

**COLUMBUS COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES**

*The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office, at 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC, at 7:30 P.M, March 20, 1995, it being the third Monday.*

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

*Sammie Jacobs, Chairman*

*Lynwood Norris, Vice Chairman*

*Spruell Randolph Britt*

*David L. Dutton, Jr.*

*A. Dial Gray, III*

*C.W. Williams*

*C.E. "Gene" Wilson*

*James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney*

*Roy L. Lowe, Administrator*

*Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board*

*Dempsey B. Herring,  
Special Projects Coordinator*

*Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order and Mr. Ed Worley, Aging Director, gave the invocation.*

**BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the March 13, 1995, Board Meeting, as recorded.*

**AGING - CONTRACT WITH SERVICE AMERICA CORPORATION APPROVED**

*Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested the Board to allow him and Roy L. Lowe to negotiate the Contract with Service America Corporation to cater the nutrition program to the six (6) senior nutrition sites and the meals on wheels program. Service America has requested a 1% increase which is a \$.02 per meal increase.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to permit Ed Worley and Roy L. Lowe to negotiate the Nutrition Contract with Service America Corporation.*

WHITEVILLE (CITY OF) - REQUEST FUNDING FOR 1/2 POSITION FOR A RECREATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Mr. Horace Whitley, Whiteville City Mayor, addressed the Board in reference to the County cost sharing one-half of a Recreation Program Coordinator for the City of Whiteville, as approximately 74% of the people being served in Whiteville live outside the City limits.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to take Mayor Whitley's request for Columbus County to participate in funding one-half of a Recreation Program Coordinator under advisement and to consider in the 1995-96 Budget preparation.

FIREWORKS - PERMITTED TO GREATER TABOR CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to grant permission to the Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce to display fireworks at the Eight Annual 4th of July Fireworks Celebration at the South Columbus High School in accordance with N.C.G.S. 14-410.

SOIL CONSERVATION - WATER QUALITY AND COST SHARE POSITION

Donna Register, Soil Conservationist, addressed the Board in reference to water quality management and the method needed for testing in Columbus County.

There was a lengthy discussion among the Board Members about water quality testing.

Ms. Register informed the Board that there is a possibility that a Cost/Share position with the State is still available who could spend fifty percent of their time monitoring water sources and quality throughout Columbus County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to direct the Administrator to contact the N. C. Department of Environmental Management to see if the cost-share position is available to Columbus County and advise the Board.

AUDIT - CONTRACT AWARDED

Roy L. Lowe, County Administrator, advised the Board that

four (4) proposals have been received from Audit Firms to perform the Audit Report for Columbus County. The proposals are as follows:

Thompson, Price & Company Allen E. Price, CPA Alan W. Thompson, CPA	\$27,250.00
Jimmy O. Mauldin Jimmy O. Mauldin, CPA Melanie Smith Trexler, CPA Brenda Thompson Stoker, CPA	\$28,340.00
W. A. Wayne, CPA W. Andy Wayne, CPA Edwin Kenneth Cline, CPA	\$30,000.00
S. Preston Douglas & Associates Joy Bullard, CPA John L. Grissom, CPA	\$35,280.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to award the Audit Contract to the lowest bidder, Thompson, Price & Company, in the amount of TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$27,250.00), contingent upon approval by the Local Government Commission.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT – COUNTY BUILDINGS (DSS)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve the following budget amendment.

Appropriate 10-399-0000 Fund Balance	\$60,000
Expend 10-502-8100 DSS Bldg. – Interest on Loan	\$60,000

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (CAPITAL PROJECT) – DSS BUILDING**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve the following Capital Project Ordinance for the Department of Social Services Building.

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING**

**CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

**Original Adoption: April 5, 1993**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 159-13.2 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Capital Project Ordinance amendment is HEREBY ADOPTED:

**SECTION 1.** The project authorized is the Columbus County

Complex (D.S.S. Building).

SECTION 2. The project director is hereby directed to proceed with the construction of the project within the terms of the loan agreement executed with United Carolina Bank.

SECTION 3. The following revenues are available to the County to complete the project:

64-397-1000 Contribution - General Fund	(\$ 400,000)
64-397-0000 Contribution - Capital Reserve	(\$ 200,000)
64-385-0000 UCB Loan Proceeds	<u>2,400,000</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,800,000

SECTION 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

64-610-0400 Professional Services	\$ 40,000
64-610-5700 Miscellaneous	5,000
64-610-7300 Infrastructure	( 182,000)
64-610-7500 Construction	<u>1,937,000</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,800,000

SECTION 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of this project. She shall also keep the Governing Body informed at each regular meeting of any unusual occurrences.

SECTION 6. Copies of the Capital Project Ordinance amendment shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for directions in carrying out the project.

ADOPTED this 20th day of March, 1995.

**SOLID WASTE - LANDFILL TESTING APPROVAL**

Nicholas L. Bogen, Branch Manager of Trigon Engineering Consultants, Inc., addressed the Board in reference to water testing that has been done at the Landfill. Mr. Bogen stated that when he began the testing that he did not have the state requirements and it took until January, 1995 for the finalization of the State Requirements. The State did allow all the samples to stand except cobalt and seven (7) wells have to be tested for cobalt and the County does not have any recourse. The water sampling costs is estimated at \$42,900.00 with a probable discount of \$3,000.00 of the original contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously for Columbus County to enter into Contract with Trigon Engineering Consultants for sampling of ground and surface water in order to comply with the Solid Waste regulations at the Columbus County Landfill with funding for the Contract to be expended from the Solid Waste disposal fees. A copy of the Contract is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

**PROCLAMATION – SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S WEEK**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation.

**SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S WEEK 1995**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolinians recognize the right of every citizen to obtain a basic education. The state also recognizes that some students with special needs and concerns need help in receiving that education. Working to provide that assistance, school social workers in our education system offer essential services to promote the maximum development of student potential; and

**WHEREAS**, among their many duties, school social workers encourage parents to take an active role in the education of their children. They also prepare reports and make referrals concerning class misbehavior and student attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, school social workers offer interpretation, assessment to identify the specific needs of exceptional children and to assist with children in primary and secondary grades. They also work closely with the local Department of Social Services to investigate possible instances of child abuse and neglect;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim March 20–24, 1995, as "School Social Worker's Week" in Columbus County, and urge our citizens to recognize the many contributions school social workers make to the education of our youth.

**ADOPTED**, this 20th day of March, 1995.

## COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board

PROCLAMATION - INHALANTS AND POISONS AWARENESS WEEK

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation.

INHALANTS and POISONS AWARENESS WEEKPROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, communities nationwide are observing *Inhalants and Poisons Week* beginning Sunday, March 19, 1995 through Saturday, March 25, 1995; and: in any attempt to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a **DRUG-FREE AMERICA**; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1992 Columbus County Alcohol/Drug Prevention Coalition School Survey conducted by ADPC showed that of the 3,780 students surveyed (grades 7-12), 495 had used inhalants. However, preliminary findings of the 1995 survey suggest an approximate 2% decrease; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens are encouraged to be drug free and proud; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County Alcohol/Drug Prevention Coalition envisions "To provide the community of Columbus County with the power to enable itself to take action for the prevention of the abuse of legal substances and the use of illegal substances and their consequences"; and

**WHEREAS**, the ADPC mission is: **Alcohol/Drug Prevention Now;**

**Wellness and Success Forever!**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of Sunday, March 19, 1995 through Saturday, March 25, 1995 as *Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week* and encourages all citizens, businesses, public and private agencies, media, religious and educational institutions throughout this week to join the rest of the nation in promoting *Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week* and to pursue the vision of

ADPC.

ADOPTED, this the 20th day of March, 1995.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ IDA L. SMITH, CLERK TO BOARD

FIRE & RESCUE – CONTRACT ADDENDUM TO FAIR BLUFF FIRE & RESCUE DEPT.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve an Addendum to the Fair Bluff Fire & Rescue Department Contract as follows:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

ADDENDUM TO COUNTY

COLUMBUS COUNTY

CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT, made and entered into the 20th day of March, 1995, by and through THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, a body politic, with its principal office in Whiteville, North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY", the FAIR BLUFF FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC., a North Carolina Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "CORPORATION", and the TOWN OF FAIR BLUFF, a North Carolina municipal corporation, hereinafter referred to as "TOWN".

W I T N E S S E T H :

THAT WHEREAS, the COUNTY and the TOWN have heretofore entered into a Contract dated June 4, 1979, a copy of which is annexed hereto, providing for services to the Cole's Fire, Ambulance and Rescue Service District; and

WHEREAS, said Contract has continued in effect; and

WHEREAS, since the entry of said Contract, the TOWN and the CORPORATION have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the CORPORATION is now the proper legal entity providing the services as contemplated by the Contract dated June 4, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fair Bluff is signing this Contract for the purpose of acknowledging the same and for the purpose of agreeing to substitute the CORPORATION in its name and place for the purpose of providing the services with the understanding that the funds will still be paid to the Town of Fair Bluff which will

thereafter be disbursed to the **CORPORATION** in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties hereunto agree as follows:

1. That Fair Bluff Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. shall be substituted in the name and place of the Town of Fair Bluff and that said corporate entity shall comply with the terms and provisions of the Contract dated June 4, 1979, and provide the services therein contained.

2. That the **COUNTY** shall continue to make the payments as contemplated by said Contract and as derived from the fire district directly to the Town of Fair Bluff which shall thereafter disburse said sums in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement previously executed between the **TOWN** and Fair Bluff Rescue Squad, Inc. which was subsequently amended by an Addendum to said contract between the **TOWN** and the **CORPORATION**.

3. Except as modified herein, the prior contractual provisions, terms and conditions as set forth in the Contract dated June 4, 1979, are incorporated by reference with the proviso that the **CORPORATION** shall assume the responsibilities, duties and privileges as set forth in the June 4, 1979, Contract.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,** the County of Columbus has caused these presents to be signed in its name by its appropriate officials and attested by its Clerk; that the Fair Bluff Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. has caused these presents to be signed in its name by its President and attested by its Secretary, and that the Town of Fair Bluff has caused these presents to be signed in its name by the Mayor and attested by the Town Clerk, the day and year first above written.

**COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, BY AND THROUGH  
ITS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
/s/ Sammie Jacobs, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:**

**/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board**



**FAIR BLUFF FIRE DEPARTMENT AND  
RESCUE SQUAD, INC.**

*/s/ E.D. Meares, Jr., President*

**ATTESTED BY:**

*/s/ Evelyn M. Waddell, Secretary*

**TOWN OF FAIR BLUFF**

*/s/ J.B. Evans, Mayor*

**ATTESTED BY:**

*/s/ Alfreida L. Turner, Town Clerk*

**SOLID WASTE – UPDATE ON REGIONAL LANDFILL**

*Tom Hughes, President of American Refuse Systems, Incorporated, advised the Board that Waste Management has already spent \$150,000 examining the proposed regional landfill site and states that the site selected has sandy soils that might not support a liner during a seismic event and they are no longer pursuing the regional landfill concept in Columbus County. Mr. Hughes further reported that another company, Addington Environmental, is interested in pursuing the regional landfill concept in Columbus County. Addington operates landfills in Bertie and Montgomery counties.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to allow Addington Environmental two (2) weeks to investigate the possibility of a regional landfill and prepare a proposal to be presented to the Board for consideration at the April 3, 1995 Board Meeting.*

**CLOSED SESSION**

*At 9:00 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to enter into a closed session for the purpose of an attorney/client matter.*

**RESUME REGULAR SESSION**

*A 9:25 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to adjourn executive session and resume regular session.*

*No action was taken.*


OSHA FINES - EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

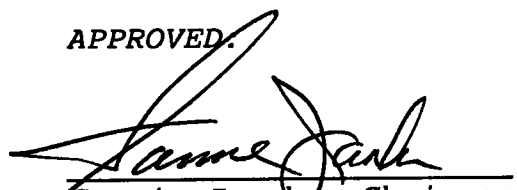
Attorney James E. Hill, Jr., reported that the OSHA Fines have been reduced from \$37,700.00 to \$18,850.00, which represents fifty percent (50%).

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve the expenditure for OSHA Fines in the amount of \$18,850.00 to be included in the 1995-96 Budget preparation for Public Buildings - Miscellaneous, Account 10-506-5700.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 P.M.

  
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Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPROVED.  
  
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Sammie Jacobs, Chairman