

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, May 17, 2010****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 the purpose of conducting their regular scheduled meeting on the third Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
 Mike Stephens, **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 P. Edwin Russ called the May 17, 2010 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner James E. Prevatte.

Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: PUBLIC INPUT:

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

1. **Patricia Ann Brown, 59567 Waccamaw School Road, Ash, NC 28420:** stated the following:
 - A. I would like to address some of the issues that are going on at the Columbus County Animal Shelter;
 - B. I would like to thank Vice Chairman Giles Byrd for listening;
 - C. The animals that have not exceeded a seventy-two (72) hours stay should not be killed on Friday;
 - D. It appears that the whole setup at the Animal Shelter needs to be revamped; **and**
 - E. In accordance with State law, the appropriate time to keep an animal before they are killed is seventy-two (72) hours.

2. **Pat Lambert, 319 West College Street, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - A. I am with the Columbus Humane Society;
 - B. I am receiving calls from people that visit the Animal Shelter to see about adopting a dog that just came in on Thursday, and they will call very upset stating that when they get there, the dog is dead;
 - C. It is a State law that you are not suppose to be putting a dog down like that, it could be someone's pet, especially if it is a stray;
 - D. They have a scanner at the Animal Shelter, and when these animals come in, they are supposed to be scanning these animals, and I know for a fact, they are not doing it;
 - E. We pay our vets to microchip the animals;
 - F. The animal gets picked up, took to the Animal Shelter, it gets adopted out or it gets killed;
 - G. Three (3) times last year, there was a group of us that went to see Mr. Clark, and Janet Hinson gave him a packet that contained where our county could apply for State funding in Raleigh, and we went three (3) times, and nothing has ever come from that, Robeson County has that, they get money through the State, to help low

- income people to get their animals spayed and neutered;
- H. Right now, the Humane Society applied for different grants, and we have been helping people;
- I. We don't actually receive the money, but when we pay the bill, the grant pays us back;
- J. We had a \$10,000.00 grant last year, and we have already used it up, and Janet Hinson has applied for another grant;
- K. We have a spay-neuter clinic that we are doing in another county;
- L. Dr. Genzel in Elizabethtown, we have done two (2) Spay-Neuter Clinics;
- N. They take in only twenty-six (26) animals, and it is for low income people;
- O. We take in thirteen (13) animals, and they take in thirteen (13) animals;
- P. It is very shameful that we have to go to another county to get this done because our own vets will not do it;
- Q. The only vet that helps us is Dr. Martin, and she does our grants for us in Elizabethtown;
- R. I am upset about quite a few things at the Animal Shelter; **and**
- S. The entire Animal Shelter needs to be redone and clean house.
3. **Kelly Anne Refleaf, 111 Newby Lane, Havelock, NC 28532:** stated the following:
- A. I drove three and one-half to four (3 ½ - 4) hours so I could be here to speak for the animals;
- B. I would like to reiterate what the speakers have previously stated;
- C. The animals are being put down at the Animal Shelter;
- D. The Animal Shelter needs to be open on Saturdays;
- E. You could do fund raisers or recruit volunteers to get these animals adopted; **and**
- F. To put healthy animals down is absolutely disgusting.
4. **Elisabeth Chernos, 1656 Ashton Lake Road, Burgaw, NC 28425:** stated the following:
- A. I drove here because I am concerned about all the animals at the Animal Shelter;
- B. What is happening is wrong;
- C. We have thousands of people who are interested in what is going on at the Animal Shelter;
- D. My first experience was that I tried to foster eight (8) dogs, and I started on Tuesday;
- E. I found a transporter that was willing to come here and get the dogs;
- F. One (1) of the dogs was pregnant and gave birth to eight (8) puppies;
- G. I arranged for all the fees to be paid;
- H. When my transporter arrived, she was told they had been killed that morning;
- I. I cried for two (2) days;
- J. I spent the entire week trying to get this arranged and save these animals, I did everything that I could, I was in touch with the Animal Shelter, I was in touch with the people who run the Animal Shelter, they promised me they would hold these animals for me, they had a chance to live;
- J. Nine (9) healthy dogs were put to sleep for no reason whatsoever;
- J. The transporter asked why they were put down, and someone said they were sick and nothing else;
- K. This is wrong and the Animal Shelter needs to clean house;
- L. The Animal Shelter needs to be open on Saturday; **and**
- M. We have a right to speak for those who can't speak for themselves.
5. **Jennifer Holcomb, P.O. Box 1352, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
- A. I am here to ask for your support and your help for the Lumber River;
- B. Lumber River is in the running to be one of the top ten (10) natural wonders of North Carolina;
- C. Land for Tomorrow, a conservation group out of Raleigh, selected twenty-five (25) of the nominations, and Lumber River is one of them;
- D. It is the only site in southeastern North Carolina that is in the running;
- E. I am asking for everyone's help; **and**
- F. You have five (5) votes and this ends tomorrow at noon.
6. **Robert Adams, 233 Mt. Calvary Road, Clarkton, NC 28433:** stated the following:
- A. I would to thank you for all the help that was provided on the Advisory Council Fund Raiser, not only for the equipment, but for the donations from the Commissioners, from the PTA, the citizens' organizations, from the Sheriff, to anyone that participated in this event;

- B. This was one of the biggest events I have ever been involved in and one of the most successful; **and**
 - C. Thanks to each and everyone who participated in this fundraiser.
7. **Patricia Ann Maher, 1459 Main Street, Fair Bluff, NC 28439:** stated the following:
- A. I am here tonight for the animals;
 - B. I moved here four (4) years ago from Florida, and I have been appalled by what I have seen in Columbus County from the way the animals are being taken care of at the Animal Shelter;
 - C. I do live right on Lumber River;
 - D. The Animal Shelter is a nightmare and it is antiquated;
 - E. I volunteered several times to drive animals to Wilmington to a low-cost spay-neuter place, and I have to spend the whole day in order to bring them back, and this should not be happening;
 - F. If you were to clean house at the Animal Shelter, you would get more positive people in here because the staff has old thinking, they don't care;
 - G. More exposure of these animals is needed for the promotion of adoption; **and**
 - H. The whole staff needs to be replaced.
8. **Doris Ann Strickland, P.O. Box 282, Tabor City, NC 28463:** stated the following:
- A. I am here for the children;
 - B. In the newspaper today, Nicole Cartrette wrote an article about the budget was going to be presented to the Commissioners tonight;
 - C. In that proposal, Mr. Clark has proposed to cut the budget for Tabor City and the Recreation Program because Chadbourn and Lake Waccamaw want to come on board too;
 - D. Tabor City is going to come up with their money, and I don't think we should be penalized because the other ones can't come up with theirs;
 - E. I think that you should give the children a chance;
 - F. There has been a lot of professional players that have gone through the baseball program that has gone on to be professional players;
 - G. You should look at the children because that is the future of Columbus County, and you should not cut that budget just to suit other needs;
 - H. You have opted to increase some areas and have made it hard for the people in Columbus County; **and**
 - I. The children are number one, and the voters will have their voice heard in the next election.

