

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 8:00 A.M., April 2, 2001 to hold their regularly scheduled Board Meeting, it being the first Monday.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Spruell R. Britt, Chairman

Sammie Jacobs, Vice Chairman

David L. Dutton, Jr.

Amon E. McKenzie

Bill Memory

Lynwood Norris

C.E. Wilson

James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney

Dempsey B. Herring
County Administrator

Ida L. Smith
Clerk to Board

PUBLIC HEARING - ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000 WATER BONDS FOR WATER & SEWER DISTRICT V

Chairman Britt called the Public Hearing to order regarding an Order Authorizing \$5,705,000 Water Bonds for Water and Sewer District V.

James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney, explained the Public Hearing procedure and requested comments from anyone present who were for or against the order authorizing \$5,705,000 Water Bonds for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V.

There were no comments.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

At 8:03 A.M., a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by

Commissioner Memory, and passed unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC MEETING - RIEGEL RIDGE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Chairman Britt called the Riegel Ridge Franchise Agreement Amendment Public Meeting to order and announced that no action will be taken at this meeting. The hearing will be recessed until the April 16, 2001 meeting at 7:30 P.M. in the Bowers Auditorium to allow ample space for those who wish to attend.

There were approximately eighty (80) persons in attendance.

Chairman Britt requested anyone wishing to comment to raise their hand, state their name and speak at the podium.

The following persons made comments:

1. **Greg Parker:** Mr. Parker commented the reason residents did not speak against the landfill issue early on, they had confidence in the Commissioners to look after their interests and not let something like a regional landfill come into Columbus County. Mr. Parker suggested the Board to look toward a three-county landfill instead of inviting garbage from a 100-mile radius.
2. **Steve Smith:** Mr. Smith stated he was speaking as a business owner and asked to reserve the right to speak as an individual taxpayer at the April 16 meeting. Mr. Smith stated that Lake Waccamaw has the highest property values in Columbus County and a regional landfill five (5) miles away will have a negative impact on values in coming years. Mr. Smith stated he does not think a landfill is the industrial development the county should get into and the Green Swamp is the wrong place for a regional landfill.
3. **Lonnie Fox:** Mr. Fox stated he has been a property owner of Lake Waccamaw since 1973 and is now a permanent resident there and has a vested interest in Lake Waccamaw. Mr. Fox quoted from a 1988 EPA report that even the best landfill liner will ultimately fall over time and feels the Board is headed down the wrong path.
4. **Teresa Bush:** Ms. Bush reported she has lived at Lake Waccamaw for ten (10) years and was appearing before the Board as a "concerned mother for her

children” and other children. Ms. Bush stated her concern is the well being of the land and the excessive traffic on 211.

5. **Chad Wagner:** Mr. Wagner stated he has been a resident of the Green Swamp area for two (2) years and I want to applaud the Commissioners for your efforts in looking into the situation and to listen to the concerns of the people.

PUBLIC MEETING RECESSED

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to recess the public hearing at 8:25 A.M. until April 16, 2001 at 7:30 P.M. at the Bowers Auditorium, Whiteville, NC.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING COMMENCED

Immediately, thereafter, Chairman Britt called the regularly scheduled Board Meeting to order and Ed Worley, Aging Director, gave the invocation.

RIEGEL RIDGE (PROPOSED) - COMMENTS BY JEFF LANE

Jeff Lane, Friends of the Green Swamp Chairman, provided the Board with a prepared statement as follows and read it aloud:

What are the County's Alternatives to a Regional Landfill

"Columbus County needs a landfill - now and for its future." That's the statement being made by the supporters of the Riegel Ridge Regional Landfill. The landfill is presented as a necessity for the county, and most of the County Commissioners seemed to have bought into their sales pitch. The landfill supporters would have you believe that there are no alternatives for the county, but experience shows us time and again that we cannot trust those who would benefit at our expense to tell us what the alternatives are. So the question remains, "what are the alternatives?"

To examine the alternatives to the landfill, first we must identify what it is proposed to accomplish. The most obvious item in this column is to generate revenue. No one in their right mind would voluntarily become the dumping ground of the entire region, and money is the incentive offered by Riegel Ridge to entice the county to do this. Hosting a regional landfill is being touted as a means to help the county balance its ledgers in the short term.

However, the vast majority of citizens of Columbus County do not view "garbage for industry" as an acceptable proposition. The citizens of Columbus County are uniting to tell you, our elected officials, that any short term benefit is overwhelmed by the long term liability, that no county which looks to its future can see this as sustainable income, and that this is an unsatisfactory approach to raising revenue. Those who see the landfill as a solution to short term budget issues be aware - we are resolute in our convictions. We will not go away, and we will not allow you to sell the future of this county to outside interests for short term gain. One has only to look at Anson County, where its citizens have been fighting a regional landfill for over ten (10) years, to see what lies down this path.

The Riegel Ridge Landfill supporters have been telling us that we are in a crisis situation, that we might get closed out of the regional landfill where we now send our waste at any time, leaving the county in a dire predicament. There is simply no basis for this assertion. According to Troy Mitchell, spokesman for Waste Industries Regional Landfill at Sampson County, there is no consideration being given to shutting out anyone from their landfill. On the contrary, they are aggressively seeking input streams, and would be glad to discuss long term contracts at a discounted price. Moreover, the remaining projected life of the Sampson County facility exceeds the entire planned life of the Reigel Ridge Landfill, such that it will still be open when the Riegel Ridge dump is full and Columbus County is looking at where to building the next one.

But what about the county's waste management problem? By all accounts, landfilling is intended to be the last resort for waste disposal, not the first. The county's flat rate garbage disposal structure is the equivalent of a Chinese buffet - pay once then dump all you want. Under this arrangement, residents who recycle and prevent waste subsidize their neighbors' wastefulness. Those who generate very little waste (such as senior citizens living on fixed incomes) are charged the same as affluent consumers who throw away ten times the amount. Garbage disposal is a commodity, like electricity and water service, and should be treated as such. The concept of "Pay As You Throw" (PAYT) is not new or novel, and has been proven to dramatically reduce waste generation and increase recycling. Craven County's use of PAYT in a county-wide integrated waste disposal program has already reduced the county's

waste stream by approximately 50%. Craven County is rightfully proud of its example, and would be glad to share its experience with its neighbors. The implementation of a meaningful waste stream reduction program, including PAYT, must be the starting point of any initiative to address waste management issues in Columbus County, and is clearly the right thing to do. Conversely, siting a regional landfill in Columbus County will virtually eliminate any chance that the county can implement an initiative to reduce its waste stream, and can only be expected to have the opposite effect. What basis can the county government offer its citizens to reduce, reuse or recycle wastes, when they are being dumped on by every county within a hundred miles.

The landfill supporters state that a landfill is necessary to attract industry to the county, but offer no basis as to why this is so. More than half the counties in North Carolina, including some of the fastest growing in the state, have no operating municipal solid waste landfill of any sort. We, the citizens of Columbus County, assert that a county which is a leader in protecting its environment and has a strong waste management program is much preferred to prospective citizens and industry alike than one which chooses a regional landfill as its waste management solution.

The landfill supporters note the money that has been invested to date. There has been no taxpayer money spent on the proposed landfill to this point, rather, it is a pure speculative venture on the part of Riegel Ridge, LLC. Indeed, the regulations require the applicant to present the permit application (and thereby bear the cost of developing it) before he can even make a request to the county for a host agreement, so that the county and its citizens can have the benefit of reviewing it in evaluating the proposed facility. Simply put, the applicant has chosen to place money at risk. If he is successful he gains financial rewards, if he fails he loses his investment. That is what risk is about. The county is not required to provide the applicant with a valid host agreement simply because he shows up with an application, and the county is under no obligation to proceed at this point.

So what are the alternatives? First, recognize that we, the citizens, will not allow the county to sell its future in the interests of short term benefits, and that a regional landfill should not and will not be a solution to any immediate budget issues. Next, do the right thing,

and develop a working 10 year solid waste management plan which incorporates PAYT, educational programs, and other elements which are proven effective in reducing waste generation. The road maps to a successful program are in front of you. Do the right thing, and we, the citizens of Columbus County, stand ready to work with our elected officials to create a cleaner, better tomorrow. Alternately, we will dig in our heels and fight for as long as it takes should our officials ignore our voice and seek to make Columbus County a regional dumping ground. Columbus County can choose to be part of the solution, or they can contribute to the problem. Those are the alternatives.

Jeff Lane

Chairman, Friends of the Green Swamp

BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to approve the March 19, 2001 Board Minutes, as recorded.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

Tax Refunds:

Request a refund in the name of Best, Patricia Ann, 468 Loop Rd., Bolton, NC 28423. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 04-00738, Bill # 963.

Request a refund in the name of Best, Patricia Ann, 468 Loop Rd., Bolton, NC 28423. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 04-00738, Bill # 81788.

Request a refund in the name of Brown, Carlton, 2039 Millie Christine Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472. Paid user fee but does not have a trash can. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 14-02403, Bill # 83108.

Request a refund in the name of Fonvielle, Miona K., 703 Anderson St., Tabor City, NC 28463. Paid user fee on vacant house. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-10320, Bill # 90839.

