

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 06, 2009

6:30 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 first Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

James E. Prevatte **Chairman**
 Ricky Bullard, **Vice Chairman**
 Amon E. McKenzie
 Giles E. Byrd
 Edwin Russ
 Lynwood Norris
 Ronald Gore

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
 Steven W. Fowler, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

Agenda Items #1, #2 and #3:

MEETING CALLED to ORDER, INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the April 06, 2009 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Vice Chairman Ricky Bullard. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Vice Chairman Ricky Bullard.

ADJUSTMENT of APRIL 06, 2009 AGENDA:

Chairman Prevatte stated that Richard Gore, Columbus County Tax Administrator, had contacted him and requested that Agenda Item #13 be tabled until April 20, 2009. This matter will be handled at the appropriate time.

Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the March 16, 2009 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman Prevatte opened the floor for public input. The following spoke.

Vernon Gaskins: stated the following:

I would like to know if the County has received any monies from the Federal Stimulus Package for weatherization for minority businesses. Some of the other states have received funds from the Stimulus Package for this.

Chairman Prevatte replied stating that Columbus County has not received any information from the State relative to these funds, and I will give your contact information to William S. Clark, Columbus County Manager, and he will contact you when this information has been received.

Agenda Item #6: PROCLAMATION - THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD:

Selena Rowell, Outreach Coordinator, Partnership for Children, requested Board approval and adoption of the following The Week of the Young Child Proclamation.

**THE WEEK of the YOUNG CHILD
PROCLAMATION
 by the COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) and other local organizations, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating *The Week of the Young Child, April 19 through April 25, 2009; and*

WHEREAS, these organizations are working to improve early learning opportunities, which are crucial to the growth and development of young children, and to building better futures for everyone in Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, all young children and their families across the country and in Columbus County deserve access to high-quality early education as the right choice for kids.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, Whiteville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim **April 19 through April 25, 2009**, as *The Week of the Young Child* in Columbus County, and encourage all citizens to work to make a good investment in early childhood in our community.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 6th day of April, 2009.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman**

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

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt The Week of the Young Child Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #7: **AGING - NAMING COLUMBUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT of AGING as the LEAD AGENT for the HOME and COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT for AGING SERVICES:**

Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested Board approval to name the Columbus County Department of Aging, on a permanent continuance, as the lead agent for the Home and Community Care Block Grant in Columbus County.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve naming the Columbus County Department of Aging, on a permanent continuance, as the lead agent for the Home and Community Care Block Grant in Columbus County, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #8: **Aging - Home and Community Care Block Grant Request for Budget Year 2009-2010:**

- A. Continue to appoint the Columbus County Department of Aging by allowing all programs to remain as presently provided;**
- B. On behalf of the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee, recommend to the Commissioners, the proposed budget allocations of \$553,019.00, with a local match of \$61,447.00 (10%) for a grand total of \$614,466.00; and**
- C. Approval to accept any additional future funds for the Home and Community Care Block Grant for the Budget Year 2009-2010, or adjust the budget should there be a cut.**

Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested Board approval of the above listed three (3) items for the Columbus County Home and Community Care Block Grant.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant Request for Budget Year 2009-2010 as follows:

- A. Continue to appoint the Columbus County Department of Aging by allowing all programs to remain as presently provided;**
- B. On behalf of the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee, recommend to the Commissioners, the proposed budget allocations of \$553,019.00, with a local match of \$61,447.00 (10%) for a grand total of \$614,466.00; **and****
- C. Approval to accept any additional future funds for the Home and Community Care Block Grant for the Budget Year 2009-2010, or adjust the budget should there be a cut.**

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: **RECREATION - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:**

Julie Strickland, Recreation Director, delivered the following departmental update to the Board.

