

## COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, June 3, 2002

7:00 P.M.

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex Building located at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, for their regular scheduled meeting on the first Monday.

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
 C.E. "Gene" Wilson, **Vice Chairman**  
 Spruell R. Britt  
 David L. Dutton, Jr.  
 Sammie Jacobs  
 Bill Memory  
 Lynwood Norris

### APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Billy Joe Farmer, **County Administrator**  
 James E. Hill, Jr., **County Attorney**  
 Darren L. Currie, **Assistant County Administrator**  
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**

### PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:03 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the Public Hearing to order and stated the reason for this hearing was to hear comments and views from the public in regard to expenditures of secondary construction funds for improvements of secondary roads in Columbus County. Mr. Crumpler presented statistical information to the Board which will be listed in the form of a resolution and requested this resolution be adopted and accepted by the Board. Mr. Robert Crumpler stated the amount allocated this year was six and 75/100 (6.75%) percent less than the amount allocated last year. The additional comments received were as follows:

**QUESTION: Commissioner Gene Wilson** - How may miles of dirt roads will be left in Columbus County after the roads on this list have been paved?

**ANSWER: Robert Crumpler** - Approximately eighty-five to ninety (85-90) miles.

**QUESTION: Chairman McKenzie** - We have experienced some very serious accidents on roads entering into major roads or intersections which have lead to several fatalities. What has been done to correct this problem?

**ANSWER: Robert Crumpler** - The Governor's Highway Program and the Highway Safety Committee is continually looking into situations of this nature. The North Carolina Department of Transportation will place a Stop Ahead sign at any location where the Stop sign itself is not visible within eight hundred (800') feet. In other areas, similar devices are implemented.

**Mac Campbell (relative to Mr. Crumpler's above response)** - Anytime a fatality occurs in a traffic accident, the information goes across the desk of the Division Engineer, reviewed and checked into.

**Jack Nance** - I live on Brickland Road, SR 1524, which is off of Princess Anne Road. This dirt road is only twenty (20') broad ditch to ditch. We have diligently been attempting to have this road paved but we have two (2) property owners who are holding us back and the property owners are Edward Edwards and his son. I would like to know what we can do to get this road paved.

**Response to Jack Nance:** Mr. Robert Crumpler informed Mr. Nance since Mr. Edwards and his son would not grant permission willingly, then the following process would have to be followed:

1. The interested property owners would need to put up the necessary money for the condemnation process which I understand is ranging from two thousand to two thousand five hundred and 00/100 (\$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00) dollars per parcel and this condemnation process would involve two (2) parcels.
2. You would need to get with the other property owners and find out what they would like to do in this situation; and

3. After the money is secured, then the condemnation process would begin and in some instances this process can be lengthy.

**Commissioner Randy Britt:** I will talk to Mr. Edwards and his son and see what can be done.

**Jack Nance:** I would like to let you know there are several kids living on this road for a school bus to pick up. There are two (2) curves that have severely grown up in weeds causing visibility to be poor.

**Robert Crumpler -** We will check into this situation.

**Commissioner Bill Memory -** I would like to know the status of Brinkley Road, SR #1851, in Delco.

**Robert Crumpler -** It is presently under contract with a start date of July 1, 2002.

**Lloyd Gore -** I would like to thank the Department of Transportation for placing the John Gore Road, SR #1111, on the list. I have been trying to accomplish this for thirty (30) years. Now that it is on the list, maybe the work will be done.

### **PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

With no further comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:25 P.M.

### **REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Amon McKenzie called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Commissioner Spruell R. Britt delivered the invocation. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

### **BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs to approve the May 20, 2002 Minutes as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Britt to approve the following Consent Agenda Items. The motion so carried.

#### **REFUND (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office): June 3, 2002**

Request a refund in the name of Three-301 Auto Sales, P.O. Box 1164, Hope Mills, N.C. 28348. Refund user fee. Never received a trash can. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 08-03604, Bill # 16660.

The following is based on recommendations from the Tax Administrator's Office.

