

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 8:00 A.M., June 28, 1996, to continue a Meeting that was recessed at 8:15 P.M., June 19, 1996.

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
Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman Britt called the Meeting to order and Commissioner Jacobs gave the invocation.

RESOLUTION - EDA TITLE I - PUBLIC WORKS APPLICATION

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

WHEREAS, Columbus County, North Carolina is rural, and successful small business development is critical in job creation and a business incubator will be a proactive tool to ensure that new and young small businesses receive the assistance and attention they need to become successful, thriving businesses; and

WHEREAS, land is available in the Tabor City Industrial Park for the construction a new business incubator; and

WHEREAS, a joint application from Columbus County, the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) and the Tabor City Committee of 100 is being made to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for public works assistance under Title I of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 as amended for funds to construct a 16,000 square feet business incubator; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County (as the lead applicant) must authorize the submittal of the application and agree to provide the non-federal matching share of the project costs and the required interim financing; and

WHEREAS, an authorized representative must execute the grant application and other documents on behalf of Columbus County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners that:

1. If authorized, an EDA Public Works Application be prepared and submitted to the Economic Development Administration's Atlanta Regional Office.
2. Spruell R. Britt, Chairman of the Columbus County Commissioners, be authorized as the County's representative to execute the Title I application and other documents required by EDA.
3. The County agrees to provide \$_____, the non-federal matching share of the project costs, and \$_____ as the ten percent (10%) interim financing required by EDA.

Upon motion by Commissioner Williams, and a second by Commissioner Wilson, this Resolution is hereby adopted this the 28th day of June, 1996.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Spruell R. Britt, Chairman

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

RESOLUTION - COUNTY FINANCING PROJECTS

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

RESOLUTION

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Columbus County, North Carolina, at their regular meeting on the 20th day of May, 1996, at Whiteville, Columbus County, North Carolina, unanimously adopted the following **Resolution**.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Columbus County is grossly inadequate in providing functional court facilities; **and**

WHEREAS, it has also been determined that the construction of new facilities would afford needed space in the existing Courthouse, as well as the Courthouse Annex; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County would be more service oriented by the construction of a new Register of Deeds Office and an Agricultural Agency Building to serve all aspects of the farming community in Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County's intentions are to place the financing for the construction of the facilities and renovations with a private lending institution as provided by the North Carolina General Statute 160A-20; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County will finance an amount not to exceed two million five hundred thousand and 00/100 (\$2,500,000.00) dollars for the project; **and**

WHEREAS, the proposed Contract is necessary because of the expedience of the process as opposed to a General Obligation issue; **and**

WHEREAS, as the proposed Contract is preferable to a bond issue due to the fact that it is more cost effective for Columbus County, 160A-20 issuance cost are preferable to a bond issuance, the length of the term of the Contract for financing over a twenty (20) year period is advantageous to the County's ability to repay the debt, the financing would not require an increase in the County tax rate, the Contract will be a fee simple process for the County, the expeditious completion of the project is a major priority due to the nature of services to be provided and failure of a General Obligation Bond passage would create tremendous hardship on the Court System, Register of Deeds' operation and County services to the Agricultural Community and would create additional financial burdens on the County for lost time in seeking financing of the project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners endorse this project and its method of financing.

ADOPTED AMENDED RESOLUTION this the 28th day of June, 1996.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ SPRUELL R. BRITT, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ DEMPSEY B. HERRING, County Administrator

FIRE - ACME DELCO/RIEGELWOOD FIRE TAX INCREASE APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to approve a \$0.02 tax rate increase for \$100.00 property valuation for the Acme Delco/Riegelwood Fire Service District due to no opposition at the public hearing that was held on June 20, 1996. The Fire Service tax rate established for the District is \$0.12 per \$100.00 property valuation.

FIRE - WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP TAX DISTRICT EXTENSION APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve a \$0.06 tax rate for \$100.00 property valuation for the Williams Township Fire Tax Service District Extension (Bethel Community) due to no opposition at the public hearing that was held on June 25, 1996.

FIRE - YAM CITY TAX DISTRICT EXTENSION APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to approve a \$0.10 tax rate for \$100.00 property valuation for the Yam City Fire Tax Service District Extension (Sandy Plain Community) due to no opposition at the public hearing that was held on June 27, 1996.

ORDINANCE - 1996-97 OPERATING BUDGET ADOPTED

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to adopt the 1996-97 Columbus County Operating Budget as presented with the following amendments.

Sheriff's Department:

Increase Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$119,304
Increase Departmental Supplies	2,500
Increase Uniforms & Clothing	5,000
Decrease Capital Outlay	35,558

Increase Principal on Lease	63,167
Increase Interest on Lease	3,624
Increase Federal Revenue	<u>89,478</u>
Total Increase in Sheriff's Department Budget	<u>\$68,559</u>
Decrease Health Insurance Premiums	105,659
Increase Capital Reserve	100,000
Decrease Medicaid	100,000
Increase Schools Reserve	100,000
Decrease Non-Departmental Contingency	54,386

BUDGET ORDINANCE 1996-97

COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina.

SECTION 1: BUDGET ADOPTION 1996-97: There is hereby adopted the following operation Budget for the County of Columbus for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1996, and ending June 30, 1997; the same being adopted by fund and activity within each fund as listed:

GENERAL FUND

Revenues:

Current Year Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 14,150,760
Prior Year Ad Valorem Taxes	750,000
Collections - Written Off (Prior Year)	3,500
Discounts	60,000-
Refunds	4,000-
Releases	200,000-
Penalty and Interest	175,000
Privilege License	4,000
Excise Tax - RD	90,804
Marriage License	12,060
Interest on Investments	350,000
Rent	10,000
Miscellaneous - General	351,036
General - Local Fees	10,000
Miscellaneous Revenues - Library	37,000
Miscellaneous - Elections	500
Miscellaneous - Concessions	26,000
Microenterprise - Other	2,156
Intangibles Tax	390,000
Local 1 Cent Sales Tax	2,375,000
½ Cent Sales Tax	1,025,000
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax	580,000
½ Cent Sales Tax	320,000
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax	640,000
½ Cent Sales Tax	115,000
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax	232,000
5 Cent ABC Tax	17,000

State Aid - Emergency	9,137
State Aid - Veterans	2,000
State Aid - Soil Conservation	14,510
State Aid - Soil Conservation Water Quality	14,510
Criminal Justice Partnership	82,703
Coop. Extension - Black Churches	7,500
COPS First	107,959
Narcotics Investigation	34,496
100% Child Day Care	1,209,417
Food & Lodging - State	750
General State Grant	46,417
Grants to Family Planning	38,840
Immunization Action	18,559
Community Traffic Safety	8,750
Grants - Maternal Care	130,447
Child Health	114,407
Immunization Outreach	12,000
Child Services Coordinator	46,415
Grants - Home Health	36,300
Reimbursements to Home Health	5,194,398
Grants to Hypertension	16,110
Adult Health	45,972
Grant - Health Promotion	22,116
Complete Breast Screening	53,726
Adult Health - Med X	20,000
Childrens Special Health	10,704
MCH - Medicaid Title	750,700
Grants to W.I.C. Clinics	272,036
Black Churches For Better Health	5,000
Communicable Disease - Aids & Tuberculosis	48,097
Communicable Disease - Med X	7,000
Environmental Health	6,000
Aid to Social Services	3,576,859
State Aid to DSS	67,856
Day Care Coordinator	25,615
IV-D Incentive & Cost Recovery	154,130
Food Stamp Fraud Recovery	1,696
CDBG-SCC Microenterprise	47,963
Emergency Food Administration	6,000
Families First Grant	69,845
State Aid to Library	103,355
Arrest Fees	55,000
Concealed Weapons	6,000
Facilities Fees	60,000
Environmental Health	47,000
Family Planning Fee	10,000
Adult Health Local	16,106
Building Permits	100,000
Register of Deeds Fees	152,520
Sheriff's Department Commission	1,000
Jail Fees - Clerk of Court and R	40,000
Refuse Collection	4,224
Dog Pound Fees	5,300
Occupancy Tax	52,997
Inventory Tax	1,190,000
Senior Citizen Tax Exemption	78,000
Sales Tax (Food Stamp Loss)	73,000

Gasoline Tax Refund	16,000
5% Commission on Tax Collection	2,000
1 ½ Collection Fee Towns	3,500
Transfer from Aging	190,000
Transfer from Solid Waste	65,053
Fund Balance Appropriated	356,341

TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE **\$ 36,367,152**

Expenditures:

Governing Body	\$ 179,435
County Administration/Clerk	153,143
Planning	40,783
Elections	176,294
Finance	211,608
Tax Administration	568,211
Professional Services	86,178
Register of Deeds	316,095
Economic Development	148,136
Travel and Tourism	52,997
Courthouse and Grounds	232,797
Judge's Chambers	5,350
Social Services Building	395,525
Administrative Building	37,872
Senior Citizens Center	17,265
Miller Building	247,819
Public Buildings (All Other)	286,745
Sheriff's Department	2,009,798
Families First	79,845
Drug Task Force Grant	46,781
District Court	12,925
Criminal Justice Partnership	85,703
Law Enforcement Center	1,048,196
Water Collections	20,930
Fire Marshal	76,072
E-911 Communications Center	459,020
Inspections	111,270
Environmental Health	215,895
Immunization Outreach	12,000
Community Traffic Safety Program	8,749
Immunization Action Plan	18,560
Comp. Breast Screening	53,726
Communicable Disease, Aids and Tuberculosis	99,267
Black Churches for Better Health	5,000
Health Promotion	22,116
Child Services Coordinator	131,415
Child Health Care	184,407
Cooperative Health	489,147
Family Planning	143,840
Maternal Health	627,447
Home Health	5,230,698
Hypertension	32,015
Adult Health	82,078
Childrens Special Health Services	14,404
W. I. C.	272,036

Revenues:

Contribution - School Building Capital Funds	\$	575,418
Contribution - County Hospital		131,563
Contribution - Schools Sales Tax		457,000
Contribution - General		898,794
Contribution - Water District		30,969
Fund Balance Appropriate		<u>25,850</u>
TOTAL	\$	2,119,594

Expenditures:

Debt Service	TOTAL	\$	2,119,594
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INTERNAL SERVICE FUND

Revenue	\$	125,067
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Expenditures	\$	125,067
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SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND**Revenues:**

Refunds	2,000-
Releases	20,000-
Interest	10,000
Misc. Recyclable Materials	5,000
State Aid - Tire Disposal	44,000
State Aid - White Goods	40,000
Landfill User Fees	496,800
Solid Waste Collection Fees	285,200
Recycling Fees	138,000
Tipping Fees	<u>380,000</u>

TOTAL REVENUE	\$	1,377,000
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Expenditures:

Solid Waste Enterprise	\$	1,309,994
Recycling		<u>67,006</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	1,377,000
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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND**Revenues:**

State Aid-Foster Home Care	\$	129,909
Equalizing Fund		254,304
Crisis Intervention		50,423
State Foster Care		56,250
Emergency Assistance Program		60,000
Incentive & 4-D		123,082
Transfer from General Fund		<u>3,846,807</u>

TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 4,520,775
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Expenditures:

Aid to Dependent Children	\$ 772,701
Medicaid Grants	2,886,715
Special Assistance	556,776
Foster Home Care	158,126
Crisis Intervention	50,423
Adoption Assistance Payments	10,034
State Foster Care Benefits	75,000
Special Assistance for the Blind	<u>11,000</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,520,775
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H.U.D. FUND

Revenue:	\$ 1,568,497
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Expenditure:	\$ 1,568,497
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REVALUATION FUND**Revenues:**

Contribution - General Fund	\$ 35,000
Fund Balance Appropriated	<u>123,720</u>

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 158,720
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Expenditure:	\$ 158,720
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EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM**Revenue:**

E911 Surcharge	\$ 414,800
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Expenditure:	\$ 414,800
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SPECIAL ALCOHOL /DRUG FUND**Revenues:**

Interest	\$ 300
Miscellaneous	500
Controlled Substance	15,000
U.S. Marshal - DEA	<u>9,200</u>

TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 25,000
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Expenditures:

Departmental Supplies	\$ 5,000
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Miscellaneous	2,000
Capital Outlay	<u>18,000</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 25,000
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FIRE AND RESCUE TAX**Revenue:**

Evergreen District Fee	\$ 34,500
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 34,500
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Revenue:

St. James Volunteer District Tax	\$ 7,325
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 7,325
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Revenue:

North Whiteville District Fee	\$ 42,500
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 42,500
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Revenues:

Old Dock-Cypress Creek District Tax	\$ 18,825
Inventory Tax	<u>200</u>

TOTAL	\$ 19,025
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 19,025
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Revenues:

Hallsboro Fire District Tax	\$ 26,775
Inventory Tax	<u>250</u>

TOTAL	\$ 27,025
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 27,025
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Revenues:

Roseland Fire District Tax	\$ 24,700
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Inventory Tax	<u>250</u>
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TOTAL	\$ 24,950
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 24,950
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Revenues:

Yam City Fire District Tax	\$ 50,275
Inventory Tax	<u>300</u>

TOTAL	\$ 50,575
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 50,575
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Revenues:

Acme-Delco Fire District Tax	\$ 89,175
Inventory Tax	<u>4,800</u>

TOTAL	\$ 93,975
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 93,975
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Revenues:

Klondyke Fire District	\$ 53,675
Inventory Tax	<u>4,800</u>

TOTAL	\$ 58,475
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 58,475
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Revenues:

Cole's Service District Fund	\$ 22,830
Inventory Tax	<u>9,100</u>

TOTAL	\$ 31,930
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 31,930
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Revenues:

Cerro Gordo District Fund	\$ 34,275
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Inventory Tax	<u>350</u>
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TOTAL	\$ 34,625
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 34,625
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Revenues:

Williams Township District Fund	\$ 34,830
Inventory Tax	<u>250</u>

TOTAL	\$ 35,080
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 35,080
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Revenues:

White Marsh-Welches Creek	\$ 19,675
Inventory Tax	<u>200</u>

TOTAL	\$ 19,875
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Expenditures:

Remittance to District	\$ 19,875
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Revenues:

Whiteville Rescue Service District	\$ 77,975
Inventory Tax	<u>725</u>

TOTAL	\$ 78,700
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 78,700
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Revenues:

Brunswick Fire District	\$ 48,475
Inventory Tax	<u>500</u>

TOTAL	\$ 48,975
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Expenditure:

Remittance to District	\$ 48,975
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Revenues:

Bolton Fire District	\$ 15,900
Inventory Tax	<u>150</u>

TOTAL	\$ 16,050
Expenditure:	
Remittance to District	\$ 16,050
Revenues:	
Buckhead Fire District	\$ 9,465
Inventory Tax	<u>100</u>
TOTAL	\$ 9,565
Expenditure:	
Remittance to District	\$ 9,565

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

All Capital Projects Continued

TOTAL REVENUES (ALL FUNDS) \$ 49,881,235**TOTAL EXPENDITURES (ALL FUNDS) \$ 49,881,235**

SECTION II. TAX RATE LEVY: There is hereby levied for the fiscal year 1996-97 an ad valorem property tax on all property having a situs in Columbus County as listed for taxes as of January 1, 1996, at a rate of Seventy-eight (\$0.78) Cents per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars of assessed value of such property pursuant to and in accordance with the Machinery Act of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes and other applicable laws. The estimated revenues from the ad valorem property tax are based on an established collection during the 1996-97 fiscal year of Ninety-six and one-half (96½%) per cent of the levy and the estimated taxable base of \$1,880,000,000.00.

Special district tax rate for purpose providing Fire and Rescue Protection are also levied as follows:

Evergreen Fire	Fee
Acme-Delco Fire	\$.12
Bolton Fire	.06
Brunswick Fire	.07
Buckhead	.06
Cerro Gordo Fire	.10
Cole Fire	.10
Hallsboro Fire	.06
Klondyke Fire	.07
North Whiteville	Fee
Old Dock-Cypress Creek Fire	.08
Roseland Fire	.06
St. James Fire	.06
Tabor City Fire	.10
White Marsh/Welches Creek Fire	.08
Whiteville Rescue	.02
Williams Township Fire	.06

SECTION III. Building Inspection fees are amended as reflected by Board action.

SECTION IV. SCHEDULE B. LICENSES: The business license fees are hereby continued for Fiscal Year 1996-97

SECTION V. SOLID WASTE FEES: The Solid Waste Fees are hereby continued for Fiscal Year 1996-97.

SECTION VI. SALARIES: The following provision shall govern salary and wage compensation for Fiscal Year 1996-97.

PAY PLAN

There is hereby continued a pay plan applicable to all County employees. The pay plan shall have a range of twenty (20) steps with each step increasing by two and one-half (2½%) percent.

County employees will receive a five percent (5% - 2 steps) salary increase.

SECTION VII. BUDGET CONTROLS: The Board of Commissioners, in approving the proposed Budget, has utilized to the fullest extent possible its revenue sources and the County Administrator is herein directed to initiate steps to ensure that the Budget fixed herein is lived within.

SECTION VIII. APPROPRIATIONS: The amount of the General Fund proposed for the Fiscal Year 1996-97 is hereby appropriated to the County Administrator for the operations of the Columbus County Government and its departments and agencies for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1996 and ending June 30, 1997. In administering the program authorized under this Ordinance, the County Administrator is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund between objects of expenditures within a department without limitations and without a report being requested, and between departments within a fund not to exceed Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars. Appropriations for land and new buildings included in this Ordinance may be expended only after release by the Board of Commissioners. The Chairman of the Board and the Administrator are hereby authorized to execute the necessary agreements within funds included in the Budget Ordinance for the following purposes:

(1) Grant agreement to Public and Non-Public Agencies; (2) Leases of normal and routine business equipment; (3) Consultant, Professional, or Maintenance Service agreements; (4) Purchase of apparatus, supplies and materials where formal bids are not required by law; (5) Agreements for acceptance of State and Federal Grant Funds; and (6) Construction or repair work where formal bids are not required by laws.

SECTION IX. RESTRICTED REVENUES: The Finance Officer is hereby directed to fund appropriations which have been specified revenue prior to the funding with General Fund monies. This is to include, but not limited to Fines and Forfeiture, ABC profits and Forestry Revenues.

SECTION X. PUBLIC PURPOSE LIMITATION: In accordance with Article V of the North Carolina Constitution which states in part, that "Power and Taxation shall be exercised....for public purposes" and/or division of the State Supreme Court, the County Administrator shall require the following before releasing public funds to other governmental agencies or private groups:

(1) The activity in question is for a public purpose;
 (2) The activity in question is one which the County is authorized to undertake or for

which the County has specific statutory authorization for giving financial aid to the agencies in question; and

- (3) Through appropriate means the County retains some degree of control over the expenditures of its funds.

SECTION XI. This Ordinance shall become effective July 1, 1996.

.....Adopted this the 28th day of June, 1996.

Motion by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously.

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

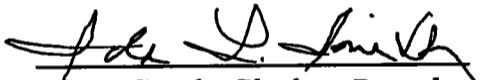
ATTEST:

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 A.M.

APPROVED:


Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board


Spruell Randolph Britt, Chairman