The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met at the Health Department with the Board of Health it being a meeting of the Health Board, on February 22, 1978, at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney and Acting Clerk

The meeting was a discussion of complaints against Cecil Edwards, Sanitarian III, Columbus County Health Dept. and is an official record in the minutes of the Health Board.

The following business was transacted which is a continuation of unfinished business of the meeting of February 20th regular meeting:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and unamimously passed to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife, an agency of the Department of Interior, has attempted to place three species of fish located in Lake Waccamaw on the Endangered Species List; and

WHEREAS, the placing of the said fish on the Federal Endangered Species List would cause Lake Waccamaw to be specified as a critical habitat in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina has been informed that the background reports stated that Lake Waccamaw is a body of water of approximately six thousand acres in dimension with a sandy bottom and fed by springs; and

WHEREAS, in actuality Lake Waccamaw is a body of water of nine thousand acres in dimention with a peat and silt bottom and is fed mostly from swamps with supplemental feedings from springs; and

WHEREAS, the background information on the said proposal concerning the placing of the said species on the Endangered Species List has numerous other erroneous areas throughout and appears to be a waste of the taxpayers' dollars; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, are fully satisfied that the Town of Lake Waccamaw has invested much time and effort in maintaining the

quality of water in Lake Waccamaw and in 1974 completed a water & sewer system which was con-

structed not only for the residents of the Town but also for future developments of the outlay-

ing areas in order to maintain securely a high quality of water in the future for the said Lake;

and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Columbus County and in particular Lake Waccamaw only re-

cently discovered that the December 30, 1977, edition of the FEDERAL REGISTER stated a proposal

that three fish should be placed on the endangered species list which are located in Lake

Waccamaw. The three fish named were "Waccamaw Darter" (Etheostoma Parlongum), Waccamaw Kill-

fish" (Fuhdulus Waccamensis) and the "Waccamaw Silverside" (Menidia Extensa); and

WHEREAS, the proposal set forth the 28th day of February, 1978, as the deadline for public responses. The change of classification required no advertisement or imput by the citizens of Columbus County or the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the habitats of the fish are not being changed by canals or developments on the south side of the Lake and that no canals or developments have been allowed to be cut through into the Lake since 1950 and in fact, the North Carolina State Parks Department has not allowed two inlets to the canal that were cut into the Lake prior to 1950 to be cleaned out and that the said inlets have filled up with sand and have the flow of water impaired and even blocked when the water table is low;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, go on record in opposition of declaring the species 'Waccamaw Darter'' (Etheostoma Parlongum), 'Waccamaw Killfish'' (Fuhdulus Waccamensis) and the 'Waccamaw Silverside'' (Menidia Extensa) and endangered species since there is uncertainty of what, if any, changes of the Lake's condition will effect any fish located therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County respectfully requests the NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCE COMMISSION, the Honorable James B. Hunt, and the respective state senators and representatives to carefully weigh this issue and to vote against the placing of the said species on the endangered list; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, respectfully request that a copy of the above resolution be forwarded to the NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION, the Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor of North Carolina, the Honorable Charlie Rose, United States Representative, the Honorable R. C. Soles, Jr., State Senator, the following State Representatives, the Honorable Edd Nye, the Honorable Ron Taylor, the Honorable Richard Wright, and to the United States Department of Interior.

This the 20th day of February, 1978.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BY: /s/ C. Waldo Marlowe

Attest

Emogene W. Suggs/s/

SEAL

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Upon motion the meeting adjourned until March 2, 1978, at 10:00 a.m., which is

a special meeting with the Department of Transportation concerning improvements of secondary

roads in Columbus County.

APPROVED:

Waldo Morlours

Chairmar

Acting Clerk