

# Commissioners: Wrap up review in 30 days

■ Board given deadline for reviewing current wind ordinance

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Editor

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners on a 6-1 vote Monday set a 30-day time limit on the Chowan Planning Board's review of the county's wind energy ordi-

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nance. Commissioner Alex Kehayes cast the lone dissenting vote, arguing 30 days was not enough time for the planning board to hear

the kind of expert testimony the commissioners have directed that board to rely on.

The motion by Chairman Jeff Smith called on the planning board to report back to the county commissioners in 30 days with a full recommended text amendment based on expert testimony.

After the board's vote, Patti Kersey, who is vice chairman

of the planning board, told the Chowan Herald that 30 days is not sufficient time to review the ordinance - especially when experts are involved.

The commissioners' insistence on expert testimony was in part a reflection of advice that County Attorney John Morrison gave the commissioners during their meeting Monday night. Morrison re-

minded the commissioners that at the time a wind energy project comes before the commissioners for consideration of a permit application, the board will sit in a quasi-judicial hearing and will have to make its decision based on "competent evidence."

Morrison also reminded the

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