

COLUMBUS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC, at 7:30 P.M., March 21, 1994, it being the third Monday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Samuel G. Koonce, Chairman

Mike Richardson, Vice-Chairman

A. Dial Gray, III

Sammie Jacobs

Lynwood Norris

C.W. Williams

Ed Worley

James E. Hill, Jr. Attorney

Roy L. Lowe, Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Dempsey B. Herring,
Special Projects Coordinator

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

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 21, February 28, and March 9, 1994 Board meetings, as recorded.

BUILDINGS (SOCIAL SERVICES) - BID AWARDED TO FITTS & GOODWIN CONSTRUCTION WITH CONTRACT TO BE NEGOTIATED

Chairman Koonce stated that an analysis of the bids for the Social Services Building have been received from BMS Architects. The bids analyzed for a new structure are as follows:

Fitts & Goodwin	\$1,989,827
J.W. Cook	\$2,235,000
Benchmark	\$2,625,451
Smith Construction	\$2,035,000

One bid was received on the renovation of a building on South Madison Street, Downtown Whiteville, as follows:

Graka Builders	\$1,995,000
----------------	-------------

The report from BMS, based on the information analysis, the bid of Fitts and Goodwin is the best response to the advertisement for bids.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray to accept the Downtown (South Madison Street) proposal.

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

There were several comments made about the Social Services Building and where it should be constructed.

Commissioner Gray questioned the Board about the City of Whiteville providing the water and sewer to the site and requested that the following excerpt from the City of Whiteville Board minutes dated September 28, 1993, be recorded:

Discussion of Utility Extensions to Proposed Columbus County Complex.

The City Manager reported the County is requesting two things:

1. Will the city allow the water connections to the city system, and accept an additional sewage flow of approximately 4,800 gallons per day.
2. Will the city accept the lines once the project is complete.

The City Manager recommended that if the city does approve this request, that a written agreement be prepared and entered into with the County, in which it is agreed that the City must approve all future connections on an individual basis, to the County Complex. Also, all connections must be contingent upon State approval.

The Mayor recognized Mr. Dempsey Herring who asked Mayor and Council's favorable consideration in allowing the County to connect to the city system.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Andy Anderson and seconded by John Thompson to enter into an agreement with the County allowing the County to connect to the water system, and accept an additional sewage flow of approximately 4,800 gallons per day; and that all future connections be approved on an individual basis to the County Complex; and that all connections must be contingent to State approval was unanimously adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed to construct the new Social

Services building on County-owned property located at 701 North of Whiteville; and accept the bid for construction from the low bidder Fitts & Goodwin, General Contractors, Post Office Box 515, Columbia, South Carolina in the amount of ONE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED, EIGHTY NINE THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED, TWENTY SEVEN and no/100 dollars (\$1,989,827.00) with a Contract to be negotiated with the Contractor and Columbus County.

AYES: Commissioners Richardson, Norris, Koonce,
Williams, Jacobs and Worley

NOES: Commissioner Gray

BUILDINGS (SOCIAL SERVICES) - INFRASTRUCTURE BID AWARDED TO FRANK HORNE CONSTRUCTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to award the utility extensions (infrastructure) to Frank Horne Construction in the amount of TWO HUNDRED, SIXTY FOUR THOUSAND, SEVENTY TWO DOLLARS and no/100 (\$264,072.00) with a Contract to be negotiated with the Contractor and Columbus County.

AYES: Commissioners Richardson, Norris, Koonce,
Williams, Jacobs and Worley

NOES: Commissioner Gray

SOLID WASTE - ARS REQUEST TO ACCEPT GARBAGE FROM BLADEN AND MARIAN COUNTIES

Tom Hughes, representing American Refuse Systems, requested permission from the Board to accept garbage in the Columbus County Landfill from Bladen and Marian Counties.

No action was taken.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NATURAL GASLINE OPERATING AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to table the Natural Gasline Operating Agreement until Attorney James E. Hill, Jr., Administrator Roy Lowe and Chairman Samuel G. Koonce can schedule a meeting and review the contract.

ORDINANCE (CAPITAL PROJECT) - E-911 SYSTEM

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the Capital

Project Ordinance as follows:

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE

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

SECTION 1. The project authorized is the Columbus County Enhanced 9-1-1 Service.

SECTION 2. The project director is hereby directed to proceed with the construction of the project within the terms of the loan agreement executed with United Carolina Bank.

SECTION 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the County to complete the project:

65-385-0000 Loan Proceeds UCB	\$1,400,000.00
-------------------------------	----------------

SECTION 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

65-525-0400 Professional Services	\$ 486,560.00
65-525-3700 Sales Tax	1,000.00
65-525-5700 Miscellaneous	590,700.00
65-525-7300 Infrastructure	107,000.00
65-525-7400 Equipment	14,740.00
65-525-7500 Building Renovations	200,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,400,000.00

SECTION 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of this project. She shall also keep the Governing Body informed at each regular meeting of any unusual occurrences.

SECTION 6. Copies of the Capital Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for directions in carrying out the project.

ADOPTED this 21st day of March, 1994.

SOLID WASTE - TRANSITION PLAN TABLED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to table the proposal from Marlowe, Drietzler & Associates for the Engineering,

Surveying and Technical Services for the Columbus County Landfill Transition Plan in the amount of \$28,750.00 and Ground Water and Surface Water monitoring in the amount of \$9,500.00, until another firm can be contacted to submit a proposal.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY PROGRAM APPLICATION APPROVAL AS A REGION

Steve Yost, Economic Development Director, advised the Board of a new program at the state and federal government level that allows local distressed counties and regions the opportunity to be designated as Enterprise Communities and requested the County to allow the Economic Development to join the region in applying for the grant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to allow the Economic Development to join with regional counties in the application process for the Enterprise Community Program and request technical assistance from the Cape Fear and Lumber River Councils of Governments.

CONTRACT - COG TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to approve the following Contract with the Cape Fear Council of Governments:

CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT, entered into on this 21st day of March, 1994, by and between Columbus County, North Carolina, (hereinafter called the "Local Government") and the Cape Fear Council of Governments (hereinafter called the "Contractor"), WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, the Local Government desires to retain the services of the Contractor to provide certain direct technical and professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government desires services which are in addition to standard services provided to all member local governments by the Contractor;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the benefits to be derived by both parties, IT IS AGREED:

1. *The Contractor shall provide technical and professional services to the Local Government.*
2. *The Contractor shall provide the services described in Attachment A attached to and made a part of this Contract.*
3. *The Contractor shall provide any requested documentation for professional advice given upon the request of the Local Government.*
4. *The Contractor covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, nor employ any person having such interests which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Contract.*
5. *The Local Government shall pay the Contractor an amount not to exceed twelve thousand four hundred nine and 19/100 (\$12,409.19) dollars for the satisfactory performance of all services specified. The Local Government shall pay the Contractor upon presentation of an invoice.*

It is expressly agreed and understood that in no event shall the total compensation, if any, to be paid hereunder, exceed the maximum sum specified, except as this Contract may be amended from time to time.

6. *If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or violate any of the covenants, agreements or stipulations of this Contract, the Local Government shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. However, the Local Government shall pay the Contractor for all services rendered prior and up to the date of termination.*

If, through any cause, the Local Government shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner, its obligations

under this Contract, or violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the Contractor shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice of such terminations and specifying the effective date thereof.

7. The Contractor shall ensure that all of the services required herein shall be completed and submitted by January 31, 1995.
8. This Contract shall not be amended, modified or otherwise changed except when done so in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Columbus County, North Carolina, and the Cape Fear Council of Governments have executed this Contract as of this 21st day of March 1994.

COLUMBUS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

/s/ Ida L. Smith
Clerk to the Board

/s/ Samuel G. Koonce, Chairman

*This instrument has been preaudited,
in the manner required by the Local
Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act*

/s/ Gayle B. Godwin
Finance Officer

FOR THE CAPE FEAR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

WITNESS (Seal)

CHAIRMAN

*This instrument has been preaudited,
in the manner required by the Local
Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act*

Finance Officer

ATTACHMENT "A"

SCOPE of WORK and GENERAL PROJECT TIMETABLE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| March, April, May, 1994 | Prepare cost estimates, funding sources and agreement with City of Whiteville to construct 12 inch water line to the Industrial Park. |
| | Prepare Community Block Grant and Home Grant applications to improve housing. |
| June, July, 1994 | Prepare infrastructure material concerning the District II water system. Publicize and hold public hearings. |
| August, September, 1994 | Prepare report concerning the economic benefits or providing railroad spur into the interior of the Industrial Park. Research funding resources and prepare grant/low interest loan applications. |

October, November, 1994

Industrial Park service road plan, design park entrance, landscaping and signage. Design nationwide publicity campaign to advertise the Columbus County Industrial Park.

December, 1994, January, 1995

Prepare Metropolitan Sanitary District feasibility study. Hold meetings between governments and communities that will be serviced by the Sanitary District. Prepare grant/low interest loan applications to fund the District.

Work will be performed with Columbus County staff and consulting engineers employed by Columbus County under separate contract. Work program, timetable and cost of the Contract is based on information submitted in Capacity Building Grant application dated December 16, 1993, to the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center.

SENIOR CENTER/AGING - AGING IN-HOME SERVICES ACCEPTED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to accept the Columbus County Department of Aging In-Home Services Annual Report for 1993. A copy of the Annual Report is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

FIRE MARSHAL - REQUEST FOR GENERATOR FOR RADIO REPEATER TABLED

The Board reached a general consensus to table the request from the Fire Marshal, to purchase a generator for the main radio repeater until the next Board meeting.

HEALTH - REQUEST FOR TWO TEMPORARY HEALTH NURSES APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the request from the Health Director to employ two (2) temporary Health nurses for expanding program services. The positions are to be funded by reimbursement funds with no cost to the county and if at anytime these positions are not fully funded, they are to be terminated.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - PAY PLAN STUDY SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to approve the following budget amendment for the pay plan study salary adjustments.

Appropriate 10-399-0000 Fund Balance \$64,307.00

Accept 10-348-1600 State Aid DSS Adm. 39,026.00

To be expended as follows:

Administration:

Decrease 10-420-0200 Salaries (\$ 7,000.00)

Elections:

Increase 10-430-0200 Salaries	2,670.00
Increase 10-430-0500 FICA	205.00
Increase 10-430-0700 Retirement	257.00
Decrease 10-430-0300 Part-time Salaries (1,490.00)

Finance:

Increase 10-440-0200 Salaries	1,965.00
Increase 10-440-0500 FICA	151.00
Increase 10-440-0700 Retirement	189.00

Tax:

Increase 10-450-0200 Salaries	2,856.00
Increase 10-450-0500 FICA	219.00
Increase 10-450-0700 Retirement	274.00

Register of Deeds:

Increase 10-480-0200 Salaries	189.00
Increase 10-480-0500 FICA	15.00
Increase 10-480-0700 Retirement	19.00

Economic Development:

Decrease 10-495-0200 Salaries	(7,900.00)
Decrease 10-495-0500 FICA	(360.00)
Decrease 10-495-0700 Retirement	(760.00)

Maintenance of Buildings:

Increase 10-500-0200 Salaries	893.00
Increase 10-500-0500 FICA	69.00
Increase 10-500-0700 Retirement	86.00
Increase 10-505-0200 Salaries	2,170.00
Increase 10-505-0500 FICA	166.00
Increase 10-505-0700 Retirement	209.00
Increase 10-506-0200 Salaries	1,178.00
Increase 10-506-0500 FICA	91.00
Increase 10-506-0700 Retirement	113.00

Sheriff:

Decrease 10-510-0200 Salaries	(9,000.00)
-------------------------------	-------------

Jail:

Increase 10-520-0200 Salaries	24,000.00
Increase 10-520-0500 FICA	1,836.00
Increase 10-520-0700 Retirement	2,302.00

Emergency Management:

Increase 10-525-0200 Salaries	570.00
Increase 10-525-0500 FICA	44.00
Increase 10-525-0700 Retirement	55.00

Inspections:

Increase 10-540-0200 Salaries	637.00
Increase 10-540-0500 FICA	49.00
Increase 10-540-0700 Retirement	62.00

Veterans Administration:

Increase 10-607-0200 Salaries	953.00
Increase 10-607-0500 FICA	73.00
Increase 10-607-0700 Retirement	92.00

Social Services:

Increase 10-610-0200 Salaries	61,244.00
Increase 10-610-0500 FICA	4,686.00
Increase 10-610-0700 Retirement	6,675.00

Library:

Increase 10-630-0200 Salaries	10,728.00
Increase 10-630-0500 FICA	822.00
Increase 10-630-0700 Retirement	1,031.00

BUDGET AMENDMENTS - VARIOUS

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to approve the following various budget amendments:

SOCIAL SERVICES:

Accept 10-348-16 CP&L Energy	\$2,653.00
Expend 10-611-15 CP&L Energy	2,653.00
Accept 10-348-03 Crisis Intervention	\$10,073.00
Expend 10-610-00 Crisis Intervention	10,073.00
Accept 10-348-16 State Aid Adm.	\$ 488.96
Expend 10-611-0800 CPS Crime Control	488.96
Accept 10-348-16 Child Abuse Adm.	\$ 620.00
Expend 10-611-0801 CPS Hot Line	620.00

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Accept 10-348-08 Maternal Enhanced Nut.	\$3,935.00
Expend 10-592-02 Salaries	3,935.00
Increase 10-348-08 Maternal Health	\$ 570.00
Decrease 10-348-07 Family Planning	(570.00)
Increase 10-592-46 Drugs & Supplies	\$ 570.00
Decrease 10-591-46 Drugs & Supplies	(570.00)
Accept 10-348-0801 Child Health	\$2,801.00
Expend 10-589-4400 School Health	2,801.00
Accept 10-348-1402 Com. Disease funds	\$2,000.00
Expend 10-581-4600 Drugs & Supplies	2,000.00
Accept 10-348-0702 Immunization Plan	\$9,433.00
Expend as follows:	
10-579-02 Salaries	\$7,262.00
10-579-05 FICA	555.00
10-579-06 Insurance	920.00
10-579-07 Retirement	696.00

TAX RELEASES

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

Melinda Clay; mobile home double listed to Cornelius and Velma Clay (07-02120). Amount \$79.38, valuation \$8,570.00, years 1992 and 1993, account #06-02874.

Mary Lee C. Eaniri; failed to get senior citizens exemption. Amount \$88.80, valuation \$39,500.00, year 1993, account #01-22540.

Gleon and Lillie Fowler (Hrs); dwelling destroyed by fire (1991). Amount \$298.92, valuation \$42,400.00, years 1992 and 1993, account #06-11260.

Harry Marshall Graham; living in Bladen County (vehicle release). Amount \$11.62, year 1992, account #17-15309.

Walter Graham; living in Bladen County (vehicle release). Amount \$41.51, year 1991, account #17-14359.

Irvin and Betty B. Sasser; K-9-50A billed w/ market value; should be on Land Use Value. Amount \$115.83, valuation \$14,300.00, year 1993, account #03-20580.

James K. and Alice Faye Meares; mobile home is located inside city limits. Amount \$12.00, valuation \$1,660.00, year 1993, account #10-11820.

Charles H. Lytle (Hrs); belongs to Ernest Pridgen (account #01-73480). Amount \$83.62, valuation \$11,300.00, year 1993, account #01-54700.

Willie James Radford; living in Brunswick County (vehicle release). Amount \$104.79, year 1990, account #17-30630.

Timothy D. Stewart; double listed on 1993-06-02692 (1987 Buick) (vehicle release). Amount \$28.37, year 1993, account #13-38367.

Paula B. Blake; mobile home used for storage. Amount \$30.00 user fee. Year 1993, account #13-03040.

Luretha Brown; located in town (WH1-91B). Amount \$12.00 user fee. Year 1993, account #01-09471.

Melinda Clay; double listed on Cornelius and Velma Clay (07-02120). Amount \$60.00 user fee. Valuation \$4,520.00. Years 1992 and 1993, account #06-02874.

Eric Dean Floyd; does not live in Columbus County, moved (12-29-92). Amount \$29.99 user fee. Year 1993, account #01-28030.

Gleon and Lillie Fowler (Hrs); dwelling destroyed by fire (1991). Amount \$36.00 user fee. Years 1992 and 1993, account #06-11260.

SHERIFF - JAIL NEEDS TABLED

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to table the request from the Sheriff for medical care for inmates and additional jailers.

COMMUNITY BASED ALTERNATIVES - 1994-95 PROPOSED BUDGET ACCEPTED

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the 1994-95 Proposed Community Based Alternatives Budget in the amount of \$92,084.00 as presented by the Youth Task Force. The breakdown is as follows:

Juvenile Court Services	\$2,700	Whiteville City Schools
Student Assistance Program	29,711	Whiteville City Schools
Youth & Family Counseling	59,423	Columbus County Schools
Certification	250	

BUILDINGS (COURTROOM) - CONSIDER SPEAKER SYSTEM WHEN PREPARING THE 1994-95 OPERATING BUDGET

The Board members discussed including consideration of the speaker system in the courtrooms during the 1994-95 Operating Budget preparation.

FIRE & RESCUE - REIGELWOOD LETTER TO BE RECORDED

Commissioner Gray, presented a letter that he had received from Steve Camelin, Riegelwood Fire Department Chief, and requested that it be recorded in the minutes as follows:

March 5, 1994

Columbus County Commissioners
111 Washington Street
Whiteville, NC 28472

Dear Sirs:

We are currently having problems answering daytime calls due to a shortage of qualified manpower. If you have heard of long or no response times for our department, I can assure you that it is not because we are not willing to respond. It is simply that we can not always get enough people to staff our ambulances properly with qualified personnel per state requirements.

We hope this problem will come to an end shortly, but we have no guarantee of this due to decreasing membership and because of too much emphasis required for volunteers.

Sincerely,

/s/ S.W. Camelin
Chief

CC: Gary Shipman
Dial Gray

CERRO GORDO (TOWN OF) - MARK HILL'S PETITION AND REQUEST AGAINST A HOG OPERATION WITHIN ONE MILE OF CERRO GORDO

Mark Hill, Cerro Gordo Councilman and citizen, presented the Board with a petition with approximately 800 signatures stating

the following:

We the undersigned do not wish to have a commercial hog operation within a one (1) mile limit of the Cerro Gordo City Limits (West Columbus High School and Cerro Gordo School). Mr. Hill further requested the Board to join him by politely and respectfully requesting that Mr. Cartrette to reconsider the location for his hog operation.

MEETING RECESSED

At 9:15 P.M., the Chairman called for a five (5) minute recess.

At 9:20 P.M. the Chairman called the meeting back to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Immediately, thereafter, a motion was made by Commissioner Worley, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

At 10:05 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and passed unanimously to adjourn executive session and resume regular session.

SOLID WASTE - APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GARBAGE FROM BLADEN & MARIAN COUNTIES

Tom Hughes, American Refuse Systems President, requested permission from the Board to accept garbage from Bladen and Marian Counties as the Columbus County Landfill has ample space to accommodate these counties.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to allow American Refuse Systems deposit garbage from Bladen and Marian Counties in the Columbus County Landfill to take advantage of the revenue of \$5.00 per ton and utilize the amount of space that the Landfill has before the mandated closure date that is scheduled in 1995.

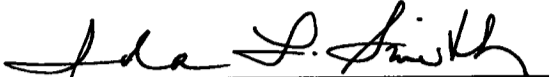
AYES: Commissioners Norris, Koonce, Williams, Jacobs
and Worley


NOES: Commissioners Richardson and Gray

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 P.M.

APPROVED:


Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board


Samuel G. Koonce, Chairman