Vice Chairman Byrd: stated he would like to state the following for clarification:

1. Sunday afternoon, I was in my office, and a lady by the name of Jay T. Wally called me and was making acquisitions about the Columbus County Animal Shelter;
2. She was speaking on the dogs coming in on Thursday and being put to sleep on Friday, and I stated, "Mam, I don't believe that is the case, ", and she insisted that it was, and I in turn stated, "I will ask questions Monday night. We have our regular County Commissioners Meeting on Monday night, and I will ask some questions";
3. I did ask, when she was specifically saying that if they came in on Thursday, they were killed on Friday, I asked "What time would you say would be fair?", and she replied stating five (5) days;
4. I have asked questions today, and I understand we do have a seventy-two (72) hours policy, unless an owner comes in and turns his dog in and ask for the dog to be terminated;
5. Other than that, I said nothing about a meeting with the Humane Society that I understood came on the news this morning;
6. I received a call telling me about it, so I just wanted to set the record straight that she was asking questions that I did not have the answers, so I assured her that I would find out, and she is to call me back tomorrow afternoon;
7. I wanted to let this information go out, so my fellow Commissioners know where everything came from, and I apologize that it was taken totally out of context;
8. I intended to ask the questions and let her call me tomorrow and I would explain to her what I had found out; **and**
9. We will deal with the issues as fairly as we can, and feel free to call me anytime.

Agenda Item #6: BUDGET - PRESENTATION of PROPOSED 2010 - 2011 COLUMBUS COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET, and CALL for PUBLIC HEARING:

_____ William S. Clark, County Manager, presented the Proposed 2010 - 2011 Columbus County Operating Budget, and requested the Board to establish June 07, 2010, as the date for a Public Hearing on the same. The Budget Message is as follows.

B U D G E T M E S S A G E

TO: Mr. P. Edwin Russ, Chairman
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

FROM: William S. Clark
Columbus County Manager

DATE: May 17, 2010

RE: Columbus County Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget Message

Overview

The Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 is presented in accordance with the North Carolina Budget and Fiscal Control Act, North Carolina General Statute 153A-82. North Carolina law states that a balanced budget must be publicly presented by June 1 and a balanced budget adopted by June 30. We are pleased to present a balanced budget that is without a property tax increase.

General fund and total budget appropriations are noted below:

<u>2010-2011 General Fund</u>	<u>2009-2010 General Fund</u>	<u>Increased Dollars</u>	<u>%</u>
\$49,806,416	\$49,505,554	\$300,862	(0.6%)
<u>2010-2011 Total Budget</u>	<u>2009-2010 Total Budget</u>	<u>Decreased Dollars</u>	<u>-%</u>
\$69,253,425	\$69,808,573	\$555,148	(-0.8%)

Employee COLA Adjustments and 401K

A 2.5% COLA recommendation and a 401-K contribution of 1% have been budgeted this year.

Local Governmental Employees Retirement System

The employer contribution to the Local Governmental Employees Retirement System will increase this year for the first time since 1983, from 4.93% to 6.48%, resulting in approximately \$279,216 in additional funds allocated to the system.

Personnel Increases

A freeze on new positions remains in effect.

Health Insurance

Our healthcare provider proposed an 11% increase in employee health care premiums for the next fiscal year. However, employee health care premiums will not increase next year, a savings of approximately \$352,345. Effective July 1, Cigna will continue to be the county's health care insurance provider. Hospital deductibles, physician and prescription co-pays have not changed.

General Insurance

General Liability, Property and Workers Compensation insurance premiums decreased this year, a savings of \$57,069 for the county.

Enterprise Funds

Solid Waste – Solid Waste fees are proposed as follows:

	2010/2011	2009/2010
Regular Tipping Fees	58.93/ton* (\$56.00 + 2.93)	56.76/ton* (53.80 + 2.93)
LCID Tipping Fees	40.93/ton* (\$38.00 + 2.93)	39.93/ton* (37.00 + 2.93)
Solid Waste User Fees:	A) County Residents \$215.00/year (Increase of \$5.00) B) Municipal Residents \$128.00/year (Increase of \$5.00)	

Tipping Fee increases are necessary to offset a possible CPI increase by Waste Management effective January 1, 2011 for the Transfer Station contract. *Also included in the tipping fees is a \$2.93 per ton solid waste disposal fee. \$2.00 of this fee is a tax that was mandated by the Solid Waste Management Act of 2007 for cleanup of old landfills sites and to strengthen environmental standards for new landfills. The additional 0.93 cent fee is for administrative costs charged by the county's garbage recipient in Sampson County. A \$5.00 Solid Waste User Fee increase is also recommended to offset the proposed CPI increase for garbage pickup we will receive from Waste Management effective July 1, 2010.

Scrap Tire Disposal Fee- New this year, a \$2.00 per tire Scrap Tire Disposal Fee is recommended. This fee will be collected at the landfill for tires disposed of by commercial businesses that have not collected the state disposal fee at the time of a new tire sale. The Scrap Tire Disposal Fee will only apply to commercial dealers and will be used to reduce the county's scrap tire expense of approximately \$100,000 for collection of and disposal of these tires.

Water District I –Water District I's revenues are sufficient to pay its current expenditures. However, there are not sufficient funds available for capital outlay and other improvements. The minimum charge for the first 2,000 gallons is recommended to increase from \$21.00 to \$25.00. All usage over the first 2,000 gallons is recommended to increase from \$4.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2000 gallons, to \$5.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2000 gallons.

Water District II –A flat rate fee of \$25.00 for the first 2,000 gallons is again recommended. This reflects no change from the current year budget. An increase from \$4.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2000 gallons, to \$5.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2,000 gallons is however recommended. Again, additional revenues are needed for capital outlay and other improvement expenses. The special district tax of 7 cents (projected at \$242,627) is again proposed to help pay the projected debt service of approximately \$424,903 for fiscal year 2010-2011. Approximately 600 additional customers are needed to eliminate this tax.

Water District III – A flat rate of \$25.00 for the first 2,000 gallons is again recommended. This also reflects no change from the current year budget. However, an increase from \$4.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2000 gallons, to \$5.00 per thousand gallons over the first 2000 gallons is recommended to help fund capital outlay and other improvement expenses. The special district tax rate of 11 cents (approximately \$218,879) is again recommended to fund the projected debt service of \$318,758. Approximately 550 additional customers are still needed to eliminate this tax.

Water District IV – Rates in Water District IV are recommended to increase from the current rate of \$21.00 minimum for the first 2000 gallons to \$25.00 minimum for the first 2000 gallons. An increase from \$4.00 per thousand gallons for all usage over the first 2,000 gallons, to \$5.00 per thousand gallons for all usage over the first 2000 gallons is also recommended for this district.

Water District V – Rates in Water District V are also proposed to increase from the current \$21.00 minimum for the first 2000 gallons to \$25.00 for the first 2000 gallons. An increase from \$4.00 per thousand gallons for usage over the first 2000 gallons, to \$5.00 per thousand gallons for usage over the first 2000 gallons is also recommended.

Revenue Sources

Ad-valorem Property Tax Collections – Tax collections are calculated based on a collection rate of 97%, at the current rate of 81.5 cents per \$100.

Transfers from Other Departments to the General Fund – Total transfers to the General Fund for indirect costs and debt repayment are as follows:

\$ 31,286 - WD I Indirect Costs \$ 11,779 - WD V Indirect Costs

675

\$ 24,122 - WD II	Indirect Costs	\$ 79,642 - Health Department	Indirect Costs
\$ 89,937 - WD II	Debt Repayment	\$ 28,101 - HUD	Indirect Costs
\$ 26,636 - WD III	Indirect Costs	\$ 61,274 - Solid Waste	Indirect Costs
\$ 76,230 - WD III	Debt Repayment	\$ 12,778 - Transportation	Administrative Costs
\$ 15,813 - WD IV	Indirect Costs		

The transferred amount of \$457,598 is the equivalent of approximately 1.73 cents property tax that is not required in this fiscal year budget.

Education

Total current expense allocations for city and county schools, and Southeastern Community College have been increased by 3% over last year's appropriation of \$7,311,780. Capital outlay has been increased by \$150,637 or 25% of last year's appropriation of \$602,550. Columbus County Schools will receive an additional \$100,425 in capital outlay, Whiteville City Schools will receive an additional \$24,462, and SCC will receive an additional \$25,750.

A total of \$5,482,980 in additional current expense and capital outlay was requested by the county and city school systems and the college. In order to fund their requests, a 23.26 cent tax increase would be necessary.

Environmental Health Fees

The following Environmental Health fees are also recommended due to the increased costs of supplies and materials:

(New) *IMP Permit	Currently \$ 75.00	Proposed \$125.00
(Expansion) IMP Permit	Currently \$ 75.00	Proposed \$125.00
(Revision) IMP Permit	Currently \$ 75.00	Proposed \$125.00
Migrant Housing	Currently \$ 50.00	Proposed \$ 75.00
Well Construction Permit	Currently \$150.00	Proposed \$200.00
Well Construction Permit/VOC	VOC Kit \$150.00	Proposed \$350.00
Re-Inspection w/o Record	No fee	Proposed \$80.00

*IMP Permit-An improvement permit required for septic tanks.

Conclusion

Staff has worked hard to provide you with a balanced budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 without a tax increase. I would like to thank finance officer Bobbie Faircloth and our department managers for their efforts in the development of this budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ William S. Clark
Columbus County Manager

After a brief discussion, it was the general consensus of the Board to schedule a Budget Workshop on May 27, 2010, at 6:00 P.M., in the Commissioners Chambers.

Vice Chairman Byrd made a motion to accept the Proposed 2010 - 2011 Columbus County Operating Budget, and establish June 07, 2010, at 6:30 P.M. as the date and time for a Public Hearing on the same, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #7: RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION of SUPPORT WACCAMAW RIVER TRAIL:

Jennifer Holcomb, Travel and Tourism Director, and Christine Ellis, Waccamaw River Keeper, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution of Support Waccamaw River Trail.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT WACCAMAW RIVER TRAIL

WHEREAS, the Waccamaw River flows from Lake Waccamaw in a southwesterly direction along the common border of both Brunswick and Columbus Counties into South Carolina; **and**

WHEREAS, the Waccamaw River is a natural asset that offers opportunity for recreation, tourism development, education, protection of our natural resources, historically significant features, and is a potential economic catalyst; **and**

WHEREAS, there is an initiative to align efforts in North Carolina with current efforts in South Carolina to establish a **Waccamaw River Trail**; **and**

WHEREAS, many local governments, agencies, organizations and individuals have expressed interest in and support of such a river trail; **and**

WHEREAS, there are opportunities and barriers to realize expansion of the existing South Carolina portion of the river trail into North Carolina; **and**

WHEREAS, confirmation has been received from the United States Department of the Interior's National Park Service that the **Waccamaw River Trail** has been selected as a new project to receive community assistance through their Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners does hereby support the National Park Service's efforts to develop a strategic plan for a river trail along the entire length of the Waccamaw River to provide for multiple recreation opportunities, support new businesses, build awareness, protection and stewardship of the watershed's important natural resources.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 17th day of May, 2010.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution of Support Waccamaw River Trail, seconded by Commissioner Bullard

Commissioner Gore stated the following:

1. What impact would this have on the property owners along the Waccamaw River?;
2. Thirty-five (35) years ago, I was part of a team that was look at making Waccamaw River a national scenic river;
3. If this had been done, it would have imposed and infringed on the property owners along the Waccamaw River; **and**
4. I need to know what impact this will have on the property owners along Waccamaw River before I support it.

Ms. Holcomb stated the following:

1. We have a stakeholder group that is working on the designation of the Waccamaw River;
2. There are many people involved, and with me tonight is Christine Ellis, Waccamaw River Keeper, Bill Lane, National Parks Service, Darryl McBane, North Carolina State Trails, Chris Helms, Lake Waccamaw State Park, and Jim Dossett, Planning Director;
3. We are part of a stakeholders group that involves many other people that is looking to do this project;
4. At this time, the Waccamaw River Trail is an idea, it is a concept, and we are looking to explore that concept;
5. South Carolina is ahead of us on this which Christine Ellis is working on;
6. Many people here in Columbus County has stated they would like to get on board with you on this;
7. We have this natural resource and an amazing opportunity to bring people into Columbus County and expose our heritage and our culture to them bringing economic activity;
8. We are just in the conceptual stage, we are just beginning our planning stage, and have no

- interest to do a wild and scenic, and that is a completely separate designation;
9. What Bill Lane has explained to me is that the Wild and Scenic designation is a local initiative;
 10. It is designated by the Federal Government, but is done from a local initiative; **and**
 11. All we are trying to do, at this point, is just have a resource that we can promote for recreational purposes.

Bill Lane stated the following:

1. The Wild and Scenic Designation is basically by the U.S. Congress, and it takes anywhere from two to three (2-3) years;
2. They do a study at first where they get all the local citizens involved, the property owners adjacent to the river, etc.;
3. It is a long two to three (2-3) year study and we will look at that with this project;
4. This has nothing to do with the Wild and Scenic Designation of the Waccamaw River;
5. This is just for recreational purposes; **and**
6. We are trying to educate the public as to what resources are out there and trying to get people back out on the river and using the river as a resource for the community and others that want to come to this area.

Commissioner Gore stated I understand what you are saying, but I would like to know what impact this particular project will have on the private property owners on the Waccamaw River, and I would like to know the end result.

Bill Lane replied stating the following:

1. I don't see any part of this project that will affect the private property owners;
2. This is the conceptual stage, and the planning process will take place over the next one to two (1 - 2) years which will involve the general public;
3. We will find out what the general public wants on the trail as far as where the trail ends might be, what kind of resources they would like to see in these trail heads;
4. I don't see any impact from the trail itself, on the adjacent landowners;
5. We are not looking at increasing any regulations or any kind of monitoring, game wardens going up and down or anything like that; **and**
6. We are just trying to promote the river as a resource for folks to use for recreational use.

Ms. Holcomb stated the following:

1. This is just the beginning of the planning phase, and that will include public input;
2. We would like property owners, and such, to be included in our efforts to build this plan;
3. We do not know exactly what the end result will be; **and**
4. I envision the attraction of recreational activity on a small to medium scale.

The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: CDBG #09-C-2043 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT (IDA) GRANT - APPROVAL of CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE and LEGALLY BINDING COMMITMENT:

Carol Caldwell, Grant Administrator, requested Board approval of the following Department of Commerce Individual Development Account Project Ordinance, and the Legally Binding Commitment for the CDBG IDA Grant Number 09-C-2043.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY – COLUMBUS COUNTY DREAM CENTER, INC.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT GRANT
PROJECT ORDINANCE
Adopted Date: May 17, 2010**

BE IT ORDAINED By the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 159-13.2 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Grant Project Ordinance is **HEREBY ADOPTED:**

SECTION 1. The project authorized is for support of twenty first time home buyers with low to moderate income.

SECTION 2. The project director is hereby directed to proceed with the implementation of such project.

SECTION 3. The project will be executed in full during fiscal year 10/11 and 12/13.

SECTION 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the County to complete the project as of August 2010.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	AMOUNT
18-3300-333010	North Carolina Department of Commerce Individual Development Account	\$50,000.00
TOTAL:		\$50,000.00

SECTION 5. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	AMOUNT
18-4940-548001	Administration	\$10,000.00
18-4940-519106	Planning	\$40,000.00
TOTAL:		\$50,000.00

SECTION 6. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of this project. He/she shall keep the Governing Body informed at each regular meeting of any unusual occurrences.

SECTION 7. Copies of the Grant Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for directions in carrying out this project.

ADOPTED this the 17th day of May 2010.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

(SEAL)

LEGALLY BINDING COMMITMENT

**Columbus County
Columbus County Dream Center**

**(APPLICANT)
(NONPROFIT)**

PUBLIC FACILITIES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") entered into of this 17th day of May, 2010 by and between DREAM Center, doing business as Columbus County DREAM Center Inc., a Nonprofit Corporation authorized to transact business within the State of North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as the "Nonprofit") and Columbus County, North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant"). This Agreement will not become effective until all conditions placed upon the Applicant's funding approval are satisfied and funds are released by the Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance (hereinafter "DCA") pursuant to a CDBG Individual Development Account (hereinafter "IDA") with the Applicant.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Applicant has received a Individual Development Account grant from the Division of Community Assistance in the amount of \$50,000, to be used to support ownership for twenty first time home buyers with low to moderate income.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promised and the mutual covenants and

promises set forth herein, the Nonprofit and the Applicant hereby agree as follows:

I. AGREEMENT ACTIONS

- A. Nonprofit agrees:
 - 1) To execute its responsibilities as identified in the Nonprofit’s narrative hereby referred to as “Attachment A” incorporated by reference and the employment profiles contained in the Applicant’s IDA application to DCA hereby referred to as “Attachment B” incorporated by reference.
 - 2) Funds must be expended and activities complete by March 11, 2013 and close-out documents are due to DCA by June 10, 2013.
 - 3) That CDBG funds used for project activity will benefit low and moderate-income families.
 - 4) The DREAM Center will administer the grant internally and will be responsible for funding approval conditions.

- B. Applicant agrees:
 - 1) To require projects to be located within the local government jurisdiction.
 - 2) To follow all compliance and regulatory requirements of the IDA grant program.

- C. Each party shall keep and maintain books, records, and other documents relating directly to the receipt and disbursement of grant funds fulfillment of this Agreement.

- D. Each party agrees that any duly authorized representative of the Applicant, DCA, and others shall at all reasonable times, have access to and the right to inspect, copy, audit, and examine all of the books, records, and others documents relating to the grant and the fulfillment of the three (3) years (June 10, 2013) following the completion of all close-out procedures respecting the IDA funds.

- E. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the parties hereto acknowledge the due execution of the IDA Grant Agreement between the Applicant and DCA and agree that any conflict between the provisions, requirements, duties or obligations of the parties to this agreement.

II. ENFORCEMENT

- A. This Agreement constitutes a legally enforceable contract and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed under Seal as of date of signature of Chairman below.

Columbus County (Applicant)
Chairman, P. Edwin Russ, (Seal)
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS
05-17-2010
Date

Columbus County DREAM Center, Inc. (Nonprofit)

Executive Director, Carol Caldwell (Seal)
Columbus County DREAM Center, Inc.

Date

JUNE B. HALL (Seal)
Clerk

_____ **(Seal)**
Board President

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the Department of Commerce Individual Development Account Project Ordinance, and the Legally Binding Commitment for the CDBG IDA Grant Number 09-C-2043, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: SHERIFF - APPROVAL of MEETING SCHEDULED FOR VIPER RADIOS:

Sheriff Batten requested Board permission to meet with NC Highway Patrol regarding VIPER radios.

Sheriff Batted stated the following:

1. I am asking for an opportunity to sit down with you, as Commissioners;
2. I have contacted Jeremy Jernigan, Emergency Services Director, and I have asked him to contact everyone that is on the Communications Committee;
3. I have contacted Sergeant Taylor with the North Carolina Highway Patrol who oversees the operations of the VIPER System, to come in give us some information, answer any questions me may have, and make sure we are informed the best possible way we can be before any decisions are made about radios;
4. Jeremy Jernigan did a presentation that did not include VIPER and this information got back to the Highway Patrol very quickly, and I think our County Attorney has received a telephone call from the Highway Patrol, and I have received several telephone calls, my Major has received several telephone calls;
5. The North Carolina Highway Patrol wants to make sure the right information is getting conveyed to Columbus County about the VIPER system and what kind of support we can get from the State regarding the VIPER system;
6. I am not completely informed about the radio systems and this is an opportunity for us to hear about what is going on with the VIPER system;
7. We tentatively set up a time for Thursday, May 20, 2010, at 11:30 A.M., at the office, and I will provide a lunch; **and**
8. I would like to invite the media out, and make sure everyone is informed.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the meeting scheduled for VIPER radios on Thursday, May 20, 2010, at 11:30 A.M., at the Sheriff's Department, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #10: SHERIFF - ENDORSEMENT of SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM:

Sheriff Batten requested Board endorsement to implement the Second Chance Program.

Sheriff Batten delivered the following Power Point presentation.

What is the Second Chance Program?

1. More than eighty (80%) percent of the individuals in our jails and prisons are there because of some type of substance abuse related problems, (12 murder, 30 property crimes, 21 violent crimes and 30 child support).
2. Many of these inmates are unproductive and dangerous, but the majority of them will be back into society, as our neighbors, sooner then we like to think.
3. Presently Columbus County has a high recidivism rate with no programs to address the needs of the citizens. Approximately 50% of the inmates in Columbus County Detention Center return to society without any type of counseling or rehabilitation.
4. The County's plummeting unemployment rate of 12.9% contributing to a weak economy has had a negative effect on an already bad situation.
5. The offender reentry program in Columbus County is being called "The Second Chance Program". It is developing an umbrella of services to meet many social needs developed by becoming labeled as an offender "with a record".
6. Through this program, the initial assessment of an offender when entering detention will be used to evaluate the services needed to prepare them to return to society successfully.
7. Personal counseling services will be a focal point of this program.
8. Selected participants will be given the opportunity to participate in this program but must have a personal desire to turn their circumstance around and return to the community to be a productive member of society. The program will also offer deferred prosecution in some instances.
9. To achieve the umbrella of services, numerous local agencies will be partnered with to address such areas as educational training through the services of:
 - Southeastern Community College Basic Skills Lab;
 - Health education through Rouse Counseling and the Columbus County Mental Health Department; **and**
 - Substance abuse, personal, and family counseling through the Cross Roads curriculum and ministry.
10. The Sheriff's Office will monitor and control the environments during these services as well as maintain all records, assessments, data collection and reporting.
11. Because this is a faith-based program, participants will be voluntary. An option to select the program will be offered by the court as a means of deferring prosecution upon successful

completion. However, this cannot be court-ordered, because of the faith nature of the program content.

12. With this in mind, we still believe that it will be a well-received choice by defendants, due to the outcome they will receive.

What we expect the program to accomplish.

1. The Second Chance Program will select a maximum of 20 offenders per quarter (80 per year) through an evaluation process and interview.
2. All participants will meet program criteria and will sign a contract to participate and abide by all rules and regulations of the program.
3. The program will follow each offender through all rehabilitation stages and assist with securing employment and monitoring all required steps of the program for a minimum of 1 year.
4. The successful results of this program are expected to:
 - Reduce substance abuse among offenders by providing needed substance abuse and family counseling for offenders;
 - Educate and train offenders to become employable citizens; **and**
 - Assist in job placement.
5. Through this 3-step approach, offenders will be reintroduced to society and become working citizens supporting themselves and their families.
6. This effort will improve the county's economic state, reduce recidivism, and create safer neighborhoods for citizens of Columbus County.

How will this be done?

1. Initial assessment to be conducted at sentencing if a first-time offender or if incarcerated at detention entrance.
2. The Program Coordinator will evaluate the offender with a recommendation from the Judge and District Attorney, then by an interview and questionnaire.
3. The coordinator will then make a recommendation to the Second Chance Board of Directors, who will then review the applicant and either accept or deny the application.
4. All participants will receive the following services:
 - Substance Abuse utilizing Cross Roads Counseling curriculum and administered by a certified counselor. It is the belief of this initiative that each offender must recognize there is a better direction for their life than incarceration and they have the power to change their path; **and**
 - Educational training will be provided as needed through Southeastern Community College. An evaluation will be given to determine what level if any is needed to return to the community and successfully participate in an independent lifestyle. Also a job skills program will also be provided.
5. Health education will be available through a collaborative effort partners. Areas such as HIV testing and education, mental health evaluations and follow up, and routine hygiene are sampling of topics that will be addressed. Assistance in these areas will be through Columbus County Mental Health Department and Rouse Counseling.
6. Family counseling and training must also be included to provide a rounded healthy environment to nurture a successful return to the community. The family is a core component that must act as a positive support factor and understand the obstacles and needs of the offender in order to see them through this journey.
7. Transitional planning will require an offender remain in the program after incarceration with follow-up meetings and attendance to counseling sessions as deemed necessary by program guidelines;
8. Post-release supervision and services will be provided and monitored by the Columbus County Sheriff's Office, Population Control Division. Random checks with employers and routine monitoring of activities will be reviewed and analyzed. Services for transportation will be arranged as needed through the Columbus County Transportation Department.
9. The core program will initiate a 3 month intense counseling, education and job training period.
10. At the end of this period, a re-evaluation will be conducted and a recommendation made to the presiding judge as to whether an extended period is necessary to fulfill the objectives.
11. After core program objectives have been met, the individual will continue to be monitored with mandatory support services made available for a period of one year and then as needed through a 3-year plan.
12. Participants in the program will be required to participate 100% - only being excused on

extreme circumstances by the authority of the Sheriff. The 3 month core program schedule will be as follows:

- One (1) Substance Abuse Counseling Meeting per week on Monday morning from 9:00 A.M. - 11 A.M.;
- Educational Training offered by Southeastern Community College 3 times a week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 9:00 A.M. - Noon;
- Job Training offered by JobLink 3 times a week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. - 3:p.m.; **and**
- Health Education and Family Counseling will be randomly scheduled based on specific case needs.

Evaluation Process:

1. The Project Coordinator will maintain records on each participant detailing their process through the program. This information will be brought before the Board of Directors monthly.
2. The Board of Directors shall determine any necessary action required of the program.
3. The Advisory Committee shall be consulted on a quarterly basis or more frequent as the need may arise. The advisory Committee shall also assist with recommendations to the Board of Directors in decision matters and program structure.
4. Each participant is required to follow all program requirements 100%. Though it is expected that participants will progress at various degrees they must complete each phase of the program as agreed upon in the initial contract. Failure to do so will eliminate them from the program and return them to the court for consideration of initial sentencing.

Project Coordinator:

1. The Project Coordinator will begin as a contractor for the program and will work at an hourly rate of \$15.00, initially n not to exceed 25 hours per week.
2. This position will work into a full-time, 40 hour per week position as the program gets underway and the number of participants increase.

Involved individuals and endorsements:

1. The Columbus County DA, Rex Gore
2. Representative Dewey L. Hill
3. State Senator R.C. Soles, Jr.
4. Chief Resident Superior Court Judge Doug Sasser
5. Chief District Court Judge Jerry Jolly
6. U.S. Congressman Mike McIntyre
7. Probation and Parole
8. Southeastern Community College
9. Columbus County Mental Health
10. Columbus County Sheriff's Office; **and**
11. Faith Community throughout the County

Board of Directors:

1. The Columbus County Sheriff's Office will be the agency responsible for the Second Chance Re-entry Project with Sheriff Chris Batten as the chief administrative officer and responsible for the program and funding;
2. The Project Coordinator position is not yet filled;
3. Substance Abuse Counseling will be directed by Reverend Chip Hannah, Pastor of Peace Baptist Church with a Masters of Divinity in Biblical Counseling from Southeastern Baptist Theology Seminary;
4. Reverend Jerry Batten, Lamp Lighter Ministries, Inc., a non-profit faith-based organization;.
5. Reverend Gregory W. Spaulding, Orlando Brown, Cornel Green who works with the current Detention Center ministry;
6. Dr. David Heller, Chaplain for the Sheriff's Office, and pastor of Pleasant Plains Baptist Church;
7. Major Lewis Hatcher, Chief Deputy of Sheriff's Office;
8. Elizabeth Woodburn, Grants Manager for Sheriff's Office; **and**
9. Sheriff Chris Batten.

The Executive Committee:

Consists of individuals and representatives from organizations, businesses, agencies and faith-based groups from around Columbus County.

Implementation:

1. It is the goal and desire of the Sheriff and his Office to hire a Project Coordinator on a contractor basis and have him/her begin selecting applicants as of July 1, 2010, with the first 20 participants beginning the 1st class of the program around August 1, 2010.
2. We are seeking the initial approval of the County Commissioners, in order to begin this much-needed program that will ultimately benefit not only the offender, but the citizens of Columbus County, as it will reduce the recidivism rate for our jails and offer those individuals, who have made wrong choices, the opportunity to straighten their lives out and become productive citizens of our community. All of the initial services provided by the Second Chance Program will be accomplished without any taxpayer funding.

Sheriff Batten stated the following:

1. We started the Second Chance Program one (1) year ago;
2. The last grant we submitted is for \$118,503.26; **and**
3. We are targeting people who are 17 years old to 25 years old, but not excluding anyone.

In-depth discussion was conducted relative to the following:

1. Would these participants be incarcerated or not;
2. Would these participants be mingling with the students at Southeastern Community College;
3. The location of the classes;
4. Will there be any cost to the County;
5. The number of participants in the program; **and**
6. Is this program based on the receipt of the grant(s).

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the endorsement of the Second Chance Program, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: SHERIFF - PERMISSION to REMOVE JAIL BARS in OLD DETENTION CENTER:

Sheriff Batten requested Board permission to remove the old jail bars in the old Detention Center.

Sheriff Batten stated the following:

1. It is difficult for us to do a thorough cleaning of the old jail and keep it mold free;
2. Our employees still have to circulate through that area from time to time;
3. We have a lot of mold build up in that area;
4. We cannot remove all the bars, but we can remove the ones that are bolted in; **and**
5. We could possibly sell these bars to the recycling center and put the money into the General Fund.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the removal of the jail bars that can be removed easily, through the removal of bolts and nuts, at no cost to the County, in the old Detention Center, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: PROCLAMATION - ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH:

Sandra Shaw, Social Worker Supervisor, and Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Elder Abuse Awareness Month.

**Columbus County Department Of Social Services
and
Columbus County Department of Aging**

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Proclamation

WHEREAS, elder abuse refers to any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult; **and**

WHEREAS, elder abuse is an under recognized form of family violence that can have very devastating and even life threatening consequences; **and**

WHEREAS, elder abuse can affect people of all races, ethnic backgrounds and social status and can affect both women and men; **and**

WHEREAS, there is a rapidly growing population of older adults in North Carolina with evolving needs; **and**

WHEREAS, between 700,000 to 3.5 million older Americans are abused, neglected, or exploited each year; **and**

WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately one (1) out of every fourteen (14) cases of elder abuse is reported; **and**

WHEREAS, protecting vulnerable and older adults is a societal responsibility and it is imperative that communities work together to help reduce and prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners recognizes the month of June as **ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**, and encourages all residents and other jurisdictions to become more aware of this problem and join in the prevention of Elder Abuse.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 17th day of May, 2010.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman, District IV**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt the Elder Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: M.I.S. - APPROVAL of FLEX SCHEDULE:

Alan James, MIS Director, requested Board approval of the M.I.S. Flex Schedule that has been agreed on between him and William S. Clark, County Manager. No schedule was submitted to the Clerk, but a copy should be kept on file in the M.I.S. Department for review.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the M.I.S. Flex Schedule that has been agreed on between Alan James, M.I.S. Director, and William S. Clark, County Manager, seconded by Commissioner Norris.

Commissioner Prevatte stated the following:

1. When employees are hired, they are informed of the scheduled hours they are to work;
2. I do not see any benefit in flex time;
3. In other departments that are practicing flex time, we have observed the employees are coming in late;
4. When using flex time, the employees are working without supervision; **and**
5. We need to start, at this time, putting an end to flex time.

A roll-call vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Chairman Russ, Vice Chairman Byrd, Commissioners McKenzie, Norris, Bullard and Gore; **and**

NAYS: Commissioner Prevatte.

The motion passes on a six (6) to one (1) vote.

Agenda Item #14: M.I.S. - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Alan James, M.I.S. Director, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board.

1. This is the sixth year that we have had the M.I.S. Department;
2. Our emphasis have been on how to save money and using what we have;
3. We spend a lot of time shopping for computers at the most economical cost;
4. Over the last two (2) years, we have been purchasing re-certified re-furnished computers that are a lot cheaper than buying new ones and they seem to have the same warranty, etc.;
5. We provide e-mail for all of the County employees and we are looking at getting the Microsoft Exchange Server that handles enterprise level e-mail, and it costs approximately \$25,000.00, and we have found an open-source solution for that;
6. Open source means that the service is free;
7. With Microsoft Office, you have to pay for a licence for each user;
8. Not long ago, Sun Microsystems developed an open source solution that agrees to all the Microsoft file formats called Open Office, and we have started using that, which you can download free off the internet, and agrees to all the same files;
9. Every time you put Microsoft on a computer, you are suppose to give Microsoft approximately \$320.00, to get the cheapest version;
10. Our websites are run off of a product, also open source, called dot.net.nuc, and it does not require any programming services, no consultants, any special software to run, and it allows us to edit our websites from anywhere you have internet connection;
11. To help reduce travel expense, we have a remote access program called login.rescue which allows us to sit in our offices and dial in, in most cases, in other people's computer, and do the necessary repairs that are needed;
12. On the G.I.S. side, in 2004, the County purchased aerial photography for approximately \$100,000;
13. In 2007, we got part of the County for free, and the rest of the County was \$20,000;
14. In 2010, the State is flying the entire State, at no cost to the County, and this will be a new aerial orthophotography, at no cost to the County; **and**
15. M.I.S. is made up of three (3) different categories as follows:
 - A. I.T. Department - fixing computers, installation, the network, and what connects our computers together;
 - B. G.I.S. - takes care of mapping and all of our data that we use to make decisions in the County; **and**
 - C. M.I.S. - takes care of the County website, do pricing research, schedule all the installation of technology purchases, investigate and report security issues and misuse of technology that comes up internally.

Agenda Item #15: FIREWORKS - REQUEST for FIREWORKS DISPLAY and WAIVER of PERMIT FEE:

Cynthia S. Nelson, Executive Vice President, Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce, requested Board permission for the fireworks display on July 02, 2010, at South Columbus High School, and a waiver of the permit fee for the 23rd Annual Columbus County Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration.

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve the fireworks display on July 02, 2010, at South Columbus High School, and a waiver of the permit fee for the 23rd Annual Columbus County Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #16: BOARD APPOINTMENT:

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, requested the following appointment and/or re-appointment be made.

	COMMITTEE	NAME	EXP DATE	BOARD ACTION
EB	Fair Bluff Planning Board Motion: Commissioner Bullard Second: Vice Chairman Byrd	Billie Washington (ETJ)	April, 2010	Re-Appoint

Commissioner Prevatte made the following re-appointments.

Department of Aging Advisory Council:

Re-appoint Barbara Feathersen, 55501 Old Lumberton Road, Whiteville, NC 28472, telephone: (910) 648-2218, for a three (3) year term, with term expiring June 30, 2013.

Home and Community Care Block Grant for Aging Services Advisory Council:

Re-appoint Sue Bell, 208 Kings Road, Whiteville, NC 28472, telephone: (910) 642-2505, for a three (3) year term, with term expiring June 30, 2013.

Re-Appoint Betty Williamson, 74 Hemlock Drive, Whiteville, NC 28472, telephone: (910) 642-3541, for a three (3) year term, with term expiring June 30, 2013.

Housing Advisory Committee:

Michael Clemmons, 1330 Peacock Road, Whiteville, NC 28472, telephone: (910) 642-0351, for a three (3) year term, with term expiring June 30, 2013.

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

At 8:11 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, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #17: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

May 03, 2010 **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 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #18: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve the following Budget Amendments, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

A. Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-5301-549986	Crisis Intervention	(70,000)
	10-5301-533001	CP&L Energy	298
Revenue	10-3530-430068	Crisis Intervention	(70,000)
	10-3530-430076	CP&L Energy	298

Expenditure	10-6110-526000	Office Supplies	14,135
	10-6110-532100	Telephone	4,000
	10-6110-533000	Utilities	4,000
	10-6110-519001	Contract Services	2,500
Revenue	10-3611-489000	Misc Revenue (Library E-Rate Money)	24,635

B. Tax Refund and Tax Releases:

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the following Tax Refund and Tax Releases, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

**TAX REFUND (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
May 17, 2010**

Refunds Name: Thomas, Eddie Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year 009 Account # 6-05752 Bill # 54260 Total \$123.00
 Refund user fee. Property is vacant.
 121 Grace Street Tabor City NC 28463

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
May 17, 2010**

Release the Property Value in the name of Faulk, Caldwell Jerome Amount: \$27.40
 Value: \$3,362.00 Year: 2009 Account # 3-07011 Bill # 5544 Total \$240.42
 Release a portion of property value. Mobile home transferred to Act#03-01611 Jerry White. Release Brunswick Fire (2.35), release Columbus Rescue (.67) Release user fee property billed for 2 and only has 1 can.

Release the Property Value in the name of Kelly, William James Amount: \$119.60
 Value: \$8,000.00 Year: 2005/0 Account # 15-03361 Bill # 99999 Total \$142.00
 Release entire value of boat. Double listed to Act# 04-09547 William James Kelly. Release Acme Dolce (19.20), release Columbus Rescue (3.20)

Release the Property Value in the name of Long, Bald Elkwood Amount: \$15.49
 Value: \$900.00 Year: 2008/0 Account # 9-01424 Bill # 7919 Total \$18.72
 Release entire value of boat. Not a boat in possession at time of death in 2005. Release Williams Fire (1.14), release Columbus Rescue (.38)

Release the User Fee in the name of Blackman, Eric Matthew Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 3-05234 Bill # 6100 Total \$210.00
 Release user fee. Property is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Blanton, Irene Smith Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 15-02660 Bill # 6449 Total \$210.00
 Release user fee. Billed for 2 trash cans and only has 1.

Release the User Fee in the name of Coleman, Jack Lavern & Karen Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 15-05409 Bill # 1206 Total \$105.00
 Release user fee. Home burned in 2009.

Release the User Fee in the name of Donahue, Crystal Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 3-02149 Bill # 3561 Total \$210.00
 Release user fee. Home being remodeled.

Release the User Fee in the name of Enzor, Dwayne Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 10-03233 Bill # 4959 Total \$210.00
 Release user fee. Property is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Enzor, Dwayne L. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 16-00406 Bill # 4960/24 Total \$420.00

Release user fee. Properties are vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Lewis, Joe	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 3-13200 Bill # 7586	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. Double listed to Act#1-53017 Kimberly Lewis.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mise, Ernest & Virgie	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 9-03222 Bill # 1598	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. Property is vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mise, Virgie Mae Stanley	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 9-21080 Bill # 1601	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. Property is vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Phillips, Tracy (Jr) & Samantha	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 9-23638 Bill # 4750	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. Can picked up in 2004.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Powell, Gregory	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 1-04412 Bill # 5454	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. There is not a can at this address.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Stanley, Herbert C. & Iola	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 9-28900 Bill # 9999	Total	\$420.00

Release user fees. Cans picked up.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Stansky, Michael & Barbara	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 1-00795 Bill # 2566	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. There was not a can here for 2009.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Ward, Kenneth	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2007-2 Account # 3-03503 Bill # 99999	Total	\$603.00

Release user fee for years 2007 through 2009. Property is vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Worthington, Robert Randy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2009 Account # 2-09322 Bill # 9914	Total	\$210.00

Release user fee. Property is vacant.

Agenda Item #19: Comments:

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

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Commissioner Bullard:** stated the following:
 - A. What made the Humane Society get so upset with us tonight? William S. Clark, County Manager, replied stating the following:
 1. The Animal Control Shelter does have a policy and Mr. Hayes assures me that it is being followed; **and**
 2. We had a PETA Meeting at the Animal Control Shelter two (2) weeks ago and an issue did arise at that meeting, and this issue could have triggered this reaction tonight.
 - B. Have we applied for the State Funding Grant that the lady spoke about? Mr. Clark replied stating we have not, and I think there are some issues with this grant, and I will check this out and let you know.
2. **Commissioner McKenzie:** stated the following:
 - A. The one-quarter cent sales tax needs to be placed back on the voting ballot, and we need to educate the public better on what this tax will be used for; **and**
 - B. We need to look into moving into a county-wide water system.
3. **Commissioner Prevatte:** Stuart, do you have the list of cell phones that we

requested at the last Board Meeting. Stuart replied stating that four (4) items had been requested, he did have three (3) of those items, and was waiting on the fourth item. I should be ready at the next meeting.

4. **Vice Chairman Byrd:** stated the following:
 - A. I think Commissioner McKenzie, the quarter-cent sales tax that you are referring to is on non-essential items, and that is the way it was before, and a lot of people that voted no before thought it was a blanket quarter-cent sales tax, and I think that is the area that we really need to educate people about;
 - B. I think the Humane Society brought up some good points tonight;
 - C. When you say 72 hours, the people can only go into the shelter 24 hours out of the 72 hours;
 - D. I think if we could make some concessions and maybe keep the dog 5 days, that would make the dog visible for 40 hours, and I think this is a starting point there;
 - E. I think we could look at a compromise and maybe have the Animal Control Shelter open 2-3 hours on Saturday morning, if this could be done without any extra expenditures; **and**
 - F. I think we need to address some of the issues they brought up and look at some kind of compromise.

5. **Chairman Russ:** I would like to thank Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, Tony Soles, Maintenance Director, and Ed Worley Aging Director, for the good work they are doing for Columbus County.

- C. **County Manager (William S. Clark):** stated the following:
 1. I would like to introduce Gary Lanier, our Economic Development Director, and he started today, and we are looking forward to working with you;
 2. On the Animal Control Shelter, they have went from gassing the animals to euthanizing by injection which was a huge transition, they all have been certified, and I am very proud of them; **and**
 3. There have a been a lot of positives at the Animal Control Shelter.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

At 8:31 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (3) Attorney-Client Privilege, after a five (5) minute recess, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: CLOSED SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 9:15 P.M., Vice Chairman Byrd made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously passed.

READING and APPROVAL of CLOSED SESSION GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Chairman Russ requested that Mike Stephens, County Attorney orally read the Closed Session General Account. Mike Stephens orally read the following:

“The Columbus County Attorney discussed the procedures of the Columbus County Building Inspections Department with the Board of County Commissioners.”

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the Closed Session General Account, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:17 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

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

Monday, May 17, 2010

8:11 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 District I Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board meeting to order

Agenda Item #17: Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V - Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

May 03, 2010 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

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

Monday, May 17, 2010

8:11 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 District II Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board meeting to order

Agenda Item #17: Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V - Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

May 03, 2010 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

STATUS of PETITION:

Commissioner Prevatte stated the following:

1. I have received some telephone calls from citizens relative to a petition with one hundred (100) names on it; **and**
2. I would like to ask Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, what the status is on this petition.

Mr. McClary replied stating the following:

1. It is my understanding that this petition is ten (10) years old;
2. I will need to verify the addresses to see if they are still valid; **and**

3. I will work on this.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

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

Monday, May 17, 2010

8:11 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 District III Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board meeting to order

Agenda Item #17: Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V - Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

May 03, 2010 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

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

Monday, May 17, 2010

8:11 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 District IV Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board meeting to order

Agenda Item #17: Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V - Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

May 03, 2010 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

STATUS of BROWN TRAIL:

Vice Chairman Byrd stated the following:

1. There is a road called Brown Trail in the Ransom area with seven (7) residents who have expressed a desire for County water;
2. Four (4) of these residents paid their deposit one and one-half (1 ½) years ago;
3. This issue needs to be addressed;
4. I understand on the road there are six (6) houses within one thousand (1,000') feet;
5. This road is located behind the Ransom Community Center; **and**
6. I am requesting that Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, check into this situation.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, May 17, 2010
8:11 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 District V Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
 Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board meeting to order

Agenda Item #17: Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V - Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

May 03, 2010 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the May 03, 2010 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:15 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman