

**AGENDA
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

1. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – AGENDA TOPICS
2. PUBLIC HEARING – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - PROJECT ENDOR: Jeff Wood, Economic Development Director
3. PUBLIC HEARING – PLANNING – CDBG: Chip Bartlett, Insight Planning & Development
4. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Minutes of September 20, 2021 Regular Session and September 20, 2021 Reconvened Session
 - B. Tax Releases and Refunds
 - C. Recreation: Brick Fundraiser Donation

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

5. HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENT: Scott Harrelson, Health Director
6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Jeff Wood, Economic Development Director
 - A. Project Endor Budget Amendment
 - B. NavalX Tech Bridge
 - C. Industrial Park Mowing Budget Amendment
7. PLANNING - ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION OF APPLICATION FOR CDBG-NR FUNDING: Don Baumgardner, Planning Director
8. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FIBER AUDIT: Steve Bennett, Information Technology Director
9. APPOINTMENTS

10. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Arey Grady
11. PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – GENERAL TOPICS
12. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: Jack Veit
13. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS
14. CLOSED SESSION

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Vice Chairman Denny Bucher
Chairman George S. Liner
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner Thomas F. Mark
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
Nan Holton, Clerk to the Board

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

Heavenly Father, from the endless bounty of Your love for Your creation, You provide all that we need. As Your people, we confess our trust in You, believing that You care for our welfare.

"In God we trust" we proclaim on our currency. Yet the people of this County also put their trust in these elected Commissioners. We trust that they will do Your will and provide justice to ensure a quality of life that You provide.

Protect these honorable Commissioners, give them Your wisdom so that their decisions may reflect Your desire for Your people. Give them a quiet assurance and guide them in the difficult times. May Your will be reflected through them and may Your people be blessed by their leadership. Amen.

Based upon the invocation given by Reverend Chip Lingle, the April 12, 2000 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 to speak on behalf of the Board regarding the shooting of one of Craven County's deputies on Friday evening. He stated we are living in a time where officers are often in the line of fire, and their sense of duty, commitment to community service and heroism deserve our admiration. Mr. Jones commended all the officers who serve Craven County and expressed appreciation to the other law enforcement agencies who came to assist.

Sheriff Chip Hughes stated it has been a very emotional time. He highlighted that his officers knowingly take an oath to defend the constitution and protect the citizens of Craven County, and this was a welfare check on one of those citizens. Mr. Hughes expressed his gratitude to the County Commissioners, the County Manager, Stanley Kite and his dispatchers for their support and resources. He thanked the various agencies that came to assist. Sheriff Hughes requested prayers for Officer Bellingham and his family, as well as the other deputies during this difficult time. He indicated Deputy Bellingham has a difficult recovery ahead of him and prayers are what are going to bring him through his recovery.

Upon a suggestion by Chairman Jones, Commissioner Mitchell motioned to present a Resolution in recognition of all the agencies who supported this endeavor at their next Board of Commissioners' meeting. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark and approved unanimously.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS – AGENDA TOPICS

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

PUBLIC HEARING – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – PROJECT ENDOR

Economic Development Director, Jeff Wood, requested to go into public hearing to receive comments about the intent to award an economic development grant in the amount of \$120,000 to Carolina GSE for the planned expansion its manufacturing facility.

At 7:09 pm, Commissioner Mark motioned to go into public hearing, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and approved unanimously.

There were no citizens from the public that signed up to speak and at 7:09 pm Commissioner Liner motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING – PLANNING – CDBG

Chip Bartlett, Project Manager with Insight Planning and Development, stated the purpose of this second public hearing is to obtain citizens' views and answer any questions they may pose about Craven County's intention to apply for funding associated with the FY2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, sponsored by the NC Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development division (REDD). Mr. Bartlett indicated the \$750,000 for CDBG was to serve households with incomes below the 80% county medium, with appropriate household sizes. Upon reviewing all the applications, four properties were being proposed for clearance and reconstruction:

- 8000 River Road, Vanceboro
- 526 Hyman Road, New Bern
- 334 Godette School Road, Havelock
- 765 Up Creek Road, Cove City

Mr. Bartlett relayed that \$675,000 of the monies would be for the actual rehabilitation and \$75,000 would cover Program Administration.

Mr. Bartlett stated this public hearing will cover the County's community development needs, proposed activities, and a review of the program compliance before the submission of the County's CDBG funding application later in October to the State of North Carolina.

At 7:12 pm, Commissioner McCabe motioned to go into public hearing, as advertised, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

There were no citizens from the public that signed up to speak and at 7:12 pm, Commissioner McCabe motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the consent agenda, inclusive of the Minutes of September 20, 2021 Regular Session, September 20, 2021 Reconvened Session, Tax Releases and Refunds (*Credits = \$47,339.84; Refunds = \$2,558.13*) and Recreation Brick Fundraiser Donation. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Recreation

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1015910-38301 Donations	\$150.00	1015910-47302 Capital Outlay Other Improvements	\$150.00
TOTAL	\$150.00	TOTAL	\$150.00

Justification: This is a brick donation fundraiser for the County’s inclusive playground. This donation after brick expense will go towards the purchase of new equipment for the music area. That project is currently in the 22 C/O Other Improvements line.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: HEALTH – BUDGET AMENDMENT

Health Director, Scott Harrelson, requested that the Board approve utilization of \$140,500 of the revenues earned from FY21 to purchase items needed in FY22. The request included items needed for the Animal Shelter, training expenses & equipment for Environmental Health, upgrades to the Health Department building and clinical supplies & equipment.

Mr. Harrelson requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$140,500.00.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to approve the following budget amendment, as requested, in the amount of \$140,500.00, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

General

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101000039901 Fund Balance	\$115,650.00	1014350-44050 Contract Employees	\$ 5,000.00
		1014350-43208 Medical Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
		1014350-47302 C/O Other Improvements	\$ 4,500.00
		1014710-47321 C/O \$500-\$4,999	\$ 800.00
		1014710-42500 Travel/Training	\$ 350.00
		1014712-43240 Other Supplies	\$ 900.00
		1015010-42601 M&R Building/Grounds	\$ 83,100.00
		1015010-43240 Other Supplies	\$ 1,000.00
		1015010-47302 C/O Other Improvements	\$ 15,000.00
1015030-39902 Fund Balance	\$ 6,150.00	1015030-47321 C/O \$500-\$4,999	\$ 4,950.00
		1015030-43208 Medical Supplies	\$ 1,200.00
1015040-39902 Fund Balance	\$ 4,000.00	1015040-47321 C/O \$500-\$4,999	\$ 4,000.00
1015050-39902 Fund Balance	\$ 7,800.00	1015050-47301 C/O Over \$5,000	\$ 7,800.00
1015070-39902 Fund Balance	\$ 6,900.00	1015070-43205 Prescription Drugs	\$ 6,900.00
TOTAL	\$140,500.00	TOTAL	\$140,500.00

Mr. Harrelson then provided an update for Covid cases in Craven County, reporting that September 7th was the highest number of cases to date. He indicated that the number of cases is dropping significantly, and that testing needs are also down. He reported that a booster clinic will be held at the Convention Center on October 6th for Pfizer vaccines, and they currently have 200 citizens signed up.

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Project Endor Budget Amendment

Economic Development Director, Jeff Wood, stated that Carolina GSE is a leading manufacturer of aerospace related products, and intends to expand its operation by adding approximately 20,000 square feet to its existing facility, and creating at least 15 new full-time positions. Mr. Wood relayed that the North Carolina Department of Commerce has provided a grant of \$120,000.00 under the Rural Infrastructure Authority and the Rural Economic Development Division, which would be awarded to and administered by the Craven County Economic Development Department. Mr. Wood requested the Board adopt the Resolution approving this economic development agreement, authorizing County staff to execute documents and accept this grant.

Commissioner Mark motioned to adopt the following resolution authorizing County staff to execute documents and accept the grant, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Craven County (hereinafter "County") has determined that County has historically suffered a degree of economic and fiscal distress which can be remedied in part by the expansion of industries currently located in County and the location of new industries in County;

WHEREAS, the median annual wage for all insured industries in County is \$40,352 as determined by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security;

WHEREAS, the retention and expansion of existing industries in the County will benefit County and its residents by increasing and diversifying both the personal property and real property ad valorem tax bases, which will increase tax revenue, and resulting ancillary economic activity will increase sales tax revenues, all of which will make available to County more funds with which to improve the general health, safety, and welfare of County's residents; by providing a greater number of jobs with higher salaries and better benefits than are now available to residents of County; by stimulating secondary economic activity that is directly beneficial to County and its residents, including residential real estate development and the expansion of existing services and businesses; by increasing and improving the infrastructure of County; by increasing the economic opportunity available to County's residents and by improving the general technical training of County's workforce;

