## Board wants fresh perspective

By Wesley Young

Smith Reynolds as economic force

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of the airport economic potential decision by the airtor of Smith Reynon developing the port's board to focus olds Airport after a no longer the direc-Larry Scantlin is

Commissioner Ted Forsyth County

understanding. plan did say that Scantlin "was not fired" and that "both this couldn't get into specifics of board and he came to a mutual matter in a closed session. Kathe airport panel discussed the Scantlin's departure because of Forsyth County, said he of the Airport Commission Kaplan, who is also a member

the same day. attorney met with Scantlin on of the airport commission, said Thursday and that Scantlin left that he and the commission's Tom McKim, the chairman

Larry's service for the past three years. We hope to go in a somemission has really appreciated ing," McKim said. "The com-"We had an amicable part-



LARRY SCANTLIN

tion, so we are going what different direcciting regional devel-opment plans." with some pretty ex-Airport consistent to assist in developslot who will be able ing Smith Reynolds candidate to fill that

been pushing the idea of establishing the Pied-mont Triad as an "aerotropolis" — an industrial cluster built into the concept. see how Smith Reynolds will fit coordinate with that effort and airport commission wants to links. McKim said that the around strong transportation Area leaders have

airport and improve transporhis main challenge would be tation services. to bring more business to the At the time, Regional Airport in New Bern. position at the Craven County Forsyth County from a similar the spring of 2006, coming to Scantlin began as the di-rector of Smith Reynolds in Scantlin said that

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phone call yesterday. Scantlin did not return a tele-

left, McKim said about \$85,000 a year when he and declined to comment on may not have been completed rounding Scantlin's departure financial arrangements surthe terms. Scantlin's salary was McKim said that some of the

would be useful to get some fresh commission determined that it McKim said he thought that "the right person to better promote the airport as an economic asset, sion felt that Scantlin was not the Asked if the airport commis-

master planning process at perspective on that task."
"We have also begun a new

> take about eight months to com-plete," he said. "We are hoping needs." community to better serve their can get input from the broader encies of the airport, so that we the relevant users and constituthe airport and reach out to all ing strengths and capabilities of to take an inventory of the exist-Smith Reynolds, and it should

commission will begin the pro-cess of hiring a new director but isn't sure what form the search will take. Kaplan said that the airport

a much stronger economic engine for the county," he said of the airport. "My goal is for it to become

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