

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 20, 2015**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, April 20, 2015 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph S. Winslow, Jr., Chairman
Cecil Perry, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Dixon
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Frankie Meads
Bettie Parker

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rodney Bunch, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Director
Lynn Scott, Assistant Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Joe Winslow. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Commissioner Bill Sterritt led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Winslow welcomed everyone present.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Winslow recognized Mr. Mike Blanton of 629 Old Hertford Highway who said he is here tonight to ask the Board to endorse a resolution to the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission to not support the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reductions of southern flounder. He said Hyde County and Dare County have sent resolutions already. He stated that the southern flounder fishery is a \$5.6 million fishery for NC commercial fisherman and the economic impact to the region would be devastating if harvest cuts of 25% to 60% are implemented. He explained that they are planning to either use a larger size flounder, which would be 15-16" or they would take away more gear. He said it would be impossible to make it off of 15" flounders, because they tend to grown by width and not length. He stated that in 2013, Albemarle Sound fisherman landed 519,226 lbs. of flounder at \$2.60 per lb. which is over \$1 million. He said these reductions could impact fisherman from \$325,000 to \$780,000 depending on how much the reduction is.

Mr. Blanton stated that a lot of fishermen have supplemented their income by expanding into other fisheries to try to maintain their living, which is not good and to further reduce the flounder would further impact other fisheries. He noted that they were shut down for sixty days last year due to endangered species of sea turtles and sturgeons and they were also impacted by a 33% gear reduction within the last five years. He said the recent NCDMF stock assessment report did not pass peer review and the harvest reduction parameters are arbitrary and subjective and not based on stakeholder input. One reason he noted was because flounder is a diverse fish which masses from North Carolina to Florida. He said the Marine Fisheries stated that North Carolina flounder stay in our state which he said is not true. He explained that they also did not account for the number of juvenile fish that were swimming along with the adult species.

Mr. Blanton stated that fisherman that have made their investments for the 2015 fishing season will not be able to recover their investments, which subjects them to a double economic hit that will be catastrophic for these small businesses. He said there needs to be thoughtful and comprehensive review of any proposed measure to assess the long-term viability of the fishery and that review must incorporate local stakeholder input.

The Board thanked Mr. Blanton for educating them on flounder fishing.

Mr. Jonathan White of 618 Whitehat Road stated that the biggest problem he has as a fisherman is the Marine Fisheries. He said they do more to anti-regulate people then they manage fish and they are managing them right out of business. He said they have regulated the size of fish harvested and reduced the amount of gear that can be used. He stated that the Marine Fisheries

Commission is unbalanced. He said there use to be one seat at-large, 4 commercial fishermen, and 4 sportsman fishermen, now they have a Coastal Conservation member so the sport fishermen are in control. Whenever anything comes up for a vote, he said the sports fishermen win. He stated that he is a fifth generation fisherman and his son has a lot of interest in it, but it does not look like it is going to be something that he can do to make a living if Marine Fisheries keeps having their way.

Mr. White stated that when he started fishing in 1992 his commercial fishing license cost \$15, four or five years ago the cost went to \$150, and now it cost \$250. In June he said, a license will cost \$500 and they are proposing that cost to double again next year.

2. EAST CAROLINA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRESENTATION ON CONSOLIDATION PLAN FOR COASTAL CARE AND ECBH

Mr. David Peterson, Central Regional Director for ECBH thanked everyone for their time and for having him present tonight. He introduced the Chairman of the ECBH Board, Dr. Robinson and Project Coordinator, Bobbi Lowe. He said he is really excited because the Board of Coastal Care, serving Brunswick, Carteret, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties, and East Carolina Behavioral health, serving Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Herford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, North Hampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties, have entered into an agreement to consolidate their agencies. He said in 2007, ECBH served nine counties. In 2010, he said they became 19 counties. In 2012, the State allowed them to become a managed care organization and therefore oversaw all of the Medicaid dollars for those 19 counties. He stated that 92% of their dollars are spent on services for people with developmental disabilities, substance abuse and mental health and they have an 8% overhead. He said they believe that this consolidation will create an even stronger organization than they have currently as separate agencies and will position them to provide even better services to individuals in their 24 counties who need mental health, developmental disability and substance abuse services.

Mr. Peterson stated that the consolidation, which will be effective July, 1, 2015 is in line with the Medicaid Reform Plan developed by the NC Department of Health and Human Services and endorsed by Governor Pat McCrory. He said statewide data says that since the waiver has gone live, we have saved over \$150 million statewide.

Mr. Peterson said that they recognize that as many positive aspects as they believe there are for the consolidation, there may be some concern that a larger agency will be less responsive to the needs to individual communities and to other partner agencies, such as county Departments of Social Services and Sheriff's Departments. To address these concerns, he said they are planning to create three regions within the consolidated entity. The regions have been designed to balance, to the extent possible, the number of counties, total population and geography covered in each region. The largest region will include ten counties and the smallest will serve six. Each region will have a Regional Director and a Regional Advisory Board. He said they are proposing that the members of the Regional Advisory Boards be appointed by the Boards of Commissioners of the Counties served by the region. He stated that in the Northern Region the Regional Advisory Board will be made up of 21 people, which will include two representatives from each County (one of which will be a commissioner).

Mr. Peterson stated that the new organization will require the creation of a new Area Board. He explained that NC law permits Area Authorities with populations greater than 1,250,000 to design and appoint members to the Area Board in a manner different from that detailed in the statute, with the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the constituent counties. He said they are proposing that the Area Board be comprised of members of the Regional Advisory Boards, appointed by the Regional Advisory Boards. He said this alternative governance structure has already received the required approval from the Secretary of DHHS and they are now seeking approval from the twenty-four county Boards of County Commissioners.

Mr. Peterson said some of responsibilities of the Regional Advisory Boards include having local stakeholders to respond to unique community needs and priorities, to promote understanding and collaboration at the local level, to provide local participation in monitoring the performance and services within each region, and identify gaps and needs and make recommendations. He went on to say that the Governing Board of Directors responsibilities include, reporting to constituent

counties, responding to concerns and feedback from Regional Advisory Boards, reviewing, revising and approving the Regional Advisory Board bylaws, and all other responsibilities outline in N.C. law for the Area Authority Boards. The Governing Board of Directors will include 3 County Commissioners, 3 CFAC members, and 1 Provider Network Council Chair or designee.

Mr. Peterson stated that each Regional Advisory Board will select four members to serve as the Area Authority Governing Board: one County Commissioner, the Consumer and Family Advisory Committee chair or designee, and two other members. In addition, the chair or designee of the Area Authority Network Council shall serve on the Governing Board as a non-voting member. The County Commissioner members of the Governing Board shall serve one three year term without consecutive reappointment, so that commissioner representation on the Governing Board will rotate among the counties in each region. The other members of the Governing Board may serve three terms, consisting of three years each.

Commissioner Perry stated that he is on the Board of 19 and invitations to the meetings works like a lottery. He said he is not scheduled to meet with the Board until 2016. He asked how they plan to get information back from the new Board to the Counties so that everyone knows what is going on. Mr. Peterson stated that Mr. Baker, our regional director said that he would be more than happy to come back and do quarterly or six month reviews with the County Boards and the County Managers. Mr. Robinson clarified that having a County Commissioner and an appointee on the Regional Board will allow the County Board to get information also. Mr. Stevenson stated that they are trying to get the bylaws to read that the Governing Board will meet every two months and the Regional Board will meeting the opposite months. Commissioner Perry asked how the consolidation will work with our jails, because currently there is no interaction. Mr. Peterson said one of the things they have been working on is having upfront conversations with the local sheriff and police departments.

Commissioner Dixon questioned the Boards' term lengths. Mr. Peterson stated that some of the Governing Board members will have a one-year term, some will have a two-year term, and others will have a three-year term.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Cecil Perry asked if there were any amendments to the agenda.

It was requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee at its meeting today to the consent agenda: 1) Approval of tax releases, and refunds; 2) Approval of budget amendments for Reappraisal Reserve to reflect reduction of the General Fund Transfer to fund the purchase of a fire truck; for COA/Debt to reduce the allocation for loan proceeds to fund the COA roofing needs and to reclassify debt service for the vehicles purchased; for Special Appropriations to appropriate Juvenile Justice Funds received and passed thru to sponsor agencies; and to appropriate additional Inspection Fee Revenue and to appropriate funds paid for Stormwater Review; and 3) Adoption of reimbursement resolution for tax-exempt financing for certain expenditures in connection with the purchase of a fire truck and a used ambulance.

It was also requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items to new business: 1) Adoption of resolution supporting Southern Flounder Fishermen; 2) Adoption of Northeastern Workforce Development consortium agreement; 3) Adoption of resolution approving Northeastern Workforce Development Consortium agreement, and 4) Adoption of resolution supporting consolidation plan for CoastalCare and ECBH.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to amend the agenda to add the three additional items to the consent agenda and the four additional items to new business as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Parker also requested that the agenda be amended to add to new business a recommendation from the Finance Committee to reclassify the pay grades for the following positions: Computer Technician, IT Director, Planning Director, and HR Director.

Motion was made by Bettie Parker, seconded by Jeff Dixon to amend the agenda to add approval of request to reclassify the pay grades for the Computer Technician, IT Director, Planning Director, and HR Director positions to new business as well. The motion carried by a six to one margin, with Commissioner Griffin voting against the motion.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of April 2 and April 6, 2015 Commissioner Meetings

Commissioner Parker asked that the April 6, 2015 minutes be amended to state that the Library Board met on January 13, 2015.

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

Releases	County	City
1. James Davis Mcmanus	174.42	
2. Whitney Anne Divers	107.82	

Refunds

1. Michael James Calderone	139.48	114.59
2. Michael Vincent Gulla	200.63	167.61

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following budget amendments:

Reappraisal Reserve		
Decrease	025.4141.5440.25	Reappraisal
Decrease	025.0700.4981.00	General Fund Transfer

COA/Debt

Decrease	010.9100.5700.16	Debt Service	74,546.00
Increase	010.0150.4232.00	Sales Tax – ½% - Article 40	100,000.00
Increase	010.0150.4233.00	Sales Tax – ½% - Article 42	88,026.00
Decrease	010.0700.4970.00	Loan Proceeds	242,500.00
Increase	010.9100.5700.31	2014 – Vehicles	20,072.00

Special Appropriations

Increase	010.0230.4360.05	Juvenile Justice – Pass Thru	132,974.00
Increase	010.6600.5615.10	Juvenile Justice – Pass Thru	132,974.00

Inspections

Increase	010.0300.4345.01	Inspection Fees	10,000.00
Increase	010.4910.5126.00	Salaries and Wages Parttime	10,000.00

d. Adoption of Reimbursement Resolution for Tax-exempt Financing for Certain Expenditures in Connection with the Purchase of a Fire Truck and a Used Ambulance

The Finance Committee recommended the Board adopt the following Reimbursement Resolution declaring its intention to reimburse themselves from the proceeds of a tax-exempt financing for certain expenditures in connection with the purchase of a fire truck and a used ambulance:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF PASQUOTANK, NORTH CAROLINA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO REIMBURSE SAID COUNTY FROM THE PROCEEDS OF A TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OF A FIRE TRUCK AND A USED AMBULANCE

WHEREAS, the County of Pasquotank, North Carolina (the "County"), is a political subdivision organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the County will pay, after the date hereof, certain expenditures in connection with the purchase of a fire truck and a used ambulance; (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the county (the "Board") has determined that certain moneys to be advanced after the date hereof by the County to pay such expenditures (the "Expenditures") are available only for a temporary period and it will be necessary to reimburse the County for the Expenditures from the proceeds of an installment financing pursuant to Section 160A-20 of the North Carolina General Statutes, as amended (the "Tax-exempt Financing");

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby declares the County's intent to reimburse the County with the proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing for the Expenditures made after March 2, 2015, which date is no more than 60 days prior to the date hereof. The County reasonably expects on the date hereof that it will reimburse the Expenditures with the proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing.

Section 2. Each Expenditure will be (a) of a type properly chargeable to a capital account under general federal income tax principles (determined in each case as of the date of the Expenditures), (b) a cost of issuance with respect to the Tax-exempt Financing, (c) a nonrecurring item that is not customarily payable from current revenues or (d) a grant to a party that is not related to or an agent of the County so long as such grant does not impose any obligation or condition (directly or indirectly) to repay any amount to or for the benefit of the County.

Section 3. The maximum principal amount of the Tax-exempt Financing expected to be entered into with respect to the project is \$360,000.

Section 4. The County will make a reimbursement allocation, which is a written allocation by the County that evidences the County's use of proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing to reimburse an expenditure, no later than 18 months after the later of the date on which the Expenditure is paid or the Project is placed in service or abandoned, but in no event more than three years after the date on which the Expenditure is paid. The County recognizes that exceptions are available for certain preliminary expenditures, costs of issuance, certain de minimis amounts, expenditures by small issuers (based on the year of entering into a financing and not the year of expenditure) and expenditures for construction projects of at least five years.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED the 20th day of April, 2015 by the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners.

5. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS STATUS TO WW II COASTWISE MERCHANT MARINERS:

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to adopt the following resolution supporting recognition for Merchant Mariners from WW II. The motion carried unanimously:

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA PASQUOTANK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN SUPPORT OF ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS STATUS TO WW II COASTWISE MERCHANT MARINERS

Findings 1: Some US Merchant Marine Seamen of WW II gained veteran status under a court ruling via Schmacher, Willner, et al, V. Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge, Jr 665 F Supp 41 (D.D.C.1987). The USCG later **required** they meet certain eligibility requirements.

Findings 2: Some 10,000 to 30,000 coastwise seagoing tug and barge merchant seamen have been or may be denied recognition upon application because actions taken by government agencies (prior to P. L. 95-202) have removed required eligibility records from being available to the veteran.

Findings 3: Commandant, USCG Ltr 5739 Ltr of 09 Apr 2010 states, "The US Government did not issue mariner credentials to females during the World War II."

Findings 4: USCG Information Sheet #77 (April 1992) identifies acceptable forms of documentation for eligibility meeting the requirements pursuant to *Schmacher V. Aldridge*, 655 41(D.D.C 1987)

- a. Certificate of Discharge (Form 718A)
- b. Continuous Discharge Books (ship's deck/engine logbooks. (Non-military document)
- c. Company letters showing vessel names and dates of voyages. (Non-military document)

Findings 5: Commandant USCG Order of 20 March, 1944 relieves masters of tugs, towboats and seagoing barges, of the responsibility of submitting reports of seamen shipped or discharged on forms 718A. This action removes item (a) from the eligibility list in Findings 4.

Findings 6: USCG Information Sheet # 77 (April, 1992) further states "Deck logs were traditionally considered to be the property of the owners of the ships. After World War II, however, the deck and engine logbooks of vessels operated by the War Shipping Administration were turned over to that agency by the ship owners, and were destroyed during the 1970s because they were too burdensome to keep and too costly to maintain." This action effectively eliminates item (b) from the eligibility list in Findings 4

Findings 7: Company letters showing vessel names and dates of voyages are highly suspect of ever existing due to the strict orders prohibiting even the discussion of ship/troop movement. Then consider item (c) of Findings 4 should be removed from the eligibility list. USCG Info Sheet # 77, page 2 refers

Findings 8: Excerpts from Pres. Roosevelt's fireside Chat 23: On the Home Front (Oct. 12, 1942): "In order to keep stepping up our production, we have had to add millions of workers to the total labor force of the Nation. "In order to do this, we shall be compelled to use older men, and handicapped people, and more women, and even grown boys and girls, wherever possible and reasonable, to replace men of military age and fitness; to use their summer vacations, to work somewhere in the war industries." Underage combatants had served in all of America's wars from the time of the Revolution. The unknown number who served in the Second World War perpetuated that legacy. They served with distinction and valor, and indisputably demonstrated that, despite their age, they could serve as well as those around them.

Findings 9: Post the Revolutionary War; many Acts of Congress were enacted to provide pensions to those veterans applying for support. Thousands of servicemen were without documented service and remained without any viable means to prove service. Excerpts from documents retained at the NARA provide: Generally the process required an applicant to appear before a court of record in the State of his or her residence to describe under oath the service for which a pension was claimed. This establishes precedence for using certified oaths in conjunction with the Social Security documents as alternative documentation.

Findings (10): US CG Official Shipping/Discharge documents (Forms 718A) were obtained from the National Archives and Records Administration, Wash. DC that contained information proving Active Duty (AD) services for some WW II coastwise barge and tug Mariners. Together with information obtained via a FOIA request to the National Maritime Center, research brought forth additional information. **Research** conducted between **June-August 2013, in concert with the NMC**, using official records of 1172 coastwise mariners and the USCG Merchant Marine Casualties of WW II report of 1950 identified:

WW II Coastwise Mariners Listing: Excel Sheet #1

1172 Mariners identified via official USCG Shipping/Discharge Forms 718A

84 Mariners may be women according to their feminine sounding names; OR 7.2%
1058 Mariners' ages were specified. Ages ranged from 10 to 78.

- 583 Mariners identified within draft age and included those in 4F status; OR 55.1% of known ages.
- 525 Mariners identified at over the draft age of 37; OR 49.6% of known ages.
- 114 Mariners with age not specified; OR 09.7%
- 47 Mariners who served were under the age of 17; OR 4.4% of known ages.
- 16 Mariners KIA with 1 receiving DD Form 1300.

National Maritime Form DD 214 Listing: Excel Sheet #2

- 794 Mariners were identified on NMC Coastwise Mariners listing identifying Active Duty services.
- 291 Mariners on NMC listing had no USCG MMLD numbers listed; OR 36.6%
- 85 Mariners issued DD Form 214 from NMC listing, OR 10.7% of NMC; OR 7.2% of WW II CMM

Merchant Marine KIA & MIA Casualties from all causes = 9521 * (usmm.org)

- 5662 Mariner Casualties from USCG per 1950 Report * (USCG 1950 casualty report)
- 3859 Mariner Casualties from Other Sources * (Additional sources = Art. Moore and US Congress)
- Merchant Marine Casualties recognized by all sources = 414**
- 344 Mariner Casualties from USCG 1950 Casualty Report * (USCG 1950 casualty report)
- 70 Mariner Casualties from NMC report & not listed on USCG 1950 Casualty List * (NMC DD 1300 Report)
 - 1 Mariner in NMC DD 1300 files as having received Form DD 1300 yet 16 identified on WW II CM listing

Rationale: 9521 Merchant Mariners KIA or MIA serving and **only 414** receiving Veteran status.

Findings 11: The USCG cannot provide a true estimate of merchant mariners serving in WW II. **GAO/HEHS-97-196R** refers. Estimates range from 250,000 to 840,000 from recognized historians and GAO audit... None of these historians were aware of these 10,000 to 30,000 coastwise merchant seamen where many served without proper credentials and were not included in above estimates. **Some were elderly handicapped; others women and some were school children** who served in billets, drew wages and paid taxes. They served on the same vessels in the same hostile war zones and performed the same services alongside others who were documented. **Yet, only about 91,000 merchant mariners have been recognized as veterans with just 1192 of these veterans in receipt of compensation or pension benefits the VA refers.** This is a vast disparity in ratio of the other service branches.

Findings 12: DOD and NARA Agreement **N1-330-04-1 of Jul, 08, 2004** puts in place a procedure to transfer military personnel files of individuals from all services, (including civilian personnel or contractual groups who were later accorder military status under the provisions of Schmacher, Willner, et al, V. Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge, Jr 665 F Supp 41 (D.D.C 1987). This agreement affects military personnel records of individuals **62 years** after separation from service. Action has taken place for all **except** the US Merchant Marine IAW above stated court order. This **inaction** by the **Department of Homeland Security via (COMDT USCG)** has caused many of the mariners to have **gone unrecognized** for their services. Many seafarers have passed without ever gaining recognition or benefits and soon all will be History. National Personnel Records Center estimate there are between 1400 to 2500 Cubic feet of Shipping/Discharge documents being stored at the NARA district offices and NMC yet to be transferred to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. NMC cites **about 91,000 out of 250,000 to 840,000 have ever received recognition** as veterans; and, with many unable to gain access because of age and health condition requiring assistance for others outside family. Had compliance taken place, these records would have been available to all and providing the mariner a chance to being recognized many years ago and enjoying the benefits awarded to them via court order.

Whereas: (1) By court order, Schmacher v. Aldridge 665 F Supp 41 (D.D.C. 1987) **provided for veteran status** to certain US Merchant Marine seamen during WW II (07 December, 1941 to 31 December, 1946) with the same benefits accorded all veterans as administrated by the Veterans Administration. There were **no provisions** for the elderly handicapped, women or schoolchildren to even be considered for their services as mariners serving anywhere within the US Merchant Marine providing an avenue to veteran status.

Whereas: (2) The USCG Information Sheet #77 of Apr. 1992 identifies specific criteria to be used to prove active duty performed by an individual seaman for the purpose of attaining veteran status and findings (5), (6) & (7) identified specific **official government actions** that **removed** these particular documents from the reach of the mariner. This **clearly identifies the requirement** to put in place a method of utilizing **alternative** documentation and other approved methods to replace specific documents removed from use by the government actions cited elsewhere in this document.

Whereas: (3) Women **were removed** from ships at the onset of WW II and not allowed to serve in any capacity by direction of the War Shipping Administrator, Admiral Emory S. Land. The Captains of the Ports (USCG COTP) were given specific directions to **deny** official USCG maritime credentials to any woman requesting them. They **served but without official credentials** in every capacity on most vessels. Families were the sole crew on many barges throughout the WW II and afterwards. Companies **welcomed this** arrangement because **critical** crew replacements were **reduced** considerably. This allowed those barges to move the bulk war materials more quickly and freed the more abled bodied seaman to man the larger seagoing ships taking vital supplies to troops on all the fronts, keeping the enemy from our doors. A **win win** situation vital to war defense. **To date** there is **no law or other avenue** recognizing women as veterans of the US Merchant Marine during WW II

Whereas: (4) President Roosevelt's speech of 12 Oct, 1942 **puts in place the use of elderly and handicapped individuals, school children and women in an effort to support war efforts** by replacing men of military age and fitness, and in stepping up our production of war materials for those on the front lines. Because of this speech, women, the elderly disabled and schoolchildren entered the varied war defense plant services in droves and many found their way into the coastwise barge and tug trades as well.

Whereas: (5) DOD & NARA Agreement N1-330-04-1 of July 08, 2004 **provides for the transfer** of military records to the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO for use as archival records, open to the public. But **inaction by the DHS for the mariner in over 10 years** has caused the veteran loss of due access of his records that may have accorded him recognition as a veteran. Recommend Congressional inquiry into delay of WW II Merchant Mariners personnel records.

Whereas: (6) Previously attempted bills, HR 1288 and S-1361, would have provided for **alternative records** to be used in place of **records lost, destroyed or denied** for coastwise seamen affected; and allowed women and school children be recognized for their services rendered for the first time ever. There are **no laws** in place to allow for resolution of this issue.

Whereas: (7) The elderly disabled, children and women have served in every war this nation has ever known. Most have served without recognition but history is replete with actions of young children stepping up to serve, some receiving our highest honors and others serving in our highest ranks of service, congress and the presidency; e.g. President Andrew Jackson (age **13**); America's first Admiral, David Glasgow Farragut was appointed a midshipman at (age **9**) by President James Madison; Willie Johnson (age **11**) was recipient of the Medal of Honor; Albert Cohen of Memphis TN who enlisted at age **11** & KIA age **15**. History is filled with children defending this nation and Coastwise Mariners had their fair share of them. **Findings #9 & #10 provide support info.**

Whereas: (8) Although they served gallantly and with honor, actions taken against those that were elderly and disabled, school children and women by denying them official credentials during WW II is considered **discrimination** today.

Whereas: (9) The process used to determine whether an individual performed service under honorable conditions that satisfies the requirements of a coastwise merchant seaman who is recognized as having performed active duty service under the court ruling via Schmacher, Willner, et al, V. Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge Jr 665 f Supp 41 (D.D.C.1987). There are no considerations in any **existing** legislation that provides for women who served, under aged schoolchildren or elderly handicapped seaman any avenue to attain veteran status. **Nor** is there a current avenue to use alternative methods of recognition or other actions that have proved effective in past wars for use in lieu of documents that were denied and/or destroyed by several specific official government actions.

The following actions are recommended:

- (1) **Initiate congressional actions to:** Provide sufficient response to support Merchant Mariners' provisions of HR 1288 (with wording intact to insure all coastwise barge and tugboat mariners who served during WW II (regardless of age, gender or disability) are recognized as veterans in accordance with or similar to: court ruling via Schmacher, Willner, et al, V. Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge, Jr 665 F Supp 41 (D.D.C 1987, **granting veterans status**
- (2) **Initiate congressional inquiry into:** Delay of WW II Merchant Mariners personnel records movement to National Military Personnel Center.
- (3) **Initiate congressional actions to:** Recognize WW II Mariners identified as KIA/MIA as Veterans of this Nation.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Pasquotank County, North Carolina Board of Commissioners hereby supports these efforts on behalf of the World War II Coastwise Merchant Mariners and urges our Representatives in the Senate (Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis) and in the House (Representatives Walter Jones and George K. Butterfield) to fully support and initiate all necessary actions , including full support of HR 1288, "WW II Merchant Mariners Service Act", to pass legislation approving the above findings and recommendations.

Adopted this 20th day of April, 2015.

6. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FISHERMEN:

Commissioner Griffin stated that he has received a request for the Board to support a resolution asking the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to not support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reductions of the southern flounder.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to adopt the following resolution asking the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to not support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reduction of the southern flounder. The motion carried unanimously.

**A RESOLUTION
ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (NCMFC)
TO NOT SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DCDMF) USE OF
THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT REDUCTIONS OF SOUTHERN
FLOUNDER**

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is regionally diverse throughout Eastern North Carolina communities with regards to gear, timing of harvest and size of fish harvested; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a \$5.6 million fishery for NC commercial fisherman and the economic impact to the region would be devastating if harvest cuts of 25% to 60% are implemented by NCMFC; and

WHEREAS, recent NCDMF stock assessment report did not pass peer review and the harvest reduction parameters are arbitrary and subjective and not based on stakeholder input; and

WHEREAS, the supplement process disenfranchises stakeholder because of lack of public input; and

WHEREAS, Pasquotank County's commercial fishermen have made their fishing gear investments for the 2015 fishing season that will not be able to be recovered, which subjects them to a double economic hit that will be catastrophic for these small businesses; and

WHEREAS, there is need for thoughtful and comprehensive review of any proposed measure to assess the long-term viability of the fishery, and that review must incorporate local stakeholder input.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners asks the NC marine Fisheries Commission to not support the NC Division of

Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reduction of southern flounder and that any proposal to limit the fishery be subjected to comprehensive review that includes stakeholder input.

This the 20th day of April, 2015

7. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING NORTHEAST DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT:

Commissioner Griffin requested that the Board adopt an agreement designating him as the County appointed representative on the Northeastern Workforce Development Consortium for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act purposes, as well as a resolution approving the Northeastern Workforce Development Consortium Agreement. He explained that under the Federal Act this year they have changed the Workforce Investment Act to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. With the changes, the Northeastern Workforce Development Consortium has to be reorganized.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Cecil Perry to appoint Lloyd Griffin as the County representative on the Northeast Development Consortium and to adopt the following resolution approving Northeast Development Consortium agreement.

RESOLUTION APPROVING NORTHEASTERN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the counties of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington, being independent and contiguous units of local county government (the “Counties”), wish to agree to establish a workforce development consortium (“Consortium”) to act jointly as a Local Workforce Development Area under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Public Law 113-128 as enacted July 22, 2014; and

WHEREAS, in addition to specific authority to enter into the agreement attached hereto, a “County Appointed Representative” for WIOA purposes upon whose representations the State, the Workforce Development Board, the Albemarle Commission (as the local administrative/fiscal agent) and the other Counties may rely, must be designated and authorized to execute the attached agreement and such other agreements as are necessary for purposes of WIOA and who shall sit on the Consortium Board.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Commissioner Lloyd Griffin, is hereby designated the “County Appointed Representative” for the foregoing purposes and as such he/she is fully authorized to execute the attached agreement and such other and further agreements on behalf of this County as are necessary for these purposes.

8. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONSOLIDATION PLAN FOR COASTALCARE AND ECBH

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Jeff Dixon to adopt the following resolution supporting an alternative governance structure for the area authority serving Pasquotank County:

Resolution of Support for an Alternative Governance Structure for the Area Authority serving Pasquotank County

WHEREAS, in accordance with N. C. General Statute § 122C – 115 (c1), the Area Board of CoastalCare, an Area Authority serving Brunswick, Carteret, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties and the Area Board of East Carolina Behavioral Health, an Area Authority serving Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties, have entered into an agreement to consolidate their agencies into a twenty-four county Area Authority serving all previously names counties; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services has approved this consolidation, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, N. C. General Statute § 122C – 118.1, which specifies the composition of an Area Authority Board, permits an alternative Area Board structure to be implemented 1) if the total population of the Area Authority catchment area exceeds 1,250,000 and 2) if the counties which comprise the Area Authority agree by resolution to an alternative structure; and

WHEREAS, the total population of the new Area Authority created by the consolidation of CoastalCare and East Carolina Behavioral Health is 1,260,778; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of the twenty-four counties to approve an alternative governance structure for the consolidated Area Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners, do hereby approve the structure of the Area Board and the Regional Advisory Boards of the consolidated Area Authority, as outlined below.

To provide a local presence in the counties served and to assure that each county has input into the services received by its residents, the twenty-four county catchment area will have three regions. The regions have been designed to equalize, to the extent possible, the number of counties, population in the region, and overall square mileage of the regions. The three regions and the counties served are:

Northern Region: Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank and Perquimans Counties.

Central Region: Beaufort, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Pamlico, Pitt, Tyrell and Washington Counties.

Southern Region: Brunswick, Carteret, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties.

The counties in each region will appoint two members to the Regional Advisory Board: one county commissioner or designee and another individual who meets the requirements outlined in N. C. G. S. § 122C – 118.1 (b). In addition, the Regional Advisory Board will include the Chair or designee of the regional Consumer and Family Advisory Committee. County Commissioner members of the Regional Advisory Boards may serve for as long as they are a commissioner. Other members of the Regional Advisory Board may serve for up to three, three year consecutive terms.

The primary functions of the Regional Advisory Board will be to advise the Area Authority Chief Executive Officer on the evaluation and hiring of a Regional Director; recommending priorities for expenditure of state and county funds for development of the annual budget; determining local priorities for inclusion in the overall strategic plan; identifying community needs and concerns; monitoring resolution of issues; and monitoring performance at the local level, including access to care, expenditure of service funds, number of consumers served, services delivered, provider network size and composition, outcomes, and consumer satisfaction.

Each Regional Advisory Board will establish its own bylaws based on local needs, but in compliance with standardized requirements established by the Governing Board for quorums, frequency of meetings, elections of officers, duties of members, committees and committee appointments, and attendance standards. Such bylaws are subject to the approval of the Governing Board.

Each Regional Advisory Board will select four (4) members to serve as the Area Authority Governing Board: one county commissioner, the Consumer and Family Advisory Committee chair or designee, and two other members. In addition, the chair or designee of the Area Authority Network Council shall serve on the Governing Board as a non-voting member. The county commissioner members of the Governing Board shall serve one three year term without consecutive reappointment, so that commissioner representation on the Governing Board will rotate among the counties in each region. The other members of the Governing Board may serve three, three year terms.

The Governing Board's primary responsibilities will include determining policy; strategic planning, including consideration of local priorities as determined by the Regional Advisory

Boards; budgets; hiring and evaluations of the Chief Executive Officer; monitoring of deliverables, including overall performance and financial management; government affairs and advocacy; reporting to constituent counties; responding to concerns and feedback from the Regional Advisory Boards; reviewing, revising and approving the Regional Advisory Board bylaws; and all other responsibilities outlined in N. C. law for Area Authority Boards. The Governing Board will develop and adopt bylaws to address its activities in accordance with law.

ADOPTED this 20th day of April, 2015.

9. RECLASSIFICATION OF PAY GRADES

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to reclassify the following pay grades: 1) Reclassification of pay grade for Computer Technician – IT to grade 16, with a beginning salary of \$31,717 effective May 1, 2015; 2) Reclassification of pay grade for IT Director to grade 30, step 11, salary \$62,512 effective May 1, 2015; 3) Reclassification of pay grade for Planning Director to grade 30, step 12, salary \$63,504 effective May 1, 2015, and 4) Reclassification of pay grade for HR Director to grade 25, step 12, salary \$55,074 effective May 1, 2015.

Commissioner Meads suggested and Commissioner Griffin agreed that this item be tabled until after the Personnel Committee Meeting, which is scheduled for tomorrow morning at 9:30 AM, in order to discuss further and bring back at the next commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Dixon asked if there was a recommendation from staff. County Manager Bunch said there was not. He said he forwarded the information to the Board. Commissioner Dixon said if this item is tabled, it will get moved into May and he believes one of the items is very time sensitive. Commissioner Meads stated that Staff did not have the opportunity to hear all the discussions in the Closed Session at the Finance Committee meeting and he feels they need the opportunity to review it. Commissioner Griffin stated that it is difficult when you set in his seat year after year and hear staff talking about their employees' pay in general and how the county has had some tough financial times. He said there have been some adjustments in salaries in the past year without adjustments in pay to all employees. He stated that there are approximately 280 other employees that would like to be considered. He noted that the County lost eight employees from Social Services last year and it will cost about \$5,000 to retrain a new employee in the same position. He said we have Sheriff's Department employees whose wages are well below the competitive local rate. He said we are just a training ground and then employees leave to go to surrounding counties that pay much more. He stated that we promised employees that they would get a higher salary over time and we had a plan in place. He said he cannot support raises for the four positions tonight until we can adjust all employees' salaries. Commissioner Parker said she agrees with Commissioner Griffin and she feels staff should be directed to look into raises for all employees. She noted that she has done some research and raises have been made to some salaries in the past year. She added that during her research she found that the last time salaries were raised for all employees was around 2007.

Commissioner Meads said we need to look at the whole picture and not just pick one here and there. Commissioner Parker stated that staff recommended three of the four reclassifications and if they did not want them approved they would not have submitted them to the Board. He stated that the Board went further than what staff recommended. Commissioner Perry said two months ago they did basically the same thing with other employees, so this is not new. He said we might want to look at supporting staff and looking at everyone's salaries so that we can make adjustments. He went on to say that he will support everyone getting a raise if that moves forward.

Commissioner Griffin said he has not heard from staff where the extra revenue will be come from. County Manager Bunch said there is money in the IT Department for the remainder of the year due to an employee transferring to Social Services and there are additional funds in the Planning Department budget due to inspection's fees being \$60,000 over budget. Finance Officer, Sheri Small explained that item 4 would have to be funded out the Fund Balance.

Motion was made by Bettie Parker, seconded by William Sterritt that the four reclassifications be accepted as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried by a five to two vote with Commissioners Meads and Griffin voting against the motion and Commissioners Winslow, Perry, Dixon, Sterritt, and Parker voting in favor.

10. REPORT FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

County Manager Rodney Bunch reminded the Board that Wednesday, April 24, 2015 is County Assembly Day in Raleigh and we must register by this Friday.

11. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Sterritt provided a handout regarding the Social Services Board. He advised that Ms. Myrtle Rivers is serving her second term on the Board and the rule is individuals can only serve two years unless they are reappointed by the Board of Commissioners. He said they have four individuals that are being considered for the Board.

Commissioner Meads reported that he attended a meeting with Northeast Alliance. The meeting emphasized labor force and the importance of starting work force training in junior high school.

Commissioner Dixon reported that he attended an Interstate Designation Meeting in Tarboro last week.

Commissioner Parker reported that she attended the Library Board meeting on April 4th. She stated that the Library now offers mobile printing. She also attended the Habitat for Humanity's grand opening on April 16th.

Commissioner Griffin stated that the STI stakeholders group has already established a funding formula for highways.

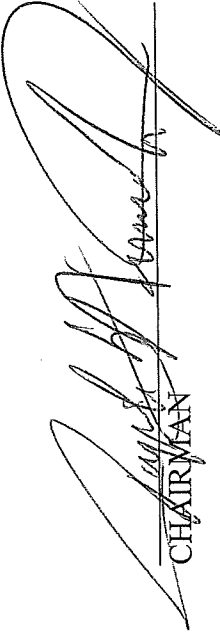
Commissioner Perry reported that he took a tour of the landfill last week and it is perhaps the best looking land field that he has ever seen. He praised the operation. He said he has a meeting set up in the morning with the Solid Waste Director to discuss cardboard disposal.

Chairman Winslow reported that things seem to be going well at the prison. He said he is personally disappointed that the baseball program has been suspended at COA. He thanked Commissioners Parker and Perry for standing in at ribbon cuttings for him this past week while he was out of town.

Commissioner Griffin said he would like staff to investigate why we are not utilizing video arraignment at the new jail. He noted that it will save a lot of money and wear and tear on vehicles.

Chairman Winslow asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.



CHAIRMAN



ASSISTANT CLERK TO THE BOARD