

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, July 18, 2005

6:30 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 third Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Kipling Godwin, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Bill Memory
Lynwood Norris
David L. Dutton, Jr.

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Billy Joe Farmer, **County Manager**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Roxanne Coleman, **Finance Officer**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Darren L. Currie, **Assistant County Manager**

COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

Sammie Jacobs, **Chairman**

Agenda Items #1 and #2: MEETING CALLED to ORDER and INVOCATION:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner McKenzie. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Agenda Item #3: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the following Board Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

- A. June 20, 2005 Regular Session Board Minutes;
- B. June 20, 2005 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting;
- C. June 23, 2005 Budget Workshop Minutes;
- D. June 29, 2005 Budget Workshop Minutes;
- E. June 30, 2005 Regular Session (Resumed) Board Minutes;
- F. June 30, 2005 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting; **and**
- G. July 05, 2005 Regular Session Board Minutes.

Agenda Item #4: COLUMBUS COUNTY HOSPITAL - LETTERS of SUPPORT:

William S. Clerk, Chief Executive Officer, Columbus Regional Healthcare System, requested Board approval of the following two (2) letters of support.

July 18, 2005

Mr. Tom Elkins
Medical Facilities Planning Section
Division of Facility Services
Post Office Box 29530
Raleigh, North Carolina 27626-0530

IN RE: Support for the Columbus Regional Healthcare System Petition to the Draft 2006 State Medical Facilities Plan

Dear Mr. Elkins:

We support the petition by Columbus Regional Healthcare System for two (2) additional surgical operating rooms. The population of our community has high disease incidence rates and elevated demand for healthcare services. Given the fact that the existing operating rooms are already at full utilization, it is only reasonable that additional surgical operating rooms be allocated in the 2006 State Plan. Two (2) surgical operating rooms would benefit the community by:

- A. Responding to the immediate demand for additional surgical capacity;
- B. Supporting the recruitment of additional surgical specialists; **and**

C. Enabling our citizens to obtain reasonable and timely access to surgical services.

Your approval of this petition will give our hospital, and surgeons, the opportunity to develop the surgical resources that are truly needed.

Sincerely,
 /s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 SJ/jbh

July 18, 2005

Mr. William S. Clark
 Chief Executive Officer
 Columbus Regional Healthcare System
 500 Jefferson Street
 Whiteville, North Carolina 28472

IN RE: Certificate of Need Application for a Fixed Magnetic Imaging Scanner in Columbus County

Dear Mr. Clark:

We are writing in support of the Certificate of Need application by Columbus Regional Healthcare System for a fixed Magnetic Resonance Imaging scanner. The hospital provides a broad scope of services with advanced technologies, and strong support from the medical staff. With the existing MRI scanner operating at high utilization, a second scanner is needed to meet the growth in demand.

Columbus County's population is aging and experiencing high disease incidence rates. Meanwhile, MRI diagnostic applications are continuing to expand. These factors will create higher demand for healthcare services, including increased MRI utilization. The proposed 1.5 Tesla scanner will benefit everyone with enhanced diagnostic capabilities and faster scan times.

We believe this project proposal is justified and will greatly serve our community.

Sincerely,
 /s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 SJ/jbh

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the two (2) letters of support, as requested by William S. Clark, and as listed above, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #5: HEALTH DEPARTMENT - APPROVAL of REVISIONS to ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FEE SCHEDULE:

Kimberly Smith, Health Director, and William Horne, Environmental Health Supervisor, requested Board approval of the following revisions to the Environmental Health Fee Schedule.

**PROPOSED NEW FEE SCHEDULE
 EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2005**

REQUEST	FEE
New Expansion for Site Evaluation/Improvement Permit	\$75.00
New Expansion for Construction Authorization/Operation Permit	\$75.00
*Revision of Improvement Permit	\$75.00
*Revision of Construction Authorization	\$75.00
Reinspection	\$50.00
Migrant Camp Sewage Reinspection (Per Site)	\$50.00

**Re-Visit Fee	\$40.00
Repair	No Charge
***Food Establishment Plan Review	\$100.00
Public Swimming Pool Permit (Per Year) (Per Permit)	\$100.00
Tattoo Permit (Per Year)	\$200.00
Tattoo Permit (Temporary)	\$50.00
Copies	\$1.00

WATER SAMPLES

Bacteria Sample	\$25.00
Chemical /Nitrate Sample	\$25.00
Pesticide Sample	\$40.00
Petroleum Sample	\$40.00

*A "Revision" is defined as any alteration to a previously issued permit, requested by the applicant or the applicant's representative, that requires an additional site visit.

**A "Re-visit" is defined as an additional site visit to "Re-Flag" fill site and/or the lot is not ready for inspection, after applicant/representative has called and stated that lot is ready. (In case of large systems, any additional visits which are necessary for the proper inspection of said systems.)

***A "Plan Review" fee for restaurants, food stands, or meat markets applies to any new construction or remodeling. Remodeling is defined as changes in the dimensions of food preparation areas, seating capacity, the addition of rooms or changes on the menu that require re-modeling to accommodate those changes.

Ms. Smith stated the following:

1. William Horne and his staff have pulled information relative to their fee schedules, from counties that are similar to Columbus County in size and revenue sources;
2. The Columbus County Environmental Health fees have not been changed since 2001;
3. As of 2002, Restaurant Plan Reviews are being done; **and**
4. Our fee information has been compared to Sampson County which is very similar to Columbus County in size and revenue.

Mr. Horne discussed the fees that were increased and the fee that remained the same.

Commissioner McKenzie asked if the revisions to these fees could be delayed due to the fact of the recent occurrence of the revaluation, and the additional tax that had been imposed in the two (2) water districts. He stated the citizens have experienced too many increases lately and the timing is bad for this increase.

Ms. Smith stated the department is trying to make these fees user oriented.

Commissioner Memory asked if this increase would make the department self supporting. Mr. Horne replied stating no, it would not, but it would help.

Commissioner Memory stated the increase would help partially in making the department self supporting and place the cost for the service on the user's back.

Commissioner Prevatte stated he agreed with Commissioner McKenzie relative to the timing being bad for this fee increase. This needed to be presented before the budget was finalized.

Commissioner Dutton made a motion to take the request for approval of revision to Environmental Health Fee Schedule under advisement, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie.

After additional discussion was conducted among the Board members, Commissioner McKenzie withdrew his second, and Commissioner Dutton withdrew his original motion.

Commissioner Dutton made a motion to take the request for approval of revisions to the Environmental Health Fee Schedule under advisement, and to be brought back to the Board for further consideration, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. A poll vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Vice Chairman Godwin, Commissioners Memory, Norris, Prevatte and Dutton.

NAYS: Commissioner McKenzie.

ABSENT: Chairman Jacobs.

The motion passed on a five (5) to one (1) vote.

Agenda Item #6: SHERIFF - ORGANIZATIONAL CHART CHANGE:

Sheriff Christopher Batten requested Board approval of a change to the Sheriff's Departmental Organizational Chart by the addition of a part-time nurse position with the salary for this position being approved in the 2005-2006 budget.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to approve the change to the Sheriff's Departmental Organizational Chart by the addition of a part-time nurse position, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #6: SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Donna Register, Soil and Water Conservationist, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board.

1. **North Carolina Agriculture Cost-Share Program:**
 - A. State and County programs address non-point source pollution and improve water quality;
 - B. Applications were made to dispose of dead animals properly;
 - C. Practices such as crop land conversion to grass or trees were funded to prevent erosion of Columbus County's valuable farm land; **and**
 - D. The technical person for this program is Edward Davis, and he has written ten (10) contracts for an estimated \$65,313.00 worth of land improvements to Columbus County farms.
2. **Environmental Quality Incentives Program:**
 - A. This federal program's goal is to improve the quality of the environment. The program has three (3) sub-programs, each addressing environmental concern as follows:
 - (1) **General sign-up** - similar to the North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program. Twenty-three (23) applications addressed erosion and water quality. Total amount obligated is \$118,077.
 - (2) **Ground and Surface** - designed to reduce the amount of ground water that agriculture uses. Cost share is set up as an incentive to install water saving measures associated with swine operations.
 - (3) **Small Farm Inactive** - This program is geared to the small or limited farmers that need cost share to install conservation measures that address environmental concerns on their farms. There are six (6) applications for a total amount of \$38,000.
3. **Conservation Reserve Program:**

The C.R.P. Program has had a busy year due to a brand new Grass Wildlife Program and the ongoing Long Leaf Program. There were five (5) applications for the Long Leaf Conservation Reserve Program, and fifteen (15) for the Wildlife Grass Buffers Program. Total C.R.P. acres protected are one hundred sixty-nine (169) acres and \$110,925.18 of land improvements.
4. **Environmental Education:**

The Columbus Soil and Water Conservation District held the 9th Annual Field Day. Approximately two hundred (200) students participated. The event was held at the Boys and Girls Home Arena due to rain. We are glad to announce that we received a grant from Brunswick Electric. This is a great outreach for the District, and many schools ask to attend. Thanks a bunch to Brunswick Electric and all of the volunteers that made the event a success.

Agenda Item #8: RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION in SUPPORT of the SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM:

Vice Chairman Godwin requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) was established 2001 to provide low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods at farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs; **and**

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program are to:

- Provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers' markets, roadside stands and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors,
- Increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community support agriculture programs, and
- Develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community support agriculture programs; **and**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture estimates the SFMNP will serve nearly 900,000 seniors with products from 14,000 farmers at 4,000 farmers markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs during the 2005 harvest season; **and**

WHEREAS, in FY2005, the SFMNP is operating through 46 States, U.S. Territories, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments providing fresh fruits and vegetables to low-income seniors provided by family farmers; **and**

WHEREAS, for FY2002-2007, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Farm Bill, which provided a total of \$15 million for the SFMNP.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners recognizes the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for the benefits it provides to our senior citizens and encourages USDA to make the SFMNP a permanent program.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of July, 2005.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**
ATTESTED BY:
/s/ **JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

Vice Chairman Godwin stated this program would allow senior citizens who participated in the Columbus County Aging programs to receive vouchers that could be used to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, etc. at the Farmer's Market, road-side stands and other agricultural locations.

Ed Worley, Columbus County Aging Director, stated this program had been well accepted.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution in Support of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #9: CDBG #05-C-1358 SCATTERED SITE HOUSING (SSH) - APPROVAL of FUNDING APPROVAL DOCUMENT, GRANT AGREEMENT and SIGNATURE RESOLUTION:

In the absence of Darren Currie, Assistant County Manager, Billy Joe Farmer, County Manger, requested Board acceptance of this grant and approval of the following three (3) documents to signify such.

**North Carolina Division of Community Assistance
Community Development Block Grant Program**

Funding Approval

1. **Name and Address of Recipient**

Columbus County, 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472

2. **Grant Number and Funding Approval Date**

Grant Number: 05-C-1358

Date of Original Funding Approval: June 20, 2005

Date of Amended Funding Approval:

3. **Approved Projects**

<u>Project Number and Name</u>	<u>Approved Amount</u>
Columbus County Scattered Site Project	\$400,000.00
Total Grant Award:	\$400,000.00

4. **Funding Approval Conditions**

The following conditions must be removed in writing by the Division of Community Assistance (DCA) in order for all funds to be released for the approved projects listed in item (3), above:

- A. **Environmental Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any activity except for the payment of reasonable costs related to the planning, administration, engineering, design and environmental assessments for the approved project until the recipient has complied with the Environmental Review Procedures for the N.C. CDBG Program and the CDBG regulations contained in 4 NCAC 19L.1004.
- B. **Citizen Participation and Compliance Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except for the administration activity until DCA is provided with the following documentation of compliance with citizen participation requirements in the application process [4 NCAC 19L.1002]: publisher's affidavits of notices for and minutes signed by the town (or the county as applicable) clerk of the two required public hearings.
- C. **Floodplain Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except for the administration activity until the recipient provides DCA with a certification that the project area is not in a floodplain; or with certification that the recipient participates in the flood insurance program, all properties assisted in the project will be covered for flood insurance prior to beginning construction on the property, and all public facilities will be constructed to comply with the applicable floodplain regulations.
- D. **Administration Contracts/Inter-local Agreements Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except the administration activity until the recipient has submitted either a copy of the contract awarded for administration of this grant or a statement signed by the CEO stating that the contract will be administered internally.
- E. **Performance Based Contract Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except for the administration activity until the recipient has returned to DCA one copy of the properly completed Performance Based Contract.
- F. **Local Government Participation Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except the administration activity until the recipient provides DCA with the Local Government Participation Agreement signed by all eligible municipalities regardless of whether or not they plan to participate.
- G. **Amendment Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any project activity except for the administration activity until the recipient provides written assurance that it commits to assisting the number of units stated in the SSH application and if the number of units to be assisted, the method of selection, or the policies that have been designed for this grant changes, the local government is responsible for following DCA amendment procedures.

- H. **Housing Selection Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any activity except for the administration activity until DCA receives a list of the selected units.
1. **Closeout Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any activity until closeout documentation for the previous SSH grant has been received by DCA.
- J **LMI Map Condition:** No funds may be obligated or expended in any activity except for the administration activity until DCA receives a LMI map of the project area.

5. **Signature of Authorized Official**

/s/ Gloria Nance Sims	
<u>Director, Division of Community Assistance</u>	<u>June 20, 2005</u>
Title	Date

6 **Signature of Authorized Local Official**

/s/ Sammie Jacobs	
Name	
Chairman, Columbus County Board of Commissioners	<u>July 25, 2005</u>
Title	Date

**North Carolina Department of Commerce
Division of Community Assistance
Community Development Block Grant Program
Grant Agreement
Scattered Site Housing (SSH)**

Upon execution of this grant agreement, **the North Carolina** Department of Commerce (DOC) agrees to provide to the recipient Community Development Block Grant assistance under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, (EL. 93-383), as amended, authorized by the DOC funding approval, the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant administrative rules, applicable laws and all other requirements of DOC now or hereafter in effect. The grant agreement is effective on the date the grant agreement and funding approval are signed by the recipient. The grant agreement consists of the approved application, including the certifications, maps, schedules and other submissions in the application, any subsequent amendments to the approved application and funding approval and the following general terms and conditions:

- A. **Definitions.** Except to the extent modified or supplemented by the agreement, any term defined in the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Administrative Rules, 4 NCAC 19L, shall have the same meaning when used herein.
1. Agreement means this grant agreement, as described above, and any amendments or supplements thereto.
 2. Recipient means the entity designated as a recipient for grant assistance in the grant agreement and funding approval.
 3. Certifications mean the certifications submitted with the grant application pursuant to the requirements of Paragraph (e) of Rule .0407 of the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Administrative Rules, 4 NCAC 19L.
 4. Assistance provided under this agreement means the grant funds provided under this agreement.
 5. Program means the community development program, project, or other activities, including the administration thereof, for which assistance is being provided under this agreement.
 6. The date for receiving the grant means the date of the DCA Director's signature on the Grant Agreement and Funding Approval.
- B **Obligations of the Recipient.** The recipient shall perform the program as specified in the application approved by DOC. The recipient shall comply with the certification pursuant to Paragraph (e) of Rule .0407 of the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant

Administrative Rules, 4 NCAC 19L. The recipient shall also comply with all other lawful requirements of DOC, all applicable requirements of the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina and any other applicable laws and Executive Orders currently or hereafter in force.

- C** **Obligations of Recipient with Respect to Certain Third Party Relationships.** DOC shall hold the recipient responsible for complying with the provisions of this agreement even when the recipient designates a third party or parties to undertake all or any part of the program. The recipient shall comply with all lawful requirements of DOC necessary to insure that the program is carried out in accordance with the recipient's certifications including the certification of assumption of environmental responsibilities under Rule .1004 of the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Administrative Rules, 4 NCAC 19L. If the recipient contracts with or designates a third party to undertake all or part of the program in exchange for a grant or loan from the recipient to the third party of all, or a portion, of the recipient's grant funds, the recipient's contract with the third party must require the third party to comply with the procurement standards set forth in 4 N. C. Administrative Code 19L .0908.
- D** **Conflict of Interest.** None of the following or their immediate family members, during the tenure of the subject person or for one year thereafter shall have any direct or indirect financial interest in any contract, subcontract or the proceeds thereof for work to be performed in connection with the program assisted under this agreement: employees or agents of the recipient who exercise any function or responsibility with respect to the program, and officials of the recipient including members of the governing body. The same prohibition shall be incorporated in all such contracts or subcontracts.
- The assistance provided under this agreement shall not be used in the payment of any bonus or commission for the purpose of obtaining DOC approval of the application for such assistance, or DOC approval of applications for additional assistance, or any other approval or concurrence of DOC required under this agreement, or the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Administrative Rules, with respect thereto; provided, however, that reasonable fees or bona fide technical, consultant, managerial or other such services, other than actual solicitation, are not prohibited if otherwise eligible as program costs.
- E** **Reimbursement to DOC for Improper Expenditures.** The recipient will reimburse DOC for any amount of grant assistance improperly expended.
- F** **Access to Records.** The recipient shall provide any duly authorized representative of DOC, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Comptroller General at all reasonable times access to and the right to inspect, copy, monitor, and examine all of the books, papers, records, and other documents relating to the grant for a period of three years following the completion of all close-out procedures.
- G** **Project Savings.** The recipient is obligated to contribute 100 percent of its pledged cash contribution to the CDBG project even if the project experiences a savings after authorized activities are completed. Any project savings accrue to the CDBG program.
- H** **Expenditure of Non-CDBG Funds.** The recipient must ensure that non-CDBG funds are expended along with CDBG funds, following the implementation schedule described in the approved application and modified by the Performance Contract, and shall report on non-CDBG expenditures with each Annual Performance Report, consistent with Section .1100 PERFORMANCE of the program regulations (4NCAC 19L).
- I** **Method of Payment.** The Department of Commerce uses the Electronic Payment Form from the Office of State Controller (OSC) to make CDBG payments to units of local government. Payments on requisitions will be made only by electronic funds transfer unless arrangements have been made with the Finance Officer in the Division of Community Assistance.
- J** **Fair Housing.** For each grant year that a CDBG is active, a recipient must describe the actions it will take in the areas of enforcement, education and removal of bafflers and impediments to affirmatively further fair housing. Guidance for developing a Fair Housing Plan can be found in DCA Bulletin 93-4.
- K** **Equal Employment and Procurement Opportunity.** A recipient must describe the actions

it will take annually while the grant is open in the areas of enforcement, education and removal of barriers and impediments that affirmatively further equal access in employment and procurement. This includes a description of steps to be taken in the areas of advertisement, compliance and complaint tracking.

- L **Local Economic Benefit (Section 3 Regulation)**. For each year that a CDBG is active, a recipient must describe a strategy whereby opportunities in employment and procurement arising out of a CDBG assisted project are identified and made available to low-income residents within the CDBG assisted area to the greatest extent feasible. This strategy must include (1) identification of training and technical assistance resources to prepare low-income residents for employment and procurement opportunities, (2) attempts to reach the numerical targets for new hires set forth in the Section 3 regulation, which applies to recipients receiving \$200,000 or more in non-administrative line items expended for construction contracts of at least \$100,000 per contract, and (3) education of low-income residents within the CDBG assisted area about the components and opportunities of the program.
- M **Section 504 and ADA**. Recipients must complete the Section 504 Survey and Transition Plan. This plan will not satisfy all the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, but it will meet the minimum requirements for a CDBG assisted project.
- N **Obligation of Recipient With Regard to Vacant Units**. The recipient shall ensure that all vacant units being rehabilitated will be occupied by a low or moderate income family by the time close-out occurs.
- O **Utility Assessments or Fees**: Assessments or fees to recover the CDBG funded portion of a utility project may be charged to properties not owned and occupied by low and moderate income persons. Such assessments are program income and, as such, must be used for eligible CDBG activities that meet a CDBG national objective.
- P **Schedule for Release of Conditions and Completion Activities**. The recipient must satisfy all conditions to release CDBG funds 90 days (September 19, 2005) from the date June 20, 2005 the grant agreement and funding approval are signed by the DCA Director. And draw down all CDBG funds, expend all local non-CDBG funds and complete all project activities in conformance with the activities implementation schedule in the application as modified by the Performance Contract. The recipient must obligate all funds within 27 months (September 20, 2007) and spend all funds within 30 months (December 20, 2007) from the date the Grant Agreement and Funding Approval are signed by the DCA Director. The timetable for completion of activities may be extended, as warranted by extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the recipient local government, through amendments to the application approved by the Division. Consistent with Section .1104 of the program regulations (4NCAC 19L), based on review of the recipient's performance for conformance with the approved application and approved performance schedules, the Secretary of Commerce may withdraw the grant, except for funds already expended.

Upon execution of this agreement by DOC and the recipient, the recipient hereby accepts the assistance on the terms of this grant agreement effective on the date indicated below, and further certifies that the official signing this document has been duly authorized by the recipient's governing body to execute this Grant Agreement.

Secretary of the Department of Commerce
/s/ Gloria Nance-Sims, Director, Division of Community Assistance
Date: June 20, 2005

Date July 25, 2005

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
Name of Recipient
By: /s/ **Sammie Jacobs**
Chairman
Title

**DESIGNATION of APPLICANT'S AGENT
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Columbus County has received a CDBG Grant for **Scattered Site Housing, (Grant Number: 05-C-1358)**, from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County wishes to authorize certain individuals to sign the Requisition for Funds forms, and act as the County's Agent; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus County is required to adopt this Resolution in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the CDBG grant award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, the following people be, and are authorized, to sign the **Requisition for Funds** forms, and act as the **County's Agent**:

Sammie Jacobs, County Commissioner;
Kipling Godwin, County Commissioner;
Billy Joe Farmer, County Manager; **and**
Roxanne Coleman, Finance Director.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of July, 2005.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ **JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board**

Commissioner Prevatte asked Billy Joe Farmer, County Manager, if the sites had been identified. Mr. Farmer replied stating yes, typically, they have.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to accept the CDBG Grant #05-C-1358, and the above listed three (3) documents to signify such, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #10: CDBG #99-E-0626 - ADVERTISE and CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING:

Billy Joe Farmer, County Manager, requested Board approval to advertise and conduct a Public Hearing on August 1, 2005, at 6:15 P.M., to close out the CDBG Grant #99-E-0626. Mr. Farmer stated this grant was a part of the Wright Chemical Project and it is a requirement that the grant be closed out by conducting a Public Hearing.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to advertise and conduct a Public Hearing on August 1, 2005, at 6:15 P.M., to be held in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose of closing out CDBG Grant #99-E-0626, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #11: 2005 CRISIS HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUNDS (CHAF) GRANT AGREEMENT - REQUEST for BOARD REVIEW and CONSIDERATION of APPROVAL:

Chairman Jacobs requested Board review and consideration of approval, contingent on the attorney's advice, of the 2004 Crisis Housing Assistance Funds (CHAF) Grant Agreement.

In the absence of Chairman Jacobs, Vice Chairman Godwin stated this document is being reviewed by the attorney.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to take the 2004 Crisis Housing Assistance Funds (CHAF) Grant Agreement under advisement and place this document on the next scheduled Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion so carried.

Agenda Item #12: CONSENT AGENDA ITEM:

Tax Refunds and Releases:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Tax Refunds and Releases, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion so carried.

*****NOTE: This information can be found at the very end of these minutes due to the incompatibility of the computer programs between the Tax Office and the Governing Body Office.**

Agenda Item #13: COMMENTS:

Chairman Jacobs opened the floor for comments from anyone who would like to speak.. The following people spoke.

B Board of Commissioners:

1. Commissioner Dutton: stated the following:

- A. At the last meeting, I encouraged every citizen who lives in Columbus County to contact their legislators concerning the Medicaid issue;
- B. The Columbus County Board of Commissioners could have lowered the property taxes sixteen (\$.16) cents this year if we did not have to fund Medicaid;
- C. North Carolina is the only state left in the entire United States that requires counties to fund Medicaid;
- D. We could lower the property tax to fifty-seven (\$.57) cents; **and**
- E. If the citizens of Columbus County want lower property taxes, they desperately need to contact their legislators and request that they work harder on this issue.

2. Vice Chairman Godwin: stated the following:

- A. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is working hard for all the counties to achieve capping costs on Medicaid, and phasing out Medicaid over the next five (5) years, and has been working diligently for the last several years to do so; **and**
- B. The citizens of Columbus County need to get involved in this issue.

3. Commissioner McKenzie: stated the following:

- A. The Board needs to discuss Water Districts II and III;
- B. I would like to propose that we go back to the one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars tap-on fee; **and**
- C. No five hundred and 00/100 (\$500.00) dollars deposit on the initial setup.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion for Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts II and III to have an one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars tap-on fee, henceforth, until further notice, seconded by Commissioner Dutton.

James E. Hill, Jr., former Columbus County Attorney, was in attendance and advised the Board they needed to enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District II and III Board Meeting for this board action.

Commissioner Dutton withdrew his second, and Commissioner McKenzie withdrew his motion.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into JOINT MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS II and III BOARD MEETING:

At 7:25 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a joint meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts II and III Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book I for the Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board, and Minute Book I of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board.

ADJOURN JOINT MEETING OF COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS II and III BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting of

Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts II and III, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion so carried.

ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT I BOARD MEETING:

At 7:38 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn Regular Session and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book I for the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board.

ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT I BOARD MEETING and enter into a JOINT MEETING of the COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS IV and V BOARD MEETING:

At 7:39 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting and enter into a Joint Meeting of the Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book I for the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board and the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board.

ADJOURN the JOINT MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS IV and V BOARD MEETING, and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn the Joint Meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts IV and V Board Meeting, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion so carried.

4. **Commissioner Memory:** I would like to know if the committee of veterans that was discussed at the last meeting has brought any information back to the Board relative to a suitable location for the Veterans Administration Office. No response was received.

OTHER:

Columbus County Water and Sewer (Acme Area) - Offer of One Hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) Dollars Tap-on Fee:

Commissioner Memory made a motion for Columbus County Water and Sewer (Acme Area) to have an one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars tap-on fee for six (6) months, expiring on January 18, 2006, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion so carried.

Recognition of Department Heads:

Vice Chairman Godwin recognized the Department Heads that were in attendance and asked if they would like to make any comments. The following Department Heads spoke.

1. **Ronnie Hayes:** stated the following:
 - A. House Bill #1638 has been approved by the House Committee;
 - B. This bill, if passed, will eliminate the surcharge on telephones that we rely heavily on for revenue;
 - C. There are four (4) large organizations that are against this bill;
 - D. Columbus County stands to lose \$504,000.00 in revenue;
 - E. This bill is going to the full House for a vote;
 - F. If we should lose this source of revenue, it will add two (\$.02) cents to the property tax in Columbus County; **and**
 - G. We desperately need for everyone to contact our legislators voicing our opposition to House Bill #1638.

MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion for Vice Chairman to contact our legislators and voice our strong opposition to House Bill #1638, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

MOTION:

Commissioner Dutton made a motion for Vice Chairman to speak on Medicaid Relief for Columbus County when he makes contact with our legislators relative to House Bill #1638, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

2. **Marva Scott:** stated the following:
 - A. Ronnie Hayes, Emergency Services Director, sent out a memo dated in November, 2004, which I had not seen until recently, which states there will be charges for false alarms;
 - B. At the Social Services Department, we have many citizens who come in and out of the building, and the alarms are triggered by mostly children and some adults;
 - C. The alarms are also triggered by intense weather conditions;
 - D. When the alarms are set off by visitors or the weather, we immediately call and let 911 know what has happened; **and**
 - E. I would like to know what can be done to change this.

Ronnie Hayes stated there was an exemption to weather, but there was no exemption for children.

3. **Ed Worley:** I would like to echo Commissioner Dutton's information and request relative to Medicaid Relief. If Columbus County could accomplish this relief, we could do a lot more for the citizens of this County.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION:

At 8:49 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (3) (6), seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 8:49 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Dutton. The motion so carried.

TAX REFUNDS and RELEASES (See Agenda Item #12.):

**TAX REFUNDS (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
July 18, 2005**

The Tax Administrator's Office recommends that the values listed below be refunded to the following citizens:

Type	First Name	Amount Released	Property	Year	Account #	Bill #	Total
Refunds	Singletary, Troy		Refund user fee on house that is vacant, has no power and no trash can. Approved by Solid Waste.	2004	05-0640	1750	\$177.00
		\$0.00					
	2832 Edmondson Ave. Baltimore						
	MD 21223						
Refunds	Strickland, General		Refund user fee on house that is vacant and does not have a trash can. Approved by Solid Waste. Make check payable to James E. Strickland.	2003	06-3842	6420	\$177.00
		\$0.00					
	3595 Swamp Fox Hwy. W. Tabor City						
	NC 28463						

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
July 18, 2005**

The Tax Administrator's Office recommends that the values listed below be released to the following citizens:

Type of Release	First Name	Amount Released	Property	Year	Account #	Bill #	Total
Property	Buffkin, Lloyd		Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Charles E. Collier. Release of user fee approved.	1999	03-0391	5532	\$151.37
Property	Buffkin, Lloyd	\$46.70	Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Charles E. Collier. Release of user fee approved.	1998	03-0391	43914	\$153.44
Property	Buffkin, Lloyd	\$48.58	Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Charles E. Collier. Release of user fee approved.	1997	03-0391	66875	\$156.11
Property	Buffkin, Lloyd	\$51.01	Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Charles E. Collier. Release of user fee approved.	1997	03-0391	66874	\$131.04
Property	Nealey, William	\$59.20	Release a portion of the property value and a portion of the Columbus Rescue fee. Customer billed with incorrect measurement.	2004	06-2694	10701	\$8.00
Property	Powell, Euris	\$7.80	Release the deferred tax on property that is still in the Land Use Program.	2001	03-1794	37005	\$191.88
Property	Powell, Euris	\$191.88	Release the deferred tax on property that is still in the Land Use Program.	2002	03-1794	37004	\$191.88
Property	Powell, Euris	\$191.88	Release the deferred tax on property that is still in the Land Use Program.	2003	03-1794	37003	\$191.88
Property	Powell, Euris		Release the deferred tax, the Brunswick Fire fee (17.22) and the Columbus Rescue (4.92). Property is still in the Land Use Program.	2004	03-1794	37002	\$214.02
User Fee	Meares, Ronald	\$191.88	Release user fee on house that is vacant, unlivable, and has no power. Approved by Solid Waste.	2004	12-1882	8954	\$177.00
User Fee	Meares, Ronald	\$0.00	Release user fee on house that is vacant, unlivable, and has no power. Approved by Solid Waste.	2003	12-1882	52679	\$177.00
User Fee	Powell, Elaine G.	\$0.00	Release user fee. Customer uses a commercial hauler. Approved by Solid Waste.	2004	16-0324	12918	\$177.00
User Fee	Strickland, General	\$0.00	Release user fee on house that is vacant and does not have a trash can. Approved by Solid Waste.	2004	06-3842	20539	\$177.00
		\$0.00					

Agenda Item #15: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:50 P.M., Commissioner Dutton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion so carried.

APPROVED: