

**MINUTES
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2001**

The Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on May 21, 2001 at the Citizens Center, Commissioners Room, 115 West Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting at 6:30 PM.

Commissioners Present:

Jerry W. Cochrane, Chairman
Beth H. Saine, Vice-Chairman
Larry S. Craig
David P. Choate

Commissioners Absent:

Thomas R. Anderson, PE

Others Present:

Stan B. Kiser, County Manager
Jeffrey A. Taylor, County Attorney
Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order: Chairman Cochrane called the meeting to order.

Invocation: The Invocation was given by Rev. Carrol Lindsey of First United Methodist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Agenda: UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

**AGENDA
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 21, 2001**

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:30 PM | Call to Order |
| 6:31 PM | Invocation – Rev. Carrol Lindsey
First United Methodist Church |
| 6:33 PM | Pledge of Allegiance |
| 1. 6:34 PM | Adoption of Agenda |
| 2. 6:35 PM | Approval of Minutes |

- May 7, 2001
- 3. 6:40 PM Consent Agenda
 - Tax Requests for Releases
 - Less than \$100 – March 16 – April 15, 2001
 - More than \$100 – March 16 – April 15, 2001
 - Tax Requests for Refunds
 - Less than \$100 - March 16 – April 15, 2001
 - More than \$100 - March 16 – April 15, 2001
 - Sponsored Group Status
 - Diane Johnson – Ministry of Faith
 - Democrat Women of Lincoln County
 - Requests for Water Adjustments
 - Late Pay Penalty Removal
 - Budget Adjustments 84, 85, 86, 93
- 4. 6:50 PM Public Comments
- 5. 7:05 PM Public Hearing for Approving Financing for DSS Building
- 6. 7:15 PM Annual Secondary Roads Construction Program – Tommy Richardson
- 7. 7:30 PM Lincoln Health System
- 8. 8:00 PM Recommendations from Planning Board from May 7, 2001
 - Zoning Map Amendment No. 374 – James Williamson, applicant
 - Zoning Map Amendment No. 375 – Donna Key, applicant.
 - Zoning Map Amendment No. 376 - Lincoln County, applicant
 - Zoning Text Amendment No. 377 – Lincoln County, applicant.
- 9. 8:20 PM Sign Maintenance Position – Madge Huffman
- 10. 8:30 PM Procedures for Foreclosure – Madge Huffman
- 11. 8:40 PM Recommendation for Company to Do Business Personal Audit – Madge Huffman
- 12. 8:50 PM Tax Vehicle Quotes – Madge Huffman
- 13. 9:00 PM Vacancies
- 14. 9:05 PM Appointments
- 15. 9:10 PM Calendar

16. 9:15 PM County Commissioners' Report
17. 9:25 PM County Manager's Report
18. 9:35 PM County Finance Officer's Report
19. 9:45 PM Other Business

Adjourn

Approval of Minutes – May 7, 2001: Chairman Cochrane presented the minutes of the May 7, 2001 Board of Commissioners meeting for the Board's approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Choate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the May 7, 2001 minutes as corrected.

Consent Agenda: Chairman Cochrane presented the consent agenda for the Board's approval.

RELEASES FOR MARCH 16TH THRU APRIL 15TH, 2001

More than \$100 – Vehicles

American Processors	2001	0119318	\$301.43
Brinkley, Victor Stephen	1999	0142982	\$134.62
Brooks, Jimmy L.	1999	26647	\$108.15
Burns, Mark Davidson	2000	0127474	\$129.26
Carolina Metal Buildings Inc.	2001	0065332	\$168.28
Catawba Rental Co. Inc.	2001	0065446	\$390.00
Crosby, Paul Richard Jr.	2000	0149582	\$165.74
Dyer, James Samuel	2000	0065109	\$129.91
Farley, Andrew A. III	1999	0130000	\$151.39
Firstar Bank NA	1999	0140802	\$161.00
Fleetwood Retail Corp.	2000	0149114	\$138.78
Hicks, Lisa Marie	2000	0101415	\$210.68
Hodge, Albert Brady	2000	0125123	\$204.48
Houser, Marshall Cleatus	2000	0071543	\$140.13
Ingle, James Ervin	2000	07205	\$168.41
J W Trucking Co.	2001	39251	\$277.99
James, Robert Louis Jr.	2001	0121142	\$286.42
Jones, Alene Houser	2000	0149968	\$313.83
Ledoux, Donald Kenneth	2000	0142285	\$310.13
Lexus Financial Services	2000	0101930	\$174.37
McSwain, Roger Leslie	2000	0093627	\$144.34
Norris, Stephen Shane	1999	0126027	\$166.21
Peterchuck, Kay J.	1999	47192	\$106.76
Simpson, Travis Lee	1998	0137471	\$157.83
Spivey Construction Co. Inc.	2000	0137713	\$161.98

Starnes, Ashelee Melissa	2000	0145853	\$102.22
		TOTAL	\$4,904.34

Less than \$100 - Vehicles

Armstrong, Kendell Kay	2000	0144958	\$8.84
Associates Leasing Inc.	1998	0105735	\$53.56
Barbato, Tegan Michelle	2000	0148618	\$43.07
Bihn, Arthur Frederick	1999	0099431	\$15.50
Bivens, Glynn Allen	1997/98	0106066	\$16.49
Bivens, Wilbur Gene	2000	0085642	\$22.33
Brooks, Kenneth Lee	1998	0069420	\$0.94
Brown, David Wayne	1999	19567	\$1.43
Brown, Michael Stephenson	2000	0149472	\$74.03
Bryant, Annie Banks	2000	0093667	\$18.60
Bumgarner, Robert L.	2000	07595	\$6.69
Burgin, David Mitchum Jr.	2000	0108777	\$22.89
Bynum, Susan Perkins	1999	0102535	\$47.56
Carnes, Chad Elliott	2000	0091410	\$45.70
Chapman, Steve Allen	2000	0148056	\$55.53
Christenbury, John O.	2000	0127430	\$74.01
Clark, Larry Keith	2000	0139911	\$18.02
Clark, Walter	2001	30254	\$12.02
Cloninger, Carl Steven	2000	0112480	\$25.90
Cox, Daphne Denise	1999	0101256	\$11.30
Craig, Jerry Lee	2000	0065424	\$5.35
Craig, Michael Shane	2000	0120343	\$34.03
Craig, Robert L.	2000	21810	\$8.87
Cruz, Sinforiano Timoteo	1999	0141954	\$13.75
Davis, Frances Hicks	1999	0080877	\$13.06
Deaton, Marilyn Knight	1995	0089090	\$15.35
Dellinger, John Forrest	1998	0134132	\$12.88
Dishman, Janeen Killian	1999	46663	\$18.70
Donahoo, Anita Douglas	2000	0149960	\$26.57
Downs, Alice Burgess	2000	0109982	\$9.51
Edwards, Joel L.	2000	18030	\$13.20
Elmore, Raymond Edward	1999	0143792	\$48.66
Farris, Arnold Dean	2000	0078029	\$51.70
Fitzhenry, William John	2000	0060500	\$46.83
Garcia, Manuel	2000	0113695	\$2.03
Garita, Gina	1999	0143355	\$8.04
Gibson, John Thomas	2000	0146518	\$5.71
Goins, Holly Britt	2000	0130264	\$0.68
Green, Allen Lathan	1999	0136924	\$26.65
Haas, Joyce Lawson	2000	0098959	\$8.67
Hager, Jarrod Webb	1997	0128952	\$18.05
Hale, Rita Gay	2000	0149958	\$19.79
Hamrick, Fred Riley	2000	0078811	\$5.90
Hancock, Stanley Stinson II	2000	0121537	\$89.23
Harbison, Erick Matthew	2000	0142292	\$10.81
Harrelson, Reginald Keith	2000	0150243	\$29.57
Harris, Richard H. Jr.	2000	14193	\$2.36
Harris, Walton Bennett	200	0105223	\$40.66
Helmer, Eric B.	2000	0142443	\$16.38
Helms, George Franklin	2000	0137794	\$0.62
Helton, Boyd	2000	0124418	\$35.20

Hendricks, Michal Allen	2000	0095727	\$2.43
Herald, Peggy Adkins	1999	0122677	\$53.40
Herter, Linda Gale	2000	0109123	\$93.51
Hidden Utilities	2001	0121709	\$76.10
Hinson, Kevin Owen	1997	0096432	\$76.67
Holland, John Broadus	2000	0149581	\$27.64
Howard, Randy Alexander	2000	0126413	\$16.80
Howard, Wesley Alexander	2000	0122664	\$13.86
Howell, William Edgar Jr.	2000	0118343	\$34.56
Hoyle, James Carroll	1999	0091656	\$32.11
Jara, Walter Francisco	1999	0127903	\$40.20
Johns Remodeling	2000	0140867	\$43.24
Jose, Pena Ceja Juan	2000	0149464	\$6.14
Kemper, Robert R.	2000	0146701	\$28.22
Kester, Bobby Brent	2000	00189	\$96.49
King, James Edward	1999	0143615	\$23.94
Kittle, Sherry Gillman	1999	0095476	\$15.15
Leatherman, Jesse Wayne	2000	0066460	\$14.34
Leonhardt, Shea Miller	2000	0119480	\$29.29
Linger, Terasa Lynn	1999	0133572	\$10.43
Lora, Honorio	2000	0127026	\$12.88
Loretz, Amie Boyd	2000	0144613	\$17.19
Loving, Emma H.	2000	10916	\$3.21
Lutz, Portia Caldwell	1998	0134395	\$9.23
Malfitana, Anna Marie	1999	0127960	\$20.32
McAlpine, Randy Lee	2000	0138682	\$20.09
McKinney, Judy Anne	2000	0142297	\$8.58
McRee, Daphine J.	2000	47153	\$12.89
Mollahassani, Parviz	2000	0127705	\$53.65
Motz, Verge Clifton IV	2000	0066000	\$59.02
NC Water Consultants Inc.	2001	0129843	\$87.98
Patel, Rajeshkumar R.	2000	0149372	\$42.38
Poritllo, Jose Santos-Rivera	2000	0145075	\$6.84
Price, Lettie Shrum	1998	0130053	\$41.61
Reedy, Bonnie Lou	1999	0078514	\$9.82
Reel, Louise Sneed	2000	0079653	\$1.12
Rhyne, Myrtle Jane	2000	0089547	\$1.73
Rogers, Mickey Ray	2000	0135767	\$20.96
Rogers, Randall Dean	2000	0104784	\$22.29
Romano, John	2000	0146280	\$46.71
Rose, Joey Lee	1999	0122953	\$61.47
Rudisill, Kenneth Dwight	2001	0121151	\$45.59
Rynearson, Debbie S.	2000	0136458	\$32.29
Sandstedt, Jason Shane	2000	0147057	\$30.48
Schmitt, Joyce Alfred	1999	0142964	\$47.15
Sefchick, Joseph Scott	2000	0129619	\$17.77
Shoemake, William Ronald Jr.	1999	0134416	\$3.64
Shull, Benjamin Scott	1999	0142859	\$8.53
Shull, Helen Berry	1999	0101055	\$27.23
Shull, Kelly Mae	2000	0148929	\$14.82
Smith, Heather Suzanne	2000	0111440	\$18.39
Smith, Howard Earl	2000	0088113	\$1.25
Smith, Kathryn Holiday	2000	0148970	\$6.84
Smith, Nancy Hartsoe	2000	0074328	\$9.25
Sparks, Glenda Kay	2000	0149993	\$60.88
Spencer, Eric Wayne	2000	0123058	\$79.83
Stanton, Flory Belle	1999	0137914	\$36.12

Tallent, S. Gene (Heirs of)	2000	01355	\$18.27
Talovic, Adis	2000	0132234	\$24.22
Thomas, Lora Workman	1999	0142920	\$10.73
Thompson, Dale Vernard	2000	0149402	\$8.56
Vasquez, Maria Luisa Quiros	2000	0142238	\$3.76
VT Inc. Tstee	1998	0126436	\$62.71
White, Charles James	2000	0149451	\$53.39
Whitworth, Christopher D.	2000	0149585	\$57.14
Wilkinson, Billy Ray	2000	0104873	\$10.96
Willis, Charity K.	1999	0116506	\$39.82
Wilson, Wesley Leroy	2000	0117846	\$74.88
Withers, Jarrett Lee	2000	0073244	\$5.04
Witherspoon, Kyle Wesley	1999	0141851	\$9.59
Wolfe, Carl Bagley Jr.	2000	0144818	\$5.78
Woodruff, Vicki Houser	2000	0095096	\$1.68
Young, Ricky Brandon	2000	0150038	\$11.72

TOTAL	\$3,346.02
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More than \$100

Brown, Gary Dean	2000	12969	\$123.20
Burgess, Charles R.	2000	0072829	\$118.80
Childers, Robert Earl	2000	0088270	\$109.21
Cope, Susan	1998-00	0115887	\$270.40
Crouse, Clyde Jr.	2000	0079756	\$123.20
Edwards, Linda Gail Tipton	2000	45270	\$183.78
Harvey, Yulonda	2000	0130161	\$327.30
Hecon Sportswear LLC	2000	0131937	\$235.40
Hudson, Richard R.	2000	44994	\$349.91
Jones, Louise	2000	18885	\$486.54
Pressley, Harley	2000	0070149	\$121.00
R & J Aero Service LLC	2000	0130082	\$137.20
Sutphin Construction	2000	0117681	\$253.31

TOTAL	\$2,839.25
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Less than \$100

Beard, Debbie Cash	2000	12411	\$4.02
Bertelsen, Gary Michael	2000	0108119	\$7.49
Cash, L. C. Homes Inc. (Est)	2000	0060382	\$7.83
Colson, David W.	2001	0131914	\$52.63
Gates, Craig P.	2000	03834	\$29.32
Goodson, Graham Franklin Jr.	1999/00	0100365	\$32.88
Hamrick, Larry Dean	2000	05352	\$8.96
Hinson, Kevin Owen	1998	15562	\$43.89
Jones, Shane	2001	0072295	\$61.60
Lee, Robert Wayne DBA	1999	0114485	\$10.25
Lowrance, George Scott	2000	0133941	\$76.06
Maxwell, Joyce Kendall	2000	0131814	\$44.73
Moore, Alex F.	2000	46010	\$92.16
Reinhardt, Walter	2000	0148232	\$35.41

TOTAL	\$507.23
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UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Requests for Releases and Refunds for March 16 – April 15, 2001.

SPONSORED GROUP STATUS

- Diane Johnson – Ministry of Faith
- Democrat Women of Lincoln County

UPON MOTION BY Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve Diane Johnson – Ministry of Faith and Democrat Women of Lincoln County for Sponsored Group Status.

ACCOUNTS REQUESTING ADJUSTMENT

April 6, 2001 – May 11, 2001

NAME	ACCOUNT #	ADJUSTMENT	NEW TOTAL	REASON
Justin Ellis	2031891-01	\$108.26	\$73.39	Leak
Jack Elmore	3021451-00	\$56.70	\$43.69	Leak
Indian Creek Enterprise	11201361-00	\$356.13	\$274.70	Leak
Thad Lowe	8164181-01	\$131.24	\$102.34	Leak
Rachel Neal	6121011-01	\$20.39	\$23.23	Leak
Josh Roberts	6091451-07	\$168.55	\$98.92	Leak
James Walker	6150021-01	\$295.36	\$159.10	Leak
Keith Wimberly	619401-01	\$70.18	\$76.40	Leak
Blaine Wyne	4065041-01	\$144.27	\$88.79	Leak
		\$1,351.08	\$945.56	

**CUSTOMERS REQUESTING LATE PAY PENALTY REMOVAL FOR THE PERIOD OF
FEBRUARY 12, 2001 – MAY 11, 2001**

NAME	ACCOUNT #	ADJUSTMENT	REASON
Edward Campbell	8164521-01	\$5.00	Late pay penalty
Tommy Peeler	11204791-00	\$5.00	Late pay penalty

Budget Adjustment No. 84 for Social Services for increasing expenditure and revenue accounts for additional funds allocated to the Family Preservation Program through the Partnership of Lincoln/Gaston (SmartStart). No county funds involved.

Budget Adjustment No. 85 for the Sheriff's Department for extra revenue to be used to prevent overage in an expense account.

Budget Adjustment No. 86 for the Sheriff's Department for extra revenue to be used to cover overage in related expense.

Budget Adjustment No. 93 for the Social Services for budget adjustment requested as additional funds were transferred to In-Home aide program from Office on Aging.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the water accounts requesting adjustment, Requests for Late Pay Penalty Removal, and budget adjustments 84, 85, 86, and 93.

Public Comments: Chairman Cochrane advised that this was the time the Board of Commissioners would receive comments from the citizens regarding any matter they desired to address.

James Brown expressed concerns about a contractor in Lincoln County.

Deborah Brown stated that she is one of the homeowners and there are several others. She stated that she is disgusted and disgraced at all the stuff that is going on. She stated that her liberties have been destroyed because of this contractor.

Ashley House, Miss Lincoln County, thanked the Commissioners for their generosity in letting the pageant use the facility each year. She updated the Board on what she has been doing this year.

Being no additional speakers, Chairman Cochrane declared the public comments section closed.

Secondary Roads Construction Program: *Joe Lamb with the North Carolina Department of Transportation presented the Secondary Roads Construction Program. He stated that in this program, there are plans for three new rural roads to be paved for a total length of 1.66 miles and an additional cost of \$250,000. He stated that the total paving program for Lincoln County will be 3.5 miles and \$720,000 estimated cost. \$105,000 will be allocated for secondary maintenance and spot stabilization. With a contingency of \$54,194, the total is \$879,194.*

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Lincoln County 2001 – 2002 Paving Priority List.

Public Hearing for Approving Financing for DSS Building: Chairman Cochrane opened the Public Hearing for Approving Financing for DSS Building.

Terry Brotherton shared observations concerning the DSS Building. He stated that the end result will be a quality 34,000 square foot facility.

Being no additional speakers, Chairman Cochrane declared the Public Hearing closed.

RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS

WHEREAS, The Lincoln County (“County”) has previously determined to undertake a project to purchase the former Winn Dixie shopping center along with the purchase of two adjoining lots on East Main Street in Lincolnton. Project also includes the renovation of the property into office space suitable for Department of Social Services, and the Finance Officer has now presented a proposal for the financing of such Project.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The County hereby determines to finance the Project through Bank of America , in accordance with the proposal dated May 1, 2001. The amount financed shall not exceed \$4,000,000.00, the annual interest rate (in the absence of default or change in tax status) shall not exceed 5.89%, and the financing term shall not exceed 15 years from closing.

2. All financing contracts and all related documents for the closing of the financing (the "Financing Documents") shall be consistent with the foregoing terms. All officers and employees of the County are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any Financing Documents, and to take all such further action as they may consider necessary or desirable, to carry out the financing of the Project as contemplated by the proposal and this resolution. The Financing Documents shall include a Financing Agreement and Deed of Trust and an Escrow Agreement as Bank of America may request.

3. The Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to hold executed copies of the Financing Documents until the conditions for the delivery of the Financing Documents have been completed to such officer's satisfaction. The Finance Officer is authorized to approve changes to any Financing Documents previously signed by County officers or employees, provided that such changes shall not substantially alter the intent of such documents or certificates from the intent expressed in the forms executed by such officers. The Financing Documents shall be in such final forms as the Finance Officer shall approve, with the Finance Officer's release of any Financing Document for delivery constituting conclusive evidence of such officer's final approval of the Document's final form.

4. The County shall not take or omit to take any action the taking or omission of which shall cause its interest payments on this financing to be includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of the registered owners of the interest payment obligations.

5. All prior actions of County officers in furtherance of the purposes of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed. All other resolutions (or parts thereof) in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, to the extent of the conflict. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved this the 21th day of May, 2001.

Amy S. Long, Clerk

Jerry W. Cochrane, Chairman

Commissioner Saine stated that she would like to recommend that the Board only borrow enough money to purchase the property and defer renovations until a later time or year.

A MOTION by Commissioner Saine to borrow the funding to purchase the land and defer the renovations to a later date.

Discussion:

Commissioner Craig stated that he feels it is vitally important to proceed with this project. He stated that \$4 million is a lot of money, but half of the money will be recouped from the State and Federal Governments.

Commissioner Choate stated that he has talked to local contractors and has a good feeling about what the county will end up having per square foot in this building. He stated that he would consider deferring the re-paving of the parking lot at this time.

Leon Harmon stated that the \$4 million would be borrowed up front and held in an escrowed account.

Vote: 1 – 3 AYES: Saine
NOES: Cochrane, Craig, Choate

A MOTION by Commissioner Craig to approve the Resolution Approving Financing Terms as presented for this facility.

Discussion:

Commissioner Saine stated that it is not that she does not support DSS, she's looking at the financial situation this year.

Vote: 3 – 1 AYES: Cochrane, Craig, Choate
NOES: Saine

Lincoln Health System: Pete Acker and James Ramsey gave the Board an update on the progress and improvements that Lincoln Health System has been making over the last several months.

Recommendations from the Planning Board from May 7, 2001:

Zoning Map Amendment No. 374 – James Williamson, applicant:

Shane Stewart stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended denying the request.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Saine, the Board voted unanimously to deny the rezoning request based on the recommendation by the Planning Board.

Zoning Map Amendment No. 375 – Donna Key, applicant: Shane Stewart, Zoning Administrator, stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve Zoning Map Amendment No. 375 – Donna Key, applicant, based upon the recommendation of the Planning Board and the fact that no opposition was presented at the public hearing.

Zoning Map Amendment No. 376 – Lincoln County, applicant: Shane Stewart, Zoning Administrator, stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation from the Planning Board on Zoning Map Amendment No. 376 – Lincoln County, applicant.

Zoning Text Amendment No. 377 – Lincoln County, applicant: Shane Stewart stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Planning Board's recommendation and approve Zoning Text Amendment No. 377 – Lincoln County, applicant.

Chairman Cochrane called for a five minute recess.
Chairman Cochrane called the meeting back to order.

Sign Maintenance Position – Madge Huffman: Madge Huffman stated that for the budget year 2001/2002, a new hire position for an Addressing Enforcement Specialist was requested in the Emergency Telephone System Budget. The Addressing Department is currently relying on the Building Maintenance Staff to help us in emergency situations when a road sign needs maintenance. Ms. Huffman requested early approval of this position in order to advertise the position as soon as possible.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Saine, the Board voted unanimously to approve funding for an Addressing Enforcement Specialist with funds coming from 911 funds.

Procedures for Foreclosure – Madge Huffman: Madge Huffman presented foreclosure procedures for Iredell County, Gaston County, Rowan County, Chatham County, and Buncombe County. She recommended the following plan for all delinquent real estate taxes in Lincoln County.

The Collection Department would select delinquent accounts, making sure that our selection was done in a fair and equitable manner. We would review all accounts to make sure that we had exhausted all other collection remedies.

The Collection Department would then mail a fifteen-day notification letter to advise the taxpayer that if this matter was not given their immediate attention, they should expect to receive a pre-foreclosure letter from our collection attorney.

The Deputy Tax Collector would review with anyone who had questions concerning their options at this point. Payment arrangements would be made with anyone who was not employed or did not have an escrow account with their mortgage company. These payment arrangements would not be extended beyond one year. The payments would include current year taxes if they were due and all taxes would be current at the end of the payment plan.

For those who claim a hardship, the Deputy Tax Collector would refer them to the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a Division of Family Service, Inc. of Gaston County which serves Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln Counties. This service is provided free of charge to anyone in need of financial consulting.

The Deputy Tax Collector would abide by the plan submitted to us as a result of the counseling, as long as the taxpayer complies with the plan. In the event of non-compliance the property would immediately be turned over to the Collection Attorney for Foreclosure.

For all accounts that did not respond to the fifteen-day letter, the Deputy Tax Collector would prepare a 1st step foreclosure letter to be sent by certified mail from the County Attorney's Office.

The certified 1st step foreclosure letter would state that it was the responsibility of the taxpayer to contact the Tax Department immediately. We would provide the telephone number of our Deputy Tax Collector. There should be an attorney fee charged per letter, the amount to be determined by the attorney and management.

If the taxpayer contacts the Deputy Tax Collector, they would be given the opportunity to make the one-year payment arrangement plan to insure that all taxes were current within one year.

Hardship cases would be referred to the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, and the plan would be accepted. Accounts that did not follow the plan would be given to the County Attorney's Office for foreclosure procedures.

If the taxpayer failed to respond to both fifteen-day letter and the 1st step Pre-foreclosure letters then the County Attorney would file for foreclosure in the Clerk of Court and the taxpayer would then be responsible for all fees, charges, and interest in addition to the taxes.

Commissioner Craig asked if the Tax Department can mail the fifteen-day notification letter certified to make sure that the people get them.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Saine, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Procedures for Foreclosure.

Madge Huffman presented information to the Board concerning Land Use Assessment.

Recommendation for Company to Do Business Personal Audit – Madge Huffman:

Madge Huffman stated that the process for selection of a professional audit firm to conduct audits for Lincoln County Business Personal Property has been completed. All necessary background checks were conducted and interviews have been completed with four (4) audit firms: Turner & Bost, Phil Evans Co., Tax Management Associates, and County Tax Services, Inc. Ms. Huffman and Arnold Cook, Assistant Assessor, recommended entering into a Fee Audit Contractual Agreement with County Tax Services, Inc. to assist the Tax Department with the audit of Business Personal Property.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation to enter into a Fee Audit Contractual Agreement with County Tax Services, Inc.

Tax Vehicle Quotes – Madge Huffman: Madge Huffman presented the following quotes for a new 4x4 vehicle for the Tax Department.

Abernethy Chevrolet		
2001 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer		22,352.90
Donald Chrysler		
2001 Jeep Cherokee Sport		20,536.00
Griffin Pontiac		
2001 GMC Jimmy		25,515.78
Town Square Ford		
2001 Escape		20,124.00
2002 Explorer		24,483.00

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Manager to sign a contract for a 2001 Jeep Cherokee.

Vacancies: Commissioner Craig presented the following vacancies.

Lincoln County Child Protection Team	1
Nursing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee	8
Region F Aging Advisory Committee	
Alternate	1
Delegate	1
Workforce Development Board	1

Appointments:

Commissioner Craig presented the following recommendations for appointments.

Reappoint:

Mountain Island Marine Commission

Stanley Roseboro

Dangerous Dog Appellate Board

Tim Houser

Walt Goodman

Bob Richardson

Dale Pederson

Roland Harris

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint the above individuals.

Calendar: Chairman Cochrane presented the Board's calendar for June 2001.

County Commissioners' Report: Chairman Cochrane reported to the Board concerning an estimate from WK Dickson for running sewer to Pumpkin Center High School.

County Manager's Report: Stan Kiser, County Manager, presented the County Manager's Report.

Finance Officer's Report: Leon Harmon, Finance Director, presented the Finance Officer's Report.

Other Business: Stan Kiser, County Manager, presented Budget Adjustment No. 90, which was left out of the board packets, for the Board's approval. This adjustment was for Social Services to increase revenues and expenditures for contributions received for the Special Children's Adoption Fund.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve Budget Adjustment No. 90.

There was a discussion about James Brown. By consensus, the Board directed the County Manager to take this up with the District Attorney's Office and get a ruling from the District Attorney as to whether there's anything that he sees worthy of prosecution in this situation.

Recess: Chairman Cochrane recessed the meeting until May 29, 2001 at 3:30 PM.

Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Jerry W. Cochrane, Chairman