

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, April 17, 1995, it being the third Monday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sammie Jacobs, Chairman

Lynwood Norris, Vice Chairman

Spruell Randolph Britt

David L. Dutton, Jr.

A. Dial Gray, III

C.W. Williams

C.E. "Gene" Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Roy L. Lowe, Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

*Dempsey B. Herring,
Special Projects Coordinator*

Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order and Roy L. Lowe, Administrator, gave the invocation.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the April 3, 1995 Board Meeting, as recorded.

AWARDS - PLAQUES OF APPRECIATION TO RETIREES

Plaques of Appreciation were presented to the following employees, who retired:

PRESENTED TO

HAROLD D. RAINS

* * * * *

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION OF YOUR SERVICE

AS THE COLUMBUS COUNTY SHERIFF

12-4-89 - 12-5-94

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COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

4-17-95

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PRESENTED TO

GARLAND D. MCCULLEN

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IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION OF YOUR SERVICE
AS THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE DIRECTOR
FOR COLUMBUS COUNTY

10-1-65 - 3-31-95

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

4-17-95

BUDGET AMENDMENT - HEALTH

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to approve the following Budget Amendment for the Health Department.

- Accept 10-348-07 Family Planning Grant \$5,000
- Expend 10-591-46 Drugs and Supplies \$5,000

HEALTH - RESOLUTION REQUESTING OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 468

The Board of Health has adopted a Resolution opposing Senate Bill 468 which will abolish Boards of Health, Mental Health and Department of Social Services, if passed. The Board of Health has requested the Board of County Commissioners to endorse the Resolution opposing Senate Bill 468.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Gray to endorse the Resolution opposing Senate Bill 468, as adopted by the Board of Health.

- AYES: Commissioners Gray and Williams
- NOES: Commissioners Dutton, Norris, Jacobs, Britt and Wilson

The motion failed on a 5 - 2 vote.

PROCLAMATION - ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 1995

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation:

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 1995PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, underage drinking is the number one drug problem among the nation's youth; and

WHEREAS, use of alcohol is associated with the leading causes of death and injury among youth, including motor-vehicle crashes, homicides and suicides; and

WHEREAS, juvenile crime, violence and poor academic performance are closely linked with underage drinking; and

WHEREAS, purchase of alcohol by people under the age of twenty-one (21) is illegal in all fifty (50) states; and

WHEREAS, approximately two thirds (2/3) of teenagers who drink still report that they can buy their alcoholic beverages; and

WHEREAS, passage of other laws to reduce underage drinking and enforcement of those laws is a community and state responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County Alcohol/Drug Prevention Coalition envisions "To provide the community of Columbus County with the power to enable itself to take action for the prevention of the abuse of legal substances and the use of illegal substances and their consequences"; and

*WHEREAS, the ADPC mission is: Alcohol/Drug Prevention Now,
Wellness and Success Forever!*

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Board of Columbus County Commissioners, hereby join with Dr. Lee P. Brown, Director of the White House National Drug Control Policy, and proclaim that April, 1995, is Alcohol Awareness Month in Columbus County and call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in Columbus County to join in "drawing the line" against underage drinking and to pursue the vision of ADPC.

ADOPTED this the 17th day of April, 1995.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board

ANIMAL CONTROL - TWO VACANT POSITIONS FILLED

Dempsey Herring, advised the Board that the recommendation from the Interview Committee made up of Dr. Clyde Burns, Chairman of the Board of Health, Marian Duncan, Health Director and Dempsey Herring, Assistant to the Administrator, to offer the Animal Control Positions to the following persons:

Lead Animal Control Officer: Rossie Hayes

Animal Control Officer: Maxie Saxon

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton and seconded by Commissioner Britt to employ Rossie Hayes as Lead Animal Control Officer and Sonny Hammond as Animal Control Officer.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Gray to call all seven (7) persons who were interviewed by the Committee and have the Board of County Commissioners interview the candidates for the positions.

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

Voting for the original motion is as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Dutton, Britt and Wilson

NOES: Commissioners Norris, Gray, Jacobs and Williams

The motion failed on a 4 - 3 vote.

A motion was made Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed to offer the Animal Control positions to the following persons as recommended by the Interview Committee:

Lead Animal Control Officer: Rossie Hayes

Grade 62-6 - Salary \$19,298

Animal Control Officer: Maxie Saxon

Grade 58-2 - Salary \$14,550

AYES: Commissioners Norris, Gray, Jacobs, Williams, Britt and Wilson

NOES: Commissioner Dutton

The motion passed on a 6 - 1 vote.

The Board concurred to have the Animal Control Department placed under the Supervision of the Columbus County Health Director.

SOCIAL SERVICES - APPROVED CLOSING APRIL 27 & 28, 1995 TO MOVE TO NEW LOCATION

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Williams and passed unanimously to permit the Department of Social Services to close on April 27, and 28, 1995, in order to move into the new building, with proper advance notification to the public.

APPOINTMENT - TABOR CITY ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to appoint Henry Taylor to serve on the Tabor City Zoning Board of Adjustment as the extraterritorial member, replacing Sharon Hardee, for a three (3) year term, with term expiring April 30, 1998.

SHERIFF - GRANT APPLICATION APPROVED

Sheriff Jimmy P. Ferguson, requested the Board's permission to join with Brunswick and Bladen Counties in applying for a grant from the N. C. Department of Crime Control & Public Safety (75% State/25% County) to initiate and establish as an investigative unit which will target and identify organized narcotic trafficking organizations/cartels in the tri-county area. This special investigative unit will be formed by these Sheriff Departments to work closely with federal state and local authorities and to include all municipalities within the tri-county area. The total match for Columbus County for fiscal year 1995-96 is \$17,465.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Gray and passed unanimously to permit Sheriff Jimmy P. Ferguson to join with Bladen and Brunswick Counties to apply for the Tri-County Special Investigations (Joint Agency Task Force on Trafficking Drugs) 75:25 Grant with Columbus County's portion in the amount of \$17,465.00 to be included in the 1995-96 Budget.

GOVERNING BODY - RESOLUTION CANCELLING BOARD MEETING OF MAY 1, 1995

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

NOTICE and RESOLUTION to CHANGE MEETING TIME
of the BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
of COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

The Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, unanimously approved on the 17th day of April, 1995, to adopt the following Resolution.

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, has presently scheduled meetings at 7:30 P.M. on the first and third Mondays of each month; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, is desirous of cancelling the meeting scheduled for the first Monday in May, 1995, only.

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-40, shall hold the next regularly scheduled meeting in the Columbus County Commissioners' Chambers, 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, North Carolina on Monday, May 15, 1995, at 7:30 P.M.

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners that a copy of this Resolution and Notice shall be placed on the Courthouse Bulletin Board, as well as mailed to all of the news media who has requested notice.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ SAMMIE JACOBS, CHAIRMAN

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Ida L. Smith, CLERK TO BOARD

SOLID WASTE - ABANDON REGIONAL LANDFILL CONCEPT

Jim Heustess, representing American Refuse Systems, advised the Board that Addington Environmental has looked at the proposed regional landfill site on Secondary Road 1300 north of Tabor City and said that environmentally, it will not work. Mr. Heustess told the Commissioners that they could consider a previously rejected landfill site in the Mollie community or the existing landfill site for a short-term regional landfill.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by

Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to abandon the regional landfill concept and to look for other options for the disposal of Columbus County's garbage.

SOLID WASTE - REQUEST STATE TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING OUTSIDE GARBAGE

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to request the state, at a meeting that is scheduled for April 20, 1995, to extend the deadline (April 30, 1995) for accepting regional garbage at the existing landfill.

GOVERNING BODY - COMMISSIONER NORRIS EXCUSED

At 8:25 P.M., Commissioner Lynwood Norris requested to be excused from the meeting.

Chairman Jacobs excused Commissioner Norris.

SOLID WASTE - DISCUSSION

There was a lengthy discussion concerning solid waste handling for Columbus County.

Jim Heustess was questioned if American Refuse Systems is still interested in collecting garbage and operating the landfill.

Mr. Heustess replied that garbage still has to be collected and they are interested in collecting and operating the landfill.

The Board concurred to advise Roy L. Lowe, County Administrator and Dempsey Herring, Assistant to the Administrator, to explore all options of waste disposal and present costs to the Board for review.

The Board further concurred to direct James E. Hill, Jr. to draft an Ordinance for the disposal of cardboard which will not permit cardboard to be disposed of in the landfill but will be collected and sold for recycling.

H.U.D. - DISCONTINUE TO APPLY FOR GRANT

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to place in the Minutes the following letter received from Brenda Strickland, H.U.D. Director.

Dear Chairman Jacobs:

I want to thank you and the other County Commissioners for the support and approval that you gave me in applying for the 1995 HUD Drug Grant.

At the time that I asked for support in applying for the grant there was material that I had not been able to get to study thoroughly. This package of more than 25 pages thoroughly explained the program in explicit details much more so than the initial eight pages I had been sent by HUD regarding the grant. With the deadline April 14th, I had to get approval to apply for the grant at your April 3rd meeting. (Mr. Lowe felt it important to get prior approval of this type of grant.)

After thoroughly reading the grant package and studying for about 12 hours, I feel that we are not ready to administer a grant of this proportion that involves so many extensive areas of planning.

The reasons that I chose not to apply for the grant were:

1. Was not able to get complete package (kit) of material early due to HUD's distribution problem;
2. Could not secure deputy assistance for agency unless one deputy was already working with our department; (not clarified in initial information)
3. Could use Investigating Officer from Sheriff Department but did not have time to work out plan with Sheriff; (complete job description applicable to guidelines must accompany grant)
4. Computer needed for specific portions of 25 page grant; (not available)
5. County not allowed to charge Indirect Cost for this grant. (not clarified in initial information)

Next year I hope to sit down and discuss the grant at length with the Sheriff and County Administrator to see if all areas of the requirements can be met. Much time, additional office space, computer, and cooperation from other agencies will determine if this grant will be feasible for our county.

Again, thank you for your confidence. I feel that I made the right decision.

Sincerely,

/s/ Brenda W. Strickland
Housing Director

E-911 UPDATE

Dempsey B. Herring, Assistant to the Administrator, advised the Board that the E-911 system is operating as planned. Effective July 1, 1995, the 911 dispatchers will have access to anything that can be told over the airwaves to an officer. Law officers who need more extensive criminal histories can obtain them the same way they do now - by driving to the Sheriff's Department.

At the present time, fire, rescue and two small police departments are online.

The Board advised Mr. Herring to schedule a meeting with the Sheriff's Department, Tabor City, Whiteville, Lake Waccamaw and Chadbourn who are not using the E-911 dispatching to see what their concerns are.

GOVERNING BODY - COMMISSIONER DUTTON'S REQUEST FOR MORNING MEETINGS

Commissioner David L. Dutton, Jr., requested the Board to consider having morning meetings at least once a month.

The Board concurred to consider Commissioner Dutton's request at the end of June, 1995.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:10 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to enter into closed session in accordance with G.S. 143-318.11, for an Attorney/Client Privilege.


RESUME REGULAR SESSION

At 9:20 P.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to adjourn closed session and resume regular session.

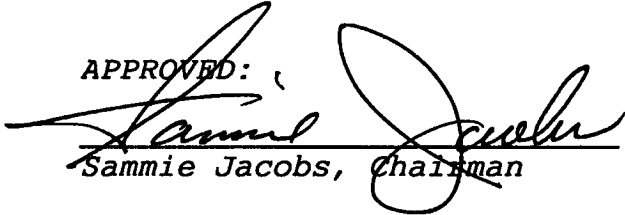
No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

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


 Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPROVED:


 Sammie Jacobs, Chairman