

## **COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Monday, July 15, 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, for their regular scheduled meeting on the third Monday.

### **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 McKenzie called to meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Memory. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

### **BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt to approve the July 1, 2002 Minutes as recorded. The motion so carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Dutton to approve the following Consent Agenda Items. The motion so carried.

#### **TAX REFUND (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office):**

**July 15, 2002**

Request a refund in the name of McMillan, Martha, 298 Seasmoke Way, Tabor City, NC 28463. Refund requested due to state appeal adjustment. Amount \$58.63, Value \$7,400.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-05611, Bill # 2912.

#### **TAX RELEASES (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office):**

**July 15, 2002**

Release the Property Value in the name of McKoy, Nefertari. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Hilton McKoy. Amount \$46.30, Value \$2,096.00, Year 1996, Account # 01-56533, Bill # 67960.

Release the Property Value in the name of Alltel Communicatios. Release the property value and the Columbus Rescue fee. Property double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$1,935.95, Value \$241,993.00, Year 2001, Account # 04-02475, Bill # 79718.

Release the Property Value in the name of Barnes, Tammy. Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue fee. Home was traded for a double wide. Amount \$302.54, Value \$15,630.00, Year 2001, Account # 05-00545, Bill # 80712.

Release the Property Value in the name of Horne, Jerry M.. Release the value of a mobile home and the Roseland Fire (9.38) and the Columbus Rescue (3.13). Home is double listed in the name of Eva Woody. Amount \$299.42, Value \$15,630.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-20170, Bill # 97544.

Release the Property Value in the name of McKoy, Natertari. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Hilton McKoy. Amount \$244.87, Value \$18,950.00, Year 1997, Account # 01-56533, Bill # 67961.

Release the Property Value in the name of McKoy, Nefertari. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Hilton McKoy. Amount \$219.54, Value \$17,200.00, Year 1998, Account # 01-56533, Bill # 59402.

Release the Property Value in the name of McKoy, Nefertari. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Hilton McKoy. Amount \$209.95, Value \$15,820.00, Year 1999, Account # 01-56533, Bill # 21475.

Release the Property Value in the name of McKoy, Nefertari. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Hilton McKoy. Amount \$242.22, Value \$14,800.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-56533, Bill # 2790.

Release the Property Value in the name of Parker, Linda. Release the value of a mobile home that is listed in the name in a different township. Amount \$300.16, Value \$28,800.00, Year 1999, Account # 04-00841, Bill # 24965.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide and the Cole Service fee. Home is double listed in the same name in a different township. Amount \$332.80, Value \$31,000.00, Year 1995, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 95568.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide and the Cole Service fee. Home is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$346.45, Value \$31,000.00, Year 1997, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 95570.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide home that is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$315.45, Value \$31,000.00, Year 1998, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 72155.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide home and the Cole Service fee. Home is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$346.45, Value \$31,000.00, Year 1999, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 34649.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide and the Cole Service fee. Home is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$379.20, Value \$31,000.00, Year 2000, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 16388.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide and the Cole Service fee (31.00) and the Columbus Rescue fee (6.20). Home is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$444.00, Value \$31,000.00, Year 2001, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 17340.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gause, James G.. Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. Boat does not exist. Amount \$3.27, Value \$372.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-09932, Bill # 92393.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tyler, Joe. Release the value of a double wide home and the Cole Service fee. Home is double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$332.80, Value \$31,000.00, Year 1996, Account # 16-16361, Bill # 95569.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 86671.

Release the User Fee in the name of Grate, Wilbert. House vacant - Trash can picked up. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 06-16646, Bill # 94352.

Release the User Fee in the name of Grate, Wilbert. House vacant - Trash can picked up. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-16646, Bill # 94040.

Release the User Fee in the name of Grate, Wilbert. House vacant - Trash can picked up. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 06-16646, Bill # 12983.

Release the User Fee in the name of Grate, Wilbert. House vacant - Trash can picked up. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 06-16646, Bill # 51149.

Release the User Fee in the name of Horne, Charles. Release a portion of the user fee. Did not have trash can for a full year. Amount \$70.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 19-04405, Bill # 57413.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 86844.

Release the User Fee in the name of Woody, Eva. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 14-17941, Bill # 21366.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 5730.

