

**Hyde County Board of Commissioners' Meeting**  
**January 30, 2006**  
**Minutes**

The Hyde County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on Monday, January 30, 2006 at 5:00 PM in the Board of Education Conference Room to receive comments on borrowing \$3,650,000 for the new courthouse building.

Board Members present were:

Bea Emmert, Chair	Charles Spencer	Alice Armstrong
Jane Hodges, Vice-chair	Nathan Sears	

Staff members present were:

Kevin Howard, County Manager  
Sid Hassell, County Attorney  
Connie Burlison, Clerk to the Board

Media present were:

Nikie Mayo, The Coastland Times  
Doug Gibbs, The Washington Daily News

Chair Emmert called the meeting to order, Charles Spencer led with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comments**

Upon motion made by Jane Hodges, seconded by Charles Spencer with all Board members voting in favor, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting was opened to receive public comments on borrowing \$3,650,000 for the new courthouse building. Comments received as follows:

Kevin Howard gave an overview of the project.

William Howard – Considered a large investment and need to consider maintenance of facilities. Need to lift people up not hold down. Board not thinking of future of County. Location should be reconsidered. He feels Ocracoke citizens support placement on voting ballot.

Barbara Gibbs – Supported message relayed by William Howard

Audrey Lumsden – Graduates are leaving County. Need to consider needs for education on Ocracoke.

Tom Davis – Issue has been discussed for three years. Costs continue to increase due to delays. Rent and inmate safekeeping and transportation big cost to County. Commended Board on decision and feels it is time to move forward with project.

Rudy Austin – County Population is continually decreasing. Provided statistics on population projection for 2030 Poor County and Board needs to look at what they are doing.

Nancy Leach – need to simplify plans.

Janet Russ – What percentage of funds for overall cost is due to location?

Mack Carawan – Thought the issue was settled. Need to move forward with project as planned.

Mary Kitrell – Requested apology from Bea Emmert concerning statement about Cadillac. Bea Emmert made an apology for her statement.

Catherine Crickmar – inquired into available background information.

Nathan Sears – Youth needs to be considered. Need to provide best education possible for youth.

John Herina – Government of people need to do what people want. Majority should rule.

B.J. Oelschlegel – Concerned about future debt of County. Project being placed before needs of County. Should be placed on ballot.

Don Crickmar – Board vote process and who voted in favor.

William Howard – location not accessible during flooding

Janet Russ – Vote at previous meeting was to put in Swan Quarter not same location

Audrey Lumsden – Board members should have talked to people in their district

Rudy Austin – Stated he spoke to people and no one on mainland wanted to build back in same location

Sandra Carawan – Silent majority supports project or they would have been at Board meetings to express opposition

Audrey Lumsden – Referred to comment from Sandra Carawan and stated that more people would have been present if meeting was later.

Peggy Grant – After Hurricane Floyd former Board member mad statements concerning FEMA and manufactured homes decrease in value.

Barbara Gibbs – Cost of insurance and maintenance a concern.

Upon motion made by Jane Hodges, seconded by Alice Armstrong with all Board members voting in favor, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the public hearing closed at 6:00 PM