

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 8:12 A.M., May 1, 2000 to hold their regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the first Monday. The regularly scheduled meeting began at 8:12 A.M. due to the Board holding three (3) public hearings prior to the regularly scheduled Board 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

**PUBLIC HEARING - CLOSING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (HAWORTH PROJECT)**

At 8:00 A.M., Vice Chairman Britt, called the Public Hearing to order.

Vice Chairman Britt stated the purpose of the hearing is to review the budget and activities that have been accomplished through the County's Fiscal Year 1996 Community Development Block Grant-Economic Development Program (Haworth Project).

Jessie Miars, representing Holland Consulting Planners, Incorporated, reviewed

the 1996 Community Development Block Grant-Economic Development Program (Haworth Project) completed program activities and requested the Board to consider closing the project for Fiscal Year 1996.

Vice Chairman Britt requested comments from anyone present.

There were no comments.

At 8:04 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to close the Fiscal Year 1996 CDBG-Economic Development Program (Haworth Project).

PUBLIC HEARING - APPLICATION FOR 2000 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE BLOCK GRANT

At 8:05 A.M., Vice Chairman Britt called the Public Hearing to order.

Vice Chairman Britt stated the purpose of the public hearing is to receive views and opinions from the citizens of Columbus County with regard to community development and infrastructure needs for 2000 Community Development and Infrastructure Block Grant Funding to Columbus County.

Vice Chairman Britt requested comments from anyone present.

There were no comments.

At 8:08 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to close the Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARING - INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BOND FINANCING FOR THE BENEFIT OF INTERKORDSA, INC.

At 8:09 A.M., Vice Chairman Britt called the Public Hearing to order.

Vice Chairman Britt stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to take public comments on the proposed issuance by The Columbus County Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority of up to \$8,500,000.00 Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. The proceeds of the Bonds will be used for the benefit of InterKordSA, Incorporated, a North Carolina Corporation to acquire, construct and equip a facility in Columbus County to manufacture single end cord.

Vice Chairman Britt requested comments from anyone present.

There were no comments

At 8:11 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING COMMENCED

Chairman Norris called the regularly scheduled Board Meeting to order and Commissioner A. Dial Gray, III gave the invocation.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to approve the Board Minutes for April 17, 2000, as recorded.

TAX - REFUND APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve the following tax refund:

Request a refund in the name of Mabel Hagan Brayboy, 282 Windsor Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28301. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$60.00, value \$N/A, Year 1999, Account #10-01160.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - APPLICATION APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to approve submitting an application for 2000 Community Development and Infrastructure Block Grant Funding for Columbus County.

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL - 2000-2001 BUDGET APPROVAL

Vickie Pait, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Chairperson, presented the Board with a revised JCPC 2000-2001 Budget Proposal and requested the Board's approval.

The revised JCPC 2000-2001 Budget Proposal is as follows:

Whiteville City Schools Student Assistance Program	\$31,322
FamiliFirst, Incorporated Intensive Family Based Intervention	\$40,000
13th District of Office of Juvenile Justice Court Psychologist	\$13,080

Columbus County Schools Youth and Family Counseling Services	\$77,737
Columbus County Department of Social Services Specialized Foster Care	\$10,560
Whiteville Police Department Columbus County Juvenile Restitution	\$20,024
Administrative Cost	<u>\$ 2,186</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 194,909
FUNDING FROM OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE	\$ 184,909
FUNDING FROM COUNTY	\$ 10,000

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to approve funding the Office of Juvenile Justice in the amount of \$10,000 to be included in Special Appropriations in the 2000-2001 Budget, line item 10-690-9000.

APPOINTMENTS - FAIR BLUFF PLANNING BOARD

A motion was made by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to reappoint the following persons to serve as extraterritorial members on the Fair Bluff Planning Board:

Bob Morgan	-	3 year term, expiring April 30, 2003
Randy Evans	-	3 year term, expiring April 30, 2003

RESOLUTION - OPPOSITION OF EXTENSION OR EXPANSION OF THE INTERNET TAX MORATORIUM

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

COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION on DELAYING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION on INTERNET TAX MORATORIUM

WHEREAS, out-of-state remote sellers who conduct sales via the Internet, mail order and phone are not required by law to collect existing sales and use taxes imposed by state and local government; **and**

WHEREAS, the primary barrier to collecting taxes on remote sales is the Supreme Court's ruling in *Quill v. North Dakota* which defers to Congress to authorize states to require remote sellers to collect taxes in a manner that does not unduly burden Interstate commerce; **and**

WHEREAS, state and local governments are working together to implement a streamlined sales tax system that would simplify definitions, tax rates and tax bases and 21st Century technology in the collection process; **and**

WHEREAS, current laws create a competitive disadvantage and great inequities between merchants who sell from traditional "brick-and-mortar" establishments and those who sell from electronic stores; **and**

WHEREAS, increasing sales on the Internet, and the resulting erosion of sales and use tax revenues, will limit the ability of states and governments and school districts to finance essential public services such as police, fire, emergency medical service, education, social services, infrastructure development and health care; **and**

WHEREAS, a recent University of Tennessee study estimates that state sales tax revenue loses in 2003 will exceed \$10 billion; **and**

WHEREAS, the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce failed to reach a legally required consensus on fair and equitable treatment of both remote sellers and "Main Street" retailers and also proposed that Congress pre-empt state and local sovereignty guarantee by the U.S. Constitution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Columbus County supports simplifications of state and local sales taxes, and urges states to move expeditiously to develop and approve model simplification legislation; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress should not extend or expand the current moratorium until its expiration in October 2001; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if state and local governments choose to negotiate a brief extension of the existing moratorium as part of a broader bill such an extension:

Should only be effective for a short period of time (no more than two (2) years); and

- Must be linked to states successfully implementing sales tax simplifications, which would trigger Congressional authorization of expanded duty to collect use taxes on remote sales.

ADOPTED the 1st day of May, 2000

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ LYNWOOD NORRIS, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board

**RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION WATER DISTRICT III REGARDING
RESTRICTION ON FUTURE WATER SERVICE TO PROTECT WETLANDS AND
FLOODPLAINS**

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

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT III

Restriction on Future Water Service to Protect Wetlands and Floodplains

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Columbus County is constantly changing with an area of some nine hundred forty-five (945) square miles, with a population of fifty-three thousand (53,000) persons who desire to live, work and play here; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III will not install a new water service or will not agree to otherwise provide water service to any structure, dwelling, building or other improvement which is located in whole or in part within designated wetlands and floodplain which is not already existing, established and completed on or before the final completion date and placement in operation of the District III, Phase I water system.

WHEREAS, designated wetlands for the District are identified on national Wetlands Inventory maps prepared by the United States Department of Interior, Fish and

Wildlife Service. These maps in their most updated form are to be maintained on permanent file at the central office of the water system.

WHEREAS, designated floodplains for the District are identified on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps prepared by the National Flood Insurance Program. These maps in their most updated form are to be maintained on permanent file at the central office of the water system.

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is giving high priority to the planning of water supply systems for a better future for Columbus County and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners endorses the engineered plans for water development in wetland areas and floodplain areas as designated and approved by Rural Development Agency and as are denoted on the approved water maps for District III.

ADOPTED this 1st day of May, 2000.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Lynwood Norris, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

WATER & SEWER DISTRICT III - WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT PLAN

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to adopt the following Water Supply Management Plan for Water & Sewer District III.

WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. General

Columbus County Water District III has the organizational and financial resources necessary to manage and operate a new water distribution, storage, treatment and supply system for its citizens located in the Western Prong area of the County (See map in Appendix 1). The County is currently involved in establishing five (5) Water Districts. Water District I is currently in operation and Water District II is currently in the process of being funded.

Funding for all of the County's Water Districts will be provided by Rural Development. The following Water Supply Management Plan (WSMP) presents the plan for Water District III. Consultants for the County's other Water Districts will submit WSMP's for the other water districts.

2. Organization

Columbus County has a manager form of government in which the Board of Commissioners establishes directives and polices. The County Manager ensures that the polices and directives from the Commissioners are implemented and that an organizational structure is in place to carry out the policies and directives. The Commissioners currently serve on the Board of all Water Districts and in that capacity make all critical decisions concerned with Water District III. Once the Water District is funded a superintendent will be hired and will assume the position of running the day-to-day activities of the Water District. The Superintendent will manage the overall program including water system maintenance, reporting, new taps, etc. Financial management will be provided by the County. This will include billings and collection of fees for new taps. The County will also be responsible for arranging funding for system expansion and payment for consultants, laboratory expenses and day-to-day expenses incurred for operating a water system. Payments will also be made for service contracts and capital cost for equipment replacement. An organization chart is presented in Appendix 1. Job descriptions are also presented in Appendix 1.

3. Ownership

A. Water District III is owned by Columbus County and operated as a separate water system complete with its own funding mechanism. The operation of Water District III complies with the General Statues of North Carolina.

B. The Address for Water District III is:

Columbus County Water & Sewer District III

111 Washington Street

Whiteville, NC 28472

C. Columbus County Water District III has no encumbrances, trust indentures, bankruptcy decrees, legal orders or other actions, which limit the control,

operation, financial capacity and/or development of the system.

- D.** The District has fee simple ownership of the sites used for the two (2) well sites and the elevated storage tank site. Valid DOT Rights-of-Way encroachment agreements for water lines located within public Rights-of-Way have been secured. In addition, driveway permits have also been acquired from NCDOT for the two (2) well sites for the elevated storage tank. Currently, no water lines are located on or within private roads, streets or property and no water lines are located outside of NCDOT Rights-of-Way. Should copies of the encroachment agreements and driveway permits be required the District can provide said documents.

4. Management Qualifications

Qualifications of the owners and managers of Water District III are as follows:

- 1) The Columbus County Board of Commissioners is the legal owner of the water district. Board members are qualified and elected to serve in accordance with the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 2) The County Manager must meet the minimum qualifications established by the Board of Commissioners. The qualifications include education, experience, judgment, management skills, financial aptitude and people skills among other exacting criteria.
- 3) The Superintendent of Water Distribution and Supply must be appropriately licensed and have at least eight (8) years of progressive experience in the operation and maintenance of water transmission, pumping and storage.

5. Management Training

The Superintendent and any personnel working for the Water District will undergo formal training annually. The superintendent and personnel assigned to the water distribution, storage and pumping operations will undergo a minimum of 16 to 20 hours of training per year. Both will attend short courses and seminars within the State concerning new and changes to regulations concerning public relations. The Superintendent shall also attend the

annual State AWWA meeting. All personnel shall attend and earn contract hours under State licensing requirements.

6. Policies

Please refer to Uniform Rules and Policies included in Appendix 2 for the Columbus County water districts, which are operated and maintained by the water districts.

In addition to the topics covered in detail by the Uniform Rules and Policies herein, following are additional County Policies concerning water operations.

- A.** The County Department of Inspections enforces the State Building Code concerning building, plumbing and cross connection control. All residential services must have a double check valve assembly (Watts #7 or equal); all institutional, commercial and industrial services must have reduced pressure Zone Backflow Preventors (RPZ's) and fire mains and fire sprinkler systems must have double detector check valve assemblies.
- B.** Customer information, complaints and public education: A consumer confidence report (or user quality report) will be issued annually. Complaints will typically be received by the administrative staff and if they cannot be contemporaneously resolved are routed to the appropriate supervisor or manager. The Department policy is to respond to each complaint inquiry within the workday and always within 24 hours.
- C.** A formal budget will be prepared by the County, considered and evaluated by the Board of Commissioners and adopted by the Board annually. Separate funds are established for departmental management and administration, water system operation and water district operation and maintenance. Also separate capital project funds are established for each major capital improvement project. Water service fees including commodity charges, capacity fees, assessments and tap fees are evaluated annually and adjusted as appropriate by the Board of Commissioners.
- D.** Reporting of Water Quality Violations: All water quality violations will follow reporting and notification processes as required by the State safe

drinking water rules and regulations. Notifications will include mailers, newspaper, radio and television depending on the nature and severity of the water quality violation. The Superintendent will be responsible for coordinating information releases to the news media.

E. Customer connection, disconnection, billing and collection procedures are detailed in the Uniform Rules and Policies (See Appendix 2).

F. **Safety Procedures:** All departmental employees will follow safety policies and procedures designated by the County's Safety Committee. Since these policies and procedures do not cover all events or incidents, which an employee may encounter, the superintendent will be responsible for informing employees of specific hazards as they may occur or confront.

1) Distribution System

The Superintendent is responsible for the following: Safety procedures for working in traffic or public rights-of-way, traffic control when necessary, proper trenching and shoring techniques, safe use and handling chemicals for disinfecting or other uses, issuances of protective gear and lock out/tag out procedures for equipment.

2) Reporting Procedures

All work related accidents shall be reported immediately to the superintendent. The superintendent is required to complete an accident report and submit to the County Manager within 24 hours of the event.

All bodily injury accidents will be reported immediately (verbally) to the County Manager.

G. **System Monitoring Reporting Record Keeping:** The Columbus County water supply system's minimum quality control sampling program is based on State and Federal sampling requirements and additional sampling which is accomplished to enhance delivered water quality and provide satisfactory service.

Distribution System

The superintendent is responsible for operation and maintenance activities for the distribution system. The superintendent establishes daily monitoring requirements to assure system compliance. Daily, weekly and monthly samples will be collected and analyzed from designated points in the distribution system. The superintendent with coordination from the contract laboratory collects the samples for analysis. Additionally, the superintendent coordinates all system flushing activities for quality control. Daily monitoring includes reading designated bulk meters in the County's system to monitor daily water usage. Chlorine and pH samples are taken daily, analyzed and recorded on the meter reading report. Samples are taken weekly for bacteriological analysis and reported to the appropriate agency by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent is responsible for maintaining all laboratory data on samples analyzed by the contract laboratory and reporting/record keeping of all laboratory data received from the contract laboratory. The superintendent is responsible for maintaining daily monitoring records.

7. Financial Plan

Please refer to the Finance Office's statement in Appendix 3.

8. Preliminary Engineering Report

Please refer to Appendix 4 for the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). The Preliminary Engineering Report is included for information only. The report has not been modified or revised since May 1999. The construction cost estimate and the financial information has been changed. However, we have provided updated information at the end of the PER.

Note: Appendices as follows are on file in the Office of the Clerk to the Board:

Appendix 1	-	Organization/Personnel
Appendix 2	-	Uniform Policies
Appendix 3	-	Financial Statement
Appendix 4	-	Preliminary Engineering Report

WATER & SEWER DISTRICT III - WATER BONDS (\$5,271,000)REIMBURSEMENT

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

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina, was held in the Commissioners' Chambers on the Second Floor of the Columbus County Courthouse Annex at 112 West Smith Street, in Whiteville, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting, at 8:00 A.M., on May 1, 2000.

Present: Chairman L. Lynwood Norris presiding, and Commissioners Spruell Randolph Britt, Vice Chairman; David L. Dutton, Jr.; A. Dial Gray, III; Sammie Jacobs; Amon E. McKenzie; and C.E. "Gene" Wilson.

Absent: none.

* * * * *

Commissioner Britt introduced the following resolution, a copy of which had been made available to each Commissioner and which was read by its title:

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE AUTHORIZATION
OF WATER BONDS OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT III**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina (the "District"), has commenced authorizing the issuance of \$5,271,000 Water Bonds of the District pursuant to an order to be introduced by said Board on May 8, 2000, which order will be submitted to the voters of the District at a referendum to be held on July 11, 2000, and it is necessary to take certain related action at this time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DETERMINED AND RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the District, as follows:

Section 1. Said Board hereby finds and determines in connection with

authorizing the issuance of such bonds that (i) the proceeds of such bonds will be used, with any other available funds, for constructing a water system of the District, as described in a preliminary engineering report prepared by McKim & Creed Engineers, Wilmington, North Carolina, dated September 1998 and revised May 1999, to provide the residents of the District with a much-needed, dependable and safe supply of water and, accordingly, the issuance of such bonds is necessary or expedient for the District, (ii) the principal amount of such bonds is adequate and not excessive for the proposed purpose of such bonds because it is based upon the District's best estimates of the cost of constructing such water system and related uses of funds and the District's best estimates of the sources of funds that will be available for such purpose, (iii) the District's debt management procedures and policies are good and will be managed in strict compliance with law, (iv) the increase in taxes, if any, necessary to service such bonds will not be excessive because it is expected that the revenues derived from the operation of such water system will be sufficient to pay for the cost of operating it and debt service on such bonds and (v) such bonds can be marketed at reasonable rates of interest.

Section 2. The law firm of Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A., Charlotte, North Carolina, is hereby confirmed as bond counsel of the District in connection with the authorization and issuance of such bonds.

Section 3. The Chairman of said Board and the County Manager, the Finance Officer and the County Attorney of said County are each hereby authorized to take such action as may be advisable in connection with authorizing the issuance of such bonds; and all actions heretofore taken by any of such officers or any other office of said County relating to such matter, including the filing of an application with the Local Government Commission of North Carolina for approval of such bonds, are hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Upon motion of Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, the foregoing resolution was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners L. Lynwood Norris, Chairman; Spruell Randolph Britt, Vice Chairman; David L. Dutton, Jr.; A. Dial Gray, III; Sammie Jacobs; Amon E. McKenzie;

and C. E. "Gene" Wilson.

Noes: none.

Thereupon Commissioner Britt introduced the following resolution, a copy of which had been made available to each Commissioner and which was read by its title:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT III, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO REIMBURSE SAID COUNTY AND SAID DISTRICT FROM THE PROCEEDS OF ONE OR MORE TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina (the "Issuer"), is a body corporate and politic organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus, North Carolina (the "County"), has paid, beginning no earlier than March 2, 2000, and the County and the Issuer will pay, on and after the date hereof, certain expenditures in connection with the construction of a water system of the Issuer, within and without the corporate limits of the Issuer, including the construction and installation of wells, water treatment facilities, an elevated water storage tank, water mains and lines and appurtenant facilities and the acquisition of necessary land, rights of way and equipment (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Issuer (the "Board"), has been advised by the County or determined that certain moneys previously advanced by the County no earlier than March 2, 2000 and to be advanced by the County and the Issuer on and after the date hereof to pay such expenditures (the "Expenditures") are available only for a temporary period and it is and will be necessary to reimburse the County and the Issuer for the Expenditures from the proceeds of one or more tax-exempt financing including general obligation bonds of the Issuer and notes of the Issuer issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of the sale of such bonds (collectively the "Tax-exempt Financing");

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby declares the Issuer's intent to reimburse the County and the Issuer with the proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing for the Expenditures made on and after March 2, 2000, which date is no more than 60 days prior to the date hereof. The Issuer reasonably expects on the date hereof that it will reimburse the Expenditures with the proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing.

Section 2. Each Expenditure was or will be (a) of a type properly chargeable to a capital account under general federal income tax principles (determined in each case as of the date of the Expenditure), (b) a cost of issuance with respect to the Tax-exempt Financing, (c) a nonrecurring item that is not customarily payable from current revenues, or (d) a grant to a party that is not related to or an agent of the Issuer so long as such grant does not impose any obligation or condition (directly or indirectly) to repay any amount to or for the benefit of the Issuer.

Section 3. The maximum principal amount of the Tax-exempt Financing expected to be issued for the Project is \$5,271,000.

Section 4. The Issuer will make a reimbursement allocation, which is a written allocation by the Issuer that evidences the Issuer's use of proceeds of the Tax-exempt Financing to reimburse an Expenditure, no later than 18 months after the later of the date on which the Expenditure is paid or the Project is placed in service or abandoned, but in no event more than three years after the date on which the Expenditure is paid. The Issuer recognizes that exceptions are available for certain preliminary expenditures, costs of issuance, certain de minimis amounts, expenditures by small issuers (based on the year of issuance and not the year of expenditure) and expenditures for construction projects of at least five years.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Upon motion of Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, the foregoing resolution was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners L. Lynwood Norris, Chairman; Spruell Randolph Britt, Vice Chairman; David L. Dutton, Jr.; A. Dial Gray, III; Sammie Jacobs; Amon E. McKenzie; and C.E. "Gene" Wilson.

Noes: none.

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Upon motion of Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Britt and unanimously carried, the meeting was recessed until 8:00 A.M. on May 8, 2000, in the Commissioners' Chambers on the Second Floor of the Columbus County Courthouse Annex at 112 West Smith Street, in Whiteville, North Carolina.

* * * * *

I, Ida L. Smith, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of said Board at a regular meeting held on May 1, 2000 as relates in any way to the passage of the two resolutions described therein and the adjournment of said meeting and that said proceedings are recorded in Minute Book Number 25 of the minutes of said Board, beginning on Page 609 and ending on Page 613.

I HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that a schedule of regular meetings of said Board, stating that regular meetings of said Board are held in the Commissioners' Chambers on the Second Floor of the Columbus County Courthouse at 112 West Smith Street, in Whiteville, North Carolina, on the first and third Mondays of each month at 8:00 A.M. and 7:30 P.M., respectively, has been on file in my office as of a date not less than seven days before the date of said meeting in accordance with G. S. §143-318,12.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of said County, this 1st day of May, 2000.

/s/ IDA L. SMITH, Clerk to Board

WATER & SEWER DISTRICT III - BOND REFERENDUM DATE SCHEDULED

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to schedule the Bond Referendum for Water and Sewer District III for July 11, 2000.

RESOLUTION - SUPPORT OF GROUP HOMES

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner

Britt and passed unanimously to adopt the following Resolution.

GROUP HOME DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is a major concern of Columbus County to provide responsible accommodation for its handicap citizens; **and**

WHEREAS, the need for additional housing for the handicapped is needed in Columbus County and particularly the Tabor City area of Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, SEMAR has committed to provide additional and much needed housing facilities for Columbus County; **and**

WHEREAS, SEMAR has filed application with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and SEMAR being affiliated with the Methodist Church is committed to the project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Columbus County Commissioners endorses the efforts of SEMAR and the Methodist Church to develop group homes for the mentally handicapped in Columbus County.

ADOPTED this the 1st day of May, 2000.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **LYNWOOD NORRIS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

LEGISLATION - REQUEST TO LEGISLATORS REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR RESIDENTS EARNING \$25,000 OR LESS

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to request the local legislators representing Columbus County to consider introducing legislation regarding affordable housing for residents earning \$25,000 or less per household.

MEETING RECESSED

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Britt and passed unanimously to recess the Board Meeting at 8:30 A.M. until 8:00 A.M., May 8, 2000.