

**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., September 2, 1997, for the regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the first Tuesday, following the first Monday, Labor Day, an observed Holiday.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

C.W. Williams, Chairman

Lynwood Norris, Vice Chairman

Spruell Randolph Britt

David L. Dutton, Jr.

A. Dial Gray, III

Sammie Jacobs

C.E. Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney  
(Excused at 8:30 A.M.)

Dempsey B. Herring  
Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

**PUBLIC HEARING (FIRST) - MICROENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM**

At 8:00 A.M., Chairman Williams called the first (of two required) Public Hearing to order and stated that the purpose for the hearing is to receive citizens' views and comments regarding the formulation of the application for a \$100,000 Grant for the Microenterprise Loan Program under the 1997 Community Development Block Grant Program through Southeastern Community College.

Mr. Floyd Shorter, Small Business Center Director, made comments regarding the Community Development Block Grant Application.

There were no other comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

At 8:04 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

The second required public hearing is scheduled at 7:30 P.M., September 15, 1997.

**PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPTION AND ENACTMENT OF AN ORDINANCE FOR NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE FRANCHISE**

At 8:05 A.M., Chairman Williams called the public hearing to order and stated that the purpose for the hearing is to receive citizens' views and comments regarding the Adoption and Enactment of an Ordinance for a Non-Emergency Ambulance Service Franchise.

Malachi Stanley, representing Columbus County EMS and MEDAC Transport, Incorporated, commented that he is in agreement with the Ordinance.

There were no other comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to close the public hearing.

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING COMMENCED**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman C.W. Williams and the invocation was given by Commissioner Spruell R. "Randy" Britt.

**BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris, and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the August 18, 1997 Board Meeting as recorded.

**TAX RELEASES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to approve the tax releases submitted for August 18, and September 2, 1997.

**August 18, 1997:**

Release in the name of Joe Blake Barefoot & Ann. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value N/A, Year 1997, Account #11-00980.

Release the user fee in the name of Dewey Beck. The house in question is

vacant. Amount 100.00, Value N/A, Year 1997, Account #09-00720.

Release for the user fee in the name of Vergie Beck. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value N/A, Year 1997, Account #09-01103.

Release is requested for the user fee in the name of Docia P. Benson. The mobile home in question is used for storage. Amount 100.00, Value N/A, Year 1997, Account #09-01180.

Release the user fee in the name of Thelba A. Benson. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #08-01100.

Release in the name of Clifford W. Benton. The house in question is in the city. Amount 40.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-01688.

Release the user fee in the name of Ivan W. Britton. The house in question is vacant. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #13-04120.

Release the user fee in the name of Loretta R. Carpenter. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-08442.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert Randolph Carroll Sr. The house in question is non livable. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-08880.

Release the user fee in the name of Darryl and Sherry Cartrette. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-04519.

Release the user fee in the name of Betty Merle Clayter. The building in question is no longer in business. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-09280.

Release the user fee in the name of Zonel L. Connor. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #13-08900.

Release the user fee in the name of Aaron Ray & Dalma Cribb. The house in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-05243.

Release both user fees in the name of Magdalene Blake Duran. Both houses in question are vacant. Amount 120.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #13-10880.

Release the user fee in the name of Pauline Gore Evans. The house in question is vacant. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #10-05030.

Release the user fee in the name of William Favreau. The user fees paid under acct. # 11-22787 Bruce M. Robb. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #08-

Release the user fee in the name of Edwin T. Fields Jr. The house in questions is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-07759.

Release two (2) user fees in the name of James Cephus Freeman. Two mobile homes vacant. Amount 200.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #04-04840.

Release the user fee in the name of Mary S. Jordan Fipps (Heirs). House in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #13-12960.

Release the user fee in the name of Keith & Willa D. Fowler. Mobile home in question belongs to a son, 09-09110 Tim. Fowler. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-08880.

Release the user fee in the name of James W. & Janice S. Gore. House in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #07-06360.

Release the user fee in the name of Willie R. Gore. There is no mobile home on property. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-15460.

Release one user fee in the name of Avalon Blanks Graham. The mobile home on the property is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #08-06967.

Release the user fee in the name of Gloria L. Gray. There is no dwelling on the property. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-16637.

Release the user fee in the name of George J. & Lucille Green. The mobile home is being used for storage. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-34760.

Release the user fee in the name of James. W. Hagood. There is only one house on the property. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #8-08003.

Release the user fee in the name of Berry & Shannon K. Hammond. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-50046.

Release the user fee in the name of Bobby T Harwood & wife. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-37922.

Release the user fee in the name of Margaret R. & Thomas Hazelwood. House in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-38640.

