

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Monday, February 17, 2003**

**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:**

Bill Memory, **Vice Chairman**  
 David L. Dutton, Jr.  
 Kipling Godwin  
 Sammie Jacobs  
 Amon E. McKenzie  
 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**

**COMMISSIONER ABSENT:**

C.E. "Gene" Wilson, **Chairman**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:30 P.M., Vice Chairman Memory called the meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Sammie Jacobs. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the January 21, 2003, the February 3, 2003 and the February 4, 2003 minutes as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

**CHAF PROGRAM UPDATE:**

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

**Columbus County Summary Sheet**

<b>CHAF Program</b>						<b>Previous</b>
						<b>01-17-03</b>
<b>TOTAL HOUSES</b>				491		
<b>Houses Inspected</b>				491		
Replacement			290			288
Repair			201			203
<b>Repair Work</b>			201			
Work Write-up	0				0	
Bids Complete, Not Awarded	0				0	
Board Awarded, No Construction	37				47	
Title Opinion NOT Requested		0				0
Waiting on Title Opinion		3				7
Waiting on Prom.Note/D.O.T.		14				15
Waiting on Contractor		20				25
Under Construction	27				30	
Complete	137				126	

<b>Replacement Work</b>			290			
Work Write-up	0				2	
Board Awarded, No Construction\	54				66	
Title Opinion NOT Requested		11				11
Waiting on Title Opinion		16				24
N.O.E. Not Sent		9				13
Waiting on Client		17				18
Under Construction	81				78	
Complete	156				142	
<b>Not Visited</b>				0	0	
<b>Legal Work</b>						
Total Titles NOT Requested	11					11
Total Titles Requested	480					480
Titles Requested, Not Complete	19					31
Preliminary Title Complete	73					64
Prom.Note/D.O.T. Requested, Not Signed	49					58
Prom.Note/D.O.T. Recorded	339					327

**CONTRACT AWARD - LEAD BASED PAINT ASSESSOR:**

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, is requesting Board Approval of an award of a Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor Contract to Carolina Environmental, Incorporated of Cary, North Carolina. The contract price is nine hundred eighty-seven and 00/100 (\$987.00) dollars per unit with a four hundred seventy-five and 00/100 (\$475.00) dollars per unit for a return visit for failed clearance.

Commissioner Godwin asked Floyd Adams to explain or define the return visit. Floyd replied by stating the following:

1. The Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor would go and do the initial assessment on the house;
2. As our work progresses, the lead based paint would be done away with;
3. The Lease Based Paint Risk Assessor will have to come back and inspect the house, and if the lead based paint has not been disposed of properly, the process will have to repeated;  
**and**
4. The Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor will to then return and inspect.

Discussion was held regarding the return visit charge being higher than the other bids. The Board instructed Floyd to negotiate with Carolina Environmental, Incorporated and see if he could get the return visit price lowered.

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to award the Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor Contract to Carolina Environmental, Incorporated, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**APPOINTMENT - CHADBOURN PLANNING and ZONING BOARD:**

David Bone, Manager of Chadbourn, is requesting reappointment of Charles Merritt as the extra-territorial jurisdiction member on the Chadbourn Planning and Zoning Board. Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to reappoint Charles Merritt as the extra-territorial jurisdiction member on the Chadbourn Planning and Zoning Board, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**PARKS and RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (COLUMBUS COUNTY) - REQUEST for CHADBOURN REPRESENTATIVE:**

David Bone, Manager of Chadbourn, is requesting Board approval for a representative from the Town of Chadbourn to be allowed to serve on the Columbus County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Mr. Bone stated he was not asking for any special treatment for the Town of Chadbourn but for equal representation. In addition, Mr. Bone recommended that Tabor City and Whiteville appoint additional members to serve on this board.

Chadbourn Mayor Leo Mercer stated he wanted the number of members changed on the Board for equal representation.

Bryan Edwards, member of Chadbourn's Recreation Board stated the following:

1. Our program has 600 participants;
2. 40% Of the youth participants are outside the city limits;
3. 90% Of the adult participants are outside the city limits;
4. 2200 Citizens in Chadbourn are utilizing the facility; **and**
5. 10,000 - 15,000 County residents are utilizing the facility.

Commissioner Norris asked if there was a limited number of people who could serve on the Parks and Recreation Board. Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, replied stating no.

Commissioner Memory asked how much money goes to Chadbourn from the Recreation Budget. Darren Currie, Assistant County Administrator, replied stating he would get this information.

Commissioner Godwin stated he had met with the Chadbourn Recreation Board and discussed these issues.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to allow the Town of Chadbourn to have a representative on the Columbus County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Norris.

Commissioner Dutton stated he thought the Board of Commissioners needed to discuss this matter further and wait for a response from the Town of Tabor City and the City of Whiteville.

Commissioner McKenzie stated the Town of Tabor City and the City of Whiteville had not requested this yet and we are dealing with the Town of Chadbourn.

Commissioner Jacobs stated he went along with the motion made and we should do the same thing for the Town of Tabor City and the City of Whiteville.

Commissioner Memory stated someone should contact the Town of Tabor City and the City of Whiteville to find out if they would like representation on this Board.

Commissioner Jacobs stated that the money allocation for the Parks and Recreation would not be any larger but the portions distributed to each division would be smaller.

**SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION - BEAVER ERADICATION for NAKINA DRAINAGE PROJECT:**

Donna Register, Columbus County Soil and Water Conservation Director, is requesting Board approval of an agreement with Milton McLean, USDA - APHIS in the amount of nine hundred sixty-one and 00/100 (\$961.00) dollars for beaver eradication for the Nakina Drainage Project. Commissioner Dutton made a motion to approve the agreement with Milton Parker in the amount stated for beaver eradication for the Nakina Drainage Project, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

**SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION - SIMMONS BAY CREEK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RESOLUTION and PROJECT APPROVAL:**

Donna Register, Columbus County Soil and Water Conservation Director, is requesting Board approval and adoption of a Resolution sponsoring the Simmons Bay Watershed Drainage Improvement Project and the project itself. Donna Register informed the Board of the following:

1. An assessment was done by the State on Simmons Bay forty (40) years ago and Columbus County received unsatisfactory results;
2. We have put money aside to be utilized for this project;
3. We have applied for a grant and if this grant is received, we will put our money with the grant money.

Commissioner Dutton made a motion to approve the following Resolution and the following Simmons Bay Creek Drainage Improvement Project, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners desires to sponsor the Simmons Bay Watershed Drainage Improvement Project as it provides necessary drainage relief for approximately 21,700 acres in rural southeastern Columbus County. This improvement work will restore the project to its designed level of performance in order to assure its continued integrity and service.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Board request the State of North Carolina to provide financial assistance to Columbus County for the Simmons Bay Watershed Drainage Improvement Project in the amount of \$19,791 or 67 percent of project construction cost, whichever is the lesser amount.
2. The Board assumes full obligation for payment of the balance of project costs.
3. The Board will obtain all necessary State and Federal permits.
4. The Board will comply with all applicable laws governing the award of contracts and the expenditure of public funds by local governments.
5. The Board will supervise construction of the project to assure compliance with permit conditions and to assure safe and proper construction according to approved plans and specifications.
6. The Board will obtain suitable spoil disposal areas as needed and all other easement or rights-of-way that may be necessary for the construction and operation of the project without cost or obligation to the State.
7. The Board will assure that the project is open for use by the public on an equal basis.
8. The Board will hold the State harmless from any damages that may result from the construction, operation, and maintenance of the project.
9. The Board accepts responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the completed project.

**Adopted** this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2003.

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

**ATTESTED BY:**  
/s/ June B. Hall, Clerk

#### Simmons Bay Creek Drainage Improvement Project

**Location and Description** – Simmons Bay Creek is a tributary of the Waccamaw River and lies entirely within Columbus County. The headwaters generally begin in the Nakina/Old Dock area about 14 miles south of Whiteville, North Carolina. Simmons Bay Creek has a watershed of approximately 21,700 acres.

