

***EXCERPT FROM REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 5/3/10***

***AT 2:01 P.M. THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECESSED  
THE BUDGET WORKSHOP CONVENED AT 2:16 P.M.***

Chairman Judge thanked everyone for the calls and emails on the budget process this year. He explained there has been varied response including holding the line, cutting the budget, cutting taxes and those who requested services be maintained and the County subsequently raise taxes to do so. He shared his appreciation to his fellow Commissioners in these difficult times as the budget is no easy task. He requested they not delay making tough decisions. He stated as the last meeting ended, the Board was venturing down a path of putting off the need for \$4.1 million by pushing many expenses into the 2012 budget. He explained he does not feel the times will be any better, demands will increase and there will be more unfunded mandates. He requested if the Board decides not to increase revenue, that they also not delay making the necessary cuts. He shared his concern with the level of cuts in service, but shared his support of consolidation as much as possible and his support of giving Mr. Outten support of shrinking government where it makes sense. He shared further concerns with potential cuts that might affect public safety, health and welfare spending. He noted the deadline for the final budget is June 30<sup>th</sup> and requested the Board not pass on the problems of this year to 2012. He thanked all of those again who have shared input and noted violence and hatred are not needed to make points.

County Manager Outten explained he had given the Board a sheet of potential line item adjustments and had asked for guidance on which cuts to make. The Board then took opportunity to clarify line items on the proposed changes at the last meeting and held discussion on reductions and the resulting effects on services. Discussion circulated around not eliminating positions, combining departments, replacement vehicles and whether or not to raise taxes.

***RECESS 3:24 P.M. – 3:47 P.M.***

Chairman Judge requested Mr. Outten explore what the County pays the hospital for services rendered to inmates and asked if a better rate could be negotiated. He shared his concurrence with not cutting mosquito control or the Rubble Transfer Station in Buxton. He asked the Board to consider eliminating vacancies instead of continuing to freeze them. He shared concern with cutting overtime in EMS and noted he would rather see something cut elsewhere (ex. decreased days for trash pickup). He also shared his support of the cuts in Special Appropriations as suggested by the Manager.

Commissioner Richard Johnson suggested making the cuts as proposed by the Manager with the exceptions of: replacement of Sheriff cars and EMS cars, mosquito control, Rubble Station in Buxton, and cuts to the Board of Education. He suggested exploring a tax increase to fund these cuts as well as being used to address overtime and other issues left in the fund balance.

More discussion was held on potential grant funds available for capital outlay items and what is required to restore the fund balance and service funds.

***RECESS 5:13 P.M. – 5:22 P.M.***

The Board then set the next budget workshop for Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. They requested the County Manager bring a budget including a one (1) cent raise in taxes, one with a two (2) cent raise, and one with cuts in special appropriations by an addition ten (10) percent further than originally proposed by the Manager.

***THE BUDGET WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 5:23 P.M.  
THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:24 P.M.***