

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, March 18, 2002****7:30 P.M.**

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

COMMISSIONERS 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:

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:30 P.M., Chairman Amon E. McKenzie called the meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Chairman McKenzie.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

Commissioner Memory made a motion for the minutes of February 5, 2002, February 11, 2002 and February 18, 2002 be approved as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to approve the following Consent Agenda Items.

**Tax Refunds (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office):
March 18, 2002**

Request a refund in the name of Lewis, James Martin, 596 Piney Grove Rd., Delco., NC 28436. Refund the user fee. Customer use's a commercial hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-23960, Bill # 1213.

Request a refund in the name of Williamson, Eddie L., 2776 Haynes Lennon Hwy., Chadbourn, NC 28431. Refund one of two user fees. One mobile home is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-30381, Bill # 20772.

Request a refund in the name of Williamson, Eddie L., 2776 Haynes Lennon Rd., Chadbourn, NC 28431. Refund user fee on mobile home that is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-30382, Bill # 20767.

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

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to Administration Office from the Tax Office):
March 18, 2002**

Release the Property Value in the name of Byrd, Locke Jr.. Release the deferred tax and the Whiteville Rescue fee. Deferred tax were billed in error. Amount \$1,172.10, Value \$158,393.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-11648, Bill # 32599.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Merlin F.. Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. Home was destroyed by Hurricane Floyd. Amount \$181.10, Value

\$1,830.00, Year 2001, Account # 07-03661, Bill # 89065.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Merlin F.. Release the value of a mobile home that was destroyed by Hurricane Floyd. Amount \$138.74, Value \$1,735.00, Year 200, Account # 07-03661, Bill # 88848.

Release the Property Value in the name of Coston, Christopher B.. Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. Boat was sold years ago. Amount \$10.25, Value \$1,165.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-05045, Bill # 87062.

Release the Property Value in the name of Clark, Wade. Release the value of a mobile home and the Acme Delco fee (39.24) and the Columbus Rescue fee (6.54) Mobile home was repossessed in 1997. Amount \$465.84, Value \$32,700.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-09281, Bill # 86133.

Release the Property Value in the name of Clark, Wade. Release the value of a mobile home that was repossessed in 1997. Amount \$360.44, Value \$32,700.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-09281, Bill # 85974.

Release the Property Value in the name of Clark, Wade. Release the value of a mobile home that was repossessed in 1997. Amount \$327.27, Value \$32,700.00, Year 1999, Account # 15-09281, Bill # 5037.

Release the Property Value in the name of Clark Wade. Release value of mobile home that was repossessed in 1997. Amount \$327.27, Value \$32,700.00, Year 1998, Account # 15-09281, Bill # 43441.

Release the Property Value in the name of Byrd, Locke Jr.. Release the deferred tax and the Whiteville Rescue fee. Deferred tax were billed in error. Amount \$1,132.50, Value \$158,393.00, Year 1997, Account # 01-11648, Bill # 32602.

Release the Property Value in the name of Fremond Investment & Loan. Release the value of a mobile home and the Welches Creek fee (34.24) and the Columbus Rescue fee (8.56). Home was repossessed in 2000. Amount \$541.64, Value \$42,800.00, Year 2001, Account # 14-01432, Bill # 91964.

Release the Property Value in the name of Byrd, Locke Jr.. Release the deferred tax and the Whiteville Rescue fee. Deferred tax were billed in error. Amount \$1,132.50, Value \$158,317.00, Year 1999, Account # 01-11648, Bill # 32600.

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Patricia A.. Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. The boat is listed in Brunswick County. Amount \$19.01, Value \$2,160.00, Year 2001, Account # 08-01322, Bill # 81985.

Release the Property Value in the name of Brown, Odell. Release the value of a mobile home and the Acme Delco fee (28.64) and the Columbus Rescue fee (4.77). Home is double listed in the name of Odell Brown, Jr. Amount \$406.56, Value \$23,870.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-03905, Bill # 83539.

Release the Property Value in the name of Todd, Randy T.. Release the value of a mobile home that Mr. Todd never took possession of. Amount \$48.68, Value \$6,241.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-36327, Bill # 16902.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bellamy, Herbert. Release the value of this mobile home and the Klondyke Fire fee (11.94) and the Columbus Rescue fee (3.41). This home burned in 1999. Amount \$148.34, Value \$17,050.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-01842, Bill # 81413.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. Release the value of this mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. This home does not exist. Amount \$187.35, Value \$2,540.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 80509.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. This mobile home does not exist.

Amount \$144.05, Value \$2,406.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 80515.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. This mobile home does not exist. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000.00, Year 1999, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 99734.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. This mobile homes does not exist. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000.00, Year 1998, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 38309.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. This mobile home does not exist. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000.00, Year 1997, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 61493.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ballard, David Lee. This mobile home does not exist. Amount \$9.36, Value \$1,000.00, Year 1996, Account # 13-00831, Bill # 61492.

Release the Property Value in the name of Byrd, Locke. Release the deferred tax and the Whiteville Rescue fee. Deferred tax were billed in error. Amount \$1,132.50, Value \$158,393.00, Year 1998, Account # 01-11648, Bill # 32601.

Release the Property Value in the name of Stevens, Sherrill. Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. Home was sold in 2000. Amount \$205.47, Value \$4,599.00, Year 2001, Account # 03-03562, Bill # 14965.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bellamy, Herbert. Release the value of this mobile home and the Klondyke Fire fee. Home burned in 1999. Amount \$134.70, Value \$17,050.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-01842, Bill # 81396.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gore, Thomas M.. Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. Boat was sold years ago. Amount \$29.92, Value \$3,400.00, Year 2001, Account # 06-15344, Bill # 93749.

Release the Property Value in the name of Todd, Randy T.. Release the value of a mobile home that Mr. Todd never took possession of. Amount \$47.37, Value \$6,579.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-36327, Bill # 15959.

Release the Property Value in the name of Todd, Randy T.. Release the value of a mobile home that Mr. Todd never took possession of. Amount \$45.73, Value \$6,580.00, Year 1999, Account # 13-36327, Bill # 34242.

Release the Property Value in the name of Stout, Ruthene W.. Release a portion of the property value and the Columbus Rescue fee. Customer failed to get senior citizens exemption. Amount \$70.40, Value \$8,800.00, Year 2001, Account # 03-24549, Bill # 15168.

Release the Property Value in the name of Simmons, Herbert & Linda. Release the value of a mobile home and the Bolton Fire fee (3.35) and the Columbus Rescue fee (1.12). Home is double listed in the name of Herbert Simmons. Amount \$217.83, Value \$5,585.00, Year 2001, Account # 04-03333, Bill # 12034.

Release the Property Value in the name of Page, Roosevelt, Jr.. Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. Home was repossessed in 1998. Amount \$341.70, Value \$20,079.00, Year 2001, Account # 01-05834, Bill # 6923.

Release the Property Value in the name of Page, Roosevelt, Jr.. Release the value of a mobile home that was repossessed in 1998. Amount \$292.27, Value \$21,119.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-05834, Bill # 6257.

Release the Property Value in the name of Page, Rossevelt Jr.. Release value of a mobile home that was repossessed in 1998. Amount \$257.83, Value \$22,709.00, Year 1999, Account # 01-06834, Bill # 24827.

Release the Property Value in the name of Nobles, Oliver (Heirs). Release a portion of the property value and the Klondyke Fire fee (14.00) and the Columbus Rescue Fee (4.00). Failed to receive the

senior citizens exemption. Amount \$174.00, Value \$20,000.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-30420, Bill # 6211.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jernigan, Joseph Marvin. Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. Home is double listed in the name of Marvin Joseph Jernigan. Amount \$210.86, Value \$5,212.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-05546, Bill # 98905.

Release the Property Value in the name of Hardee, Sammy F.. Release the value of a mobile home hook up and the Columbus Rescue fee. Mr. Hardee was billed with two hook-ups. Amount \$15.48, Value \$1,800.00, Year 2001, Account # 06-17201, Bill # 95346.

Release the Property Value in the name of Thompson, Janie (Heirs). Release the value of a mobile home and the Yam City fee. Home is double listed in the name of Bobby Thompson. Amount \$239.79, Value \$13,470.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-39520, Bill # 15513.

Release the Property Value in the name of Mintz, Elvin & Melinda. Release property value and the Acme Delco Fire fee (14.04) and the Columbus Rescue fee (2.34). Property is double listed in the name of Melinda Dew. Amount \$107.64, Value \$11,700.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-27123, Bill # 4729.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jernigan, Joseph Marvin. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Marvin Joseph Jernigan. Amount \$140.74, Value \$5,330.00, Year 1999, Account # 09-05546, Bill # 17281.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jernigan, Joseph Marvin. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Marvin Joseph Jernigan. Amount \$166.23, Value \$5,206.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-05546, Bill # 98460.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jernigan, Joseph M.. Release the value of a mobile home and the Williams Fire fee. Home is double listed in the name of Marvin Joseph Jernigan. Amount \$146.09, Value \$5,550.00, Year 1998, Account # 09-05546, Bill # 57190.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jones, Charles. Release the value of a camper that was sold years ago. Amount \$152.68, Value \$6,890.00, Year 1999, Account # 05-10306, Bill # 17652.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jones, Charles. Release the value of a camper that was sold years ago. Amount \$150.19, Value \$3,180.00, Year 2000, Account # 05-10306, Bill # 98837.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jones, Charles. Release the value of a camper and the Columbus Rescue fee. Camper was sold years ago. Amount \$212.87, Value \$5,440.00, Year 2001, Account # 05-10306, Bill # 99310.

Release the Property Value in the name of McDuffie, Priscilla A.. Release the value of a mobile home and the Klondyke Fire fee (8.75) and the Columbus Rescue fee (2.50). Mobile home burned in 1999. Amount \$108.75, Value \$12,500.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-01611, Bill # 3090.

Release the User Fee in the name of Hayes, Kenneth E.. Release user fee that is double listed in the name of Kenneth Hayes Jr. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-00321, Bill # 95920.

Release the User Fee in the name of First Baptist Church (6th St.). User fee double listed in the same name under a different account number. Amount \$65.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 18-00225, Bill # 21083.

Release the User Fee in the name of Jorda, Marjorie. Release user fee. There are no trash cans at this address. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 06-05242, Bill # 99632.

Release the User Fee in the name of Gore, David C.. User fee was over charged in error. Amount \$38.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 03-08968, Bill # 92961.

Release the User Fee in the name of First Baptist Church (6th St.). User fee double listed in the same

name under a different account number. Amount \$75.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 18-00225, Bill # 23558.

Release the User Fee in the name of Hardie, Betty Sue. Release user fee. There are no trash cans at this address. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-12511, Bill # 95369.

Release the User Fee in the name of First Baptist Church (6th St.). User fee double listed in the same name under a different account number. Amount \$60.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 18-00225, Bill # 39257.

Release the User Fee in the name of First Babtist Church (6th St.). User fee double listed in the same name on a different account number. Amount \$60.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 18-00225, Bill # 76902.

Release the User Fee in the name of Duncan, Merlin F.. Release a portion of the user fee. Property inside the city limits of Tabor City. Amount \$40.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 07-03661, Bill # 7851.

Release the User Fee in the name of Barnes, Guilford & Barbara. Release user fee. Use's a commercial hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-00362, Bill # 80657.

Release the User Fee in the name of Kinlaw, Jimmy C.. Customer use's commercial hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-14457, Bill # 104.

Release the User Fee in the name of Roseland Community Center. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 18-00247, Bill # 23574.

Release the User Fee in the name of Antone, Marie Ward. Release two user fees. Customer has one trash can only. Amount \$285.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-00168, Bill # 79960.

Release the User Fee in the name of Davis, Teresa. Release over charge on user fee. Amount \$9.75, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 10-03284, Bill # 87987.

Release the User Fee in the name of Kinlaw, Jimmy C.. Customer use's a commercial hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-14109, Bill # 105.

Release the User Fee in the name of Long, Haynes. Release user fee that is double listed in the name of Joe Long. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-16840, Bill # 1609.

Release the User Fee in the name of Melanies. Release user fee. There is no trash can at this location. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 10-12137, Bill # 4204.

Release the User Fee in the name of Mott, Nathaniel Sr.. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 04-12140, Bill # 23426.

Release the User Fee in the name of Mott, Nathaniel Sr.. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 04-12140, Bill # 4765.

Release the User Fee in the name of Mott, Nathaniel Sr.. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 04-12140, Bill # 5397.

Release the User Fee in the name of Page Home Sales Inc.. Customer use's a commercail hauler. Amount \$330.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-31661, Bill # 6891.

Release the User Fee in the name of Page Home Sales, Inc.. Customer use's a commercial hualer. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-31661, Bill # 6892.

Release the User Fee in the name of Pierce, Maggie S.. Release user fee. House is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 11-20070, Bill # 7654.

Release the User Fee in the name of Powell, James M.. Release one of two user fees. One house is

vacant. Amount \$75.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 16-12321, Bill # 8106.

Release the User Fee in the name of Roseland Community Center. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 18-00247, Bill # 21101.

Release the User Fee in the name of Thick, Lewis A.. Release user fee. House is vacant. Amount \$75.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-39520, Bill # 16216.

Release the User Fee in the name of Ward, Rohn. Overcharged on user fee thru computer error. Amount \$5.52, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 02-02349, Bill # 17885.

Release the User Fee in the name of ADR Fire & Rescue. Release user fee. Customer use's private hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 18-03657, Bill # 23830.

Release the User Fee in the name of Roseland Community Center. Release user fee. No trash can here. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 18-00247, Bill # 32975.

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

Amendment to the 03/04/2002 Tax Releases:

Carnell Wilson: Release the value of a mobile home and the Bolton Fire Fee (6.88) and the Colaumbus Rescue Free (2.29). Home is double listed in the name of Carnell Barnwell. **There should be a late list in the amount of \$9.86, and the district should be in the amount of \$9.17. Total release should be \$273.42 instead of \$264.25.**

Leslie R. Newsome: Release one of four user fees. They only have three user fees. The year for this release should be **2000** instead of **2001**.

Budget Amendment:

Expenditure:	10-420-0200	Salaries	\$ 6,101
	10-420-0500	FICA	\$ 769
	10-420-0600	Insurance	\$ 2,683
	10-420-0700	Retirement	(\$ 384)
	10-420-0901	Retirement - 401K	\$ 2,700
	10-420-1000	Auto Allowance	(\$1,891)
	10-420-1100	Telephone	\$ 300
	10-420-3200	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200
	10-420-5400	Insurance - Prop; Liab	(\$ 139)
	10-420-5700	Miscellaneous	\$ 1,200
	10-620-0200	Salaries	(\$12,539)

CHAF PROGRAM UPDATE

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, presented the following update on the Columbus County CHAF Program.

COLUMBUS COUNTY SUMMARY SHEET

CHAF Program

Total Houses			491
Houses Inspected			483
Replacement		274	
Repair		209	

Repair Work		209	
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	56		
Bids Complete, Not Awarded	30		
Board Awarded, No Construction	65		
Under Construction	32		
Complete	26		
Replacement Work		274	
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	134		
Board Awarded, No Construction	26		
N.O.E. Sent, Under Construction	68		
Complete	46		
Not Visited			8
Legal Work			440
Total Titles Requested			
Titles Requested, Not Complete	189		
Preliminary Title Complete	118		
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Requested, Not Signed	31		
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Recorded	102		

GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (2000 CHAF Program)

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, requested the Board of Commissioners to approve the following Grant Project Ordinance Amendment for the 200 CHAF Program for the County of Columbus.

**GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
2000 CHAF PROGRAM
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS**

Be it ordained by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners that, Section 3 and Section 4 of the Grant Project Ordinance for the 2000 Columbus County CHAF Program adopted on December 2, 2000 and including any subsequent amendments be hereby amended as follows:

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Crisis Housing Assistance Funds		\$25,302,467.00
	TOTAL	\$25,301,467.00

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

B-1 Aid to Local Governments	\$	345,710.00
R-1 Rehabilitation	\$	9,779,340.00
R-1 Replacement	\$	11,875,556.00
R-1 Service Delivery	\$	2,706,861.00
S-1 Relocation	\$	528,000.00
S-1 Service Delivery	\$	66,000.00
	TOTAL	\$25,301,467.00

All other conditions and terms associated with the original Ordinance shall not be affected or changed. Ordinance Amendment adopted this the 18th day of March, 2002.

/s/ Amon E. McKenzie, Chairman

ATTESTED

/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk to Board

Commissioner Britt made a motion for the Grant Project Ordinance Amendment be accepted and approved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

RESOLUTION to ADD SUMMER LANE

Robert Crumpler, Department of Transportation, requested the Board of Commissioners to approve and adopt the following Resolution to add Summer Lane from SR 1592 to SR 1591 - 0.15 mile.

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
REQUEST for ADDITION to STATE MAINTAINED SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM**

North Carolina
County of Columbus
Road Description: Summer Land from SR 1592 to SR 1591 - 0.15 mile

WHEREAS, the attached petition has been filed with the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Columbus requesting that the above described road, the location of which has been indicated in red on the attached map, be added to the Secondary Road System, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the above described road should be added to the Secondary Road System, if the road meets minimum standards and criteria established by the Division of Highways of the Department of Transportation for the addition of roads to the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Columbus that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to review the above described road, and to take over the road for maintenance if it meets established standards and criteria.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus at a meeting on the 18th day of March, 2002.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this the 18th day of March, 2002.