Release the user fee in the name of Nancy Hill. Used county rate & property is in the city limits. Amount 80.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-40583.

Release the user fee in the name of Randy Gayle Hill. One house in county &

three mobile homes in city. Billed for all County. Amount 220.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-40640.

Release two (2) user fees in the name of Charles Edward Hinson. Both dwellings are vacant. Amount 200.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #10-08741.

Release the user fee in the name of Terrance D. Horrell. House is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-43901.

Release the user fee in the name of Ronnie Housand. Mobile home on property is used for storage. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-19523.

Release the user fee in the name of Johnny Jones. Dwelling is a camper, not mobile home. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #08-10337.

Release the user fee in the name of Bernard & Joyce Kachiaper. House in question is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-21520.

Release the user fee in the name of Edward S. & Maxine B. King. Building is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-12560.

Release the user fee in the name of Neal A. & Virginia L. Lane. The shop is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-22880.

Release the user fee in the name of Richie Larrimore. Property is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-16643.

Release the user fee in the name of Mary Ann Leder. House vacant. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-51808.

Release the user fee in the name of Ernest L. Little. There are only two (2) dwellings on land. Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #08-11000.

Release the user fee in the name of Thomas Leroy & Shirley A. Long. Property is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-14882.

Release the user fee in the name of Thelton Long. Mobile home sold prior to 1997. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-14860.

Release the user fee in the name of Retha W. McKee. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-15763.

Release the user fee in the name of Colon Manning. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-58943.

Release the user fee in the name of Dana Waldo Marlow. Only one house on

property. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-16200.

Release the user fee in the name of Marvelann W. Norris. House is vacant.

Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-23100.

Release the user fee in the name of Gertrude O'Connor. Building is vacant.

Amount 60.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-28500.

Release the user fee in the name of Lawrence Palmer & wife. Building is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-68140.

Release the user fee in the name of Maggie W. Pierce (Etal Life) House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #11-20070.

Release the user fee in the name of Robert & Bessie Pierce. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #11-20200.

Release the user fee in the name of Howard Wayne Reaves. There is only one house on property. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-24637.

Release the user fee in the name of Frank & Lessie Reeves. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-31300.

Release the user fee in the name of Michael Ray Richardson. The house is being used for storage. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #03-19880.

Release the user fee in the name of Russell Dale Rockwell. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #11-23007.

Release the user fee in the name of Paul Sanderson. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-23940.

Release the user fee in the name of Norman Sanderson. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-23920.

Release the user fee in the name of Eddie R. Shipman. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-82325.

Release the user fee in the name of Gayle Patrick & Mickey Smith. Land is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #16-13240.

Release the user fee in the name of Heidi Marie Snider. Mobile home double listed on account # 15-12521. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-35107.

Release the user fee in the name of Lorraine Howard Spears. Building is vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #11-25740.

Release 900.00 in user fees in the name of Charlotte Spivey. The fee was keyed in as 1,000.00 instead of 100.00. Amount 900.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #13-37637.

Release the user fee in the name of Dozier & Edna Spivey. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #09-27880.

Release the user fee in the name of Larry D. & Bonnie L. Spivey. There is only one dwelling on land. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-26180.

Release the user fee in the name of Tommy & Estelle Strickland. Mobile home in the city, not the county. Amount 40.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-38743.

Release the user fee in the name of Mary Alice Teichmann. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-86092.

Release the user fee in the name of Cornelius & Shirley Thompson. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-93363.

Release the user fee in the name of James C. & Calena Upchurch. Mobile home vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #15-36700.

Release the user fee in the name of Billy Ray & Edna N. Walker. Mobile home in the city, not the county. Amount 40.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #01-99160.

Release the user fee in the name of Billy Ray & Edna M. Walker. Seasonal residence. Amount 70.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #07-18460.

Release the user fee in the name of Odessa Watts Whitehead. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #06-42960.

Release the user fee in the name of Charles Richard Williamson. Building vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-30081.

Release the user fee in the name of William C. & Ann M. Willoughby. House is non livable. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #12-32380.

Release the user fee in the name of Steven Wilson. House vacant. Amount 100.00, Value NA, Year 1997, Account #10-18985.

**September 2, 1997:**

Release value of well & septic tank off property of Margie Boone. Amount 13.48, Valuation \$1,800, Year 1997, Account 01-06820.

Release value of a boat listed to Edward & Kathy W. Britt, they do not own.

Amount 7.65, Valuation \$1,100, Year 1997, Account 12-02474.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed on the property of Guy Russell Canady. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 07-01480.

Release value of double wide mobile home in the name of Richard Calvin Cartrette. It is listed to Richard & Ida Cartrette. Amount 255.07, Valuation \$36,701, Year 1997, Account 09-03841.

Release mobile home value of Marilyn Causey. It is listed to Ruddy Benton. Amount 17.72, Valuation \$2,550, Year 1997, Account 09-01290.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed as personal property in the name of Rudolph S. Cliff. It is being picked up as real estate. Amount 53.86, Valuation \$7,750, Year 1997, Account 13-08303.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Mary. R. Cokley. It is listed to Mary Retha Cokely. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000.00, Year 1997, Account 07-02230.

Release mobile home in the name of Jimmy & Debra Coleman. It is listed in the name of Elizabeth Carter Coleman. Amount 144.70, Valuation \$20,820, Year 1997, Account 13-08385.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Mamie Davis it was repossessed prior to 1-1-97. Amount 100.36, Valuation \$14,440, Year 1997, Account 16-03483.

Release mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Randall I. Denton. Listed in the name of Randy Denton. Amount 17.72, Valuation \$2,550, Year 1997, Account 04-03313.

Release value of mobile listed to David B. & Ruther L. Duncan. Already listed in the name of David & Ruther Lee Duncan. Amount 19.46, Valuation \$2,800, Year 1997, Account 01-21713.

Release value of mobile home listed as personal and real estate in the name of Spurgeon & Esther N. Duncan. Amount 21.75, Valuation \$3,130, Year 1997, Account 13-10860.

Release mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Melville Evans. It was moved to S.C. prior to 1-1-97. Amount 141.71, Valuation \$20,390, Year 1997, Account 01-25174.



Release a 1984 mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Darin Farris.

Repossessed in 1995. Amount 34.71, Valuation \$4,450, Year 1996, Account 01-25947.

Release 1984 mobile home picked up and listed to Darin Farris. Repossessed in 1995. Amount 30.93, Valuation \$4,450, Year 1997, Account 01-25947.

Release double wide mobile in the name of Robert Donald Fields. Listed in the name of Jonathan Fields. Amount 221.01, Valuation \$31,800, Year 1997, Account 12-07963.

Release double wide in the name of Foster & Pamela Fowler. Listed to Pamela & Foster Fowler. Amount 348.89, Valuation \$50,200, Year 1997, Account 06-11170.

Release mobile home picked up and listed to Gary W. Gore. Mr. Gore has never owned a mobile home. Amount 22.38, Valuation \$3,320, Year 1997, Account 07-06095.

Release mobile home picked up and listed to Henry Waymon Gore. Mobile home belongs to Florence Gore. Amount 26.06, Valuation \$3,750, Year 1997, Account 07-06200.

Release mobile home in the name of Lenzy Graham. Home listed to Pauline Brown Graham. Amount 39.75, Valuation \$5,720, Year 1997, Account 15-16400.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Roby J. Graham. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 33.99, Valuation \$4,890, Year 1997, Account 08-07450.

Release value of \$20,000 on the property of Monroe Dudley & Laura Grantham. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 139.00, Valuation \$20,000, Year 1997, Account 06-16640.

Release value of land and mobile home in the name of Orene H. Green. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 75.27, Valuation \$9,650, Year 1996, Account 09-12193.

Release value of land and mobile home in the name of Orene H. Green. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 67.07, Valuation \$9,650, Year 1997, Account 09-12193.

Release mobile home picked up and listed to Paul Howard & Addie Mae Haley. Home listed to Paul H. Haley. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account

12-10490.

Release mobile home picked up and listed to Stanley & Clarissa Hamilton. Listed to Clarissa Hamilton. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 01-36305.

Release mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Barry & Shannon Hammond. Home sold in 1995. Amount 24.39, Valuation \$3,510, Year 1997, Account 01-36567.

Release mobile home in the name of Roberta Hemmingway. Double listed to Roberta Hemingway (ETAL). Amount 17.93, Valuation \$2,580, Year 1997, Account 06-18373.

Release mobile home in the name of Melissa Inman Hewett. Double listed to Vol Hewett. Amount 177.36, Valuation \$25,520 Year 1997, Account 03-11688.

Release mobile home in the name of Vol Thurman Hewett. Double listed in the name of Melissa Inman Hewett. Amount 255.07, Valuation \$36,700, Year 1997, Account 03-11040.

Release mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Esque Hill. Home was destroyed in September storm. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 05-02825.

Release mobile home listed in the name of Minnie Hill. Home is in the name of Nancy Hill. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 01-40420.

Release value of property in the name of William & Johnnie Huggins. Failed to receive full senior citizens' exemption. Amount N/A, Valuation \$N/A, Year 1997, Account 12-12577.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Ernest Paul & Barbara Jones. Sold to Walter Batten prior to 1997. Amount 20.85, Valuation \$3,000, Year 1997, Account 01-48326.

Release value of land & house in the name of Ervin Rezell & Joan Jordan. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 104.95, Valuation \$15,100, Year 1997, Account 06-21860.

Release value of land in the name of Thelma C. Larkins (Special). Received senior citizens' exemption on home but not land. Amount 19.46, Valuation \$2,800, Year 1997, Account 15-23180.

Release value of farm equipment picked up and listed to Marvin Lewis. Equipment junked prior to 1997. Amount 4.17, Valuation \$600.00, Year 1997, Account 06-23060.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Thelton Long. Listed to Stewart Singletary. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 03-14860.

Release full value of property in the name of Lovegrove Freewill Baptist Church. Property exempt. Amount 1,401.12, Valuation \$201,600, Year 1997, Account 14-10167.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Danny & Margaret McDowell. Home sold three (3) yrs. ago. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 07-11523.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Fletcher McDuffie. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 57.69, Valuation \$8,300, Year 1997, Account 04-10800.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Marie Norris. Sold to Paul Page in June 1996. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 13-31203.

Release value of house and land in the name of Robert L. & Ruby S. Payne. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 139.00, Valuation \$20,000, Year 1997, Account 01-68860.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Theresa S. Pemberton. Traded on double wide and listed in real estate. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 15-50107.

Release value of house and lot in the name of Fred W. & Juanita Pfuetze. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 139.00, Valuation \$20,000, Year 1997, Account 15-29707.

Release value of land in the name of Clifford O. Pierce. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 8.34, Valuation \$1,200, Year 1997, Account 11-19640.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Pam Pittman. Double listed in the name of Livyan & Pamela Williamson. Amount 63.73, Valuation \$9,170, Year 1997,

Account 10-13536.

Release value of land and house in the name of Edna Earl Chestnut Price. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 118.15, Valuation \$17,000, Year 1997, Account 06-05101.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Charles & Melissa Ransom. Sold to Robbie Norris. Amount 29.05, Valuation \$4,180, Year 1997, Account 05-05315.

Release value of a boat that was picked and listed to John J. & Estelle C. Rich. Sold boat. Amount 1.04, Valuation \$150.00, Year 1997, Account 13-34354.

Release value of dwelling and land to John Howard Robinson. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 34.75, Valuation \$5,000, Year 1997, Account 08-15920.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Larry James Rogers Jr. Double listed to James Rogers, Jr. Amount 202.66, Valuation \$29,160, Year 1997, Account 03-20022.

Release value of 7,300 in the name of Jerome & Barbara Rooks. Billed on wrong value. Amount 62.87, Valuation \$7,300, Year 1997, Account 01-77820.

Release special district in the name of Floyd E. Russell. Property not located in Acme Delco. Amount N/A, Valuation \$N/A, Year 1997, Account 15-32400.

Release full value of property in the name of Sandyfield Town Hall. Property exempt. Amount 232.13, Valuation \$33,400, Year 1997, Account 15-52018.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Judson P. (Jr.) & Kimberly Sellers. Home sold in 1996. Amount 28.29, Valuation \$4,071, Year 1997, Account 08-16347.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Arthur David Simoneau. Double listed to Jean & Arthur Simoneau Stanley. Amount 68.32, Valuation \$9,830 Year 1997, Account 06-32907.

Release value of lot and mobile home in the name of Leo Franklin (Sr) & Lucille Smith. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption. Amount 36.84, Valuation \$5,300, Year 1997, Account 07-15430.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Delores J. Spivey. Home

burned in 1996. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 03-23357.

Release total value of property in the name of State of North Carolina. Property tax exempt. Amount 4,605.07, Valuation \$662,600, Year 1997, Account 08-03624.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed in the name of Daniel P. & Shirley Ann Stephens. Sold to Ronald Pridgen, Amount 32.46, Valuation \$4,670, Year 1997, Account 13-37950.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Debbie Turner. Home double listed to account #12-27967 Debbie Turner. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 12-27964.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to James Randy Upchurch. Listed to Randy C. & Calena D. Upchurch. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 15-36704.

Release value of mobile home attachments in the name of Miles & Martha Vample. Failed to receive the senior citizens' exemption on property. Amount 68.81, Valuation \$9,900, Year 1997, Account 06-40248.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to max Berman & Doretha Walker. Listed to Doretha Walker. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 01-99600.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Betty Jo Ward. Double listed to Travis & Betty Ward. Amount 105.36, Valuation \$15,160, Year 1997, Account 13-42500.

Release value of \$88,200 in the name of Martha B. Ward. She was billed on real property value instead of land use value. Amount 612.99, Valuation \$88,200, Year 1997, Account 02-01975.

Release value of mobile home in the name of Franklin Way. Double listed to Franklin & Dorothy Warf. Amount 258.54, Valuation \$37,200, Year 1997, Account 06-38118.

Release special district in the name of Lisa West. Property located in Chadbourn. Amount N/A, Valuation \$N/A, Year 1997, Account 12-28585.

Release value of property in the name of White Marsh Wildlife Action Inc. Property exempt. Amount 42.40, Valuation \$6,100, Year 1997, Account 11-29694.

Release house and land in the name of Mary R. White. Failed to receive the

senior citizens' exemption. Amount 115.70, Valuation \$16,670, Year 1997, Account 12-28701.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Gregory D. & Pandora Williamson. Home traded in on double wide and listed. Amount 12.51, Valuation \$1,800, Year 1997, Account 13-44760.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to W.M. Wilson. Home was sold in 1995. Amount 60.12, Valuation \$8,650, Year 1997, Account 14-17855.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to William Shane Yandle. Moved to Bladen County. Amount 42.59, Valuation \$5,460, Year 1996, Account 03-29452.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to William Shane Yandle. Moved to Bladen County. Amount 37.95, Valuation \$5,460, Year 1997, Account 03-29452.

Release value of mobile home picked up and listed to Carolynne Davis Young. Mobile home was sold in 1996. Amount 6.95, Valuation \$1,000, Year 1997, Account 12-47508.

**VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION - ACCEPTANCE OF LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM GEORGE BRYANT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of George Bryant, Veteran's Service Officer, effective October 31, 1997.

**VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER APPOINTMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to appoint Sherri Blackman to serve as the Veteran's Service Officer for Columbus County, commencing the retirement of George Bryant.

**AIRPORT - MONTHLY STIPEND INCREASED FOR OPERATION**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to increase the monthly stipend to the Airport operation from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per month with the increase to be absorbed within the 1997-98 Airport Budget.

**APPOINTMENT - REGIONAL AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to appoint Ben Douglas to serve on the Regional Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council to replace Ed Worley and serve the remainder of his term, expiring

June 30, 1998.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES - STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES ADOPTED**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to adopt the Standard Operating Guidelines which are being used as a method to distribute policies and procedures beyond the scope of the Columbus County Personnel Administration Policy for the Emergency Services Personnel which includes 9-1-1, Emergency Management and Addressing. The Emergency Services Standard Operating Guidelines will become an addendum to the Columbus County Personnel Administration Policy for Emergency Services Personnel only. A copy of the addendum is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

**ORDINANCE - NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE FRANCHISE**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to adopt the following Non-Emergency Ambulance Service Franchise Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE for NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE**

**SERVICE FRANCHISE**

This Ordinance is not to be construed to govern Emergency Ambulance Service. Columbus County contracts with County rescue squads for emergency services. This Ordinance applies to and for a franchise for any non-emergency ambulance service that may wish to operate in the geographical confines of Columbus County. These non-emergency ambulance transport providers shall operate by franchise. This franchise shall be granted by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners.

**SECTION I: DEFINITIONS**

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this Ordinance.

1. **Ambulance**: any privately or publicly owned motor vehicle, aircraft or vessel that is specifically designed, construed or modified and equipped and is intended to be used for and is maintained or operated for the transportation on any thoroughfare of Columbus County of persons who are sick, injured, incapacitated or helpless and meeting the North Carolina Administration Code T10:030.0901-1004.

2. **Ambulance Category II:** an ambulance used solely to transport sick or infirm patients having a known non-emergency medical condition on scheduled basis between facilities or between residence and a facility.
3. **Ambulance Attendant:** the individual who is responsible for the operation of an ambulance for the transportation of a patient or patients.
4. **Ambulance Service:** a public or privately owned enterprise that is engaged in the transportation of patient to non-emergency and/or emergency medical facilities.
5. **Approved:** approval by the North Carolina Medical Care Commission pursuant to the latest rules and regulations promulgated under N.C. General Statutes, subparagraph 143B-165.
6. **County:** the Columbus County Board of Commissioners or a designated representative.
7. **Franchise:** a permit issued by the County to a person for the operation of a non-emergency ambulance service.
8. **Franchisee:** any person having been issued a franchise by the County for the operation of a non-emergency ambulance service.
9. **Non-Emergency Transportation Services:** the operation of an ambulance or rescue vehicle for any purpose other than an emergency.
10. **Operator:** a person in actual physical control of an ambulance or rescue vehicle which is in motion or which has the engine running.
11. **Owner:** any person or entity who owns and operates an ambulance service.
12. **Patient:** an individual who is sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or helpless.
13. **Person:** any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, group of individuals acting together for a common purpose, or organization of any kind, including any governmental agency other than the United States.

## **SECTION II: FRANCHISE REQUIRED**

1. No person, either as owner, agent or otherwise, shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, advertise, or otherwise be engaged in or profess to be engaged in the business or service of non-emergency transportation of patients within the County



- of Columbus unless the person holds a valid permit for each ambulance used in such business or service issued by the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Office of Emergency Medical Services, and has been granted a franchise for the operation of such business or service by the County pursuant to this Ordinance.
2. No person shall drive an ambulance, attend a patient in one, or permit one to be operated when transporting a patient within the County of Columbus unless he/she holds a currently valid certificate as an ambulance attendant, emergency medical technician, EMT-intermediate, or EMT-Paramedic issued by the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Office of Emergency Medical Services.
  3. All persons, either as owners, agent or otherwise, shall establish an office in Columbus County with proper ambulances and equipment for the purpose of operating a non-emergency ambulance service.
  4. No franchise shall be required for and the provision of this division shall not apply to the following entities. However, such entities must comply with all applicable state and local laws relating to health, sanitation, safety, equipment, ambulance design and all other laws and ordinances.
    - A. Any entity rendering assistance to a franchised ambulance service in the case of a major catastrophe or emergency with which the ambulance services franchised by Columbus County are insufficient or unable to cope; or
    - B. Any entity operated from a location or headquarters outside of Columbus County in order to transport patients who are picked up beyond the limits of Columbus County, but no such entity shall be used to pick up patients within Columbus County for transporting to locations within Columbus County unless it is rendering assistance as referred to in Subsection A above.
    - C. Law enforcement personnel.
    - D. All municipalities within Columbus County.
  5. Any ambulance service operated from a location or headquarters inside the County for the purpose of responding to on-site industrial accidents which may result in the non-emergency transport of a patient to an emergency medical facility within the County.

### **SECTION III: APPLICATION for AMBULANCE FRANCHISE**

Application for a franchise to operate ambulances in the County of Columbus shall be made by the ambulance provider upon such forms as may be prepared or prescribed by the County and shall contain:

1. The name and address of the ambulance provider and of the owner of the ambulance(s).
2. The trade or other businesses, corporations or agencies, if any, under which the applicant does business, along with a certified copy of an assumed name certificate stating such name or articles of incorporation stating such name.
3. A resume of the training and experience of the applicant in the transportation and care of patients.
4. A full description of the type and level of service to be provided, including the location of the place or places from which it is intended to operate, the manner in which the public will be able to obtain assistance and how the vehicles will be dispatched. An audited financial statement of the applicant as the same pertains to the operations in the County of Columbus. The said financial statement to be in such form and such detail as may be required by the County.
5. A Description of the applicant's capability to provide twenty-four (24) hour coverage, seven (7) days per week for the district covered by the franchise applied for, and an accurate estimate of the minimum and maximum times for a response to calls within such district.
6. Any information the County shall deem reasonably necessary for a fair determination of the capability of the applicant to provide ambulance services in the County of Columbus in accordance with the requirements of State laws and the provisions of this regulation.

#### **SECTION IV: GRANTING of FRANCHISE**

1. Prior to accepting applications for the operation of an ambulance service, the Board of Commissioners may designate specific service areas as franchise districts. Said districts will be established using criteria that includes geographic size, road access, the location of existing medical transportation services, population and response time or no geographical districts may be designated with the franchise being inclusive of all of Columbus County. The County shall have the complete authority to delegate

- service areas at their discretion.
2. Upon receipt of an application for a franchise, the County shall schedule a time and place for hearing the applicant. Within thirty (30) days after hearing, the County shall cause such investigation as it may deem necessary to be made of the applicant and his/her proposed operations.
  3. A franchise may be granted if the County finds that:
    - A. The applicant shows a reasonable effort to meet state standards and standards outlined in the franchise ordinance for non-emergency services.
    - B. The proposed service will fit within the existing service so as not to adversely affect the level of service or operations of other franchisees to render service.
    - C. A need exists for the proposed service in order to improve the level of ambulance services available to residents of the County and that this is a reasonable and cost-effective manner of meeting the need.
    - D. All providers of non-emergency ambulance services in Columbus County shall be issued a franchise at the time the Ordinance takes effect upon their making application to Columbus County.

## **SECTION V: TERM OF FRANCHISE**

1. The County may issue a franchise hereunder to an ambulance provider, to be valid for a term to be determined by the County, provided that either party as its option, may terminate the franchise upon sixty (60) days prior written notice to the other party. After a notice of service termination is given, the ambulance provider may reapply for a franchise if continued service is desired.
2. Upon suspension, revocation or termination of a franchise granted hereunder, such franchised ambulance service immediately shall cease operations. Upon suspension, revocation or termination of a driver's license or attendant's certification, or emergency medical technician certification, such persons shall cease to drive an ambulance or provide medical care in conjunction with an ambulance service, or attend an ambulance. The franchisee shall not or permit such an individual to drive an ambulance or provide non-emergency medical care in conjunction with the ambulance service.
3. Each franchised ambulance service shall comply, at all times, with the requirements

of this Ordinance, the franchise granted hereunder, and all applicable State and local laws relating to health, sanitation, safety, equipment and ambulance design and all other laws and ordinances.

4. Prior approval of the County shall be required where ownership or control of more than ten (10%) percent of the right of control of a franchisee is acquired by a person or group of persons acting in concert, none of whom own or control ten (10%) percent or more of such right of control, singularly or collectively, at the date of the franchise. By its acceptance of the franchise, the franchisee specifically agrees that any such acquisition occurring without prior approval of the County shall constitute a violation of the franchise by the franchisee and shall be cause for termination at the option of the County.
5. Any change of ownership of a franchised ambulance service without the approval of the County shall terminate the franchise and shall require a new application and a new franchise and conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original franchising.
6. No franchise may be sold, assigned, mortgaged or otherwise transferred without the approval of the County; and a finding of conformance with all requirements of this Ordinance as upon original franchising. Each franchised ambulance service, its equipment and the premises designated in the application and all records relating to its maintenance and operation, as such, shall be open to inspection by the State, the County or their designated representatives.

#### **SECTION VI: STANDARDS for DRIVERS and ATTENDANTS**

Drivers and attendants are subject to standards developed by the North Carolina Medical Care Commission for certification pursuant to Article 26, Chapter 130-233 and Article 7, Chapter 143 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and are incorporated into this Ordinance.

#### **SECTION VII: STANDARDS for VEHICLES and EQUIPMENT**

Vehicles and equipment are subject to standards developed by the North Carolina Medical Care Commission pursuant to Article 26, Chapter 130 and Article 56, Chapter 143 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and are incorporated into this Ordinance.

#### **SECTION VIII: STANDARDS for COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Each ambulance vehicle shall be equipped with an operational two-way radio capable of establishing good quality voice communications from within the geographic confines of Columbus County to the County hospital and all emergency agencies in Columbus County, as well as the County's law enforcement agencies.
2. Each ambulance provider will maintain current Federal Communication Commission licenses. All licenses will be available for inspections at all times per FCC regulations.
3. Each fixed base of operations must have at least one (1) open telephone line. Telephone numbers must be registered with each emergency service agency, communication center and law enforcement agencies in Columbus County.

### **SECTION IX: INSURANCE**

No ambulance franchise shall be issued under this Ordinance, nor shall such franchise be valid after issuance, nor shall any ambulance be operated in the County of Columbus unless the franchisee has, at all times, in force and effect, insurance coverage, issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of North Carolina, for each and every ambulance owned and/or operated by or for the ambulance service providing for the payment of damages:

1. In the sum of five hundred thousand and 00/100 (\$500,000.00) dollars for injury to or death of individuals in accidents resulting from any cause for which the owner of said vehicle would be liable on account of liability imposed on him/her by law, regardless of whether the ambulance was being driven by the owner or his/her agency;
2. In the sum of fifty thousand and 00/100 (\$50,000.00) dollars for the loss of or damage to the property of another, including personal property, under like circumstances, in sums as may be required by the State or as approved by the County of Columbus;
3. Each ambulance provider shall have Worker's Compensation Insurance at all times;  
**and**
4. Columbus County will not be held responsible for any negligent or wrongful or malfeasance on civil claims or judgement that may be filed against the non-emergency transport provider.

### **SECTION X. RECORDS**

1. **TRIP RECORDS:** records that shall be designed as to provide the patient with a copy thereof containing all required information. A copy of the Trip Record may serve as a receipt for any charges paid.
2. **DAILY REPORT LOGS:** shall be maintained for the purpose of identifying more than one (1) person transported in any one (1) day.
3. **ANNUAL REPORTS:** will be provided in written form to the Board of Columbus County Commissioners. This report will identify the number of transports made during the ambulance provider's fiscal year and any other information pertinent to the non-emergency operations. This report will be due thirty (30) days after the close of the past fiscal year.

## **SECTION XI: RATES and CHANGES**

Each franchisee shall submit a schedule of rates to the County for approval and shall not charge more or less than the approved rates without specific approval by the County.

## **XII. ENFORCEMENT**

The Columbus County Emergency Services Office shall be the enforcing agency for regulations contained in this Ordinance. The Administration Office will:

1. Receive all franchise proposals from potential providers;
2. Study each proposal for conformance to this Ordinance;
3. Recommend to the Board of County Commissioners the approval or disapproval of a franchise;
4. Inspect the premises, vehicles, equipment and personnel of the franchisee to assure compliance to this Ordinance; and
5. Recommend to the Board of County Commissioners the temporary or permanent suspension of a franchise in the event of non-compliance with the terms of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION XIII: VIOLATIONS**

Violation of this Ordinance or the terms of any franchise granted hereunder shall be a misdemeanor as provided by North Carolina General Statutes, Section 14-4. Each such violation also shall subject the offender (franchisee) to a civil penalty in the amount of one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars for each separate breach of the franchise or violation

of this division. This civil penalty must be paid within ten (10) days after the hearing, as provided in Section 6-23(b) above on said citation, has been held. If not so paid, such penalty may be recovered by the County as provided by North Carolina General Statutes, Section 153A-123(c). If the civil penalty is not paid within the ten (10) days as provided for above, the County may suspend or revoke the franchise.

#### **SECTION XIV: COMPENSATION**

1. It will be the responsibility of the franchise holder/non-emergency ambulance provider to bill, charge or seek compensation for their services.
2. The Columbus County Board of Commissioners will not be responsible for any expenses or cost associated with the operation of the franchised non-emergency ambulance transport service.
3. Columbus County will provide no monetary inducements, stipends or payment to any non-emergency ambulance transport service.

**ADOPTED** this the 2nd day of September 1997.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**/s/ C. W. WILLIAMS, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:**

**/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board**

(SEAL)

#### **WACCAMAW RIVER - HURRICANE FRAN DEBRIS REMOVAL DISCUSSION**

Douglas Smith addressed the Board regarding the Hurricane Fran debris removal from the Waccamaw River and asked if the Contract had been awarded to Stewart Logging.

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, reported that an advertisement was published in the paper on July 10, 1997 seeking companies or individuals for contract work in cleaning and clearing trees and debris in the Waccamaw River from the Dam at Lake Waccamaw to the bridge at SR 1928 in the Crusoe Island area. Contractors must be insured and show evidence of proper equipment. Mr. Herring reported that he only had one company, Stewart Logging, to show evidence of proper equipment for removal of the debris and the Service Agreement, based on an hourly rate for work performed, was awarded to them. Mr. Herring also reported that if additional funding is awarded to Columbus County,

there will be a second phase of cleaning debris which will not require debris removal equipment and anyone interested can bid on the second phase.

**SOCIAL SERVICES - MEDICAID EXPENDITURES**

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, reported on the in-County Medicaid Expenditures for Fiscal Year 1996-97 as follows:

Columbus County Health Department	\$ 1,513,629.01
Columbus County Department of Aging	1,918,211.03
Columbus County Hospital	6,090,082.69
Physicians and Dentists	2,918,002.65
Drug Stores	7,618,005.18
Nursing and Rest Homes	8,357,259.67
Ambulance Service	64,592.49
Freestanding Rural/Migrant Clinics	2,812,612.07
Medical Transportation	76,443.02
Other Medical Care and Services	1,845,391.01
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 33,214,228.82</b>

The figures listed does not include Medicaid expenditures for Columbus County residents for medical services received outside the County.

In addition to the above listed figures, as of March 1997, Mental Health has received Medicaid payments from Social Services in the amount of \$2,859,959.66.

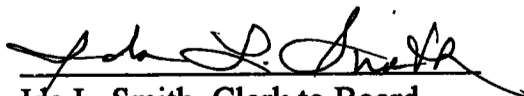
**ADMINISTRATION - PERMIT ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND THE STRATEGIC PLANNING REGIONAL MEETING**

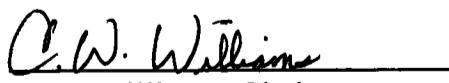
A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to permit Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, to attend the Ford Foundation Strategic Planning Regional Meeting, September 13-17, 1997, at Glacier Falls, Montana.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:40 A.M.

**APPROVED:**

  
Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

  
C.W. Williams, Chairman