

**CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**December 21, 2004**

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on this date, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Offices.

**PRESENT:** Ronald J. Hawkins, Chairman  
Jerry L. Self, Vice-Chairman  
Mary S. Accor, Commissioner  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Willie B. McIntosh, Commissioner  
David C. Dear, County Manager  
Robert Yelton, County Attorney  
Wanda Crotts, CMC, County Clerk  
Sherry Evans, County Manager's Office  
Bill McCarter, Planning Director  
Eddie Bailes, Human Resources Director  
Chris Crepps, Finance Director  
Donna Huey-Brooks, Cleveland Headline News  
Joy Scott, Star  
Other individual names on file in the Clerk's Office

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order, led the audience in the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag of the United States of America, and provided the invocation for the meeting.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Jerry Self, and adopted by a unanimous vote of the Board, to ***adopt the agenda as presented by the County Clerk, with the following additions:***

- (1) **NCDOT BRIDGES** (Willie B. McIntosh)
- (2) **MINIMUM HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT IN EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION AREAS** (Jerry Self)
- (3) **TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS** (Jerry Self)
- (4) **NCACC LEGISLATIVE GOALS** (Jerry Self)
- (5) **VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION** (Jerry Self)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There being no corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes of ***December 6, 2004***, motion was made by Mary Accor, seconded by Jerry Self, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***approve the minutes as written.***

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE: REMOVE CANINE FROM COUNTY INVENTORY (RESCIND MOTION OF NOVEMBER 16, 2004)**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***rescind the motion of November 16, 2004 (reference Minute Book 28, Page 209) and approve the request to remove the canine (Bo) from county inventory and allow the handler, Cliff Irvin, Jr., to purchase for the amount of one-dollar (\$1.00).*** It was emphasized this price is for the animal only and does not include any of the equipment used in maintaining the dog and that all responsibility and upkeep of the animal is to be assumed by the handler.

**TAX ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS**

The Tax Assessor provided Commissioners with a detailed written report regarding tax abatements and supplements during ***November 2004***. The monthly grand total of tax abatements was listed as (\$166,401.42); and, the monthly grand total for tax supplements was listed as \$148,338.99.

**TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT**

The Tax Collector provided Commissioners with the following detailed written report regarding taxes collected during **November 2004** (copy found on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28).

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #029)**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to **approve the following budget amendments.**

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Project Code</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.418.4.310.00	93617-5418	BOE/Federal Grants	\$ 29,934.	
010.418.5.210.00	93617-5418	BOE/Departmental Supply	4,142.	
010.418.5.211.00	93617-5418	BOE/Controlled Equipment	14,158.	
010.418.5.910.00	93617-5418	BOE/Capital Equipment	11,634.	

**Explanation of Revisions:** HAVA Technology grant funds to enhance computers, printers and other electronic equipment that will facilitate the voter registration process and contribute to the orderly conduct of elections.

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #30)**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to **approve the following budget amendments.**

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.442.4.710.00	Federal Forfeited Property/Interest on investments	\$ 293.	
010.442.4.991.00	Federal Forfeited Property/Fund Balance Appropriation	46,007.	
010.442.5.910.00	Federal Forfeited Property/Capital Equipment	46,300.	

**Explanation of Revisions:** To purchase two used vehicles for new narcotics positions added for 04/05 and to purchase one used vehicle to replace high mileage vehicle in service. These funds are a result of narcotics officers confiscating items and monies during drug raids and then given to the County by the Federal Government to be used by the Sheriff's Department.

**HISTORICAL PROPERTY: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #31)**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to **approve the following budget amendments.**

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.418.4.310.00	Historic Property/Departmental Fees	\$ 2,768.	
010.615.4.810.00	Historic Property/Contributions-Donations	225.	
010.615.5.213.00	Historic Property/Office Supply	200.	
010.615.5.370.00	Historic Property/Advertising	200.	
010.615.5.490.00	Historic Property/Professional Services	2,393.	
010.615.5.491.00	Historic Property/Broad Meeting Expense	200.	

**Explanation of Revisions:** To cover Historic Preservation Commission expenses in processing and classifying historic properties within Cleveland County. Revenues are proceeds from the sell of the Historic Properties book beginning July 1, 2004 and other donations towards this project.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT (BNA #32)**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to **approve the following budget amendments.**

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.534.4.350.00	School Health/State Government Grants	\$ 1,167.	
012.534.5.310.00	School Health/Travel	1,167.	
012.537.4.350.00	Child Health/State Government Grants	1,300.	
012.537.5.310.00	Child Health/Travel	1,300.	

**Explanation of Revisions:**

- 534) Budget additional funding from NC Department of Health & Human Services (Healthy Mothers Healthy Children funds) for travel expenses.
- 537) Budget additional funding from NCDHHS (Child Service Coordination funds) for travel expenses.

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE: REQUEST TO REMOVE SERVICE REVOLVER FROM COUNTY INVENTORY AND ISSUE TO RETIRING OFFICER KEVIN REID**

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***approve the request of the Sheriff to remove from county inventory and the service revolver (Glock, Model 30, .45 caliber, serial number DGE-902) used by Deputy Investigator Kevin Reid and presented to Officer Reid who is retiring with a total of 24-years of law enforcement service.***  
**6:00P.M. PUBLIC HEARING: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ORDINANCE**

Chairman Hawkins declared the public hearing open.

Bill McCarter, Planning Director, stated, "At your last meeting, you reviewed an ordinance to create the proposed Historic Preservation Commission for the County. I wanted to highlight two sections of that ordinance . . . the membership is something you need to take a look at, once this ordinance is adopted, if you choose to set-up the Commission, there will be four representatives appointed from the County's planning jurisdiction. Then four representatives from all of the municipalities that would choose to participate by local agreement. Then there is one seat that would represent the Historic Shelby Foundation, since that is an existing organization formed for that purpose."

He stated, "The next section would be landmarks . . . the designation of a historic landmark, not the creation of a historic district which you may be more familiar with as seen in other jurisdictions, but landmarks are one property that would be designated and meet the criteria set-up by the State to be designated as a landmark. A report would be prepared locally and submitted to the State in order to review that property to be sure it meets the criteria. The State would have 30-days to make that review and submit their comments. After that review period, the Historic Preservation Commission would hold a public hearing, solicit public comments about that property, then send it on to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners would then hold a public hearing on that property and develop an ordinance to designate that property - describe it by a legal description then, if you chose to designate that property, the ordinance would be adopted and recorded in the Register of Deeds office and that property description would be there to make people aware that property has been designated as a landmark. Once the ordinance is adopted, we submit a copy to the Tax Assessor so the appropriate tax deferral (50%) can be made on the property." He concluded, "So, in a nutshell, that is the process one would go through to have a property designated. Basically, this ordinance sets up the Commission and if you adopt it, then your next step would be to make those appointments." Once the Commission is appointed, they may then start accepting applications from property owners and begin reviewing the properties to be submitted to the State. He said the State criteria for designation is "very stringent."

Mr. McCarter advised the State has already reviewed the proposed ordinance and "made their comments, which have already been incorporated into the ordinance."

**Brownie Plaster**, a Historic Preservation Foundation member, endorsed the ordinance, stating this is one of the positive "outgrowths of Cleveland Tomorrow." She stated such an ordinance and Commission would be a valuable tool for economic growth.

**Mary Niesler**, outgoing chair of the Kings Mountain Historic Landmarks Commission, stated this ordinance is a "natural extension of all preservation projects going on throughout Cleveland County" and stated she is "very much in favor of this ordinance." Mrs. Niesler questioned who would have ordinance authority in the extra-territorial jurisdictions of the municipalities? Bob Yelton, County Attorney, advised he would investigate the ETJ question.

**Betty Hord**, Upper Cleveland County Taskforce member, and also a member of the Lawndale Historical Society, endorsed the ordinance and encouraged Commissioners to adopt it.

**Stuart Gilbert**, President of the Cleveland Chamber, advised the Chamber Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution of endorsement on December 14, 2004 (copy found on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28).

**Milt Holloman**, who helped found the Historic Shelby Foundation "over 20-years ago," noted "our objective at that time was to help in preserving the heritage of properties in Cleveland County that means so

much to it's current and future residents, so I hope you will favorably consider all the aspects and give your consent to the establishment of a Historic Properties Commission."

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Hawkins closed the public hearing. Commissioners thanked the members of the taskforce for their years of dedicated service to seeing this project completed.

**ACTION:** Mary Accor made the motion, seconded by Willie McIntosh, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***adopt the Ordinance*** (copy found on Pages \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28).  
**6:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING: PLANNING DEPARTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT - MAURICE A. WINGO (Case #04-14) 2701 DEERE DRIVE**

Bill McCarter advised that Maurice A. Wingo has presented a petition to rezone approximately 3 acres of property located at 2701 Deere Drive from Residential (R) to Neighborhood Business (NB). He

reviewed the following background information:

Existing Land Use: The current use is residential. Surrounding land uses are predominately rural residential.

Future Land Use: Expanding Residential.

Utilities: Cleveland County Sanitary District has 8" water line available along New House Road.

Transportation: New House Road is classified as a "Major Collector" by NCDOT, providing service to areas not directly served by an arterial highway.

Mr. McCarter reviewed the following recommendations of the Isothermal Planning Commission

Planning Consultant and the Planning Board:

Chuck Nance, Planning Consultant, Recommendation: Deny

Unless the intersection of Deere and New House is to be included in a commercial node, in the Cleveland County Land Use Plan update, we feel that the same holds true for this request as in Case 04-13. The request is arbitrary and capricious and does not meet the factors involved regarding spot zoning. The rezoning of the corner lot would allow the owner uses that other property owners in the area would not be allowed, therefore the request should be denied.

John McCulloch, Chairman, Cleveland County Planning Board Recommendation - Approve

To be consistent with previous recommendations, the board stated that the purpose of neighborhood business is to serve the surrounding residential area. Therefore, we do not feel that rezoning the site of this former business will constitute spot zoning.

Conforms with Land Use Plan: This area is indicated as "expanding residential" on the 2005+ Projected Land Use Plan. Rezoning from Residential (R) to Neighborhood Business (NB) would be compatible with the land use plan in this area.

Surrounding Properties: This lot adjoins an existing neighborhood.

Non-Conforming Uses: An existing building located on this lot was once used for auto repair/sales but it has been vacant for several years and therefore lost its non-conforming status.

Adequate Utilities and Roads: Public water (8" CCDS water line) is available along New House Road. New House Road is classified as a "major collector" street by NCDOT.

Commissioner McIntosh requested Mr. Yelton provide a legal opinion as to whether or not he felt this would constitute spot zoning. Mr. Yelton advised that "case law proves out that the court rules on a case-by-case basis" in cases of this type. He said that any time you rezone a small parcel there is always the potential that someone will claim spot zoning. Commissioner Hutchins questioned if Mr. Wingo would be required to upgrade the building to new codes and standards since it had been abandoned for some time and if it is rezoned would this create more problems for the community. He also expressed concern over road access and if Mr. Wingo planned to access the property from Deere Drive or New House Road. There was discussion regarding uses this zoning classification would allow.

Mr. McCarter stated, "Mr. Nance had a good point, I think, in his comment that usually we see a major intersection being rezoned to some type of commercial use, not so much an unnamed entrance road into a residential subdivision . . . so this would be the first case of that type that I can remember." Mr. McCarter also stated, "One other aspect I thought of when we looked at the property is that a lot of folks have a large building in their backyard, a lot of folks have a shop, work on cars as a hobby. We even have the capability to do what we call Rural Home Occupation in a Residential zoning district and that building could very well be used for a rural home occupation. There are conditions in the ordinance like hours of operation, no outdoor storage of materials which definitely would apply in this case. Things that would allow a limited business use in that

structure without any rezoning, so you need to keep that in mind, just because the property may or may not be rezoned, there are still business uses that could still go into that structure.”

**Maurice Wingo**, petitioner, told Commissioners this structure was used as a business in the past and when he purchased the property in 1998, he did so with the intention of opening a business but did not realize the zoning had been changed. He advised he does intend to make an entrance drive from New House Road so “people won’t need to enter off Deere Drive.” He also noted that other commercial property is “within a mile of this property.”

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Hawkins declared the public hearing closed at 6:41 p.m.

**ACTION:** Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, ***to table this matter until the January 4, 2005 regular meeting of the Board to allow additional information to be obtained.***

### **NCDOT BRIDGES**

Commissioner McIntosh stated he feels Commissioners are “ultimately responsible” for public safety and expressed concern over the condition and maintenance of the bridges in Cleveland County. These concerns come after a flash flood occurred as a result of a rainstorm on December 10, 2004, which caused the Beaver Dam Creek bridge to collapse. Several cars plunged into the water, resulting in the death of Joe Hoyle of Mooresboro.

Mr. Dear advised that the Bridge Engineers from NCDOT will be at the next Commission meeting to furnish Commissioners with a complete report as to the condition of Cleveland County bridges.

There was discussion regarding various suggestions to help alert the public regarding potential areas of concerns in adverse weather. It was the consensus of the Board to instruct the County Manager to contact NCDOT regarding the possibility of placing caution signs at bridges that may be subject to flooding, and to have the engineers present a report at the next meeting of the Commission.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Commissioner McIntosh asked John Wasson, DSS Director, if there are shelters available “where people can go during cold or inclement weather?” Mr. Wasson advised Social Services has “on-call staff” to handle situations of this nature after hours. He reported there are two federal energy assistance programs for which people can apply, and also noted in crisis situations people can call 911 or Social Services and emergency staff will be dispatched.

Mr. Wasson discussed the Duke Power and City of Shelby programs such as “share the warmth” and noted DSS “depends heavily on other organizations, especially churches” to help with providing assistance. He said county shelters are usually opened only during power outages from storms, usually not for cold weather.

Commissioner McIntosh requested the media help “get the word out” to people who wish to contribute wood or fuel to those in need.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES: SPECIAL COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Mr. Wasson introduced Angela Woods, Special Attorney for Child Support and Adult Services, recently appointed to serve Cleveland County. Ms. Woods is a Cleveland County native and Commissioners welcomed her home.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES: CHILD SUPPORT AGENT II**

Mr. Wasson advised he wished to withdraw his request for this position at this time, noting he may need the position at a later date. He explained, “The State of North Carolina has pending legislation to consolidate child support at DSS. Right now there are two repositories for child support collections and enforcement and that is with the Clerk of Court and the Department of Social Services. There is a move afoot

for the State Child Support people to get legislation passed where the child support cases that are in the Clerk of Court's office will come to DSS."

He explained the "hope is this would increase collections" plus DSS would get a percentage of the collection. He said that although the legislation has not passed, some Judges, particularly in the western counties, have already moved toward that change. Effective January 1, 2005, Judge Larry Wilson, Chief District Court Judge, has mandated cases be moved to DSS. He said currently there are approximately 570 active cases, with about 15 new cases each month. Mr. Wasson has reallocated a vacant position "to child support and with a temporary, I think we're okay for now." He said, "Ultimately, DSS will do all child enforcement cases and we're trying very hard to comply with both the letter and the spirit of the Judge's order. At some point the legislation will pass, the State says they think it will surely pass this coming legislative session and when it does, all child support will leave clerks of court throughout the State. I think what motivates the clerk of court is State finances being what they are, they don't have a lot of extra staff to be basically administering this growing problem."

There was discussion regarding the continuing trend in the State "passing the buck" onto counties, resulting in increased spending of local tax dollars; the possibility of appealing such court orders; and, the cost of lawsuits that would probably result from such action. Mr. Yelton noted he feels the motivation behind Judge Wilson's order is to increase collection of child support monies, emphasizing the "principal issue is to get child support to those who need it."

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: MINIMUM HOUSING CODE VIOLATION - DAVID WILLIAM LOWERY (3527 CLIFFSIDE ROAD)**

Mr. McCarter reviewed that a public hearing was held regarding this violation on June 30, 2004, after which the owner was allowed 90-days to repair or demolish the dwelling. An attempt to notify the property owner was made by certified mail on June 14, first class mail on June 21, 2004. a legal ad was published in the Star on June 19, 2004. A recent inspection of the property revealed no action has been taken to repair or demolish the dwelling.

He advised that adoption of this ordinance authorizes the Code Enforcement Officer to accept bids for any salvage materials in or about the dwelling and credit the proceeds against the costs of demolition. A lien will be placed against the property for any additional costs incurred by the county as provided by G.S. 160A-446(6).

**ACTION:** Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***adopt the ordinance authorizing demolition of dwelling(s) located at 3527 Cliffside Road*** (copy found on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28).

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: ZONING MAP AMENDMENT - CASE 04-15; MARSHALL & DOROTHY BOWEN (2174 CAPERNIUM ROAD, WACO) (Request to schedule public hearing)**

**ACTION:** Mary Accor made the motion, seconded by Jerry Self, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***schedule a public hearing regarding this petition on January 4, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in this Commission chamber.***

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT: ZONING MAP AMENDMENT POLICY**

Mr. McCarter reviewed that during their regular meeting of November 2, 2004, Commissioners had requested this policy be developed. He clarified this is a "policy" and not a part of the ordinance.

**ACTION:** Jerry Self made the motion, seconded by Willie McIntosh, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***adopt the policy*** (copy found on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28).

**LEASE AMENDMENTS: CLEVELAND COUNTY AND GASTON-LINCOLN-CLEVELAND AREA MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBSTANCE ABUSE AUTHORITY**

Bob Yelton clarified this refers to the house and the annex building located on Crawford and First streets, which will now be used by the Health Department. He said this is a "simple amendment, deleting those properties from the lease."

**ACTION:** Willie McIntosh made the motion, seconded by Jerry Self, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***approve the lease amendment as found on Pages \_\_\_\_\_ of Minute Book 28.***

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE: BOARD APPOINTMENT**

**ACTION:** Chairman Hawkins ***appointed Commissioner Johnny Hutchins as Commission representative to the LEPC.*** This appointment tracks the term of Mr. Hutchins as Commissioner (*December 2008*).

**MINIMUM HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT: EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION**

Vice-Chairman Self stated, "Commissioner McIntosh, myself, Mr. McCarter, Mr. Dear, and Sam Craig all met with representatives of the City and discussed the problem of minimum housing code enforcement in the ETJ, which they basically have the responsibility for but have elected not to do it, as I understand it. We felt those are people who are not getting the full service they deserve. So we discussed several possibilities. It is their responsibility, but we could agree to take that over. If they wanted to give it to us, they need to give us the building inspections so there would be a little bit of income to balance it off. That was the last proposal and they were going to go back and talk to their council as a group and maybe present us back a proposal." Mr. Dear advised he understand this will be discussed further by the council during their work session scheduled for February 2005.

**NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LEGISLATIVE GOALS**

It was the consensus of the Board to make this the last item of business on the agenda of the January 4, 2005 regular meeting for discussion and formal consideration.

**MEDICAL EXPENSES AT HOSPITAL**

Commissioner McIntosh advised the hospital board, on which he serves as a member, met today and he related to them citizen concerns regarding non-insured patients not receiving the same discount on medical procedure and hospital stay expenses as given to insurance companies. He said, "The answer I got . . . was like the feds and the state bouncing things off the counties back . . . the hospitals have a lot of concern and good points about if the federalies and states would do their share instead of putting it on the counties back that a lot of people wouldn't have to pay for everybody else. So basically, what I asked them to do, was to get something together and talk to each one of us so we could see what we could do or even check with the Association of County Commissioners to see if there is anything being done. But first, if we in elected positions, if we knew these things that they're thinking about, then we could very well start lobbying for it."

Commissioner McIntosh also reported the hospital is currently sponsoring a program whereby patients who have an outstanding bill at the hospital, or anticipate hospitalization or a procedure being done at Cleveland Regional, can receive a discount. He encouraged those interested to contact the hospital, as there is a time limit on this discount offer.

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS NAME PLAQUES**

Commissioner McIntosh requested name plaques be purchased to identify the Planning Board members during their meetings.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING HANDICAPPED ACCESS**

Commissioner McIntosh requested the handicapped access door at the entrance of the Charles F. Harry, III Administrative Building be checked for proper operation and made so both doors open when the "open button" is pressed.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Chairman Hawkins advised Commissioners they should expect to be contacted in the near future by representatives of the Senior Center, as they prepare to kick-off their new fundraising campaign.

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

It was the consensus of the Board that Vice-Chairman Self prepare a schedule for Commissioners to attend the individual town council meetings and then report to the full board. Vice-Chairman Self noted this was successful last year and the visits were well received by the municipalities.

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

Vice-Chairman Self said, "Apparently the used to do something for volunteers . . . such as a banquet." Mr. Dear advised the county at one time did sponsor a banquet in recognition of volunteers, but had suspended that practice. Vice-Chairman Self said, "Obviously, the volunteers save the county a lot of money and there should be some way to pat them on the back." It was decided this should be an item for further discussion during the Commission work session.

**COUNTY SCHOOLS CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Commissioner Accor advised the "Character Education" posters used by the Cleveland County Schools will be posted throughout county offices, in an effort to show support for this project sponsored by the Board of Education.

**DITIGAL AREAL PHOTOGRAPHY OF COUNTY**

Mr. McCarter stated, "We got good news today. We had been cooperating with fourteen other counties to go out to bid for topo photography. The last time we had the photography flown was 1990, and we held off as long as we could and we had the opportunity to participate with these other fourteen counties in hopes to get a good price. The bids came back at about \$115,000 for Cleveland County, which is less than we paid back in 1990 . . . but we found out this week that the Division of Emergency Management through the floodplain mapping program will be flying Cleveland and Rutherford counties, and maybe several other counties in the western part of the State, as a result of Hurricane Floyd and the new floodplain mapping program statewide. It will be flown this year and won't costs us a dime . . . it will be digital topo photography."

**RECOGNITION OF RALPH GILBERT**

Chairman Hawkins noted that the funeral of former Commissioner Ralph Gilbert was held today. Mr. Gilbert served on the Commission from December 1990 to February 1999 and passed away on Sunday, December 19, 2004.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time (7:55 p.m.), Jerry Self made the motion, seconded by Mary Accor, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to adjourn the meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for ***Tuesday, January 4, 2005, at 6:00 p.m.***

---

*Ronald J. Hawkins, Chairman*  
CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

---

*Wanda Crotts, CMC, Clerk*  
CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS