

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., January 16, 1996, it being the third Tuesday, following the third Monday, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Spruell Randolph Britt, Chairman
 C.E. "Gene" Wilson, Vice Chairman
 David L. Dutton, Jr.
 A. Dial Gray, III
 Sammie Jacobs
 Lynwood Norris
 C.W. Williams

James E. Hill, Jr. Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring
 County Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman Spruell R. Britt called the meeting to order and Commissioner Sammie Jacobs, gave the invocation.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the January 2, 1996 Board Meeting, as recorded.

HOSPITAL (COLUMBUS COUNTY) - RENOVATION/CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to appoint and authorize a committee made up of the County Administrator, Commissioner's appointee to the Hospital Board and the Chairman of the County Commissioners to meet with a committee appointed by the Hospital Board to work out the Columbus County Hospital's project proposals, and that these committees meet with the North Carolina Department

of Treasury in order to work out the financing guidelines for the Hospital's renovation/construction project.

AUDIT (1994-95) - PRESENTED & ACCEPTED

Alan Thompson, representing Thompson, Price and Company, P.A., presented and reviewed the 1994-95 Columbus County Audit Report to the Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to accept the 1994-95 Audit Report as presented by Mr. Alan Thompson.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - NEEDS STUDY FOR COLUMBUS COUNTY

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to send a letter to each Rescue Squad providing services for Columbus County to cooperate fully when the State Emergency Medical Services Personnel contact them as the State is preparing to do a Needs Study for Columbus County's emergency services.

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT I - CONTRACT IV BOOSTER PUMP STATION BID AWARD

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to award the bid for Contract IV - Booster Pump Station for the Columbus County Water & Sewer District I to Frank Horne Construction Company, Fair Bluff, NC in the amount of \$97,736.00, as this was the lowest bid received.

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT I - DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER APPOINTED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to appoint Ruby Shelley as Deputy Finance Officer for the Columbus County Water & Sewer District I as she is responsible for the funds for the project.

RESOLUTION - SUPPORT FOR THE LOCATION OF A PRIVATIZED CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IN COLUMBUS COUNTY

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to adopt the following Resolution:

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE LOCATION OF A PRIVATIZED CORRECTIONAL

FACILITY IN COLUMBUS COUNTY

WHEREAS, Columbus County, North Carolina, understands that the State of North Carolina Department of Corrections is seeking locations in which to site two (2) privatized correctional facilities which would be leased to the State, but operated by qualified private corporations under operating standards established by the State; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Department of Corrections has released a Request for Proposal for a 500 bed, medium security, correctional facility; and

WHEREAS, such a correctional facility will create 140 to 150 new jobs in Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County has developed a partnership with Cornell Corrections, Incorporated, an experienced corrections firm with offices in Houston, Texas, and Ventura, California; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County has worked conjunctively with Cornell Corrections, Incorporated to locate a 100 acres site in Columbus County for Cornell to place a privatized correctional facility; and

WHEREAS, Cornell Corrections agrees to annually pay Columbus County an amount equal to the County's established property tax rate, which will be based on Cornell's overall assessed value.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Columbus County does hereby support the location of a 500 bed, medium security, correctional facility, that would be located on the following tract of land:

Beginning at a point in the centerline of N.C. Highway 904, where said centerline is intersected by a Southwestwardly projection of the center of an existing canal that runs along the Northwestern perimeter of the Tabor City wood receiving and shipping yard being used by Federal Paper Board Company, said Point of Beginning being located some 0.50 miles Northwestwardly along said center-line on N.C. Highway 904 from its intersection with paved S.R. 1304, THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING and with the center-line on N.C. Highway 904, in a Northwestwardly direction,

approximately 1735 feet to a point where said centerline is intersected by a Southwestwardly projection of the back edge of a ditch along the Southeastern margin of an existing Company Private Soil Roadway; thence to and with said back edge of ditch, Northeastwardly, approximately 185 feet to a point opposite a bend in said ditch; thence continuing with the back edge of said ditch along the Southeastern margin of said existing Company Private Soil Roadway, Northwestwardly, approximately 2,430 feet to a new point; thence a new line, Southeastwardly and parallel to N. C. Highway 904, approximately 1,720 feet to a new point; thence a new line, Southwestwardly and parallel to said existing Company Private Soil Roadway, approximately 2,050 feet, to a point in the intersection of existing ditches or canals at the Northernmost corner of aforementioned Tabor City wood receiving and shipping yard; thence with the center of the canal along the Northwestern perimeter of said yard, Southwestwardly, approximately 550 feet to the point of beginning, containing 100.0 acres, excluding existing State Road Right-of-Way along N. C. Highway 904.

It is intended that upon performance of an actual Boundary Survey, the Northeasternmost line as set out herein will be treated as a "slide line" parallel to N.C. Highway 904, and adjusted either Southwestwardly or Northeastwardly, as required to adjust Net Area to 10.00 acres as set out herein, and encourages the North Carolina Department of Corrections to make a favorable decision at the earliest possible time.

Approved this 16th day of January, 1996.

/s/ Spruell R. Britt, Chairman
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

CONTRACT - JO ANNE VEREEN TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

Caletta Faulk, Chairman of the Social Services Board of Directors, requested the Board to consider approving a Contract of Employment, for temporary services for Jo Anne P. Vereen, Social Services Director, for February and March, 1996, as Ms. Vereen will

be retiring January 31, 1996 and a replacement has not been selected.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve the following Contract of Employment for Jo Anne P. Vereen as follows:

CONTRACT FOR EMPLOYMENT
(Temporary Services)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

The Columbus County Board of Social Services contracts with Mrs. Jo Anne P. Vereen to provide interim director services for the Columbus County Department of Social Services.

As Interim Director, she will provide administrative leadership and management for the total operations for the Columbus County Department of Social Services, including all fiscal, personnel and administration decisions related to the operation of the department, including all other duties as specified in the North Carolina General Statutes.

At the Interim Director's discretion, the number of hours worked per week will range from six (6) to twelve (12) hours based upon need and approval of the Board of Social Services. Mrs. Vereen has agreed to be available for telephone consultation as necessary. A record of time will be submitted at the end of each pay period. The rate per hour for this service is TWENTY FOUR AND 33/100 DOLLARS (\$24.33). All other expenses incurred (travel, per diem, supplies, etc.) will be presented for reimbursement monthly.

The duration of the contract will not exceed eighty-eight (88) hours from February 1, 1996 through March 31, 1996.

Termination of the contract will be effective by mutual agreement.

This instrument entered into on January 9, 1996 by Jo Anne Vereen and Caletta Faulk, acting for the Columbus County Social Services' Board.

/s/ Caletta Faulk
Board Chairman

/s/ Jo Anne P. Vereen

/s/ Ida L. Smith
Clerk to Board

/s/ Spruell R. Britt
Chairman

PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENT - ARTICLE IV: RECRUITMENT & EMPLOYMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to amend the Personnel Administration Policy as follows, to become effective immediately:

Article IV: Recruitment and Employment, Section 8. Appointments, Page 10, Paragraph 5.

It is a requirement of the County the department/agency heads must be a resident of Columbus County or agree to become a resident within six (6) months from the date of acceptance of the position. Failure to become a resident within the time allowed, unless a specific waiver is granted by the Board of County Commissioners, will be grounds for termination.

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION POLICY - VOLUNTARY SHARED VACATION LEAVE PROGRAM TABLED

Commissioner Dutton addressed the Board in regards to considering an amendment to the Personnel Administration Policy to include a Voluntary Shared Vacation Leave Program among County employees.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed to table the Personnel Administration Policy Voluntary Shared Leave Amendment until a donor information application and release form is drafted to be completed by employees who wish to participate in the program.

APPOINTMENTS - BOARD OF HEALTH TABLED

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to table the appointments to the Board of Health until the next Board Meeting.

AGREEMENT (LANDSCAPE) - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to approve the following Landscape Agreement:

NORTH CAROLINA
COLUMBUS COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LANDSCAPE AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT, made and entered into this the _____ day of _____, 19____, between the DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, an agency of the State of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as the Department, and COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, hereinafter referred to as the County;

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the Department and the County have agreed to the installation of certain landscape planting at the intersection of US 74 and US 76 and Union Valley Road and the Southeast Regional Park entrance on NC 130; in Columbus County; and,

WHEREAS, the Department and the County have agreed to the maintenance of said plantings as hereinafter set out.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto, each in consideration of the promises and undertakings of the other as herein provided, do hereby covenant and agree, each with the other, as follows:

1. The Department shall, without expense to the County, prepare landscape plans and specifications in accordance with the Department's standard landscaping policies and procedures for highways.

2. The Department, and/or its contractor, shall install the plantings and maintain said plantings for a warranty period of two (2) years. Said work shall be performed in accordance with Departmental standards.

3. At the end of the two (2) year establishment period and notification by the Department, the County shall be responsible for all maintenance of the landscape materials in said areas, with the exception of the Canna planting in the median of US 74 and US 76 between the guardrails. The Canna planting area shall be maintained by the Department.

4. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, the following: planting, watering, mulching, pruning, fertilizing, weeding, pest control and mowing. All cost of maintenance shall be borne by the County.

5. Any changes, revisions or alterations to the landscape plantings shall require prior review and approval by the

Department 6th Division Engineer before the work is performed.

6. In the event these plantings require relocation or removal for highway construction, re-construction, maintenance or safety, such removal or relocation will be done immediately by the County upon notification by the Department, at no expense to the Department.

7. The Department shall not be responsible for any damage to the plantings which may be done by third parties.

8. The County agrees to continually maintain all plantings in accordance with generally accepted horticultural practices. The Department shall have the right to inspect the maintenance practices being utilized by the County.

9. In the event the Department determines that the County is not properly maintaining the plantings, the Department shall notify the County. If proper maintenance is not performed by the County within a reasonable time after notification, the County agrees that the Department shall perform the necessary maintenance, or at the Department's option, shall remove the plantings and return the planted area to a natural condition (i.e. seeded and mulched, etc.).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed, in duplicate, the day and year heretofore set out, on the part of the Department and the County by authority duly given, as evidenced by the attached certified copy of Resolution, Ordinance or Charter Provision, as the case may be.

ATTEST:

/s/ Ida L. Smith
Clerk to the Board

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Spruell R. Britt
Chairman

(SEAL)

This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

/s/ Gayle Godwin, Finance Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: _____
Assistant Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BY: _____
State Highway Administrator

COPY OF A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA

A motion was made by Commissioner C.E. Wilson and

seconded by Commissioner David L. Dutton, Jr. for the adoption of the following Resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted:

WHEREAS, the Department and the Columbus County Board of Commissioners agreed to the installation of certain landscape plantings located at the intersection of US 74 and US 76 and Union Valley Road and the Southeast Regional Park entrance on NC 130; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Columbus County Board of Commissioners agreed that the Department shall be responsible for the preparation of the landscape plans and specifications, and letting the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has agreed to assume all maintenance of the landscape materials upon completion of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said project in Columbus County is hereby formally approved by the Columbus County Board of County Commissioners that the Chairman and Clerk of this County are hereby empowered to sign and execute the Agreement with the Department of Transportation.

I, Ida L. Smith, Clerk of the County of Columbus, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of excerpts from the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners duly held on the 16th day of January, 1996.

WITNESS, my hand and the official seal of said County on this the 16th day of January, 1996.

(COUNTY SEAL)

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk
County of Columbus
North Carolina

SOLID WASTE - PRESENTATION BY AMERICAN REFUSE SYSTEMS

Kenneth Crutchfield and Jim Heustess, representing American Refuse Systems, presented the Board with a plan and proposal regarding the disposal of Columbus County's solid waste. Mr. Heustess stated that American Refuse will purchase approximately ten (10) acres of land, easily accessible to build a transfer station at no cost to the County. American Refuse Officials suggested that rural residents could have curbside pickup by providing them with 96-gallon trash containers with wheels, as well as large plastic bins for recyclable items. The fee to residents would be \$9.68 a month, including recycling, for a once-

a-week pickup. Also, the county's cost to dispose of the waste would be from \$38.75 to \$55.02 per ton, depending on where American Refuse Systems hauls it which would be the county's decision.

SOCIAL SERVICES - REQUEST FOR KATHRYN FOLEY TO SERVE AS INTERIM DIRECTOR

Cynthia Hammonds, Income Maintenance Supervisor II at the Department of Social Services, requested the Board to rescind earlier action taken to approve a contract allowing Jo Anne P. Vereen, retiring Social Services Director as of January 31, 1996, to serve as Interim Director of the Department of Social Services on an hourly basis until a permanent replacement is found. Ms. Hammonds requested that Kathryn Foley be appointed to serve as Interim Director in order for there to be someone in authority, during working hours, at the Department of Social Services to make decisions, if needed.

SOCIAL SERVICES - RESCIND ACTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF JO ANNE P. VEREEN AS INTERIM SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR FAILED

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to rescind the prior action taken by the Board of Commissioners to appoint Jo Anne P. Vereen as Interim Social Services Director.

The motion died in lack of a second.

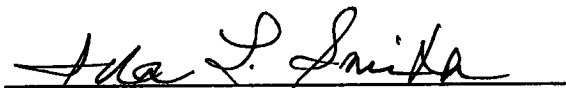
The Board concurred to request Commissioner C.W. Williams, who is also a member of the Social Services Board of Directors, to discuss the matter with the Social Services Board and report back to the Board of Commissioners.

LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS - OPPOSITION FROM WARDS-ROSELAND COMMUNITY

Ms. Betty E. Maultsby, representing concerned citizens in the Wards-Roseland Community, presented the Board with a petition with three hundred forty-eight (348) signatures opposing the development of a facility for high density hog production within their community.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting.


Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPROVED:

Spuell R. Britt, Chairman