

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

**MINUTES**

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, NC at 7:30 P.M., Monday, October 18, 1999, for the regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the third Monday.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

C.E. Wilson, Chairman

Sammie Jacobs, Vice Chairman

Spruell Randolph Britt

David L. Dutton, Jr.

A. Dial Gray, III

Amon E. McKenzie

Lynwood Norris

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring  
County Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman C.E. Wilson called the Board Meeting to order and Commissioner Spruell R. Britt gave the invocation.

**BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the October 4, 1999 Board Meeting, as recorded.

**TAX REFUNDS AND RELEASES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve the tax refunds and releases as recommended by Richard Gore, Tax Administrator.

**Tax Refunds:**

Request a refund in the name of A Haworth Co., One Haworth Center, Holland, MI 49423. Paid fire district tax on property that is outside the fire district. Amount \$2,729.70, Value \$3,899,571.22, Year 1999, Account #13-28546.

Request a refund in the name of William R. & Priscilla M. Bowen, 2774 Tom Sessions Rd. Whiteville, N.C. 28472. Paid full amount of user fee but only had the trash cart since November. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #14-00514.

Request a refund in the name of Nastedman & Janie Rose Beat Freeman, 238 Shaw Rd., Reigelwood, N.C. 28456. Paid two user fees, only has one trash cart. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #15-14865.

Request a refund in the name of Vernelle B. Gibbs, P.O. Box 414, Fair Bluff, N.C. 28439. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$36.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1995, Account #10-05880.

Request a refund in the name of Vernelle B. Gibbs, P.O. Box 414, Fair Bluff, N.C. 28439. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$36.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1996, Account #10-05880.

Request a refund in the name of Vernelle B. Gibbs, P.O. Box 414, Fair Bluff, N.C. 28439. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1997, Account #10-05880.

Request a refund in the name of Vernelle B. Gibbs, P.O. Box 414, Fair Bluff, N.C. 28439. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #10-05880.

**Tax Releases:**

Release the property value in the name of D. Pershing Carroll. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$151.00, Value \$20,000, Year 1999, Account #08-03648.

Release the property value in the name of Waddell Stephens. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$106.95, Value \$1000, Year 1997, Account #06-36690.

Release the property value in the name of Waddell Stephens. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$101.42, Value \$1000, Year 1998, Account #06-36690.

Release the property value in the name of Waddell Stephens. Failed to receive senior citizens exemption. Amount \$108.75, Value \$1000, Year 1999, Account #06-36690.

Release the August discount of 2% in the name of George M. Garrell not absorbed by computer. Amount \$1.03, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #09-09445.

Release the user fee in the name of Ruth H. Canady. Mobile homes are vacant. Amount \$200.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #03-02580.

Release the user fee in the name of Danny Ray & Lois F. Coleman. Home repossessed. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #03-03750.

Release the user fee in the name of William Coley Fowler. Mobile home vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #10-05740.

Release the user fee in the name of Doretha Freeman (ETAL). This property is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #15-14640.

Release the user fee in the name of Vernelle B. Gibbs. Home is vacant. Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #10-04880.

Release the user fee in the name of Albert C. Gore. No trash cart at shop. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #07-05500.

Release the user fee in the name of Albert C. Gore. There is no trash cart at the shop. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #07-05500.

Release the user fee in the name of Danny M. & Johnny F. Grice. This property is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #07-07864.

Release the user fee in the name of Minerva Faye Milligan. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #06-26007.

Release one of the user fees in the name of Cardie Belle F. & Calvin H. Moore. Old store is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #04-11816.

Release the user fees in the name of Donald Jerry & Margie Pridgen. They have a private hauler. Amount \$3,180.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #01-73424.

Release the user fee in the name of Maggie Bellamy. Mobile home is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #01-77421.

Release the user fee in the name of Shelby Jean Royals. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #09-04046.

Release the user fee in the name of Shelby Jean Royals. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #09-04046.

Release the user fee in the name of Belle D. Smith (Heirs). Never received a trash cart. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #08-16720.

Release the user fee in the name of Bennie R. Smith (Etal) House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #03-22245.

Release the user fee in the name of T.V. & Joyce Smith. Fee double listed in the name of T.V. Smith. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #07-04404.

Release the user fee in the name of Memory W. & Sylvia Ward. Mobile home is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #15-37480.

Release the user fee in the name of Eugene Douglas Williams (Heirs). Mobile home vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #09-33380.

Release the user fee in the name of Lenwood & Minerva Williams. Mobile home used for storage. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #02-06820.

Release the user fee in the name of Wade Lenwood Williams. Mobile home is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #09-33713.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Charles Britt. Home traded for double wide and listed. Amount \$137.04, Value \$4709, Year 1999, Account #03-01930.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Richard Britt. Home burned in 1993. Amount \$90.04, Value \$7900, Year 1994, Account #12-02845.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Richard Britt. Mobile home burned in 1993. Amount \$121.62, Value \$7900, Year 1995, Account #12-02845.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Richard Britt. Mobile home burned in the 1993. Amount \$145.62, Value \$7900, Year 1996, Account #12-02845.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Ethel Murphy Burroughs. Home double listed in the name of Joseph Smith. Amount \$213.43, Value \$22,100, Year 1994, Account #13-05961.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs) Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$3.70, Value \$500, Year 1990, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$3.75, Value \$500, Year 1991, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$3.75, Value \$500, Year 1992, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$3.90, Value \$500, Year 1993, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$4.10, Value \$500, Year 1994, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$4.20, Value \$500, Year 1995, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$4.20, Value \$500, Year 1996, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$7.55, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokley. Amount \$7.55, Value \$1,000, Year 1998, Account #09-05220.

Release the property value in the name of Alton Cribb (Heirs). Property double listed in the name of David Cokely. Amount \$7.55, Value \$1,000, Year 1999, Account #09-05220.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Dianne Grissett. Home double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$147.20, Value \$6,090, Year 1999, Account #14-00610.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Jamie Ivey. Home double listed in the name of Chad Conner. Amount \$100.84, Value \$13,190, Year 1999, Account #12-04104.

Release the value of (5) mobile homes in the name of Lowery Mobile Home Park. Property double listed in the name of James F. Lowery. Amount \$567.77, Value \$8,160, Year 1998, Account #09-17264.

Release the value of (5) mobile homes in the name of Lowery Mobile Home Park. Property double listed in the name of James F. Lowery. Amount \$567.77, Value \$8,160, Year 1999, Account #09-17264.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Helen McKissick. Home repossessed in 1998. Amount \$181.50, Value \$10,000, Year 1999, Account #15-24955.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of James H. Nobles. Home double listed in the name of James Howard & Elizabeth Ann Nobles. Amount \$218.56, Value \$16,940, Year 1996, Account #13-30022.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of James H. Nobles. Home double listed in the name of James Howard & Elizabeth Ann Nobles. Amount \$227.60, Value \$16,690, Year 1997, Account #13-30022.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of James H. Nobles. Home double listed in the name of James Howard & Elizabeth Ann Nobles. Amount \$215.82, Value \$15,150, Year 1998, Account #13-30022.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of James H. Nobles. Home double listed in the name of James Howard & Elizabeth Ann Nobles. Amount \$206.49, Value \$13,390, Year 1999, Account #13-30022.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Alan Stewart. Home sold prior to 1-1-99. Amount \$56.54, Value \$6,720, Year 1999, Account #13-00311.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT - HURRICANE FLOYD RELIEF**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve accepting funds from the North Carolina Hurricane Floyd Relief Fund in the amount of \$287,236.00 (40-348-0700) to be expended in Hurricane Floyd Relief (40-612-0100) for those persons who qualify.

**AWARD - PLAQUE PRESENTED TO CLAUDE ELLIOTT BOSWELL**

Chairman Wilson presented Claude Elliott Boswell a "plaque of appreciation" for his years of service in the Columbus County Maintenance Department.

**SHERIFF - POLICE VEHICLE BID ACCEPTED**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to accept the lowest bid on the Sheriff's ten (10) police vehicles from Hamp Avant's Quality Ford, Whiteville, NC, in the amount of \$72,145.96 (3 annual payments). The purchase of the vehicles was included in the 1999-2000 Columbus County Operating Budget.

**AYES:** Commissioners Britt, Dutton, Gray, Jacobs, Norris and Wilson.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAINED:** Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie due to a possible conflict of interest.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ENGINEERING SERVICES APPROVED FOR WRIGHT CORPORATION WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to approve hiring the Triangle Environmental, Incorporated, Raleigh, NC, to perform all engineering services for the Wright Corporation wastewater treatment plant project which was recommended by Steve Yost, Economic Development Director.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES - STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES REVISIONS APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the series of revisions to the Columbus County 9-1-1 Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) with a revision to SOG 72 which is to remain the same as the Columbus County Personnel Administration Policy, Article VI. Leaves of Absence, Section 8. Failure in Performance of Duties, pages 30 - 33.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES - RETENTION AND DISPOSITION SCHEDULE APPROVED**

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner

Britt and passed unanimously to include the Emergency Management Retention and Disposition Schedule in the Columbus County Records Retention and Disposition Schedule as approved by the North Carolina Division of Archives and History as follows:

**RECORDS RETENTION AND DISPOSITION SCHEDULE AMENDMENT**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL, LEGAL, AND**

**PERSONNEL OFFICE**

**Standard 4. Emergency Management Records**

Amend the records retention and disposition schedule for the Columbus County Administrative Office records by adding item 2a as shown on page 21, dated September 30, 1999.

**APPROVAL RECOMMENDED**

**/s/ Dempsey B. Herring**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**

**/s/ Jeffrey J. Crow, Director**  
**Division of Archives and History**

**APPROVED**

**/s/ C.E. Wilson, Chairman**  
**Board of County Commissioners**

**/s/ Betty Ray McCain, Secretary**  
**Department of Cultural Resources**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES - STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES (SOG)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a revision to Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) Number 71 and 79 as recommended by John H. Moore, Jr., Emergency Services Director.

**WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT II - CONSTRUCTION PLAN APPROVED**

Wade Lewis, representing Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, Engineers, presented the Board with the amended Columbus County Water and Sewer District II construction plan.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the feasibility costs for including Cherry Grove/Highway 904 West to the construction plan, a motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to direct Wade Lewis, representing Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, Engineers, to submit the original plan to USDA - Rural Development in order to request loan closing instructions and authorization to bid the project with the stipulation for additional phases, with priority given to the Cherry



Grove area, to be added to the project after the project construction begins.

**WATER & SEWER DISTRICT II - OPTION TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the option to purchase 1.2 acres of real property adjacent to N.C. Highway 242 near Williamson Crossroads for the tank and well site for Water and Sewer District II, in the amount of Ten Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$10,000.00).

**WATER & SEWER DISTRICT II - APPROVAL OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to approve the rules and regulations for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

**ANIMAL CONTROL - COLUMBUS HUMANE SOCIETY**

Betty Gail Kronenwetter, Columbus Humane Society President, addressed the Board regarding the Columbus County Animal Control Shelter and requested action to be taken on the following items:

1. Educate the public on animals;
2. Preventing animal cruelty;
3. Animal Control Ordinance needs to be amended;
4. Board of Commissioners needs to acquaint themselves with animal problems;
5. Animal shelter needs to be a larger facility;
6. Animals need to have "rest boards" to sleep on instead of the cold, wet floor;
7. For euthanism sodium penethol injection should be used instead of carbon-monoxide poisoning;
8. Expansion of Animal Shelter hours one (1) evening per week and some Saturdays;
9. Animals should be spade/neutered before adoption in conjunction with the vaccinations that are required; and
10. Humane Society Volunteers are willing to attend the animal shelter after County working hours and help with cleaning the shelter.

Approximately twelve (12) Humane Society supporters present had multiple complaints involving animals.

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, reported the County has land for a new Animal Shelter and have plans for building a new shelter in the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year as part of a long-range Capital Project Plan.

Mr. Herring reported the County will need to investigate the liability for Humane Society Volunteers.

The Humane Society supporters stated they will be willing to sign a waiver of any liability to the County if they are allowed to volunteer at the Animal Shelter.

The Board directed James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney, to investigate the County's liability for Humane Society Volunteers.

The Board directed Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, to contact surrounding Counties regarding the content of their Animal Control Ordinances, Volunteerism, etc., and advise the Board on his findings.

The Columbus Humane Society is to meet with the Board of County Commissioners at their regularly scheduled Board Meeting November 15, 1999.


**COLUMBUS COUNTY HOSPITAL - APPROVAL OF PROPERTY EXCHANGE**


A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to acknowledge and consent to the sale by the Columbus County Hospital, Incorporated, of an office building, formerly known as the Ron Mukamal Medical Office, to Dr. Erik Lamont Kenyon and the said Board also acknowledges and consents to the purchase of the Ronald P. Glinski and wife, Roseleen Glinski's vacant lot and the Robert W. Arrington and wife, Margaret B. Arrington's house and lot, all property on Jefferson Street, Whiteville, NC.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:50 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting.

**APPROVED:**

  
 Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

  
 C.E. Wilson, Chairman