

Unsealed by the Board of Commissioners 09/22/2008.

**SEALED MINUTES
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CLOSED SESSION MEETING- March 12, 2007**

Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4), to discuss the location or expansion of a business, closed session was entered at 9:30 p.m. Chairman Chappell, Commissioners Bullock, Guice, Hogsed and Phillips, Manager Wilson, Attorney David Neumann, Planning and Economic Development Director Mark Burrows and Clerk to the Board were present.

The Manager stated that Mark Burrows recently contacted a representative from Renova, a company that is interested in purchasing Ecusta. There is an issue with DENR regarding the Brownfield's agreement. Due to the sensitivity of this issue, the Manager asked Mr. Burrows to come before the Board to discuss the matter.

Mr. Burrows stated last week he contacted Mr. John Hanselman with Renova to see how they were progressing with their agreement to purchase Ecusta. Mr. Hanselman shared his concerns with Mr. Burrows about the possibility of there being higher levels of mercury contamination on the site. DENR's focus is the cleanup of the mercury and other contamination. DENR does not want to follow the Brownfield's agreement, but rather is interested in having the US EPA take over the entire site regardless of the level of contamination. Mr. Burrows noted that this route could cost more time and money. Commissioners noted that they had spoken with the owners of Ecusta recently. The owners seem willing to try and negotiate a positive resolution.

Mr. Burrows' concern is who to offer assistance to. In this situation, there are two separate clients, the current owners of Ecusta and the perspective owners, Renova. Given the concerns that the current owners have expressed in the past, Mr. Burrows wants to make sure that the County does all that they can to assist them. He asked for direction from the Commissioners. He added that he would inform the current owners of Ecusta when any information is requested from Renova.

After further discussion, Commissioners instructed Mr. Burrows to keep all lines of communication open among all parties involved.

Chairman Chappell moved to leave Closed Session and reconvene Open Session, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

Jason R. Chappell, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Trisha D. McLeod
Clerk to the Board