

**MINUTES**  
**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**BUDGET SESSION**  
**JUNE 04, 2009**

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The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Henry H. Dunlap Building Classroom, 80 East Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 9:00 AM on June 04, 2009.

Present: Chairman George Lucier; Vice Chair Sally Kost; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson and Tom Vanderbeck; County Manager, Charlie Horne; Assistant County Manager, Renee Paschal; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Deputy Clerk to the Board, Elizabeth Plata

*Budget Agenda*

- Sheriff’s Office
- Economic Development Corporation
- Health Department
- Social Services Department
- Council on Aging
- Visitor’s Bureau
- Register of Deeds
- Tax- Administration
- Tax- Land Records
- Tax- Revaluation
- Board of Elections
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Library Services
- Parks and Recreation
- OPC Mental Health

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

**SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

Sheriff Richard Webster reviewed his department’s budget, including continued funding for positions that were previously grant funded. The recommended budget includes funding to continue a Criminal Enforcement Team (CET)/Canine (K9) Team Field Supervisor and a Domestic Violence Investigator. Commissioners asked about status of grant funding for the gang prevention position. Major Gary Blankenship explained that the funding is uncertain. Commissioners asked that the position be funded from contingency if it is not funded through a grant.

Sheriff Webster talked about call volume increasing, and that because of changes in the software he does not have the statistics that he would like to present. In the last year, over 29,000 calls for service. In 2004, there were 18,000 calls. The Sheriff said that it averages 80 calls per day. The Sheriff indicated that most of the trips now are answering calls, which leaves little for patrolling. Civil cases have gone up, because of foreclosures. The economy is having a big impact on the Sheriff’s Department workload.

Major Gary Blankenship updated on the Southern Software installation, including the hardware needs and the training needs. Staff is having to re-enter data from the Positron system, which is about six months of data. The aim is to be up to speed by the end of July. We have four grants coming to the end of their cycle: two in domestic violence, one in traffic, and one is gang prevention. The Chatham County Schools has applied for a \$6 million grant which includes the gang prevention position, but we don’t know if this is going to be funded. This is stimulus funding. Without that funding, the position ends June 30, 2009. This is a critical position. Chair Lucier stated this is a key position.

Major Blankenship stated that the electronic monitoring grant is being funded. We have another domestic violence position that is funded through the end of the fiscal year. The traffic enforcement position is being funded now by Stimulus Funding (\$44,000).

One of the Domestic Violence Positions expires December 30, 2009, although funding for this position is included in the recommended budget through June 30, 2009. The Commissioners supported the expansion request for this position to fund it through the fiscal year.

Chair Lucier stated that we need to fund the Gang Prevention position. Commissioner Thompson asked about how much money are we talking about. Ms. Paschal indicated that it is about \$60,000. If we do not receive funding for this position (notification by September), the Commissioners agreed to take this funding from the contingency account. The Commissioners agreed that this position must be supported.

Commissioner Thompson asked about statistics as to how the 29,000 calls are broken out. The Sheriff explained that until the data is entered into the new system, he cannot provide this information. The call volume is geographically distributed to where the population growth is.

Chair Lucier asked the School Resource Officers. The Sheriff explained that these officers are at each of the high schools and at Horton Middle and Chatham Middle. They also do work with gang prevention. The Sheriff indicated that he could actually use two positions at Northwood.

Commissioner Thompson asked where the gang activity is concentrated. The Sheriff indicated that this is mostly in the western part of the county.

Captain Mike Robertson reviewed statistics on inmate population in the jail. The average daily capacity has increased from 39 last year to 45 this year. When we are over capacity there are more fights and it is less efficient for staff. Chair Lucier indicated that four positions were added last year. Captain Robertson said this has worked out well, but it did not fix the structural problems. The cameras are working out well, but the facility continues to be a problem.

Chair Lucier asked if the State's potential shift of inmates reflected in the jail population projections. Captain Robertson indicated that it is not.

The State is considering requiring local jails to hold inmates for up to six months, which could increase the jail population by 15 inmates per day.

Commissioners asked that the jail be added to the Capital Improvements Program. Commissioner Kost stated that staff should explore the option of partially funding the jail from housing federal inmates. She stated that Orange County Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass was able to obtain one million dollars from this program to construct Orange County's jail expansion. The Sheriff indicated that the building standards would be higher than the State standards.

The Sheriff indicated that the State is considering charging local governments for training through the community college. The Manager asked for the bill number of this legislation. Commissioner Vanderbeck asked about mental health for detainees where the State was trying to push the cost to local government. Captain Robertson indicated that we budgeted for this last year. Captain Robertson warned that medical costs for inmates are hard to predict.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked about fuel costs. He said we are considering centralizing fueling of vehicles because this would be more efficient. The Sheriff indicated that he could see some benefits of this.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Dianne Reid, Economic Development Corporation President and Board Chair Joe Glasson reviewed the corporation's budget request and the Economic Development Corporation's strategic plan.

Ms. Reid explained that economic development budget process started in January, when her board asked what it would take to fully implement the strategic plan. She explained it would

be 2 ½ positions to do this. There was consensus on the board to make a half time position, business services manager, to make it full time. This would be the point of contact for all people coming into the office. This person would also do the meeting logistics which would free up other staff. Additionally, these additional hours would help support the board meetings, update the website, finance and bookkeeping, and support fund raising. The EDC is trying to diversify funding. Additionally there is a need to provide information to various groups within the county, including the non-profits.

The Board came up with a budget that is an overall reduction in funding from the previous year. Assistant Manager Paschal explained that property and liability insurance is not reflected in the EDC budget but is paid by the county. Additionally there is \$6500 in restricted money. There is \$4458 in incentives to pay UniBoard (tax rebates) in next year's budget. The total request from the county is \$338,116. Ms. Reid explained that this amount can be reduced in that the towns will contribute a total of \$10,000 to the EDC. She further explained that there was grant from the NC Biofuels Center totally \$9,450.

Commissioner Lucier explained that debt service for the business park in Siler City is \$408,000 which is also an expense for economic development.

Ms. Reid explained that the salary line item does not include raises. The increase shown from year to year is the increase in staff hours of the business services manager.

Ms. Reid explained that the Center for Competitive Economies has a Golden Leaf grant to do direct marketing for Siler City. The EDC budget includes \$6,500 for direct marketing for the business park.

Chair Lucier asked for an update regarding the cluster approach. Ms. Reid explained that a group is working on this. Chair Lucier indicated that the way to get enthusiasm is to involve the clusters, whether it be eco-tourism, sustainable farming, the arts, and that we already have a group working on the green economy. Chair Lucier indicated that we need to activate these groups and get them involved in economic development. Ms. Reid indicated that she does not disagree but that the EDC is trying to figure out the structure as to how to make this happen. Mr. Glosson indicated that his concern is how the EDC staff can support these clustered-centered groups. Chair Lucier indicated he agrees.

Chair Lucier indicated that we have requests to support ChathamArts, the Siler City Farmers' Market and the Siler City Arts Incubator, and that these are related to economic development.

Ms. Kost indicated she supports the cluster approach because the enthusiasm and energy that would result. Mr. Thompson agreed. He asked that if we are organized by clusters, would each cluster then look at attraction, retention and entrepreneurship. Mr. Glasson and Ms. Reid affirmed but raised the question as to whether there should be three groups that look at the cluster or whether there should be cluster groups that address the three areas.

Mr. Glasson indicated that he is excited about the process that was used to reorganize the EDC Board and the selection process used for the four seats that were just filled. Chair Lucier indicated that this approach is a model for other board selection processes.

Ms. Kost asked about fund balance of the EDC. Ms. Reid indicated that it is about \$100,000. Ms. Kost indicated that the current year budget includes many one-time expenses, and that when she is comparing from year to year, that she would back out the current year one-time expenses. She indicated that the fund balance could be used for one-time expenses for the FY2010 budget. Ms. Reid indicated that she would work with Ms. Paschal to get the exact amount of their cash on hand.

Mr. Vanderbeck asked about fund-raising from outside sources. Ms. Reid indicated that they have looked at other organizations, and that between 40 and 60 percent of the funds are from private organizations, so that this is the goal. Mr. Glasson indicated that they are looking for commitments of three years from the private sector to help fund economic development in Chatham County.

**BREAK**

The Chairman called for a short break.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Holly Coleman, Health Director introduced the Health Department management team and the Health Board Chair Browder. She reviewed the Health Department budget. A copy of her PowerPoint presentation is as follows:

**Chatham County Public  
Health Department**  
Proposed Budget  
FY10



**Public Health Budget**

- ▶ **Human Services**
    - Administration
    - Preventive Health Care
    - Community Health Promotion & Advocacy
    - Family Outreach & Support Services
    - Community Health Surveillance
  - ▶ **Natural Resources**
    - Environmental Health
  - ▶ **Public Safety**
    - Animal Care & Control
- 

## Human Services

- ▶ Administration
  - Personnel
  - Budgeting
  - Purchasing
  - Billing
  - Vital Records
  - Preparedness
  - Quality Assurance
- ▶ Preventive Health Care
  - Family Planning
  - Maternal Health
  - Child Health
  - Adult Health
  - Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening
  - Immunizations

8% of Department Budget

33% of Department Budget

## Human Services

- ▶ Administration
  - Personnel
  - Budgeting
  - Purchasing
  - Billing
  - Vital Records
  - Preparedness
  - Quality Assurance
- ▶ Preventive Health Care
  - Family Planning
  - Maternal Health
  - Child Health
  - Adult Health
  - Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening
  - Immunizations

8% of Department Budget

33% of Department Budget

## Human Services

- ▶ Community Health Promotion & Advocacy
  - Community Health Assessments & Report Cards
  - Health & Wellness Programs
  - Diabetes Prevention & Support
  - Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention
  - School Health Education & Programs
- ▶ Family Outreach & Support Services
  - Child Service Coordination
  - Maternal Care Coordination
  - Maternal Outreach Worker
  - Focus on Fathers
  - Adolescent Parenting Program

10.2% of Department Budget

11.4% of Department Budget

## Human Services

- ▶ Community Health & Surveillance
  - Communicable Disease Control
  - Children’s Resource Van
  - Community Alternatives Program
  - HIV Case Management
  - Health Check

11% of Department Budget

## Natural Resources & Public Safety

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Environmental Health           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Inspections               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Food Service &amp; Lodging Establishments</li> <li>▪ Institutions–Nursing homes, Group homes, Childcare centers</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ Onsite Wastewater Program               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Permitting of new, altered and repaired systems</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of Existing Systems</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ Well Construction Program               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Permitting &amp; Inspection</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ Water Quality Testing for new &amp; existing wells</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Animal Care &amp; Control           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Animal Control Ordinance &amp; State law enforcement</li> <li>◦ Animal Shelter Operation</li> <li>◦ Spay/Neuter Program</li> <li>◦ Rabies Prevention</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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17.8% of Department Budget

8.6% of Department Budget

## Total Budget

- ▶ Human Services, Natural Resources, Public Safety

FY 09 Amended Budget	\$5,980,514
County	\$3,807,802
FY10 Proposed Budget	\$5,898,962
▶ Intergovernmental	\$ 853,112
▶ Sales/Services	\$1,127,000
▶ Net Cost to County	\$3,918,850
▶ 82.05 FTEs	

Percent Increase in Request 2.9%

Department’s request included 2 expansion items that are not included in the recommended budget.



## Efficiencies Identified

- ▶ Increased in-house lab testing (clinic) by existing personnel
- ▶ Reductions in temporary salaries & contracts
- ▶ Reductions in operating costs
- ▶ Temporary loan of administrative support employee to DSS
- ▶ Opening Pittsboro clinic with existing staff



## Hiring Freeze Impact–Current

- ▶ 1 Social Worker
  - Child Service Coordinator–FOSS
- ▶ 1 Community Social Service Technician
  - Maternal Outreach Worker
- ▶ 1 Office Assistant
  - Community Health Promotion & Advocacy
- ▶ 1 Interpreter
  - Preventive Health Services



## Fear of the Unknown

- ▶ State grant for Siler City Teen Center–\$71,800
  - Serves 35–40 after school students
  - Serves 50+ youth in summer camp programs
- ▶ Proposed cuts from last week's version of Health Appropriations Committee
  - Tick-borne Illness Demonstration Grant–\$15,000
  - Possible cuts to immunization funds
    - Reduction in support for universal vaccine program
    - Cut in funding for recommended 2<sup>nd</sup> varicella vaccine
  - Freeze in Community Alternative Program slots
  - Reduction in Medicaid reimbursement by 4%
  - Health Choice Enrollment freeze
    - Insurance program for children not eligible for Medicaid

## Fear of the Unknown (con't.)

- ▶ Smart Start funded programs
  - Children's Resource Van
    - Serves children in childcare centers, offering health screening and education
    - Tracks childhood immunizations
  - Focus on Fathers
    - Individual & group support to fathers of children 0-5
- ▶ Additional Cuts
  - Accreditation-2 year suspension
  - Public Health Incubator Funds
  - State program cuts-less programmatic support, low or no-cost continuing education offerings




## Community Need

- ▶ 55-60% of clients are self-pay-no health insurance or Medicaid coverage
- ▶ Over 30% of clinic clients are \$0 pay
- ▶ 139 New Child Health patients 6/1/08 -- 5/31/09
- ▶ 123 New Adult Health patients 6/1/08-- 5/31/09



## School Health

- ▶ Board of Health
    - Philosophical agreement that the Health Department is the appropriate place to grow a comprehensive school health program
    - Asks that a more formalized study of transitioning to a comprehensive School Health Program be conducted that would result in a plan to phase in recommended resources
  - ▶ Funding Models
    - Contract-LEA makes 10 monthly payments to HD, which employs nurses
    - Local funding
- 



## Issues

- ▶ **Minimum Need**
  - Supervising Nurse Position
  - Administrative Support Position
  - Provision of Office Space
  - Equity in Nursing Salaries



Chair Lucier indicated that in the future the county will have to address the facility needs of the Health Department. Ms. Kost asked if DSS and the Health Department are working together to make sure that citizens are getting the services. She suggested that a group made up of both departments look at this issue to ensure that we maximize coordination.

### **SCHOOL NURSES**

Chair Lucier indicated that we have three options: Leave it as it is; Transfer the positions to the Schools; and, that we look at transferring the positions over time to the Schools.

Ms. Coleman explained that the Board of Health took no action on this recommendation but did recommend that we develop a comprehensive plan for improving school health.

Ms. Coleman and Robert Logan, School Superintendant, discussed the pros and cons of housing school nurses in the Health Department versus the school system. Commissioners discussed that the Health Department and school system should develop a comprehensive plan for improving school health and present that as part of next year's budget.

### **SCHOOL ISSUES**

Chair Lucier recapped the school issues and funding from the previous work session.

- Regarding redirecting funds, there is \$525,000 for English as a Second Language (ESL) and the Newcomers' program but that Stimulus funds could fund these items. Additionally, there is in the budget a two percent salary increase, totaling \$423,000. The budget included \$400,000 for charter school increases, and that because the charters are fully subscribed, that this number is likely too high. The more likely number is \$300,000. These three items totals \$1,048,000. In looking at the priorities of the Schools, the highest priority is the 11 teaching positions (\$413,000) and the 7.5 curriculum positions (\$433,000). The \$1,048,000 from above will fund these 18.5 positions. Mr. Logan agreed with this strategy.
- Chair Lucier indicated that the third priority of the Schools the four curriculum resource positions can be funded by Stimulus funding.
- The Northwood renovation projection includes around \$400,000 for contingency. These funds must be used at Northwood since the funds were borrowed based on the money being spent on this project. There is \$152,000 in the capital plan to renovate all science labs, so Northwood's share would be \$51,000 for the science labs. If contingency funds the science labs, \$51,000 would be available for staff development. Additionally, contingency funds could fund for the sound system in the auditorium and the lights at the

football field (\$125,000). Chair Lucier asked the Schools to look also look at maintenance funding. Mr. Logan said that he is meeting with county staff to look at this issue.

Mr. Logan indicated that he appreciates the redirection of funds and the County's support for the schools. Chair Lucier indicated that there is a 3 percent increase in local funding for the schools. Mr. Logan said this is more than expected, and that based on the County's revenue challenges, he very much appreciates the latitude given to the schools. Ms. Little indicated that in talking with counties across the state, that Chatham County is providing for education far better than other jurisdictions.

### **LUNCH BREAK**

The Chairman called for a lunch break with the meeting to resume in one hour.

### **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Sandy Coletta, Director of Social Services, reviewed the department's budget. She indicated that when economic times are tight, business is up in Social Services. Much of what DSS does is mandated. The budget request did not include expansion items, and that DSS is doing more with less resources. The Food Stamp caseload has increased from 124/month to the current level of 200/month. For Family and Children Medicaid case workers are handling over 710 cases each, when a manageable load is around 500. A year ago there were 260 applications, 316/month now. Adult Medicaid also has increased, by 16 percent from 41 to 76 cases per month. A lot more people are inquiring about Medicaid. Each inquiry must be documented, although often they don't result in an application for service because there isn't a program that meets their situation. An increase in emergency assistance has also been seen, which is staff intensive. Child Abuse cases have also increased, with an average of eight new cases each month. Each case takes at a minimum 20 hours of staff time. Adoption services has also increased by 25 percent, although there has been an adoption worker vacancy for the past eight months. The more adoptions we complete over our standard of 12 adoptions, the County receives incentives, although this year, it was less than it has been in the past (a loss of \$72,000).

Foster parents have increased by 31 percent, which is a blessing. It is good for the staff because it cuts travel time. Adult Services has increased by 20 percent.

The budgetary challenges for DSS include legal expenses, which we contract with two attorneys, one that does Children Services and one that does Child Support Services/Adult Services. Child Support Services workload has been impacted by the economy because parents are asking for a decrease in their payments and the CSS workers are in court more. In Children Services, much of the legal expense is court ordered. Other legal fees that have increased include Adult Services. The number of guardian cases has increased, and some of these included small estates, which takes legal hours.

Professional and psychological evaluations are court ordered. We are ordered to get expert testimony, drug testing, and although sometimes we don't agree, we must provide.

Emergency Assistance from the County handles requests that are not related to heating/cooling, since there is federal money available for this. The amount the County contributes is about \$12,000.

Adoption parents can request a vendor payment up to \$2400, although not everyone requests this payment although we are seeing more parents requesting this.

Medicaid chargebacks – this is the first year the county will not be contributing. If we make an error on a case, then the county will be charged. This is particularly troublesome because our caseloads are so high and we are more likely to make errors because of the tremendous workload. Nothing was budgeted for this. This could result that we pay the claim, and if it is a nursing home claim or a claim where someone goes to the hospital, this could be a large expense.

The State budget cuts – we had two grant positions, a Work First job coach and a social worker for non-intensive family preservation services. Neither of these are funded next year.

The two very good employees in these positions are in other positions, but we are losing these funds.

The State is considering rolling back rate increase to pre January 2009 rates, which could have a big impact on DSS. This includes special assistance to adults in rest homes. Benefit reductions, such as eliminating dental and vision coverage are being considered. These don't impact the budget, but does impact citizens.

On the positive side, we have received \$28,000 in stimulus money for food stamp administration. An Environmental Health position has been reassigned to DSS to handle this. Child Support Incentive money (66 percent of \$53,000) is able to be reclaimed because of stimulus money.

Chair Lucier said the budget last year from the county was \$5.5 million. The current year estimate is \$4.7 million. The recommended budget this year is \$4.2 million. The difference is Medicaid which is no longer being paid by the county. The amount for Medicaid in FY09 is \$1.2 million; the estimated expenditures is \$1 million.

Chair Lucier indicated that we are short-staffed compared to other counties. Ms. Coletta confirmed that caseloads are high.

Ms. Coletta indicated that the Clerk of Court started mid-year charging a \$90 fee per case, which wasn't budgeted for. Ms. Coletta indicated that there are 30 counties where the State administers Child Support, and there is talk about the State taking this service over, since federal reimbursement often covers the cost of the program.

Mr. Thompson asked about legal fees. Ms. Coletta confirmed that it was budgeted at \$170,000 this current year, and that it is going up next year to \$216,000 for both contracts, but this includes the \$90 fee/case for Clerk of Court, the monthly verification fee for finding absent parents. Legal fees are paid on an hourly rate.

Ms. Kost indicated that local emergency assistance runs out. She indicated that she would like to see this increased, since we have to turn people away. Ms. Coletta said this year we had federal money but that the federal formula is going to be re-worked, and we will get less. Additionally, the federal money can only be used for heating/cooling. Mr. Thompson indicated there is a greater need to have money available that is less restrictive to help people in time of need.

Ms. Coletta discussed CORA and the Western Food Bank and how DSS coordinates with these services.

### **BREAK**

The Chairman called for a short break.

### **COUNCIL ON AGING**

Angel Dennison, Council on Aging Director, reviewed the budget and discussed potential cuts from the State. Ms. Dennison said that information is changing daily. Block grant funding is being discussed for cuts. Chair Lucier indicated that the County's share of the Council on Aging budget is about 49 percent.

Ms. Dennison said that there is a significant increase cost in transportation and that income care services costs are increasing. There is a \$26,500 decrease in miscellaneous funds, including a decrease in funds from the United Way the County Travel/Tourism budget, Ferrington Women's club (\$3,000), the Pittsboro Area Health Initiative (\$10,000).

During the current fiscal year, there are grants from the Triangle Community Foundation, Carolina Meadows, Carol Woods, and Ferrington Foundation. These are non-recurring grants that we don't anticipate for FY 2010. This totals \$71,000 that will not be available for FY2010. Some of these funds have been used for emergency assistance.

Ms. Dennison said there is a wait list for Access NC which provides in-home support. Transportation cost to bring people into the centers is high. A \$2.00 meal at the center translates to a \$20 meal when you factor in transportation costs.

Ms. Dennison said we will not be able to provide the same level of service and not add back the cost of some transportation services. We are planning more fundraisers, although fundraising is more difficult.

Ms. Dennison indicated that renting the center in Siler City pays for this center. This is about \$36,000 each year. The Pittsboro Facility is paid for. The Catering operation does make a profit, and we must pay tax on the profit. This business is up across the county. We have kept it low-profile in the past since we were competing with private caterers. Our net profit is about \$35,000.

Ms. Dennison also discussed Health Care Reform and what it means on the local level.

She indicated that we have a grant with Orange County to establish a network to have consumers come to any organization in the network and say, this is my story and this is what I need. She indicated that DSS and Aging work closely together and also with the food banks. Our coordination is a model for the State.

We are coordinating with the community college with the Nurse Aid Curriculum, and have sponsored students who worked in the senior center and in return, the Council paid their \$100 testing fee for certification. Additionally we are working to make the western center as a test site for the Geriatric Aid program, which would reduce the travel costs for students. Mr. Thompson said that by doing the testing within the county, that with the new community college, we will have the facility to offer the testing site.

### **VISITORS' BUREAU**

The Board discussed the Visitor's Bureau budget. Commissioners asked about the status of the technical amendment bill that would allow Chatham to increase the occupancy tax. They also asked the county attorney to check on whether that legislation would preclude tourism being combined with the Economic Development Corporation.

Commissioners asked that the occupancy tax balance be footnoted in the budget document to make it clear the Visitor's Bureau is funded entirely from occupancy tax and no property tax is used.

### **REGISTER OF DEEDS**

The Board reviewed the Register of Deeds budget and asked staff to check on the Register of Deeds sharing death certificates with the Board of Elections to make it easier to keep voter rolls up to date.

### **TAX OFFICE**

The Board reviewed the Tax Office funds and noted no changes.

### **TAX OFFICE--LAND RECORDS DIVISION**

The Finance Officer stated that even though division's work load is reduced because of the economy, staff is using the time to clean up the land records.

### **TAX OFFICE—REVALUATION DIVISION**

A discussion on revaluation ensued.

Commissioner Kost asked the Assistant Manager to rename "Tax-Revaluation" to "Tax—Revaluation and Assessment". She also asked the Tax Administrator to provide the total cost of the revaluation.

The County Manager stated that it would also be forwarded to Conservative Voice who made the request.

### **BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE**

The Board discussed the Elections Office funds and the need for more staff due to sickness of office personnel.

### **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

The Assistant County Manager stated that the Cooperative Extension Director position will be frozen until November 1<sup>st</sup> unless someone internally takes over the position and then that position will likely be eliminated.

Commissioner Kost moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to ask the County Manager to write a letter to the State asking that the acting director be appointed from internal staff. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Kost asked that the agenda for next year have page numbers so that the Commissioners can more easily find the pages.

### **LIBRARY**

Commissioner Kost asked for statistics on bookmobile cost and services. She noted that that the upkeep on the large bookmobile is costly and services may need to shift when the new library is opened.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Chairman Lucier asked if Maranatha Springs has been opened for activities. Ms. Paschal responded that it will be used for summer camp this summer, among other activities.

Commissioners asked staff to provide information on how the Parks and Recreation Department advertises the availability of its grants to community organizations and on total requests versus available funds for the past two years.

### **ORANGE-PERSON-CHATHAM MENTAL HEALTH**

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that the two state schools that the Commissioners had asked to stay open did stay open.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to adjourn the Budget Session until Tuesday, June 09, 2009 at 9:00 AM in the Henry H. Dunlap Building Classroom, 80 East Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 PM.

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George Lucier, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners