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**Minutes**  
**Cumberland County Board of Commissioners**  
**November 29, 1999, 7:00PM**  
**Special Meeting: Town Hall Meeting In Hope Mills**

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**PRESENT:** Vice Chairman Ed Melvin

Commissioner 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  
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney  
Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the Board

**ABSENT:** Chairman Thomas B. Bacote  
Commissioner Talmage Baggett

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Billy R. King  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chairman Melvin called the meeting to order noting the purpose is to provide the citizens in the Hope Mills area an opportunity to discuss concerns with the Board of Commissioners.

The Vice Chairman recognized Mayor Edwin Deaver from the Town of Hope Mills who welcomed and thanked the Commissioners for coming to Hope Mills to listen to the concerns of the citizens in this area. The Mayor recognized his Board members. He also noted the cooperative relationship between the Board of Commissioners and the Hope Mills Board on the I-95-Highway 59 water/sewer project and the restoration of Lake #2.

**SPEAKERS:**

1. Hope Mills Commissioner John Henley: Thanked the Board for coming and urged continued cooperation with the restoration of Hope Mills Lake #2.

Commissioner Tyson noted that he has been informed that the grant asking for funding of the reservoir system will be hand carried to Raleigh on Tuesday, November 30, 1999.

2. Hope Mills Commissioner Al Bradford: Thanked the Board for coming to Hope Mills. Urged the Board to pursue the reservoir project. Also urged the Board and bureaucracy to continue to be responsive to the needs of the citizens.

3. M. Smith: Concerned about storm water fees and how the money is being used. Also believes our creeks can be a significant recreational resource. Noted that the County does not have an ordinance addressing collection of water. He did note that the new Wal-Mart store will retain the water run-off on their property. Hopes the Board will address this issue.

The County Manager stated that the Ordinance regulating the use of the storm water fees has been amended, as a result of a lawsuit, allowing use of the fees for maintenance of existing drain ways and streams. He also noted the newest county park is being built along the tributaries of Little Rockfish Creek and the County is using our creeks as recreation areas. He also noted the Board of Commissioners approved funds for the Sandhills Conservancy, which will work with property owners in donating some of their property into the conservation easement program. The Conservancy will perform an inventory of all such property.

4. Steve McMillan: Concerned about traffic problem in Hope Mills. Noted the diversity in Hope Mills.

5. Larry Iverson: Hopes Board of Commissioners will look at the contract with Total Recovery Systems (TRS) (firm that wishes to do volume reduction of solid waste at landfill) to assure delineation of items that cannot go into the trash stream, such as mattresses, wire fences, etc. for disposal at the landfill. This will be of great assistance to the haulers who will be taking our trash to the landfill.

6. Eddie Maynor (Hope Mills Commissioner Elect): Very concerned about the traffic in the Town of Hope Mills. Asked the Board to use their influence with our State Delegation for money to help alleviate some of

the problems.

Commissioner Blackwell noted that at one point in time, when the County did not use all of the designated road funds it went back into a fund and was used elsewhere. The law has been changed to require any funds not used during a program year to stay in the Highway District. He said he believed this change would be helpful to the County and the road program.

7. Thanena Wilson, Director, County Community Development: She noted her department is working on their five year plan. They are required to seek input from the public. She noted there will be a meeting at the Hope Mills Library on December 13, 1999, 6:30PM, at which time the public will be encouraged to offer suggestions and recommendations on how to spend some of the federal money, for infrastructure, housing and public services.

8. Sheriff Earl Butler: Noted his good working relationship with the Hope Mills Police Chief.

Commissioner Warren thanked everyone for participating in this open meeting.

9. A. Edwards: Concerned that property tax on vehicles is the full retail value of the vehicle. He suggested it should be figured on the wholesale value.

County Attorney Grainger Barrett noted the NC General Statutes set out the procedure on how vehicles are to be valued. Any change would have to come from the General Assembly.

Commissioner Warren noted that when you renew your vehicle tags late in the year, the value is based on NADA book, which is set in January. Any change would have to come from the General Assembly.

Mayor Edwin Deaver again thanked everyone for participating in this open meeting.

Vice Chairman Melvin also thanked everyone for participating in this open forum.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:40PM

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