

**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 7:00 P.M., May 21, 1997, for the purpose of a 1997-98 Columbus County Preliminary Budget Work Session.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

C.W. Williams, Chairman

Lynwood Norris, Vice Chairman

Spruell Randolph Britt

A. Dial Gray, III

David L. Dutton, Jr.

Sammie Jacobs

C.E. Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring  
Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION**

The following items were discussed:

1. The revaluation of property within Columbus County has resulted in the Fire & Rescue Departments receiving additional revenue. The additional funds are varied within each Department, depending on the amount of property in each area.

Also, Rescue Departments have requested additional personnel for each Rescue Department;

2. Agricultural Services Building Project;
3. Jail expansion; and
4. The letter received from the Columbus County School Board requesting an additional \$50,000 for personnel not designated.

After a lengthy discussion on the above items and the 1997-98 Preliminary Operating Budget, the Board concurred to reduce the preliminary tax rate from \$0.70 to \$0.695 to balance the 1997-98 Proposed Operating Budget which is scheduled to be presented to the Columbus County Board of Commissioners on June 2, 1997.

Chairman Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.