#### **RELEASES (as submitted to Administration from the Tax Office): June 3, 2002**

Release the Property Value in the name of Rankin, Frederick. Release the value of a boat and the Whiteville Rescue fee. Mr. Rankin has never owned this boat. Amount \$4.74, Value \$539.00, Year 2001, Account # 01-01002, Bill # 9073.

Release the Property Value in the name of Green, Alfred L.. Release the personal property value and the Brunswick Fire fee (19.72) and the Columbus Rescue fee (5.63). Property (vehicles) listed with DMV and billed separately. Amount \$245.15, Value \$28,180.00, Year 2001, Account # 01-34699, Bill # 94400.

Release the Property Value in the name of Graham, Doris. Release the property value and the Hallsboro Fire fee. Property is double listed in the name of James & Virginia Yeoman. Amount \$44.22, Value \$6,000.00, Year 1997, Account # 11-11400, Bill # 46343.

Release the Property Value in the name of Graham, Doris. Release the property value and the Hallsboro Fire fee. Property is double listed in the name of James & Virginia Yeoman. Amount \$21.00, Value \$2,500.00, Year 1996, Account # 11-11400, Bill # 48300.

Release the Property Value in the name of Smith, Dexter. Release the property value for the Town of Boardman. This property is not in the town of Boardman. Amount \$36.05, Value \$72,100.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-25580, Bill # 30491.

Release the User Fee in the name of Seaman, Denise. House is vacant. Amount \$125.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 03-20746, Bill # 10226.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bryant, Johnny. House is vacant. Amount \$75.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 06-02878, Bill # 83766.

Release the User Fee in the name of Clark, Vanessa. Overcharge on user fee due to computer error. Amount \$160.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 01-14545, Bill # 85972.

Release the User Fee in the name of Graham, Jefferson. House is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-16343, Bill # 94026.

Release the User Fee in the name of Jacobs, Harden. House is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 11-14215, Bill # 98512.

Release the User Fee in the name of Keaton, Vina M.. House torn down in 2000. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 15-21845, Bill # 99757.

Release the User Fee in the name of Locklear, Jamie. No trash can at this address. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 08-00818, Bill # 1438.

Release the User Fee in the name of Seaman, Denise. House vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1997, Account # 03-20746, Bill # 61128.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bryant, Johnny. House vacant. Amount \$65.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2000, Account # 06-02878, Bill # 83695.

Release the User Fee in the name of Seaman, Denise. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1999, Account # 03-20746, Bill # 28672.

Release the User Fee in the name of Seaman, Denise. House is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 03-20746, Bill # 11058.

Release the User Fee in the name of Stephens, Alice. House is vacant. Amount \$165.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 12-26346, Bill # 14668.

Release the User Fee in the name of Ward, Richard. House is vacant. Amount \$75.00, Value \$0.00, Year 2001, Account # 13-42370, Bill # 18845.

Release the User Fee in the name of Seaman, Denise. House is vacant. Amount \$100.00, Value \$0.00, Year 1998, Account # 03-20746, Bill # 66286.

The following is based on recommendations from the Tax Administrator's Office.

## Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-579-0200	Salaries	\$7,500
Revenue	10-348-0703	Immunization-Medicaid	\$7,500
Expenditure	10-593-1400	Travel	(\$20,000)
	10-593-3200	Office Supplies	(\$10,000)
	10-593-4501	Contracted Services-ST	(\$40,000)
	10-593-4502	Contracted Services-PT	(\$30,000)
	10-589-7400	Capital Outlay	\$20,000
	10-592-7400	Capital Outlay	\$60,000
	10-597-7400	Capital Outlay	\$20,000
Revenue		<b>No Change</b>	
Expenditure	10-613-9710	Gasoline Purchase-Transp.	\$5,000
Revenue	10-348-3300	Gasoline Reimbursement-Transportation	\$5,000
Expenditure	10-612-1400	Personnel Support/Trng.	(\$13,920)
	10-612-3200	Operating Costs	(\$6,780)
	10-612-4500	Contract Services	(\$800)
Revenue	10-348-2800	CCAVE-DHHS-Div Aging	(\$21,500)
Expenditure	29-613-5310	Construction	\$175,750
	29-613-5870	Paving/Resurfacing	\$48,300
	29-613-5880	Engineering/Design Serv	\$30,000
	29-613-5240	Telephone System	\$5,500
	29-613-5860	Security System	\$2,950
	29-613-7050	Transit Building Fund	\$9,500
Revenue	29-336-0000	Transfer from CCIT (Gen Fund)	\$9,500
	29-348-2002	NCDOT Transit Facility	\$262,500
Expenditure	10-650-1500	M/R Bldgs and Grounds	(\$500)
	10-650-1600	M/R Equipment	\$1,830
Revenue	10-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$1,330
Expenditure	10-680-9601	Whiteville City Sch-QZAB Bonds	¥\$565,000
Revenue	10-346-6000	QZAB Bonds-Whiteville City Schools	\$565,000
Expenditure	10-650-6000	Fuel Purchases-Airport	\$50,000
Revenue	10-335-1000	Aviation Fuel Sales-Airport	\$50,000
Expenditure	33-680-1500	M/R Grounds	\$2,500
	33-680-1700	M/R Vehicles	\$500
	33-680-2600	Advertising	\$300

	33-680-3100	Automotive Supplies	\$2,500
	33-680-3300	Departmental Supplies	\$5,000
	33-680-4500	Contract Services	\$2,000
	33-680-7400	Capital Outlay	\$1,000
Revenue	33-312-0000	Refunds	(\$9,000)
	33-340-0000	Signup Fees	\$7,500
	33-397-0100	Transfer from Project	\$15,300
Expenditure	34-670-3200	Office Supplies	\$100
	34-670-8200	Interest on Debt	\$160,000
	34-670-9100	Transfer to Project	\$60,000
Revenue	34-312-0000	Refunds	(\$2,500)
	34-329-0000	Interest Earned	\$1,100
	34-340-0000	Signup Fees	\$22,000
	34-397-0100	Transfer from Project	\$199,500

### **PROPOSED SECONDARY ROADS CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

Commissioner Memory made a motion for the following Resolution to be approved and adopted for the Proposed Secondary Roads Construction Program for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 for Columbus County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.

## **SECONDARY ROADS RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners met with officials of the North Carolina Department of Transportation at a Public Hearing on June 03, 2002 ; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this meeting was to present to the public the proposed Secondary Roads Construction Program for Columbus County for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 from the Department of Transportation as follows:

ALLOCATION	AMOUNT
Secondary Road Construction	\$1,789,470.00
Highway Trust Fund	\$1,448,691.00
<b>TOTAL SECONDARY ROAD CONSTRUCTION FUNDS AVAILABLE:</b>	<b>\$3,238,161.00</b>

### **MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS:**

Funds required to supplement secondary road maintenance operations. To be used for: spot stabilization of unpaved roads with stone or local materials; widening of paved secondary roads, drainage improvements; safety projects; etc.

ALLOCATION	AMOUNT
Secondary Construction	\$ 201,480.00
Highway Trust Fund	\$ 199,874.00
<b>TOTAL MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS:</b>	<b>\$ 401,354.00</b>

**RESERVE for CONTINGENCIES:**

Funds to be used for road additions; survey and right of way; overdrafts; property owner participation paving; paving of rural fire departments and rescue squads, continuation of paving down the priority list. **\$ 323,816.00**

**PAVING PROGRAM:**

Paving of unpaved roads in priority order from the Rural and Residential/Subdivision lists. The department will secure right-of-way and construct this program. Should additional funds become available or right-of-way be unobtainable on any road, then the program will be extended down the priority lists until available funds are expended.

ALLOCATION	AMOUNT
Secondary Construction	\$1,409,043.00
Highway Trust Fund	\$1,103,948.00
<b>TOTAL PAVING PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$2,512,991.00</b>

**RURAL PAVING PROJECTS:**

PRIORITY NO.	SR#	FROM SR#	TO SR#	LENGTH/DESCRIPTION/COST
17	1702A	1721	1720	0.9 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave and E/C <b>\$270,000.00</b>
18	1534	1532	1003	0.5 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave and E/C <b>\$150,000.00</b>
19	1832	1843	Dead End	1.10 Miles Grade, Drain, Base, Pave and E/C <b>\$330,000.00</b>
20	1120	1119	SC Line	0.1 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave and E/C <b>\$30,000.00</b>
21	1123	SC Line	SC Line	0.4 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave & E/C <b>\$120,000.00</b>
22	1888	1836	Dead End	0.54 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave & E/C <b>\$165,000.00</b>
23	1529	1002	1003	0.9 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave & E/C <b>\$270,000.00</b>
24	1427	NC 410	1005	1.20 Miles Grade, Drain, Base, Pave & E/C <b>\$360,000.00</b>

PRIORITY NO.	SR#	FROM SR#	TO SR#	LENGTH/DESCRIPTION/COST
25	1740	1797	ECL Lake Wac.	0.5 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave, & E/C \$150,000.00
26	1319	US 701	1323	0.9 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave, & E/C \$270,000.00
27	1111	NC 905	Dead End	1.0 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave. & E/C \$300,000.00
28	1748	1735	Dead End	0.4 Mile Grade, Drain, Base, Pave, & E/C \$97,991.00 (Additional funds to be added later)

**TOTAL MILES: 8.44                      TOTAL FUNDS: \$2,512,991.00**

**RESIDENTIAL/SUBDIVISION PAVING PROJECTS:**

PRIORITY NO.	SR #	FROM SR#	TO SR#	LENGTH/DESCRIPTION/COST
None				

**TOTAL MILES: 0                      TOTAL FUNDS: 0**

**GRAND TOTALS: 8.44                      TOTAL FUNDS: \$2,512,991.00**

- \*NOTES:**
1. If additional maintenance monies are made available by Legislature, the monies listed under maintenance operations will be programmed on paving projects in accordance with the Columbus County Secondary Road Paving Priority List.
  2. This Program is subject to availability of funding, right-of-way, and environmental review.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners does hereby concur with the 2002-2003 Secondary Roads Construction Program for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 as prioritized by the State as enumerated above.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
/s/ AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman

**ATTESTED BY:**  
/s/ JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

**CHAF PROGRAM UPDATE**

Floyd Adams, The Adams Company, Incorporated, presented the following update to the Board for the Columbus County CHAF Program.

**Columbus County Summary Sheet**

**CHAF Program**

<b>TOTAL HOUSES</b>			<b>491</b>
<b>Houses Inspected</b>			<b>489</b>
Replacement		282	
Repair		207	
<b>Repair Work</b>		207	
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	0		
Bids Complete, Not Awarded	0		
Board Awarded, No Construction	134		
Under Construction	20		
Complete	53		
<b>Replacement Work</b>		282	
Work Write-up/Lawyer Processing	2		
Board Awarded, No Construction	127		
N.O.E. Sent, Under Construction	95		
Complete	58		
<b>Not Visited</b>			<b>2</b>
<b>Legal Work</b>			
Total Titles Requested	441		
Titles Requested, Not Complete		142	
Preliminary Title Complete		96	
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Requested, Not Signed		45	
Prom. Note/Deed of Trust Recorded		158	

Chairman Amon McKenzie asked Floyd Adams the number of houses in Columbus County left to be done that did not qualify for the CHAF Program for any reason. Floyd Adams responded to this question stating there were approximately one thousand (1,000) houses remaining. Floyd stated there was a CDBG program coming up that could aid in this situation. This program cannot be scattered. It has to be located in a concentrated area. We will be attending a workshop that will supply us the necessary details which I can bring back to the Board.

#### **UTILITIES REDUCTION SPECIALISTS, INCORPORATED CONTRACT APPROVAL**

Gayle Godwin, Columbus County Finance Officer, introduced Mike Blackburn and Steve Mann from Utilities Reduction Specialists, Incorporated who is requesting the Board to approve a contract to allow them to audit utilities and telephone accounts for possible savings. In addition, this firm will also do a sales tax reallocation audit to see if Columbus County is receiving all the sales tax from the State they are due.

Steve Mann, President, stated the sales tax reallocation audit is new and the utilities audit is the same as the one done five and one-half (5½) years ago.

Mike Blackburn stated this was a contingency based audit and the fee was not due until the money had been received by Columbus County.

Commissioner Wilson requested that a representative from Carolina Power and Light to stand and speak on this matter. Mr. Elkins stated Carolina Power and Light Company could compare the rates for the electrical service but the other services would be out of their field. Commissioner Norris made a motion for this to be taken under advisement, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion so carried.

#### **CONCERNED PARENTS on PROPOSED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Nellie Herring, a concerned parent, stated Scotland, Robeson and Bladen Counties had already signed on to LME and requested to know why Columbus County had not signed on. She stated the State is tearing up the Mental Health System and all I'm asking is for the Columbus



County Commissioners to work faster in getting this established..

Commissioner Wilson stated he had been serving on the Mental Health Board for several years. They are requesting Columbus County to sign a document that will cost us money at a later date. We, as Commissioners, are waiting for Steve Ramey to meet with us before we make our final decision.

Commissioner McKenzie stated the Board would advise Ms. Herring after meeting with Steve Ramey.

Commissioner Memory stated Mr. Ramey would be asked to meet with the Board of Commissioners in July.

Ms. Fredricca Steele, a Southeastern Regional Mental Health Board Member, stood and stated she had a mentally ill child herself and so wanted the difference in personalities to be resolved so the mental patients will not have to suffer and/or be relocated.

**TRANSFER CAPITAL OUTLAY to CURRENT OPERATIONAL EXPENSE for SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Dr. Brantley Briley, President of Southeastern Community College, is requesting the Board's approval by resolution to transfer forty-seven thousand nine hundred forty-two and 00/100 (\$47,942.00) dollars from their fifty thousand and 00/100 (\$50,000.00) dollars Capital Outlay Appropriation to their Current Operational Expense to meet their Fiscal Year 2001-2002 Budget needs. Commissioner Dutton made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY ANIMAL RESPONSE PLAN ADOPTION**

Rossie Hayes, Animal Control Officer, is requesting the Board's approval and adoption of a Columbus County Animal Response Plan to have in place in times of disasters. A copy of which will be on file in the Animal Control Office, the Emergency Services Department and the Office of the Clerk to the Board. Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt this plan, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the Health Board had approved this plan. Rossie Hayes, Animal Control Officer, stated the Health Board had not approved and did not need to approve.

**APPROVAL of FOUR (4) INCENTIVE GRANTS**

Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, requested the Board's approval of the following four (4) Incentive Grants:

1. Top Tobacco's \$4.5 Million Expansion;
2. Kroy Building Products, Incorporated;
3. InterKordSA; and
4. Southeastern Materials.

Commissioner Britt made a motion for these four (4) Incentive Grants to be approved, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried. A copy of these four (4) Incentive Grants will be on file in the Columbus County Economic Development Office and the Office of the Clerk to the Board.

**BORDER BELT TOBACCO RESEARCH CENTER**

Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, gave an update on the Border Belt Tobacco Research Center. She stated that Senator R.C. Soles, Jr. states it looked favorable the center would remain open.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY**

Commissioner Dutton asked Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, why we were not seeking big industry in lieu of small industry. Ms. Owens answered stating we had to work with what was available.

Commissioner Memory asked Phyllis Owens, Economic Development Director, if she was seeing a lot of activity coming through the Economic Development Office. Ms. Owens' reply was a no.

**CONTINUATION of ONE-HALF (½) CENT SALES TAX**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requesting the Board call for a Public Hearing as the first required step in continuing the one-half (½) cent Local Option Sales Tax as a Columbus County revenue source. Commissioner Wilson made a motion for the Public Hearing date to be **June 17, 2002, at 7:00 P.M.** in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**RESOLUTION in SUPPORT of ELIMINATION of the COUNTY'S COST-SHARE PAYMENT for MEDICAID and REQUEST to CREATE and/or INCREASE SELECT REVENUES**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested the Board approve the following Resolution authorizing a plan for providing Medicaid relief to North Carolina counties and the sources of revenue for implementing such.

**Request for Elimination of the County Cost-Share Payment for Medicaid and  
Request to Increase Select Revenues  
Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, Columbus County recognizes and respects the State budget shortfall reported as \$1.7b equating to some 10.7% of the State's \$14.5b budget, but please understand that the Medicaid cost-share increases annually equate to an annual recessional crisis to this county with Medicaid cost representing 29.7% of the property tax revenue and 24.4% of our 78-cent tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, while Columbus County appreciates the services Medicaid provides, program costs have increased 382% from FY 90-91; and

**WHEREAS**, the latest State Medicaid Program cost estimates for the FY 2002/2003 county budget year may result in a tax increase of five cents and as in past years, will represent the largest expected increase in the county budget; and

**WHEREAS**, over 72% of the county budget goes to human services and schools and as a low tier 21<sup>st</sup> Century county, Columbus County is perhaps among the least able to absorb these unfounded mandated increases requiring annual tax increases; and

**WHEREAS**, the State has additional options to generate sufficient revenues as attached options totaling over \$2b illustrate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners seeks elimination of the county Medicaid cost-share with a transitional county payment schedule reflecting: Tier 5 counties pay 5%, Tier 4 counties pay 4%, Tier 3 counties pay 3%, Tier 2 counties pay 2%, and Tier 1 counties pay 1% per NCACC recommendation; that the State adopt the attached revenue options, or like options to include a lottery in lieu of further cuts to State services and revenues to counties and municipalities; and, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House, as well as to Legislative Delegates, NCACC, and to the other 99 North Carolina Counties.

**ADOPTED**, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2002, in Columbus County, North Carolina

## COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ AMON MCKENZIE, CHAIRMAN

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ JUNE B. HALL, CLERK to BOARD

**ATTACHMENT**

North Carolina is facing an extreme budget crisis. The state cannot afford to resolve this crisis through budget cuts alone, causing long-term irreparable harm to programs and the children they serve. Public officials must raise additional revenue, use existing resources, and close outdated tax loopholes to solve this budget crisis. We support the use of a balanced package of progressive tax options to achieve this goal. This three (3) year revenue package will get the state beyond this crisis, but it is imperative that officials use this time to restructure the state tax system to meet the growing needs of the state and reflect the realities of the modern economy.

SOURCES OR REVENUE	AMOUNT GENERATED (Annually)
Closing Tax Preference that Benefits Banks	\$100 Million
Tobacco Lawsuit Settlement	\$177 Million
Taxing Six (6) Professional Services	\$340 Million
Reinstate the Corporate Tax Rate	\$55 Million
Raising Cigarette Tax 25-Cents	\$210 Million
Increase Income Tax or Off-set by Lottery Proceeds (One (1%) Percent)	\$1.3 Billion**
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2.192 BILLION</b>

**\*\*For Tax Year 2002, including the increase on the top bracket enacted last year.  
Would generate \$1.2 billion assuming previous rate structure.**

Commissioner Britt stated the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners went on record as asking the State to request the one-half (½) cent sales tax. I would like to request our Board of Commissioners to go on record as supporting the decision of the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt this Resolution and to go on record as supporting the decision of the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION by the GOVERNING BODY of the COUNTY of  
COLUMBUS SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS PROGRAM APPROVAL**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, requested the Board to approve the following Resolution, as requested by the grant writer, authorizing him to sign documents on behalf of Columbus County for the Supplemental Grants Program. Commissioner Dutton made a motion to approve and adopt this resolution, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**Authorizing Resolution by the Governing Body of the County of Columbus  
Supplemental Grants Program**

**WHEREAS**, the 1998 Critical Needs Bond Act has authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction of wastewater treatment works,

wastewater collection systems, and water supply systems, water conservation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Columbus has need for and intends to construct or rehabilitate a publicly owned treatment works or alternate wastewater system, for wastewater collection systems or for water supply and distribution systems, project described as Water Line Extension; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Columbus intends to request grant assistance from the Supplemental Grants Program for the project;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS:**

That the County of Columbus will arrange financing of all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a grant.

That the County of Columbus will provide for the efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the County of Columbus with the NCREDC (Rural Center) for a grant to assist in the construction of the project described above.

That Billy Joe Farmer, County Administrator, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the Rural Center may request in connection with such application for the project; to make assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the County of Columbus has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

Adopted this day, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2002, at Columbus County, North Carolina.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**AMON E. MCKENZIE**, Chairman

**ATTESTED BY:**

**JUNE B. HALL**, Clerk to the Board

**PRESENTATION of 2002-2003 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET and REQUEST for  
PUBLIC HEARING**

Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, presented the Board of Commissioners the 2002-2003 Proposed Operating Budget and requested a Public Hearing date be set as required under State guidelines. The Public Hearing date was set for Monday, June 24, 2002, at 7:00 P.M., in the Columbus County Commissioners' Chambers in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472. A Budget Workshop date was established for Thursday, June 6, 2002, at 7:00 P.M., in the Columbus County Administration Building, Economic Development Conference Room, located at 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to receive the 2002-2003 Proposed Operating Budget, seconded by Commissioner Britt. The motion so carried.

**NEED for TURNING LANE at NEW WAL-MART CONSTRUCTION SITE**

Commissioner Dutton stated there was a big need for a turning lane to be established at the new Wal-Mart construction site. It was becoming very hazardous at that location. Robert Crumpler, Department of Transportation, stated it was the developer's responsibility to make sure this area was safe.

**SPECIAL THANKS to COLUMBUS COUNTY'S SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

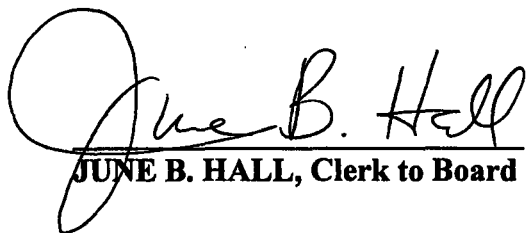
Commissioner Memory stated he would like to thank the Columbus County Sheriff's Department for allowing him to ride with the deputies on their patrol. I would like for everyone to know the deputies have a tough and challenging job to do that keeps them on their toes. The night I rode along was very active and adventuresome. I would like to thank the Sheriff's Department for their dedication and efforts to keep Columbus County safe.

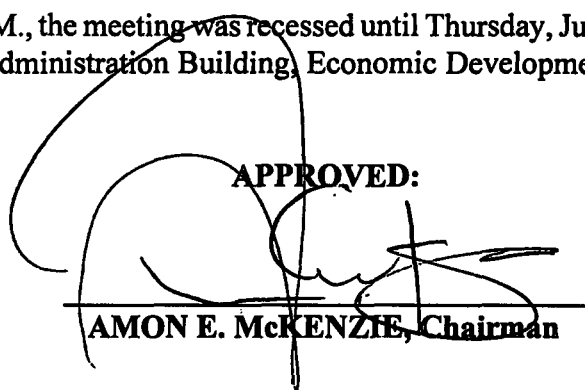
**REQUEST for MONTHLY REPORTS from DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Chairman McKenzie requested that Billy Joe Farmer, Columbus County Administrator, schedule one (1) department head each month to make a presentation to the Board on their departmental activities.

**MEETING RECESSED**

There being no further business, at 9:01 P.M., the meeting was recessed until Thursday, June 6, 2002, at 7:00 P.M. in the Columbus County Administration Building, Economic Development Conference Room for a Budgetary Workshop.

  
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JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

APPROVED:  
  
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AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman