

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

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in the Administrative Conference Room, at 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC, at 7:00 P.M., May 23, 1996, for the purpose of a budget work session.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Spruell Randolph Britt, Chairman

C.E. "Gene" Wilson, Vice Chairman

Sammie Jacobs

Lynwood Norris (Arrived at 8:15 P.M.)

C.W. Williams

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring
Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

ABSENT:

David L. Dutton, Jr.

A. Dial Gray, III

Chairman Britt called the meeting to order.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board was presented the following report representing the overview of the 1996-97 Proposed Operating Budget for Columbus County.

- Tax rate remains at \$.78 per \$100.00 property evaluation.
- Solid Waste fee remains the same as 1995-96.
- Planning Department - projected cost \$41,143.00.
- Funding toward daytime ambulance services - \$200,000.00.
- 5% across-the-board salary increase for employees.

- Medicaid projection \$2,986,715; an increase of \$557,985.00 from 1995-96.
- New positions recommended: 4 - Social Services
 - 1 - Maintenance (funded ½ by Health Department)
 - 1 - Recreation Director (contingent upon receiving property from Federal Paper).
 - 1.5 - Chadbourn Library
- Reserve \$100,000 in Capital Reserve (contingent upon negotiations with new medical insurance provider with reduced rates).
- 5% increase in current expense for schools and college.

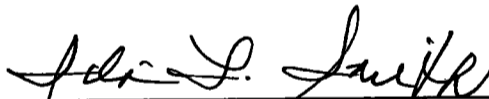
After some discussion, the Board advised Administration to include the following items in Special Appropriations:

- Lower Cape Fear River Project	\$1,000.00
- Nursing/Domiciliary Homes Advisory Committee Travel	\$1,500.00

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

APPROVED:



 Ida L. Smith, Clerk to the Board



 Spruell Randolph Britt, Chairman