

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
CONVENTION CENTER
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

1. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – AGENDA TOPIC
2. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Minutes of July 19, 2021 Regular Session
 - B. Tax Releases and Refunds
 - C. Sheriff – APS Phone Budget Amendment
 - D. CARTS – Storage Unit Rental Budget Amendment
 - E. J.T. Barber High School – Class of 1970 50th Reunion Proclamation
3. PROPOSED CRITICAL RACE THEORY (CRT) RESOLUTION – DISCUSSION

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

4. CARTS – BUS STOP SIGN HOLDERS – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Kelly Walker, Transportation Director
5. HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Scott Harrelson, Health Director
 - A. Adult Primary Care – Carryover Request and Additional Funding Request
 - B. 340B Pharmacy & Adult Primary Care – Increase in Federal Funding
6. FINANCE – LOCAL REDISTRICTING SERVICES – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Craig Warren, Finance Director
7. APPOINTMENTS
8. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Arey Grady
9. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – GENERAL TOPICS

10. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit

11. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN BALLROOM A OF THE RIVERFRONT CONVENTION CENTER, 302 SOUTH STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Vice Chairman Denny Bucher
Chairman George S. Liner
Commissioner Thomas F. Mark
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner E. T. Mitchell
Commissioner Beatrice R. Smith

STAFF PRESENT:

Jack B. Veit, III, County Manager
Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager
Craig Warren, Finance Director
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director
Arey Grady, County Attorney

STAFF ABSENT:

Nan Holton, Clerk to the Board

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, County Attorney, Arey Grady, recited the following invocation:

Almighty and eternal God, You have blessed us with creation and made us fellow workers in bringing about Your kingdom.

So draw our hearts to You, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, that we may have insight into Your purposes for our County and wisdom and determination in providing for its future, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify You in our care for all Your people.

All this we ask in Your holy name.

Amen.

Based upon the invocation given by Reverend Cara Spaccarelli, the January 7, 2014 session of the US House of Representatives

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the agenda, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S PRIVILEGE

Chairman Jones took Chairman's privilege and requested all who have served in the US military to please stand and be recognized. He thanked them all for their service and stated that because of our military we have the right to peacefully assemble here tonight and express our voices.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – AGENDA TOPICS

Chairman Jones welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to be a part of the process. For the record he reported that 130 emails had been received in support of the CRT Resolution and 71 emails in opposition, as of 4:15 pm August 2, 2021. These will be included in an Addendum to these Minutes. Mr. Jones further reported a petition signed by over 200 citizens in support of the resolution and a petition signed by over 900 citizens in opposition to the resolution had been presented to the Board of Commissioners. These will be maintained in the office of the Clerk to the Board. In addition, he commented there had been phone calls as well as personal conversations about this topic. Chairman Jones informed those who had signed up to speak, that

they would be called in the order in which they had signed up, and each person would have three minutes. He implored everyone to show respect for each other’s opinions and to maintain order.

The following citizens petitioned the Board in support or opposition to the proposed CRT Resolution:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Denise Powell – oppose | 22. Linda Wahnsiedler - oppose |
| 2. Joan Floyd – support | 23. Jim Hackett – oppose |
| 3. James Jackson – support | 24. D’Rico Baker - oppose |
| 4. Patti Mason – support | 25. Ceil Wasserman - support |
| 5. Will Farmer – support | 26. Janice Parys - support |
| 6. Marshall Williams – oppose | 27. Gary Clemmons - support |
| 7. J. F. Steurnagel – support | 28. Nelson McDaniel - oppose |
| 8. Susan Cook – oppose | 29. Niki Potter - oppose |
| 9. Linda Moore – support | 30. Bailey Evans - oppose |
| 10. George Evans – oppose | 31. Caitlin Trombley - oppose |
| 11. Glenn Fink – support | 32. Robert Trombley - oppose |
| 12. Charles Dudley – oppose | 33. JoAnna Wishon - oppose |
| 13. Hazel Dozier – oppose | 34. Alexis Carmon - oppose |
| 14. Stephanie Jones – oppose | 35. Dorothea White - oppose |
| 15. Nell Hudson – oppose | 36. Nancy Brinkley - support |
| 16. Ray Griffin – support | 37. Tyker Gonzales - support |
| 17. Raynor James – support | 38. Oliver Moore - support |
| 18. Hal James – support | 39. Danielle Kowalsky - oppose |
| 19. Kate Blakefield – oppose | 40. Ethel Sampson - oppose |
| 20. Helen Robinson – oppose | 41. Peggy Broadway - support |
| 21. Michael Schachter – oppose | 42. Brenda George – oppose |
-
- | |
|--------------------------------|
| 43. Bernard George – oppose |
| 44. Nancy Bradley – oppose |
| 45. Catherine Stash – support |
| 46. Cynthia Baran – oppose |
| 47. Randall Siler – support |
| 48. Guy Gregg – support |
| 49. Rick Hopkins – support |
| 50. Michael More -support |
| 51. William Brinkley – support |

At 8:13 pm a break was taken.

County Manager, Jack Veit, reported that several individuals had to leave prior to speaking, two were opposed to the resolution and one was in support.

At 9:27 pm a break was taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the consent agenda, inclusive of the Minutes of July 19, 2021 Regular Session; Tax Releases and Refunds (*Credits = \$3,804.04; Refunds = \$684.23*); Sheriff – APS Phone Budget Amendment; CARTS – Storage Unit Rental Budget Amendment and J.T. Barber High School – Class of 1970 50th Reunion Proclamation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCabe and was approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Sheriff’s Office

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1010000-39901	\$2,208.00	1014310-42200	\$2,208.00
Current Year Fund Balance		Telephone	
TOTAL	\$2,208.00	TOTAL	\$2,208.00

Justification: Request funds to be added to the new fiscal budget to cover the costs of monthly payments for four phones. Animal Protective Services employees have been using their personal phones for work related calls and have experienced a major influx of calls all hours of the night and during their time off. The telephone account from FY 21 was not depleted and the funds that were brought to the current fund balance can cover the amount being requested.

CARTS

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1014511-33307	\$1,221.00	1014510-42100	\$1,221.00
5311 CARES Act Funding		Rent	
101513-33114	\$ 814.00	1014512-42100	\$ 814.00
5307 CARES Act Funding		Rent	
TOTAL	\$2,038.00	TOTAL	\$2,038.00

Justification: To cover the additional FY 2022 cost of a storage unit rental. CARTS anticipates a need for a storage unit for approximately 12-18 months due to exceeding space capacity at the current CARTS location.

PROCLAMATION

J. T. Barber High School **Class of 1970** **50th Anniversary**

WHEREAS, the J. T. Barber High School Class of 1970 Warriors will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in New Bern, NC the weekend of September 2-6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, J. T. Barber High School opened its doors the fall of 1955, and its was named in honor of the community leader, educator, and notable West Street High School Principal, ***John Thomas Barber***; and

WHEREAS, J. T. Barber High School graduated 125 in the Class of 1970, of which 31 classmates are now deceased; and

WHEREAS, James R. Williams was the Senior Class President, and Kenneth Whitehurst was the Class Valedictorian, and Mr. Grover C. Fields was the principal at that time and

WHEREAS, the world changed dramatically during the Class of 1970's years at a predominately segregated African American high school during the time of the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, and the progressive Age' of Soul Music; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Class of 1970 valued their education and support by the teachers, coaches, staff, parents, neighbors and community leaders, who helped to shape their lives; and

WHEREAS, this 50th Anniversary is an opportunity for many of those graduates to rekindle old friendships, revisit memories and rediscover the place they once called home; and

WHEREAS, we are always grateful for the alumni, who graduated from Craven County schools, and are hopeful that this Reunion for the J. T. Barber, Class of 1970 Warriors will be a memorable and enjoyable anniversary for the attending classmates and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners proclaim September 2-6, 2021 as the J.T. Barber High School Class of 1970 Reunion Weekend, and extend our thanks to this class for the many contributions, they have made over the last 50 years!

PROPOSED CRITICAL RACE THEORY (CRT) RESOLUTION – DISCUSSION

Commissioner Liner thanked the public and stated that a lot of information has been received. He referenced remarks made about the Commissioners not having any authority in this arena. In moving forward, Commissioner Liner made the motion to change the title of the Resolution to read: “Resolution in Support of House Bill 324 which Opposes Divisive Theories, such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics” and “The 1619 Project”; and to change the last paragraph to read: Further Be It Resolved, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners does hereby support House Bill 324 to prohibit divisive theories, such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics” and “The 1619 Project” from being taught in all North Carolina public schools, including Craven County.

His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell.

Commissioner Mark expressed his support for this change.

Commissioner McCabe stated there is no reason the Board of Commissioners should be involved in curriculum. He stated the Board of Education should be making those decisions. Mr. McCabe expressed wanting the true history of the country being taught and emphasized he is not in favor of the resolution.

Commissioner Smith was also emphatic that she does not support any form of this resolution. She shared a letter she had received from a constituent in opposition to the resolution. Ms. Smith referenced the Pledge of Allegiance “with liberty and justice for all” and inquired “does that ring hollow to you?”. She also referenced the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution both expressing the right of liberty for all, and the significance of that to her personally. Ms. Smith addressed the Chairman, the Board and the citizens present and stated this resolution does not serve the best interest of Craven County and she appealed to their humanity to do what the Board is supposed to do, govern; and to leave issues out of their purview alone.

Commissioner Mitchell thanked the citizens for their involvement in community government. She highlighted there is truth in what all had to say, which makes this topic difficult to address. She stated she was encouraged to hear most say history needs to teach the good, the bad, and the ugly. Ms. Mitchell indicated her problem with critical race theory is that they are confusing theory with facts, and pointed out that CRT in itself is not inclusive.

Commissioner Jones, speaking on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, thanked the Craven County citizens for their emails, calls, petitions and participation in this discussion. In response to a comment made earlier, Mr. Jones stated that the actions taken by the Board did follow proper protocols and the code of ethics they abide. He indicated the resolution and the minutes are posted on the Craven County website, as is always done prior to a meeting.

Chairman Jones called for a roll call vote on adopting the “Resolution in Support of House Bill 324 which Opposes Divisive Theories, such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics” and “The 1619 Project”, as amended.

The Resolution was approved 5-2 in a roll call vote. (Commissioners McCabe and Smith voted no).

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 324 WHICH OPPOSES DIVISIVE THEORIES SUCH AS “CRITICAL RACE THEORY”, “ACTION CIVICS” AND “THE 1619 PROJECT”

WHEREAS, it is apparent that divisive changes in curricula are being introduced in many North Carolina schools; and

WHEREAS, many of these changes ignore the magnificent history of the United States of America in becoming the beacon of freedom for the entire world; and

WHEREAS, the 1776 *Commission* stated that there is “an incompatibility of identity politics with American principles”, and that “Rather than cast aside the serious study of America’s founding principles, or breed contempt for American history, our educational system should aim to teach students about the true principles and history of the entire country—a history that is accurate, unifying, inspiring and enabling”; and

WHEREAS, the replacement of our history with divisive theories such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics”, and “The 1619 Project” have been or are being considered for adoption as part of the curriculum in many public schools throughout North Carolina and the United States; and

WHEREAS, “Critical Race Theory” is designed to indoctrinate our children by programming them to be ashamed of and divided by race and or ethnicity, and is the opposite of the individual freedoms endowed in each of us by our Creator to live a full and prosperous life; and

WHEREAS, depriving persons of any race, color, creed, religion, gender, or national origin of their God-given Constitutional rights is antithetical to the core beliefs of this Republic and our representative democracy.

WHEREAS, divisive theories such as “Critical Race Theory” are being incorporated into training programs at some corporations and government organizations; and.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners believes the inclusion of such theories in the classroom is an intentional effort to indoctrinate children with a specific political ideology, and that such efforts undercut parents’ ability to mentor their children; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners believes our educational system at all levels should focus on equipping every student, regardless of race, creed or socio-economic status, with the knowledge, technical skills, and soft skills needed to achieve the American Dream by maximizing their God-given talents; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners uniformly believes that divisive theories, such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics” and “The 1619 Project” have no place in Craven County; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners does hereby support efforts, particularly HB 324, by the North Carolina General Assembly to prohibit divisive theories, such as “Critical Race Theory”, “Action Civics” and “The 1619 Project” in all public school settings in North Carolina, including Craven County.

Adopted this 2nd Day of August, 2021.

At 9:57 pm a break was taken. Commissioner Mark left the meeting and did not return.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: CARTS – BUS STOP SIGN HOLDERS – BUDGET AMENDMENT

Transportation Director, Kelly Walker, is requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$8,700.00, to purchase sign holders indicating fixed route stop locations. This urban expense will be reimbursed 100% using 5307 CARES Act funds. Ms. Walker relayed that CARTS has received many requests for signs with more information about the fixed route be located at stop locations and requested to purchase 50 holders based on the number of stop locations on the proposed fixed route changes.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$8,700.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 6-0 in a roll call vote.

CARTS

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1014513-33114 Urbanized Formula Funds	\$8,700.00	1014512-43240 Supplies – Other	\$8,700.00
TOTAL	\$8,700.00	TOTAL	\$8,700.00

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Adult Primary Care – Carryover Request and Additional Funding Request

Jennifer Blackmon, Human Services Deputy Director, reported that the Craven County Health Department participated in the Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health (CCCPH) Diabetes Initiative in FY 21 and was awarded \$42,487.00 in funding; \$31,865.25.00 was posted on June 14, 2021 and an additional amount of \$10,621.75 was expected to arrive in the next coming weeks.

Ms. Blackmon relayed that the health department would like to use the total amount of \$42,487.00 to contract with Fix Healthcare Technology to perform RetroCAID Tracking on a month-to-month basis.

They will run all of the self-pay and primary insurance programs against Medicaid on a daily basis, which would allow the health department to capture revenues on patients who did not have Medicaid at the time of service, but later received full Medicaid benefits after their initial visit. She stated the cost for providing this service is 18% on paid claims only.

Ms. Blackmon requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$42,487.00 to contract with Fix Healthcare Technology.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$42,487.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Smith and in a roll call vote approved 6-0.

Health/Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015100-38200	\$10,622.00	1015100-44000	\$42,487.00
Misc Revenues		Contract Services	
1015100-39901	\$31,865.00		
TOTAL	\$42,487.00	TOTAL	\$42,487.00

340B Pharmacy & Adult primary Care – Increase in Federal Funding

Ms. Blackmon announced that a one-time funding for a 2-year period in the total amount of \$1,605,250.00 has been awarded to the Craven County Health Department to carry out COVID-19 activities; establish, expand and sustain the health care workforce in response to COVID and other health work force-related activities; modify, enhance and expand health care services & infrastructure (creation of 340B pharmacy); and conduct outreach and educational activities related to COVID. She stated that the Craven County Health Department will budget a portion of the funding in FY 22 in the amount of \$1,047,250.00. The remaining balance of \$558,000.00 will be put on hold until FY 23.

County Manager, Jack Veit, provided more information regarding the proposed location of the pharmacy within the health department and the process for receiving estimates and putting out for bids. He indicated several of the dollar amounts are fluid as a result of this process.

Ms. Blackmon requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$1,047,250.00 in additional federal funding.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$1,047,250.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 6-0 in a roll call vote.

Health/340B Pharmacy & Adult Primary Care

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015140-33125	\$819,228.00	1015140-41002	\$163,560.00
Federal Funding – ARA		Full-time Salaries	
1015100-33125	\$228,022.00	1015140-41101	\$ 12,512.00
Federal Funding – ARA		FICA	
		1015140-41102	\$ 18,809.00
		Retirement	
		1015140-41103	\$ 6,543.00
		401K	
		1015140-41104	\$ 4,580.00
		Workers Comp	
		1015140-41106	\$ 21,900.00

Health Insurance 1015140-41107	\$ 1,620.00
Dental Insurance 1015140-41108	\$ 51.00
Life Insurance 1015140-41109	\$ 93.00
Disability Insurance 1015140-41515	\$ 6,000.00
Dues/Subscriptions 1015140-42000	\$ 500.00
Postage 1015140-42200	\$ 1,200.00
Telephone 1015140-42300	\$ 2,000.00
Utilities 1015140-42500	\$ 12,000.00
Travel/Training 1015140-42502	\$ 560.00
Mileage Reimbursement 1015140-42602	\$ 500.00
M&R Equipment 1015140-42700	\$ 3,000.00
Advertising 1015140-43000	\$ 600.00
Gasoline 1015140-43201	\$ 1,500.00
Office Supplies 1015040-43205	\$ 50,000.00
Prescription Drugs 1015140-43207	\$ 2,600.00
Janitorial Supplies 1015140-43208	\$ 8,000.00
Medical Supplies 1015140-43240	\$ 8,600.00
Other Supplies 1015140-44000	\$ 12,500.00
Contract Supplies 1015140-44050	\$ 20,000.00
Contract Employees 1015140-44600	\$ 5,000.00
General Insurance 1015140-47301	\$ 30,000.00
C/O Over \$5,000 1015140-47321	\$400,000.00
C/O Other Improvements 1015140-47321	\$ 25,000.00
C/O \$500-\$4,999 1015100-41515	\$ 1,000.00
Dues/Subscriptions 1015100-42000	\$ 700.00
Postage 1015100-42200	\$ 4,900.00
Telephone 1015100-42602	\$ 5,200.00
Maintenance/Repair 1015100-42700	\$ 3,000.00
Advertising 1015100-43207	\$ 1,000.00
Janitorial Supplies 1015100-43208	\$ 5,000.00
Medical Supplies 1015100-43240	\$ 1,000.00

		Other Supplies	
		1015100-44000	\$ 2,500.00
		Contract Services	
		1015100-44050	\$185,722.00
		Contract Employees	
		1015100-47301	\$ 14,000.00
		C/O Over \$5,000	
		1015100-47321	\$ 4,000.00
		C/O \$500-\$4,999	
TOTAL	\$1,047,250.00	TOTAL	\$1,047,250.00

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: FINANCE – LOCAL REDISTRICTING SERVICES – BUDGET AMENDMENT

Finance Director, Craig Warren, reviewed that at the last Board meeting, Commissioners authorized the County Attorney and staff to retain the legal services of Poyner & Spruill and demographer Blake Esselstyn, to assist the County with its redistricting process resulting from the 2020 Census. He provided a proposal to perform these services for a flat fee of \$17,500.00. Mr. Warren requested approval of a budget amendment from fund balance in the amount of \$20,000.00 to cover both the \$17,500.00 fee for redistricting services and \$2,500.00 needed for printing of additional maps.

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved 6-0 in a roll call vote.

Commissioners

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1010000-39901	\$20,000.00	1014110-41503	\$20,000.00
Current Year FB		Outside Legal Services	
TOTAL	\$20,000.00	TOTAL	\$20,000.00

APPOINTMENTS

Pending

Chairman Jones reviewed the following pending appointments:

- Adult Care Home Advisory Committee
- Community Child Protection Team
- Craven/Pamlico Regional Library
- Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (CarolinaEast)
- Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- Regional Aging Advisory Board
- Voluntary Agriculture District Advisory Board (District 6)

Current

Fireman’s Relief Fund Board of Trustees

Chairman Jones nominated Joshua Whitford for appointment to the Fireman’s Relief Fund Board of Trustees, on behalf of Commissioner Mark. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Whitford was appointed by acclamation.

Adult Care Home Advisory Committee

Chairman Jones nominated Cheryl Wyatt for reappointment to the Adult Care Home Advisory Committee. There being no additional nominations, Ms. Wyatt was reappointed by acclamation.

Community Child Protection Team (CCPT)

Commissioner Liner nominated Michael Swain, new Craven County Schools Director of Student Services, for appointment to the CCPT to replace Debbie Hodges. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Swain was appointed by acclamation.

Craven County Clean Sweep

Commissioner Liner nominated Michael Swain for appointment to the Craven County Clean Sweep to replace Debbie Hodges. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Swain was appointed by acclamation.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Michael Swain for appointment to the JCPC to replace Debbie Hodges. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Swain was appointed by acclamation.

Upcoming

Chairman Jones reviewed the upcoming appointments to boards and committees whose terms are expiring in August/September, 2021.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Approval of Conveyance after Expiration of Upset Bid Period – 243 B James Street, Vanceboro (Parcel #1-V-04-011-A)

County Attorney, Arey Grady, reported that Craven County previously received and approved an offer to purchase this real property, in the amount of \$3,500.00, subject to the completion of the upset bid process. The offer was advertised, and there were no upset bids, the final bid being \$3,500.00. He stated that upset bid period has now expired recommended approval of the conveyance at the purchase price of \$3,500.00.

The County and the Town of Vanceboro originally acquired this property through a tax foreclosure, with past due taxes and costs of foreclosure totaling \$2,890.77. The tax value of this property is \$6,300.00.

Mr. Grady noted that the Town of Vanceboro has already granted final approval for this offer.

He indicated that should the Board of Commissioners authorize this transaction a resolution, should be adopted, which in turn will authorize the execution and delivery of the necessary documents.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to adopt the following resolution approving conveyance after expiration of the upset bid period, seconded by Commissioner Bucher and approved unanimously.

CRAVEN COUNTY **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE** **AFTER EXPIRATION OF UPSET BID PERIOD**

WHEREAS, Craven County and the Town of Vanceboro owns certain real property identified as Tax Parcel Number 1-V-04-011-A (hereinafter “the Real Property”), the Real Property having been acquired by Craven County and the Town of Vanceboro in deed recorded in Book 3516, Page 262 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County; and,

WHEREAS, Craven County previously received and approved an Offer to Purchase the Real Property, and Craven County subsequently advertised said offer for upset bids as required by North Carolina General Statute §160A-269; and,

WHEREAS, the upset bid period required under North Carolina General Statute §160A-269 has expired; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Vanceboro has approved this offer; and,

WHEREAS, the Craven County Board of Commissioners deems it advisable and in the best interest of the County to sell its interest in the Real Property to the successful bidder and to convey its interest in said property by quitclaim deed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CRAVEN COUNTY THAT:

Section 1. The last and highest bid of Joan Doreen Irvine in the sum of \$3,500.00 for the Real Property is hereby accepted, and the Offer to Purchase previously executed by Craven County subject to the provisions of North Carolina General Statute §160A-269 is hereby ratified and confirmed in its entirety.

Section 2. Upon payment of the full purchase price, the Chairman, the County Manager, the Assistant County Manager, the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and/or County Attorney are authorized to take all actions necessary to accomplish the transactions contemplated by this Resolution, including but not limited to the execution and delivery of the quitclaim deed attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – GENERAL TOPICS

There were no citizens from the public that signed up to speak.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager, Jack Veit, reported he was proud to announce that we are hosting the 97th Civil Affairs Battalion on a training mission in Craven County. A final brief from the team will be given on Friday, August 6th.

Mr. Veit remarked on the redistricting need to hold meetings to complete the tasks associated with it. He indicated the legal team has proposed being present after each Board of Commissioners' morning meeting during the months of August, September, October and November requiring the Commissioners to clear their calendars those mornings. Mr. Veit reported the proposed timeline of holding the Public Hearing on November 1st and having the adoption vote on November 15th. He remarked the Census data still has not been released to date.

Mr. Veit reminded the Board of the ribbon cutting at the new development West of New Bern on Wednesday, August 4th at 10:00 am.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Commissioner Smith had nothing to report.

Commissioner Liner reminded the others of the Salute to Vets being held in Havelock next Tuesday and indicated they could still reserve seating.

Commissioner McCabe had nothing to report.

Commissioner Mitchell reported on attending the Association of Defense Communities in Washington, DC and her meetings with the various Representatives and Senators. She indicated the focus of the conference was BRAC and that several states are already forming BRAC Committees. In those discussions, Mrs. Mitchell stated that climate change is impacting base locations and the fact that the armed forces are 43% minorities, diversity, equity and inclusion are of great importance.

Commissioner Bucher had nothing to report.

Commissioner Jones referenced the recent unexpected death of Jones County Sheriff Danny Heath, stating he was a good friend to Craven County and his death is a great loss for this area. He extended the Board's prayers and concerns to his family.

Mr. Jones closed by saying he appreciates serving with each of the Commissioners and even though they differ on opinions, they leave as friends and colleagues. He stated they served in their positions only for a season and strive to do what each one thinks is right. He thanked the County staff, and the Convention Center staff for all the work they put into organizing these meetings.

At 10:36 pm Commissioner McCabe motioned to adjourn; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

Jason R. Jones, Chairman
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Nan Holton
Clerk to the Board