Request a refund in the name of Kissam, Johnny, 1749 Bud Stephens Rd., Evergreen, NC 28438. Paid on mobile home that is double listed in the name of Billy E. Williamson. Total refund of \$142.50 includes \$3.81 interest. Amount \$138.69, Value \$5,060.00, Year 1997, Account # 12-14397, Bill # 51719.

Request a refund in the name of Kissam, Johnny, 1749 Bud Stephens Rd., Evergreen, NC 28438. Paid on a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Billy E. Williamson. Total refund amount of \$143.54 includes \$4.85 interest. Amount \$138.69, Value \$5,060.00, Year 1998, Account # 12-14397, Bill # 56446.

Request a refund in the name of Kissam, Johnny, 1749 Bud Stephens Rd., Evergreen, NC 28438. Paid on a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Billy E. Williamson. Total refund in the amount of \$143.54 includes \$4.85 interest. Amount \$138.69, Value \$5,060.00, Year 1999, Account # 12-14397, Bill # 18437.

Tax Releases:

Release the User Fee in the name of Best, Larry. Overcharge on user fee due to a computer error. Amount \$845.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-05478, Bill # 81758.

Release the User Fee in the name of Best, Proctor (Heirs). There are no dwellings on this property. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-01620, Bill # 81799.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brown, Audrey. Property inside city limits. Amount \$60.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-04980, Bill # 83082.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bruton, Harry F. Jr. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-23262, Bill # 83615.

Release the User Fee in the name of Buck, Anthony G. Customer uses a commercial hauler. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 07-00810, Bill # 83743.

Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd, Jerry. Old house used for storage. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 11-04861, Bill # 84566.

Release the User Fee in the name of Cartrette, John Marty. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$285.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-02422, Bill # 85506.

Release the User Fee in the name of Edmund, Charles E. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-06693, Bill # 89082.

Release the User Fee in the name of Gerald, Franklin. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$285.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-13790, Bill # 92361.

Release the User Fee in the name of Harrelson, Susie. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-37680, Bill # 95317.

Release the User Fee in the name of Hooper, Carrie Bell. No trash can at this location. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 15-02326, Bill # 15905.

Release the User Fee in the name of Hooper, Carrie Bell. No trash can at this location. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-02326, Bill # 97055.

Release the User Fee in the name of Inman, William M. No trash can at this location. House vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-12920, Bill # 97801.

Release the User Fee in the name of James, William & Lethan. User fee double listed in the name of William James. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-15564, Bill # 98281.

Release the User Fee in the name of Kuykendall, Stuart. Mobile home used for storage. No trash can here. Amount \$60.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 13-22735, Bill # 18554.

Release the User Fee in the name of Kuykendall, Stuart. Mobile home used for storage. No trash can here. Amount \$65.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-22735, Bill # 99797.

Release the User Fee in the name of McCartney, Forest. House vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 15-01121, Bill # 20908.

Release the User Fee in the name of McCartney, Forest. House vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-01121, Bill # 2208.

Release the User Fee in the name of McKee, William K. House is vacant. Amount \$65.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 16-01714, Bill # 2569.

Release the User Fee in the name of McNeill, Eleanor M. This is vacant land. There are no dwellings here. Amount \$65.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-57320, Bill # 2998.

Release the User Fee in the name of Malpass, Dorothy M. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-25520, Bill # 1634.

Release the User Fee in the name of Norton, Roy. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-31444, Bill # 6000.

Release the User Fee in the name of Phipps, Patricia Ann. No trash can at this location. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-01905, Bill # 6827.

Release the User Fee in the name of Priest, Fannie Grey. Release one user fee. There is only one house here. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 10-13886, Bill # 8023.

Release the User Fee in the name of Register, Willie V. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 11-22440, Bill # 8819.

Release the User Fee in the name of Shirden, Shirley M. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$285.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-24868, Bill # 11004.

Release the User Fee in the name of Singletary, Tessie. User fee double listed in the same name on account # 05-06380. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 19-01326, Bill # 57310.

Release the User Fee in the name of Smith, Misty. Did not receive a trash can until January, 2001. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 08-03154, Bill # 12286.

Release the User Fee in the name of Stringfield, Neva B. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-35211, Bill # 14677.

Release the User Fee in the name of Stanley, George R. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-35833, Bill # 13527.

Release the User Fee in the name of Watts, Ricky B. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 02-03321, Bill # 18329.

Release the User Fee in the name of Williams, Benjamin. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$285.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-39133, Bill # 19209.

Release the User Fee in the name of Wood, Samuel J. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 14-17864, Bill # 20253.

Release the Property Value in the name of Berger, George. Release value of boat that was sold to Redline Sports in Myrtle Beach in 1998. Amount \$144.50, Value \$18,900.00, Year 1999, Account # 06-05402, Bill # 51501.

Release the Property Value in the name of Berger, George. Release value of boat that was sold to Redline Sports in Myrtle Beach in 1998. Amount \$149.69, Value \$18,900.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-05402, Bill # 81677.

Release the Property Value in the name of Best, Joe Nathan. Release value of boat that was sold prior to 1-1-2000. Amount \$11.52, Value \$1,600.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-05458, Bill # 81752.

Release the Property Value in the name of Callihan, John Thomas. Release the value of a boat and the Klondyke fee, that is double listed in the name of Tim & Tammie McKeithan Amount \$140.07, Value \$1,735.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-06483, Bill # 84735.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Wilson E. Release the deferred tax and the Williams Fire fee on property that was transferred to a family member. Amount \$118.56, Value \$0.00, Year 1997, Account # 09-07500, Bill # 49227.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Wilson E. Release the deferred tax and the Williams Fire fee on property that was transferred to a family member. Amount \$114.76, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 09-07500, Bill # 49228.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Wilson E. Release the deferred tax and the Williams Fire fee on property that was transferred to a family member. Amount \$114.76, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 09-07500, Bill # 49229.

Release the Property Value in the name of Duncan, Wilson E. Release the deferred tax and the Williams Fire fee on property that was transferred to a family member. Amount \$114.76, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 09-07500, Bill # 49230.

Release the Property Value in the name of Elliott, Jacqueline. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Kenneth F. Elliott. Amount \$183.21, Value \$7,350.00, Year 2000, Account # 16-03956, Bill # 89403.

Release the Property Value in the name of G & G Used Cars. Release the value of a business that closed three (3) years ago. Amount \$1.04, Value \$150.00, Year 1999, Account # 06-03693, Bill # 10768.

Release the Property Value in the name of G & G Used Cars. Release the value of a business that closed three (3) years ago. Amount \$1.08, Value \$150.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-03693, Bill # 91835.

Release the Property Value in the name of Graham, Carlton M. Released the value of a mobile home that burned in 1996. Amount \$129.96, Value \$3,920.00, Year 1997, Account # 08-06966, Bill # 63206.

Release the Property Value in the name of Graham, Carlton M.. Release the value of a mobile home that burned in 1996. Amount \$124.70, Value \$3,230.00, Year 1999, Account # 08-06966, Bill # 12549.

Release the Property Value in the name of Graham, Carlton M.. Release the value of a mobile home that burned in 1996. Amount \$153.22, Value \$3,563.00, Year 2000, Account # 08-06966, Bill # 93592.

Release the Property Value in the name of Johnson, Annette. Release a portion of the mobile home value. Home billed with incorrect size and year. Amount \$56.83, Value \$8,177.00, Year 1999, Account # 13-21529, Bill # 17339.

Release the Property Value in the name of Johnson, Annette. Release a portion of the mobile home value. Home billed with incorrect size and year. Amount \$49.72, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-21529, Bill # 98521.

Release the Property Value in the name of Kissam, Johnny. Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Billy E. Williamson. Amount \$171.41,

Value \$5,860.00, Year 2000, Account # 12-14397, Bill # 99672.

Release the Property Value in the name of Norris, Lonnie Dale. Release the property value, and the Yam City Fire fee, that was double listed on the same account number in error. Amount \$125.46, Value \$15,300.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-28124, Bill # 49057.

Release the Property Value in the name of Perkins, Beatrice (Heirs). Release a portion of the house value, and the Acme Delco Fire fee. The house was severely damaged by a hurricane in 1999. Amount \$413.12, Value \$34,300.00, Year 2000, Account # 15-29400, Bill # 6678.

Release the Property Value in the name of Rhodes, Thomas. Release the property value and the N. Whiteville fee (\$50.00) and the Whiteville Rescue fee (\$5.86) on property that is double listed in the name of Carrie N. Gaddy. Amount \$359.50, Value \$29,300.00, Year 1997, Account # 01-76100, Bill # 59946.

Release the Property Value in the name of Spaulding, James A.. Release the value of a mobile home and the St. James Fire fee. The mobile home is double listed in the same name on a different account number. Amount \$156.88, Value \$4,088.00, Year 2000, Account # 08-17564, Bill # 12956.

Release the Property Value in the name of Spivey, Donna Marie. Release the value of a dwelling that burned October, 1999. Amount \$58.32, Value \$8,100.00, Year 2000, Account # 03-02361, Bill # 13188.

Release the Property Value in the name of Tomlinson, Robin Walker. Release the value of a double wide home and the Brunswick Fire fee (\$33.95) and the Whiteville Rescue fee (\$5.11). Home is double listed in the name of Jon & Robin Tomlinson. Amount \$476.54, Value \$43,400.00, Year 2000, Account # 02-50551, Bill # 16000.

Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Valencia. Release a portion of the mobile home value that was billed with the incorrect year model. Amount \$176.14, Value \$24,240.00, Year 2000, Account # 13-02740, Bill # 19566.

AGING - APPROVAL FOR PROGRAMS TO REMAIN THE SAME FOR 2001-2002

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to approve the following items for the Department of Aging:

1. Appoint the Department of Aging as the Receiver of Service Provider;
2. All programs to remain as presently provided; and
3. Accept the proposed allocations from the Cape Fear Council of Governments in the amount of \$496,297.00 and contribute a local match of 10% which equates to \$55,214.00 for a grand total of \$552,141.00. The local contribution will be absorbed within the Department of Aging's Budget.

PROCLAMATION - INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE VOLUNTEER AND NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICES' DAYS AND NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and passed unanimously to adopt the following Proclamation as requested by Ms. Annie Hayes, CCAVE Interim Director.

Proclamation

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE VOLUNTEER

January 1, 2001 - December 31, 2001

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICES' DAYS and NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 20-21 and April 22-28, 2001

WHEREAS, the spirit of volunteerism has been a long-standing tradition in America. The history of this great State of North Carolina and Columbus County reflects the efforts of men, women and youth who gave of themselves for no other reason than the satisfaction of helping others; and

WHEREAS, by putting the special needs and interest of others before their own, volunteers work to better the world and to improve the quality of life for those around them. Their tremendous endeavors help to brighten the lives and the hearts of the people they help; and

WHEREAS, volunteer centers strive to preserve and enhance the tradition of volunteerism by providing an abundance of resources to our communities; and

WHEREAS, volunteer centers help individuals, groups and others find rewarding experiences; assist with training for volunteer management; recognize volunteer

accomplishments; and assist local employers in developing dynamic workplace programs; and

WHEREAS, individuals across the State and Columbus County, often with the help of volunteer centers, are becoming active volunteers in their communities and are accomplishing great tasks while helping others.

THEREFORE, in special recognition of the volunteers, the Columbus County Board of County Commissioners, does hereby proclaim 2001 as the **INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS in Columbus County and April 20-21 as National Youth Service Days and April 22-28 as NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**. We encourage all county citizens to join us in honoring these outstanding volunteers for their many distinguished achievements.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April 2001.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Spruell R. Britt, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPOINTMENT - LOWER CAPE FEAR RIVER ADVISORY BOARD

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to appoint Commissioner Bill Memory to serve on the Lower Cape Fear River Advisory Board for the remainder of a three (3) year term, with term ending October 2003.

WILDLIFE - REQUEST TO RECONSIDER BAN ON NETTING IN WACCAMAW RIVER

Jack Fowler, a concerned citizen, presented the Board with a petition signed by 346 residents of Brunswick and Columbus County requesting the following:

We, the citizens of Columbus and Brunswick Counties feel that the ban on netting in the Waccamaw River should be considered. With the proper net size and season, it would help with the growing population of the non-game fish that prey on the natural game fish. We think this would benefit the game and net fisherman if considered, evaluated and done

in the proper perspective.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutton, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to contact the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission, Division of Inland Fisheries, and request them to reconsider the ban on netting in the Waccamaw River as the public was not aware of the public hearing that was held regarding this action.

FIRE & RESCUE (BRUNSWICK) - REQUEST TO EXTEND BOUNDARIES FROM FIVE (5) MILES TO SIX (6) MILES

John Saylor, Fire Marshal, requested the Board to amend the expansion of the Brunswick Volunteer Fire Department from their current five (5) miles to six (6) miles.

James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney, advised the Board in order to expand the boundaries of a fire district a public hearing must be held and the persons affected in the area notified.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed unanimously to hold a public hearing at the Brunswick Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department on Monday, May 7, 2001 at 7:00 P.M.

WATER & SEWER DISTRICT V - ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000 WATER BONDS AND RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to approve the following for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V.

ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000

WATER BONDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 162A of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, was duly created for the purpose of providing water service to the residents of the territory included within said District and vested with the powers set forth in said Article 6;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina has found that there is a demonstrable need for providing water service in said District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Article 6, said Board is the governing body of said District; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina:

1. That, pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 162A of the General Statutes of North Carolina and The Local Government Bond Act, as amended, the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, is hereby authorized to contract a debt, in addition to any and all other debt which said District may now or hereafter have power or authority to contract, and in evidence thereof to issue Water Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$5,705,000 for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for constructing a water system of said District, within and without the corporate limits of said District, 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.

2. That taxes shall be levied in said District in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds.

3. That a sworn statement of debt of said District has been filed with the Clerk to said Board and is open to public inspection.

4. That this order shall take effect when approved by the voters of said District at a referendum as provided in The Local Government Bond Act, as amended.

The foregoing order was adopted on the 2nd day of April 2001 and is hereby published this 5th day of April 2001. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of the order must be begun within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.

/s/ Ida L. Smith
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
for the County of Columbus, North Carolina

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 V, in

Columbus County, North Carolina, was held at 8:00 A.M., on April 2, 2001, 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.

Present: Chairman Spruell R. Britt, presiding, and Commissioners Sammie Jacobs, David L. Dutton, Jr., Amon E. McKenzie, Bill Memory, Lynwood Norris and C.E. Wilson.

Absent: None

At 8:00 A.M. the Chairman announced that this was the hour, date and place fixed by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, for the public hearing upon the order entitled: "**ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000 WATER BONDS**" and that the Board of Commissioners would immediately hear anyone who might wish to be heard on the question of the validity of said order or the advisability of issuing said bonds.

No one appeared, either in person or by attorney, to be heard on the question of the validity of said order or the advisability of issuing said bonds and the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners announced that no written statement relating to said questions had been received.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Lynwood Norris and carried, the order introduced and passed on first reading on March 19, 2001 entitled: "**ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000 WATER BONDS**" was read a second time by title and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:

Ayes: Commissioners Britt, Jacobs, Dutton, McKenzie, Memory, Norris and Wilson.

Noes: None.

The Chairman then announced that the order entitled: "**ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,705,000 WATER BONDS**" had been adopted.

The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners was thereupon directed to publish said order, together with the appended statement as required by The Local Government Bond Act,

as amended, once in The News-Reporter.

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

**RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL
BOND REFERENDUM**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina:

Section 1. A special bond referendum is hereby called to be held between 6:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M., on Tuesday, May 29, 2001, at which there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V the question stated in the notice of special bond referendum set forth in Section 3 of this resolution.

Section 2. For said referendum, (i) the regular registration books for elections in Columbus County shall be used and the registration books, process or records shall be open for the registration of qualified persons and for public inspection in the manner, under the conditions and at the times and places as provided in said notice set forth in Section 3 of this resolution, (ii) the chief judges, judges and other officers of election appointed by the Columbus County Board of Elections for the precincts and voting places in said District shall be the election officers for such precincts and voting places and (iii) the precincts and voting places for said referendum shall be those fixed by the Columbus County Board of Elections as provided in said notice set forth in Section 3 of this resolution, subject to change as provided by law. The Columbus County Board of Elections is hereby requested to conduct said referendum and to take all necessary steps to that end in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Section 3. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall cause a notice to be published in The News-Reporter once at least fourteen days before May 4, 2001 (being the last day on which persons may register for said referendum except as otherwise provided in said notice set forth in Section 3 of this resolution) and once again not less

than seven days before said day, such notice to read substantially as follows:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM
IN THE
COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT V,
IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

A special bond referendum will be held throughout the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, between 6:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M., on Tuesday, May 29, 2001 at which there will be submitted to the qualified voters of said District the following question:

Shall the order adopted on April 2, 2001, authorizing not exceeding \$5,705,000 Water Bonds of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for constructing a water system of said District, within and without the corporate limits of said District, 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, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, be approved?

The question hereinabove set forth contains a statement of the purpose for which the bonds are authorized by the order referred to in such question.

If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof will be levied upon all taxable property in said District.

For said referendum the regular registration books for elections in the County of Columbus will be used and the registration books, process or records will continue to be open for the acceptance of registration applications and the registration of qualified persons from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. on Monday to Friday, inclusive, of each week at the office of the Columbus County Board of Elections located at 715 North Legion Drive, Suite A, in Whiteville, North Carolina 28472.

For said referendum registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register also at each of the Columbus County public libraries during their respective regular business hours.

In addition, registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register at any Drivers License Examining Station located in the State of North Carolina (the "State") during normal business hours when applying for, renewing or correcting driver licenses.

Moreover, registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register at every office in the State which accepts claims for benefits under the Employment Security Law or applications for a program of public assistance under Article 2 of Chapter 108A or Article 13 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes of North Carolina and at every office in the State designated by the State Board of Elections which accepts applications for State-funded State or local government programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities. Such programs include Medicaid, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Food Stamps, Women, Infants and Children and programs of the Division of Mental Health and the Division of Services for the Blind.

Qualified persons may also register by mail and otherwise as provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Furthermore, certain persons in the armed forces and their spouses, certain veterans, certain civilians working with the armed forces, and members of the Peace Corps may register by mail at any time prior to said referendum in the manner provided in Article 21 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and in person at any time, including the day of said referendum.

The last day for new registration of those not now registered under Columbus County's permanent registration system and who wish to register for said referendum is Friday, May 4, 2001, except as otherwise provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

The last day on which registered voters who have changed residence may notify the Columbus County Board of Elections of their changes of address in order to be registered for said referendum is Friday, May 4, 2001, except as otherwise provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Any qualified voter of said District who is qualified to vote by absentee ballot in said

special bond referendum may apply to the Columbus County Board of Elections for an absentee ballot. Any qualified voter who is qualified to vote by military absentee ballot pursuant to Section 163-245 of the General Statutes of North Carolina may also apply for an absentee ballot as provided by Section 163-247 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Persons who are not certain whether they are registered to vote or qualified to vote or who desire further information concerning the registration process or said referendum should contact the Columbus County Board of Elections at the office of said Board mentioned above, telephone number (910) 640-6609.

The registration books for elections in Columbus County will be open to inspection by any registered voter of said District during the normal business hours of the Columbus County Board of Elections on the days when the office of said Board is open, and such days are challenge days.

The chief judges, judges and other officers of election appointed by the Columbus County Board of Elections will serve as the election officers for said referendum.

The Columbus County Board of Elections will conduct said referendum.

The precincts and voting places for said referendum, subject to change as provided by law, are as follows:

PRECINCT

VOTING PLACE

Bug Hill 1

Riverside Baptist Church
Highway 904
15838 Swampfox Highway East
Tabor City, North Carolina

Bug Hill 2

Guideway School
11570 Swampfox Highway East
Tabor City, North Carolina

Bug Hill 3

Nakina Rescue Building
214 Ramsey Ford Road
Nakina, North Carolina

West Lees

VFW Hut
Road 1006
4604 Ervin T. Richardson Road
Nakina, North Carolina

East Lees

Old Dock Community Building
1282 New Britton Highway
Whiteville, North Carolina

Robert E. Sessions
Chairman of the Columbus County Board of Elections
North Carolina

Ida L. Smith
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the
County of Columbus, North Carolina

Section 4. The form of the question to appear in the ballots and in the instructions to voters for said referendum shall be substantially as follows:

.....

Shall the order adopted on April 2, 2001, authorizing not exceeding \$5,705,000 Water Bonds of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for constructing a water system of said District, within and without the corporate limits of said District, 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, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, be approved?

.....

Section 5. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners is hereby directed to mail or deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Columbus County Board of Elections within three days after the adoption hereof.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Lynwood Norris, the foregoing resolution entitled: **“RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM”** was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Britt, Jacobs, Dutton, McKenzie, Memory, Norris and Wilson.

Noes: None.

I, Ida L. Smith, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of said Board, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, at a regular meeting held on April 2, 2001, as relates in any way to the matters described therein and that said proceedings are recorded

in Minute Book No. 26 of the minutes of said Board, beginning at page 277 and ending at page 285.

I DO 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 Annex 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, except that regular meetings that are scheduled to be held on a holiday are instead held on the following business day, 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 2nd day of April 2001.

/s/ Ida L. Smith

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE NEWS-REPORTER:

Please publish the following on April 5 and April 12:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM
IN THE
COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT V,
IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

A special bond referendum will be held throughout the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, between 6:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M., on Tuesday, May 29, 2001 at which there will be submitted to the qualified voters of said District the following question:

Shall the order adopted on April 2, 2001, authorizing not exceeding \$5,705,000 Water Bonds of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, in Columbus County, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for constructing a water system of said District, within and without the corporate limits of said District, 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, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, be approved?

The question hereinabove set forth contains a statement of the purpose for which the

bonds are authorized by the order referred to in such question.

If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof will be levied upon all taxable property in said District.

For said referendum the regular registration books for elections in the County of Columbus will be used and the registration books, process or records will continue to be open for the acceptance of registration applications and the registration of qualified persons from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. on Monday to Friday, inclusive, of each week at the office of the Columbus County Board of Elections located at 715 North Legion Drive, Suite A, in Whiteville, North Carolina 28472.

For said referendum registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register also at each of the Columbus County public libraries during their respective regular business hours.

In addition, registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register at any Drivers License Examining Station located in the State of North Carolina (the "State") during normal business hours when applying for, renewing or correcting driver licenses.

Moreover, registration applications will be accepted and qualified persons may register at every office in the State which accepts claims for benefits under the Employment Security Law or applications for a program of public assistance under Article 2 of Chapter 108A or Article 13 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes of North Carolina and at every office in the State designated by the State Board of Elections which accepts applications for State-funded State or local government programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities. Such programs include Medicaid, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Food Stamps, Women, Infants and Children and programs of the Division of Mental Health and the Division of Services for the Blind.

Qualified persons may also register by mail and otherwise as provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Furthermore, certain persons in the armed forces and their spouses, certain veterans, certain civilians working with the armed forces, and members of the Peace Corps may

register by mail at any time prior to said referendum in the manner provided in Article 21 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and in person at any time, including the day of said referendum.

The last day for new registration of those not now registered under Columbus County's permanent registration system and who wish to register for said referendum is Friday, May 4, 2001, except as otherwise provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

The last day on which registered voters who have changed residence may notify the Columbus County Board of Elections of their changes of address in order to be registered for said referendum is Friday, May 4, 2001, except as otherwise provided in Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Any qualified voter of said District who is qualified to vote by absentee ballot in said special bond referendum may apply to the Columbus County Board of Elections for an absentee ballot. Any qualified voter who is qualified to vote by military absentee ballot pursuant to Section 163-245 of the General Statutes of North Carolina may also apply for an absentee ballot as provided by Section 163-247 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Persons who are not certain whether they are registered to vote or qualified to vote or who desire further information concerning the registration process or said referendum should contact the Columbus County Board of Elections at the office of said Board mentioned above, telephone number (910) 640-6609.

The registration books for elections in Columbus County will be open to inspection by any registered voter of said District during the normal business hours of the Columbus County Board of Elections on the days when the office of said Board is open, and such days are challenge days.

The chief judges, judges and other officers of election appointed by the Columbus County Board of Elections will serve as the election officers for said referendum.

The Columbus County Board of Elections will conduct said referendum.

The precincts and voting places for said referendum, subject to change as provided by law, are as follows:

PRECINCTVOTING PLACE

Bug Hill 1

Riverside Baptist Church
Highway 904
15838 Swampfox Highway East
Tabor City, North Carolina

Bug Hill 2

Guideway School
11570 Swampfox Highway East
Tabor City, North Carolina

Bug Hill 3

Nakina Rescue Building
214 Ramsey Ford Road
Nakina, North Carolina

West Lees

VFW Hut
Road 1006
4604 Ervin T. Richardson Road
Nakina, North Carolina

East Lees

Old Dock Community Building
1282 New Britton Highway
Whiteville, North Carolina

Robert E. Sessions
Chairman of the Columbus County Board of Elections
North Carolina

Ida L. Smith
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the
County of Columbus, North Carolina

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE - E-911 CENTER

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, and passed unanimously to approve the following Capital Project Ordinance.

ENHANCED 9-1-1 CENTER**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 Center.

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 Waccamaw Bank.

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

25-340-0000 Loan Proceeds Waccamaw Bank

\$ 850,000

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

25-525-0400 Professional Services	\$ 12,000
25-525-5700 Miscellaneous Expense	6,000
25-525-7300 Construction	340,000
25-525-7400 Equipment	<u>492,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 850,000

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 2nd day of April 2001.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Spruell R. Britt, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

**RIEGEL RIDGE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT (ADDENDUM NUMBER 1) -
DELETE FROM AGENDA**

The Board reached a general consensus to delete Item Number 13: Riegel Ridge Franchise Agreement (Addendum Number 1) regarding the Franchise and Host Community Agreement for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services for Columbus County and place on the April 16, 2001 Agenda for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

**COUNTY VEHICLES - COUNTY DECALS REQUIRED FOR ALL COUNTY-
OWNED VEHICLES**

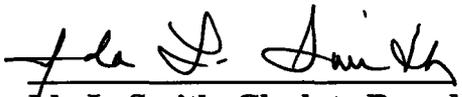
A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dutton and passed unanimously to place County decals on all County-owned vehicles, excluding the Sheriff's Department.

BOLTON (TOWN OF) - THANKS TO COLUMBUS COUNTY

Frank Wilson, Mayor for the Town of Bolton, thanked the Department of Aging for the exercise equipment in the Bolton Senior Center and thanks to the Board for their assistance in a partnership for Bolton and the University of North Carolina, Wilmington in a health clinic being established in the Town of Bolton.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:05 A.M.


Ida L. Smith, Clerk to Board

APPROVED:


Spruell R. Britt, Chairman