

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, March 02, 2020****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 a Public Hearing and the regularly scheduled meeting, it being the first Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING: **RE-FINANCING of BONDS for INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY** -the purpose of the Public Hearing is to give an opportunity to all who appear to express their views for or against the proposal to issue the Bonds.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED to ORDER:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the Public Hearing to order and stated this Public Hearing was for the re-financing of bonds for International Paper Company, and stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to give an opportunity to all who appear to express their views for or against the proposal to issue the bond. Chairman Russ requested that Amanda B. Prince, County Attorney, orally read the Policy on Comments at Public Hearings. Ms. Prince read the policy in its entirety.

COMMENTS:

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

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director: stated the following:

1. This is the second of the existing Pollution Control Bonds that have been in place to finance the wastewater treatment facilities that are being used by International Paper Company at their facility in Riegelwood;
2. Like anyone with good financing management, they are looking to a lower interest rate;
3. The Industrial Pollution Control Board has met, reviewed this request, and they are in agreement to move forward; **and**
4. The next step is a Public Hearing and then the Board will approve a Resolution and they can move forward in the re-financing.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:33 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

6:33 P.M.**REGULAR SESSION:****Agenda Items #1, #2 and #3:****MEETING CALLED to ORDER, INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:**

At 6:33 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the March 02, 2020 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Charles T. McDowell. 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 ADD-ON:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to add the Resolution Requesting House Bill 966 Enacted into Law to the March 02, 2020 Agenda as Agenda Item #5A, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Vice Chairman Jerome McMillian made a motion to approve and adopt the February 17, 2020 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Charles T. McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman Russ open ed the floor for Public Input. The following spoke.

1. **Howard Lofton Cox, Jr., 2133 Howard Cox Road, Tabor City, NC 28463:** stated the following:
 - I would like a non-binding Resolution put on the voting ballot this fall for the citizens to vote on the commissioners to be elected by districts or county wide; **and**
 - The Beaver Committee is not working very well and needs to be revamped.
2. **Lynne Thompson, 411 River Road, Tabor City, NC 28463:** stated the following:
 - I know the Commissioners do not control the Board of Education;
 - I would like to address the closing of Guideway School;
 - I know that several General Statutes have been broken with our Board of Education;
 - N.C.G.S. 115C-272 states that the superintendent should reside in the county they are employed in;
 - N.C.G.S. 115C-246 states that school buses should maintain the same bus route assigned at the beginning of the year;
 - Guideway School had a school bus taken away and some of our students are riding for 1 ½ hours one way;
 - Consolidation of districts - in N.C .G.S. 115C-72, it states that when they talk about closing schools, they need to take several things into consideration;
 - Guideway has gained ten (10) new students in the last two (2) weeks; **and**
 - I would like for you to take these legalities into consideration and I thank you for your time.
3. **Eric Lee Thompson, 21541 Dolph Lewis Road, Cerro Gordo, NC:** stated the following:
 - There is no adequate parking for jurors or no designated parking area;
 - If you set on the front row of the jury box you have to set sideways; **and**
 - There is only one (1) door to be used by both parties, and there needs to be two (2) doors.
4. **George Douglas Smith, Jr., 156 Brown Maultsby Road, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - The County Manager is allowing a citizen to come into the Administration Building and obtain information of sorts, which end up on Facebook in a manner they choose;
 - The information placed on Facebook is resulting in much argument among the readers and not always totally accurate; **and**
 - This needs to be looked into and handled in the mot appropriate manner.
5. **Kevin Harrelson, 418 Timber Cove, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - The social media is the devil's den, and results in much confusion among people who spends their time reviewing the contents;
 - The contents of the social media is not always accurate and factual; **and**
 - Based on the photograph displayed on social media, our tax money does not need to be spent on topics of this nature, and it needs to be brought to an end.
6. **Michael R. Walker, 1156 Fred Powell Road, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - I have been in Columbus County for six (6) years;
 - Everywhere you go and state the county's name you are from, they know what is going on with the Governing Body;
 - It is election year, and the people that put you into office can take you out of office; **and**
 - Everybody's respect should be shown for Sheriff Greene as an elected official, and he should not be referred to only as Jody.

7. **Brandon Patrick, 780 F.M. Watts Road, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - Let me make one thing clear, we are sick and tired of the corrupt, the non-transparent circus that you call the Board of Commissioners;
 - You hired a County Manager that has multiple secrets;
 - He associates with people like Calvin Norton who leaks information out about all kinds of things before anyone else can see it, especially about Animal Control;
 - We are Native Americans, we are not half-breed mutts; **and**
 - You guys put this man in charge, and you guy are the ones that will have to take him out.

8. **Ronnie Fisher, 15428 Smyrna Road, Whiteville, NC 28472:** stated the following:
 - All that I have seen at the Animal Control Department has been very positive; **and**
 - On social media, no one needs to be called deflammatory slang names.