Official Seal

Clerk, Board of Commissioners
County of Columbus

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve and adopt this resolution, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

APPOINTMENT to CHADBOURN PLANNING and ZONING BOARD

David Bone, Chadbourn Town Manager, requested an alternate extra-territorial member be appointed to the Chadbourn Planning and Zoning Board due to the Town of Chadbourn adopting an amendment to the Code of Ordinances providing for alternate members to serve in the absence of the same. He requested the following appointment be made: Wilbur Barnhill, 1685 Old 74 Highway, Chadbourn, North Carolina 28431, Telephone: (910) 654-3732 for a two (2) year term.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION 2002

Vicki Pait, Families First Director, requested the Board of Commissioners to approve the following Proclamation.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH
PROCLAMATION 2002**

WHEREAS, sexual assault is a violent crime most often committed by an acquaintance, intimate partner or family member; and

WHEREAS, anyone can become a victim of sexual assault regardless of age, race or income level and research indicates that one out of every three women, one of every nine men, and one child out of every four is sexually assaulted; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice reports an increase in distribution and abuse, especially in Southern and Southwestern States, of the drug Rohypnol (roofies) which has been labeled the new "date rape" drug of choice; and

WHEREAS, the National Victim Center reports that more than 700,000 women are raped or sexually assaulted annually. Of these 61 percent are under the age of 18, and the American Academy of Pediatrics estimates that about 5 percent of sexual assaults are perpetrated against male victims; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Council for Women received reports from 57 funded programs in North Carolina of 5,434 new primary victims and 2,844 new secondary victims of sexual assault for the fiscal year July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001; and

WHEREAS, statewide efforts are being made to educate medical, law enforcement, legal and judicial professionals and the general public concerning this epidemic of violence affecting our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim that April, 2002, is **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH** in Columbus County and call upon all citizens to join in increasing awareness in our community; and to take notice of subtle phrases from friends, television or movies that make light of rape and question them openly so that we can work to stop this and all other forms of violence in our County.

ADOPTED this 18th day of March 2002.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ AMON E. McKENZIE, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:
/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

Commissioner Memory inquired about the number of sexual assaults that had occurred last year. Ms. Pait stated twenty-eight (28) cases had occurred last year with sixteen (16) cases involving clients under the age of sixteen (16) years old. Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt this Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION 2002

Vicki Pait, Families First Director, requested the Board of Commissioners to approve and adopt the following Proclamation.

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
PROCLAMATION 2002**

WHEREAS, child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on

involvement among people throughout the community;

WHEREAS, approximately 3 million children are reported as abused and neglected in this country each year;

WHEREAS, approximately 120,000 children are reported as abused and neglected in North Carolina each year;

WHEREAS, 21 children were victims of child abuse homicide in North Carolina last year;

WHEREAS, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

WHEREAS, all citizens should become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Columbus County and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and business to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

ADOPTED this 18th day of March 2002.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ AMON E. McKENZIE, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:
/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

Commissioner Dutton made a motion for this proclamation to be approved and adopted, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING the GOVERNOR of NORTH CAROLINA to RESTORE FULL FUNDING of STATE REIMBURSEMENTS of REPEALED TAXES to LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested the Board of Commissioners to adopt the following Resolution.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA TO RESTORE FULL FUNDING OF STATE REIMBURSEMENTS OF REPEALED TAXES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, local governments have been receiving reimbursements from the State to replace local revenues lost in the late eighties when the General Assembly repealed certain local property taxes; **and**

WHEREAS, local governments have been highly committed to being fiscally responsible; **and**

WHEREAS, Local governments provide essential services upon which the citizens of North Carolina depend, **and**

WHEREAS, local governments preparing their fiscal year 2001-2002 budgets last year were promised anticipated funds in the form of Inventory Tax Reimbursements and Elderly Homestead Exemptions in order to provide essential services; **and**

WHEREAS, the loss of this reimbursement during the fiscal year 2001-2002, after local governments have adopted budgets and set tax rates, would have a significant impact on the

operations of local governments and their ability to provide essential services; **and**

WHEREAS, the loss of these reimbursements in future years would be detrimental to state mandated fund balance amounts and the ongoing operations of state mandated programs, including current expense and capital expense needs of the local Boards of Education; **and**

WHEREAS, recent legislation signed by Governor Easley committed the State of North Carolina to funds for distribution to North Carolina Cities and Counties for replacement of the repealed Inventory Tax Reimbursements and other reimbursements.

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

1. The Governor of North Carolina is requested to restore full funding of the Inventory Tax Reimbursements and the Elderly Homestead Exemptions for fiscal year 2001-2002, **and that**
2. The Governor of North Carolina is requested to continue support for full funding of all State reimbursements of revenues lost when the General Assembly repealed certain local property taxes, **and that**
3. The Clerk to the Board is instructed to forward this resolution to the Governor, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the North Carolina Department of Instruction, and the remaining ninety-nine (99) counties for their consideration and adoption.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of March, 2002.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:
/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

LITTER SWEEP 2002 PROCLAMATION

Governor Michael F. Easley, through out Solid Waste Department requested the Board of Commissioners to approve and adopt the following proclamation.

LITTER SWEEP
2002

BY THE BOARD OF COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation annually organizes a spring roadside cleanup to guarantee clean and beautiful roads throughout our State, and to preserve the environment for the generations to come; **and**

WHEREAS, a spring **LITTER SWEEP** roadside cleanup will take place April 15 - 28, 2002, to give civic and professional organizations, government agencies, churches, schools, businesses and concerned citizens the opportunity to partner with the Department of Transportation in its goal of clean and beautiful roadsides by organizing community cleanups in all one hundred (100) counties across the State; **and**

WHEREAS, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Department of Transportation employees, local governments, community and civic organizations, churches, schools, businesses, inmates, community service workers and environmentally concerned citizens annually conduct community cleanups during **LITTER SWEEP** and many receive certificates of appreciation for their labor; **and**

WHEREAS, the great natural beauty of our State and a clean environment are sources of great pride for all North Carolinians, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting new industries; **and**

WHEREAS, the 2002 spring cleanup will celebrate the 14th Anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program, and the thousands of volunteers who contribute their

labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of COLUMBUS COUNTY do hereby proclaim April 15 - 28, 2002, as "Litter Sweep" in Columbus County, and encourage all citizens to take an active role in making their communities cleaner and more beautiful.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of March 2002.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ AMON E. McKENZIE, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:
/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

Commissioner Memory inquired if the execution of this Resolution is effective. Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, replied that it doesn't hurt to have this information on record. Commissioner Norris stated it gives Ron Aycock, Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, something to work with. Commissioner Britt stated we needed the legal force backing us to improve the litter situation along the public highways. Commissioner Wilson stated we needed to get more citizens out to clean the roads up. Chuck Stanley, Litter Control Director informed the Board of Commissioners that the Annual Big Litter Sweep will be scheduled soon and that is when all the Columbus County employees who will, to meet on Saturday and pick up all litter possible on that day. The date will be announced later. Commissioner Norris made a motion for approval and adoption, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.

DECLARATION of SURPLUS PROPERTY

Larry Moore, Social Services Director, requested the Board of Commissioners to declare the following list of equipment to be surplus property.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY DSS
SURPLUS ITEMS**

ITEM	County #	SERIAL NUMBER	QUANTITY
Goldstar Computer Monitors		259D671 086A	I
Goldstar Computer Monitors		259D671 0868A	I
Goldstar Computer Monitors		259D671 0861 A	I
Goldstar Computer Monitors		259 D671 0624A	I
Goldstar Computer Monitors		259D6710431A	I
Goldstar Computer Monitors		26966606008A	I
Keytronic Computer Keyboards		J98251 6130	1
Keytronic Computer Keyboards		J97 361 8424	1
Keytronic Computer Keyboards		J98251 6131	1
NMB Computer Keyboard		A09603337	I
NMB Computer Keyboard		A0960348	I
NMB Computer Keyboard		A0960662	I
NMB Computer Keyboard		A0961 056	1
Serial Port Mouse		6060498	1
Serial Port Mouse		1758393	1
Serial Port Mouse		61294428	1
Serial Port Mouse		6060130	1
Serial Port Mouse		6903635	1

Serial Port Mouse		60488801	1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05448		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05457		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	07230		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05459		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05437		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05441		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05442		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05453		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05456		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05455		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05454		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05465		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05447		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05433		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05436		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05449		1
Epsom LQI 170 Printer	05451		1
Epsom LX 300 Printer		1YLY042105	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer	03336	1 Q3E041 049	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer	03334	1 Q3E040970	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer		IYLYO42 104	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer	03339	1 Q3E041 058	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer	03333	1Q3E041 149	1
Epsom LX 300 Printer	03331	1 Q3E041 147	1

ITEM	County #	SERIAL NUMBER	QUANTITY
Epsom LQ 570 Printer		1F8E455651	1
Epsom LQ 570 Printer		1FHE465655	1
Okidata Microlm 520 Printer	5386	21280015322	1

Commissioner Dutton made a motion for the listed property to be declared surplus, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION

At 7:55 P.M., Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to recess regular session and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Meeting. This information will listed recorded in the Minute Book for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

At 8:25 P.M., Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to adjourn Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Meeting and resume regular session, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

APPOINTMENT to JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

Commissioner David Dutton made the following appointment to the above referenced committee. The appointment was Jerry Sibbett, 11850 Seven Creeks Highway, Nakina, North Carolina 28455, Telephone: (910) 642-5200.

COLUMBUS COUNTY DETENTION/NUTRITION FACILITY

Glen Ware, Freeman White Architects, is recommending that the Board of Commissioners waive the discrepancy of Bordeaux Construction wherein their bid for the Columbus County Nutrition/Detention Center was given only in numeric form. The bid documents require bids to be given in numeric and written form. Mr. Ware explained that the low bidder was Bordeaux Construction, but there was a protest due to the aforementioned technicality, of which the County Commissioners have the power to overrule if they choose to do so. There was discussion relating to proceeding with the original one hundred thirty-six (136) beds as planned or reject these bids and add the forty (40) beds for the U.S. Marshall Service for rebid. Mr. Freeman stated that the timing was critical in proceeding with the construction plans due to inclement weather which would greatly alter the construction plans. He stated the original layout of the building was planned for easy addition in the future. After discussion regarding whether this would allow for future growth and be advantageous for Columbus County, a motion was made by Commissioner Britt to waive the discrepancy, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. Commissioner Jacobs went on record advising his action was taken due to the receipt of the Architect's advice. It was the general consensus of the Board it would more advantageous to Columbus County, due to the factors involved, to proceed with the one-hundred thirty-six (136) bed addition of which the twenty-five (25) beds to be utilized by the U.S. Marshall Service could be arranged also within this number. Additional beds could be added by change order if so desired by the Board. Commissioner Memory stated that he felt Graka Builders should be chosen based on Graka being a local concern and Bordeaux being located out of the county. Commissioner Memory felt that the money paid locally would benefit the local economy. Commissioner Memory further stated that he believed the County should construct the entire forty (40) bed addition to the original one hundred thirty-six (136) beds to ensure the jail does not run out of capacity prematurely. Commissioner Memory requested a role call. The results of the role call were as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Britt, Jacobs, Norris, McKenzie, Wilson and Dutton.

NAYS: Commissioner Memory.

UPDATE ON TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI TRIP and BI-MONTHLY REPORT on ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, presented an update on the trip to Oxford and Tupelo, Mississippi trip which was sponsored through Southeastern Community College with no cost to Columbus County. There were fifteen (15) people that went on the trip. The key to this trip entailed downtown development. There were multiple meetings with town and county officials relating to economic growth. One major factor that stood out among the others was the fact that the small town had agreed for a community hospital to be built which resulted in much economic growth for the town and county. Ms. Owens presented the following update on the Economic Development Department.

Director's Activity Report January-March 2002

Community Projects Update:

21st Century Communities:

- February 18, 2002, Secretary Fain kickoff of 21st Century Communities initiative. DOC Report on interview findings presented.
- Next step is the creation of a steering committee and the conducting of a strategic plan.
- Participated in Oxford/Tupelo, Mississippi fact-finding trip with SCC and many community leaders.

Industrial Property Work:

- Tabor City Industrial Park became a State Certified site on February 20, 2002 following February 6, 2002 visit and evaluation.
- Exact Equipment site being marketed state and national level.

Recruitment/Retention Projects:

- Project U visited October 31, 2001, December 13, 2001. Best and final offer provided. March 24, 2002 Project U will visit again.
- Project ALPRO proposal submitted to Dallas Hardenbrook. No additional contact has been made.
- Proposal for Project Pisces prepared and sent forward.
- Project Delco visited and reported it was a very successful trip. Additional research and effort required. Project moving forward albeit slowly.
- Finalizing incentive contracts for Top Tobacco, InterkordSA, Southeastern Materials, Kroy Building Products and Conflandey.
- Continued conversation with the client on the Haworth facility.
- Project Pisces visited March 6, 2002.

Six projects remain open at this time plus 3 projects with existing industries .two for expansions.

Marketing

- Sent marketing packets to 30 wood product manufacturers west of the Mississippi on the Haworth facility. Follow up with post card to same thirty.

Existing Industry

- December 5, 2001 received notice of Haworth closing by mid summer 2002.
- Whiteville Plywood continues to move forward with renovations and new equipment additions.
- Efforts continue on Wright Corporation EDA funding for sewer project. Began work on regional water service.
- Met with Scott Grimes of International Paper regarding company's status.
- Might with Wright Corporation review EDA application status and visit proposed POTW site. February 8, 2002 Wright Corporation met with County
- Met with Gore Trailers.
- Met with Millwork Specialties.
- Spoke with Scott Grimes following announcement of layoffs at IP.
- Met with Conflandey on opportunity for wire sells.
- All existing industries invited to luncheon for recreation of Plant Managers Association in Columbus County. Michael Green of the Fayetteville Area Plant Managers Association is the guest speaker.

Grants:

- Rural Internet Access Authority grant of \$5,000 received plus \$10,000 for county effort. Planning underway for community meetings. Beverlee Nance, SCC, County Champion.
- Met with Debbie Albritton reference MDC Grant opportunity.

Transportation Committee:

- 1-18-02 County Administrator Billy Farmer, Assistant County Administrator Darren Currie and I met with Rick Heicksen and Staff, Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Organization regarding rail corridors to connect with high speed rail.
- Attended meeting in Bladenboro 1-29-02 to prepare for Committees meeting on February 7, 2002 and to learn what other counties were thinking.
- Transportation Committee met 2-7-02 and began its effort in support of rail corridor from Raleigh to Selma, to Fayetteville, Pembroke, Lumberton and ending in Wilmington. Part of rail comes through Bladenboro and Clarkton. Columbus County would only be touched by rail around Riegelwood. Transportation Committee met March 7, 2002 to develop support document for rail service.

Meetings:

- Planning meetings for 21st Century events
- NCSE TAG Meeting -monthly
- Chamber of Commerce Board Meetings -monthly
- NC Museum of Forestry Board Meetings -monthly
- SEDC Board Meeting -monthly
- Columbus County Tourism Board Meetings .monthly
- Lower Cape Fear Water & Sewer Authority Retreat
- Attended Rural Internet Access Authority Board Meeting in Columbus County.
- Department of Transportation Regional Meeting where road priority list was presented. Advancement Inc. Annual Retreat and Board Meeting
- Columbus County Transportation Committee Meetings -two meetings on rail service. Final support

document in process.

- Community Advisory Council, International Paper, Riegelwood Lodge.
- Rural Center Annual Meeting, RIAA Grant Announcement.
- Met with Dr. Sid Gautam of Methodist College regarding Entrepreneur Boot Camp for Columbus County, June 2002.
- Met with Charles Garret, Manager, ESC, Whiteville.
- Met with David Gore, Governor's Economic Development Board member from Whiteville.
Met with Jim Perry, Lumber River Basin COG.
- Attended Congressman McIntyre's press conference to announce he has submitted bill HR 3618 requesting the creation of the Authority. Congressman McIntyre stated that the bill had tri-partisan support but would still be an uphill fight. Projects to cover 1) Infrastructure, 2) Education & Training, 3) Health Care, 4) Entrepreneurship, 5) Leadership Development. Priority will be given in the following order: 1) Distressed Rural communities, 2) Urban distressed communities, 3) pockets of distressed areas, 4) pockets of urban distressed areas, 5) regional projects.
- Attended seminars/meetings on Recruiting Biotech companies at FTCC, Raleigh, and Pembroke Univ.
- Meeting with e-Communities .Columbus County steering committee and subcommittee for Business & Industry.
Met with Retirement subcommittee of Whiteville Chamber of Commerce.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and ENTER into CLOSED SESSION

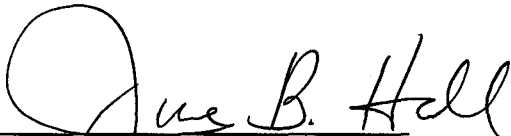
At 8:50 P.M., Commissioner Norris made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session after a five (5) minute recess, according to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11. No official action was taken.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

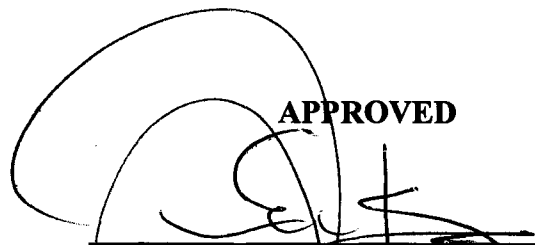
At 10:00 P.M., Commissioner Britt made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 10:01 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.



JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

APPROVED


AMON E. MCKENZIE,
 Chairman