**Background** – The Simmons Bay Creek Watershed Project was constructed by the US Army Corps of Engineers in 1961. This project was built to relieve chronic flooding conditions in the watershed that was well documented by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the USDA Soil Conservation Service in the 1940's through 1960. The project protected several thousand acres of cropland, woodland and rural homes. The project was a federal/local partnership and cost sharing was done to construct the project.

The project includes 8.37 miles of channel on Simmons Bay Creek and .95 miles of channel on a tributary called Horse Pen Branch. Channel bottom widths vary from 10 feet to 50 feet wide. The original project began at Station 0 + 00 at the Waccamaw River as a clear and snag project to Station 18 + 00 or the beginning of Gore Lake. Gore Lake begins at Station 18 + 00 and extends to Station 62 + 00 where channel excavation began. The channel was designed to carry the 5 year storm or 1075 cfs.

*The original project is broken down as follows:*

Simmons Bay Creek – All side slopes constructed at 1:1  
 Station 62 + 00 to Station 205 + 00 = 14,300 feet of channel at 50 feet bottom width  
 Station 205 + 00 to Station 354 + 00 = 14,900 feet of channel at 20 feet bottom width  
 Station 354 + 00 to Station 504 + 00 = 15,000 feet of channel at 10 feet bottom width

Horse Pen Branch (lateral) – All side slopes constructed at 1:1  
 Station 0+00 to Station 50 + 00 = 5,000 feet of channel at 10 feet bottom width

**Project narrative** – The entire length of channel is loaded with trees and other woody debris generally deposited by recent storms. After recent inspections, several beaver dams have also been discovered in the upper half of the watershed. An abandoned (heavily damaged) 60" CMP was noted in Reach E or at approximate Station 325 + 00. This culvert is an old farm road crossing that was severely damaged likely during Hurricane Floyd.

The US Army Corps has notified Columbus County that the project needs immediate attention in order to meet compliance guidelines. The project can attain a "satisfactory" rating with the implementation of this proposal. The project deemed "out of compliance" disqualifies the county to receive Public Law 84-99 Rehabilitation Assistance if enacted in the event of a future hurricane or significant flood event. The County would desire a cost sharing arrangement with the Division of Water Resources in order to restore the project in order for it to perform as designed in significant rainfall events so that rural citizens are protected from needless flood hazards. Therefore, it is the desire of the Columbus County Commissioners to restore the Simmons Bay Creek Project to an "Satisfactory" rating with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### **Project Proposal**

The entire length of the project is in need of debris removal or clear and snag. Debris density varies throughout the entire project. Note that the project channel width varies from 10 feet wide at 1:1 side slopes to 50 feet wide at 1:1 side slopes. The 50 feet sections will add complexity to the task of removing debris from the channel. All debris will be placed on the banks at a minimum of 10 feet back.

In addition, the culvert in Reach E will be removed and deposited with the original landowner or disposed of at the landfill. Beaver activity will be managed by the USDA APHIS —Wildlife Services. All beaver dams will be removed.

#### **Cost Estimate for Simmons Bay Creek Clear and Snag**

**Horse Pen Branch** - 5000 feet @ 10' bottom width  
**Simmons Bay Creek** - 15,000 feet @ 10' bottom width (Station 354 + 00 to Station 504 + 00)

20,000 feet or 3.8 miles @ \$1800 per mile = \$6,840

**Simmons Bay Creek** – 14,900 feet @ 20' bottom width (Station 205 + 00 to Station 354 + 00)

14,900 feet or 2.8 miles @ \$2750 per mile = \$7,700

**Simmons Bay Creek** – 14,300 feet @ 50' bottom width (Station 62 + 00 to Station 205 + 00)

14,300 feet or 2.7 miles @ 4000 per mile = \$10,800

**Simmons Bay Creek** – Removal of 60" CMP - \$1000

**Beaver Trapping and Dam Removal - \$1200**  
**Inspection/ technical assistance/administration - \$2000**  
**(Columbus Soil and Water Conservation District)**

**49,200 feet or 9.3 miles    Total Cost Estimate - \$29,540**

**Budget**

\$27,540 x .67 = \$19,791    *DENR-Division of Water Resources*  
 \$27,540 x .33 = \$9,749    *Columbus County*  
**\$29,540    Total Project Cost**

**SOCIAL SERVICES - CONSULTING CONTRACT with LARRY MOORE:**

Hattie Campbell, Vice Chair of the Social Services Board of Directors, is requesting Board approval of the following Contract with Larry Moore, Interim Director for the Columbus County Social Services Department, for the purpose of preparing the budget for the fiscal year 2003-2004 for the said department.

**CONTRACT**

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the Columbus County Social Services Board (hereinafter "Board") and Larry Moore (hereinafter "Contractor") as of the date set forth below in this document.

WHEREAS, Board and Contractor hereby enter into a contract and agreement whereby Contractor will render certain work, services and labor to and for the benefit of Board for valuable consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Board and Contractor do hereby contract, covenant and agree as follows in connection therewith:

1. Contractor does hereby agree to render and provide work, services and labor in accordance with certain specifications, to wit: consultation and preparation of budget for Columbus County Department of Social Services.
2. Department and Contractor do hereby agree that such work, services and labor as described above will not require more than six hours per month over a period of time commencing on March 1, 2003 and ending on June 30, 2003.
3. In consideration of Contractor fulfilling the duties and responsibilities set forth above and herein, Board shall pay Contractor one hundred dollars per hour of work, service, or labor during the period commencing on March 1, 2003 and ending on June 30, 2003, and such payment will be made to Contractor upon completion of said work, service, and labor by Contractor.
4. Board and Contractor do hereby agree that the total amount of compensation paid by Board as consideration for Contractor's work, service, or labor will not exceed six hundred dollars for any single month between March 1, 2003 and June 30, 2003.
5. Contractor agrees that it is not an employee of Board for any purpose whatsoever, including unemployment tax, social security contributions, income tax withholding or worker's compensation, whether state or federal. Contractor agrees to pay and be solely responsible for all applicable taxes, both state and federal, in connection with amount paid by Board to Contractor.

6. Contractor does hereby for itself, and its heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, agree and covenant to indemnify and hold harmless Board from any and all claims, demands, actions, suits at law or in equity, damages, costs, expenses, and losses of any kind or nature whatsoever, whether now known or unknown which may not exist or which may thereafter arise out of or from the work, services, and labor to be rendered and provided by Contractor to or for the benefit of Board.

7. This Agreement shall be governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

8. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties pertaining to its subject matter and no supplement, modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding unless executed in writing by all parties.

WITNESS THE SIGNATURES of the parties hereto on this 25th day of February, 2003.

BY: /s/ Larry Moore, Contractor  
/s/ Finance Officer, Columbus County

Commissioner Dutton made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

**SOCIAL SERVICES - TEMPORARY SALARY INCREASE for MARY THOMPSON, INTERIM DIRECTOR:**

Hattie Campbell, Vice Chair for the Social Services Board of Directors, is requesting Board approval of a temporary salary increase for Mary Thompson who was appointed Interim Director at the February 11, 2003 Social Services Board of Directors' Meeting in the event the new director cannot begin employment on March 1, 2003. The salary increase will be five hundred and 00/100 (\$500.00) dollars per month. Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**SOCIAL SERVICES - SALARY APPROVAL OF NEW DIRECTOR:**

Hattie Campbell, Vice Chair for the Social Services Board of Directors, is requesting Board approval of the salary for Marva Scott, the new Social Services Director, to be fifty-four thousand nine hundred nineteen and 00/100 (\$54,919.00) dollars.

Commissioner Godwin asked what rationale was used to determine this salary for Marva Scott and stated he would like for this matter to be discussed in Closed Session before a decision was made.

Commissioner McKenzie stated he serves on the Department of Social Services Board and this matter had been discussed at great length, they had interviewed several applicants and found Ms. Marva Scott to be the most qualified among all the applicants interviewed.

