

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, February 03, 2014

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 regularly scheduled meeting on the first Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

P. Edwin Russ, **Chairman**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

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 February 03, 2014 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 Randy Norris.

Agenda Item #4: PRESENTATION - LETTER of APPRECIATION and BEST WISHES to GAVIN JOHNSON

Chairman P. Edwin Russ presented the following Letter of Appreciation and Best Wishes to Gavin Johnson.

February 03, 2014

Mr. Gavin Johnson**IN RE: Letter of Appreciation and Best Wishes**Dear **Gavin**:

Please allow this **Letter of Appreciation and Best Wishes** to serve as a genuine thank you for your professional and great attitude in handling TV news coverage for Columbus County.

It is rare that we encounter someone from another state that blends in so smoothly into our County, who displays such courteousness to everyone you came in contact with.

You, as a member of the press, fulfilled your duties in a very professional manner, and in the process, were very fair and conscientious of your subject matters.

We feel like we are not only losing a partner in the media but a valued friend as well.

You will be missed and we wish you much success in your new endeavors.

Sincerely,

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS**, Chairman, District IV/s/ **AMON E. MCKENZIE**, District I/s/ **GILES E. BYRD**, District III/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL**, District VII/s/ **MICHAEL H. STEPHENS**, County Attorney/s/ **TRENT BURROUGHS**, Vice Chairman, District V/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE**, District II/s/ **RICKY BULLARD**, District VI/s/ **WILLIAM S. CLARK**, County Manager/s/ **JUNE B. HALL**, Clerk to Board

Agenda Item #5: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #6: PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman Russ opened the floor for public input. No public input was received either orally or written.

Agenda Item #7: REQUEST for FUNDING - COLUMBUS COUNTY VETERANS PARK:

Anita Adams, veteran, requested funding for a Columbus County Veterans Park. Ms. Adams stated the following:

1. We have thought about establishing a Veterans Park for Columbus County for the past two (2) years, and that is what we have done;
2. Our official name is Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC;
3. Listed below is the Timeline of Events that have taken place:

DATE	EVENT
August 5, 2013	Articles of Incorporation application signed and notarized
August 8, 2013	Mailed Articles of Incorporation application, Form N-01, Form N-14 and processing fee to the NC Secretary of State
August 16, 2013	Received Articles of Incorporation of "Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC." the original of which was filed
August 17, 2013	Filed and received Tax Identification Number (TIN)
November 30, 2013	First meeting - nominated and elected officers fo file for 501 c 3
December 27, 2013	Mailed Form 1023 Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501 c 3 of the Internal Revenue Code
January 18, 2014	Received letter from IRS information us they received our application and processing fee. See attached letter.
January 26, 2014	Second Meeting - Discussed phasing and funding of Veterans Memorial Park.
February 2, 2014	Third Meeting - Discussed presentation to the County Commissioners
February 3, 2014	Presentation to the County Commissioners

4. Our Mission Statement and Goal is as follows:
 1. The mission of this organization shall be patriotic, historical and educational; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States and fidelity to its Constitution and Laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom and equal rights and justice to all men and women; and to preserve and defend the United States of America from all her enemies whomsoever.
 2. Our Goal is to Honor past, present, and future Veterans for their service to our Country.; **and**
5. Below you will find the letter that we are submitting to the Columbus County Board of Commissioners:
February 3, 2014

Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC.
5943 Joe Brown
Chadbourn, NC 283431

Columbus County Commissioners:

We, the members of the Columbus County Chapters of the Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America and Associates of Vietnam Veteran of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as the American Legion, request that this commission consider assistance with funding of a Veterans Memorial Park. It is our request that you will establish a yearly contribution of \$25,000 for the next 3 years to total \$75,000. Through research, our committee has projected the cost of \$350,000 - \$500,000 for the completion of our project at this time; therefore we realize that the Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC. will have to be built in several phases.

Throughout the coming weeks, if you have any questions, you may contact any committee member as the phone numbers will be provided.

Thank you,

The Committee for the Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC.

Committee Members:

Anita Adams, Michael Clemmons, Michael Creen, Dutch Dine, Marrell Freeman, Lloyd Morgan, Angela Norris, Randy Norris, Denise Sellers, Larry Sellers

MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to give the Committee for the Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus County, INC., twenty-five thousand and 00/100 (\$25,000.00) dollars, beginning July 01, 2014, for a period of three (3) years which will equate to a total amount of seventy-five thousand and 00/100 (\$75,000.00) dollars, after the procurement of the land, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #8: ANIMAL CONTROL - SPAY/NEUTER DISCUSSION:

Janet Hinson, Humane Society, requested that Jessie Stafford, present a discussion on spaying and neutering. Mr. Stafford, a volunteer at the Columbus Humane Society, stated the following.

1. For the past five (5) years, the Columbus Humane Society has been receiving a \$10,000 grant annually for spaying and neutering of dogs only from the Bob Barker foundation;
2. We have a low cost spay/neuter program for cats;
3. Last July, we offered a discount of \$10.00 off the fee for cats and we received 150 requests;
4. We do the spay/neuter program every other week and sometimes two (2) days a week;
5. We have been working closely with Dr. Burroughs in Cerro Gordo; **and**
6. I encourage the citizens of Columbus County to utilize the spay/neuter program to help eliminate the euthanization of cats and dogs.

Agenda Item #9: COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOLS - APPROVAL of GRANT for ADDITIONAL RESOURCE OFFICERS:

Alan Faulk, Superintendent of Columbus County Schools, requested Board approval of a grant for additional Resource Officers for the Columbus County Schools.

Dr. Heather Wayne stated the following:

1. We have applied for a grant for two (2) additional Resource Officers from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction;
2. Two thirds (2/3) of the funding will be from the State, and the remaining one third (1/3) will be in-kind funds from the school;
3. We presently have nine (9) school Resource Officers;
4. This will provide additional coverage for the middle schools;
5. This will provide coverage in the high schools and each school will have a clearly designated Resource Officer;
6. The grant will provide approximately fifty thousand and 00/100 (\$50,000.00) dollars per Resource Officer, and this does include a vehicle;
7. These Resource Officers will be on a ten (10) month contract, and summer use of the Resource Officers will be at the County's expense;

8. There will be no expense to the County for this grant; **and**
9. This grant is a recurring grant unless changed legislatively.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the application for the grant from the North Carolina Department of Instruction to provide two (2) additional Resource Officers for the Columbus County Schools, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #10: TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY - PRESENTATION of the CONSOLIDATION PLAN and TERMINATE MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING:

Rhonda Dutton, Chairperson of the Tourism Development Authority, requested the termination of the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Columbus and the Columbus County Board of Travel and Tourism. **(This item was tabled at the January 21, 2014 Board Meeting.)**

Chairperson Dutton stated the following:

1. We are here tonight to present the information to the full Board that was presented at the January 21, 2014 Meeting;
2. I have with me tonight the following Board members: Evelyn Anderson, Gary Lanier, Jennifer Holcomb, myself, Kevin Williamson and Tom Stanley;
3. We are a stand-alone authority that has a partnership through the County;
4. Jennifer has been employed by the County for accountability purposes;
5. Discussions have been conducted relative to the Tourism Department and the Chamber of Commerce living together;
6. We are doing duplicate duties, and we decided to pool our resources;
7. We have been doing this for eleven (11) months;
8. We are limited to resources unless we all work together;
9. We can only spend tourism money for tourism-related things;
10. We will keep the same appointees on the Board that you have now;
11. We would meet quarterly instead of monthly, and give you a quarterly report;
12. Due to some areas of the County not being represented, we wanted to develop a larger footprint in the County; **and**
13. We are not re-inventing the wheel, we want to make the best use of our revenues.

Jennifer Holcomb stated the following:

1. We have a Rural Business Enterprise Grant which is a Revolving Loan Grant;
2. We have one (1) outstanding loan;
3. At present, the County is the recipient of the funds; **and**
4. The decision needs to be made as to who will handle the funds now.

Discussion:

1. The Memorandum of Understanding states that a sixty (60) days notice must be given by either party before the termination;
2. Who will sign the checks for the day-to-day operations of the Tourism Development Authority;
3. Who will handle the Revolving Loan Grant; **and**
4. Having a representative from each town or municipality on the Board.

MOTION:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Columbus and the Columbus County Board of Travel and Tourism, bearing date of March 23, 2007, and waive the required sixty (60) days notice of termination, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ESTABLISHMENT of DATE and TIME for PUBLIC HEARING:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested the Board to establish a date and time for a Public Hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for Black's Tire Service Warehouse and Distribution Operation.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to establish February 17, 2014, at 6:30 P.M. as the date

and time for a public hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for Black's Tire Service Warehouse and Distribution Operation, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ESTABLISHMENT of DATE and TIME for PUBLIC HEARING:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested the Board to establish a date and time for a Public Hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for National Spinning Company.

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to establish February 17, 2014, at 7:00 P.M., as the date and time for a public hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for National Spinning Company, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: M.I.S. - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Alan James, M.I.S. Director, delivered the following departmental update to the Board.

1. We have received delivery from the state of the aerial photography for Columbus County, and this information is delivered every four (4) years;
2. We are doing the necessary day-to-day operations;
3. Relative to the website, we are in the process of transitioning onto the cloud, and this will be on a subscription basis;
4. By doing this transition, we will not have to buy new equipment for our server;
5. The G.I.S. website will be on the Cloud server;
6. I would like to thank the following employees that make my job run smoothly: Tim Long, Steve Wagner, Tracy Simmons and Bret Ward; **and**
7. There are two (2) Wi-Fi connections in the Tax Office and two (2) in the Administration Building.

Agenda Item #14: FINANCE - APPROVAL of CONTRACT to AUDIT ACCOUNTS and ENGAGEMENT LETTER:

Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director, requested Board approval of the Contract to Audit Accounts and the Engagement Letter with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company, P.A.

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the Contract to Audit Accounts and the Engagement Letter with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company, P.A., seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed. A copy of these two documents will be marked as Exhibit "A", and kept on file in the Minute Book Attachments, Book Number 5, in the Clerk to the Board's Office for review.

Agenda Item #15: FINANCE - LETTER of AGREEMENT for NC SALES and USE TAX FUNDS:

Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director, requested Board approval of the following Letter of Agreement for NC Sales and Use Tax Funds.

Letter of Agreement

Robert S. Segal, CPA, PA (SEGAL) and Columbus County (CLIENT) hereby enter into this Letter of Agreement whereby SEGAL shall serve as a consultant to CLIENT to examine and analyze the following listed revenue of CLIENT and to achieve refunds or adjustments in these areas:

NC Sales and Use Tax Funds

1. **Discovery of Additional NC Sales and Use Tax Refunds; and/or**
2. **County Tax Reallocation Adjustments to any Non-Profit/Governmental Entity receiving county sales tax refunds from Columbus County.**

SEGAL will request CLIENT to request a report from NC Revenue as to Non-profit and governmental entities receiving county tax funds from Columbus County. Based on this list SEGAL will then assist any and all entities with a review of their E-585 Refund claims and implement the

necessary adjustments and submit for review by NC Department of Revenue in order for County to receive these funds. SEGAL will also review the records of CLIENT to discover unclaimed NC sales and use tax.

CLIENT agrees to pay SEGAL a fee equal to fifty (\$.50) cents of every dollar received based on an increase to Columbus County's monthly sales tax distribution or based on additional revenues received by cash/check. This fee will be due within 45 days of CLIENT'S receipt of funds or official documentation from the North Carolina Department of Revenue evidencing the additional sales/use tax revenue being transferred or paid to the CLIENT.

SEGAL agrees to maintain in strict confidence all information received from CLIENT concerning its revenues/expenses and methods of doing business. Furthermore, SEGAL acts as a consultant only and does not receive any commissions or remuneration of any kind from any vendors or service providers.

The persons signing below are authorized to do so on behalf of their respective organizations. This Letter of Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto, their heirs, successors and assigns. This Letter of Agreement is entered into effective as of 3rd day of February, 2014.

CLIENT: Columbus County
By: **P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman**
Title: **Chairman, Columbus County Board of Commissioners**

Robert S. Segal, CPA, PA
By: **ROBERT S. SEGAL**
Title: **President**

This instrument has been pre-audited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act as amended.

Date: _____ Finance Officer

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the Letter of Agreement for NC Sales and Use Tax Funds with Robert S. Segal, CPA, PA, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #16: GOVERNING BODY - APPROVAL and ADOPTION pf RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE RATE INCREASE in COLUMBUS COUNTY:

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution Opposing Any Homeowners Insurance Rate Increase in Columbus County.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE RATE INCREASE IN COLUMBUS COUNTY

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Rate Bureau, in its capacity as a representative of the insurance industry, has requested from the Department of Insurance a thirty-five (35%) percent rate increase in homeowner's insurance for Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, many North Carolina counties have been hit with rate increases in every rate cycle since 1992 including 2002, 2005, 2007, 2009; and again in 2012; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County, as well as other counties in North Carolina, is experiencing difficult economic times that are currently griping our nation; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County is a Tier 1 community, and additional increases would once again place an undue and excessive burden on homeowners and the economy in Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, loss experience does not justify this thirty-five (35%) percent rate increase, especially since significant losses were experienced in areas other than southeastern North Carolina.

WHEREAS, under the proposal, Columbus County would be moved into its own territory and see increases equal to that of beach areas in surrounding counties; **and**

WHEREAS, new homeowner's insurance rates went into effect in July 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners hereby opposes the thirty-five (35%) percent, or any rate increase, in homeowners insurance requested by the North Carolina Rate Bureau, and finds it unjustified and unnecessary to no longer group our county with neighboring Bladen and Robeson Counties ; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners fully supports the Commissioner of Insurance in his public efforts to encourage the North Carolina Rate Bureau to withdraw the rate filing immediately; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners encourages Columbus County residents to participate in this governmental process by filing comments and making their position known regarding this issue by submitting written comments to the North Carolina Department of Insurance, Property and Casualty Division, 1201 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699, or e-mailing concerns to 2014homeowners@ncdoi.gov; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners also requests that the North Carolina Insurance Commissioner deny any insurance rate increase requested by the North Carolina Rate Bureau for Columbus County.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of February, 2014.

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

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

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the Resolution Opposing Any Homeowners Insurance Rate Increase in Columbus County, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #17: APPOINTMENTS//RE-APPOINTMENTS/REPLACEMENTS TO BOARDS:

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, requested the following appointments/re-appointments/replacements be made.

COMMITTEE	DISTRICT /EB	PERSON(S)	EXPIR DATE	BOARD ACTION
Aging Advisory Council (Region O) Cape Fear COG	EB	Betty Holcomb (Resigned)	06/30/2015	HOLD
Animal Control Advisory Council	III VII	Rick Hammonds Donna Watson	01-17-2014 01-17-2014	RE-APPT RE-APPT
Beaver Management Program Committee	V	Lofton Cox (Resigned)	N/A	HOLD
Chadbourn Planning and Zoning Board Motion: Commissioner Bullard Second: Commissioner Byrd	EB	Johnny Honeycutt (One Mile Radius)	01/2014	RE-APPT
Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Committee	EB	Donna Watson (Resigned)	01-17-2016	HOLD
Planning Board	IV	Glenn Evans	02-04-2014	RE-APPT
Water and Sewer Advisory Commission	III IV VI VII	NOTE: See existing Water and Sewer Advisory Commission for present membership which is by Water District, not political district.	Bylaws need to be amended or replaced.	HOLD HOLD HOLD HOLD

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

At 7:25 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a combination meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer District I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting

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

Agenda Item #19: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT IV HALLSBORO PROJECT - FINAL PROJECT SCOPE MAP:

Danny Fowler, Interim Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval for Green Engineering to proceed with design, permitting and bidding of the "Final Project Scope" map, and pare the project down after bids are received if project costs exceed funds available.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 1 for Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV.

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

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn the combination meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: CONSENT AGENDA ITEM:

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda Item, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Tax Refunds and Releases:

<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$250.62
Brown, Laquana	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$982.22
Value: \$9,720.00	Year: 2011/	Account: 15-01958	Bill#: 99999
Release value of S/W. DBL Act#15-05919 Clemmon Webb. Set up in wrong name by building permit#B-10-032497. Release Acme Delco(37.04) release Columbus Rescue(6.17) release late list(29.39)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$826.79
Ford, Elbert (Heirs)	PROPERTY: 30094	Total:	\$1,033.75
Value: \$20,400.00	Year: 04-13	Account: 16-04660	Bill#: 99999
Release value of acreage. Cannot identify. Release Cerro Gordo Fire(103.60) release Columbus Rescue(20.72) release Water II (82.64)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$128.80
Jerusalem Temple Fellowship	PROPERTY: 2162	Total:	\$132.00
Value: \$16,000.00	Year: 2013	Account: 01-06927	Bill#: 29692
Release value of church building. Should have been exempt. Release Whiteville Rescue(3.20)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$564.18
Page, John (Heirs)	PROPERTY: 22020	Total:	\$688.54
Value: \$6,000.00	Year: 04-13	Account: 12-21040	Bill#: 99999
Release value of acreage. Cannot identify. No deed to support listing. Release Evergreen Fire(50.56) release Columbus Rescue(14.16) release Water II (59.64)			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Bryant, Thelma	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$218.00

Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	Account: 15-00014	Bill#: 12435
Refund user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Hill, Whitney M.			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2012	PROPERTY: 95326	Bill#: 17265
Refund user fee. Sending can in 2013.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Andrews, Herman Phillip & Crystal			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 94748	Bill#: 7971
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Byrd, Gwyn Harrel			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 14504	Bill#: 13341
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
C & E Farms Southeast LLC			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 23220	Bill#: 13389
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant. Can picked up 4/24/08			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Fowler, Larry Gene & Gloria			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 12881	Bill#: 21128
Release user fee. Uses a commercial hauler			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Freeman, Henry Wells & Ellease			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 19100	Bill#: 21479
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant. Can picked up 11/18/11			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Graham, William & Cathy			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 61752	Bill#: 24142
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Hill, Whitney M.			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 95326	Bill#: 27215
Release user fee. Sending can in 2013.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Long, Allene L.			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 7306	Bill#: 32713
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant. Can picked up 7/10/07			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Milligan, James & Margie			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 00000	Bill#: 36332
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Musselwhite George Clayton & Brenda S.			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 84250	Bill#: 37424
Release user fee. Storage Barn. No can.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Nichols, Roger			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 19735	Bill#: 38019
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Simmons, Joseph Frank			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 16788	Bill#: 44978
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00
Stollings, Berta J.			Total: \$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	PROPERTY: 79994	Bill#: 48318
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount: \$0.00

Strickland, William Howell	PROPERTY: 18312	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2013	Account: 10-16700	Bill#: 48741
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant. Can picked up 9/23/05			

Agenda Item #21: COMMENTS:

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

A. Department Manager:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development and Planning Director: we are waiting to hear from China on another visit to the United States.

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Commissioner Prevatte:** We were all caught by surprise last week with the weather we experienced, and I think our staff done a good job in handling the situation.
2. **Commissioner McDowell:** stated the following:
 - a. Danny, I need to know the status of Gore Lake Road and Prison Camp Road;
Danny Fowler: replied stating we are waiting on permits on the Gore Lake Road and I am not sure about Prison Camp Road.
 - b. Southeastern Community College is turning fifty (50) this year, and they have planned a celebration to be held at Chadbourn Elementary School this Thursday, at 4:00 P.M., and I would like for everyone to attend that can; **and**
 - c. I would like to commend the North Carolina Department of Transportation for keeping the roads in good shape and making them safe for our citizens during the inclement weather we experienced last week.
3. **Commissioner Burroughs:** stated the following:
 - a. I would like to invite everyone to the Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce Banquet on Monday, February 10, 2014, and it will be held at South Columbus High School; **and**
 - b. There have been approximately 23-26 traffic accidents in front of South Columbus High School, with some of the accidents involving fatalities, and I would like for this Board to send a request to the North Carolina Department of Transportation requesting that they do a study and make recommendations.
4. **Commissioner McKenzie:** stated the following:
 - a. I would like to thank this Board for what they did for the Veterans here tonight; **and**
 - b. Danny, how many signups have there been for the reduced water hookup fee since the starting date?
Danny Fowler: There have been ten (10)
5. **Commissioner Byrd:** stated the following:
 - a. It is good to know that the Hallsboro Project is finally coming to fruition; **and**
 - b. I would like to thank our staff and the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the fine job they did during the inclement weather we experienced last week.
6. **Chairman Russ:** stated the following:
 - a. The weather we experienced last week caught us by surprise, but I think our staff handled it very well;
 - b. The roads in Columbus County were kept in good shape and they were in a lot better condition than some surrounding counties; **and**
 - c. I would like for this Board to send a letter to the North Carolina Department of Transportation thanking them for the good job they did in

keeping our roads in good condition and making them safe for our citizens to travel on.

C. **County Manager (William S. Clark):** stated the following:

1. I would like to remind everyone that the meeting with all three (3) of the school systems will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 6:00 P.M., at Southeastern Community College in T-Building, Room 120 and 122; **and**
2. The tentative date for the Board Retreat is Thursday, April 03, 2014, from 8:30 A.M. until 12:30 P.M., at Southeastern Community College, in the T-Building, Room 120. When a firm date has been set, we will notify you.

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

At 7:49 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 (a) (6) Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #22: CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (a) (6) PERSONNEL:

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and RESUME REGULAR SESSION:

At 8:09 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

READING and APPROVAL of CLOSED SESSION GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Chairman Russ requested that Michael H. Stephens, County Attorney, orally read the Closed Session General Account. Mr. Stephens orally read the following: *"The County Manager discussed with the Board of Commissioners to hire Danny Fowler as the Director of Public Utilities, at an annual salary of fifty-one thousand, five hundred sixty-two and 00/100 (\$51,562.00) dollars"*.

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

MOTION:

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to hire Danny Fowler as the Director of Public Utilities, at an annual salary of fifty-one thousand, five hundred sixty-two and 00/100 (\$51,562.00) dollars, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #23: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:10 P.M., Commissioner Prevattte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. 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, February 03, 2014

7:25 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**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

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 7:25 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner 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, February 03, 2014
7:25 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**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

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 7:25 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner 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, February 03, 2014

7:25 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**

Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**

Amon E. McKenzie

James E. Prevatte

Giles E. Byrd

Ricky Bullard

Charles T. McDowell

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 7:25 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner 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, February 03, 2014
7:25 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**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

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 7:25 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #19: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT IV HALLSBORO PROJECT - FINAL PROJECT SCOPE MAP:

Danny Fowler, Interim Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval for Green Engineering to proceed with design, permitting and bidding of the "Final Project Scope" map, and pare the project down after bids are received if project costs exceed funds available.

Leo Green ,Green Engineering, stated the following:

1. As of today, we have seven (7) more signups that is required for the project to be funded;
2. Five (5) signups are outside the limits of the scope map;
3. By May 01, 2014, we should be finished with the design and engineering of this project and will be ready for the project to go out to bid;
4. There has been ten thousand (10,000') feet of additional pipe added to the project;

5. When the project is bid, the bid amounts may not come in within the allotted cost for the project;
6. If bids come in higher than the projected amount, you will have the following two (2) choices:
 - eliminate part of the project; or
 - contribute additional funds to the project; **and**
7. The construction companies are competitive now, and we may be okay.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve Green Engineering to proceed with design, permitting and bidding of the "Final Project Scope" map, and pare the project down after bids are received if project costs exceed funds available, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner 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, February 03, 2014

7:25 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**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

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 7:25 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

January 21, 2014 Combination Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman