school workers.

Currently, the schools served by both nurses and social workers are:

Catawba County Schools

- Clyde Campbell
- Webb Murray
- Sweetwater
- Lyle Creek
- Oxford
- Riverbend
- Claremont
- Tuttle Middle

Hickory City Schools

- Oakwood
- Southwest
- Longview
- Viewmont
- Jenkins

Newton-Conover City Schools

- Thornton

The Public Health school nurses serve all schools in Catawba County. During 2004-2005, the school nurses had nearly 29,000 student contacts consisting of sick visits, individual and group health information, teaching/counseling, screening and school wide events. The nurses identified and wrote 125 emergency care plans for kindergarteners with chronic health conditions such as diabetes, asthma, bee stings and food allergies. As a result of these plans, the nurses safely managed the students' health while the student was in school.

The social workers were involved with 450 students completing psychosocial assessments and developing specific goals. An additional 225 students were referred for medical, dental, and/or mental health services. The majority of the social worker involvement focused on behavioral problems such as helping the students with behavioral management techniques and parenting counseling.

Some of the achievements during the year were:

- 98% of students served by the social workers had a 95% attendance rate.
- 98% of students had five or fewer office referrals for "behavioral problems" once the social worker began working with them.
- 98% of students were eligible for promotion to the next grade at year's end after having been involved with a social worker.
- The social workers received a 99% customer satisfaction rating from parents and school staff.
- 83% of school-aged children that were screened and identified for vision problems received follow-up care.
- 100% of students served by school nurses received health education through projects, health promotion, parent teaching or classroom presentations.
- 100% of students referred to the school nurse for acute conditions were referred to a primary care provider and 82% of those referrals received care.
- 100% of all children entering kindergarten with identified health problems had an individualized health plan developed by the school nurse so that staff could appropriately and safely manage the child's medical condition at school.
- 98% of sixth-graders eligible to receive the Hepatitis-B vaccine initiated and completed the series.
- 94% of students that were found to be out of compliance with North Carolina Immunization Laws completed the mandated requirements. (Remaining students are either in process of completing the vaccines or have moved out of school districts.)
- 100% of all Catawba County middle and high schools received educational information regarding the Totally Teens Health Center and relative adolescent health information three times.
- 100% of Hickory City fifth-graders received BMI screenings; 51% of those students were identified as at risk for obesity according to CDC guidelines and school nurses made referrals for 100% of those identified.

Mr. Boyd noted the presence of Dr. Kirkman in the audience and thanked him for a long standing relationship with the Hickory School System that really involved more than the DHR teams. He went on to say that from both Social Services and social workers' perspectives' they feel fine with the program and think this is a good partnership.

During the past year, the Catawba County School System used their additional five social workers to cover the schools not served by the DHR team. It is a coordinated effort between the DHR social workers and school social workers and appears to work well.

The expenses and revenue for the program are:

<b>Public Health School Nurse Program</b>		<b>Social Services Social Worker</b>	
Expenses	\$558,647	Expenses	\$335,185
Revenue	362,992	Revenue	113,849
Medicaid	\$248,407	Catawba Schools	\$48,634
Clinic Fees	6,000	Hickory Schools	65,215
Catawba County Schools	9,800	Catawba County	<u>\$221,336</u>
School Nurse Initiative Grant	98,630		
Miscellaneous	155		
Catawba County	<u>\$195,655</u>		

The nurses and social workers communicate frequently to ensure that all student needs are addressed and met. The partnerships appear to be working well and the results for the year are noteworthy. Because of the collaborative effort and the presence of the social workers and nurses, student behavior is improved, academic performance is enhanced, absenteeism is reduced, and there is improved parental involvement in the schools. Results for the coming year should be even better as the additional nurses will again be available through the generosity of Catawba Valley Medical Center. Mr. Doug Urland noted the integral part the school nurses have in identifying problems and initiating the appropriate action to correct these problems. He noted the mission has never changed over the years – that is to provide services to the students so they can be successful in school and beyond. This requires a trust factor and the schools’ acceptance of this effort.

Commissioner Barger noted the impressive outcomes achieved from the program. Commissioner Beatty asked of the existence of these teams in other counties throughout the state and Mr. Boyd there are other programs but he doubted that any of these stressed the outcomes that Catawba County did.

b. GIS:

Michelle Deese, GIS Coordinator and Jack Chandler, Public Services Coordinator presented a request for an amendment to the Orthophotography Contract in the amount of \$239,070 to update additional data layers and also authorize the County Manager to execute the contract amendment. In January, the County contracted with EarthData International as part of a Joint-Orthophoto Project with several other area counties—Alexander, Burke, Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, and Richmond.

The orthophoto project is progressing on schedule with delivery of the orthophotography expected by December 31, 2005.

As part of the original orthophoto project, it was agreed that each county may individually negotiate to have additional data layers created or updated based on data captured during the fly-over for the orthophotos. Catawba County staff has determined that updates to the County’s Land Use, Impervious Surfaces, and Transportation Layers will prove invaluable in the County’s efforts to comply with Federal and State Stormwater Regulations and the ability to track impervious surface percentages.

These layers will also be used by our partnering municipalities. Therefore, costs to update these layers will be handled as with our previous multi-jurisdictional projects, with our partnering municipalities funding 24.1 percent of the project. The County will fund the layers initially, and the municipalities will reimburse the County for their portion of the project. No budget revision is required for these services. Funds for this project were included in the FY2005/06 Budget in the Water & Sewer Construction Fund.

Chair Barnes asked if these were layers that the County currently had and Ms. Deese said these were layers that they currently had but they have not been updated in some time. Commissioner Beatty asked if these layers would be used for future modeling in the County and Ms. Deese and Mr. Chandler

said these layers would be very valuable in future modeling and the transportation layer would be value in planning future utilities extensions.

Commissioner Beatty made a motion to approve this amendment in the amount of \$239,070 and to authorize the County Manager to sign the contract amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Finance:

1. Finance Director Rodney Miller presented a request for the Board to approve a resolution to declare County owned property located off of State Road 1140 – Lewis Road as surplus and accept the offer of Richard L. Giles in the amount of \$1950 (tax value \$1900), subject to the upset bid process.

As a result of a judgment issued against the former property owner, Catawba County obtained the property in October 2000 at a cost of \$163.06, which included delinquent taxes of \$46.17. The property consists of .35 acres and is located off of State Road 1140 - Lewis Road (Parcel ID #3608-0269-9203). Catawba County does not have any use for this property at the present time or the foreseeable future.

With its proximity to Blackburn Elementary School, Ernest Williams with Catawba County Schools was contacted to gauge their interest in the property. Due to the limited acreage, its location across Hwy 10 from the existing school and with no plans for a future school in that area, they had no interest in the property.

Mr. Richard Lee Giles, residing at 272 Buffalo Shoals Road in Lincolnton, has made an offer to purchase this property in the amount of \$1,950 and submitted a bid deposit of \$100.00, as required by County policy. Notice of the bid will be advertised in the Hickory Daily Record and Observer-News Enterprise, and upset bids may be made to the County within ten (10) days of publication. Once an upset bid has been received, that bid will be re-advertised until there are no further upset bids. The successful bidder must present cash or a certified check for the entire balance due within ninety (90) days of the last day for receipt of upset bids.

The required resolution reads as follows:

**Notice of Upset Bid - Real Property  
Parcel ID #3608-0269-9203**

WHEREAS, the County of Catawba owns certain property; located off of State Road 1140--Lewis Road as shown on a plat thereof in Plat Book 2237, Page 1701 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Catawba County, to which plat and the record thereof, reference is hereby made for more complete description, and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 160A-269 permits the county to sell property by upset bid, after receipt of an offer for the property; and

WHEREAS, the County has received an offer to purchase the property described above, in the amount of \$1,950, submitted by Richard L. Giles; and

WHEREAS, Richard Lee Giles has paid the required 5 percent (5%) deposit on his offer;

WHEREAS, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners accepts the offer of \$1,950 or any higher, upsetting offer, subject to the upset bid procedure;

THEREFORE, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners resolves that:

1. The Catawba County Board of Commissioners authorizes the sale of the property described above through the upset bid procedure of North Carolina General Statute 160A-269.
2. The Purchasing Agent shall cause a notice of the proposed sale to be published. The notice shall describe the property and the amount of the offer, and shall state the terms under which the offer may be upset.
3. Persons wishing to upset the offer that has been received shall submit a sealed bid with their offer to the office of the Purchasing Agent within 10 days after the notice of sale is published. At the conclusion of the 10-day period, the Purchasing Agent shall open the bids, if any, and the highest such bid will become the new offer. If there is more than one bid in the highest amount, the first such bid received will become the new offer.
4. If a qualifying higher bid is received, the Purchasing Agent shall cause a new notice of upset bid to be published, and shall continue to do so until a 10-day period has passed without any qualifying upset bid having been received.
5. A qualifying higher bid is one that raises the existing offer by not less than 10 percent (10%) of the first \$1,000 of that offer and 5 percent (5%) of the remainder of that offer.
6. A qualifying higher bid must also be accompanied by a deposit in the amount of 5 percent (5%) of the bid; the deposit may be made in cash, cashier's check, or certified check. The County will return the deposit on any bid not accepted, and will return the deposit on an offer subject to upset if a qualifying higher bid is received. The County will return the deposit of the final high bidder at closing.
7. The terms of the final sale are that  
--The buyer must pay with cash, cashier's check or certified check at the time of closing.
8. The County reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time before the final high bid is accepted and the right to reject at any time all bids.
9. If no qualifying upset bid is received after the initial public notice, the offer set forth above is hereby accepted. The appropriate County officials are authorized to execute the instruments necessary to convey the property.

This the 3rd day of October, 2005

Katherine W. Barnes, Chair  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Beatty asked if any of the adjacent property owners showed any interest in the property. Mr. Miller said they had not yet notified the adjacent property owners but had contacted Catawba County Schools and they had no interest in the property. He said the notice in the newspaper would notify the adjacent owners. Vice-Chair Hunsucker asked if that was the only way the adjacent owners would know of the sale and Mr. Miller said yes, unless the County sent notices directly to them and Vice-Chair Hunsucker said he felt that was something that needed to be done and then asked if there was any access to the property and Mr. Miller said there was a wagon trail that goes to it. He said staff had gone to look at it and it was heavily wooded and difficult to get to. Mr. Miller said he would notify the adjacent property owners of the proposed sale. Commissioner Barger recommended accepting the original bid and then notify the adjacent owners to see if they wanted to submit an upset bid in the required time. Commissioner Barger made a motion to declare the property surplus, notify the adjoining property owners of the upset bid process and accept the original offer from Mr. Giles. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Rodney Miller, Finance Director, then presented a request for a budget transfer in the amount of \$81,612 for the completion of Hickory City Schools Auto Mechanics Classroom. In the FY 2004/05 budget, funding in the amount of \$329,000 was allocated to relocate the Auto Mechanics lab from Hickory High School to the old American Legion building. In addition, funding in the amount of

\$267,000 was approved to convert the space formerly occupied by the Auto Mechanics lab into classrooms.

Bids were received in September on the Auto Mechanics Classroom Project resulting in a shortfall of \$56,614. To award the low bid, plus an allowance for various fees, permits and contingency associated with the project, funding of \$81,612 is needed.

The proposed transfer were as follows:

<u>Transfer From:</u>		<u>Transfer To:</u>
Southwest Elementary Stage	\$2,462	Auto Mechanics Classroom-HHS \$81,612
Longview Cooling Tower	\$4,291	
Hickory High Chiller	\$169	
Hickory High Carpet	\$650	
Hickory High Walkway Construction	\$250	
Exit Lighting	\$3,032	
Southwest A/C	\$63	
Seal & Repave Parking Lot – HHS	\$70	
Grandview Electrical Service	\$13,943	
Middle School B Land	\$5,870	
College Park Renovations	<u>\$50,812</u>	
	<u>\$81,612</u>	

<u>Supplemental Appropriation:</u>		
Transfer to 97 School Bond Fund	\$10,987	Trfr from Schools Cap Project Fund \$10,987

Mr. Miller then asked Dr. Kirkman to address the Board regarding this request. Dr. Kirkman first congratulated County Manager Lundy regarding the completion of the year as ICMA President. He then said the project in question addresses the over capacity issue that had been discussed by Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Dellinger earlier in the meeting. He said capacity at Hickory High is 1060 and they are about now at 1320 and this project will add four classrooms and would increase the capacity by 104 – reducing the over capacity to about 15 to 20%. Commissioner Barger asked about the transfer from College Park and if this would close out that account but Dr. Kirkman said it wouldn't close it out but they were looking to close it out by the end of the year.

Commissioner Barger made a motion to approve the proposed budget transfers. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Kirkman said he would like to make some comments of the report of Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Dellinger. He noted that Hickory Public School enrollment was 2.2% over projections and also noted that they had over 400 kindergarteners this year – the largest kindergarten class he could remember.

- d. Tax
  1. Jackie Spencer, Tax Collector, made a request for a tax refund in the \$106.55 to Doug Lilly who was billed for a 2001 Stingray Boat in error. Commissioner Lail made a motion to approve the refund request. The motion carried unanimously.
  2. Jackie Spencer, Tax Collector, presented the Report and Settlement of 204 Tax, Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, as required by GS 105-352, 105-373.

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2004 TO JUNE 30, 2005

CATAWBA COUNTY 2004 TAX YEAR

REAL ESTATE / PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES – COUNTY AND FIRE DISTRICTS

ADJUSTED LEVY as of 6-30-05 ..... \$ 57,597,987

BALANCE OF A/R as of 6-30-05 ..... \$ 1,015,915

COLLECTIONS as of 6-30-05 ..... \$ 56,582,072

PERCENTAGE COLLECTED as of 6-30-05 ..... 98.24%

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 2004/2005, 2004 tax year.

This is the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

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

My Commission Expires March 24, 2007

COLLECTIONS FROM OTHER SOURCES

Real and Personal Property Taxes

Interest...2004 and Prior Years.....	\$ 233,841
Prior Years 1993-2003...Principal-County & Fire....	\$ 688,070

Vehicle Tax

Collected 2004...County & Fire Districts.....	\$ 5,246,979
Prior Years 1997-2003...Principal-County & Fire....	\$ 690,552
Interest on Vehicle Tax...2004 & Prior Yrs.....	\$ 89,794
Prepaid Tax Distribution on 2005 County Tax.....	\$ 109,292
NSF Check Charges.....	\$ 3,550
Garnishment & Attachment Fees.....	\$ 10,446
Privilege Licenses.....	\$ 27,493
Gross Receipts Tax...(Tax on Rental Vehicles).....	\$ 75,650
Fees for Deed and Map Copies.....	\$ 1,943

10. Municipal Collection Charges:

Cities @ \$3.15/bill & \$2.68/bill Out of County.....	\$ 125,934
Cities Fees of 1 1/2% on Auto Tax Collected.....	\$ 37,236

11. MUNICIPAL COLLECTION CHARGES

Brookford	308 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 970.20
Catawba	615 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 1,937.25
Claremont	1,119 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 3,524.85
Conover	4,982 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 15,693.30
Hickory	20,697 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 65,195.55
	87 (Burke County) Bills	
	x \$2.68 = \$ 233.16 **.....	\$ 65,428.71
Long View	2,549 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 8,029.35
	421 (Burke County) Bills	
	x \$2.68 = \$ 1,128.28 **.....	\$ 9,157.63
Maiden	2,107 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 6,637.05
Newton	7,170 Bills x \$3.15 =	\$ 22,585.50
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>40,055 Bills</u>	<u>\$125,934.49</u>

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

2004 COLLECTIONS INFORMATION BY CITY AND TOWN

Real Estate and Personal Property

	LEVY	COLLECTED	OUTSTANDING BALANCE	PERCENT
Brookford	\$ 97,323	\$ 92,559	\$ 4,764	95.10
Catawba	239,549	230,974	8,575	96.42
Claremont	1,611,438	1,601,230	10,208	99.37
Conover	3,458,948	3,411,812	47,136	98.64
Hickory	19,202,906	18,947,638	255,268	98.67
Hickory/Burke County	163,880	155,103	8,777	94.64
Long View	951,282	930,031	21,251	97.77
Long View/Burke County	95,605	91,842	3,763	96.06
Maiden	1,159,827	1,133,498	26,329	97.73
Newton	3,404,272	3,326,428	77,844	97.71

Vehicle Collections

	<b>PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>INTEREST</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Brookford	\$ 6,182	\$ 57	\$ 6,239
Catawba	14,385	144	14,529
Claremont	52,969	250	53,219
Conover	201,558	1,007	202,565
Hickory	1,303,710	6,652	1,310,362
Long View	68,924	573	69,497
Maiden	60,892	481	61,373

**STATUS OF COLLECTION PERCENTAGE AS OF JUNE 30, 2005**

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

Adjusted Levy	\$ 57,107,048
Collections	56,680,095
Outstanding Balance (Real Estate & Personal Property)	426,953
Percentage Collected	99.25%

Fiscal Year 7-01-02 thru 6-30-03  
Tax Year 2002

Adjusted Levy	\$ 53,200,053
Collections	53,013,082
Outstanding Balance (Real Estate & Personal Property)	186,971
Percentage Collected	99.65%

Fiscal Year 7-01-01 thru 6-30-02  
Tax Year 2001

Adjusted Levy	\$ 51,214,022
Collections	51,079,236
Outstanding Balance (Real Estate & Personal Property)	134,786
Percentage Collected	99.74%

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

Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion for the Board to adopt the above report. The motion carried unanimously.

e. Personnel:

Debbie Bradley, Personnel Director made a request for the Board to approve the establishment of a new classification, IM Supervisor III, at a grade 72. Due to the continual increase in caseloads resulting from the continued decline in our local economy along with new program responsibilities being added, a restructuring of the Family Medicaid unit was being requested. This requested action was to create a new title/classification and would not result in an increase in the total number of positions or in an increase in salary budget of the Family Medicaid Unit.

With the planned addition of two new IM Caseworkers in the Family Medicaid unit, there will be 24 employees directly reporting to the IM Supervisor. The Family Medicaid unit has experienced continual problems with retaining employees. Some reasons for this is believed to be the volume of cases to work with, the responsibility of having to learn and manage both functions of Income Maintenance (intake process and case management process) and possibly the lack of time that the supervisor and lead workers have in providing sufficient training with the new employees. By creating this new classification of IM Supervisor III, the two Lead Workers can become IM Supervisors and take on direct supervisory responsibilities for 12 of the Caseworkers. This would also allow the IM Supervisor III to focus more on the management of the Family Medicaid unit rather than spending the majority of her time in training, hiring, and personnel issues.

Commissioner Barger made a motion to approve the establishment of this new classification. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Attorneys' Report. None.
11. Manager's Report.  
County Manager J. Thomas Lundy said he would ask the Board to consider a closed session but asked that they address the requested Code change first.  
The Board went into closed session at 10:55 a.m.
12. Other items of business.
  - a. County Clerk Barbara Morris requested the Board consider changing the County Code, Chapter 2 Administration, Article II Board of Commissioners, Section 2-53 Minutes as follows:

The clerk shall keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of the board of commissioners which shall be available for public inspection. Minutes of closed sessions conducted in compliance with G.S. 143-318.11 shall be withheld from public inspection as long as public inspection would frustrate the purpose of the closed session. The minutes of sessions, ~~other than closed sessions~~, shall be adopted at the next regular meeting. ~~Minutes of closed sessions shall be adopted at the next closed session.~~ Tapes of commissioners' meeting shall be erased after the minutes of each individual meeting are approved.

Historically, there can be months between board of commissioner meetings wherein the board goes into closed session and the current code requirement of waiting until a closed session to approve the previous closed session minutes leaves those minutes unapproved for long periods of time. County Attorney Robert Eades agreed with the change as well as pointed out the difference of approving the minutes and opening the minutes, which are two different processes.

Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion to approve the proposed Code change. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Section II F of the 2005-2006 Budget Ordinance states: "Reinventing Departments may create or abolish positions which impact the outcomes approved by the Board of Commissioners and within available revenues upon summary approval of the Board of Commissioners. Approval will come as the next regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting and will be attached and approved as part of the minutes."

Under this provision of the Budget Ordinance, the following personnel change has been made to the Personnel's office budget: Due to several new programs, a substantial increase in applications, and a need for the Personnel Department to provide more efforts in all areas of recruitment, we are adding a Personnel Technician position effective October 24, 2005.

- c. Commissioner Beatty then said she would like to congratulate Joyce Edwards, who had been appointed as the Social Services Director for Caldwell County. She is the wife of Barry Edwards and she said this was a wonderful accomplishment for Mrs. Edwards.

County Manager Lundy then asked the Board to consider going into closed session in accordance with General Statute 143-318.11 under the provision to instruct the location or expansion of industry in the area and did not anticipate any public action following the session. Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion to go into closed session at 10:54 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

At 11:38 a.m., Commissioner Barger made a motion to return to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

13. Adjournment.  
Commissioner Beatty made a motion to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Katherine W. Barnes, Chair  
Board of Commissioners

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Barbara E. Morris, County Clerk