

Minutes
 Regular Meeting
 Hertford County Board of Commissioners
 County Commissioners' Meeting Room
 Monday, April 18, 2011
 7:00 P.M.

Present: Johnnie R. Farmer, Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., Ronald J. Gatling, Howard J. Hunter, III, and William F. Mitchell, Jr.

Absent: None

Also Present with the Board: Loria D. Williams, County Manager; Charles L. Revelle, III, County Attorney; and Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Johnnie R. Farmer called the meeting to order.

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Vice-Chairman Curtis A. Freeman, Sr.

At this time, Commissioner Hunter asked for a moment of silence for those that lost their lives in the tornado on April 16 (eleven in Bertie County).

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a meeting of the Hertford County Board of Equalization and Review.

MINUTES
HERFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW MEETING
APRIL 18, 2011

The Hertford County Board of Equalization and Review met on April 18, 2011 at 7:00 P.M., in Room #222 of the Hertford County Office Building #1, Winton, North Carolina.

Members present were: Johnnie R. Farmer, Chairman
 Howard J. Hunter, III
 Curtis A. Freeman, Sr.
 William F. Mitchell, Jr.
 Ronald J. Gatling
 Sylvia F. Anderson, Clerk

Also present was Charles L. Revelle, III, Attorney for Hertford County and Robert Pearson, Project Manager for Pearson Appraisal Service, Inc.

On a motion to open the Board of Equalization and Review by Curtis A. Freeman, Sr. and a second by Howard J. Hunter, III, the meeting was called to order by Johnnie R. Farmer, Chairman.

Mrs. Anderson presented each member a packet of the appeals to be heard. Requests for reduction in value were received from the following property owners for the property indicated:

Samuel Drewry	Pin # 5042-40-4940
Jody & Judy Grizzard	5956-69-9186
Stanley Dixon, Jr.	6907-61-8398 (Did not appear before the Board)
Eddie H. & Sandra Strickland	5982-45-0960
Action Realty Assoc. Inc.	5982-96-1774

After hearing each request, the Board informed each appellant that all information received regarding their appeal will be taken in consideration and any property visits necessary will be scheduled through the Tax Assessor’s office.

Sylvia F. Anderson, Clerk to the Board requested the Board of Equalization and Review to recess. On a motion by Ronald J. Gatling and a second by Howard J. Hunter, III, the Board recessed to meet again on Monday, May 2, 2011, at 10: A.M.

Sylvia F. Anderson
Clerk to Board of Equalization and Review

TAX

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Tax Releases for the month of March, 2011, as follows:

TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (2010 LEVY)	20,751.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (2010 LEVY)	202.44
TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	7,560.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	77.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2010)	115.62
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2010)	115.62
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2009)	58.27
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2009)	58.27
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2008)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2008)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2007)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2007)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2006)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2006)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2005)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2005)	00.00
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TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2001)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2000)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2000)	00.00

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no citizens present to speak.

SOLID WASTE

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution to Approve the Hertford County Solid Waste Management Plan Update as presented by Melvin Nichols, Public Works Director, as follows:

Resolution to Approve the
Hertford County Solid Waste Management Plan Update

WHEREAS, better planning for solid waste will help protect public health and the environment, provide for an improved solid waste management system, better utilize our natural resources, control the cost of solid waste management; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes 130A-309.09(b) requires each unit of local government, either individually or in cooperation with other units of local government, to develop a 10-year comprehensive solid waste management plan with an update 3-years after its original submittal.

WHEREAS, Hertford County was represented on the advisory body for the planning process, and will be actively involved in the planning process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners of Hertford County hereby approve the Hertford County Solid Waste Management Plan 3-year update.

ADOPTED this 18th day of April, 2011.

Chairman Farmer and Commissioner Hunter commended Mr. Nichols on the recycling in Hertford County, especially electronics and cardboard. Chairman Farmer requested staff to advertise the promotion of recycling in Hertford County.

SOLID WASTE/INSPECTIONS

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to waive solid waste tipping fees and building permit fees for the victims of the tornado on April 16, 2011, in the Harrellsville area.

REZONING REQUEST

Bill Early, Zoning Administrator, was present requesting to schedule a public hearing for a request by Mr. David Chamblee to rezone his property from Residential and Agriculture (RA-20) to Commercial Highway (CH). The property is identified in Hertford County Land Records as a portion of PIN #6902-55-0457 and containing 10.01 acres as surveyed and recorded in Hertford County Register of Deeds on March 14, 2011, in Book 1, Page 187F. The property is located on the west side of SR 1419, known as Newsome Grove Road approximately 1,300' north of NC Highway 561.

The Planning Board held their public hearing on April 12 with no objections. Mr. Chamblee has requested to have the public hearing on May 2, 2011, if possible.

On a motion by Mitchell and a second by Hunter, the Board voted (4 to 1) to approve the public hearing for the rezoning request being held on May 2, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. Vice-Chairman Freeman objected due to the fact that public hearings are typically held at night so that citizens that work can attend them.

COUNTY PROPERTY/TAX FORECLOSURES

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to decline a bid of \$500 made by Correy T. Chamblee and LaRhonda J. Chamblee on the Lemuel E. Cotton, Heirs, tax foreclosure property (PIN #5995-54-2331). The offer was declined due to the fact that the bid was well below the amount of \$4,199.06 owed on the property. The \$25 bid deposit will be returned to the bidders.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to accept for advertisement a bid offer of \$2,000 made by Ricky Sessoms on the Sarah S. Vaughan tax foreclosure property (PIN #5992-49-4065). The County Attorney was authorized to advertise for upset bid.

RESOLUTIONS

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution Opposing "Game Fish Status":

RESOLUTION OPPOSING "GAME FISH STATUS"

WHEREAS, the Fisheries Reform Act (FRA) recognizes that commercial fishermen perform an essential function by providing wholesome food for the citizens of the State while struggling to earn a living in an industry whose resources are managed by both State and Federal agencies and whose labor accounts for revenue, jobs, and a significant tax base; and

WHEREAS, designating “Game Fish Status” for Red Drum, Striped Bass, Spotted Sea Trout and other fish species will deprive consumers in North Carolina and across the nation of access to fresh locally harvested seafood; and

WHEREAS, allocating 100% of the resource to less than 3% of the population of our state and to specific user groups would be a travesty of fairness, a violation of the FRA, and devastating to the economies of coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, degrading a resource to “Game Fish Status Only” has never enhanced the resource, and will threaten coastal communities with the loss of jobs and access for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina as a recognized leading producer of seafood has one of the most diverse fisheries in the United States and should be allowed to continue harvesting wild caught fish species in order to bring to market a wonderfully fresh, sustainably managed, revenue producing, protein resource for all its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hertford County Board of Commissioners requests the North Carolina General Assembly oppose “Game Fish Status” and honor The Fisheries Reform Act by continuing to make all fish species available for the benefit and enjoyment of all North Carolina citizens.

This the 18th day of April, 2011.

COUNTY MANAGER’S UPDATE

The County Manager, along with Commissioner Hunter and Chairman Farmer, commended the staff of Emergency Management, Emergency Services, Inspections, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, and Sheriff’s Department for all their hard work since the tornado came through on April 16, 2011. The Governor and Congressman G. K. Butterfield visited our county earlier today. There were no fatalities in Hertford County. Hertford County suffered 13 totally destroyed homes, 17-19 damaged homes, and 36 wind damaged homes.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS/RECREATION

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Sherry Channel, 4-H Agent, to the Hertford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission.

RECREATION

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to allow the Recreation Advisory Commission to pursue implementing a Senior Fitness Program and an Adult Softball League. Presently, there will be no funds needed.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to allow the Recreation Advisory Commission to pursue a Youth Fishing Day. The Wildlife Commission will furnish the supplies needed.

The County Manager questioned how participants will be covered if a mishap occurs. She was instructed to check on this matter by advising Sedgwick, our insurance carrier, of the activities that were being endorsed by the County Commissioners.

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Shelia W. Matthews
Clerk to the Board

Johnnie R. Farmer, Chairman
Hertford County Commissioners