

MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 1, 2007**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Those present were: Chairman Bill Moyer, Commissioner Larry Young, Commissioner Chuck McGrady, Commissioner Mark Williams, County Manager Steve Wyatt, Assistant County Manager Selena Coffey, County Attorney Russell Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Elizabeth W. Corn.

Also present were: Planning Director Anthony Starr, Fire Marshal Rocky Hyder, Finance Director J. Carey McLelland, Deputy Clerk to the Board Terry Wilson, Research/Budget Analyst Amy Brantley, Code Enforcement Services Director Toby Linville, Engineering and Facility Services Director Marcus Jones, Associate County Attorney Sarah Zambon, Internal Auditor Darlene Burgess, and Communications Officer Pam Brice.

Absent was Commissioner Charlie Messer.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner McGrady led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

INVOCATION

Steve Wyatt gave the invocation.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Linda Soble – Ms. Soble informed the Board that the Henderson County Association of Educators is expanding a program that they've had for the past few years called Legislators Back to School. This year they will have a Commissioners Back to School project. It will be held October 15-19 and each Commissioner is invited to go to one of our schools and spend the day with a teacher to see what they do, their classroom, and how things have changed. The Commissioners are welcome to expand their knowledge and ride a bus or help out in the cafeteria. She requested a commitment for a day for each of the Commissioners to come and visit some teacher at a school. If a Commissioner cannot make a whole day, a part of a day would be fine. She asked them to seriously consider the invitation, stating they would be receiving a letter in the mail with contact information.
2. Karen Mathieson – Ms. Mathieson expressed her appreciation to the Commissioners for the work they do representing this county. She reminded the Board that the Henderson County teachers are behind them and want to help in any way they can with the land transfer tax issue. They have organized at various levels, they are making phone calls, they are talking to family and friends and are trying to promote this concept in terms of getting more money for schools.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There were none.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

DATE APPROVED _____

CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCEMENT – Commissioner Messer’s absence

Chairman Moyer explained that Commissioner Messer is absent because his daughter is in the hospital giving birth to a child. He was hopeful to be here but he may be there for awhile.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Moyer asked that the September 4 meeting minutes be pulled for some revision.

Commissioner McGrady moved the adoption of the consent agenda minus the September 4 minutes. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Consent Agenda included the following:

Minutes

Draft minutes were presented of the following meeting(s) for the Board’s review and approval:
September 11, 2007, special called meeting.

Tax Collector’s Report

Terry F. Lyda, Tax Collector, had provided the Tax Collector’s Report dated September 21 for the Board’s review and consent approval.

Financial Report/Cash Balance Report – August 2007

Included for the Board’s review and approval were the August 2007 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report.

Non-Departmental costs include insurance premiums paid to date for Property and Liability insurance coverage and Worker’s Compensation costs. These costs will be allocated out to all departments on a pro rata basis during the fiscal year.

The YTD deficit in the CDBG Scattered Site Housing Program Fund and the Public Transit Fund is temporary due to timing differences in the expenditure of funds and the subsequent requisition and receipt of Federal and State grant funds. The CDBG Program should be closed out within the next 30 days.

The YTD deficit in the Mills River Elementary School and Hillandale Elementary School Projects include architectural fees and construction project services that have been paid on the projects to date and will be reimbursed from new school financing debt issued in FY2008. The County adopted a reimbursement resolution in the prior fiscal year to allow reimbursement from future financing proceeds for these two projects.

Staff requested that the Board consider approving the County’s August 2007 Financial Reports as presented.

The suggested motion: *I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the August 2007 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented.*

Henderson County Public Schools Financial Reports – August 2007

Included in the agenda packet was the Henderson County Public Schools August 2007 Financial Reports for the Board’s information and consent approval.

EMS Accounts Receivable Report

Included in the agenda packet was the EMS Accounts Receivable Report as information for the Board. An aging analysis of accounts receivable and total revenues received to date for the current fiscal year has been included in the report.

The billing process for EMS remains current within a week and bills are being mailed out on a daily basis. Staff continues to work diligently on trying to collect outstanding receivables.

Staff requested that the Board consider approving the EMS Accounts Receivable Report as presented.

The suggested motion: *I move the Board of Commissioners approve the EMS Accounts Receivable Report as presented.*

Western Highlands Area Authority – Quarterly Fiscal Monitoring Report (FMR) for the period Ended June 30, 2007

NCGS 122C-117© requires the staff of the local area mental health authority to provide the County Finance Officer with the quarterly Fiscal Monitoring Report (FMR) within 30 days of the end of the quarter. The County Finance Officer is then required to provide the FMR to the Board of Commissioners at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. The FMR (included in the agenda packet) for Western Highlands Area Authority was received by the County Finance Officer on September 19, 2007.

Staff requested that the Board consider approving the Fiscal Monitoring Report of Western Highlands Area Authority for the period ended June 30, 2007.

The suggested motion: *I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the Western Highlands Area Authority Fiscal Monitoring report for the period ended June 30, 2007 as presented.*

NOMINATIONS

Notification of Vacancies

The Board was notified of the following vacancies which will appear for nominations on the next agenda:

1. Animal Services Committee – 1 vac.
2. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 1 vac.

Nominations

Chairman Moyer reminded the Board of the following vacancies and opened the floor to nominations:

1. Apple Country Greenway Commission – 2 vac.

Currently serving and willing to be reappointed are: Dixie Gibbs Dellinger to position #1 and Colette Summitt to position #2. Commissioner McGrady nominated both for reappointment.

Chairman Moyer made the motion to accept both by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

2. Child Fatality Prevention Team – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

3. Community Child Protection Team (CCPT) – 5 vac.

Commissioner McGrady had spoken to the current Chair who doesn't wish to be reappointed. She is working on finding a replacement for herself and recruiting a Chair. Commissioner McGrady nominated Paula Delorenzo for reappointment to position #4 and Robert Danos for reappointment to position #5 and upon the recommendation of the Sheriff appointment of Charles McDonald to position #6 which is a Law Enforcement Position. *Chairman Moyer made the motion to accept Delorenzo, Danos, and McDonald by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

4. Hendersonville City Board of Adjustment – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

5. Hendersonville Planning Board – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

6. Hospital Corporation Board of Directors – 1 vac.

During the September 19 Board Meetings we had two nominations: Fielding Lucas and Jack Swanson. Chairman Moyer nominated Sherry Brewer. Chairman Moyer asked the Clerk to poll the Board. The Clerk to the Board polled the Board and the votes were as follows:

Commissioner Chuck McGrady – Sherry Brewer
Commissioner Mark Williams – Fielding Lucas
Chairman Bill Moyer – Sherry Brewer
Commissioner Larry Young – Fielding Lucas

The vote was two and two. The vote was rolled to the next meeting, hoping to have a full Board at that meeting.

7. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 6 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

8. Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

Commissioner McGrady nominated Nuala Fay for reappointment to position #8. *Chairman Moyer made the motion to accept Ms. Fay by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

9. Planning for Older Adults Block Grant Advisory Committee – 2 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

10. Senior Volunteer Services Advisory Council – 2 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

11. Solid Waste Advisory Committee – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time so this item was rolled to the next meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

Steve Wyatt reminded the Board that it had been about a year since the Nuisance Ordinance came into “full effect”. We started with an educational period and then we went live about this time last year. Staff thought it would be useful for the Board and the public to see how we’ve done in the first 12 months of this enforcement period. Toby Linville is responsible for the day to day operations and looking over his shoulder (at the County Manager’s direction) is Darlene Burgess who is our internal auditor. She was asked to do a critique of performance. He stated this had been a subject of a little bit of controversy. Commissioners have received input on this subject.

Darlene Burgess stated that the County Manager had asked her to do a performance audit of the Code Enforcement Division as it pertains to the nuisance ordinance. The objective of her audit was to evaluate the effectiveness of the nuisance ordinance enforcement. Encompassed within that she looked at whether the complaints received were investigated in a timely manner, timely as far as a definition for this purpose goes – when a complaint comes in to the division they try to go out and do an investigation at the actual site within a week. If the nuisance involves a health issue, then they try to do their investigation the same day that they receive the complaint. She also looked at whether the record keeping system maintained by the department was adequate.

Darlene Burgess explained that the scope of the audit was limited to an assessment of the Department’s reported performance with regard to the handling of nuisance complaints from September 1, 2006 through August 30, 2007. A thorough audit was performed with the following audit recommendations:

1. The Director’s forethought in creating an electronic system whereby Nuisance Ordinance complaints may be tracked is an accomplishment worth noting. It enables the Department to constantly monitor

its progress as well as to retrieve statistical information that is useful for management functions. It is recommended that the Director continue use of this system.

2. For the most part, the record keeping system utilized by the Department to track Nuisance Ordinance complaints is adequate. The only apparent weakness is the possibility that data can be manipulated because it is not password protected and more than one person has a role that is commensurate with a system administrator's role. The Department may wish to consider assigning incoming complaints to one central employee who would then separately log the complaint before routing it to an Officer. The Director would then periodically reconcile the log of incoming complaints with records produced by the Access database.
3. In order to address the recurrence of violations on the same property, the Director may consider instituting a follow up visit to each property three months after violations are resolved. In addition, the Director should consider taking "before" and "after" photographs and placing them in the case file.
4. In the change in staff availability appears to have improved productivity. As depicted in the chart, the number of complaints that were resolved during the month of August (the month staff changes were made effective) are significantly higher than in previous months. It is recommended that the Director continue this amendment to staffing availability.

Ms. Burgess was impressed by the electronic records system the department uses. She stated that they strive to investigate a complaint within a week. If it is a health violation, they investigate that same day. They try to get voluntary compliance from the property owner. If they can't they must go through the court system. Ms. Burgess stated that for the month of August 2007 they addressed 47 complaints. In July 2007 they addressed an average of 21 complaints. The reason they were able to up their performance was a simple staff change. Since the ordinance took effect there has been 384 complaints received. Seventy-two percent of these have been resolved meaning that the department has investigated the complaint and have brought the property into compliance. Two percent have been referred to the proper authorities. Sometimes they encounter a problem that is outside their realm of authority and they have to forward to other agencies who have authority over it, like the health department or DEHNR. One percent are inactive such as a vehicle under restoration. Twenty-five percent (95 complaints) are still in different stages of resolution. Of the 95 pending complaints there are forty-one percent of them that have been issued notices of violation. In twenty percent of them the department is working with the owner on voluntary compliance, sixty percent are in the court system, three percent have been forwarded to the appropriate authorities and twenty percent have had site visits conducted but no formal action yet (in many cases, officers are trying to locate the owner of the property).

Commissioner Williams raised the question of cost and hardship, if an owner is economically unable to take care of the problem how are we handling those cases. Mr. Linville stated that there are lots of social groups, churches, some local non-profit housing agencies that can help them. Those that are truly in need can find help fairly easy. Following some discussion on this issue, it was recommended that staff create a list of hardship cases if help cannot be found for them.

Toby Linville, Code Enforcement Services Director, then distributed a hand-out and updated the Board on some cases, showing before and after pictures of some successes. Mr. Linville stated that since September 1, 2006 they have investigated 397 complaints, issued 159 notices of violation, approved approximately 40 vehicle restoration permits, and currently have 13 outstanding warrants and pending court cases.

Commissioner McGrady asked if there were any particular impediments in regards to the ordinance itself. Mr. Linville stated that the blanket exemptions for businesses and for farms lets some things ride that would probably be considered a nuisance if it were in a residentially zoned area. He stated that they run into some sites where the owner has a business or has a farm or has enough land to constitute a farm and staff can't touch them. Usually there are things there that aren't related to the business or the farm but the ordinance exempts them totally. Mr. Linville stated that typically they run into mechanics or garages that have junked vehicles and parts lying around that make it look like a nuisance even though they are supplies or parts of that business.

Steve Wyatt stated that he hoped the Board found this useful. There will be an occasional report on this because it is something of interest. He asked that if the Board thought of other things they would like to get similar reports on, to just let him know.

COST OF COMMUNITY SERVICES STUDY UPDATE

Anthony Starr reminded the Board that the 2007 Strategic Plan outlined the creation of a Cost of Community Services Study as a goal of the Board. What the study will encompass will be to look at where we are spending our dollars in terms of how it relates to the various land use categories, residential, commercial, industrial, agriculture, etc. and will give us a snapshot in terms of how development impacts our budget in a general sense. Some use categories pay for themselves. Typically industrial uses pay more in taxes than it costs the county in terms of services provided. Residential is usually the opposite. It usually costs local governments more money to provide service to a residence than they get back in tax revenue. He stated that we can make more informed decisions about how development impacts Henderson County as both positive impacts and negative impacts.

Mr. Starr stated that we will contract with Dr. Mitch Wrencow, a professor at the Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics a NC State University, and he does these studies on a frequent basis. He has done these studies for Chatham, Wake, Orange, and Alamance counties. We anticipate having the report finished by the end of the calendar year. Staff will meet with Mr. Wrencow tomorrow to start working out some of the details and gathering all the data. Mr. Starr expects to be able to give the Board an analysis report some time in January or February. His cost for services is \$637. It is viewed as a service of the Department at NC State University. It just covers some basic printing and extra costs that are outside their normal budget.

Chairman Moyer stated that one thing that Mr. Starr is going to try to do is take the methodology and watch how this is being put together and hopefully understand the methodology enough so that he can apply it to questions we have and build on it and make it more sophisticated as time goes on.

2007 STRATEGIC PLAN & CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Selena Coffey gave the Board a quarterly update. They received the Strategic Plan and CIP updates monthly. She touched on a few things of note:

- Staff has begun some initial meetings with the Board of Education regarding developing funding formulas and looking at how we fund the public school system in the future. Those meetings will continue.
- The Land Development Code (LDC) has been adopted and is now being Enforced by our Code Enforcement Department.
- The Board was just updated on the Costs of Community Services Study and Staff will begin that process.
- Staff will be conducting the final of the six input meetings tomorrow and a formal report will be presented to Board in December on that process and where to go from here.
- Staff is looking at promoting a diverse range of home ownership and rental opportunities, through the enforcement of a minimum housing code. Staff is looking at the draft of that ordinance as well.
- Animal Control Services – one objective is to develop and implement a spay/neuter program. The Animal Services Advisory Committee met last week and will meet again this week to further discuss spay/neuter and come up with some options. She expects to see a program that will have some outreach and educational components to it as well as strengthening our ordinance to address the issues. The second objective is the development of a formal volunteer program. Staff hopes to begin looking at the volunteer program, policies, and guidelines after we get through the spay/neuter program.

Ms. Coffey stated that the Strategic Plan actually covers from 2007 – 2011. Sometimes folks get the fiscal year confused but a fiscal year is July 1 through June 30 of the next year. She stated that in regards to the spay/neuter program we're looking at this past July 1 to June 30 of this upcoming calendar year. So we're looking at going into half of the calendar year. She stated that we hope to have both the spay/neuter program developed and ready to implement as well as the volunteer program ready no later than the end of June 2008.

- Sedimentation and Erosion Control Enforcement began today (October 1).
Natalie Berry has been busy today.

Selena Coffey stated that these are the big issues she wanted to cover with the Board as far as the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Coffey quickly reviewed the CIP projects, stating that the Historic Courthouse Rehab. is coming along. Gary Tweed and Ms. Coffey met today with Architect Alan Antoine on landscaping issues as well as audio-visual issues. She saw the building today. Sheetrock is being put up as we speak and they're working on the electrical. That project is moving along well. The building at the Etowah Branch Library is in the dry now. We are on schedule there. Finally Edneyville Park Phase I – staff has had a number of meetings with the Community Club in Edneyville and are working on determining what to do with the septic sewer to make the project go forth.

Steve Wyatt expanded on the Edneyville Project, stating that they have been working very closely with the community group and working within budget looking at the options. Bid documents are being drafted to go to the concept of an open air type gymnasium with a community building and parking and then there would be some outdoor amenities, walking trails, etc. Staff is in the process of drafting up the bid documents. Marcus Jones stated that the timeframe is January 1 to go to bid.

Chairman Moyer stated that the folks in that community were hopeful of getting a lot more for the \$1 million than \$1 million is able to produce. Together they have finally come to the realization and agreement as to what can be done for the money that is available. The PARTF grant monies need to be used. They will continue to work on raising money. There will be continuing discussions.

Commissioner Young raised a question regarding the bidding of the Mills River and Hillandale Schools. Earlier when we talked with Mosley Architects they weren't sure when would be the best time to bid these two schools out, November or January. With the downturn in the economy, Commissioner Young felt it might be a good time to bid them to save some money on the price of materials and labor. He also thought it would be a good idea to take the Dana School project back out to bid.

Chairman Moyer stated that they (the School Board) are looking at that. Steve Wyatt stated that the School Board voted to accept the apparent low bid and also prioritized alternates. Henderson County has offered assistance, our project manager Gary Tweed is working with Bo Caldwell and the architects for the school system to try to value engineer the project. That work is going on right now. Staff's plan is to have this on the Board's agenda for the next meeting, October 17 and to have the options laid out for review. As far as the Hillandale and Mills River projects – Steve Wyatt stated that the bid documents should be ready in November and be prepared to go out to bid in December.

Commissioner McGrady mentioned Strategy 3.5: Address the needs of children within the community.

A. Coordinate children and family services via support for the United Agenda for Children. He noted that the project is on the calendar for October 20. Various departments and agencies seem to be fully engaged. Public officials are asked if they want to participate in any fashion but in a neutral fashion, not as full participants, more as observers. He stated that there have been some advertisements in the newspaper regarding this. As best he can tell, three weeks from now that project will move forward.

LAND TRANSFER TAX REFERENDUM UPDATE

Chairman Moyer stated that it is hard to believe we are in October already and the referendum will be November 6. A lot is going on. Mr. Moyer, two realtors, Ervin Bazzle, Ron Stephens, and Steve Dozier were on the radio this morning for an hour. They got 3-4 questions with respect to issues on people's mind regarding the land transfer tax (LTT). Commissioner Young has spoken to the Board of Realtors. Mr. Moyer – "We will be speaking to any groups that we can help get the message out, there are a lot of misconceptions there, we'll try to at least give the people the facts so they can make an educated decision so they know what they're voting on when the time comes." Staff has prepared a fact sheet and a brochure.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was nothing further.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Steve Wyatt reminded the Board of the formation and start up of a public defenders office here in this judicial district that has been approved and funded by the General Assembly. He thinks they want to begin that about January. That will require that the county provide office space for that. He also referred to a letter that the Board had received from the District Attorney regarding work space needs in that department. Staff will be working with stakeholders to flesh out what the options are and bring those options to the Commissioners as soon as possible in anticipation of the startup. Mr. Wyatt stated that as Russell Burrell has explained to him, the public defender's office space and the district attorney's office space have to be essentially equivalent. The public defender is to be appointed within the next few weeks.

Chairman Moyer took this time to comment on the following:

NCDOT is going to terminate funding for the "Blue Route" of Apple Country Transit. He has asked the County Manager to put that on a future agenda, soon, because with their termination of funding the funding burden would fall back on us. We will need to take a further look at the ridership and the cost.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner McGrady made the motion for the Board to go into closed session as allowed pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 for the following reason(s):

- 1.(a)(4) To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by the public body.*

All voted in favor and the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2005 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Close-out

Commissioner McGrady made the motion for the Board to go into public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Anthony Starr informed the Board that we've just completed the 2005 Community Development Block Grant project. We rehabbed five homes in Henderson County using that grant money. We contract with Land-of-Sky Regional Council to administer the grant. Karen Kiehna was present to brief the Board on what was accomplished with the grant.

Karen Kiehna, Housing Senior Planner with Land-of-Sky Regional Council, explained that the timeline was June 2005 through October 2007. The total amount of grant funds expended were \$419, 916.35. Those are real dollars. There were two funding sources in this project: North Carolina Department of Commerce Division of Community Assistance and some USDA dollars that were procured two years ago.

Ms. Kiehna said there were three primary areas of activities:

1. Clearance, simply removing any dilapidated blighted housing units - \$7,044.00.
2. Relocation, replacement of the new units on those same sites (modular on frame) -\$200,816.35.

3. Rehabilitation - \$168,616.00.
4. Planning - \$3,500.00.
5. Administration - \$40,000.00.

She stated that under rehabilitation there were some specific things they tried to hit very hard such as abatement of any lead or asbestos, upgrading of the entire electrical systems with current code, bringing the plumbing up to current code, repairing all interior walls and ceilings, rebuilding bathroom systems and kitchen systems, bringing the insulation in the attic up to the current code of R-38, bringing the floor and crawl space insulation up to R-19 and installing a vapor barrier and then any reparging and repainting, repairs around the foundation walls and piers, repairing front porch ceilings and making the houses accessible for independent living. Mrs. Kiehna explained that in this case all the projects were either for elderly citizens or elderly and disabled or disabled citizens.

- House #1 Ms. Kiehna showed a picture of the first housing unit stating that this elderly lady was also disabled and the rehabilitation really made the house accessible for her and her caretaker. Roof leaks were eliminated and the house was made sound so she is safe and sound for the next several years.
- House #2 This unit was for another elderly woman in Gerton. Her husband had built this house for her. She has some brain damage and she now knows that she is safe and her grandchildren can come visit. Before the side porch area was open and any child could have fallen off the side deck and now everything is safe about her house again. Her roof leaked significantly and that has been resolved with a new roof.
- House #3 This unit was a multi-generational house from grandchildren to grandfather all living in this house. It was in desperate need of multiple areas of repairs. He is disabled, had started working on his own chimney. He was injured and was unable to finish the work but he showed the contractors how to complete good sound stonework. It was a great opportunity for him to participate in the rehabilitation of his house by helping them learn how to do what was his master craft.
- House #4 This unit was a replacement. An elderly lady lives here. The floors were actually falling through on this house. The house was completely removed and replaced with a modular 2-bedroom.
- House #5 This unit was also a replacement and the floors had completely fallen through. The carpeting had fallen through and the house was in a total state of disrepair. There was no way to have gotten your dollar value if it had been renovated. Again it was replaced with a full modular. She is in her early nineties so rehab. installed handicapped ramps as well as in the master bathroom, it is handicap accessible.

Ms. Kiehna stated that the outcome was three owner occupied housing units that have been rehabilitated, two are elderly, one is disabled. Two blighted housing units were cleared with the relocation of two modular units, both for elderly. Ms. Kiehna asked what is next for Henderson County that they are working on – “we have the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency project we’re going to be working on nine houses around the county and the full amount of funds is \$400,000.00. That project will close out in March of 2009. We are currently working on a Department of Commerce, the Habitat for Humanity project Shuey Knolls with your Habitat office and that one is in the process, in the final stages of environmental clearance and then that will probably start late November. And then we’re investigating two grants for you at this point. The development of your 2000 scattered site project which will be in February, is when that round will open up and then pursuing a 2008 Community Development Concentrated Revitalization and one of the areas we are looking at is just up in the community between Mountain Home and Fletcher. There is a nice concentrated area we could really make some significant improvements on six to eight houses. That is what is currently on our schedule for you. I think one of the most interesting things I can tell you is that all of your families are greatly appreciative of the work. You’ve received one thank you letter from one of the families that has received assistance and the final thing would be is that they were startled because they had been paying \$200 in property taxes and now they’re paying \$500. To one of the cases of the elderly families I said you need to

get in, get the rate waiver in place because they are elderly. They missed it this year because the houses didn't get finished in time. They've all said they're very happy, they're OK with that. And I said if I could have done anything better, would have helped them coordinate that so that they could have gotten their name in but that's the only thing that I've gotten any kind of comment on is 'Oh my goodness, I'm paying property taxes now' so I think that's a very good thing. You've very much increased the property values for these families."

Commissioner Young mentioned the Home Builders Association to Ms. Kiehna. She was not familiar with them working on elderly and disabled person's homes. They are going to do about a 2-week deal where they furnish all the material and all the labor. They came before the Commissioners to get an exemption so that they can haul building materials to the landfill without charge. You told Ms. Kiehna that she might want to call them and see if they need any names that she might furnish for anybody that might need some repairs done to their house for the winter. That's what they do is try to get these ready for the winter, people who need roofs or whatever.

Ms. Kiehna stated that they have approximately 40 families that they are doing internal assessments on so that they can get the nine for the Housing Finance Agency. She stated that they have a very current list of families.

Public Input

There was none.

Commissioner McGrady made the motion for the Board to go out of public hearing. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

IMPORTANT DATES

Farm/City Day

Commissioner Williams mentioned that this Saturday, October 6th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. will be Farm/City Day at Jackson Park. If any Commissioners are able to make that, along with other City officials and municipalities within the county, they would like them to participate in the parade and requested that they be there at 9:45. For any folks who have never been to this event, he stated that he felt they would certainly find it to be a very enjoyable function. There is literally something there for everyone, very educational, and just a lot of good fun and a day for the family to get out and enjoy themselves. Chairman Moyer explained that there would also be a corn shucking contest for public officials. Henderson County can put one representative in there. Commissioner Williams volunteered to compete against Roger Snyder, Mayor of Mills River (who won last year).

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet

Commissioner Young reminded everyone that on October 23 would be the volunteer appreciation banquet at the Highland Lake Conference Center. It begins at 6:30 p.m. He asked that all the Board members that serve on our Boards and Committees attend so that the Board can show them appreciation for the job they do. Chairman Moyer added that we have arranged for some good appropriate entertainment.

CANE CREEK WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

No business.

ADJOURN

Commissioner McGrady made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Attest: