DISCUSSION

ITEM NO. 14.

DATE OF MEETING: March 4, 2013

REQUESTED BY: Kyle M. Breuer, Director, Planning & Community Development

SHORT TITLE: Information Regarding the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Program Reform Act of 2012 and Its Effect on Flood Insurance Policies Within Pender County.

BACKGROUND: Signed into law July 6, 2012, the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Program Reform Act of 2012 (BW 12) extends the financing and authority for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), of which Pender County has participated in since February, 1985. Along with the NFIP's financing and authorization extension through September, 2017, BW 12 will start phasing in actuarial flood insurance rates for current subsidized properties. As of November, 2012, Pender County had 1,548 flood insurance policies covering approximately $384 million dollars in real property. BW 12 will remove subsidized rates and will allow rates to increase by 25% per year until actuarial rates are achieved.

Staff will present to the Board, an overview of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Program Reform Act of 2012 as well as introduce the Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is a voluntary program for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participating communities. The goals of the CRS are to reduce flood damages to insurable property, strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management. The CRS has been developed to provide incentives in the form of premium discounts for communities to go beyond the minimum floodplain management requirements to develop extra measures to provide protection from flooding.