Agenda Item #5A: RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION REQUESTING HB966 ENACTED INTO LAW:

Commissioner Ricky Bullard requested the following Resolution be approved and adopted by the Board.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING HOUSE BILL 966
ENACTED INTO LAW**

WHEREAS, House Bill 966 passed in the North Carolina General Assembly in June, 2019, and Governor Cooper subsequently vetoed that Bill; **and**

WHEREAS, a workable solution has not been reached between the parties involved; **and**

WHEREAS, in House Bill 966, there is the following funding items that would benefit Columbus County:

FUNDING AMOUNT	ITEM
\$10,632,523	Capital Improvement Projects at local school administrative units for new construction or rehabilitation of existing facilities
\$2,000,000	Assistance with renovation and repair of courthouse
\$10,000	Columbus County Senior Centers for purchase of a new van to be shared by the seven (7) Senior Centers
\$15,000	Emergency Management
\$335,000	Sheriff's Office
\$20,000	Sheriff's Office to purchase all-terrain vehicles
\$500,000	Southeastern Regional Medical Center to develop and administer a telehealth pilot program
\$100,000	Town of Tabor City for a directed grant
\$100,000	Town of Chadbourn for a directed grant for downtown renovation and demolition projects
\$50,000	Town of Cerro Gordo for town hall projects
\$25,000	Town of Cerro Gordo for town hall repurposing
\$6,000,000	Town of Fair Bluff for a directed grant for carious disaster recovery projects
\$50,000	Town of Whiteville for a directed grant to the Community CPR organization for programmatic support
\$25,000	Acme-Delco-Riegelwood Fire-Rescue, Inc. for the purchase of a generator
\$5,000	Buckhead Volunteer Fire and Rescue for the purchase of saws needed for various rescues

\$10,000	Columbus Career & College Academy for technology, textbooks and classroom supplies
\$10,000	White Marsh-Welches Creek Community VFD to cover their portion of the Air Packs federal grant

WHEREAS, Columbus County is classified as a Tier 1 county, and these funds would benefit Columbus County’s citizens tremendously.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is calling for House Bill 966 to be enacted into law.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman
/s/ JAMES E. PREVATTE
/s/ TRENT BURROUGHS
/s/ CHARLES T. McDOWELL

/s/JEROME McMILLIAN, Vice Chairman
/s/ GILES E. BYRD
/s/ RICKY BULLARD

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ MICHAEL H. STEPHENS, County Manager

/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to the Board
/s/ AMANDA B. PRINCE, County Attorney

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution Requesting House Bill 966 Enacted into Law, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Discussion:

Lengthy discussion was conducted relative to the three (3) municipalities that were not included in this bill as follows: Lake waccamaw, Bolton and Sandyfield. In addition, four (4) fire departments, in the eastern end of the county, were not included as follows: Lake Waccamaw, Hallsboro, Bolton and St. James, and they need to be. If this bill is at the stage to allow, it needs to be amended, and if it cannot be amended, a bill needs to be introduced to include the three (3) aforementioned municipalities and four (4) aforementioned fire departments in the eastern end of the County.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion for a letter to be prepared and mailed Representative Brenden Jones, and request that he prepare a Resolution that will include three (3) municipalities and four (4) fire departments in the eastern end of the County that were not included in House Bill 966, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #6: PRESENTATION - COLUMBUS COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

Patrick Flanagan, Regional Planner, Cape Fear Council of Governments, presented the draft recommendation maps for the transportation plan.

1. Cape Fear Rural Planning Organization (RPO) - established by law (NCGS 136.210 through 136-213);
2. Serves an area including 3 counties and 25 municipalities;
3. 4 Core responsibilities:
 - Developing, in coordination with NCDOT, local and regional multimodal transportation plans;
 - Provide a forum for public participation in the transportation planning and project development process;
 - Develop and prioritize transportation projects for the Strategic Prioritization Process (SPOT) and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); **and**
 - Provide transportation related information to local governments and interested organizations and citizens;
4. RPO Structure:
 - Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC); **and**
 - Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC);
5. Board adoption only includes the 4 multi-modal CTP maps (highway, public transportation / rail, bicycle, pedestrian) and a cover sheet;

6. Where are we in the Process?
 - Establish CTP Steering Committee
 - Develop CTP Vision
 - Collect/Project/Endorse Data
 - Analyze Deficiencies
 - Develop Alternatives
 - Recommended Plan
 - Adoption
 - Technical Report
 - Corridor Protection
 - Programming;
7. Draft Columbus County CTP Recommendations;
8. Unaddressed Deficiencies;
9. Major Highway Recommendations; **and**
10. Minor Widening and Other Operational Improvements.

Agenda Item #7: SAVINGS SON MINISTRY - DISCUSSION:

Colton and Joshua Torbich delivered the following discussion on the Savings Son Ministry.

Colton:

- Six (6) years ago I had an addiction, and I am from Columbus County, and had to find help outside of Columbus County;
- Columbus County does not have a 24 hours 7 days a week supervised and residential program to help people with addictions;
- We have helped thirty-five (35) guys since we started;
- We are partnering with Brunswick Christian Recovery Center;
- We need to all pull together to help this program;
- We are seeking funding.

Joshua Torbich, Executive Director:

- I experienced addiction at 22 years old and sought help;
- We service four (4) counties - Pender, New Hanover, Brunswick and Columbus Counties;
- The two (2) major areas of concern are cost and child care;
- We are fixing to open a Family Care Center and a twenty-eight (28) bed women facility;
- We have no steady pipeline for funding; **and**
- We all need to pull together and stand behind the projects to help our citizens with addictions.

Agenda Item #8: PRESENTATION - MEN and WOMEN UNITED for YOUTH and FAMILIES:

Randolph Keaton delivered the following information on the Men and Women United for Youth and Families.

1. I am the Director of Men and Women United for Youth and Families located in Delco in the eastern end of the County;
2. We are a small non-profit and started in 2006;
3. I am now a Councilman in Sandyfield;
4. We invite folks from Bladen, Columbus and Brunswick Counties;
5. We have a Child Care Center and serve as a hub;
6. We like to help with life's sentiments;
7. We have classes free of charge, and an open door;
8. We offer youth programs and long-term recovery;
9. Check our website out for all of our services; **and**
10. We have classes at Cooperative Extension here in Whiteville.

Agenda Item #9: RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR 988 NUMBER:

Tracy Ward, Deputy, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution of Support for 988 Number.

RESOLUTION of SUPPORT for
988 NUMBER

WHEREAS, Columbus County has a local walk-in facility who is dealing with mental

health problems through behavioral health providers, for our citizens; **and**

WHEREAS, the telephone number presently being provided for help in times of crisis is an eleven (11) digit number, with staffed active answering; **and**

WHEREAS, mobile crisis providers are provided 24/365, with immediate dispatch upon request; **and**

WHEREAS, the presence of a kind and active voice on the end of their telephone call will help the individual caller feel more at ease to state their problem, and listen more carefully about the avenues of help that is available to them, and how to receive the help they need; **and**

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission proposes designating 988 as the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Hotline Number; **and**

WHEREAS, the three (3) digits number will allow easy access to the help needed, and to crisis services, reduce the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health conditions, and ultimately save lives; **and**

WHEREAS, the 988 number will be easy to remember, easy to dial, and provide timely help to those in need.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners do support the designation of the 988 number as the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Hotline Number.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 2nd day of March, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE**

/s/ **TRENT BURROUGHS**

/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL**

/s/ **MICHAEL H. STEPHENS**, County Manager

/s/ **JEROME McMILLIAN**, Vice Chairman

/s/ **GILES E. BYRD**

/s/ **RICKY BULLARD**

ATTESTED BY:

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

/s/ **AMANDA B. PRINCE**, County Attorney

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to table this item until the next meeting due to incorrect verbiage in the document that needs to be corrected, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #10: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - WATERLINE EXTENSION SERVE INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS PARK:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested formal approval for the Columbus County EDC and Public Utilities to move forward with the 16 inch water line extension to the International Logistics Park.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the formal approval for the Columbus County EDC and Public Utilities to move forward with the sixteen (16") inch water line extension to the International Logistics Park, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - RESOLUTION APPROVING in PRINCIPLE the REFINANCING of a PROJECT (as DEFINED HEREIN) for INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY and APPROVING the ISSUANCE by the COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES and POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY of its REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS in the AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT of not to EXCEED \$20,000,000:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution Approving in Principle the Refinancing of Project (as Defined Herein) for International Paper Company and Approving the Issuance by the Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority of its Revenue Refunding Bonds in the Aggregate Principal Amount of not to Exceed \$20,000,000.. **(The required Public Hearing was**

conducted on this day previous to the meeting.)

**RESOLUTION APPROVING IN PRINCIPLE THE REFINANCING OF A PROJECT
(AS DEFINED HEREIN) FOR INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY AND
APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL
FACILITIES AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY OF ITS
REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF
NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000,000**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has created a political subdivision and body corporate and politic of the State of North Carolina known as “The Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority” (the “Authority”); **and**

WHEREAS, the Authority is authorized under the Industrial and Pollution Control Facilities Financing Act, Chapter 159C of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended (the “Act”), to issue revenue refunding bonds for the purpose of refunding any bonds then outstanding that have been issued under the provisions of the Act, and to make and execute financing agreements, security documents and other contracts and instruments necessary or convenient in the exercise of such powers; **and**

WHEREAS, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended (the “Stimulus Act”), the Authority was authorized to issue recovery zone facility bonds to finance recovery zone property (as defined in the Stimulus Act) in recovery zones; **and**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act and the Stimulus Act, the Authority issued its Recovery Zone Facility Bonds, 2010 Series A (International Paper Company Project), in the aggregate principal amount of \$20,000,000 (the “Prior Bonds”) to finance the acquisition, construction or renovation of recovery zone property, including, but not limited to, pulp mill and power facilities and paper production facilities and related facilities (the “Project”) at the Riegelwood Mill (the “Mill”), located in Columbus County, North Carolina (the “County”), following the designation by the Board of County Commissioners of the boundaries of the County, including the area comprising the Mill, as a recovery zone, and the allocation of a portion of the County’s recovery zone facility bond limit in the amount of \$20,000,000 to the Authority and International Paper Company (the “Company”) for the benefit of the Company to finance the Project; **and**

WHEREAS, the Authority now desires, at the request of the Company, to refinance the Project by issuing bonds to refund the Prior Bonds, and in connection therewith, the Authority authorized the issuance of its revenue refunding bonds, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$20,000,000 (the “Bonds”), to make the proceeds thereof available to the Company for such refinancing; **and**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 147(f) of the Code, a public hearing on the proposed refinancing of the Project was held by this Board of Commissioners on March 2, 2020. Such public hearing was held pursuant to public notice published on February [__], 2020 in The News Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation in Columbus County, North Carolina; **and**

WHEREAS, Section 147(f) of the Code provides that the Bonds must be approved by the applicable elected representative of the appropriate governmental unit following a public hearing pursuant to reasonable public notice in order for interest on such Bonds to be tax exempt; **and**

WHEREAS, the Authority has requested this Board of Commissioners to approve the Project under Sections 159C-4 and 159C-8© of the Act; **and**

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners desires to make a record by this Resolution that the Project and the proposed refinancing are approved in principle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina as follows:

1. This Board of Commissioners hereby finds and determines that opportunity for all taxpayers, residents and other interested persons to express their views for or against said refinancing, the proposed issuance of the Bonds and the nature and location of the Project and to submit communications in writing, was provided at said public hearing.
2. This Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the refinancing of the Project by the issuance of bonds to refund the Prior Bonds.

- 3. The issuance of the Bonds by the Authority is hereby approved.
- 4. The prior designation of the boundaries of the County, including the area comprising the Mill, as a recovery zone and the allocation of a portion of the County’s recovery zone facility bond limit to the Authority and the Company for the benefit of the Company to finance the Project is hereby confirmed.
- 5. The Bonds shall bear interest at the rate in accordance with a trust indenture between the Authority and the trustee identified therein.
- 6. This Board of Commissioners does hereby declare that this Resolution constitutes the public approval required by Section 147(f) of the Code, and approval in principle of the refinancing of the Project and issuance of the Bonds as required by the Act.
- 7. The Clerk of this Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed to provide certified copies of this Resolution to the Authority, to the Division of State and Local Government Finance for the State of North Carolina, and to the Local Government Commission.
- 8. The Bonds shall not constitute an indebtedness or obligation of the County or the Authority, but the Bonds shall be payable solely from the revenues derived from the Company and pledged to the payment thereof, and no owner of any Bonds shall ever have the right to compel any exercise of the taxing power of the County or the Authority, nor to enforce the payment thereof against any property of the County or the Authority.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

- 9. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED and APPROVED March 2, 2020.

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

(SEAL)

Attest:

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

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS)

I, June B. Hall, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the County Board of Commissioners of Columbus, County, North Carolina and keeper of the official minutes thereof, and that the foregoing is a true copy of certain of the proceedings of the County Board of Commissioners taken at a meeting held at the time and place shown on the front page of these excerpts of minutes and is a complete copy of so much of the recorded minutes of said meeting as relates in any way to the passage of the resolution hereinabove set forth.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that a schedule of regular meetings of said County Board, stating that regular meetings are held on the first Monday and the third Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M., respectively, in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex, 112 W. Smith Street in Whiteville, North Carolina, has been on file in my office pursuant to G.S. 143-318.12 as of a date not less than seven days before said meeting.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of Columbus County, North Carolina this 2nd day of March, 2020.

/s/ **JUNE B. HALL**

Clerk, Board of County Commissioners

(SEAL)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the Resolution Approving in Principle the Refinancing of Project (as Defined Herein) for International Paper Company and Approving the Issuance by the Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority of it Revenue Refunding Bonds in the Aggregate Principal Amount of not to Exceed \$20,000,000, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Joy Jacobs, Public Transportation Director, delivered the following departmental update.

MILEAGE:

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Yearly totals:	469,557	248,855

COST PER MILE -TRANSPORTATION:

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
	\$1.339	\$1,408

STATISTICS:

2018-2019 (Yearly Average)

Passengers/Service Hour	Service Miles/Service Hour	Passengers/Service Mile
1.80	25.55	0.07

2019-2020 (Yearly Average)

Passengers/Service Hour	Service Miles/Service Hour	Passengers/Service Mile
1.93	26.05	0.07

COST:

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Cost/Mile:	\$1.34	\$1.42
Cost/Trip:	\$20.29	\$20.54
Hours:	16,631	9,565
Miles/Hour:	28.23	26.02
Cost/Hour	\$37.86	\$36.87

Capital Purchases 2019: 2 New Conversion Vans and 1 20' LTV, Desk Chair, Laptop, Monitor, 3 Batteries for office radios

Capital Purchases 2020: 1 Minivan, 2 Conversion vans, 2 20' LTV, Upgraded camera system and added 4 additional cameras, Automatic Gate-in process, and new printer

Current Fleet: 4 conversion Vans, 11 20' LTV's, 3 Minivans (12 of the vehicles are equipped with lifts)

2018-2019 NCDOT Reimbursements:

COSTS	LOCAL	STATE	FEDERAL	TOTAL
Administrative	\$26,193	\$8,723	-----	\$174,562
Capital	\$10,979	\$10,974	\$87,802	\$109,755

Matching Funds Needed: \$37,172 Collected: \$43,434.19

2019-2020 NCDOT Reimbursements:

COSTS	LOCAL	STATE	FEDERAL	TOTAL
Administrative	\$12,887	\$4,292	\$68,708	\$85,887
Capital	\$267	\$267	\$2,136	\$2,670

Matching Funds Needed so far: \$13,159 Collected so far: \$25,721
 Matching Funds Budgeted: \$46,042

Agenda Item #13: RESOLUTION - 100TH ANNIVERSARY of PASSAGE of NINETEENTH AMENDMENT to UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION and FOUNDING of LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS:

Commissioner James E. Prevatte requested Board approval and adoption of the following 100th Anniversary of Passage of Nineteenth Amendment to United States Constitution and Founding of League of Women Voters.

100th ANNIVERSARY of PASSAGE of NINETEENTH AMENDMENT to CONSTITUTION of UNITED STATES and FOUNDING of LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, an organized movement to enfranchise women began in July, 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York; **and**

WHEREAS, through the efforts of brave and courageous women referred to as suffragists who sacrificed family, their personal life and their financial resources for over seventy (70) years to gain equal rights for women, especially the right to vote; **and**

WHEREAS, women and men, black and white, supported the woman’s suffrage movement for women to gain the constitutional right of having a voice in making the laws that govern them; **and**

WHEREAS, the woman’s suffrage movement led to the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1919; with ratification by the states by the summer of 1920; and

The Constitution of the United States of America, Amendment XIX - Women’s Suffrage: The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

WHEREAS, the woman’s suffrage movement led to the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1919; with ratification by the states by the summer of 1920; **and**

WHEREAS, the National Woman’s Suffrage Association dissolved in 1920 to create the League of Women Voters of the United States to register voters and educate all voters; **and**

WHEREAS, more than one hundred twenty thousand (120,000) women were registered to vote in North Carolina by 1920; **and**

WHEREAS, women today constitute a majority vote in our state and the United States and are running for office in higher numbers and more active in the election process than ever before in history.

BE IT RESOLVED the 100th Anniversary of women gaining their right to vote and the founding of the League of Women Voters in the United States and in North Carolina is recognized for the impact these historic accomplishments have on citizen engagement and the civic life of the community, the state and the nation.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 2nd day of March, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE**

/s/ **TRENT BURROUGHS**

/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL**

/s/ **MICHAEL H. STEPHENS**, County Manager

/s/ **JEROME McMILLIAN**, Vice Chairman

/s/ **GILES E. BYRD**

/s/ **RICKY BULLARD**

ATTESTED BY:

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

/s/ **AMANDA B. PRINCE**, County Attorney

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve and adopt the 100th Anniversary of Passage of Nineteenth Amendment to United States Constitution and Founding of League of Women Voters, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #14: PROCLAMATION - NORTH CAROLINA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH:

Howard Corey, Education Liaison, North Carolina 811, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Columbus County Designating the Month of April as “North Carolina 811 Safe Digging Month”.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY DESIGNATING the MONTH of APRIL as
“NORTH CAROLINA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH”**

WHEREAS, as utility owners, excavators, designers and homeowners work to keep pace with North Carolina’s economic development, it is important to minimize damages to underground

utility lines, danger to workers and the general public, environmental impact, and loss of utility services to the citizens of North Carolina; **and**

WHEREAS, North Carolina 811, utility service notification center and leader in education celebrates its 42nd year of continuous service to the State, is key to preventing injuries and damage when excavating; **and**

WHEREAS, this unique service provides easy, one-call notification about construction and excavation projects that may endanger workers and jeopardize utility lines while promoting workplace and public safety, reducing underground utility damage, minimizing utility service interruptions and protecting the environment; **and**

WHEREAS, this vital service, which began in 1978 serves the citizens of North Carolina from the mountains to the coast, educates stakeholders about the need for excavation safety whether the project is as small as planting a tree to designing and beginning construction on a new interstate **and**

WHEREAS, in 2019, the North Carolina one call system received 2.2 million notification requests and transmitted over 12.2 million requests, providing protection to utility companies infrastructure, their employees, excavators and customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has designated the month of April 2020 as “**North Carolina 811 Safe Digging Month**” to encourage all excavators and homeowners of Columbus County to contact 8-1-1 either by dialing 8-1-1 or contacting NC811 via the webpage of nc811.org at least three (3) working days prior to digging in order to “Know What’s Below”, avoid injury protect the environment, prevent millions of dollars in damages and to remind excavators that three (3) working days’ notice is the law, for safe digging is no accident, and that more information may be obtained by visiting www.nc811.org.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

/s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE**

/s/ **TRENT BURROUGHS**

/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL**

/s/ **MICHAEL H. STEPHENS**, County Manager

/s/ **JEROME McMILLIAN**, Vice Chairman

/s/ **GILES E. BYRD**

/s/ **RICKY BULLARD**

ATTESTED BY:

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

/s/ **AMANDA B. PRINCE**, County Attorney

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve and adopt the Columbus County Designating the Month of April as “North Carolina 811 Safe Digging Month”, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #15: APPOINTMENT - JOBS FOUNDATION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to appoint Commissioner Trent Burroughs as the representative for Board of Commissioners to the Jobs Foundation, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

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

At 7:47 P.M., Commissioner Bullard 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 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

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

February 17, 2020 **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 2 for each Water District, respectively.

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

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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 #17: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

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

A. Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditures	10-4310-535300	M&R Vehicles	10,231
Revenues	10-3431-489000	Miscellaneous Revenue	10,231
Expenditures	10-4310-526001	Dept. Supplies	9,836
Revenues	10-3431-440035	GRANTS Revenue	9,836
Expenditures	68-4520-830000	Funds Due to NCDOT	30,076
Revenues	68-3452-498020	Transfer from Reserves	30,076
Expenditures	10-6120-526012	Not Stated	5,000
Revenues	10-3612-489040	Not Stated	5,000

B. Tax Refunds and Releases:

<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$390.43
Benton, Donna Kay	PROPERTY: 6591	Total:	\$438.93
Value: \$48,500.00	Year: 2019	Account: 03-00033	Bill#: 86720
Release portion of property value. Overbilled due to hurricane florence. Release Old Dock(38.80) release Columbus Rescue(9.70)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$258.05
Faircloth, Jolly Lee	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$283.69
Value: \$15,316.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 08-03539	Bill#: 99999
Release total value. Trucks sold. Release St. James(19.23) release Columbus Rescue(6.41)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$3,155.78
Panda Solar NC 6LLC	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$3,859.46
Value: \$392,022.00	Year: 2019	Account: 01-08674	Bill#: 49783
Release value being rebilled. Release Klondyke Fire(274.42) release columbus Rescue(78.40) release late list(350.86)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$40.26
Smith Transportation Services LLC	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$47.26
Value: \$2,500.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 15-02639	Bill#: 99999
Release value of truck. Never owned by this person. Release Acme Delco(6.00) release Columbus Rescue(1.00)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$121.56
Ward, Vernon & Sarah	PROPERTY: 5936	Total:	\$124.58
Value: \$15,100.00	Year: 2019	Account: 02-02420	Bill#: 32499
Release portion of property value. Overbilled ...flooded during hurricane florence. Release Whiteville Rescue(3.02)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$124.79
Whitman, Hannah Piver	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$157.73
Value: \$15,502.00	Year: 2019	Account: 06-05240	Bill#: 33712
Release value of boat sold 9/2/2018. Release Yam City(15.50) release Columbus Rescue(3.10) release late list(14.34)			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Benton, Lloyd Dean	PROPERTY: 82350	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2018	Account: 09-05839	Bill#: 93687
Refund user fee.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00

Cardenas, Odon Herrera	PROPERTY: 93793	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 18-19	Account: 03-02348	Bill#:	99999
Refund user fee. Billed incorrectly.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Cardenas, Odon Herrera	PROPERTY: 93809	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 01-07431	Bill#:	91047
Refund user fee. Billed to land and mobile home.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Clemmons, Gary E & Lynda	PROPERTY: 6581	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-03646	Bill#:	92302
Refund user fee.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Clewis, L C	PROPERTY: 99817	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-03380	Bill#:	92384
Refund user fee. Camper.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Clewis, L C	PROPERTY: 99817	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-03380	Bill#:	92384
Refund user fee. No house on property.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Gore, Ricky Dean & Teresa Ann	PROPERTY: 80488	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 07-06593	Bill#:	1437
Refund user fee.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Hobbs, Tommy	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 01-04789	Bill#:	12488
Refund user fee.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Jacobs, William Clyde	PROPERTY: 88445	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 03-01449	Bill#:	14366
Refund user fee. Paid on singlewide account.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Rivon Roberto Flores & Nohemi	PROPERTY: 98092	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 14-04509	Bill#:	21888
Refund user fee. Billed on Act#14-05033			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Smith, Shirley & Windell C	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 07-02723	Bill#:	32352
Refund user fee.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Stephens, Charles Garry (ETAL)	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$600.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 11-05604	Bill#:	99999
Refund 3 cans. Vacant land. Prop#19124,19125,19126			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Suggs, Pat P & Collins	PROPERTY: 92790	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 03-03857	Bill#:	35198
Refund user fee. Vacant lot.			
<i>Refunds</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Ward, Donald Ray & Deloris Ann	PROPERTY: 31886	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 11-28880	Bill#:	31886
Refund user fees. Dbilled.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Benton, Donna Kay	PROPERTY: 6591	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-00033	Bill#:	86720
Release user fee. Flooded during hurricane florence.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Cartwright, Lorraine S	PROPERTY: 16686	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 09-05029	Bill#:	91701
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00

465

Collins, Robert	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$226.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 11-02755	Bill#:	92885
Release user fees.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Farmer, Wanda Renee	PROPERTY: 28182	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 15-02550	Bill#:	97495
Release user fee. Billed to single wide Act#15-05232.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Friend Timothy Paul (ETALS)	PROPERTY: 75898	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-08095	Bill#:	99411
Release user fee. Unliveable.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Glory Tabernacle of Columbus Co.	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 01-32204	Bill#:	500
Release user fee. Dbilled.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Godwin, Evelyn Gayle (ETAL)	PROPERTY: 1896	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 01-32376	Bill#:	607
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Green, Barney Ray	PROPERTY: 26570	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 14-06144	Bill#:	2274
Release user fee. Billed on Act#14-06355			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Hedgepeth, Ronald K (Heirs)	PROPERTY: 61787	Total:	\$800.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2018	Account: 12-11600	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee. Houses unliveable.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Hinson, Joseph Simons & Shandra	PROPERTY: 18412	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 10-08868	Bill#:	5570
Release user fee. Unliveable.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Jacobs, William Clyde	PROPERTY: 88445	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-01449	Bill#:	7563
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Jones, Annie R	PROPERTY: 2868	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 01-00931	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee. Billed on Act#01-09798			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Kapp, Verda W	PROPERTY: 76784	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-12543	Bill#:	8990
Release user fees.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Kelly, Ernie Dwayne	PROPERTY: 28705	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 15-22079	Bill#:	9177
Release user fees.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Livingston, Jeanette	PROPERTY: 16248	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 9-16740	Bill#:	11216
Release user fee. Dbilled			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Adam	PROPERTY: 84247	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 06-03709	Bill#:	11338
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Tamera Anne Arwood	PROPERTY: 7300	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-05105	Bill#:	11737
Release user fee. Double listed for 12536 New Britton Hwy E			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00

Long, Tiffany Michelle	PROPERTY: 83209	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-00053	Bill#:	11764
Release user fee. No power to house.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
McCrimmon Jesse & Sadie	PROPERTY: 28961	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 15-24860	Bill#:	13289
Release user fee. Vacant land			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
McKeithan, Gwendolyn C	PROPERTY: 98007	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 13-02808	Bill#:	13648
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Nealy, Larine D	PROPERTY: 25111	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 13-29078	Bill#:	16878
Release user fee. Billed to Singlewide.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Nichols, Roger	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$199.63
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 11-01938	Bill#:	99999
Release portion of user fees. Can paid for in advance. Release 181.04 Prop#19735 and Prop#19734 Hallsboro Fire(1.26) release Columbus Rescue(.42)			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Oliver Laura	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 18-19	Account: 12-05614	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Powell, Alaine Gore	PROPERTY: 88252	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 16-03244	Bill#:	19558
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Price, Thomas & Ruthie	PROPERTY: 79142	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 14-01918	Bill#:	20203
Release user fee. Has no power.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Smith, Shirley & Windell C	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 07-02723	Bill#:	25870
Release user fee. Dbilled			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Stephens, Leon	PROPERTY: 5133	Total:	\$811.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 16-19	Account: 01-89423	Bill#:	99999
Release all cans on account.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Strickland, Pamela Candace	PROPERTY: 86665	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 09-02452	Bill#:	28373
Release user fee. Dbilled.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Suggs, Pat P & Collins	PROPERTY: 92790	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 03-03857	Bill#:	28637
Release user fee. Vacant Lot.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Turbeville, Roland	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 18-19	Account: 06-39955	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Vontrina Investments LLC	PROPERTY: 80296	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019	Account: 15-04952	Bill#:	31072
Release user fee. Home burned			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Ward, Michael Rossie Jr & Billie	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 18-19	Account: 09-04531	Bill#:	99999
Release user fees. Not liveable.			

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Ward, Noah Lee		PROPERTY: 77650	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 09-32413	Bill#:	32267
Release user fee.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Ward, Thelbert Murray & Wife		PROPERTY: 83908	Total:	\$115.27
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2018	Account: 03-27980	Bill#:	38991
Release all remaining on trash can.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Williamson, Bridgette L. (ETAL)		PROPERTY: 13114	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 07-03739	Bill#:	34409
Release user fee.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Young, Eric Stacy & Linette		PROPERTY: 76886	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 08-01054	Bill#:	99999
Release user fees.				

Agenda Item #18: COMMENTS:

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

- A. **Department Manager (Loretta Shipman):** stated the following:
 - I have been st the Animal Shelter for eleven (11) years;
 - I have distributed copies of several certificates of the classes I have taken and I am trained in each area stated;
 - I am responsible for one (1) fine that has been issued since my tenure;
 - The last fine that was issued has been reduced by a large amount;
 - I have only five (5) employees and Columbus County is a large county to cover, and the State inspectors always state that I need more employees to be effective; **and**
 - The next meeting scheduled for the Animal Control Advisory Board will be on March 24, 2020.

- B. **Board of Commissioners:**
 - 1. **Commissioner Burroughs:** stated the following:
 - We had a meeting the other night with the judges and their main concern is safety issues at the new Courthouse and the Annex Building;
 - I would like to make a motion that we establish a new Courthouse Committee to look at the current safety issues at the new Courthouse and the Annex Building, and charge the committee for the long-term courthouse needs and recommend those needs back to the Board of Commissioners; **and**
 - I also recommend that two (2) County Commissioners be appointed to this committee, along with the County Manager, County Attorney, Finance Officer, Maintenance Director, designee from Judge Usery's Office, representative from the Sheriff Department, the Clerk of Court, two (2) members from the Bar Association, the District Attorney or designee, one (1) member of the Jobs Foundation, a general contractor and four (4) concerned citizens;

MOTION:

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to establish a new Courthouse Committee to look at the current facility issues at the new Courthouse and the Annex Building, and charge the committee for the long-term courthouse needs and recommend those needs back to the Board of Commissioners to be comprised of the following members: two (2) County Commissioners be appointed to this committee, along with the County Manager, County Attorney, Finance Officer, Maintenance Director, designee from Judge Usery's Office, representative from the Sheriff Department, the Clerk of Court, two (2) members from the Bar Association, the District Attorney or designee, one (1) member of the Jobs Foundation, a general contractor and four (4) concerned citizens, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Lengthy discussion was conducted relative to the number of members being appointed, and the areas of concern for the members being appointed. It was the general consensus of the Board to keep the membership to fifteen (15) members for effectiveness.

MOTION:

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to appoint Commissioners James E. Prevatte and Giles E. Byrd to the Courthouse Committee, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

2. **Commissioner McDowell:** stated the following:
 - ATMC has opened up a satellite office behind Brunswick Electric on Highway 130;
 - Tomorrow is Election Day, and I encourage everyone to vote; **and**
 - Time changes this weekend.

3. **Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:
 - The meeting that Commissioner Burroughs referenced was a meeting with the Superior Court Judge, the District Court Judge, the District Attorney, the Clerk of Court, Sheriff Jody Greene, Chief Deputy Herring and three (3) County Commissioners;
 - This meeting was an opportunity for the board to ask what do you see that we need to do;
 - Emphasis was placed on safety issues at the new Courthouse and potential safety issues at the Annex Building;
 - It was made known that a committee needs to be formed to look at Columbus County's court needs in 2030;
 - I made an unannounced visit to the Animal Shelter and was pleased with the conditions that I found.

4. **Vice Chairman McMillian:** stated when the Board Planning Retreat is conducted, please remember our County employees.

5. **Chairman Edwin Russ:** stated the following:
 - In Brunswick County, there is a large clock on the wall behind the Commissioners' seating area that keeps the time for the Public Input, and this Board needs a clock like that; **and**
 - The jury box at the new Courthouse needs to be fixed as soon as possible.

- C. **County Manager (Michael H. Stephens):** stated I would like to introduce Christy Massey as the new Department of Aging Director, and will start employment at 8:30 A.M. tomorrow.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with § 143-318.11(a) (3) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and (6) PERSONNEL:

At 8:28 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a) (3) Economic Development and (6) Personnel, after a five (5) minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #19: CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with § 143-318.11(a) (3) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND (6) PERSONNEL:

No action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 9:13 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

READING and APPROVAL of CLOSED SESSION GENERAL ACCOUNT :

Chairman Russ requested that Amanda B. Prince, Columbus County Attorney, orally read the Closed Session General Account. Ms. Prince orally read the following: *"The County Commissioners discussed Economic Development matters with Gary Lanier, discussed personnel issues with Mike Stephens, Needom Hughes and Amanda Prince. No action was taken."*

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

ESTABLISHMENT of MEETING DATES:

Discussion was conducted relative to the dates for meetings with the Columbus County Schools Board of Education and the Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees, and the following dates were established:

March 04, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.:	Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees at Southeastern Community College, T-Building, Room 120
March 09, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.:	Columbus County Schools Board of Education, at Southeastern Community College, T-Building, Room 120; and
March 26, 2020, at 5:30 P.M. until:	Board Planning Retreat at Southeastern Community College? (Location to be determined)

Agenda Item #20: ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:20 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. 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, March 02, 2020
7:47 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**
Jerome McMillian, **Vice Chairman**
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Trent Burroughs
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:47 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 #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

February 17, 2020 **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 February 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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, March 02, 2020
7:47 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**
Jerome McMillian, **Vice Chairman**
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Trent Burroughs
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:47 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 #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

February 17, 2020 **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 February 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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, March 02, 2020
7:47 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**
Jerome McMillian, **Vice Chairman**
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Trent Burroughs
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:47 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 #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

February 17, 2020 **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 February 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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, March 02, 2020
7:47 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**
Jerome McMillian, **Vice Chairman**
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
Trent Burroughs
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:47 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 #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

February 17, 2020 **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 February 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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, March 02, 2020
7:47 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**
 Jerome McMillian, **Vice Chairman**
 James E. Prevatte
 Giles E. Byrd
 Trent Burroughs
 Ricky Bullard
 Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:47 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 #16: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

February 17, 2020 **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 February 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:48 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman