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**Minutes**  
**Cumberland County Board of Commissioners**  
**June 7, 1999, 9:00AM**  
**Regular Meeting**

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	Present:	Chairman Thomas B.
Bacote		
		Vice Chairman Ed Melvin
	Commissioner Talmage Baggett	
		Commissioner J. Breeden
Blackwell		
		Commissioner Billy R. King
		Commissioner H. Mac
Tyson II		
		Commissioner J. Lee
Warren, Jr.		
		Cliff Strassenburg, County
Manager		
		James Martin, Deputy
County Manager		
		Juanita Pilgrim, Asst.
County Manager		
		Cliff Spiller, Asst. County
Manager		
		Neil Yarborough, County
Attorney		
		Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the
Board		
	Invocation:	Commissioner H. Mac
Tyson II		
		Major James R. Boyle,
Chaplin - retired		
		Bible Alive Ministries -
Associate Teacher		

Pledge of Allegiance

**RECOGNITION:** County Retiree: E.C. Modlin, - Social Services  
Department

Outstanding Service Award to Cumberland County for its participation in the establishment of the Southeastern Farmers Market in Lumberton, NC.

## **1. PUBLIC HEARING on the 1998 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant**

**BACKGROUND:** Federal regulations require that a public hearing be held on the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant prior to spending funds. These grant funds will be used by the Sheriff's Office to continue the funding of the 800Mhz Radio Initiative.

**SPEAKERS:** None

**NO ACTION REQUIRED.**

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Blackwell pulled item 2K(3) on the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION:** Commissioner King moved to follow staff recommendations on the items on the Consent Agenda, except Item 2K(3), which will be voted on separately.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Melvin

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

### **A. Approval of Minutes: May 17, 1999**

**ACTION:** Approve

### **B. Approval of Additions to the State Secondary Road System:**

Robinwood Subdivision: Sudbury Drive, Chartley Drive, Flint Drive, Applewhite Road

Unnamed Subdivision: Kent Street

Tarleton Plantation Subdivision: Summerline Drive

Rockfish Park Subdivision: Carolina Avenue

Winter Park Subdivision: Rockford Drive

ACTION: Approve additions.

**C. Opening of Closed Session Minutes for public review.**

BACKGROUND: The Board of Commissioners, at a meeting on October 20, 1997, authorized the County Attorney to review Closed Session Minutes periodically to determine the appropriateness of opening the minutes for public review. The following Minutes have been reviewed by the County Attorney and he recommends they be opened for public review:

January 22, 1991	September 8, 1992	
August 16, 1993		
February 4, 1991	October 5, 1992	
August 20, 1993		
March 26, 1991	November 16, 1992	
August 24, 1993		
August 19, 1991	December 21, 1992	
August 26, 1993		
September 16, 1991	February 1, 1993	
September 2, 1993		
February 3, 1992	February 15, 1993	
September 3, 1993		
April 6, 1992	February 19, 1993	
September 7, 1993		
April 28, 1992	March 15, 1993	September
20, 1993		
May 4, 1992	March 17, 1993	
May 18, 1992	April 5, 1993	
June 15, 1992	April 19, 1993	
July 6, 1992	May 3, 1993	
August 3, 1992	June 7, 1993	
August 17, 1992	June 21, 1993	
August 25, 1992	July 27, 1993	

**ACTION:** Approve release of the Minutes and make available for review.

**D. Approval of a report on approved/rejected formal bid awards of \$100,000 or less approved by Management.**

**BACKGROUND:** The County Manager has awarded and/or rejected bids as follows, pursuant to the County Purchasing Policy delegating authority for him to do so for purchases of \$100,000 or less:

1. Modular Play Unit for Parks and Recreation Department: Awarded bid to Cunningham in the amount of \$33,265 including rubberized surface and timber border and deleting platform roofs not required by specifications. Bid awarded on 5/17/99.

The following bids were received:

Option 1 Company	Option 2 Unit & Inst	Modular Option 1 & Inst	Option 2 & Inst	
<u>Timber &amp; Inst</u>	<u>Plastic &amp; Inst</u>			
Basnight 950.00	\$ 17,900 1,256	14,745	5,450	
Bliss Bid 1,070	9,962.44	13,524	3,440	No
Cunningham 720.00	18,175.19 2,220	15,920	3,658	
Moore 648.00	14,596 1,556	18,356	1,521	

**Note:** Bliss and Moore failed to meet specifications.

2. Telecommunications workstations for Sheriff's Office: Awarded bid to OSI in the amount of \$64,767.10. Bid was awarded on 5/27/99.

The following bids were received:

Dispatch	Supervisors	Call
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<u>Taker</u> <u>Company</u> <u>S.</u>	<u>Lockable</u> <u>Pedestals</u>	<u>W.S.</u>	<u>W.S.</u>	<u>W.</u>
Mobex	\$	53,706	9,520	
13,080	4,788			
OSI		42,135.72	7,260.44	
12,303.20	3,067.74			
Sprint		57,540	10,502	
14,640	5,265			

3. Workstations for DSS: Awarded bid to Williams Office Environments in the amount of \$52,599.40. Bid was awarded on 5/28/99.

The following bids were received:

<u>Company</u> <u>Alternate Bid</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>	
Corporate Interiors	\$ 60,431.00	\$
50,831.96		
Forms & Supply	57,080.02	
62,658.86		
MVR	44,319.18	
Office Sales	62,593.00	
Williams Office	52,599.40	50,582.06

Note: MVR did not meet specifications.

4. Workstations for DSS (Spring Lake Branch): Bids were rejected. Specifications will be revised. Bids rejected on 4/30/99.

The following bids were received:

<u>Company</u> <u>Alternate Bid</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>	
Corporate Interiors	\$ 55,182.33	\$
58,476.00		
Forms and Supply	47,697.00	

MVR	43,776.07	
Office Sales	62,622.56	
Williams Office	59,466.36	54,132.94

5. Hardware and Software for Health Department: Bids were rejected and software will be rebid. Bids rejected on 5/11/99.

The following bids were received:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
Rolane Diagnostic	\$ 48,049
Rolane Diagnostic Alter. Bid	38,053
Orchard Software Corp.	47,800

Note: Hardware is not compatible with the system planned. Software will be rebid.

#### **E. Declaration of Hewlett Packard 650C Plotter as surplus and authorization to use as a trade-in.**

BACKGROUND: Tax Administration needs to replace its Plotter. This plotter has been problematic and the cost of keeping it in operation exceeds its value. A maintenance contract cannot be obtained because of its age and condition. In July, the Mapping Division will begin utilizing the GIS for all mapping and will discontinue maintaining the old cadastral maps. This change requires that the plotter be replaced with equipment capable of meeting the demand for maps and orthophotos. In acquiring bids for a new plotter, Tax Administration was offered \$1,500 for the old Plotter, ( Serial Number: USA4202320) which is more than its value.

ACTION: Declare the old plotter surplus and allow the Tax Administrator to trade it in on the purchase of a replacement.

#### **F. Approval of a revised utility easement with Carolina Telephone and Telegraph for the new DSS Building.**

BACKGROUND: The Board of Commissioners approved a utility easement on May 3, 1999, to locate a telecommunication substation on the DSS site. Subsequent discussions with Sprint personnel and the project architect

resulted in the relocation of the substation farther south of the new Hillsboro Street entrance. There is no substantive change in the utility easement.

**ACTION:** Approve the revised easement based on the new location.

### **G. Approval of Health Department Fees.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Board of Health approved the following fees on May 18, 1999.

#### **1. Vaccinations/Injections**

Lyme Disease Vaccine	\$60.00
Adult MMR Vaccine	\$40.00
Adult Td Vaccine	\$20.00

#### **2. Medical Records:**

\$ .75 per page for first 25 pages
\$ .50 per page for pages 26-100
\$ .25 for each page over 100

#### **3. Other Documents:**

Other documents/materials:	\$ .25 per page
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**ACTION:** Approve the fees.

### **H. Approval of amended Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Board of Commissioners approved the Plan on May 17, 1999. Due to changes in allocations, Program cash and in-kind support, and the administrative staff support budget, an amended Plan is submitted. The administrative support budget establishes two new positions to coordinate the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Program and work with the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

Administrative Support I	\$25,430
Office Assistant (Part Time)	\$ 8,905

The Juvenile Justice Program funding sources for FY 2000 are as follows:

State Crime Prevention Funds	\$1,141,419
Local Funding - County/Cash	187,801
Local Funding - Program/Cash	30,363
Local - Program - In-Kind	43,845
Local - Program Other	289,530
Total	\$1,692,958

**ACTION:** Approve the amended Funding plan and the establishment of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Administrative Support I and Office Assistant positions, effective July 1, 1999.

**I. Authorization of a lease agreement with Fayetteville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau for Fayetteville Area Visitors Orientation Radio (FAVOR) network equipment.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Convention & Visitors Bureau is developing a radio network along I-95 to broadcast information to travelers regarding attractions and accommodations in Cumberland County. This network can also be used by the Cumberland County Emergency Management Department and NCDOT to broadcast travel advisories during inclement weather events, road construction accidents or other emergency situations. The cost of the radio equipment is \$68,755. The County will acquire the equipment and lease it to FACVB for \$12,238 per year until the full amount is recovered. The funds will actually be taken from the Occupancy Tax revenues.

**ACTION:** Authorize the County Attorney to prepare a lease agreement with FACVB for the FAVOR Network Radio equipment in accordance with the provisions of GS 160A-279 and 160A-267, and authorize the Chairman to sign the lease agreement.

**J. Approval of sole source procurements.**

**(1) Computer software for the Social Services Department to be compatible with Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) software.**



**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Social Services is entering into a partnership arrangement with FTCC to develop and operate a Human Resource Development Lab for use by Work First clients. The lab will contain computer equipment and software that will allow Work First clients to become familiar with the use of a computer or to enhance their computer skills through participation in computer skills development classes. The State Department of Health and Human Services has approved the project and funds are in place for the purchase of the equipment, software and related items.

In order to effectively partner with FTCC, DSS must use the same software currently used by FTCC. FTCC uses PLATO Workplace software which is only available through TRO Learning, Inc. The total cost for this software package is \$68,140.

North Carolina bidding statutes allow sole source purchases in lieu of formal bidding when a needed product is available from only one source of supply or when standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration. The need for DSS to use software that is compatible with FTCC's software meets the sole source procurement requirements of the state purchasing statutes.

**ACTION:** Authorize DSS to acquire the PLATO Workplace package from TRO Learning, Inc., in the amount of \$68,140 as a sole source purchase pursuant to GS 143-129(f) and waive the formal bidding requirement.

## **2. Computer aided dispatch and mobile data network software for the Sheriff's Office to be compatible with existing software.**

**BACKGROUND:** Several years ago the Sheriff's Office automated its records management system using the 1995 COPS MORE Grant. Open Software Solutions, Inc., was selected to develop the software for this project. The Sheriff's Office is now in a position to expand its automation with a Computer Aided Dispatch and Mobile Data Network (CAD/MDN) Project. The software needed for the CAD portion of the project requires that it be compatible with the original automation software developed by OSSI. Also, the software needed for the MDN portion of the project requires that it be compatible with the Motorola 800 Mhz technology. Therefore, the Sheriff recommends the software contracts for the CAD/MDN Project be "Sole Sourced" to Open Software Solutions, Inc., and Motorola, Inc., to meet the compatibility

requirements of the project. The total cost of this project is \$887,932. The cost for the OSSI software and implementation services is \$793,557, which will be funded by the COPS MORE 98 Grant. The remaining cost of \$94,375 is for Motorola, Inc., software and will require a budget revision to transfer existing funds to the appropriate line item.

**ACTION:** Award contracts to Open Software Solutions, Inc., in the amount of \$793,557 and to Motorola in the amount of \$94,375 and approve associated budget revision (B99-788)

## **K. Budget Revisions:**

**(1) Mental Health: Developmental Disabilities: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the amount of \$82,686 to recognize additional State funding to be used for capital improvements and the purchase of computers and various equipment for DD Spainhour (\$50,426) and DD ABLE (\$32,260) (B99-732 & 732A) Funding Source - State**

**(2) Sheriff: Revision in the amount of \$42,246 to transfer one county funded position from School Law Enforcement-COPS to School Law Enforcement to facilitate tracking of grant funded expenditures (B99-743 & 743A) Funding Source - County**

### **(4) Social Services:**

**(a) Care Family Violence Program: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the net amount of \$5,600 to recognize additional State funding (\$20,353) and subsequent decrease in fund balance appropriated (\$14,753). Increase in funding will be used to meet various program needs (B99-775). Funding Source - State**

**(b) Social Services: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the net amount of \$327,245 to adjust revenues to Federal and State funding allocations and to adjust expenditure line items to reflect anticipated expenditures (B99-782) Funding Source - State and Federal**

**(5) Library: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the amount**

**of \$1,565 to recognize "Links to Literature" grant received from the State of North Carolina in conjunction with the Cumberland County Schools (B99-783) Funding Source - Grant**

**(6) Health**

**(a) Immunization Clinic: Increase in revenue/ expenditures in the amount of \$3,500 to budget additional fees to be earned (B99-779) Funding Source - Fees**

**(b) Pharmacy: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the amount of \$10,000 to budget additional revenue to be earned (B99-790) Funding Source - Fees**

**(7) Fire Marshal: Revision in the amount of \$3,000 to budget pay scale increase for an employee who has completed certification requirements (B99-762) Funding Source - County**

**(8) JTPA Administration: Decrease in revenue/expenditures in the amount of \$67,750 to reconcile NC JTPA Grant revenue to the actual amount to be received in FY99 (B99-762) Funding Source - State**

**(9) Senior Aides Program: Increase in revenue/expenditures in the amount of \$4,195 to recognize additional administrative funds (\$2,945) and reconcile to revised Federal budget (\$1,250) (B99-794) Funding Source: State**

**L Approval of an amendment to the Home & Community Block Grant for Older Adults for FY2000 funding.**

**BACKGROUND:** The FY2000 funding was approved on May 17, 1999. Since that time, there has been a decrease in the U.S.D.A. rate.

**ACTION:** Approve the amended plan reflecting the decrease. (Attachment A to these minutes)

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**2K. Budget Revision:**

**(3) Winding Creek Capital Project: Revision in the amount of \$2,286,150 to budget COPS proceeds for the renovation of the Winding Creek Mental Health Facility and to approve the associated Capital Project Ordinance (B99-743 & 743A)  
Funding Source - COPS**

**MOTION:** Commissioner King moved to approve this revision.  
**SECOND:** Commissioner Melvin  
**VOTE:** **FAVOR:** Commissioners Melvin, Tyson, Bacote, King, Baggett  
**OPPOSED:** Commissioners Blackwell and Warren

### **3. Nominations to the Work Force Development Board**

**BACKGROUND:** The following positions will become vacant in July, August, & September of 1999:

#### Private Sector Representatives

Joel Allen	Eligible for reappointment and wishes to serve again.
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Bob Cellner	Completing second term; not eligible for reappointment.
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John E. Hagle	Eligible for reappointment and wishes to serve again.
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David McCune Eligible for reappointment and wishes to serve again.

Mike Ratcliffe	Does not wish to be reappointed.
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#### Public Sector Representatives

Richard Everett Eligible for reappointment and wishes to serve again.

#### Community Based Organization Representative

William H. Hardy	Eligible for reappointment and wishes to
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serve again.

### Employment Service Representative

Glenn McQueen                      Eligible for reappointment and wishes to serve again.

**ACTION:**            Make at least six nominations for the private sector vacancies. Reappoint Mr. Everett, Mr. Hardy and Mr. McQueen to their respective positions on the Board.

### **NOMINEES:**

Employment Service Representative: Glenn McQueen  
Community Based Organization Representative: William H. Hardy  
Public Sector Representative: Richard Everett

Private Sector Nominees: 5 vacancies:

Joel Allen (reappointment)

John Hagle (reappointment)

David McCune (reappointment)

Cynthia Curtis

Myrtle Edge

Barry Bullock

## **4. Presentation on PWC water and sewer projects in the County.**

Mr. Tom McNeill gave an overview of water and sewer activities in Cumberland County.

**Water Supply System Overview:**                      The Glenville and Hoffer Treatment Plants have a combined production capacity of 50MGD, serving approximately 906 miles of water transmission lines and approximately 61,025 water customers.

**Wastewater System Overview:** Two wastewater treatment plants, Cros Creek and Rockfish have a combined treatment capacity of 39MGD. There are approximately 888 miles of collections mains and 59 wastewater lift stations. In addition there is a 700 acre farm in the eastern part of the County (Stedman) being used for land application. The wastewater

infrastructure serves approximately 51,574 customers.

Mr. McNeill noted that PWC is trying to stay ahead of projected demands at the Water and Wastewater Treatment plants. It is currently addressing the needs of existing developed areas primarily through annexation by the City of Fayetteville. In addition, they are working on projects in partnership with the County. Mr. McNeill said PWC is trying to get ahead of the curve with a concentration of its efforts within the Urban Services District. It is continuing to identify areas which have the greatest potential for growth and will continue to install backbone infrastructure for future development and pursue partnerships with benefitted parties for shared cost.

PWC will work toward developing a Master Plan for the delivery of these utilities, review the annexation process, develop study areas using GIS technology, promote participation agreements, install utilities in areas having the greatest potential for growth, develop non-traditional revenue sources, i. e., facility investment fees, availability charge, PCS tower rental, O&M agreements for surrounding utility systems, promote wholesale water and sewer customers and pursue loans and grants. It will concentrate on improving communications with all parties involved.

Mr. McNeill also reviewed the history of the PWC/Hoke County Wholesale Water and Sewer Utility Agreement. He noted these key points:

- n Hoke County initiated the request;
- n The area served is adjacent to our Urban Services District;
- n The Mains were in place;
- n Capacity was available;
- n Economies of scale
- n Environmental impact: Septic system failures and impractical for Hoke to have its own system;
- n Hoke County to look at comparable development standards;
- n Cost of main extension, flow measuring device and main upsizing will be paid by Hoke County (customer cost).

Mr. McNeill said that from an economic point of view PWC will continue to provide wholesale water and wastewater utility services for Hoke County.

Commissioner Baggett stated he has been involved in water projects for the last 10-15 years. He stated that water and sewer are essential for orderly



development, and he said that Cumberland County is struggling. He noted that at the joint meeting of the Board of Commissioners and Fayetteville City Council it was made perfectly clear that the County would have no representation on the PWC Board. He said he thought it a shame and disgrace that PWC is doing for Hoke County what it will not do for the citizens in Cumberland County. He noted the County has no input on water and sewer extensions in the County and apparently will not have any input. Commissioner Baggett noted that the question that will soon have to be answered is what will PWC do with all of the money they make when sell off the electrical utility portion of PWC. He said he hoped PWC would allot a portion of the money to the extension of water and sewer into this county. Commissioner Melvin said he echoed Commissioner Baggett's concerns. Commissioner Tyson noted that in the presentation made by Mr. McNeill there was no mention of a date when water and sewer would be provided to the residents of the County.

Commissioner Warren said that since 1992 whenever there is a planning session the one project that seems to be on the forefront for all the commissioners is the extension of water and sewer throughout the county. He noted that half of the land mass of the county lies east of the Cape Fear River. He said this area has a great potential for growth. Mr. Warren said he is not sure PWC could have a projected date for the extension of water and sewer into the County. He said he thought it very important for the County to have some input on the PWC Board. Commissioner Warren said clean water is a right not a privilege. He thanked PWC for their participation in joint projects. He urged them to continue with deliberate speed to extend water/sewer services to citizens in Cumberland County.

Councilman Wick Smith noted that deregulation will be upon us in the next 3-4 years. He said at this point PWC does not know exactly what it is going to do. He said they would need to form a creative partnership in order to continue to provide services. Mr. Smith stated that the Hoke County project is really helping PWC, as Hoke is paying for the infrastructure. The revenue helps serve the citizens of Cumberland County. He noted that at the last joint meeting between the City and County, the two Boards decided to appoint a planning committee to address some of our planning concerns. He noted that everything is on the table for discussion. He said the extension of water/sewer east of the river is all about the cost and we would have to work together to accomplish our goals.

## 5. Presentation on Juvenile Library Card Policies

Appearing: Kim Shaffer, Chairman, Library Board of Trustees  
Larry Thrasher, Director, Library System

Kim Shaffer, Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees, thanked the Board for referring Mr. Barton's complaint to the Library Board. She said the Board categorized his complaint into four general areas:

- n elimination of juveniles being allowed to check out "adult" materials;
- n removal from the county library system of 3 specific titles;
- n creation of a guarded area within each of the 7 libraries for "adult" books;
- n development of a citizens selection committee which would review all materials currently housed in our libraries or which would be purchased in the future.

Ms. Shaffer noted that the Library held a Special Meeting on May 27 to receive Mr. Barton's complaint. In addition the Library Board heard all persons who expressed an interest in this issue. Following the hearing, the Library Board of Trustees adopted a new policy as follows:

For a child under the age of 16 to receive a library card, a parent must sign for that card. If the parent wishes, that card will be restricted to permit checking out only juvenile books. If the parent wishes, the child's card will not be restricted. The decision on what is to be checked out by the young person is therefore controlled by the parent.

Mr. Barton's second concern, removal of 3 specific books from the library system, will be considered at the trustees next regular meeting on June 17.

Ms. Shaffer stated the other two concerns put forth by Mr. Barton are more difficult to deal with and much more controversial. She noted that unlike movies, books don't come with ratings. She said there are over 590,000 books in the library, and the questions are who will review the books, how long will it take, what are the criteria that would be used to remove a book, is sex the only objectional subject, etc. Ms. Shaffer said they had already received a request to remove books on Hitler and the Nazi party. Ms. Shaffer said the Library Board is investigating the merits of Mr. Barton's



suggestions. She said the process in place reflects the best of our democratic system of government.

Commissioner Melvin thanked Ms. Shaffer for her presentation and said he believed the Board of Commissioners should allow the Library Board to continue to work on the issues presented.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Melvin moved that the Board of Commissioners allow the Library Board to continue to address the issues presented by Mr. Barton.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Blackwell

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Blackwell said he attended the special meeting held by the Library Board and believed the Library Board took proactive steps in addressing the concerns. He noted the Library Board has specific procedures in place for processing complaints. Commissioner Blackwell asked Grainger Barrett, Senior Staff Attorney, to share the legal aspects of this issue. Mr. Barrett told the Board that the First Amendment is the core of the democratic form of government. However, he noted that the family unit and morals are an important part of our heritage. He said when government must make a choice relating to minors it must take care not to significantly restrict access to adults. The Court has said any action must be the least restrictive and every medium must be judged according to its own nature. He said there were no precise answers for these issues. Commissioner Tyson said he wanted to keep harmful adult materials from our children. He noted that Bladen County restricts access of children to adult materials.

Commissioner King called for the Question. Commissioner Warren pointed out that not every commissioner had spoken to the issue and ten minutes of discussion has not passed.

Commissioner King withdrew his call for the Question.

Commissioner Tyson noted he has received from Mr. Jeff Long copies of obscene information from books in the Library. Commissioner Tyson asked that the specific material referenced be made a part of the minutes. (Attachment B to these Minutes).

Commissioner Warren said he is deeply disturbed by the moral decay

of our society and he did not think reversal would come easy. He noted "it takes a village to raise a child" and we must take steps necessary to protect the impressionable minds of our children. He noted we are indeed in a precarious position here as the Constitution gives us free speech. He said it is his hope the Library Board of Trustees will address the issues and take steps to protect our children while protecting our freedoms. He said if they can't then it will be incumbent upon the Board of Commissioners to do so.

Commissioner Melvin reiterated he would like for the Board of Trustees to address these issues and get this type of material away from our children.

Commissioner Tyson asked Mr. Melvin to place a specific time on which the Library has to address the issues.

#### **AMENDED**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Melvin moved to give the Library Board of Trustees 60 days to deal with the issues.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Blackwell

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner King stated he had been listening to the debate. He said there are good people on the Library Board of Trustees. Commissioner Baggett asked Ms. Shaffer if 60 days would give them time to deal with the issues. Mr. Thrasher stated they usually don't meet in July and August. However, they could call a special meeting. Commissioner Melvin suggested this is a sensitive issue and a Board meeting could be called to deal with it. Ms. Shaffer asked exactly what the Commissioners want them to do.

Commissioner Tyson commented he wanted the Library Board to make the Library a safe place for children. Commissioner Baggett said he and/or his wife accompany their daughter to the library and make sure she is not reading anything inappropriate. He said parents should be the censors of what their children are reading, not government. Jerry Thrasher said the Library does a good job in serving the citizens of this County. He said there is an Internet policy in place to protect children. If library staff catches a child under 12 looking at the obscene materials on the Internet they give them a warning. The second time they are asked to leave for that day. The third time, they are banned from the Library. The new policy will affect children under the age of 16. Commissioner King

said he thought the concerns were well intended; however, his fear is that once the process gets started it will never end, i.e., people will continue to object, object, object. Ms. Shaffer said the Library Board wants to deal with the issues, but the targets keep moving. She said she is unclear as to what the Library Board is suppose to do in 60 days. Commissioner Melvin said they are to do something about restricting the obscene material from the view of children.

**VOTE:**               **FAVOR:** Commissioners Blackwell, Tyson, Melvin, Bacote, Baggett, King  
                          **OPPOSED:** Commissioner King

## **6. Presentation of the FY2000 County Budget.**

Cliff Strassenburg, County Manager, gave an overview of his proposed budget for fiscal year 2000. He noted he has presented a budget to the commissioners with no tax increase (current tax rate is 84 cents per \$100 valuation). No employee will lose his/her job. In addition, he has recommended a 2% COLA and money for the new county pay plan that has been implemented.

Mr. Strassenburg stated that his budget is based on the following priorities: Public Safety, Economic Development and Education. The FY2000 general fund budget is \$210,528,584, excluding Mental Health. This is an increase of \$12,993,311 (6.6%) over fiscal year 1999. The bulk of the increase is debt service and education. County departments reduced their budgets an average of 5.8%. This budget requires a fund balance appropriation of \$19,442,465. This will leave 8% fund balance remaining, as recommended by the Local Government Commission. Mr. Strassenburg said he has created a reserve fund in the General Fund for future use in the amount of \$4,959,141. This reserve fund is very important as we look for money to address our debt service in FY2001. In addition, Mr. Strassenburg said there would be no decrease in the fire district tax, the recreation tax and or any increase in the Solid Waste Household Fee.

No action required.

## **7. Consideration of the County Finance Committee's report and recommendation regarding continued use of the County's Financial Advisor.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Finance Committee met on May 17, 1999 and recommends that the County continue the use of the Financial Advisor through the jail project. After that time, prior to undertaking the next major financing, the County should go out for proposals for an entirely new Financing Team to include Underwriters, Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Melvin moved to follow the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Blackwell

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner King noted there was some concern about the effectiveness of the Financial Advisor. Commissioner Warren suggested we could save county funds by not using a Financial Advisor, as the IOG also advises about financial matters.

#### **SUBSTITUTE**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Warren moved that we do away with the Financial Advisor and utilize our management companies, thereby saving the County some money.

**SECOND:** Commissioner King

**DISCUSSION:** Cliff Strassenburg stated that the Local Government Commission does in fact help us but their help is very limited and they cannot provide the level of advice we need on our financings. He stated that our Financial Advisor looks at the big picture for the county, something that underwriters, bond counsel do not necessarily concentrate on. In addition, the Financial Advisor has no stake in the issue, as they get paid regardless of their advice, unlike the underwriters. Mr. Strassenburg said he thought it very useful to have a second opinion from the Financial Advisor. In response to a question, it was noted the jail project financing would close out sometime in September. Commissioner Baggett pointed out the County has undergone a massive capital improvement program and the Financial Team has served as well. Commissioner Baggett suggested it may not be a good idea to change our relationships right now.

#### **VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE**

**MOTION: FAVOR: Commissioners Warren and Bacote**  
**OPPOSED: Commissioners Blackwell, Tyson, Melvin,**  
**King and Baggett**

**VOTE ON  
ORIGINAL**

**MOTION: FAVOR: Commissioners Blackwell, Tyson, Melvin, King**  
**and Baggett**  
**OPPOSED: Commissioners Warren and Bacote**

**8. Consideration of canceling the July 19<sup>th</sup> Commissioners' meeting.**

**BACKGROUND:** Several commissioners will be attending the NACo meeting which will be held July 17-21, 1999.

**ACTION:** Determine whether to cancel the July 19 meeting.

**MOTION: Commissioner Warren moved to cancel the July 19 meeting.**  
**SECOND: Commissioner King**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**9. CLOSED SESSION: Personnel and Attorney Client discussion matters.**

**MOTION: Commissioner Melvin moved to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel and Attorney-Client matters.**  
**SECOND: Commissioner King**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION: Commissioner Melvin moved to go back into Regular Session.**  
**SECOND: Commissioner King**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:25PM**

[Return to top of page](#)

Page last updated 4/22/00