

**CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Joint Work Session with the City of Chesapeake  
Camden County Courthouse  
Camden, NC  
September 26, 2005  
7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

A joint work session of the Camden County Board of Commissioners and the City of Chesapeake was held Monday, September 26, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Camden County Courthouse, Camden, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Chairman Melvin Jeralds  
Vice Chairman Clayton Riggs  
Commissioners Jeffrey Jennings, Carolyn Riggs, and Mike Andrews

Mayor Dalton S. Edge – City of Chesapeake  
Councilwoman Debbie Ritter

Also attending were County Manager Randell Woodruff, Clerk to the Board Ava Murgia and Attorney Herbert Mullen from Camden County; Mary Ann Saunders, Attorney Ron Hollman, Jan Proctor, Attorney Bryan Plumlee, and Attorney Reeves Mahoney from the City of Chesapeake; Ven Poole of Waste Industries/Black Bear LLC, Attorney Ben Thompson, and Attorney Jimmy Yates for Black Bear LLC.

Chairman Jeralds called the joint work session to order and Commissioner Clayton Riggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following topics were discussed:

**Mayor Edge and Mary Ann Saunders, City of Chesapeake, reported on the following:**

**US RT 17 South Opening – November 4, 2005 10 A.M.**

- Bike timed event October 9, 2005
- Paving almost complete except where new and old roads tie-in. Shifting two-way traffic to new road complete tie-ins at both northern and southern ends.
- Traffic shift to occur after ceremony

**US RT 17/Dominion Boulevard**

- Dominion Boulevard – The VDOT six (6) year plan allocates \$28,835,000 over the next six (6) years, \$14.6 M was allocated in the TEA-LU Highway authorization legislation bringing the total project funding to approximately \$43M. Total cost will be between \$100M-\$125M depending on bridge option selected. Approximately \$7.5M will be required to fund preliminary design (currently underway), with the remainder applied to right-of-way acquisition and construction.
- Additionally, \$150,000 was allocated to fund the City's portion of a joint financing study for Dominion Boulevard and the Southeastern Parkway and Greenbelt.

**Councilwoman Debbie Ritter reported on the following:**

**Chesapeake Dismal Swamp Trail**

- Project is funded with \$1.75M Federal earmark by Congressman Forbes and \$260,000 VDOT Enhancement program funding and \$200,000 in local funds. This brings the total project funding to \$2,210,000.

- Convert the existing two-lane Route 17 roadway into a multi-use recreational trail facility known as the "Dismal Swamp Canal Trail" including trail amenities and supporting facilities as outlined in the "master Plan: Route 17/Great Dismal Swamp Corridor Study" conducted by VHB/LPDA and approved by City Council on December 21, 2004.
- The conversion of the road to a trail is anticipated to occur in two (2) phases. To open the trail soon after the opening of the new road requires an interim city funded phase since the Federal funding for the project is not expected prior to the opening of the new road in November 2005. The interim phase will provide the minimum signage, parking, barricades and facilities to open the trail in January or February 2006. The scope of the interim phase is roughly outlined in the "Master Plan Study for the Route 17 Great Dismal Swamp Corridor Study."
- Permanent trailhead facilities (parking, restrooms, waysides, boat ramp) are to be designed by consultants and constructed in 2006.

Paddle for Border – May 6, 2005

- 2005-156 boats and 197 participants. Rave reviews from participants across the east coast, pristine surroundings, age diverse, and links to the history. It was sponsored by the Chesapeake Parks and Recreation Department, Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, and the Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center in North Carolina. Paddlers enjoyed the serene beauty of the Dismal Swamp Canal as they paddled their canoes and kayaks for 7.5 miles from the Great Dismal Swamp Boat Ramp on Route 17 at Ballahack Road in Chesapeake, VA, to the Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center in South Mills, North Carolina. 2006-planning to begin in October.

**County Manager Randell Woodruff reported on the following:**

Dismal Swamp State Park and Interpretative Center and Bike Trail

- Situated on an 11,000 acres North Carolina State Park, design work is done, process of constructing bridge over the Dismal Swamp Canal to the Interpretative Center, and will be couple of years before it is open to the public.
- The bike trail is now open and there has been a lot people using the new trail.

**Black Bear Landfill**

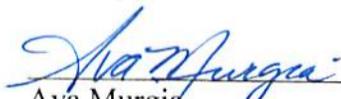
Mayor Edge read a prepared statement opposing the proposed Black Bear Landfill.

Following questions from County Manager Randell Woodruff to Mayor Edge and his staff, and various issues addressed by Commissioners Riggs and Andrews, Attorneys Plumlee and Thompson spoke regarding their respective views of the landfill procedural and legal issues.

The work session adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

  
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Melvin J. Jerald, Chairman  
Camden County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
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Ava Murgia  
Clerk to the Board

**Clerk's Note: No Closed Session as advertised (G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to Consult with Attorneys) was held.**