Release the User Fee in the name of Grate, Wilbert. House vacant - Trash can picked up. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1997, Account # 06-16646, Bill # 46698.

Release the User Fee in the name of Rhodes, Buddy. No trash can at this address. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 11-02037, Bill # 8872.

Release the User Fee in the name of Rhodes, Buddy. No trash can at this address. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 11-02037, Bill # 9623.

Release the User Fee in the name of Thomas, Tammy M.. Customer using a commercial hauler. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 09-05130, Bill # 16274.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$120.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1996, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 41880.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brown, Annie M.. No trash can at this address. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 01-05352, Bill # 83115.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 44118.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brown, Annie M.. No trash can at this address. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-05352, Bill # 83073.

Release the User Fee in the name of Connor, Carl J.. Shop is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1997, Account # 10-02760, Bill # 39840.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brown, Annie M. No trash can at this address Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-05352, Bill # 83073.

Release the User Fee in the name of Thomas, Tammy M.. Customer using a commercial hauler. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-05130, Bill # 15348.

**Amendment to the July 15, 2002 Refunds/Releases:**

Annie M. Brown - Account #01-05352 - Year 2000 - \$125.00 - Release the user fee because there is no trash can at this address. This release was keyed in twice.

**Budget Amendments:**

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-700-9706	Rural General Public - Discretionary	\$2,250
	10-700-9606	Rural General Public - Discretionary	\$37,404
Revenue	10-399-0000	Transportation Fund Balance	\$2,250
	10-348-3200	Rural General Public Discretionary (Grant)	\$37,404
Expenditure	10-700-9700	E7D Transp - Health Department	\$14,623
	10-700-9701	E&D Transp - Aging	\$15,170
	10-700-9702	E&D Transp - DSS	\$9,369
	10-700-9703	Work First	\$12,167
	10-700-9704	E&D Transp - Mental Health	\$14,997
	10-700-9705	RGP - NCDOT Grant	\$27,103
Revenue	10-348-3200	NCDOT - Rural Operating Asst Program	\$93,429

**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**

Previous  
7-12-02

TOTAL HOUSES			491	
<b>Houses Inspected</b>			491	
Replacement	285			285
Repair	206			206
<b>Repair Work</b>		206		
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	0			0
Bids Complete, Not Awarded	0			0
Board Awarded, No Construction	226			121
Under Construction	28			27
Complete	62			58
<b>Replacement Work</b>		285		
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	3			3
Board Awarded, No Construction	112			112
N.O.E. Sent, Under Construction	95			96
Complete	75			74
<b>Not Visited</b>			0	0
<b>Legal Work</b>				
Total Titles Requested	441			41
Titles Requested, Not Complete		117		124
Preliminary Title Complete		90		92
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Requested, Not Signed		55		48
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Recorded		179		176

## DISTRICT II AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

At 7:40 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Authority Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Britt and so carried.

### **Change Orders:**

The following four (4) final Change Orders were presented to the Board by Wade Lewis, Engineer with Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, for their approval.

1. **Tom Brigman Contractors, Incorporated - Contract 2 - Change Order Number 1:** a decrease in the amount of twenty-one thousand seven hundred forty-three and 65/100 (\$21,743.65) dollars for final quantities. Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.
2. **Tom Brigman, Contractors, Incorporated - Contract 3 - Change Order Number 3:** an increase in the amount of twenty-six thousand four hundred fifty-four and 67/100 (\$26,454.67) dollars for re-chlorination, testing and flushing of waterlines. Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.
3. **Tom Brigman, Contractors, Incorporated - Contract 3 - Change Order Number 4:** an increase in the amount of ninety-six thousand eight hundred ninety-seven and 43/100 (\$96,897.43) dollars for final quantities. There were numerous line items in the contract where the total contract quantity to be installed was different from the actual quantity installed. Commissioner Wilson made a motion for this Change Order to be tabled pending further information, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion so carried. The Board requested Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, to schedule a meeting with the Department of Transportation for discussion.
4. **Caldwell Tanks, Incorporated - Contract 6 - Change Order Number 2:** a decrease in the amount of four thousand and 00/100 (\$4,000.00) dollars for 1) labor and equipment to clean up and haul trash off from job site left by tank contractor, and 2) labor and materials to connect twelve (12") inch water line from tank to piping from well house. Site restoration, seeding and mulching. Commissioner Memory made motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

## **ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING and RESUME REGULAR SESSION**

At 7:57 P.M., Commissioner Britt made a motion to adjourn the Columbus County Water and Sewer Authority Board Meeting and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

### BOARD of ELECTIONS UPDATE

Annie Ruth Strickland, Board of Elections Supervisor, presented the Board with the following update on the activities at the Columbus County Board of Elections.

1. I attended a workshop recently on the new map that has been created for the voting districts. There will be a meeting tonight scheduled by Don Wright, State Board of Elections Attorney, to review the second map.
2. There are various types of voting in the United States, some of which are as follows:
  - a. Absentee
  - b. Excuse
  - c. No Excuse
  - d. Internet
  - e. Faxed

- f. Voting in space.
3. Two (2) tentative dates have been set for the Primary Elections which are August 27, 2002 and September 10, 2002. If the Primary Election is held on September 10, 2002, there will not be another election.
  4. There will be three (3) offsite voting places. These will be done on the Friday and Saturday before the Tuesday Election.
  5. This department has been very busy getting ready for the election.

**DOT THOROUGHFARE PLAN REQUEST**

Phyllis Owens, Secretary of the Transportation Committee, requested the Board send a letter requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation prepare this new plan for Columbus County. Commissioner Memory made a motion for the letter to be forwarded, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried. The following letter was prepared and mailed.

July 16, 2002

Blake Norwood, PE  
 Division of Statewide Planning  
 1554 Mail Service Center  
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699

RE: Columbus County Transportation Plan

Dear Mr. Norwood:

Upon the recommendation of the Columbus County Transportation Committee (CCTC), the Columbus County Board of Commissioners did, in regular session on July 15, 2002, agree to ask the North Carolina Department of Transportation to help the County prepare a long-range transportation plan.

The Board believes that in a rapidly changing economy adequate infrastructure has both economic development and quality of life benefits. An adequate transportation system is absolutely essential to the well being of the county.

The Board understands it may take nine to twelve months to complete this project once started and that there is no direct cost the County for this service.

We look forward to hearing from you about this request. You may direct any inquiries to Ms. Phyllis Owens, Columbus County Economic Development Commission. She acts as staff to the CCTC. You may reach her at: (910) 640-6608 or [powens@ncez.net](mailto:powens@ncez.net).

Respectfully,  
 /s/ Billy Farmer, Administrator  
 Columbus County

cc: Mac Campbell, NC Board of Transportation  
 Leo Mercer, CCTC Chairman  
 Phyllis Owens, CID, Columbus County Economic Development  
 Terry Gibson, PE, Div 6 Engineer  
 Don Eggert, Cape Fear Area RPO

**APPROVE CONTRACT and LETTER of APPOINTMENT for COLUMBUS COUNTY MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Darren Currie, Assistance County Administrator, requested Board approval of the Health Professional Contract and the Letter of Appointment for the Columbus County Medical Director. The Health Professional Contract is as follows.

## HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT

This CONTRACT made and entered into this 15th day of July 2002 by and between THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, hereafter called COUNTY; and Dr. W. Fred Obrecht, MID, hereinafter called MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

### WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, COUNTY has implemented an Emergency Services System to provide Emergency Medical Services and E 9-1-1 service in Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, MEDICAL DIRECTOR has agreed to provide medical consultation and direction in support of COUNTY'S Emergency Medical System and the E 9-1-1 Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) program;

NOW THEREFORE, for and consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions contained herein, the parties hereto, hereby agree as follows:

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

The MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall provide the services as set forth on Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. He will devote such time as reasonably necessary to fulfill the responsibilities set forth herein. The MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall be allowed to continue to engage in the private, or other, practice of medicine when not performing duties required of this Contract.

### PAYMENT OF FEE

COUNTY shall pay MEDICAL DIRECTOR the sum of TWELVE THOUSAND) DOLLARS (\$12,000), to be paid in four (4) quarterly amounts of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) commencing in the month of July 2002 and payable at the time of the scheduled accounts payable day in October 2002, January 2003 and April 2003.

### INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

MEDICAL DIRECTOR acknowledges that he is an independent contractor of the County, and as such, he is not entitled to, nor shall be eligible for, any benefits provided by the County to any of its permanent or temporary employees, including but not limited to vacation leave, sick leave, retirement, longevity, and group insurance. Further, COUNTY shall not be required to withhold any federal or state taxes, PROVIDED HOWEVER, that MEDICAL DIRECTOR, shall provide such documentation as COUNTY deems necessary to meet any and all federal and state tax guidelines regarding contract employees.

### INDEMNITY

MEDICAL DIRECTOR hereby agrees he shall indemnify and hold COUNTY, its employees and agents, harmless from all claims, demands, causes of action, or other liability, including attorney fees, resulting from or on account of personal injuries or death, or on account of property damages arising out of or relating to the work to be performed by MEDICAL DIRECTOR hereunder, resulting from the negligence of MEDICAL DIRECTOR. COUNTY hereby agrees it shall indemnify and hold MEDICAL DIRECTOR harmless from all claims, demands causes of action, or other liability, including attorney fees, resulting from or on account of personal injuries or death, or on account of property damages arising out of or relating to the work to be performed by COUNTY'S Emergency Medical System and 9-1-1 employees hereunder, resulting from the negligence of COUNTY'S Emergency Medical System and 9-1-1 communication employees.

### INSURANCE

MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall maintain professional liability insurance providing liability limits of a minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00 annual aggregate. The MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall have his insurance agent furnish COUNTY a certificate of insurance evidencing the existence of such

coverage, and providing for fifteen (15) days notice of any material change in coverage.

#### TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this contract hereto, without penalty, provided that written notice of said termination is furnished to the other party at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of termination. Net payment shall be prorated to the date of termination.

#### TERM

The term of this contract shall be from July 01, 2002, to June 30, 2003.

#### ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Contract constitutes the entire understanding between parties hereto and supersedes all prior and independent agreements between parties, covering the subject matter hereof. Any change or modification of this Contract must be in writing and signed by both of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the COUNTY, under authority duly given, has caused this contract to be properly executed, and MEDICAL DIRECTOR has set his hand and seal, all as of the day and first year above written.

(SEAL)

THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS  
/s/ Amon E. McKenzie, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board

/s/ Dr. W. Fred Obrecht, MD

"This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

/s/ Gayle B. Godwin, Columbus County Finance Officer

#### EXHIBIT A

##### MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall have ultimate responsibility for all medical issues concerning the Emergency Medical Services System (i.e. Emergency Medical Services and 9-1-1 communications). The MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall investigate and provide feedback concerning complaints or concerns regarding the quality of Advanced Life Support care.
2. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall be responsible to, but not governed by, other agencies and persons involved with the Emergency Services System (e.g. Emergency Services Director, Columbus County Audit & Review Committee, Columbus County Medical Society).
3. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall be responsible for reviewing and approving local and state forms and records relating to the certification, and re-certification, of personnel in the Columbus County Emergency Services System.
4. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall assume ultimate responsibility for evaluating the medical competency of all personnel in the Columbus County Emergency Medical Services System. He shall have the authority to remove any of the above personnel from performance at their respective level of certification, or lower levels of certification, at his discretion.
5. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall review and approve the level of certification for all Advanced



5. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall review and approve the level of certification for all Advanced Life Support personnel before allowing them to practice in the field.
6. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall review all educational components of the local Advanced Life Support program including, but not limited to, ongoing continuing medical education and re-certification courses such as PALS, ACLS, and BTLIS.
7. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall participate in the development, implementation, and maintenance of an Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Medical Dispatch performance improvement program.
8. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall meet with the administration of the Emergency Services Department. The parties involved shall mutually agree upon the date and time of said meeting(s).
9. Other reasonable and necessary duties that reflect nationally recognized responsibilities of an Emergency Medical Services Medical Director. (The National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians and American College of Emergency Physicians guidelines for Medical Directors shall serve as a guideline in this matter).
10. MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall appoint any ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR as deemed necessary and this ASSISTANCE MEDICAL DIRECTOR shall report directly to the MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

The Appointment Memorandum approved is as follows:

#### MEMORANDUM

**MEMO TO:** John Moore, Jr.

**FROM:** Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator

**DATE:** July 23, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Columbus County Medical Director

The Board of Commissioners, at their regular meeting on July 15, 2002, approved the appointment of Dr. W. Fred Obrecht as the County Medical Director. Attached you will also find the "Health Professional Contract" that has been signed. Once signed by Dr. Obrecht, please submit to this office a duly executed copy of the contract.

Sincerely,  
/s/ Billy Joe Farmer  
Columbus County Administrator

#### **APPROVAL for SUPPORT of SENATE BILL #1426 (Amend Mental Health Reform)**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested the Board go on public record as supporting this legislation and formally encourage our representatives to act to ensure such legislation is ratified of Senate Bill #1426. This bill limits the financial liability that counties may be held to while enacting the provisions of the mental health reform legislation. Commissioner Norris made a motion the Board of Commissioners officially go on public record as supporting this legislation and formally encourage our representatives to act to ensure such legislation, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried. The Board requested Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, to do a resolution and mail out to our representatives. The following Resolution was approved and adopted for mailing.

#### **RESOLUTION in SUPPORT of** **SENATE BILL 1426**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners would like to officially go on record as supporting this legislation and formally encourage our representatives to act to ensure such legislation is ratified; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County is presently experiencing a tight budget which only allows for necessary expenditures, only. The budget crisis we are undergoing resulted from the State requiring a significant increase in our Medicaid appropriation and withholding many sources of our revenue. With this combination, we are very limited in what we are able to do for our citizens, and, in addition, it has placed many financial constraints on our Budget; **and**

**WHEREAS**, with the ratification of Senate Bill 1426, Columbus County would be limited to the financial liability that counties may be held to, while enacting the provisions of the mental health reform legislation; **and**

**WHEREAS**, we, as a Board, are asking for your support and encouragement of Senate Bill 1426 as a means to alleviate Columbus County of a small fraction of its financial burdens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is officially going on record in support of Senate Bill 1426 and is requesting our representatives to fully support this bill in the course of its ratification.

**ADOPTED** this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2002.

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

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

#### **DECLINATION of SCHOOL PROPERTY PURCHASE**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested the Board to decline to purchase a ten (10") foot by twenty (20') foot section of Columbus County School property so that it can be sold to the North Carolina Natural Gas Corporation. Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

#### **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Columbus County Planning Board:** Commissioner Bill Memory, District IV, appointed Ivan Wilson, 1182 Bella Coola Road, Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450, Telephone: (910) 646-3082 (H). The term and expiration date to be decided at a later date.

**Columbus County Aging Advisory Council:** Upon recommendation of the Advisory Council, the following appointments were made:

**Zone 1:** Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie appointed Paul Gerald, Jr., P.O. Box 250, Cerro Gordo, North Carolina, Telephone: (910) 654-2050, to replace Etrulia Williams who resigned, with term expiring 06/30/2005; **and**

**Zone VII:** Commissioner David L. Dutton, Jr. appointed Joe Neal, P.O. Box 84, Brunswick, North Carolina 28424, Telephone: (910) 642-4605, to replace Dr. Henry Jones who resigned, with term expiring 06/30/2005.

#### **PROCLAMATION of APPRECIATION to the HANDMADE/HOMEMADE FESTIVAL**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested Board approval of the following proclamation at the request of Ms. Leila Spaulding. The Graham Family of Lake Waccamaw has an annual event in November of each year and would like the Proclamation to be a part of their festivities.

**PROCLAMATION of APPRECIATION to the  
HANDMADE/HOMEMADE FESTIVAL**

The Board of County Commissioners, at their regularly scheduled meeting on July 15, 2002, unanimously adopted the following Proclamation:

**BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT WHEREAS**, the **Handmade/Homemade Festival** of Columbus County has made life-long strides to improve the quality of life in their community and county; **and**

**WHEREAS**, members of the **Handmade/Homemade Festival** have served on numerous boards, agencies, committees in their church, government and community functions; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the **Committee** is recognized County and State-wide for leadership in positive endeavors for the general welfare of all people; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the **Committee** has given unselfishly of their time and energies to help those in need or those with unfortunate situations in a most untiring and caring way.

**THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that they do hereby recognize the true loyal and faithful service to their community and county and congratulate them on this special occasion.

**ADOPTED** unanimously on this the 15th day of July, 2002.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

/s/ **AMON E. MCKENZIE - DISTRICT I, Chairman**

/s/ **C.E. "GENE" WILSON, Vice Chairman**  
**COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT II**

**ATTESTED BY:**

/s/ **JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

**AMENDMENT to the JUNE 17, 2002 MINUTES**

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, requested the Board approve an Amendment to the June 17, 2002 Minutes due to the discovery of an incorrect statement regarding the Eston Hinson's presentation to the Board. The Amendment is as follows:

- 4 We have been informed by the State, Mr. Hinson cannot expand his sewage system due to bad soil conditions. ~~He needs to repair land and install two hundred (200') feet of additional drainage lines.~~ **\*\*\*He needs to locate suitable land offsite for the expansion of his existing sewage system.\*\*\***

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Amendment to the June 17, 2002 Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and ENTER into CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:07 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

No official action was taken.

**ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and RESUME REGULAR SESSION**

At 8:30 P.M., Commissioner Britt made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume

Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:33 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Memory. Due to unfinished business for this meeting, Commissioner Dutton withdrew his motion, Commissioner Memory withdrew his second.

**RESOLUTION - REQUEST for ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY**

Chairman McKenzie requested Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, to send a letter, or resolution, to the North Carolina Department of Transportation regarding the designated roads and intersections that had been discussed earlier within Columbus County where multiple wrecks have occurred and are considered to be a safety hazard. Commissioner Norris made a motion for this correspondence to be executed, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried. The Resolution approved is as follows.

**REQUEST for ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY**  
**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has concluded a more thorough investigation is needed for areas located throughout Columbus County where many of its citizens have experienced severe injuries and even death by vehicular use; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has been informed there may be areas located within the County where proper signage may be lacking or perhaps missing. We, as a Board, deems it necessary to request the North Carolina Department of Transportation to look at all areas where secondary roads merge into the main thoroughfares (i.e.: Highway 130, 242, 701 and 74/76) throughout Columbus County to ensure proper signage is present and properly installed; **and**

**WHEREAS**, there have been serious and even fatal accidents in the following areas where we are requesting special emphasis be placed in your process of checking into this situation. The areas are as follows: 1) Intersection of Highway 410 and Silverspoon Road, 2) Intersection of SR 1005 Peacock Road and SR 1005, and 3) Intersection SR 1504 and Highway 242; **and**

**WHEREAS**, we, as a Board, work diligently to provide our citizens with as much safety as can be rendered to them and would like to maintain the highest level of safety that can be provided to us by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation continue its investigation of the aforementioned areas and the locations where secondary roads merge into main thoroughfares throughout Columbus County, and take actions as necessary and appropriate to protect the safety and well-being of those persons using motor vehicles in such areas.

**ADOPTED** this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2002.

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

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

**CLARIFICATION of AUDIT PROCEDURES**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested clarification from the Board on the Audit Procedures regarding the fire and rescue departments in relation to the supplying of a full pledged audit before their checks can be issued to them. It was the general consensus of the Board for Billy Joe Farmer to send a letter out to each department informing them that a full-pledged audit must be received by the Administration Office before their check can be disbursed to them and

this particular action will be fully enforced.

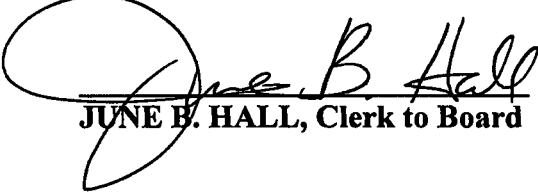
**INTRODUCTION OF BILL BOULES (ERSKIN BOULES' SON)**

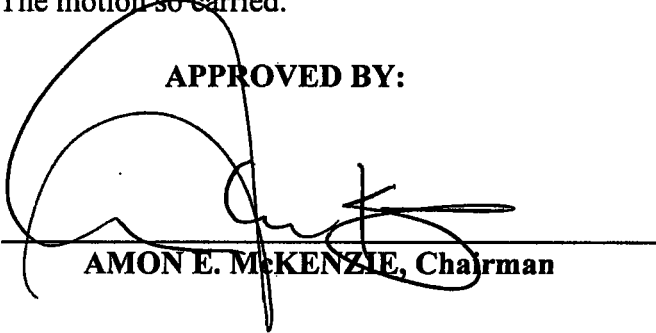
Chairman McKenzie asked if anyone in the audience had anything to say. Mr. Bill Boules stood and introduced himself stating he was Mr. Erskin Boules' son and that his father was running for election to the United States Senate and requested everyone to please cast their vote for Erskin Boules.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:49 P.M., there being no further business, Commissioner Norris made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**APPROVED BY:**

  
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**JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

  
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**AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman**