

8. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA:

Chairman Dixon stated that he had requested that this resolution be drafted. He explained that Senate Bill 76 has been introduced which would allow fracking in the western part of the state, however one of the options for disposal of the fracking waste and byproducts is injection into deep wells in Eastern North Carolina. He requested that the Board adopt the resolution opposing the disposal of fracking waste in Eastern North Carolina.

Commissioner Gary White stated that he has done some research and has spoken with the Water Superintendent who advised him that the Rural Water Association also has concerns regarding disposal of the fracking waste into the aquifer.

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Cecil Perry to adopt the following resolution opposing the disposal of fracking waste in Eastern North Carolina. The motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE  
IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” is a method of extracting natural gas that involves injecting, at an extremely high pressure, a mixture of water, sand, and toxic chemicals to break up shale or other rock formations otherwise impermeable to the flow of natural gas; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina does not currently allow either horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing, and the current North Carolina study of in-state shale gas resources and of the potential impacts of reversing this ban and allowing drilling and fracking to extract these resources was undertaken with insufficient time and without adequate funding; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 76, which would lift the state’s ban on fracking, was co-sponsored by Senator Bill Cook, was passed by the Senate, and will be considered by the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, fracking operations in North Carolina would be concentrated in Western North Carolina, however it has been reported that there are no viable options for disposal of fracking waste in the western part of the state and that Eastern North Carolina might be an option for deep-well disposal of fracking waste; and

WHEREAS, the wastewater produced from hydraulic fracturing includes carcinogenic, corrosive, and/or toxic salts, metals, chemicals and radioactive materials; and

WHEREAS, the disposal of fracking byproducts into the aquifer could have a detrimental impact on the environment, including contamination of drinking water wells and surface waters; and

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the North Carolina Constitution states that “It shall be the policy of the State to conserve and protect its lands and waters for the benefit of all its citizenry, and to this end it shall be a proper function of the State of North Carolina and its political subdivisions... to control and limit the pollution of our air and water... and in every other appropriate way to preserve as part of our common heritage of this State its forests, wetlands, estuaries, beaches, historical sites, open lands, and places of beauty”; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners is greatly opposed to the disposal in Eastern North Carolina of fracking waste and byproducts from other areas of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners urges the North Carolina General Assembly to maintain current laws in North Carolina that prevent hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in the state and to take no action that would weaken these laws before a viable option for disposal of fracking waste is found that does not include Eastern North Carolina.

ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

9. REPORT FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER:

Assistant County Manager Rodney Bunch stated that there have been discussions regarding stormwater recently. He said it has been suggested that former County Commissioner Bill Trueblood be asked to serve as an ad hoc non-voting member of the Stormwater Management Committee due to his knowledge and experience working with stormwater issues during his 12 years on the Board of Commissioners.

Motion was made by Frankie Meads, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the appointment of Bill Trueblood as an ad hoc non-voting member of the Stormwater Management Committee. The motion carried 6-0.