

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 6:00 P.M., Monday, June 3, 1992, for the purpose of an executive session to consider the employment of an independent contractor in accordance to N.C.G.S 141-318.11(9).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Worley, Chairman

Lynwood Norris

Samuel G. Koonce

Mike Richardson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Roy L. Lowe, Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

ABSENT:

Junior Dew, Vice Chairman

SOLID WASTE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

David L. McPherson

Billy Hooks

Dempsey Herring

Chairman Worley called the meeting to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to enter into executive session to consider the employment of an independent contractor for the collection and disposal of solid waste.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

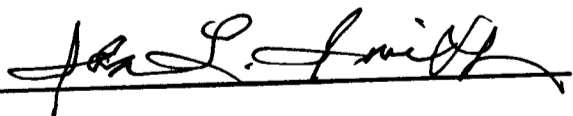
At 7:40 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed unanimously to resume regular session.

No action was taken.

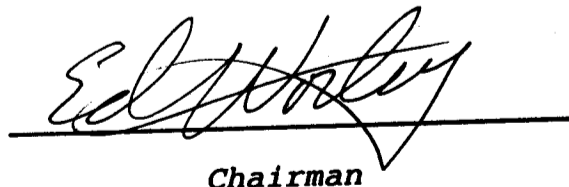
ADJOURNMENT

Immediately, thereafter, a motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Koonce and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:



Clerk to Board



Chairman

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 7:40 P.M., Monday, June 3, 1992, it being the first Wednesday, in accordance with a Resolution adopted May 28, 1992, to establish the meeting date and time change from the first Monday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Worley, Chairman
 Junior Dew, Vice Chairman
 Lynwood Norris
 Samuel G. Koonce
 Mike Richardson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney
 Roy L. Lowe, Administrator
 Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman Worley called the meeting to order and the Reverend Wade Fowler gave the invocation.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to approve the Board Minutes of May 12, May 13, May 14, May 18, and May 28, 1992, as recorded with an amendment to the May 18, 1992 Minutes, APPOINTMENT - EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR TABLED, page 503, paragraph 2 and 3.

Amendment to Paragraph 2 is as follows: A motion was made by Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Koonce and passed unanimously to deny the request for Jimmy Jackson to be appointed to serve as Emergency Services' Director for Columbus County, due to the additional job duties he has acquired.

Delete paragraph 3.

SCHOOLS - SUPERINTENDENTS REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ENERGY FUNDS

Thomas Nance, Columbus County Superintendent and Dr. Jerry Paschal, Whiteville City Schools' Superintendent, addressed the Board requesting additional funds for fuel and electricity for the months of May and June, 1992 due to the state decreasing the amount by 50%.

RESOLUTION - REQUESTING SCHOOLS ENERGY COST REINSTATED

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to adopt the following Resolution.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, at its regular meeting held on June 3, 1992, adopted the following Resolution;

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly reduced the local schools' energy cost by one-half for fiscal year 1991-92, and have proposed to phase out funds for energy costs to local schools completely by fiscal year 1992-93; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 1992, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners adopted a Resolution requesting that Senator R.C. Soles, Jr., Representative Leo Mercer, and Representative David Redwine to approach the General Assembly, at their next short session meeting, and request the reinstatement of state funding at 100% for energy costs to local schools; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 1992, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners adopted a Resolution requesting the assistance of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the North Carolina School Board Association and all 100 Counties in the State to approach the General Assembly in this effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County that it is respectively requesting that Senator R. C. Soles, Jr., Representative Leo Mercer, and Representative Redwine to approach the General Assembly, during the short session and request that they assume financial responsibility for Public School Energy Costs.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County is respectively requesting an answer from the General Assembly in reference to the reinstatement of state funding for energy costs to local schools by the end of June, 1992, to allow local governments to plan before the 1992-93 Operating Budget is adopted.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

ATTEST:

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk

/s/ Ed Worley, Chairman

SCHOOLS - ENERGY FUNDING TABLED

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to table the above request until our next regular scheduled Board meeting, June 15, 1992.

SENIOR CENTER/AGING - NUTRITION CONTRACT

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed unanimously to approve the Aging Nutrition Contract to Services America Corporation for Fiscal Year 1992-93 at a total cost of \$2.93 per meal, including tax. Contract is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY - REQUEST FOR PART-TIME STAFF POSITION

The Administrator presented the Board with a letter from District Attorney Rex Gore stating that he has purchased a computer with grant money for the Whiteville District Attorney Office and requested the County to fund a part-time staff position to input data from the files. The part-time clerical position for

the 1992-93 Fiscal year amounts to \$4,500.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to deny District Attorney Rex Gore's request.

RESOLUTION - AMENDED FOR CERRO GORDO FIRE DEPARTMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to amend the Resolution adopted on the 16th day of December, 1991 for the Cerro Gordo Volunteer Fire District as follows:

Minute Book 21, Page 404, RESOLUTION - CERRO GORDO VFD TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, Paragraph 5 to read; IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, that the Cerro Gordo Fire District be included pursuant to NCGS 153A-309 to include fire protection and emergency medical, rescue, and that both services shall be provided with the said district and are to be included under the said service district authority.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - REGISTER OF DEEDS' TABLED

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Koonce and passed unanimously to table the request for the Register-of-Deeds budget to be amended in the amount of \$18,716 due to the budget being overspent without formal approval.

SENIOR CENTER/AGING - BUDGET AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Senior Center/Aging Department as follows:

Increase 12-348-0700 Personal Care Services	\$102,300.00
To be expended:	
12-609-0300 Part-time salaries	\$ 95,000.00
12-609-0500 F.I.C.A.	7,300.00
12-614-1400 Travel	240.00
12-617-1400 Travel	(240.00)

SENIOR CENTER/AGING - BUDGET AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Senior Center/Aging Department as follows:

Accept 12-366-0200 Gifts & Donations Minor Home Repair	\$ 100.00
Expend 12-615-3300 Repair Supplies	\$ 100.00
Accept 12-366-0101 Gifts & Donations - Tabor City SC	\$ 200.00
Expend 12-612-5700 Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00

BUDGET AMENDMENT - VETERANS' OFFICE

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Veterans' Administration

as follows:

Transfer 10-515-5700 District Court Miscellaneous	(\$ 225.00)
Expend 10-607-0201 Veterans' Longevity	110.00
Expend 10-607-5400 Insurance	55.00
Expend 10-607-1100 Telephone	60.00

BUDGET AMENDMENT - HEALTH

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Health Department as follows:

Accept 10-348-09 Home Health Seed Funds	\$ 6,057.00
Expend 10-593-4503 Contract Services - Com Health Aide	\$ 6,057.00

BUDGET AMENDMENT - LIBRARY

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Library as follows:

Accept 10-348-3400 LSCA Enrichment Grant/Lake Waccamaw	\$ 6,174.00
Accept 10-348-3400 LSCA Automation/Technology grant	\$ 1,200.00
To be expended:	
10-630-3300 Books	\$ 6,174.00
10-630-7400 Capital Outlay	\$ 1,200.00

BUDGET AMENDMENT - TAX DEPT.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve a budget amendment for the Tax Department for business audits in excess of the existing contract as follows:

Appropriate 10-399-0000 Fund Balance	\$84,550.00
Expend 10-450-0400 Professional Services	\$84,550.00

TAX RELEASES AND REFUNDS

A motion was made by Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the tax releases and refunds as recommended by the Tax Administration.

Idell Gerald; TC-3-82, house unoccupied for past five (5) years. Amount \$30.00, year 1991, account #06-13780.

James Monroe Powell; only three user fees on CG-1-98. Amount \$336.00 user fees, year 1991, account #16-12321.

Moris Brown; 1980 GMC listed in New Hanover County and taxes paid. Amount \$43.52, valuation \$4,600, year 1987, account #17-04243.

Mary Stanley Coleman; 1975 Mercury was traded for a 1978 model and listed to Billy and Mary Coleman on #07-02200. Amount \$17.31, valuation \$1,830, year 1987, account #17-07143.

Elizabeth Hemingway; Oldsmobile double-listed on regular listing, David & Elizabeth Hemingway on #06-18260. Amount \$136.43, valuation \$4,870, year 1990,

account #17-17760.

Pamela Yvonne Lacewell; vehicle listed in Bladen County where she resides. Amount \$115.90, valuation \$2,220, years 1989, 91, account #17-21987.

Vonnie Currie Lennon; 1979 Chevrolet junked prior to 1-1-88. Amount \$8.51, valuation \$790, year 1989, account #17-22665.

Aveylene Moore Stephens; 1978 Toyota double-listed to Freddie Stephens on #06-36160. Amount \$106.36, valuation \$850, year 1989, account #17-35554.

Terry Leroy Thompson; vehicle was listed in South Carolina in 1986. Amount \$50.61, valuation \$6,670, year 1986, account #17-37560.

Houston Thomas Watts; vehicle was not in Columbus County but listed in South Carolina for 1987. Amount \$57.81, valuation \$6,110, year 1987, account #17-39895.

Ordered; that a refund check be issued to Frank Alfred Wilson, Route 1, Box 11-E, Bolton, NC 28430, in the amount of \$146.54, for year 1990. Double-wide mobile home was double-listed on real and personal property. Valuation \$17,370, account #04-17060.

BUDGET - 1992-93 PROPOSED BUDGET PRESENTED TO GOVERNING BODY

Roy Lowe, County Administrator, presented the Board with the 1992-93 Columbus County Proposed Budget for their acceptance and consideration. The Administrator read aloud the Budget Message. The 1992-93 Proposed Budget is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board for public inspection.

BUDGET - ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to accept the 1992-93 Columbus County Proposed Operating Budget for consideration. The public hearing on the Budget is scheduled for 7:30 P.M., June 15, 1992 in the Commissioners' Chambers, 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC.

SOCIAL SERVICES - EMPLOYEES COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 1992-93 BUDGET

Mamie Phillips and Joan Stephens, representing several Social Services' employees in attendance, addressed the Board in reference to the salaries in the 1992-93 Proposed Budget. Mrs. Phillips stated that she feels the proposal is unfair and does not give the long term employees any incentive to stay employed with the County. She further stated that the adjoining County of Bladen, is paying their employees \$3,000.00 a year more than Columbus County.

The Administrator has proposed the following salary increases in the 1992-93 Budget:

Employees (161) paid \$15,000 or less - 1 1/2 steps (7.2%) on pay scale

Employees (179) paid \$15,001 - \$30,000 - 1 step (4.8%) on pay scale

Employees (22) paid \$30,001 or more - 1/2 step (2.4%) on pay scale

The increases range from \$732.00 - \$1,272.00, allowing the lowest paid

employees to receive similar increases to higher paid employees.

RESOLUTION - SAFEKEEPERS' MEDICAL COST

The Administrator presented the Board with a notification from the N.C. Association of County Commissioners in reference to outstanding debts computed by the Department of Corrections for Safekeepers Medical costs. Under legislation being proposed by the Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the counties will be required to pay one fourth of Columbus Counties portion of \$120,485.02, with the remaining three fourths due in equal installments each of the next three years.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Koonce and passed unanimously to adopt a Resolution opposing the Safekeepers Medical Cost.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, at its regular meeting held on June 3, 1992, adopted the following Resolution;

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Legislative Bulletin #5-92 addresses "Safekeeper" Medical Cost Legislation to be Proposed recommending legislation which would retroactively assess the counties for costs of medical care provided to inmates transferred from the county jails to the state prison system for safekeeping; and

WHEREAS, under legislation being proposed by the Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, Columbus County will be required to pay one fourth the amount of \$120,485.02 by the end of Fiscal Year 1992, with the remaining three fourths to be paid in equal installments each of the next three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, the bills are for costs incurred during fiscal years 1990 and 1991 and include in-patient nursing care and per day hospital bed charges for care provided at Central Prison and other DOC prison units; and

WHEREAS, local government through the State of North Carolina is under ever-increasing financial pressures resulting from unfavorable economic factors and limited sources of revenue at a time when former federal and state responsibilities are being passed down to the local level through mandates.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is respectively requesting that Senator R.C. Soles, Jr., Representative Leo Mercer, and Representative David Redwine to approach the General Assembly, during the short session and oppose billing the counties retroactively and/or for any future costs for Safekeepers Medical Cost.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

ATTEST:

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk

/s/ Ed Worley, Chairman

AWARD - WEST COLUMBUS TRACK TEAM

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed unanimously to award the West Columbus Track Team a "Plaque of Appreciation" for winning the 1992 AA State Championship.

SCHOOLS - REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON TO KEEP NAKINA SCHOOL OPEN

A motion was made by Commissioner Richardson to request the Board of Education to adopt the State's long range plan in keeping Nakina High School open that recommends it be used as a middle school.

Commissioner Richardson's motion died in lack of a second.

COMPLAINT - JUNIOR DUNCAN


Junior Duncan addressed the Board in reference to the alledged salaries of the Sheriff's Department exceeding \$30.00 an hour, including fringe benefits, which he feels is extravagant.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

APPROVED:


Clerk to the Board


Chairman