After discussion was held regarding qualifications verses starting salary, Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the starting salary for Marva Scott, the new Social Services Director, to be fifty-four thousand nine hundred nineteen and 00/100 (\$54,919.00) dollars. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION - SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Larry Moore, Interim Director for Social Services, is requesting the Board to declare several items as surplus property. Mr. Moore stated that some of the items could be utilized in other departments if needed but Social Services did not have a need for them anymore. This list will be on file in the Administration Office for inspection. Commissioner Godwin made a motion to approve these listed items be declared as surplus property, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**TRANSPORTATION (COLUMBUS COUNTY) SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT and BUDGET AMENDMENT APPROVAL:**

Charles Patton, Columbus County Transportation Director, is requesting Board approval of a Supplemental Agreement, Project Number: 02-SF-002, Work Order Number: 9.9062064, between the Department of Transportation and Columbus County and Budget Amendment. This is approval of receiving an extra eighty-eight thousand one hundred thirty-six and 00/100 (\$88,136.00) dollars for the Transit Facility. Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Supplemental Agreement between the Department of Transportation and Columbus County and the Budget Amendment in the amount of eighty-eight thousand one hundred thirty-six and 00/100 (\$88,136.00) dollars, seconded by Commissioner Godwin. The motion so carried. This Supplemental Agreement will be on file in the Administration Office filed under Columbus County Transportation.

**LIBRARY - EZ BASIC EQUIPMENT GRANT:**

Morris Pridgen, Columbus County Public Library Director, is requesting Board approval to apply for a EZ Basic Equipment Grant in the amount of ten thousand seven hundred fifty and 00/100 (\$10,750) dollars with a fifteen (15%) percent County match of one thousand six hundred thirteen and 00/100 (\$1,613.00) dollars. The total project funds will be in the amount of twelve thousand three hundred sixty-three dollars and 00/100 (\$12,363.00) dollars.

Commissioner McKenzie asked Mr. Pridgen if this matching amount was in his budget. He replied stating no but he would carry this over to the next budget year.

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve the EZ Basic Equipment Grant in the amount of ten thousand seven hundred fifty and 00/100 (\$10,750) dollars with a fifteen (15%) percent County match, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

**TAX DEPARTMENT - AVAILABILITY OF TAX RECORDS ON INTERNET:**

Richard Gore, Columbus County Tax Administrator, is requesting Board approval to have Columbus County tax records available on the Internet. After Board discussion was held, Commissioner Norris made a motion to table the availability of Columbus County tax records on the internet, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

**SCHOOL MERGER (COUNTY and CITY ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS):**

Eddie L. West, Jr., The Masonboro, Group, Incorporated, made the following presentation to the Board on doing a feasibility study on the merging of the administrative units of the Columbus County Schools and the Whiteville City Schools. The cost of doing this study would be thirty-four thousand nine hundred fifty and 00/100 (\$34,950.00) dollars.

1. Our company does various types of studies in all areas;
2. If the decision is made for this feasibility study to be done, we would first establish the necessary criteria;
3. We would request data from each school district involved;
4. The necessary data would be collected and analyzed against the established criteria and necessary documents;
5. Focus groups would be formulated with constituent groups;
6. A sit-down session with each member involved would be scheduled;
7. After all the facts and information necessary has been collected, we would sit down and decide if this merger would be feasible to all involved; **and**
8. If merging or consolidation is not feasible, then we would designate areas that needed to be combined to produce the most economical result.

Mr. West stated the Study Team that would be utilized would consists of seasoned veterans and our company is big on process and heavy involvement with people.



Commissioner McKenzie asked Mr. West about the time frame involved here. Mr. West replied stating the company already has lots of data on both school systems and the time frame would be the end of May, 2003.

Commissioner Dutton asked Mr. West the following question, "If the Board of Commissioners comes to you and stated we want to consolidate, what would you say?" Mr. West replied stating he could not say without the proper data to base it on.

Commissioner Godwin asked Mr. West how many school system mergers had his company previously done. Mr. West replied stating two (2).

Commissioner Godwin asked Mr. West if the quality of education was taken into consideration when doing these types of studies. Mr. West replied stating that eighty (80%) percent of the study was based on quality and twenty (20%) percent was based on finances.

Danny McPherson, Superintendent of Whiteville City Schools thanked the Board of Commissioners for the up-front approach they were taking in doing this feasibility study.

Vice Chairman Memory stated the costs of the feasibility study, if so done, may be divided into three (3) parts, one (1) part being Columbus County, one (1) part being Whiteville City Schools and one (1) part being Columbus County Schools.

**RETREAT - BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, is requesting the Board establish a date to hold a retreat to discuss issues and formulate plans and objectives prior to beginning the upcoming budgetary process. After discussion was held by the Board, Commissioner Dutton made a motion to table this matter until Chairman Wilson could be present, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the following Budget Amendments, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

**Budget Amendments:**

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	64-520-7200	Buildings	\$75,000
Revenue	64-397-0000	Advance from General Fund	\$75,000
Expenditure	10-900-6000	Transfer to Capital Project (Jail)	\$75,000
Revenue	10-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$75,000
Expenditure	10-599-1700	M/R Vehicles	\$570
Revenue	10-335-0000	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$570
Expenditure		Administration *(See Attachment 1)	
Revenue		N/A	

**Tax Refunds and Releases:**

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to table all Tax Refunds and Releases pending verification, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

**COMMENTS:**

**Update on GIS System:**

Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, asked Carla Strickland, GIS Technician, and Tracy Simmons, ITS Technician, to present an update to the Board on the Columbus County GIS System. Carla Strickland stated the following:

1. We are setting up account numbers and programs to enable all the County departments to utilize this system; **and**
2. We are setting up programs to be compatible interdepartmentally.

Tracy Simmons stated the following:

1. We are in the process of redesigning the Columbus County Website;
2. Our present website is on its way down;
3. We are trying to establish a county-wide e-mail system;
4. The website address will be columbusco.org; **and**
5. I would like to get a group photo of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners and individual photos of each Commissioner.

Commissioner Godwin asked Ms. Simmons how soon would the website be available to provide current information such as Agenda, Board Minutes, etc. to the public. Ms. Simmons replied by stating by the end of the month.

**SOLID WASTE - ILLEGAL DUMPING:**

Commissioner McKenzie asked Chuck Stanley, Columbus County Solid Waste Officer, what did Columbus County have on signs prohibiting illegal dumping. Chuck replied stating the only signs we have at the present are the Department of Transportation signs listing penalties for littering. Commissioner McKenzie stated the roadsides and area ditches look bad to the local citizens and to the general public.

It was the general consensus of the Board for Chuck Stanley, Columbus County Solid Waste Officer, to look into what additional steps could be taken to prevent illegal dumping in Columbus County.

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION:**

At 8:51 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. §143-318.11, seconded by Commissioner Godwin. The motion so carried.

No official action was taken.

**ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:**

At 9:53, Commissioner Norris made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT V AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING:**

At 9:55 P.M., Commissioner Norris made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Authority Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried. This information will be recorded in the appropriate Minute Book for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Authority Board.

**ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT V AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION:**

At 10:28 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Authority Board Meeting and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Godwin. The motion so carried.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - INCENTIVE PACKAGES:**

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion for Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, to decide on the most feasible option for Columbus County on the incentive packages and then present that option to the Board. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Godwin. The motion so carried.

**ADMINISTRATION - APPROVAL OF TWO (2) JOB DESCRIPTIONS and BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, requested the Board to approve the following two (2) job descriptions along with a Budget Amendment to accommodate these two (2) job descriptions:

1. Administrative Assistant to the County Administrator/Special Projects Coordinator; and
2. Administrative Secretary/Accounting Tech II.

Commissioner Godwin made a motion to approve the two (2) job descriptions as presented by Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, along with a Budget Amendment to accommodate these two (2) job descriptions. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion so carried.

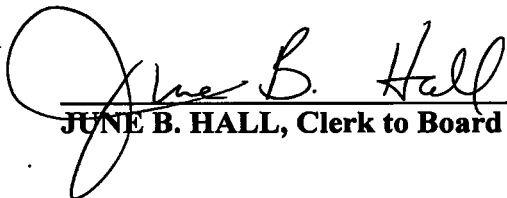
**BOARD IMMUNITY:**

James E. Hill, Jr., Columbus County Attorney, informed the Board a case had come out in legal actions on February 4, 2003 stating that a Board would have immunity now from any action they decided to take, but may be subject to change.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 10:29 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**APPROVED:**

  
 JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

  
 BILL MEMERY, Vice Chairman