

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

June 30, 2006

8:30 A.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 the purpose of holding a Special Called Meeting, that was duly called for and advertised.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Jimmy Varner, **Interim County Manager**
Steven W. Fowler, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Roxanne Coleman, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED to ORDER:

At 8:30 A.M., Chairman Godwin called the meeting to order, and stated this Special Called meeting which has been duly advertised is being held for the purpose of the consideration of the adoption of the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget, and other matters related to the close of the fiscal year.

ADOPTION of PROPOSED 2006 - 2007 COLUMBUS COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET:

Chairman Godwin requested Jim Varner, Interim County Manager, to give a brief synopsis of the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget. Mr. Varner recognized Gayle Godwin, former Columbus County Finance Officer, and Virginia Taylor, Columbus County Personnel Director, and read the handout that was provided as follows:

Commissioners Meeting

June 30, 2006

8:30 A.M.

The budget is balanced with the current tax rate of 73 cents.

Items included in the budget:

- A \$3.00 rate increase for Water Districts II and III. (\$22.00 to \$25.00)
- A \$16.00 increase in solid waste fees to offset the approximate \$450,000 fuel surcharge. Rates will increase from \$177.00 to \$193.00 for county residents and \$90.48 to \$106.00 for municipalities. This is based on a 96% collection rate. **Current collection rate is 81%.**
- A \$3,936,765.00 fund balance appropriation is necessary to balance the budget.
- Included changes made as of June 28, 2006.

Items not included in the budget:

- \$1.3 million for construction of the detention project. (Borrow from bank)
- \$1 million increase in Medicaid per state computation.

Chairman Godwin stated the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget has been presented to the Board for the consideration of adoption, and the floor is open for any comments from the Board. The following comments and/or recommendations were made.

1. **Commissioner McKenzie:** stated the following:
 - A. First, I would like to thank the staff for all the hard work they have performed in the preparation of this budget;
 - B.. I strongly recommend that we keep the tax rate at seventy-three (\$.73) cents;

- C. I encourage the citizens to hookup to the water in Water Districts II and III; **and**
 - D. I recommend that we pass this Budget, as presented by staff.
2. **Commissioner Memory:** stated the following:
- A. Does anyone know how much money we have in our Fund Balance? Mr. Varner stated less than \$5 million.
 - B. Due to the fact that we do not know how much money there is in Fund Balance, if we take the amount out of Fund Balance that is being recommended to balance this Budget, we could be treading in dangerous territory;
 - C. I strongly recommend that we keep the operating expenses at their present level, minus five (5%) percent, and keep the employment the same as our present level;
 - D. We hire a CPA firm to come in and get our balance straightened out, and at that time, proceed with what we need to do; **and**
 - E. I will agree to go along with a three and one-half (\$.035) cents tax increase, but no more than that.
3. **Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:
- A. As I have pointed out earlier, we have a \$3.9 Million deficit, with the \$2 Million for Childcare from last year, the \$1 Million for Solid Waste shortfall, and the \$1 Million for Medicaid being under budgeted; **and**
 - B. I recommend strongly that we cut the departmental budgets to the bare minimum until we see how we stand and they could be adjusted at a later date.
4. **Commissioner Jacobs:** stated the following:
- A. We can't give our employees a five (5%) percent increase with last year's money;
 - B. We can't run our government on the bare minimum; **and**
 - C. I will agree to a three (3%) percent to a five (5%) percent tax increase.
5. **Vice Chairman Dutton:** stated the following:
- A. I recommend that we do not raise property tax and look at Prevatte's proposal;
 - B. We can't raise taxes without all the facts which we don't have; **and**
 - C. I recommend that we do an Interim Budget until we know where we stand.
- Jim Varner, Interim County Manager, stated that if we do an Interim Budget, it will be an accounting nightmare. The biggest percentage of property taxes is collected in August, and if an Interim Budget is adopted, we may not be able to get the tax notices out in time for this discount.
6. **Commissioner McKenzie:** I strongly think we should take a chance with the low Fund Balance and not raise taxes.
7. **Commissioner Norris:** stated the following:
- A. I do not want to raise taxes; **and**
 - B. I will do what it takes to run Columbus County Government.
8. **Vice Chairman Dutton:** It appears that we are operating in the dark which is never a good idea. It would be in the best interest of everyone if we waited until we had more facts to work with. We have adopted an Interim Budget before and we can do it again.
9. **Chairman Godwin:** stated the following:
- A. I do not think we need to adopt an Interim Budget;
 - B. I think we should adopt the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget at the current level, as presented; **and**
 - C. I can live with a two and one-half (2 ½%) percent to a five (5%) percent tax increase.
10. **Vice Chairman Dutton:** This budget is based on a ninety-six (96%) percent tax collection rate. What will happen if this percentage rate is not met in the coming year?
11. **Commissioner Jacobs:** stated the following:
- A. We need to make sure the employees' checks are good;
 - B. We need to find the money to do the raises for our employees; **and**
 - C. You have to do what you got to do when you need to do it.
12. **Marva Scott, Social Services Director:** stated the following:
- A. Making changes at the last hour is not good and can be very frustrating;