WHEREAS, Carolina GSE (hereinafter "GSE"), a leading manufacturer of aerospace related products, intends to expand its operation in Craven County by adding approximately 20,000 square feet to its existing facility and making other improvements to its property in the Craven County Industrial Park;

WHEREAS, GSE expects to invest approximately \$2,500,000 on the expansion of the facility;

WHEREAS, GSE expects to create at least 15 new full-time equivalent positions to be located at the New Facility;

WHEREAS, the average annualized salary for such positions is expected to be above our median annual wage;

WHEREAS, investment in the New Facility, creation of at least 15 new full-time equivalent positions at the New Facility, and tax revenues from the foregoing will aid tremendously in remedying the previously identified economic and fiscal distresses suffered by County and its residents;

WHEREAS, based on GSE's intended investment to expand its facility, County has determined that County's ad valorem tax revenue from the New Facility will be approximately \$13,735.00 per year, for a total of \$137,350.00 over 10 years;

WHEREAS, The Building Reuse Program, under the Rural Grants/Programs Section of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, provides forgivable loans to local governments;

WHEREAS, Funding is available for the renovation or expansion of a building occupied by an existing North Carolina company wishing to expand in their current location that will lead to the creation of new, full-time jobs;

WHEREAS, Craven County submitted an application for funds to support the expansion project;

WHEREAS, NC Department of Commerce awarded a forgivable loan for the expansion project;

WHEREAS, Craven County finds that it is in its best interest to support GSE Products' expansion by awarding the forgivable loan for the expansion project.

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2021, and after proper public notice, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158 the Board of Commissioners for County held a public hearing concerning its intent to reward GSE the economic incentive described in the Grant Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of County does desire to grant to GSE the incentive provided by the NC Department of Commerce, and does further desire that this RESOLUTION serves as a memorial of the actions taken by the Board of Commissioners on this matter.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

1. That the Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement between the Department of Commerce and Craven County be executed by County.

2. That, pursuant to the Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement between the Department of Commerce and Craven County, County execute and deliver such documents and instruments as required to finalize the award.

3. That the Chairman, Clerk to the Board, Manager, Assistant Managers, County's Economic Development Director, and such other officers and agents of County are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in the opinion of counsel to County to effectuate any of the transactions contemplated herein.

4. That this RESOLUTION be entered in the official minutes of the Board of Commissioners of County and that the Clerk to the Board certify copies of this RESOLUTION as necessary in the opinion of counsel to County.

This fourth day of October, 2021.

Mr. Wood then requested the Board’s approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$120,000.00 for this project.

Commissioner Mark motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$120,000.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

General

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1014920-33321 NC Dept of Commerce	\$120,000.00	1014920-43315 Grant	\$120,000.00
TOTAL	\$120,000.00	TOTAL	\$120,000

NavalX Tech Bridge

Mr. Wood introduced two guests: Stephen Barrow, Director, Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) Logistics Fleet Readiness Center and Keith Wheeler, Executive Director, Office of National Security & Industry Initiatives, ECU, crediting Mr. Barrow with the original idea. He explained that the NavalX Tech Bridge would facilitate partnerships between government, academia, and the public sector. He further stated that NavalX would serve the Navy and Marine Corps as an innovative and agility cell.

Mr. Wood relayed that a NavalX Tech Bridge offers a collaboration space in a commercial business space, rather than on base. An off-base location offers a more easily accessible landing spot to foster a collaboration ecosystem to build productive partnerships and accelerate delivery of dual use solutions to the warfighter. In addition, a NavalX Tech Bridge offers access to State and Local government and academic agencies creating a richer regional innovation ecosystem and further supporting economic development.

He highlighted that the goal is to set up a NavalX Tech Bridge in coordination with MCI East, Cherry Point and Fleet Readiness Center (FRC) East. After negotiation with FRC and consultation with legal, a framework Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted between Craven County and FRC to establish a NavalX Tech Bridge temporarily within county government with a goal of establishing a 501c3 nonprofit to house the tech bridge in Craven County permanently.

Mr. Wood indicated there is a lot of momentum and energy moving forward to create this entity and it is necessary for Craven County to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with FRC or a Partnership Intermediary Agreement (PIA) as the military refers to it.

Keith Wheeler spoke on the support that ECU is providing, stating they recognized the economic engine that this will be. Stephen Barrow reported that other tech bridges have had positive success records for solving difficult problems and would bridge the gap between local industry and government. He referenced several other models already functioning around the country.

Commissioner Mitchell motioned to authorize the County Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with FRC, seconded by Commissioner Mark and approved unanimously.

Commissioner Liner commented that he was encouraged by this opportunity, but stated he realized it is not going to happen overnight and expressed his desire to have a representative from the Board of Commissioners to serve as a liaison to keep the elected body informed.

Commissioner Liner motioned to appoint Commissioner E.T. Mitchell to serve as a liaison between Economic Development on this project and the Board of Commissioners. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Bucher and approved unanimously.

Industrial Park Mowing Budget Amendment

Mr. Wood reported that due to the activity of property being sold in the Industrial Park, more property needs to be mowed and cleared to be attractive to future buyers. Much of the services needed are to simply mow sections of the property; however, some smaller trees also need to be removed. The Economic Development Department received three quotes for services, with the lowest bidder being Woodland Vegetation Management at \$19,576.00.

He requested that Board’s approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$19,576.00.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$19,576.00, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Mark and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Economic Development

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1010000-39901 Current Year FB	\$19,576.00	1014920-4400 Contract Services	\$19,576.00
TOTAL	\$19,576.00	TOTAL	\$19,576.00

DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: PLANNING – ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION OF APPLICATION FOR CDBG-NR FUNDING

Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, rehashed the CDBG program fund uses, stating that Craven County is eligible to apply for up to \$750,000.00 under the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Program. He indicated all project activities will serve households with incomes at or below 80% of the Craven County median income for appropriate household size. The proposed budget includes the following housing-related CDBG activities:

Rehabilitation:	\$675,000.00
Program Admin.	\$ 75,000.00
 Total Project Budget	 \$750,000.00

Mr. Baumgardner responded to inquiries from Commissioner Mark about the State’s standing on rehabbing associated with Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

He requested the Board to adopt the Resolution of Application for CDBG-NR Funding.

Commissioner McCabe motioned to adopt the following resolution, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 6-1 in a roll call vote, there being one (1) “nay” from Commissioner Mark.

RESOLUTION FOR THE CRAVEN COUNTY APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION FUNDING

WHEREAS, the Craven County Board of Commissioners has previously indicated its desire to assist in community development efforts for housing within the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has held two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit primarily low-to-moderate income individuals in the County by providing housing improvement activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners wishes the County to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit primarily low-to-moderate income individuals in the County by providing housing improvement activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners certifies it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the State of North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Craven County Board of Commissioners that the County is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant-Neighborhood Revitalization Program in order to provide housing improvement activities benefitting primarily low-to-moderate income individuals in the County.

Adopted this the 4th day of October 2021, in Craven County, North Carolina.

**DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – BUDGET
AMENDMENT FOR FIBER AUDIT**

Information Technology Director, Steve Bennett, reported that Craven County is working on a county wide water system telemetry and SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) System update project. This is the system that allows the water tanks, pumps, and wells to communicate with the water plant to ensure the water system is operating appropriately.

He relayed that the communication system that consists of telephone lines was irreparably damaged during Hurricane Florence. Craven County's project will extend the existing fiber optic infrastructure by installing an additional 25 miles of fiber optic cables to connect the water assets that the County is unable to communicate with currently.

While working with the engineering firm on this project, Craven County has realized that there is not a comprehensive record of fiber assets. He stated that Craven County is a member of a fiber optic network cooperative that includes the City of New Bern, City of Havelock, Craven County Schools, and Craven Community College. Over the years as utilization has grown, a centralized record and documentation of the system's design and capacity has not been developed. This has led to design issues with the telemetry project.

Mr. Bennett stated that in order to keep the telemetry project on schedule, an audit of the fiber optic infrastructure is recommended, and has contacted the firm that originally designed and built the majority of the current fiber optic network to conduct a comprehensive fiber audit. This audit will verify locations, capacity, and end point connections for all of the existing fiber. He indicated that additionally, a fiber optic asset management software is recommended to accurately maintain the fiber network records going forward. The cost of the audit is \$37,000.00 and the cost of the software is \$22,000.00 for the first year and a reoccurring annual cost of \$17,000.00. He further stated that in order to move forward, a budget amendment in the amount of \$59,000.00 will be needed. This audit can be completed within 90 days and will have minimal impact on the timeline of the telemetry project.

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Veit fielded questions from the Commissioners regarding accessibility by others, and identification of users going forward. It was explained that the audit would put standards and procedures in place, providing a baseline, bringing all the participants back to the table for a conversation. The audit is necessary and would serve as a basis for a MOU amongst the participants.

Commissioner Liner motioned to approve the following budget amendment in the amount of \$59,000.00 for the procurement of a Fiber Optic Infrastructure Audit and Management Software, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved 7-0 in a roll call vote.

Information Technology

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
1010000-39901	\$59,000.00	1014140-44000	\$59,000.00
Current Year Fund Balance		Contract Services	
TOTAL	\$59,000.00	TOTAL	\$59,000.00

APPOINTMENTS

Pending

Chairman Jones reviewed the following pending appointments and informed the Board that he had an applicant from District 2 he would like to nominate for the Craven County Planning Board. William Farmer was appointed by acclamation.

- Adult Care Home Advisory Committee
- Community Child Protection Team
- Craven County Clean Sweep
- Craven/Pamlico Regional Library
- Craven County Planning Board
- 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

Jury Commissioner

Commissioners Mark and Bucher motioned to reappoint Timothy Mason on the Jury Commission. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Mason was reappointed by acclamation.

Upcoming

Chairman Jones reviewed the upcoming appointments with terms expiring fall of 2021.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

County Attorney, Arey Grady, had nothing to report.

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, reminded the Board that after their October 18th Regular Meeting, they would reconvene for a Redistricting Work Session. He indicated they would be reviewing the proposed redistricting maps. Mr. Veit inquired if the Board would also indulge an update from Assistant County Manager, Gene Hodges, on the proposed fuel station, the courthouse, a new CARTS building and the pharmacy. The Board was in consensus to extend their work session to include those updates.

Mr. Veit highlighted that ten years ago on this date, he stood before the Board of Commissioners for the very first time as their County Manager. He spoke of his love of his job and how meaningful it is to serve the people. He expressed his respect for all county employees and their work ethic through hurricanes, ice storm and pandemics.

Several of the Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Mr. Veit for his service and leadership style, which facilitates the cohesive work environment.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Mark has nothing to report

Commissioner McCabe reported there would be a National Night Out, Tuesday October 5th from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Harlowe Community Center and he encouraged people to participate in the festivities. Mr. McCabe also reported there would be another Covid19 vaccine clinic at the Harlowe Community Center on October 17th from 3-6 pm for ages 12 and older, at no cost, with no appointment needed.

Commissioner Mitchell had nothing to report.

Commissioner Limer reported on the Medicaid transformation and its effect on Trillium and the 27 counties that it serves. He indicated there had been a \$504 million cut based on the new formula and that in addition to lost funding, Trillium no longer has the respite houses for foster children in our area. While services are being cut basically in half for adults, the children still receive 24 visits a year. Mr. Limer indicated it was very frustrating and complicated and will have implications for Craven County citizens.

Commissioner Smith thanked Mr. Veit for the time and energy he gifts her in ensuring she understands county government. She stated he has been very helpful in her becoming an effective member of the Board.

Commissioner Bucher had nothing to report.

Commissioner Jones referenced the hashtag Craven Strong that was developed when Hurricane Florence wreaked havoc in Craven County. He stated the County continues to go through tough times and horrific events, like this past Friday night, but times like these provide an opportunity to express appreciation for what each person does, and especially our law enforcement officers.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:12 pm, following a ten minute break, Commissioner McCabe motioned to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and unanimously approved.

At 9:23 pm Commissioner Limer motioned to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Mark and unanimously approved.

County Attorney, Arey Grady, stated for the record that the Board of Commissioners did take action in closed session on a personnel matter.

Chairman Jones welcomed Leslie Young, and expressed the Board's intentions of supporting her and working with her.

At 9:24 pm Commissioner Limer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Nan Holton
Clerk to the Board