1. There are eight (8) employees within my department;
2. For the majority of the year, we maintained twenty-six (26) facilities;
3. Currently, we are only maintaining twenty-four (24), the Bella Coola Boat Landing was purchased by the North Carolina Parks Service, and the Wilkes Street Park is now being maintained by the Columbus County School Board;
4. During last year, we had forty-two (42) completed projects at sixteen (16) different facilities, with maintenance of all of these facilities inclusive of aeration, tilling, general maintenance and pre-season maintenance;
5. We mow four thousand four hundred fifty (4,450) acres of grass;
6. Maintain one hundred eighty (180) acres of land mass;
7. We installed six thousand two hundred (6,200') feet of six (6') foot wire fencing;
8. Replaced four hundred fifty-five (455') feet of five (5') foot fencing due to an automobile accident out at Farmers Union Park;
9. Built and installed gates at three (3) parks;
10. Installed three hundred fifty (350') feet of split-rail fencing;
11. Doing preventive maintenance with pesticides, herbicides, routine grounds maintenance to all of those facilities;
12. Transported ninety-two (92) sets of bleachers for use at festivals, programs or events;
13. Conducted, sponsored or co-sponsored twenty-six (26) programs with a total of seven thousand, nine hundred, sixty-two (7,962) attendees or participants involved in those programs;
14. All eight (8) employees are involved with the community due to meeting with non-profits and independent organizations in regards to facilitating all the athletic programs; **and**
15. We attended one hundred seventeen (117) meetings last year.

Agenda Item #10: PROCLAMATION - LITTER SWEEP SPRING 2009 by the COUNTY of COLUMBUS:

Kip McClary, Solid Waste Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Litter Sweep Spring 2009 by the County of Columbus Proclamation, per the Governor's request.

**LITTER SWEEP SPRING 2009
by the COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus annually organizes a spring countywide roadside cleanup to ensure clean and beautiful roads in Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, the Spring 2009 "**LITTER SWEEP**" roadside cleanup will take place **April 18 through May 02, 2009**, and we encourage local governments and communities, civic and professional groups, businesses churches, schools, families and individual citizens to participate in the Columbus County cleanup by sponsoring and organizing local roadside cleanups; **and**

WHEREAS, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Columbus County employees, Department of Correction inmates and community service workers, community leaders, local government agencies, community and civic organizations, businesses, churches, schools and environmentally concerned citizens conduct annual local cleanups during "**LITTER SWEEP**" and may receive certificates of appreciation for their participation; **and**

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

WHEREAS, the cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering and encourage recycling of solid wastes; **and**

WHEREAS, the spring 2009 **LITTER SWEEP** cleanup will celebrate the 21st anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway Program and its 5,750 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean; **and**

WHEREAS, the "**LITTER SWEEP**" cleanup will be a part of educating the children of this Great County regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in Columbus County.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby

proclaim **April 18 through May 02, 2009**, as “*SPRING LITTER SWEEP*” time in Columbus County, and encourage citizens to take an active role in making their communities cleaner.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this 6th day of April, 2009.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman**

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

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the Litter Sweep Spring 2009 by the County of Columbus, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: HEALTH - NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2009:

Kimberly Smith, Health Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following National Public Health Week 2009 Proclamation.

Building the Foundation for a Healthy America
National Public Health Week 2009
April 6 – 12, 2009

WHEREAS, our nation spends more on health care than any other country, yet our health system is failing and we are not as healthy as we should be; and

WHEREAS, American babies are three times more likely to die than those born in some developing countries; and

WHEREAS, ethnic minority populations have nearly eight times the death rate for key health conditions, such as diabetes, than that of non-minority populations; and

WHEREAS, America has made the top 10 list of countries with the most people with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, despite these challenges, public health professionals have contributed to dramatic progress over the last century, adding fluoride to our drinking water, introducing seat belt laws and eliminating polio, among other advances that improve our health; and

WHEREAS, there can be no successful health reform without the support of a strong public health infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, by supporting our nation’s public health system, we can build on the successes of the past and establish the solid foundation needed for a healthy nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Prevatte, Chairman of Columbus County Commissioners by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of Columbus County, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of April 6–12, 2009, as National Public Health Week in Columbus County and call upon the people of Columbus County to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the importance of public health to a successful health system in light of this year’s theme, “Building the Foundation for a Healthy America.”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman**

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

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the National Public Health Week 2009 Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: SOCIAL SERVICES - CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION APRIL 2009:

Linda Fry, Social Services Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
PROCLAMATION April 2009**

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community; **and**

WHEREAS, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and do not know how to cope; **and**

WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; **and**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be prevented by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; **and**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only cause immediate harm to children, but are also proven to increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity, and risky behavior such as smoking; **and**

WHEREAS, all citizens should become involved in supporting families to provide safe, nurturing environments for their children giving them the opportunity to grow up to be caring, contributing members of the community; **and**

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

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, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

ADOPTED this 6th day of April, 2009.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **JAMES E PREVATTE, Chairman**

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

Commissioner Gore made a motion to approve and adopt the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: TAX - PRESENTATION of NEW WAY of BILLING TAX NOTICES:

Richard Gore, Tax Administrator, will make a presentation on a new way of billing tax notices.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to table this matter until the April 20, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #14: CDBG CONCENTRATED NEEDS GRANT # 06-C-1507 - SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING for CLOSE-OUT:

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, requested the Board to establish April 20, 2009 as the date for a public hearing for the close-out of this grant. (The time needs to be

established for this hearing.) Mr. Clark stated the following:

1. This grant has been completed; **and**
2. It is required that a public hearing be conducted to close this grant out.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to establish April 20, 2009, at 6:30 P.M., as the time and date for the public hearing for the close-out of the CDBG Concentrated Needs Grant #06-C-1507, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #15: RESOLUTION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of RESOLUTION in OPPOSITION of SENATE BILL 758:

Chairman Prevatte requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution in Opposition of Senate Bill 758.

**RESOLUTION in OPPOSITION of
SENATE BILL 758**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 758 has been introduced that would transfer responsibility for, and maintenance of, secondary roads from the state to counties beginning in 2011; **and**

WHEREAS, according to statistics compiled, there are approximately 976.15 miles of secondary roads in Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, based on last year's tax data, without the continuation of existing state revenue streams to pay for road upkeep and construction, Columbus County would be forced to raise the property tax rate by \$.227 cents in order to keep up the current level of funding needed to maintain our existing secondary roads; **and**

WHEREAS, due to the diminishing economy and our high unemployment rate, Columbus County citizens are struggling to pay their property taxes at the present rate; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County does not have the needed equipment, or the necessary capital, to take on this additional cost; **and**

WHEREAS, should this responsibility be shifted to Columbus County, and the property tax rate increased, the citizens would not be able to pay their property taxes, therefore creating a deficit; **and**

WHEREAS, in these tough economic times, the financial burdens on Columbus County need to be lessened, not increased.

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

1. Strongly oppose any legislation that shifts the state's responsibility for funding transportation construction and maintenance projects to county governments;
2. Strongly oppose the consideration of, and passage of, Senate Bill 758;
3. Encourage the Senate to alleviate counties of some of their tax burdens and not add more; **and**
4. Forward a copy of this Resolution to our legislators.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 6th day of April, 2009.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman**
ATTESTED BY:
/s/ **JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution in Opposition of Senate Bill 758, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COMBINATION MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING:

At 6:49 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

March 16, 2009 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 1 for each Water District, respectively.

ADJOURN COMBINATION MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III IV and V BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 6:50 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn the **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #17: APPOINTMENTS - COMMITTEE/BOARDS:

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, is requesting the following appointments/re-appointments be made to the following boards/committees.

COMMITTEE	ZONE/ EB	PERSON(S)	EXPIR. DATE	BOARD ACTION
Travel and Tourism Board	V	Nelson Lee	12/2012	APPOINT
Whiteville Planning and Zoning Board	EB	Alan Capps, Sr.***	08/01/2010	HOLD

*****NOTE: Alan Capps, Sr. does not reside in the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction and is not eligible to serve as an ETJ member.**

Agenda Item #18: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Amendment to March 16, 2009 Tax Releases:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the following amendment to the March 16, 2009 Tax Releases, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Release a portion of the property value in the name of Margaret Stewart. The rescue district to be released should be Whiteville Rescue instead of Columbus Rescue.

B. Tax Refunds and Releases:

Commissioner Gore made a motion to approve the following Tax Refunds and Releases, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**TAX REFUNDS (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office)
April 06, 2009**

Refunds Name: King, Deanna G. Amount: \$266.31
 Value: \$9,300.00 Year 004-2 Account # 07-09967 Bill # 99999 Total \$1,040.81
 Refund the value of a dwelling, the Nakina Fire (27.60) and the Columbus Rescue (6.90). The house is double listed in the name of James T. Elderdice.
 9008 Snee Ct. Myrtle Beach SC 29579

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Refunds Name: Scott, Jacqueline Amount: \$352.25
Value: \$9,400.00 Year 004-2 Account # 10-14889 Bill # 99999 Total \$361.27
Refund the value of a building and the Columbus Rescue for 2004-2008 that is double listed in the name of Bert Powell.
PO Box 68 Fair Bluff NC 28439

Refunds Name: Ward, Clovie Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year 008 Account # 06-00136 Bill # 88173 Total \$200.00
Refund the user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.
2618 Swamp Fox Rd. Tabor City NC 28463

TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office) April 06, 2009

Release the Property Value in the name of Altman Properties LLC Amount: \$118.13
Value: \$14,494.00 Year: 2008 Account # 06-03524 Bill # 5584 Total \$1,129.73
Release the property value, the Williams Fire (8.70) and Columbus Rescue (2.90). The property is double listed in the name of Elaine Hemingway.

Release the Property Value in the name of Ayers, William C Amount: \$15.49
Value: \$900.00 Year: 2007-2 Account # 14-02329 Bill # 9999 Total \$19.13
Release the value of a boat, the Welches Creek Fire (1.52) and Columbus Rescue (.38) for 2007 and 2008. The boat has been out of the county since 2002.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bellamy, James Amount: \$78.32
Value: \$9,610.00 Year: 2008 Account # 11-02833 Bill # 7463 Total \$88.26
Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue. The boat is double listed in the name of Jame D. & Carolyn Bellamy.

Release the Property Value in the name of Benson, Debra Amount: \$85.63
Value: \$3,305.00 Year: 2006-2 Account # 15-01932 Bill # 9999 Total \$696.75
Release the value of a mobile home, the Acme Delco Fire (12.90) and Columbus Rescue (2.15) for the years 2006 through 2008. The home is double listed in the same name on a different account number.

Release the Property Value in the name of Black, Alice Amount: \$206.97
Value: \$13,390.00 Year: 2005-2 Account # 01-01311 Bill # 9999 Total \$426.76
Release the value of a mobile home for 2005 and 2006, and the Whiteville Rescue. The home was repossessed in 2003.

Release the Property Value in the name of Brown, Steve Amount: \$45.21
Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2005-2 Account # 01-09569 Bill # 9999 Total \$920.56
Release the value of a mobile home, the North Whiteville Fire (100.00), Columbus Rescue (1.17) and W3 (7.37) for the years 2005-2008. Customer never owned this home. A title was never issued.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bullard, William Amount: \$129.16
Value: \$2,957.00 Year: 2004-2 Account # 01-02845 Bill # 9999 Total \$641.69
Release the value of a single wide home and the Whiteville Rescue for 2004-2008. This home was traded for a doublewide in 1999.

Release the Property Value in the name of Causey, Richard Amount: \$118.29
Value: \$1,658.00 Year: 2002-2 Account # 01-00511 Bill # 9999 Total \$131.67
Release the value of a boat for 2002-2008, and the Columbus Rescue. The boat is listed in Brunswick County.

Release the Property Value in the name of Causey, Richard Amount: \$81.22
Value: \$1,658.00 Year: 2002-2 Account # 01-00511 Bill # Total \$88.08
Release the value of a boat for 2002 through 2008 for the Town of Brunswick. The boat is listed in Brunswick County.

Release the Property Value in the name of Moore's Restoration Ministries Inc. Amount: \$453.14
Value: \$55,600.00 Year: 2008 Account # 02-04908 Bill # 3906 Total \$464.26
Release the property value and the Whiteville Rescue. This property should be tax exempt.

Release the Property Value in the name of Powell, George Amount: \$32.60
Value: \$4,000.00 Year: 2008 Account # 11-21018 Bill # 7089 Total \$35.80

Release the value of a building, the Hallsboro Fire (2.40) and the Whiteville Rescue (.80). The building burned prior to 2008.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bank of New York Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 11-02306 Bill # 6417 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Burney, J.H. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2007-2 Account # 15-07720 Bill # 9999 Total \$393.00

Release the user fee for 2007 & 2008. The house is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Cox, Daniel Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 03-04157 Bill # 3815 Total \$200.00

Release one of two user fees. One house is incomplete. No trash can here.

Release the User Fee in the name of Creech, Wayne Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 01-18183 Bill # 4038 Total \$113.00

Release one of two user fees. One house is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Gaskins, J.C. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 06-13520 Bill # 9578 Total \$200.00

Release one of two user fees. One house is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Inman, William Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 12-12920 Bill # 5953 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant with no trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Last Chance RV Park Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 11-03654 Bill # 8659 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee. Park has a commercial hauler.

Release the User Fee in the name of Mercer, Larry Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 09-20580 Bill # 2920 Total \$400.00

Release two user fees. One house and one mobile home vacant with no trash cans.

Release the User Fee in the name of Small, Thomas L. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 07-14900 Bill # 1974 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee on a mobile home that has not been set up yet. No trash can here.

Release the User Fee in the name of Spaulding, Etta Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 14-15180 Bill # 3295 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee. House is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Tigon, Diane Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 12-27569 Bill # 6395 Total \$200.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of White Construction Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2008 Account # 06-05018 Bill # 2034 Total \$226.00

Release two user fees. Both mobile homes have been sold.

C. Budget Amendments:

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the following Budget Amendments, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-4960-550000	Capital Outlay	\$5
Revenue	10-3496-499110	No-Till Drill Account	\$5
Expenditure	10-5301-533001	CP&L Energy	\$404
Revenue	10-3530-430076	Crisis Intervention	\$404

D. Agreement between County of Columbus and Columbus County Schools:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the following Agreement between the County of Columbus and the Columbus County Schools, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS)

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is by and between the COUNTY OF COLUMBUS (hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY"), and the COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOLS (hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOLS");

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, COUNTY and SCHOOLS have a disagreement as to the interpretation of the provisions of North Carolina General Statute ("NCGS") 115C-546.2 and in particular NCGS 115C-546.2(d)(4) as the same apply to the use of lottery funds. As a result of said difference in interpretation, the COUNTY has requested an Opinion Letter from the Office of the North Carolina Attorney General's Office by way of letters dated January 13, 2009 and January 26, 2009. The SCHOOLS have countered with a letter dated March 20, 2009, which letter attempts to set out the SCHOOLS' position and the differences in the positions of the two parties.

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an amicable interim agreement for the use of said funds, pending the receipt of the Opinion Letter from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office and wish to memorialize said agreement to the end that should the composition of either or both bodies change, that both bodies will have some evidence of the interim and non-prejudicial nature of the agreement and of the effects of the agreement should the same Opinion Letter favor either side's position.

NOW THEREFORE, the COUNTY and SCHOOLS mutually agree as follows:

- 1. SCHOOLS agree for COUNTY to receive and utilize the first Two Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Four and 00/100 Dollars (\$233,434.00) from the lottery funds designated for Columbus County and requested by SCHOOLS during the fiscal year 2008/2009. SCHOOLS are to request these funds for receipt by COUNTY as soon as practicable.
- 2. COUNTY will use these funds for the debt repayment for the Williams Township School Project.
- 3. The remaining lottery funds designated for Columbus County will be requested, received and utilized by SCHOOLS for needed priority projects.
- 4. Upon written response from the North Carolina Attorney General, COUNTY and SCHOOLS agree to abide by the response.
- 5. In the event the North Carolina Attorney General determines SCHOOLS have the authority to use the lottery funds in SCHOOLS' discretion, COUNTY agrees to repay the Two Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Four and 00/100 Dollars (\$233,434.00) to SCHOOLS. COUNTY to repay these funds to SCHOOLS as soon as practicable.

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
/s/ **James E. Prevatte, Chairman**
Board of Commissioners of Columbus County
Date Signed: March 26, 2009

COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOLS
/s/ **Monte Herring, Chairman**
Board of Columbus County Schools
Date Signed: March 26, 2009

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

This 26th day of March, 2009, personally came before me, **Paulette A. Varnam**, a Notary Public for Brunswick County, North Carolina, **James E. Prevatte**, who being by me duly sworn, says that he is the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County and executes the foregoing Agreement by order of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County.

Witness my hand and official seal or stamp, this the 26th day of March, 2009.

Paulette A. Varnam, Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 08/18/2012

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

This 26th day of March, 2009, personally came before me, **Paulette A. Varnam**, a Notary Public for Brunswick County, North Carolina, **Monte Herring**, who being by me duly sworn, says that he/she is Chairman of the Board of Columbus County Schools and executes the foregoing instrument by order of the Board of Columbus County Schools.

Witness my hand and official seal or stamp, this 26th day of March, 2009.

Paulette A. Varnam, Notary Public
My Commission expires: 08/18/2012

Agenda Item #19: COMMENTS:

Chairman Prevatte opened the floor for comments. The following spoke.

A. Department Heads:

1. **Linda Fry (Social Services):** I would like to remind everyone about the Memorial Service Balloon Release on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 9:00 A.M., behind the Social Services Building. A white balloon will be released into the air for every child in Columbus County that lost their lives due to child abuse.
2. **Ed Worley (Aging):** The real Senior Citizens Prom will be held on April 23, 2009, at the Whiteville Railroad Depot.

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Commissioner McKenzie:** stated the following:
 - A. I would like to say that all of our employees do a good job;
 - B. I would like to commend Ed Worley for the fine job that he is doing;
 - C. Thanks to Selena Rowell for all that she does for our children;
 - D. Thanks to the Social Services Department and the Health Department for all that they do; **and**
 - E. Thanks to all the reaming departments for their fine work.
2. **Commissioner Norris:** I would like to say that I appreciate what everyone does in their work.
3. **Chairman Prevatte:** stated the following:
 - A. The Board members have received their Code of Ordinances for review and usage; **and**
 - B. The Board members have received a copy of the **revised** Personnel Policy Manual for review and I would like to know if the Board members would like to schedule a workshop on this manual.

After a brief discussion relative to the Personnel Policy manual, it was the general consensus of the Board to review the manual in the next few weeks, and then schedule a workshop for discussion.

- C. **County Manager (William S. Clark):** stated the following:
- A. We are in the process of preparing the Proposed 2009-2010 Columbus County Operating Budget;
 - B. We have received budgets from all the departments; **and**
 - C. I will present the Proposed 2009-2010 Columbus County Operating Budget at the May18, 2009 Board Meeting.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (6):

At 7:05 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (6) Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (6):

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 8:33 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

OTHER:

APPROVAL of CLOSED SESSION GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Chairman Prevatte requested Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney, to orally read the General Account of the April 06, 2009 Closed Session Minutes. Mr. Fowler orally read the following:

“Discussions were held on the Columbus County Planning position, the evaluations of the Columbus County Tax Administrator, the Columbus County Clerk to the Board and the Columbus County Attorney.”

Commissioner Gore made a motion to approve the General Account of the April 06, 2009 Closed Session Minutes, as read orally, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

HUMAN RESOURCES - EMPLOYMENT of PLANNING DIRECTOR:

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion that on the recommendation of William S. Clark, Columbus County Manager, to hire Jim Dossett as the Columbus County Planner, at the annual salary of fifty-five thousand and 00/100 (\$55,000.00) dollars, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion passed unanimously. The date of employment was not stated.

Agenda Item 21: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:35 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMS E. PREVATTE, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING**

Monday, April 06, 2009

6:49 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, to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

James E. Prevatte, **Chairman**
Ricky Bullard, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
Giles E. (Buddy) Byrd
Edwin Russ
Lynwood Norris
Ronald Gore

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Steven W. Fowler, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 6:49 P.M., Chairman Prevatte called the Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V **Combination** Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

March 16, 2009 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Gore made a motion to approve the March 16, 2009 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:50 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

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ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:50 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

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ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:50 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

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