

Columbus Vision 2010

Columbus County Commissioner's Retreat 2010

The Columbus County Commissioners met Thursday March 4, 2010 in called work session at the Southeastern Community College. Chairman Edwin Russ called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Attending were Vice Chair Buddy Byrd, Commissioners Amon McKenzie, James Prevatte, and Ricky Bullard. County Manager Bill Clark also attended. Chris May- CFCOG Director facilitated a retreat format as follows:

Purpose:

- Review Roles & Goals
- Course Check Vision
- Reset Forward

Carry Over Concerns, improvements, and Goals From Last Year:

Emphasis on trades in HS/SECC
 Enhanced Industrial Recruiting
 Offer trades training in central county area, not just Fair Bluff
 Need a Commissioner on SECC Board?
 Water district – quality of water – need \$
 Solid funds balance and fiscally sound \$
 Crime rate has increased
 Land Use Plan – Sub Reg. Mfg. Homes
 Support school long range replacement plan

County Educational Spending this Year:

Budget #'s FY 09-10
 Operating education:
 Operations Co. 4,473,306
 Capital Expenses Co. 401,700
 Operations City 1,723,048
 Capital Expenses City 97,850
 Operations SECC 1,115,426
 Capital Expenses 103,000

County Schools Total	4.9 million
City Schools Total	1.8 million
SECC Total	1.2 million

7.9 million total spent on education

Other Major County Budget Programs:

DSS 11,500,000 (County 3,690,000)

Columbus County Sheriff Dept. 7,700,000

Patrol 4,100,000
 Jail 3,600,000

Commissioners 2010 Top Five (5) List Issues that must be addressed

Streamline efficiency and reduce wasteful spending to keep tax rate reasonable
Education Emphasis & Support Improve Graduation Rate
Competitive Jobs, College & HS Enhanced Education
Continue to support Land Use Plan
Promote a Feasibility Study to Consider Consolidating school systems

1. Education Emphasis & Support Improve Graduation Rate. (4)
2. Competitive Jobs, College & HS Enhanced Education (4)
3. Attract new business support economic development
4. Hire qualified people that know what they are doing.

5. Consolidate school systems (3)
6. Continue work on County wide water system (2)
7. Expand sewer
8. Continue to enhance & protect fund balance (3)
9. Streamline efficiency and reduce wasteful spending to keep tax rate reasonable (5)
10. Eliminate water district tax (2)
11. Improve recycling (2)
12. Improve “ranking” as most unhealthy county
13. Improve living conditions for people (3)
14. Encourage use of county vendors
15. Encourage tourism (2)
16. Continue to support Land Use Plan (4)
17. Continue long range building and facility M/R & replace
18. Teach workplace ethics how to be a good employee (1)
19. Support elimination of drugs in county
20. Support incentives for existing business (1)
21. Support & encourage dress code
22. Reduce solid waste costs w/policy (3)
23. Consider tax incentives for new business (3)
24. Promote & encourage inter-dept cooperation
25. Build a lease bldg (shell bldg) for new business
26. Renovate &/or build courthouse facility
27. Renovate DOA or replace

Action Plan

Who	What	When
BOC/Mgr.	#26 facilities improvement plan (prioritize)	Ongoing
BOC/All Staff	#9 Cost eff. Government	Ongoing
BOE/BOC	#1 improve grad rate education emphasis encouraged	Ongoing
BOE/BOC	#2 Competitive Jobs from education	Ongoing
Mgr	Joint mtg w/BOE-BOC	Annually
BOC/Mgr. EDD	#3 Support Economic Dev.	Ongoing
BOC	#16 cont. to support LUP	Ongoing
BOC/Mgr	#5 Study/survey school consolidation feasibility	1 yr
BOC/Mgr	#8 Protect & enhance fund balance	Ongoing
Mgr	#22 Reduce solid waste costs	Ongoing
BD of Health/Health Dir	#12 improve ranking as lowest co-health	Ongoing
BOC/EDD	#23 Tax incentive for new business	Ongoing

APPROVED:

WILLIAM S. CLARK, County Manager

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman