

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

7:30 P.M.

The Columbus County Board of Commissioners met on the above stated date and time at the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
 C.E. "Gene" Wilson, **Vice-Chairman**  
 Spruell R. Britt  
 David L. Dutton, Jr.  
 Sammie Jacobs  
 Bill Memory  
 Lynwood Norris

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

James E. Hill, Jr., **County Attorney**  
 Billy Joe Farmer, **County Administrator**  
 Darren L. Currie, **Assistant County Administrator**  
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**

**PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG GRANT for SCATTERED SITE HOUSING:**

A public hearing was conducted for the purpose of receiving the views and opinions from the citizens of Columbus County on community development and housing rehabilitation needs. Chris May, Cape Fear Council of Governments presented an overview of this program. He stated the following:

1. Columbus County is subject to receive a four hundred thousand and 00/100 (\$400,00.00) dollars Scatted Site Housing Grant.
2. Every three (3) years, the State gives this money.
3. This is based on income level, the amount of work that needs to be done and other criteria that must be met to be eligible.

Chris May introduced Ms. Lanett Dennis who is also with the Cape Fear Council of Governments and ask her to explain to the citizens the process of applying for this grant. Ms. Dennis stated the following:

1. This grant is for repairs to houses.
2. Grant is based on basic needs (i.e. no heat, plumbing, roof caving in).
3. There is no matching contribution.
4. These houses must be owner occupied.
5. For low-income households.
6. Income must be fifty (50%) percent or lower than average income for the area they are located in.
7. This grant is presently in the application stage.
8. Columbus County will be considered the Lead Agent.
9. At our first meeting held introducing this grant, we had ninety (90%) percent attendance from the Towns, which we think is very good.
10. This is the first of the two (2) required public hearings to be held.
11. The second public hearing will be scheduled for February 18, 2002 at 7:30 P.M.
12. The surveys we are handing out will help to identify people meeting the minimum requirements.

After Ms. Dennis finished, Chairman Amon E. McKenzie asked if there were any questions the attendees wanted to ask her regarding this grant. He suggested that each person that wished to speak to please stand and state his or her name before speaking. The people that spoke are listed as follows.

1. **Neil Bunny:** I would like to know how the minimum requirements are determined and what are they?
2. **Lanett Dennis:** replied that HUD supplied the figures they used. I do not have them with me now but if you will call tomorrow on the (800) number listed on the application, I will inform you.

3. **Velma Daniels:** I would like to know how much income a family of four (4) could make and still qualify for this grant?
4. **Chris May:** in response to Ms. Daniels' question, the income would be around twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars per year.
5. **Resident (did not state name):** I would like to know what amount of money can be spent on each house and what kind of house can be remodeled?
6. **Lanett Dennis:** in response to the above listed inquiry, Ms. Dennis stated that the maximum amount that can be spent on any house is twenty-nine thousand, nine hundred ninety-nine (\$29,999) dollars. It can be a mobile home or a wood house. If a mobile home, the following would apply:
  - a. Has to be built after 1978;
  - b. The maximum amount to be expended would be fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollars;
  - c. Must be on a permanent foundation;
  - d. Must be owner occupied;
  - e. We hope to repair ten to twelve (10-12 houses); and
  - f. These houses will be located in incorporated areas and the unincorporated areas.
7. **Resident (did not state name):** What do you mean by a deferred loan that must be paid back over eight (8) years?
8. **Lanett Dennis:** in response to the above question, Ms. Dennis stated that you had up to eight (8) years to pay this loan back, but over the time frame, the loan is forgiven except in the following instances: the property is sold or the owner of the property dies.
9. **Commissioner David L. Dutton, Jr.:** Ms. Dennis, you stated that only ten to twelve houses would be repaired, but if the maximum amount is not expended on each house, then that would allow for more houses to be done.

Chris May, Cape Fear Council of Governments explained the breakdown of the manner in which the four hundred thousand (\$400,000) dollars grant would be expended. It is as follows:

- a. \$ 3,500 - application to the State;
- b. \$40,000 - salary for Lanett Dennis (10% Administration Cost); and
- c. \$356,500 - to be applied toward houses.

\$400,000 - TOTAL GRANT

Commissioner Dutton made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:51 P.M.

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:53 P.M., Chairman Amon E. McKenzie called the meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Ed Worley, Department of Aging Director.

#### **BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Memory to approve the January 7, 2002 Board Minutes as recorded. The motion so carried. Commissioner Jacobs requested a note be made the remainder of these minutes was not included since the meeting had been recessed.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Memory to approve the Consent Agenda Items as follows:

#### **TAX REFUNDS (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office): February 5, 2002 Meeting**

Request a refund in the name of Baker, Ronald E., 418 Ward Town Rd. N., Whiteville,, NC 28472. Refund the value of a mobile home and the Old Dock Fire fee (5.26) and the Columbus

Rescue fee (1.31). The mobile home was sold in 2000. Amount \$222.81, Value \$6,570.00, Year 2001, Account # 03-00489, Bill # 80282.

Request a refund in the name of Buffkin, Moody D., 4102 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463. Refund the property value and the Yam City Fire fee. This property is double listed in the name of Harriet Sikes. Amount \$27.03, Value \$3,400.00, Year 1997, Account # 06-03320, Bill # 37327.

Request a refund in the name of Buffkin, Moody D., 4102 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463. Refund the property value and the Yam City Fire fee. Property is double listed in the name of Harriet Sikes. Amount \$27.03, Value \$3,400.00, Year 1998, Account # 06-03320, Bill # 41449.

Request a refund in the name of Buffkin, Moody D., 4102 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463. Refund the property value and the Yam City Fire fee. Property is double listed in the name of Harriet Sikes. Amount \$27.03, Value \$3,400.00, Year 1999, Account # 06-03320, Bill # 2979.

Request a refund in the name of Buffkin, Moody D., 4102 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463. Refund the property value and the Yam City Fire fee. Property is double listed in the name of Harriet Sikes. Amount \$27.88, Value \$3,400.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-03320, Bill # 83863.

Request a refund in the name of Webb, Catrena, 1751 Blacksmith Rd., Bolton,, NC 28423. Refund user fee. Customer never received a trash can. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 04-00748, Bill # 19470.

Request a refund in the name of Wright, Travis L., 550 Minos Meares Rd., Tabor City,, NC 28463. Refund a portion of the property value and the Williams Fire fee (12.00) and the Columbus Rescue fee (4.00). Property is double listed in the name of E.L. Wright. Amount \$172.00, Value \$20,000.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-36460, Bill # 21829.

The following is based on recommendations from the Tax Administrator's Office.

**Budget Amendments:**

EXPEND/REVENUE	ACCOUNT #	CLASSIFICATION	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-700-9600	JCPC Special Adoption	\$1,213
Revenue	10-348-2000	JCPC Special Adoption	\$1,213
Expenditure	10-610-6070	Crisis Intervention	\$21,134
Revenue	10-348-1621	Crisis Intervention	\$21,134
Expenditure	10-610-6065	CP&L Energy	\$38,331
Revenue	10-348-1660	CP&L Energy	\$38,331
Revenue	10-348-1402	State-Communicable Disease	\$ 7,600
Expenditures:	10-581-14	Travel	\$ 1,500
	10-581-32	Office Supplies	\$ 1,500
	10-581-46	Drugs and Supplies	\$ 800
	10-581-74	Capital Outlay	\$ 3,800
Expenditure	10-591-02	Salaries	(\$1,634)
Revenue	10-348-07	Family Planning Grant	(\$1,634)
Expenditure	30-725-5400	Insurance Claim Liability	\$156,296

EXPEND/REVENUE	ACCOUNT #	CLASSIFICATION	AMOUNT
Revenue	30-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$156,296
Expenditure	72-525-7400	Capital Outlay	\$35,000
Revenue	72-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$35,000
Expenditure	25-525-7400	Capital Outlay	\$30,000
Revenue	25-397-0000	Emergency Telephone System	\$30,000
Expenditure	72-525-9100	Transfer to 911 Project	\$30,000
Revenue	72-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$30,000

### REQUEST for PUBLIC HEARING for QZAB FINANCING

In the absence of Sharon Penny with Whiteville City Schools, Darren Currie, Assistance County Administrator, requested a public hearing be set for the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Financing. He explained this was an interest-free loan, money would be saved in energy cost, Columbus County would act as a funding agent and the Local Government is helping with this. Commissioner Dutton made a motion the public hearing for the QZAB Financing be set for February 18, 2002, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. Motion so carried.

### CHAF PROGRAM REQUEST for APPROVAL

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, requested approval of the following items for the CHAF Program:

#### 1. R-1 Replacements (11):

SEQ #	UNIT NO.	OWNER	COST	UNIT TYPE
1	00-15	Eunice Livingston 741 Jockey Road Hallsboro, NC 28442	\$67,760	Modular
2	00-75	Dorothy McMillina 11454 Andrew Jackson Highway Fair Bluff, NC 28439	\$47,500	Singlewide/Land
3	00-186	Margie Flowers 609 Wilkes Street Chadbourn, NC 28431	\$15,000	Land
4	00-223	JoAnn Gore 648 Pine Circle Tabor city, NC 28463	\$32,500	Singlewide
5	00-276	Roosevelt Huggins 8497 Old Highway 74 Evergreen, NC 28438	\$47,834	Singlewide
6	00-293	Jackson James 58 Pine Circle Tabor City, NC 28463	\$37,750	Singlewide
7	00-311	Zadie Jacobs 349 Buck Head Road Bolton, NC 28423	\$66,800	Modular
8	00-435	Nina Quattlebaum 217 Jockey Road, Hallsboro, NC 28442	\$47,500	Singlewide/Land

SEQ#	UNIT NO.	OWNER	COST	UNIT TYPE
9	00-449	Mamie Sims 1075 Clyde Norris Road Tabor City, NC 28463	\$79,634	Doublewide/Land
10	00-464	Frances Smith 2464 Pine Log Road Whiteville, NC 28472	\$47,090	Doublewide

Commissioner Memory made a motion for this to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. Motion so carried.

## 2. Award Contract to Low Bidder for Group #13:

### Summary of Low Bids

Unit	Contractor	Bid Price
00-208	Hallmark Construction	\$4,625.00
00-216	Donnell Grantham	\$25,125.00
00-246	Herbert Henson	\$22,640.00
00-356	Kelvin Bowen	\$21,875.00
00-369	Herbert Henson	\$6,800.00
00-432	Bundy's Home Improvement	\$7,076.00
00-450	Hallmark Construction	\$25,960.00

### Recommendation of Award

Unit	Contractor	Bid Price
00-208	Hallmark Construction	\$4,625.00
00-216	Donnell Grantham	\$25,125.00
00-246	Herbert Henson	\$22,640.00
00-356	Kelvin Bowen	\$21,875.00
00-369	Herbert Henson	\$6,800.00
00-432	Bundy's Home Improvement	\$7,076.00
00-450	Hallmark Construction	\$25,960.00

### Recommendation

- Notes:
1. Limit contracts to a maximum of three (3) per contractor.
  2. All units b/i over \$30,000.00 must be licensed contractors.
  3. All bids under or over twelve (12%) percent of estimate are rejected.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion for this to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. Motion so carried.

## 3. Re-Award Contract 00-027:

This contract was awarded to Hallmark Construction on January 16, 2001. To date, no work has been started. Richard Moore is available and willing to complete this job at the same

price of Hallmark. In the essence of time, I recommend the board withdraw the contract from Hallmark and re-award to Richard Moore at \$11,410.00

Commissioner Memory made a motion for this to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. Motion so carried.

#### 4. Asbestos Removal Contract Award:

Company Name	Bid Amount
PCS Power Component Systems, Inc.	\$8,837.00
DL Restoration	\$9,170.00
Environmental Services & Construction	\$9,229.00
Hunter Sales Company, Inc.	\$9,915.00
Haztech Environmental Consultants	\$18,000.00

Commissioner Norris made a motion for this to be approved, seconded by Commissioner memory. Motion so carried.

#### 5. Project Advisory Committee:

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, addressed the question he had been asked earlier and that questions being "What can be done to speed the CHAF process up?". He answered this question in the following manner:

1. In lieu of having to wait and present this material to the Board of Commissioners on the set meeting dates, I recommend a Project Advisory Committee be established. This committee will meet on a regular basis to review what activity has transpired, the time frame the work is being accomplished in and the amount of progress that has been made toward completion. Membership on this committee would encompass the Chairman of the County Commissioners, the Vice- Chairman and the County Administrator.
2. I will than present to the County Commissioners an update on the activity that has transpired. This method of operation will speed this process up tremendously.

Commissioner David Dutton made a motion for this to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Norris. Motion so carried.

Commissioner Randy Britt requested Floyd Adams to explain the difference between the Crisis Housing Assistance Funding Program (CHAF) and the Scattered Site Housing Program.

Floyd Adams responded to this question by stating the following. The CHAF Program consists of hurricane-damaged houses which have already been identified and the Scattered Site Housing Program is getting the information. together on the houses.

#### **APPROVAL of MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING**

Robert E. Sessions, Chairman of the Columbus County Board of Elections requested the following Memorandum of Understanding be approved.

#### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Elections is established by the North Carolina General Statute 163-30, is empowered by G.S.163-33 to appoint and remove employees, and is empowered by G.S. 163-32 to set the compensation of its own employees, and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Columbus has a personnel policy which provides for a system of personnel management and administration for the employees of the County, as authorized in North Carolina General Statutes 153A-92 et. seq., but the application of this policy applies as an automatic

matter only to the County's formal employees, and

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners and the Columbus County Board of Elections are both desirous to provide a comprehensive employment system to the employees of the Board of Elections.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners and the Columbus County Board of Elections do mutually agree as follows:

1. The County of Columbus will, by and through its Personnel Department, assist the Board of Elections in providing a uniform system of personnel administration for the employees of the Columbus County Board of Elections under the rules, regulations and procedures applicable to formal Columbus County employees.
2. Columbus County will administer leave policies, position classification, and compensation and benefits for employees of the Columbus County Board of Elections as the same applies to all other part-time, full-time and/or temporary county employees. The Columbus County Board of Elections shall be solely responsible for administering all other provisions of the County's personnel policies.
3. The Columbus County Board of Elections and its employees will observe Columbus County's policies and procedures concerning general employment rules and regulations and conditions of employment so long as the County's policies and procedures do not conflict with the State's applicable rules controlling the employment of employees of the Board of Elections' employees. This agreement does not affect the Columbus County Board of Elections' statutory authority to appoint, discipline and remove employees.
4. Columbus County's policies and procedures concerning employee disciplinary actions and employee grievances will apply to employees of the Board of Elections; however, any appeals from employment decisions made by the employees of the Columbus County Board of Elections will be heard and disposed of only by the Columbus County Board of Elections, and there will be no appeal of the decision of that Board to any County entity.
5. This Memorandum of Understanding will be effective when signed by all parties involved. It will continue in force from year to year until modified or terminated by written mutual agreement of the parties hereto, or upon ninety (90) days written notice by any of the above parties. Such modification or termination of this agreement shall not affect any pending disciplinary action in process.

This the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2001.

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA  
/s/ Amon E. McKenzie, Chairman  
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

The signing of this Memorandum of Understanding was authorized by a resolution of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2001.

/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk  
Columbus County Board of Commissioners  
DATE: February 5, 2002

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
/s/ Robert E. Sessions, Chairman  
Columbus County Board of Elections

The signing of this Memorandum of Understanding s authorized by a resolution of the Columbus County Board of Elections at a meeting held the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2001.

/s/ Jessie Graham Secretary  
Columbus County Board of Elections  
DATE: 6/11, 2001

Commissioner Dutton made a motion for this Memorandum of Understanding to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

#### **APPROVAL of RESOLUTION for CDBG SCATTERED SITE HOUSING PROGRAM**

Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, requested the Board of Commissioners to adopt the following Resolution to authorize the Cape Fear Council of Governments to prepare the CDBG Scattered Site Housing (SSH) Program application on behalf of Columbus County. In addition of approval of this Resolution, Mr. Farmer is requesting the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) of the required two (2) public hearings to be set for February 18, 2002, at 7:30 P.M.

**RESOLUTION: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners that the Cape Fear Council of Governments be authorized to work with County staff and prepare an application for Scattered site Housing funds from the Small Cities Community Block Grant program, a purchase order in the amount of three thousand five hundred and 00/100 (\$3,500.00) dollars is authorized for this service, and that Amon McKenzie, Chairman, or Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, are authorized to execute an administrative contract.

#### **AMENDMENTS:**

Moved: Commissioner Memory      Seconded: Commissioner Britt

Unanimously Approved.

Yea Votes: Commissioner McKenzie, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Jacobs, Commissioner Memory, Commissioner Norris, Commissioner Britt and Commissioner Dutton.

Commissioner Memory made a motion this Resolution be approved and the Public Hearing be set for February 18, 2002, at 7:30 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

#### **COUNTY OF COLUMBUS:**

/s/ Amon E. McKenzie, Chairman

Date Signed: 02/05/02

/s/ Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator

Date Signed: 02/05/02

#### **ATTEST:**

/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk to Board

Date Signed: 02/05/02

Commissioner Memory made a motion for the Resolution to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

#### **Transfer OF E-911 WIRELESS FUNDS**

John H. Moore, Jr., Emergency Services Director, requested funds to be transferred from the E-911 Wireless Funds to finance the E-911 Mapping Update and Structure Location. The details are listed as follows:

#### **OVERALL PROJECT SCOPE**

The scope of this project is two-fold. First, we propose to GPS locate centerlines that **ARE NOT** currently included in the digital centerline mapping. Current estimates **suggest that there** are approximately 30-40 roads that are in need of OPS locating. Once located, Hobbs Upchurch will assign the address ranges to each individual street segment. The format of the E-911 database will match the current format for the centerline data. Second, we propose to locate **ALL** existing occupied structures and collect their physical address and tie it back to an horizontal location.

#### **SERVICES & FEES BY OPTIONS**

We have broken down our proposed mapping services and fees by task:



**Task 1**

**Centerline GPS Location**

**Location Fee for the estimated 30-40 Streets = Total Fee \$ 3,000.00**

As stated above in the project scope, this location of missing streets will also include the addition of address ranges for each street segment.

**Data Optimization and Rectification**

**Data Optimization and Rectification = Total Fee \$ 3,000.00**

As stated above in the project scope, we will make recommendations to optimize the data and to rectify any inconsistencies.

**Task 1 Total Fee \$ 6,000.00**

**Task 2**

**GPS Location of Residential Structures**

**Estimated 30,000 Structures @ \$2.75 / Structure = Total Fee \$ 82,500.00**

**Task 1 & Task 2 Total = Total Fee \$ 88,500.0**

**BILLINGS**

Billings will be monthly based on the percentage complete of the various project tasks.

**CLOSURE**

HUA would enjoy the opportunity to discuss any facet of the scope of services or fees mentioned above at your earliest convenience. However, if all items above are agreeable, please sign and return one copy of this agreement, which will serve as the notice to proceed. We sincerely appreciate this opportunity to be of service to Columbus County, North Carolina.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

/s/ John Moore, E-91 1 Director Date:

Commissioner Memory made a motion to approve this transfer of funds, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

**REVISION of the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

John H. Moore, Jr., Emergency Services Director, requested approval of the following list of the Local Emergency Planning Committee membership. After approval, the list will be sent to the North Carolina Emergency Management SARA Coordinator.

<b>LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>		
Hank Dobson	Plant Engineer National Spinning Company P0 Box 547 Whiteville, NC 28472	642-4181
Marvin Freeman Anthony Smith	Wright Chemical Company P.O. Box 547	655-2263 ext. 210 or 5204 FAX 655-9671

	Whiteville, NC 28472	
Ronald Gore	Columbus County Schools Plant Operations P0 Box 729 Whiteville, NC 28472	642-0161
William Gore	Columbus County Schools Transportation Supervisor 1231 Chadbourn Hwy Whiteville, NC 28472	642-8560
Alex Singletary	Captain Sheriffs Department PG Box 280 Whiteville, NC 28472	642-6551
Dana Mauldin	Brunswick Electric 2228 New Britton Hwy E. Whiteville, NC 28472	642-5011
Lee Hinnant	The News Reporter P0 Box 707 Whiteville, NC 28472	6424104
Hardy Ledbetter	Assist Administrator Columbus County Hospital 500 Jefferson Street Whiteville, NC 28472	642-8011
David McPherson	Manager of Community Relations HoltraChem Group 1186 Old Cribbtown Road Chadbourn, NC 28431	655-1393 FAX 653-6197
John H. Moore, Jr. SARA Contact Person	Director Columbus County Emergency Services 608 N. Thompson Street Whiteville, NC 28472	640-6610
Deuce Niven	The Tribune P0 Box 67 Tabor City, NC 28463	653-3153 FAX 653-9440
David Ransom	Training Coordinator Southeastern Community College P0 Box 151 Whiteville, NC 28472	642-5413 ext. 23
Jacqueline Roseboro	Director Cooperative Extension Services P0 Box 569 Whiteville, NC 28472	640-6605
Kenneth Sasser	President Fire & Rescue Association P0 Box 8 Hallsboro, NC 28442	646-3083
Kay Worley	Emergency Services 608 N. Thompson St Whiteville, NC 28472	640-6610
Ed Worley	Director Columbus County Dept of Aging P0 Box 1187 Whiteville, NC 28472	640-6602
Tom Stanley	WTXY Radio Station 501 W. Virgil Street Whiteville, NC 28472	642-8214
Lou Mattes	Safety Director	655-2211 ext 6438

	International Paper 865 John L. Riegel Road Riegelwood, NC 28456	
Scott Freeman	Conflandey PO Box 2129 Whiteville, NC 28472	641-0413

Commissioner Memory made a motion for the list to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

**APPROVAL of RESOLUTION OF RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, requested the County Commissioners to approve the following Resolution asking for relief from the State in regard to Medicaid reimbursement.

**RESOLUTION OF RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners ("Commissioners") have worked diligently to explore creative ways of reducing the local property tax burden upon the County's property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County is a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina and is dedicated to the principles of accountability, fiscal responsibility and good government; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County is a "Tier One" County facing serious fiscal challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the increase in unfunded mandates has placed a severe financial burden on Columbus County and its taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, one cent on the Columbus County ad valorem tax levy generates \$240,000 in tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, in fiscal year 2001-2002, Columbus County has experienced an increase of 31% in the local share of Medicaid funding. This \$1,498,000.00 increase alone is equivalent to approximately 6.24 cents on the ad valorem tax rate; total local share of Medicaid funding is \$4,800,000.00, or approximately 20 cents of the ad valorem tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County is anticipating an undetermined increase in costs in Social Services program based on forecasts by governments, economists and practical realistic benchmarks; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is one of only twelve (12) states which require counties to match Medicaid cost (5.85%); and

**WHEREAS**, having to provide for escalating costs of this and other mandates severely limits Columbus County's ability to fund education and law enforcement, or to provide for the infrastructure and capital needs for its citizens.

**NOW, HEREOF, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners hereby request the State of North Carolina to assume complete financial responsibility for Medicaid funding and to relieve Columbus County of its current 5.85% share of such funding.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution, adopted this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2002 shall be transmitted to the members of the General Assembly representing Columbus County and to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioner.

**ADOPTED** this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2002.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
/s/ Amon E. McKenzie, Chairman

**ATTESTED BY:**

/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk to Board

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris to approve this Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

**APPROVAL of RESOLUTION of COMMITMENT on NEW INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODES with NORTH CAROLINA AMENDMENTS**

Walter Batten, Building Inspections Director, requested the County Commissioners to adopt the following Resolution in regards to building codes:

**RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT ON NEW INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODES WITH NORTH CAROLINA ADMENDMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina Building Code Council has adopted the updated versions of the International Building Codes with North Carolina Amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina requires all counties to enforce the State adopted Building Codes to protect her citizens and provide safe housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the code applies to all types of new buildings, structures and their systems and facilities except farm buildings outside city building code enforcement jurisdiction and several minor classes of property; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Columbus County are reminded of the destruction of natural disasters and the importance of having safe and well constructed housing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners adopt this Resolution of Commitment to enforce and inspect structures as called for by the New International Building Codes with North Carolina Amendments.

**ADOPTED** this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2002.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/ AMON E. McKENZIE, Chairman

**ATTESTED BY:**

/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. Motion so carried.

**REGULAR SESSION RECESSED**

At 8:30 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion for regular session to recess.

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:35 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11. No official action was taken. At 9:49 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to adjourn Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Britt. Motion so carried.

**REGULAR SESSION RESUMED**

At 9:51 P.M., Commissioner Britt made a motion to resume regular session, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. Motion so carried.

**APPOINTMENT to COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

Commissioner David L. Dutton, Jr., Zone 7, reappointed Earl Fowler to serve a three (3) year term with term expiring 12/31/2004.

**APPOINTMENT TO COLUMBUS COUNTY TRAVEL AND TOURISM BOARD**

Chairman Amon E. McKenzie appointed Evelyn Anderson, 227 Broadway Road, Chadbourn, NC 28431, to replace Delores J. McKenzie, to the Columbus County Travel and Tourism Board with term expiring in December, 2002.

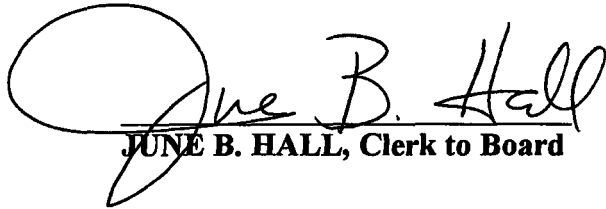
**BOLTON SENIOR CENTER STATUS**

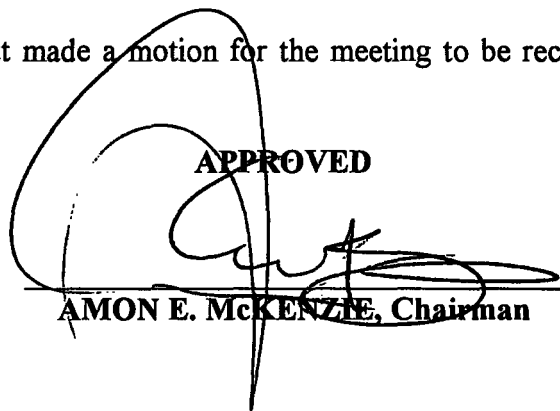
Commissioner Sammie Jacobs requested Ed Worley, Department of Aging Director, to inform the Board as to the status of the Bolton Senior Center. Mr. Worley stated the following:

1. The Bolton Senior Center is scheduled to open on March 1, 2002;
2. The first candidate for the Director we interviewed declined the position;
3. The Director's position was re-advertised; and
4. I thank all the County Commissioners for their support and help in making this project possible.

**MEETING RECESSED**

At 10:01 P.M., Commissioner Britt made a motion for the meeting to be recessed until February 11, 2002 at 7:00 P.M.

  
JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

**APPROVED**  
  
AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman