

**COLUMBUS COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES**

The Honorable Board of Columbus County Commissioners met in their said office at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, NC at 7:40 P.M., April 17, 2000 to hold their regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the third Monday. The regularly scheduled meeting began at 7:40 due to the Board meeting as Water & Sewer Districts II and III Authority prior to the meeting.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lynwood Norris, Chairman

David L. Dutton, Jr.

A. Dial Gray, III

Sammie Jacobs

Spruell R. Britt

Amon E. McKenzie

C.E. Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr.  
County Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring  
County Administrator

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

Chairman Norris called the regularly scheduled Board Meeting to order and Commissioner C.E. Wilson gave the invocation.

**BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to approve the Board Minutes for April 3, 2000, as recorded.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner

McKenzie and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda Items.

**Refunds:**

Request a refund for the user fee in the name of Paul & Doris Page, 1768 Bird Cage Rd., Chadbourn, N.C. 28431. They use a commercial hauler. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #13-31720.

Request a refund for the user fee in the name of Theresa Whaley Register, 919 Crusoe Island Rd, Whiteville, N.C. 28472. No dwelling on this property. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #03-19563.

**Releases:**

Release the user fee in the name of Harvey & Elouise C. Bowen. House vacant. Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #04-01140.

Release one of the user fees in the name of Wayne & Janice Creech. House is vacant. Amount \$60.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #01-18183.

Release the user fee in the name of Cary E. Graham. Fee double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #08-06962.

Release a portion of the user fee in the name of Gretel Graham. Property inside City of Bolton. Amount \$40.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #04-03934.

Release a portion of the user fee in the name of Gretel Graham. Property located inside the City of Bolton. Amount \$40.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #04-02527.

Release the user fee in the name of J.B. Hammond. They use a commercial hauler. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #19-04156.

Release the user fee in the name of James McBride. House vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #12-16717.

Release the user fee in the name of Watson Dean Marlowe. Store is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #07-11940.

Release the user fee in the name of Bobby R. & Daisy M. Robinson. There are no dwellings on this lot. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1998, Account #12-23360.

Release the user fee in the name of William M. Smith. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #13-37121.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of David B. Ammons. Home double listed in the name of David B. & Delores Atkins Ammons. Amount \$116.90, Value \$2,210, Year 1999, Account #01-00664.

Release the value of a house in the name of Margaret Graham Britt. Home double listed in the name of David Britt. Amount \$386.66, Value \$24,400, Year 1999, Account #13-04027.

Release the total deferred taxes in the name of Ina J. Brown. Double listed in the same name for 1998. Amount \$36.83, Value \$5,299, Year 1999, Account #05-00740.

Release the deferred taxes in the name of Ina J. Brown. Taxes double listed in the same name in 1998. Amount \$36.83, Value \$5,299, Year 1999, Account #05-00740.

Release the deferred taxes in the name of Ina J. Brown. Taxes double listed in the same name in 1998. Amount \$36.83, Value \$5,299, Year 1999, Account #05-00740.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of James Fowler. Home double listed in the name of James Albert & Lela Mae Fowler. Amount \$107.65, Value \$1,000, Year 1999, Account #12-08621.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Tammy Lee. Home double listed in the name of Dickey D. Babson. Amount \$200.16, Value \$13,100, Year 1999, Account #01-52254.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Tracey Manning. Home repossessed in 1998. Amount \$259.02, Value \$20,800, Year 1999, Account #04-11184.

Release the value of equipment in the name of NBD Leasing Inc. Equipment double listed in the name of Roby Towers. Amount \$88.30, Value \$12,705, Year 1999, Account #01-52000.

Release the value of a double wide in the name of Dexter & Brenda Phillips. Home double listed in the name of Brenda & Dexter Phillips. Amount \$311.61, Value \$36,138, Year 1996, Account #01-69594.

Release the value of a double wide in the name of Dexter & Brenda Phillips.

Home double listed in the name of Brenda & Dexter Phillips. Amount \$316.05, Value \$28,260, Year 1997, Account #01-69594.

Release a portion of the boat value in the name of Michael L. Shuman. Boat value too high. Amount \$15.87, Value \$1,887, Year 1999, Account #01-82835.

Release the value of a boat in the name of Phillip Lee Small. Boat located in South Carolina. Amount \$83.84, Value \$10,900, Year 1999, Account #10-15780.

Release the value of two boats in the name of James A. Stiller. One boat sold and the other listed in New Hanover County. Amount \$169.72, Value \$22,200, Year 1999, Account #13-35513.

Release a portion of the boat value in the name of Shalico Oneill Ward. Boat valued too high. Amount \$16.36, Value \$2,140, Year 1999, Account #02-00238.

Release the value of a double wide in the name of Fabian Washington. Home repossessed in 1996. Amount \$406.50, Value \$44,100, Year 1997, Account #05-07387.

Release the value of a double wide in the name of Fabian Washington. Home repossessed in 1996. Amount \$267.50, Value \$24,100, Year 1998, Account #05-07387.

Release the value of a double wide in the name of Fabian Washington. Home repossessed in 1996. Amount \$267.50, Value \$24,100, Year 1999, Account #05-07387.

Release the value of a single wide home in the name of Christopher Webb. Home traded for a double wide and listed. Amount \$187.81, Value \$10,650, Year 1998, Account #08-20251.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Leacie A. Williams. Home listed in Robeson County. Amount \$259.46, Value \$21,310, Year 1997, Account #12-29344.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Leacie A. Williams. Home listed in Robeson County. Amount \$245.33, Value \$19,010, Year 1998, Account #12-29344.

Release the value of a mobile in the name of Leacie A. Williams. Home listed in Robeson County. Amount \$233.64, Value \$17,480, Year 1999, Account #12-29344.

Release a portion of the property value in the name of William David Williams. Billed with incorrect value. Amount \$395.29, Value \$38,600, Year 1999, Account #13-44264.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Roy Dalton Williamson. Home double listed in the same name with a different account number. Amount \$138.43, Value \$5,530, Year 1999, Account #12-03952.

Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Madonna Woodcock. Home repossessed prior to 1998. Amount \$164.53, Value \$8,440, Year 1998, Account #13-45374.

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Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Michael Wright. Home double listed in the name of Frankie & Diane Powell. Amount \$108.75, Value \$1,000, Year 1997, Account #06-45201.

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Release the value of a mobile home in the name of Loretta Young. Home double listed in the same name in a different township with a different account number. Amount \$228.67, Value \$16,830, Year 1999, Account #11-31226.

**AGING - APPROVAL TO SEEK BIDS FOR NUTRITION AND HOME DELIVERED LUNCHESES**

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to allow Ed Worley, Aging Director, to seek bids for Nutrition and Home Delivered Lunches for Fiscal Year 2000-2001 for the Title III-C Nutrition Program.

**PROCLAMATION - MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner

McKenzie and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

**2000 PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Older Americans Month is -In The New Century - - - the Future Is Aging with the conceptual proposal "Toward A Society For All Ages" which typifies the lifestyle of older adults in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, seventeen (17%) percent of North Carolina's over seven (7,000,000) million population are adults, age sixty (60) and older; and

**WHEREAS**, these adults may be native born North Carolinians or those who have retired to this state from other states; and

**WHEREAS**, we are proud of our older adults as they, in their zest for living, contribute to a positive influence on all generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, do hereby proclaim May, 2000, as "***Older Americans Month***" In The New Century - - - The Future Is Aging with the conceptual proposal "Toward A Society For All Ages" in North Carolina.

**ADOPTED** this the 17th day of April, 2000.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**/s/ LYNWOOD NORRIS, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:**

**/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board**

**PROCLAMATION - SENIOR CENTER WEEK MAY 14-20, 2000**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to adopt the following resolution.

**SENIOR CENTER WEEK PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, older Americans are significant members of our society, investing their wisdom and experience to help enrich and better the lives of younger generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Department of Aging and its five (5)

Senior Centers have acted as a catalyst for mobilizing the creativity, energy, vitality and commitment of the older residents of Columbus County; and

**WHEREAS**, through the wide array of services, programs and activities, Senior Centers empower older citizens of Columbus County to contribute to their own health and the well-being of their fellow citizens of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Department of Aging and its five (5) Senior Centers in the County of Columbus affirm the dignity, self-worth and independence of older persons by facilitating their decisions and actions; tapping their experience, skills and knowledge; and enabling their continued contributions to their community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners do proclaim *May 14 - 20, 2000* to be

***SENIOR CENTER WEEK***

and call upon all citizens to recognize the special contributions of the Columbus County Department of Aging and the participants of its five (5) Senior Centers and the special efforts of the staff and the volunteers who work every day to enhance the well-being of the older citizens of our community.

**ADOPTED** this the 17th day of April, 2000.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**/s/ LYNWOOD NORRIS, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:**

**/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board**

**AGING - APPROVAL TO ACCEPT SENIOR CENTER OUTREACH FUNDING**

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to accept Senior Center Outreach Funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 with a 10% County match from the Cape Fear Council of Governments.

**JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF 2000-2001 NOT ACCEPTED**

Vickie Pait, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Chairperson, and Don Hargrove, Juvenile Justice Office Supervisor, reported the reason for the Committee to

recommend new priorities for the Juvenile Crime Prevention funding was the local committee is acting in the spirit of a 1998 law that requires special emphasis on programs that target juvenile offenders most at risk for becoming adult criminals which would cause a reduction in funding school-based counseling programs operated by Columbus County and Whiteville City Schools in the amount of \$46,000.

Leroy Ward, an administrator with the county schools, said he strongly disagrees with the decision made by the Committee as this would cause the County and City Schools to lose one (1) counselor each.

District Attorney Rex Gore, a member of the committee, said the idea is to keep kids already in trouble from being sent to reform school or detention centers.

After a lengthy discussion among those concerned regarding the funding, a motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to reject the recommendation made by the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council for the 2000-2001 budget allocation.

**PROCLAMATION - APPRECIATION WEEK FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES EMPLOYEES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation.

***APPRECIATION WEEK for COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
of SOCIAL SERVICES' EMPLOYEES***

***2000 PROCLAMATION by the***

***COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS***

**WHEREAS**, dedicated men and women across North Carolina work in local county departments of social services to provide services and support for thousands of our citizens; **and**

**WHEREAS**, these Social Services' professionals accomplish many goals in their life's work: they provide financial and medical assistance for those unable to meet basic needs; protect children, older adults and the disabled; guide the needy toward self maintenance through education and job placement; assure that children receive financial



support from their parents who are legally responsible for that support; offers services to children, older adults and the disabled that enhance their quality of life; and provide administrative support for program operations; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Social Services' professionals are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the citizens of this county. They also strive to improve the delivery of services and to operate Social Services programs as efficiently and effectively as possible.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, hereby proclaim April 23-29, 2000, as "**Appreciation Week for County Department of Social Services' Employees**" in Columbus County and urge our citizens to recognize these professionals and commend them for their efforts.

**ADOPTED** this the 17th day of April, 2000.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

*/s/ LYNWOOD NORRIS, Chairman*

**ATTESTED BY:**

*/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board*

**RESOLUTION - EAST COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL FBLA RECOGNITION**

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

***RESOLUTION***

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** of Columbus County, North Carolina, at their regular meeting on the 17th day of April 2000, in Whiteville, North Carolina, unanimously adopted the following Resolution of Recognition.

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, the 46th North Carolina Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference was held in Greensboro, North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the East Columbus High School Chapter participated in the Conference and received the following awards:

Job Description Manual - Tinisha Shaw - First Place;  
North Carolina Business Education Association Student Service Award -  
Shannon Brown;

North Carolina FBLA Businessperson of the Year - Mrs. Jonell Strickland Packer;  
 Largest Chapter - Southeast Region;  
 Crime Prevention Project - First Place;  
 Partnership with Business - Second Place;  
 Roy Allen Community Service - Second Place;  
 Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit;  
 Local Annual Business Report - Third Place; and

**WHEREAS**, other competitors were:

Accounting I - Lylaya Shaw;  
 Economics - Melissa Freeman; and  
 Desktop Publishing - Crystal Dowless and Adam Williamson.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners takes this opportunity to express special recognition to the Future Business Leaders in the East Columbus High School Chapter and commends them on their exceptional scholastic achievements.

**ADOPTED** this 17th day of April 2000.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/ Lynwood Norris, Chairman

**ATTESTED BY:**

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

**APPOINTMENTS - NURSING/ADULT CARE HOME JOINT COMMUNITY  
 ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to appoint the following persons to serve on the Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Committee:

- A. Jo Ann Hinson to serve the unexpired term of Chrissie Turner, deceased, expiring August 31, 2001; and
- B. Lenora Callihan to serve the unexpired term of Maxine Hinson, who resigned, expiring August 31, 2001.

**DREAM CENTER (COLUMBUS COUNTY) - 2000 INJURY PREVENTION NEEDS  
 ASSESSMENT**

Phillip Tarte, representing the Columbus County Dream Center, reported on the 2000 Columbus County Injury Prevention Needs Assessment regarding injuries,

statistical base and profile.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to accept the Columbus County Injury Prevention Needs Assessment Report as presented by Mr. Tarte.

**WHITEVILLE (CITY OF) - APPROVAL TO PARTICIPATE IN FUNDING COLUMBUS COUNTY HOSPITAL PROPERTY DITCH**

Hazen Blodgett, Whiteville City Manager, requested the Board participate in funding in the amount of \$9,000.00 to stabilize the ditch behind the hospital at a proposed cost of \$86,000. At the present, the following funding has been committed for the project:

N.C. Division of Water Resources	\$54,000
City of Whiteville	9,000
Columbus County Hospital	9,000
Cape Fear Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.	<u>5,000</u>
<b>TOTAL COMMITTED</b>	<b>\$77,000</b>

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to participate in the funding to stabilize the ditch behind the hospital in the amount of \$9,000.00 to be appropriated from Non-Departmental Contingency (10-690-9513) and to be expended in Special Appropriations (10-690-9513).

**ADMINISTRATION - DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY APPROVED**

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, requested approval to dispose of surplus sheriff vehicles and outdated office equipment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to allow Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, to dispose of surplus sheriff vehicles and outdated office equipment.

**HURRICANE FLOYD - REPORT ON HOUSING BUY-OUT AND REPAIR PROGRAM**

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, reported we have received eighty-five (85) applications which are being processed for the housing replacement and repair program and eleven (11) applications for the buy-out program. Three (3) of the buy-out

applications have been disqualified and one (1) has been appealed and the other two (2) does not qualify.

**BEAVER ERADICATION - APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, requested the Board to appropriate additional funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 to pay for a trapper for beaver eradication in Columbus County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to appropriate funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Non-Departmental Contingency (10-660-9999) to be expended in Special Appropriations - Beaver Eradication (10-690-7200).

**RECREATION - REQUEST FOR BOGUE COMMUNITY PARK**

Marian Horne, a concerned citizen, requested the Board to help provide funding to update the Bogue Community Park. Ms. Horne stated they would like to have building updated with restroom facilities and a place for hotdogs and sandwiches to be sold.

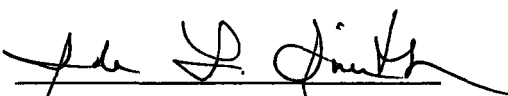
Dempsey B. Herring, County Administrator, advised Ms. Horne he would speak with Darren Currie, Recreation Director, regarding her request and advise Mr. Currie to include upgrading the Bogue Community Park in the 2000-2001 Recreation Budget.

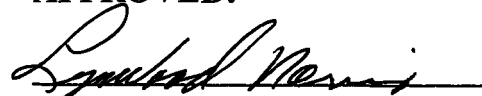
**DOT - REQUEST FOR DITCHES TO BE CLEANED**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to request Robert Crumpler, Department of Transportation Engineer, to consider cleaning ditches on Old Lake Road and Moore Lane in the Buckhead area and in the Hallsboro area.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:20 P.M.

  
Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

**APPROVED:**  
  
Lynwood Norris, Chairman