

MINUTES
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2004

The Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on April 19, 2004 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
Thomas R. Anderson, PE, Vice Chairman
James "Buddy" Funderburk
Larry S. Craig
Carrol D. Mitchem

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 April 19, 2004 meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to order and welcomed everyone present.

Rev. Robert Hamilton gave the Invocation and Chairman Cochrane led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda with the following changes: 1 – Add budget adjustments 59, 60, and 64 under the Consent Agenda, 2 – Add Letter of Credit and Contract #26 under the Consent Agenda, and 3 – Move CATS public hearing to 7:30 p.m..

AGENDA

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 19, 2004

6:30 PM	Call to Order
6:31 PM	Invocation – Rev. Robert Hamilton
6:33 PM	Pledge of Allegiance
1. 6:34 PM	Adoption of Agenda
2. 6:35 PM	Approval of Minutes

- April 5, 2004

3. 6:40 PM Consent Agenda

- Tax Requests for Releases
More than \$100 – February 16 – March 15, 2004
- Tax Requests for Refunds
More than \$100 – March 22 – April 14, 2004
- Budget Adjustments 58, 61 - 63, 66 - 69, 71, 72
- Sponsored Group Status
 - Stepping Stone Ministries, Inc.
- Appoint Sherri Barber as Assistant Clerk to the Board

4. 6:45 PM Public Comments

5. 7:00 PM Public Hearing Concerning CATS

6. 7:10 PM Planning Board Recommendations

- ZMA #472 David Dupree and David Wilson, applicants
- ZMA #473 Enrico Piraino and Giusto Piraino, applicants
- ZMA #474 Charles Ballard, applicant
- PCUR #102 Robert Hecht, applicant

7. 7:30 PM Public Hearing – Road Naming for Kenlin Way and Renaming of Cloninger Lane

8. 7:40 PM Order of Collection

9. 7:45 PM Mountain Island Educational State Forest Presentation - Laura Shidal and Erma Deen Hoyle

10. 8:00 PM Transition to Consolidated Transportation System for Lincoln County – Erma Deen Hoyle

11. 8:10 PM Audit Proposals – Leon Harmon

12. 8:20 PM Finance Officer's Report – Leon Harmon

13. 8:30 PM Public Works Capital Project Reports

14. 8:35 PM Vacancies/Appointments

15. 8:40 PM Calendar

16. 8:45 PM County Manager's Report

17. 8:50 PM County Commissioners' Report

18. 8:50 PM County Attorney's Report
 19. 8:55 PM Other Business
 20. 9:05 PM Closed Session

Adjourn

Approval of Minutes: UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the April 5, 2004 minutes with the following corrections:

Page 1 Thomas R. Anderson, PE, Vice-Chairman
 Page 7 Erma Deen Hoyle **stated that Lincoln County** is eligible

Consent Agenda: UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda adding budget adjustments 56, 60, and 64 and Letter of Credit and Contract #26.

Lincoln County Requests for Releases – February 16 – March 15, 2004
 More than \$100

NAME	YEAR	A/C NO	AMOUNT
Allran, Alison Hovis	2003	0141412	\$ 137.34
Bridges, Andrew Paul	2003	0158265	\$ 120.42
Corvin, Jennifer Michelle	2003	0167372	\$ 119.42
Costner, William Matthew	2003	0172705	\$ 185.73
Cross, Wayne Amos	2003	0171303	\$ 167.90
Don L Leasing Group DB	2002	0142816	\$ 114.83
Dorris, Brenda Lowery	2001	0102003	\$ 160.22
Dorris, Leslie Don	2002	0146267	\$ 200.88
Ellis, Joseph Benjamin	2003	0168420	\$ 108.09
Gilliland, Joan Lanier	2003	0171475	\$ 107.97
Gordon, Peter Matthew	2003	0164402	\$ 154.50
Hill, James Lee	2003	0172695	\$ 132.98
Holland, Franklin Dean	2003	0157626	\$ 157.76
Johnson, Tina Houser	2003	0171178	\$ 119.77
Kitchin, Madeline Hall	2003	0118199	\$ 186.06
Leasing Services Inc.	2003	0171260	\$ 160.27
McIntosh, Maurice Daniel	2002	0165131	\$ 154.02
McNeil, Donald F.	2003	0168766	\$ 104.05
Miller, Ruth Lockman	1998	0080613	\$ 101.09
Mode, James Edward	2003	0122030	\$ 263.14
Queen, Michael Lon	2003	20550	\$ 113.47
Rivas, Daniel	2003	0171946	\$ 136.29
Smith, Edgar Williams	2003	0084551	\$ 287.91
Smith, Kimberly Annette	2003	0161473	\$ 101.08

Surratt, Larry D.	1996	0118697	\$ 139.29
Tarleton, Clarence William	2001	0150061	\$ 205.42
Taylor, Carol Toney	2002	0116937	\$ 127.20
Wolford, James David	2003	0110433	\$ 2,063.09
Yates, Daryl Armand	2001	0147200	\$ 115.88
		TOTAL	\$ 6,246.07

NAME	YEAR	A/C NO	AMOUNT
	2000-		
Allen, Durham Dwight	03	05313	\$ 584.71
American Tower Manage	2002/03	0158602	\$ 2,596.00
	2000-		
Atwood, David Dale	03	0140343	\$ 195.37
Cronland Lumber Co.	2003	24689	\$ 691.44
Edwards, Bill	2001	0153537	\$ 2,948.00
Elkins, Polly C.	2003	0128285	\$ 2,226.19
FNF Capital Inc.	2003	0166037	\$ 1,501.55
	2000-		
Helms, Emma Lou Ballard	03	0081096	\$ 575.40
Kings Court Sunrooms Inc.	1997	0110659	\$ 663.09
	1998-		
Munson, Bruce G.	03	21050	\$ 214.87
Oakwood Acceptance			
Corp.	2002/03	0148687	\$ 310.28
Potter, Douglas Lee	2002	0104307	\$ 307.64
Robert Bosch Tool Corp.	2003	0165416	\$ 2,383.92
Roseboro, Johnny Lee			
Heirs	2003	21348	\$ 147.40
Sain, Paul E.	2003	02917	\$ 247.03
	2001-		
Sign Here of Lake Norman	03	0111093	\$ 453.23
Truesdale, Kenneth Shane	2002/03	0110557	\$ 375.96
Wellbridge Orthopaedics			
PA	2000/01	0144360	\$ 100.45
		TOTAL	\$16,522.53

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	2000-		
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		TOTAL	\$16,522.53	

**LINCOLN COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR REFUNDS
ANNUALS**

PERIOD COVERED (March 22, 2004 - April 4, 2004)

G.S.#105-381(B) ALL REFUNDS ANNUAL MORE THAN \$100.00
(and) #105-325 including (A) (6)

NAME	YEAR	DIST	A/C#	AMOUNT
Berchem Enterprises	2002	DFD	0141027	289.98
			TOTAL	\$ 289.98

**LINCOLN COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR REFUNDS
MOTOR VEHICLES**

PERIOD COVERED (March 22, 2004-April 4, 2004)

G.S.#105-381(B) ALL REFUNDS MORE THAN \$100.00
(and) #105-325 including (A) (6)

NAME	YEAR	DIST	A/C#	AMOUNT
Kirkley, Amy Elizabeth	2003	22	0163572	135.48
			TOTAL	\$135.48

- Budget Adjustment No. 58 for Social Services to increase expenditure and revenue line items for funds received for Special Children's Adoption Fund (no county funds involved).
- Budget Adjustment No. 59 for Health Department for Carolina Community Health Institute to grant to provide nutritional information to students as well as different ethnic groups.

- Budget Adjustment No. 60 for the Health Department for Carolina Community Health Institute – Grant to provide child safety issues to schools, libraries, and other groups.
- Budget Adjustment No. 61 for Economic Development to budget for State DOT grant to fund access road into Finger Mill Industrial Park.
- Budget Adjustment No. 62 for Historical Properties Commission to appropriate funds needed in current year for payment on Madison/Den Furnace project.
- Budget Adjustment No. 63 for Emergency Management to increase revenues and expenditures for the Homeland Security Grant Part I, FY 2003.
- Budget Adjustment No. 64 for Emergency Management to increase revenues and expenditures for Homeland Security Equipment Grant.
- Budget Adjustment No. 66 for Lincoln County Library due to the fact that Gaston County Library was not funded, they will be unable to complete this project during this fiscal year.
- Budget Adjustment No. 67 for Emergency Management to increase revenue and expenses for Terrorism Planning Grant to update Emergency Operations Plan for Lincoln County.
- Budget Adjustment No. 68 for repayment of unspent 2003 Rural Operating Assistance funds to NCDOT.
- Budget Adjustment No. 69 for the Tax Department to cover the purchase of a motor vehicle.
- Budget Adjustment No. 71 for Social Services to increase expenditure and revenue line items for additional allocation of funds for Crisis Intervention.
- Budget Adjustment No. 72 to budget for \$96,000 approved April 5, 2004 for Health Department renovations.
- Sponsored Group Status
 - Stepping Stone Ministries, Inc.
- Appointment of Sherri Barber as Assistant Clerk to the Board
- Letter of Credit and Contract No. 26

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.

Michael Good commented on an article in the News at Norman concerning the Planning Board. He stated that the Planning Board is not doing an effective job and removing Dan Tritt was a mistake. He spoke concerning overcrowding of the area and water quality.

Cynthia Jones, LNRC member, spoke concerning Parallel Conditional Use Rezoning No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant. She presented photos of the cove and expressed concerns about the development of this area. Ms. Jones also spoke about water quality.

Terry Reid expressed concerns about the new ABC permits for putting bars in establishments that originally were gas stations. He stated that the Board needs to look at where these bars are located. He spoke concerning the bar at 150 and Roseland. Mr. Reid stated that there are a lot of families in this neighborhood.

Loy Dellinger stated that he finds it appalling that the Planning Board did not require a water quality study for Parallel Conditional Use Permit No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant. He stated that the Board needs to take a hard look at what is being done around the water plant.

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

Planning Board Recommendations: Randy Hawkins presented the following recommendations of the Planning Board.

Zoning Map Amendment No. 472 – David Dupree and David Wilson, applicants:
The Planning Board voted 6 – 0 to recommend approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Funderburk, the Board voted unanimously to approve Zoning Map Amendment No. 472 – David Dupree and David Wilson, applicants, based on the recommendation of the Planning Board.

Zoning Map Amendment No. 473 – Enrico Piraino and Giusto Piraino, applicants:
The Planning Board voted 6 – 0 to recommend approval.

Commissioner Anderson voiced concerns about the site distance and stated that he has not seen anything about what will be on this property or what road improvements will be made.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to table Zoning Map Amendment No. 473 until the Board gets more information as to what the owner proposes to do to get traffic in and out of this location.

Zoning Map Amendment No. 474 – Charles Ballard, applicant: The Planning Board voted 6 – 0 to recommend approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve Zoning Map Amendment No. 474 – Charles Ballard, applicant.

Parallel Conditional Use Rezoning No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant: The Planning Board voted 5 – 0 to recommend approval with the condition that the revised figure (0.42 students per home) be used for a school contribution.

Commissioner Anderson asked if there is an erosion control plan for this subdivision.

Randy Hawkins stated that the plan will be submitted to the Subdivision Technical Review Committee.

Commissioner Anderson stated that the Board has received some good comments concerning water quality. He stated that the traffic from the development will be the worst while the subdivision is being built. The development will be an asset to Lincoln County and should be approved. Commissioner Anderson stated that he would like to see appropriate conditions on this subdivision for erosion control, how it is going to be enforced, and water quality.

Commissioner Anderson suggested the following conditions:

1 – The revised figure (0.42 students per home) be used for a school contribution;

- 2 – Erosion Control Plan be approved by the Technical Advisory Committee and they advise the Board how the plan will be enforced;
- 3 – Require baseline water quality analysis on water impacted by subdivision in the cove, what it is now and reports twice per year for the next five years or until subdivision build-out;
- 4 – Traffic Impact Study for the intersection of Webbs Road and Highway 16 and any changes be made at the developer’s expense.

Bob Hecht stated that he has written a letter to the NC DOT requesting that the speed limit on Burton Lane be reduced to 45 mph.

Commissioner Craig asked staff to come back with an amendment to require water quality reports on subdivisions that are on the lake.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the rezoning for Parallel Conditional Use Permit No. 102.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Planning Board's recommendation and findings of fact with the listed conditions and approve Parallel Conditional Use Permit No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant.

Application # PCUR #102 Date 04/19/04

Applicant's Name Robert Hecht
 885 N. Hwy. 16
 Denver, NC 28037

Property location: Burton Lane and Dellinger Road

Existing Zoning: R-SF

Proposed Conditional Use Major subdivision with 88 lots for single-family homes

1. The use will not materially endanger the public health or safety if located where proposed and developed according to plan. YES NO
Factual Reasons Cited: Based on plan proposed.
2. The use meets all required conditions and specifications. YES NO
Factual Reasons Cited: Based on information from applicant and staff.
3. The use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property unless the use is a public necessity. YES NO
Factual Reasons Cited: Testimony from adjoining property owners that it would actually raise the value.
4. The location and character of use, if developed according to the plan as submitted

and approved, will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located and will be in general conformity with the Land Use Plan for the area in question.

YES X NO

Factual Reasons Cited: Based on information provided by developer and testimony of area residents.

After having held a public hearing on April 5, 2004 and in light of the Findings of Facts listed herein, the following action was taken by the Lincoln County Planning Board: voted 5 – 0 to recommend approval.

In recommending such Conditional Use Permit, the following conditions were placed upon Parallel Conditional Use Permit No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant.

- 1 – The revised figure (0.42 students per home) be used for a school contribution;
- 2 – Erosion Control Plan be approved by the Technical Advisory Committee and they advise the Board how the plan will be enforced;
- 3 – Require baseline water quality analysis on water impacted by subdivision in the cove, what it is now and reports twice per year for the next five years or until subdivision build-out;
- 4 – Traffic Impact Study for the intersection of Webbs Road and Highway 16 and any changes be made at the developer's expense.

Charles Rader asked the Board to reconsider deferring Zoning Map Amendment No. 473 – Enrico Piraino and Giusto Piraino, applicants

Public Hearing – Road Naming for Kenlin Way and Renaming of Cloninger Lane:
Chairman Cochrane opened the public hearing concerning the road naming for Kenlin Way and the renaming of Cloninger Lane.

Jennifer Matthewson presented petitions for the reanaming of Cloninger Lane and the road naming of Kenlin Way.

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

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the road names Kenlin Way and Cloninger Way.

Order of Collection: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Order of Collection.

ORDER OF COLLECTION

State of North Carolina

County of Lincoln

TO: The Tax Administrator of Lincoln County

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute #105-321(b), you are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the Office of the Tax Administrator and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Lincoln, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal, this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Jerry W. Cochrane, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Amy Long, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Public Hearing Concerning CATS Proposal: Chairman Cochrane opened the public hearing concerning the CATS proposal.

Greg Coffey, President of ELBA, stated that he is in favor of the CATS service to Lincoln County and believes a lot of people would use the service. He suggested that in the future, the Board hold a public hearing in the area for which the service would be offered to make the meeting more accessible to the public.

Peter Brown, a business owner at Hwy. 16 and 73, spoke in favor of the bus service. He stated that if he still worked in Charlotte, he would use the service. He urged approval of the funds to start this service.

Loy Dellinger thanked the Board for giving residents a voice on water quality concerning Parallel Conditional Use Permit No. 102 – Robert Hecht, applicant.

Cynthia Jones stated that her husband works in Charlotte and would definitely take the bus.

Everette Heglar stated that bus service is a bad idea for the amount of money that is going into this. He stated that he works in Charlotte, but would not ride the bus.

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

Bill Kopf stated that the CATS meeting will be on April 28 to discuss this, so a decision really needs to be made on this. He stated that the County Manager will get monthly reports on ridership. He stated that it takes between six months and a year to get the service established.

Commissioner Mitchem stated that he does not feel Lincoln County should get into bus service.

Commissioner Anderson stated that the bus service is definitely not going to make money. He stated that Lincoln County is now in non-attainment and will have to come up with a transportation plan. This may be an element of the transportation plan.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted 4 - 1 (Mitchem against) to undertake the minimum plan with a proposed four trips per day from Highway 16 and 73 at a cost to Lincoln County of \$40,572.

Bill Kopf stated that the service is expected to start June 7.

Chairman Cochrane called for a brief recess.

Chairman Cochrane called the meeting back to order.

Mountain Island Educational State Forest Presentation: Laura Shidal gave a presentation on the Mountain Island Lake Educational State Forest.

Erma Deen Hoyle presented a Resolution and agreement to continue to develop the Mountain Island Educational State Forest.

The items provided in the resolution allow funds received from timber sales on the property to be reinvested in the site (as provided in the original lease), create a means to pursue grants (through a 501(c)(3), and create an endowment to accept private donations and gifts from the forest.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution Concerning Mt. Island Educational State Forest.

RESOLUTION
MT. ISLAND EDUCATIONAL STATE FOREST

This RESOLUTION, made this _____ day of April, 2004, by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners recognizes and authorizes:

WHEREAS, property adjacent to Mt. Island Lake was purchased for conservation purposes and leased to the State of North Carolina (Forest Service) for the creation of the Mt. Island Educational State Forest; and,

WHEREAS, Lincoln County continues to support the Educational State Forest and welcomes grant and donation opportunities for the Forest; and,

WHEREAS, the N.C. Forest Service is developing the Educational State Forest, as well as managing the property, including planned timber sales of planted tracts, according to the terms of said lease; and,

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc. is an established foundation, which manages designated funds such as the one needed for the Mt. Island Educational State Forest;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the benefits to the people of Lincoln County and the public at large, the County does hereby resolve to adopt this resolution, agreeing to the following:

1. Approval of the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources to act as agent to have the authority to sign any contracts in regards to timber sales of the forest property.
2. Approval for reforestation and rehabilitation costs associated with the harvest of such timber to be taken from the timber receipts.
3. Approval of the agreement to establish a designated fund with the Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc. for the sole benefit of the Mt. Island Educational State Forest, thereby building an endowment for the forest and its future and to have access to grant monies through the Foundations' 501 (c)(3).
4. Authorize the Forest Service to forward all revenues (less costs) received from timber sales of Forest property to the designated fund with the Community Foundation.
5. Authorize that donations and gifts received by Lincoln County for the Mt. Island Educational State Forest be deposited in the designated fund with the Community Foundation.

COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Date

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

Transition to Consolidated Transportation Plan: Erma Deen Hoyle presented the following information concerning transition to a consolidated transportation plan.

For many years, Lincoln County has operated as a Human Services Transportation System. In this style of operation, individual agencies have been responsible for transporting clients, operating and maintaining vehicles, conducting driver training, etc. Funding from the NC Department of Transportation has provided capital for van purchase for the agencies.

For continued funding for administration and capital, Lincoln County must begin the transition to a Consolidated Transportation System. Under a consolidated system, one entity is responsible for providing transportation to all participating agencies, with the participating agencies contracting with the centralized entity for service. The centralized entity is then responsible for scheduling, dispatching, vehicle operations, driver training and administrative functions.

The centralized transportation entity that oversees operations is usually a county department (new or existing) or a private, non-profit agency. Contracting agencies would remain responsible for eligibility of clients, but would not be involved in the day-to-day transportation operations. Whether a county department or non-profit, actual transporting of clients can be done by system employees or on a contract basis with a private provider.

The NC Department of Transportation is moving toward the regionalization of local transportation systems, possibly within five years. This regionalization also provides Lincoln County with options in the development of its Community Transportation System. Lincoln County may choose to partner with a neighboring county to provide transportation services. Both Cleveland and Iredell Counties (in the local Rural Planning Organization) have well-established community transportation systems that could provide administrative and operational support through a regional system agreement.

A Community Transportation Services Plan has been prepared for Lincoln County and would provide the framework for transition. The Transportation Coordinator (funded with 85% from DOT; 15% local) would work with the local Transportation Advisory Board and the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to implement the recommendations and complete the transition to a Community Transportation System. The hiring of this coordinator would be the first step in the process. Funding for the remainder of the current year is in place for this employee.

Funding for the operation of a community transportation system could come from a variety of sources. The primary source would be agency payment for client transportation. This agency payment may come from Medicaid (DSS, Health Dept.); Home and Community Block Grants (Senior Services); Elderly and Disabled Transportation Funds (Senior Services, Services for the Blind); and other state or federal funds (Salem Industries, Pathways, DSS). NC DOT provides some administrative funding for local systems in addition to funding for the Coordinator's position. This administrative funding can include technology, equipment, and system marketing.

Some local funding will likely be needed for system operation. If a county service, additional staff will be required for scheduling clients and dispatching vehicles, as well as additional drivers. Maintenance for all system vehicles will become the responsibility of the system. However, this local funding will be offset by some of the funding existing county department have included in their budgets for vehicle operation.

Pam Hawley, Regional Consultant with NC DOT-PTD, can work with Lincoln County in the preparation of a fully-allocated cost analysis and the determination of a per mile or per trip rate for the system to charge participating agencies. These cost estimates would then be used to determine additional local funding needed.

A Transportation Memorandum of Understanding (TMOU) must be adopted if Lincoln County is to move to a Community Transportation Program. The TMOU would then be signed by the participating core agencies responsible for existing transportation services.

In addition to the TMOU, a letter of intent is needed from Lincoln County stating that the transition to a Community Transportation System will be completed during the FY2005 year (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005), with the Lincoln County Transportation System ready to begin operations on July 1, 2005. Choosing not to complete the transition will result in loss of continued DOT capital and administrative funding for transportation needs for Lincoln County.

Ms. Hoyle also requested that a member of the Board of Commissioners be appointed to attend meetings and work with the local Transportation Advisory Board as the transition plan is developed and implemented.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding.

Commissioner Funderburk agreed to attend the Transportation Advisory Board meetings, which are the third Tuesday each month at 11:00 a.m.

Audit Proposals: Leon Harmon, Finance Director, presented audit proposals from Dixon Hughes and Martin Starnes & Associates for the annual audit. Mr. Harmon recommended Martin Starnes & Associates to provide this service. The fees proposed are as follows:

	Martin Starnes	Dixon Hughes	Cherry Bekaert
			2004 fees
2004	37,500	45,500	31,450
2005	38,500	47,800	8,000 SAS 99
2006	39,500	50,200	<u>3,850 GASB 34</u>
			43,300
			Plus Acct 35,000 – 45,000

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to approve Martin Starnes & Associates as the auditor.

Finance Officer's Report: Leon Harmon, Finance Officer, presented the budget performance report for March, 2004.

Public Works Capital Project Reports: Steve Gilbert presented the Capital Project Reports for the Public Works Department. He stated that he has sent information to Congressman Ballenger's office and feel pretty good about chances of getting a grant for the Highway 73 improvements.

Mr. Gilbert informed the Board of improvements to be made at Curveview Road and at Lowesville Square.

Mr. Gilbert stated that improvements at Roseland Heights may go to the 2nd bidder, due to the fact that the low bidder has not signed contracts to begin work.

Vacancies: Commissioner Craig presented the following vacancies and appointments.

VACANCIES

Nursing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee 6

Recreation Commission – Union 1

 Howards Creek 1

 Lincolnton 1

 Ironton 2

Solid Waste Advisory Board 4

 (3 year terms, only meet about 2 times per year)

Historic Properties Commission 1

Planning Board

 At large 1

Board of Adjustment

 Alternate 1

APPOINTMENTS

LNRC

 - Forrest Chambless

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Forrest Chambless to the LNRC.

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

County Commissioners' Report: Chairman Cochrane reported on a meeting with Duke Power officials on the Beatties Ford Access Area lease. He thanked Commissioner Anderson for writing a letter to the President of Duke Power concerning this lease.

County Attorney's Report: Jeff Taylor reported on the ABC Board's actions and the Personnel Policy. He stated that closing for the Furnace property should be at the end of the month. He reminded the Board of the Highway 16 property.

Chairman Cochrane asked the County Attorney to look at drafting an ordinance similar to the City's regarding door-to-door salespeople.

Closed Session: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Funderburk, the Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session to discuss a Real Estate and Personnel matter.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Craig, the Board returned to Open Session.

Chairman Cochrane reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

Adjourn: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Craig, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Jerry W. Cochrane, Chairman