- B. It is very apparent that Columbus County's finances are in a mess;
 - C. If you have to cut anything, it should be to eliminate the two (2%) percent 401K which we have never had;
 - D. I recommend that you look at the surrounding counties who have healthy budgets to use as an example;
 - E. There is a big difference between need and necessity;
 - F. The Columbus County Department of Social Services need these eight (8) positions that I have requested;
 - G. I am requesting that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners consider these eight (8) positions at Social Services.
13. **David Long:** stated the following:
- A. I am here today to advise you of what the people need and want from our local government;
 - B. "We The People" insist Columbus County's past and present business ways be changed;
 - C. It is illogical and unnecessary to have extra moneys tied up within each department in this county government for that year, while these moneys could be used elsewhere;
 - D. Each department is accountable to the Commissioners and therefore, should only receive money to operate on for the new year based upon last years' expenditures;
 - E. If any extra money is needed over budget, that department head is then to request the extra money from the Commissioners where it is deemed necessary by a vote of seven (7) men, not one (1) person;
 - F. By raising our contingency fund from the State's eight (8%) percent minimum to ten (10%) percent for Columbus County will allow for this adjustment;
 - G. "We The People" insist our local government sacrifice as "We The People" are having to sacrifice;
 - H. That is to use every available resource, including intelligence - not just money, to get ourselves out of the hole we all have dug for ourselves by Columbus County using only the minimum standard;
 - I. It is a forgone conclusion the State of North Carolina's minimum Standards leave a lot to be desired, and by Columbus County adhering to the State's minimum standards and doing only the minimum, has gotten Columbus County in the mess we are now in;
 - J. Remember the more effort and intelligence one puts into a problem the more better the solution;
 - K. Quit throwing money at the problem and remember it takes intelligence to manage the money as well as the problems;
 - L. And keep in mind "We The People" are already squeezing the penny Abe;
 - M. "We The People" insist Columbus County Administration do like the poor taxpayer, and start being very frugal and more efficient with the taxpayers' money;
 - N. Remember ALL people always ask and want for more than they need;
 - O. "We The People" support Commissioner Prevatte's position as he supports ours, and we urge you to do so;
 - P. As Commissioner Amon McKenzie pointed out in the June 19, 2006 Budget Meeting, in a statement referencing me and always having ideas, I wish to publicly thank Commissioner McKenzie for his praise;
 - Q. And as ALL of you are aware this morning, I am still at it; **and**
 - R. I am through preaching now. Let's "Git 'er done", shall we" "We The People" insist.

There being no further comments on the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget, Chairman Godwin asked what was the pleasure of the Board.

Commissioner Memory: stated the following:

- A. Today, we, the Board of Columbus County Commissioners must make a decision that we must live with for the next year;
- B. How much to raise property taxes which affect every landowner in the County;
- C. It is our duty, our fiscal responsibility to make a reasonable decision which is in the best interest of the citizens, our employees, and the programs and services we fund;
- D. A no vote on the following motion means we are saying no to our citizens and our employees. We can make adjustments as needed through the coming year when our financial picture is clearer. The following motion will serve our citizens and offer responsible County Government without the complete sacrifice of our General Fund.

MOTION:

We instruct the Administration of the County to balance the Fiscal 2006/2007 Columbus County Budget with a 3.5 cents increase while maintaining the current levels of employment and a five (5%) percent reduction in all line items which are non-essential, such as Capital Outlay, Travel, and the like, and non-mandated State and Federal programs. This budget would include a three (3%) percent Cost-of-Living increase, with a two (2%) percent 401-K for our employees, monies for jail and school debt, and some Medicaid relief. As part of this motion, the Administration Staff is to immediately seek a certified public accounting firm, with County Government experience, using agencies such as, and not limited to, the North Carolina Institute of Government, the Cape Fear Council of Governments, and other bodies, so this County can contract a firm to bring its books into order, as soon as possible. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jacobs for purposes of discussion.

Commissioner Jacobs stated that it was his recommendation to leave the new positions in the budget and to amend the stated motion.

1ST SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Commissioner McKenzie made the following Substitute Motion: to adopt the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget, as presented by Jim Varner, Interim County Manager, at seventy-three (\$.73) cents tax rate. No second was made to this substitute motion. The motion died for a lack of a second.

2ND SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made the following Substitute Motion:

- Keep the same levels of employment as this year;
- Leave the Cost-of-Living and the 401-K monies in the Budget;
- Leave the increase for the fuel costs;
- Leave the tax rate at seventy-three (\$.73) cents;
- Deduct five (5%) percent from all non-essential line items; **and**
- Take the balance needed, after all these changes are made, from the Fund Balance.

This substitute motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dutton. A poll vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Vice Chairman Dutton and Commissioner Prevatte
NAYS: Chairman Godwin, Commissioners McKenzie, Memory, Norris and Jacobs.

The substitute motion failed with a five (5) to two (2) vote.

Commissioner Memory stated that we need the proposed tax increase to be in better financial shape next year.

MOTION to AMEND ORIGINAL MOTION:

Commissioner Jacobs made the following motion: to amend the original motion by Commissioner Memory, and leave the new positions in the Proposed 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Memory.

MOTION (AMENDED):

We instruct the Administration of the County to balance the Fiscal 2006/2007 Columbus County Budget with a 3.5 cents tax increase and a five (5%) percent reduction in all line items which are non-essential, such as Capital Outlay, Travel, and the like, and non-mandated State ;and Federal programs. This budget would include a three (3%) percent Cost-of-Living increase, with a two (3%) percent 401-K for our employees, monies for jail and school debt, and some Medicaid relief. As part of this motion, the Administration Staff is to immediately seek a certified public accounting firm, with County Government experience, using agencies such as, an not limited to, the North Carolina Institute of Government, the Cape Fear Council of Governments, and other bodies, so this County can contract a firm to bring its books into order, as soon as possible.

Commissioner Memory stated Columbus County needs a firm to get the financial books in the proper order and we needed to hire an acting Finance Officer right away.

Jim Varner, Interim County Manager, asked for clarification on non-essential items. Commissioner Memory stated it would be line items like travel, office supplies, dues and subscriptions, etc.

A poll vote was taken on the amended motion made by Commissioner Jacobs with the following results:

AYES: Chairman Godwin, Vice Chairman Dutton, Commissioners McKenzie, Memory Norris and Jacobs
NAYS: Commissioner Prevatte.

The motion passed on a six (6) to one (1) vote.

Chairman Godwin stated that staff was to prepare a revised copy of the 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget as soon as possible, and Jim Varner, Interim County Manager, will determine where the cuts are to be made.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the following Budget Amendments, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-516-4500	Contract Services	\$4,123
Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$4,123
Expenditure	23-495-7300	Construction	\$7,240
Revenue	23-335-0	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$2,839
	23-397-0	Transfer From General Fund	\$4,401
Expenditure	10-900-6000	Transfer to Captial Projects	\$4,401
Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$4,401
Expenditure	10-461-400	WEB Development Services	\$3,300
	10-461-3300	Scanner/Dig Camera	\$342.00
Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$3,642
Expenditure	35-580-200	Salaries	\$7,000
	35-580-4500	Contract Services	\$2,200,000
	35-580-9100	Transfer to General Fund	(\$1,200,000)
Revenue	35-359-300	Tipping Fees	\$1,007,000
Expenditure	30-600-6000	Bulk Water Purchases	\$5,000
Revenue	30-399-0	Retained Earnings Appropriated	\$5,000
Expenditure	50-410-4715	Housing Payments	(\$47,067
	50-410-4716	HAP Portables	\$4,000
Revenue	50-300-8026	Annual Contribution	\$43,067
Expenditure	10-520-4700	Custodial Care	\$90,000
	10-520-4600	Medical & Hosp Exp	\$20,000
	10-520-3300	Departmental Supplies	\$10,000
	10-510-3100	Auto Supplies	\$4,000
	10-510-1400	Travel	\$200
	10-510-1600	M&R - Equipment	\$2,000
	10-510-1700	M&R - Vehicles	\$2,800
	10-510-1100	Telephone	\$1,000

Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$120,000
	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$10,000
Expenditure	10-577-32	Office Supplies	\$1,000
	10-577-46	Drugs and Supplies	\$5,000
Revenue	10-348-0506	Bioterrorism	\$6,000
Expenditure	10-470-200	Salaries	\$9,302
	10-470-400	Professional Services CPA	\$215
	10-470-401	Professional Services Attorney	\$2,000
	10-470-402	Professional Services Other	\$25,000
	10-470-500	FICA	\$712
Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$37,229
Expenditure	10-535-3301	Homeland Security Grant	\$75,108
Revenue	10-348-2	Homeland Security Grant	\$75,108
Expenditure	10-535-3304	Emerg Mngmt Planning Grant	\$19,707
Revenue	10-399-0	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$19,707
Expenditure	10-700-1000	Transf to State - 3% Vehicle Tax Coll	\$6,000
Revenue	10-317-0	Penalty & Interest - Taxes	\$6,000
Expenditure	10-542-400	Administration	\$19,891
	10-542-401	Planning	\$580
	10-542-1400	Travel	\$2,813
	10-542-5700	Miscellaneous	\$243
Revenue	10-348-2602	NC Rural Center Telecenter Grant	\$23,527
Expenditure	10-410-5400	Insurance - Workers Comp	\$250,000
	10-660-5400	Insurance - Workers Comp	(\$250,000)
Expenditure	10-599-3100	Automotive Supplies	\$7,400
	10-599-1300	Utilities	(\$1,289)
	10-660-9999	Contingency	(\$6,111)
Expenditure	10-410-0500	FICA	\$804
	10-410-3200	Office Supplies	\$3,805
	10-410-5300	Dues & Subscriptions	\$986
	10-410-5700	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$6,566
	10-410-0600	Insurance Employee Benefits	(\$11,000)
	10-410-1000	Auto Allowances	(\$1,161)
Expenditure	10-520-3300	Departmental Supplies	\$55,000
	10-510-3300	Departmental Supplies	\$20,000
	10-510-3100	Automotive Supplies	\$12,000
Revenue	10-351-0	Arrest Reports	\$32,000
	10-358-0	PC 107s & Backlog	\$55,000
Expenditure	10-496-2600	Advertising	\$4,200

	10-496-3200	Office Supplies	\$200
	10-496-300	Departmental Supplies	\$250
	10-496-5300	Dues & Subscriptions	\$45
	10-496-5400	Insurance - Prof Liab	\$233
	10-496-5700	Misc. Expenses	\$100
	10-496-6300	Grants/Area Events	(\$914)
Revenue	10-335-350	Misc. Revenues	\$4,114

PERSONNEL - PROPOSED REVISION to SALARY SCHEDULE FY 2006 - 2007:

Chairman Godwin stated the Personnel Committee had met and Virginia Taylor, Personnel Director, had presented a proposed revision to the Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2006 - 2007. The Personnel Committee is okay with this, and now it is being presented to the Board for their approval. The proposed revision to the Salary Schedule FY 2006 - 2007 is as follows.

SALARY SCHEDULE FY 2006-2007
Effective July 1, 2006

GRADE	MINIMUM	MID-POINT	MAXIMUM
50	11,327	16,006	23,181
51	11,900	16,816	24,355
52	12,503	17,669	25,589
53	13,136	18,562	28,245
54	13,901	19,502	28,245
55	14,500	20,490	29,675
56	15,235	21,527	31,175
57	16,006	22,617	32,756
58	16,816	23,762	34,415
59	17,667	24,965	36,157
60	18,562	26,229	37,988
61	19,502	27,557	39,910
62	20,490	28,952	41,930
63	21,527	30,418	44,053
64	22,617	31,957	46,283
65	23,762	33,575	48,627
66	24,965	35,274	51,088
67	26,229	37,060	53,675
68	27,557	38,937	56,392
69	28,952	40,908	59,246
70	30,418	42,979	62,245
71	31,957	45,154	65,397
72	35,575	47,440	68,707
73	35,274	49,842	72,185
74	37,060	52,365	75,840
75	38,937	55,016	79,679
76	40,908	57,801	79,679
77	42,979	60,727	83,712
78	45,154	63,801	92,404
79	47,440	67,031	97,083
80	49,842	70,425	101,997
81	52,365	73,991	107,161
82	55,016	77,737	112,586
83	57,801	81,672	118,286
84	60,727	85,807	124,274
85	63,801	90,151	130,553
86	67,031	94,715	137,175
87	70,425	99,510	144,121
88	73,991	104,547	151,416

- Department Heads must get prior approval from the County Manager and justify salary requests before offering new employees a salary above the Minimum.
- Salary increases for new employees after their probationary period will not be allowed without prior approval by the County Manager. Such increases should be based on advanced education or certification.
- Department Heads are not allowed to give an increase above 2.5% without approval from the County Manager.

Commissioner McKernzie made a motion to approve the Proposed Salary Schedule FY 2006-2007, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion unanimously carried.

OTHER:

Commissioner Memory asked Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, how many people had signed up from the Acme Delco area. Mr. Sellers replied stating there were thirty-five (35) signups.

RECESS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE WITH N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

CLOSED SESSION:

At 9:59 A.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to recess the Special Called Meeting and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. §143-318.1 (3) Attorney-Client Privilege, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs. The motion unanimously carried.

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING:

At 10:15 A.M., Commissioner McKernzie made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume the Special Called Meeting, seconded by Vice Chairman Dutton. The motion unanimously carried.

RECESS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE WITH N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (6) PERSONNEL:

At 10:19 A.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to recess the Special Called meeting and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (6) Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING:

At 10:21 A.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume the Special Called Meeting, seconded by Vice Chairman Dutton. The motion unanimously carried.

AGREEMENT - EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT with JIMMY VARNER as COLUMBUS COUNTY MANAGER:

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve the following Employment Agreement for Jimmy Varner, to be effective as of July 01, 2006, and to waive the County Residency Requirement, as stipulated in the Columbus County Personnel Policy. This motion was seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, and unanimously carried.

NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COLUMBUS COUNTY)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this the 30th day of June, 2006, by and between the County of Columbus, a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, (hereinafter called "COUNTY"), as party of the first part, and Jimmy Varner, a citizen and resident of Brunswick County, North Carolina, (hereinafter called "VARNER") as party of the second part, both of whom understands as follows:

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, VARNER was employed as County Manager (hereinafter "MANAGER") by COUNTY on the first (1st) day of September, 2005, and

WHEREAS, Employer desires to employ the services of said VARNER as MANAGER of the COUNTY, as provided by North Carolina General Statute (hereinafter NCGS) 153A-81 (See attachment "A"); and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the governing board of commissioners of COUNTY, (hereinafter called "BOARD") to provide certain benefits, to establish certain conditions of employment, and to set working conditions of said Employee; and

WHEREAS, VARNER desires to accept employment as County Manager of Columbus County; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

1. **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The Employee shall perform the functions and duties specified in said NCGS 153A-82 (See attachment "B") and to perform other legally permissible and proper duties and functions as the BOARD shall from time to time assign. VARNER shall have exclusive right to hire and terminate employees, except those specified by state statute to be appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Employees hired, suspended or terminated in the position of a department head must be recommended by the MANAGER to the Board of Commissioners and confirmed by the BOARD. The MANAGER shall report each suspension or removal to the BOARD at BOARD'S first regular meeting following the suspension or removal.

2. **TERM OF AGREEMENT.**

A. VARNER agrees to remain in the exclusive employment of COUNTY during the term of this contract.

B. VARNER shall be employed for one (1) calendar year pursuant to this agreement effective upon the date of signature by the Chairman of BOARD.

C. This agreement shall automatically renew each following year on the anniversary of the date of the BOARD chairman's signature for successive one (1) year employment terms.

D. If BOARD or VARNER desires not to renew this agreement before any one (1) year anniversary of renewal, then Ninety (90) calendar days before its cessation, the moving party shall notify the opposite party of its intention.

E. It is agreed by BOARD and VARNER that VARNER was employed as MANAGER by COUNTY on the first (1st) day of September, 2005.

3. **PAYMENT OF FEE**

For all services rendered by VARNER, COUNTY shall pay VARNER an annual base-salary of Eighty-One Thousand Dollars (\$81,000.00), payable in monthly installments at the same time other COUNTY employees are paid. Salary payments shall be subject to all appropriate withholding and other applicable taxes.

4. **RESIGNATION**

In the event VARNER voluntarily wished to resign his position with COUNTY before expiration of the aforesaid term of his employment, then VARNER shall give BOARD Ninety (90) calendar days notice in advance of his intention, unless the parties agree otherwise in writing.

5. **VEHICLE ALLOWANCE**

COUNTY recognizes that VARNER'S duties require that he shall have and operate a vehicle while performing the duties required pursuant to this Agreement. Should VARNER choose to use his own vehicle, COUNTY will pay VARNER for his mileage at the then current-rate of mileage compensation at the rate established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). COUNTY shall provide VARNER with a suitable vehicle when available. For compensation for mileage, VARNER shall present appropriate records of his mileage.

6. **EXPENSES**

It is anticipated that VARNER may incur reasonable expenses in conducting COUNTY business. COUNTY agrees to reimburse VARNER for all such expenses upon VARNER'S periodic

presentation of a properly authenticated account of such expenditures.

7. BENEFITS

A. COUNTY agrees to provide VARNER all vision, dental and life insurance benefits as COUNTY will offer to employees. VARNER will also receive vacation benefits, sick leave and retirement benefits, including deferred compensation, and all other benefits available to COUNTY employees in accordance with the COUNTY Personnel Ordinance

B. VARNER will be provided one-thousand, two-hundred and eight (1,208) hours of accrued sick time at the effective date of this agreement subject to the COUNTY Personnel Policy in conjunction with the following provisions.

1. One (1) month of retirement credit is allowed for each twenty (20) days of any employee's sick leave accumulated during employment with COUNTY accrued at the time of retirement to employees who are members of the North Carolina Local Governmental Employee's Retirement System (hereinafter NCLGERS), pursuant to rules governing NCLGERS, or that system may credit from time to time.

2. COUNTY will accept previously accumulated sick leave from other state or local government entities in the NC. A maximum of ninety six (96) hours may be used for sick leave as defined by the COUNTY personnel policy. Any additional sick leave hours will be used for the purpose of retirement credits. It is the responsibility of VARNER to furnish to Human Resources a statement from his previous employer.

C. COUNTY will contribute to VARNER's 401 (K) account in percentages equal to annual contributions made to the 401 (K) accounts of all employees of COUNTY.

D. COUNTY will reactivate VARNER's credit of thirteen (13) years and one (1) month's credit accrued time with the NCLGERS as of the date of this agreement.

E. In lieu of payment of medical insurance from September 1, 2005, COUNTY agrees to purchase the immediately preceding ten (10) months of service VARNER has previously paid into the NCLGERS from September 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. This specific dollar figure will be calculated based on actuaries provided by the NCLGERS to BOARD.

F. COUNTY bears no responsibility for the loss of any and/or all benefits by VARNER, retirement or otherwise, involuntarily or voluntarily released by VARNER by way his signing of this agreement.

8. EXCLUSIVE AGREEMENT.

This agreement is exclusive. However, BOARD does reserve the right to contract with other Employees or persons to perform same or similar duties during the duration of this contractual agreement. And, VARNER is exclusively bound to COUNTY, and is not free to pursue other private employment on either a full or part time basis.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

A. BOARD shall review and evaluate the performance of VARNER at least once annually. Said review and evaluation shall be in accordance with specific criteria developed jointly by BOARD and VARNER. Further, the Chairman of the BOARD shall provide VARNER with a summary written statement of the findings of BOARD and provide an adequately reasonable opportunity for VARNER to discuss his evaluation with BOARD.

B. Annually, BOARD and VARNER shall define such goals and performance objectives that they determine necessary for the proper operation of COUNTY and in the attainment of the BOARD'S policy objectives and shall further establish a relative priority among those various goals and objectives, said goals and objectives are preferred to be reduced to writing. But this transcription is not required or necessary to the execution of this contract. These goals shall generally be attainable with the time limitations as specified and the annual operating and capital budgets and appropriations provided.

10. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In order to provide for the continued professional development of VARNER and for the advancement and/or benefit of COUNTY, COUNTY agrees to budget for and pay:

A The professional dues and subscriptions of VARNER necessary for his continuation and full participation in such national, regional, state and local associations and the organizations necessary and desirable for his continued professional participation and growth;

B The travel and subsistence expenses of VARNER for professional and official travel, meetings and occasions adequate to continue the professional development of VARNER and to pursue necessary official and other functions of and for COUNTY, including but not limited to, the annual conference of the International Management Association, the National and State Association of Counties, and such other national, regional, state and local government groups and committees thereof to which VARNER belongs, of which he is a member, or to which he renders service; and

C The travel and subsistence expenses of VARNER for short courses, institutes and seminars that are necessary for his professional development and/or for the benefit of COUNTY.

11. **SUBCONTRACTS.**

VARNER shall utilize no subcontractors for carrying out the services to be performed under this Contract without the written approval of the COUNTY.

12. **BINDING EFFECT.**

This contract shall be binding upon the parties hereto, and their heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns.

13. **FURTHER ACTIONS.**

The parties will make and execute all further instruments and documents required to carry out the purposes and intent of this contract.

14. **INCLUSIVE TERMS.**

Use of the masculine herein shall include the feminine and neuter, and the singular shall include the plural.

15. **GOVERNING LAW.**

All of the terms and conditions contained herein shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

16. **NOTICES.**

All notices required hereunder to be sent to either party shall be sent to the following designated addresses, or to such other address or addresses as may hereafter be designated by either party by mailing of written notice of such change of address, by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested:

To County:

Board of Commissioners

Attention: Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney

Administrative Building, 2nd Floor

111 Washington Street

Whiteville, North Carolina 28472

To Professional:

County of Columbus

Attention: Jimmy Varner, County Manager

Administrative Building, 2nd Floor

111 Washington Street

Whiteville, NC 28472

17. **ASSIGNABILITY.**

It is mutually agreed by the parties hereto that this contract is not transferable and shall not be assigned by either party without the written consent of the other party to this contract.

18. **NON-DISCRIMINATION.**

VARNER will take affirmative action not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment or otherwise illegally deny any person employment, because of race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin.

19. **NON-APPROPRIATION.**

All funds for payment by COUNTY under this contract are subject to the availability of any annual appropriation for this purpose by the BOARD. In the event of non-appropriation of funds by the BOARD for the services provided under the contract, COUNTY will terminate the contract, without termination charge or liability, on the last day of the then-current fiscal year or when the appropriation made for then-current year for the services/items covered by this contract is spent, whichever occurs first. If at any time funds are not appropriated for the continuance of this contract,

cancellation shall be accepted by the Professional on thirty (30) days' prior written notice, but failure to give such notice shall be of no effect and COUNTY shall not be obligated under this contract beyond the date of termination.

20. AMENDMENTS.

This Contract shall not be modified or otherwise amended except in writing signed by the parties.

21. TERMINATION.

A. The parties acknowledge that VARNER serves at the pleasure of BOARD of the COUNTY and therefore may be dismissed without cause and without notice.

B. BOARD agrees that should VARNER be terminated, then VARNER shall be paid for five (5) months following his termination in monthly increments in the same manner and time that other COUNTY employees are paid.

C. Notice of such termination shall be in writing and given to VARNER at least seven (7) days prior to the effective date of termination. VARNER agrees to assist COUNTY with finding a replacement manager per request of BOARD. Any assistance VARNER will provide in finding a replacement manager will be of no financial cost to BOARD or COUNTY as agreed by the parties.

22. SUSPENSION

BOARD may suspend the VARNER with full pay and benefits at any time during the term of this agreement, but only if:

A majority of the Board of the Columbus County Commissioners votes to suspend VARNER for just cause provided, however, that VARNER shall have been given written notice setting forth any charges at least ten (10) day prior by the Board members bringing such charges. Just cause shall be defined as grossly inefficient job performance, or unacceptable personal conduct.

23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.

This agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties and supersedes all prior and independent agreements between the parties covering the subject matter hereof. Any change or modification of this agreement must be in writing signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused the execution of the foregoing instrument, by authority duly given and in duplicate originals, all on the day and year first above written.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ KIPLING GODWIN, Chairman

(DATE)

ATTESTED BY:

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

(COUNTY SEAL)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

This ____ day of June, 2006, personally came before me, _____, a Notary Public of Columbus County, June B. Hall, who being by me duly sworn, says that she knows the official seal of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, and is acquainted with Kipling Godwin, who is Chairman of said Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, and that she, the said June B. Hall, is the Clerk of the said Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, and saw the Chairman sign the foregoing instrument, and saw the said official seal of said Board of Commissioners of Columbus County affixed to the said instrument in the presence of said Chairman of said Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, all by order of said Board.

WITNESS my hand and official seal or stamp, this the ____ day of June, 2006.

(SEAL)

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: _____.

State of North Carolina
Columbus County

I, _____, a notary of _____ County, North Carolina do certify that on this _____ day of _____, 2006, before me personally appeared _____ (personally know to me) (provided to me satisfactory evidence) (proved to me on the oath or affirmation of _____, who is personally known to me) to be the person(s) whose name (s) is/are signed on the preceding or attached record, and acknowledged to me that he/she/they signed it voluntarily for its stated purpose.

(Official Seal)

_____, Notary Public

My Commission Expires this the _____ day of _____, _____

Approved as to form:

County Attorney, Steven W. Fowler

This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

County Finance Officer

ATTACHMENT "A"

§ 153A-81. Adoption of county-manager plan; appointment or designation of manager.

The board of commissioners may by resolution adopt or discontinue the county-manager plan. If it adopts the county-manager plan, the board may, in the alternative:

- (1) Appoint a county manager to serve at its pleasure. The manager shall be appointed solely on the basis of his executive and administrative qualifications. He need not be a resident of the county or the State at the time of his appointment.
- (2) Confer upon the chairman or some other member of the board of commissioners the duties of county manager. If this is done, the chairman or member shall become a full-time county official, and the board may increase his salary pursuant to G.S. 153A-28.
- (3) Confer upon any other officer, employee, or agent of the county the duties of county manager.

As used in this Part, the word "manager" includes the chairman or any member of the board of commissioners exercising the duties of manager or any officer, employee, or agent of a county exercising the duties of manager. (1927, c. 91, ss. 5, 8; 1973, c. 822, s. 1.)

ATTACHMENT "B"

§ 153A-82. Powers and duties of manager.

The manager is the chief administrator of county government. He is responsible to the board of commissioners for the administration of all departments of county government under the board's general control and has the following powers and duties:

- (1) He shall appoint with the approval of the board of commissioners and suspend or remove all county officers, employees, and agents except those who are elected by the people or whose appointment is otherwise provided for by law. The board may by resolution permit the manager to appoint officers, employees, and agents without first securing the board's approval. The manager shall make his appointments, suspensions, and removals in accordance with any general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances that the board may adopt. The board may require the manager to report each suspension or removal to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the suspension or removal; and, if the board has permitted the manager to make appointments without board approval, the board may require the manager to report each appointment to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the appointment.
- (2) He shall direct and supervise the administration of all county offices, departments, boards, commissions and agencies under the general control of the board of commissioners, subject to the general direction and control of the board.
- (3) He shall attend all meetings of the board of commissioners and recommend any

- measures that he considers expedient.
- (4) He shall see that the orders, ordinances, resolutions, and regulations of the board of commissioners are faithfully executed within the county.
 - (5) He shall prepare and submit the annual budget and capital program to the board of commissioners.
 - (6) He shall annually submit to the board of commissioners and make available to the public a complete report on the finances and administrative activities of the county as of the end of the fiscal year.
 - (7) He shall make any other reports that the board of commissioners may require concerning the operations of county offices, departments, boards, commissions, and agencies.
 - (8) He shall perform any other duties that may be required or authorized by the board of commissioners. (1927, c. 91, ss. 6, 7; 1973, c. 822, s. 1.)

BUDGET - ADOPTION of the FY 2006 - 2007 COLUMBUS COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET:

With the recommended changes, the FY 2006 - 2007 Columbus County Operating Budget was adopted as follows.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2006 - 2007 BUDGET MESSAGE
June 30, 2006**

Overview

These comments are an attempt to inform our citizens how and why budgets are done. The Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2006-2007 is presented in accordance with the North Carolina Budget and Fiscal Control Act, North Carolina General Statutes, and NCGS 153A-82. North Carolina law states that a balanced budget must be publicly presented by June 1 and a balanced budget adopted by June 30. A balanced budget takes months of preparation before it can be submitted. It requires input from all county departments to provide detailed information needed to balance such a budget. Administration and department heads meet to discuss their individual departmental requests. As you can see in the proposed budget, most departmental requests are minimal over fiscal year 2005-2006. Below you will find an overview of some of the highlights of this proposed budget.

<u>TY Budget</u>	<u>LY Amended Budget</u>	<u>Increased dollars</u>	<u>Percent Increased</u>
\$74,436,069	\$70,201,848	\$4,234,221	6.03%

Additional line item increases over 2005-2006

Medicaid 2005-2006	\$4,250,000
2006-2007	\$5,400,000 (increased \$1.25 million)
Detention Center / Williams School Debt Service	\$956,288
Detention Center / Operations & Maintenance	\$500,000
Fuel Increases	\$100,000
Total	\$2,806,288

Staff Increases

Five (5) new positions have been added to the Sheriff’s Department for the detention center addition, eight (8) positions for DSS and one (1) position for parks and recreation.

Employee COLA Adjustments

Cost of living adjustments (COLA) of 3% have been budgeted along with a 401-K contribution of 2% across the board.

Enterprise Funds

Solid Waste – Solid Waste fees to increase as follows:

The proposed fee schedule is:

Regular Tipping Fees	49.31/ton (from \$47.19 based on a projected 4.5%
LCID Tipping Fees	36.58/ton (from \$35.00 based on a projected 4.5% CPI)
Operations Fees:	a) County Resident 193/year (Proposed increase from \$177.00)

b) Municipal Resident 106.00/year (Proposed increase from \$90.48)

Increases in operation fees are necessary to help offset a proposed 3.71% residential contract increase by Waste Management effective July 1. The CPI increase is allowed per Waste Management's contract.

Water District I – 1103 total customers. Water District I's revenues are sufficient to pay its expenditures. The minimum charge for the first 2,000 gallons of \$23 (no increase) and a flat charge of \$4.00 per thousand gallons for all usage over 2,000 gallons remain the same as the previous year.

Water District II – 1,212 total customers. The continuation of the 9 cents property tax (projected at \$300,860) is again proposed to help pay the projected debt service of approximately \$425,940 for fiscal year 2006-2007. A flat rate of \$24.00 per month (increased from \$21.00) and \$4.00 per thousand gallons for all usage over 2,000 gallons is proposed for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, generating an estimated revenue of approximately \$351,000. After operation and maintenance expenses are calculated, this district has limited funds available to address additional customer connections and unforeseen operation and maintenance expenses.

Water District III – 853 total customers. A property tax rate of 13 cents (approximately \$230,000) is again proposed to continue to help pay the projected debt service of \$759,366. A flat rate of \$25.00 (increased from \$22.00) per month and \$4.00 per thousand gallons for all usage over 2,000 gallons is calculated for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, with an estimated revenue of approximately \$287,000. A shortfall of approximately \$242,366 is still projected. This shortfall needs to be addressed soon, to insure funds will be available to address additional customer connections and operation and maintenance expenses.

Water District IV – 69 total customers. Rates in Water District IV are calculated at \$24 (increased from \$21.00) minimum fee, and \$4.00 per thousand for all usage over 2,000 gallons.

Water District V - Rates in Water District V are calculated at \$21 minimum fee (no increase), and \$4.00 per thousand for usage over 2000 gallons.

Additional Sources of Revenue

Ad-valorem Property Tax Collections – Tax collections are calculated based on a collection rate of 96%, based on the current rate of .765 cents per 100.

Transfers from Other Departments to the General Fund – Total transfers to the General Fund from other departments are as follows:

- 1) \$1,430,520 (total departments)
- 2) 2,836,791 (fund balance appropriated)

The transfer amount of \$1,430,520 is the equivalent of approximately 4 ½ cents of property tax that is not required in this fiscal year's budget.

Education

Total allocations for City and County Schools are funded at the same levels of 2005-2006. Southeastern Community College's proposed allocation has also remained the same as last year's funding level.

Other Items of Interest

Jail Project and Educational Needs -- The jail and school construction projects principle and interest repayments are budgeted for \$956,288. Approximately \$1.3 million is needed to fund the remaining balance for construction of the detention project in fiscal year 2006-2007, which is not included in this proposed budget.

Special Appropriations – Only existing special appropriations have been included in this proposal, with new appropriations being a policy matter for review by the Board of Commissioners.

Conclusion

Our staff has worked hard to give you a proposed balanced budget for fiscal year 2006-2007. As you are aware, many accounting opportunities have been addressed during this budget preparation with the help of former finance officer Gayle Godwin. My sincere appreciation and gratitude is extended to Ms. Godwin, Executive Assistant Gail Edwards, and administration staff for their help

in preparing this budget.

**BUDGET ORDINANCE 2006-2007
COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina.

SECTION I: BUDGET ADOPTION 2006-2007

There is hereby adopted the following Operating Budget for the County of Columbus for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007; the same being adopted by fund and activity within each fund as listed:

A. GENERAL FUND

REVENUES:

Current Year Ad Valorem Taxes	\$22,723,933
Prior Year Ad Valorem Taxes	\$1,425,000
Discounts	(\$170,000)
Refunds	(\$6,000)
Releases	(\$150,000)
Penalty and Interest	\$564,000
Privilege License	\$2,500
Excise Tax - RD	\$175,000
Marriage License	\$17,500
Interest on Investments	\$500,000
Rent	\$62,360
Rent- Whiteville Depot	\$7,300
Miscellaneous - General Fund	\$225,000
General - Local Fees	\$500
Miscellaneous Revenue - Library	\$40,000
Donations - Library	\$2,000
Elections	\$3,500
Travel & Tourism - Grant	\$15,000
Miscellaneous- Concessions	\$200
Miscellaneous - Cooperative Extension	\$6,000
Social Services - Miscellaneous	\$3,000
Mapping- Tax Office	\$10,000
Miscellaneous – Airport Rent: Tie Downs	\$6,500
Airport – Aviation Fuel Sales	\$450,000
Columbus County Interagency Transportation	\$12,436
Misc. Recreation Fac. Fees	\$700
Reimbursement-Tabor City Recreation Position	\$18,735
Columbus County School Resource Officers	\$333,425
LEG-UP Grant-5 Municipalities	-0-
Local 1 Cent Sales Tax	\$3,110,346
½ Cent Sales Tax	\$1,418,306
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax	\$746,722

Third ½ Cent Sales Tax	\$1,725,804
½ Cent Sales Tax- County Schools	\$402,105
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax - County Schools	\$800,529
½ Cent Sales Tax - City Schools	\$160,515
Second ½ Cent Sales Tax - City Schools	\$319,559
CSC Fines & Forfeitures	\$200,000
ABC Profit Distributions	\$30,000
5 Cent ABC Tax	\$14,000
State Aid - Veteran Services of America	\$2,000
State Aid - Soil Conservation	\$31,131
NC CORR- Justice Grant	\$64,704
NC- ADC Civil License Rev.	\$6,200
Food and Lodging - State Grant	\$750
General - State Grant	\$32,890
NCDHHS-Bio-terrorism Prep	\$62,757
General - Medicaid	\$5,000
Childhood Lead Poisoning	\$1,050
Wise Woman State Grant	\$9,800
Family Planning - Medicaid	\$94,457
Family Planning Grant	\$74,206
Immunization Action Plan	\$18,560
Immunization- Medicaid	\$8,500
Maternal Health Grant	\$118,658
Child Health State	\$66,842
Child Services Coordinator	\$46,415
Child Services Coordinator - Medicaid	\$72,500
Child Health - Medicaid	\$86,500
Primary Care - Medicaid	\$5,000
Medicaid Other Services	\$800
Other Services Local	\$2,700
Primary Care Local	\$6,000
Home Health - Medicaid	\$1,166,162
Summer Food Program/State	\$1,079
Home Health - Medicare	\$2,167,482
Home Health - Local	\$141,000
School Nurse- Health	-0-
DMA – Health Check	\$33,187
Health Promotion	\$51,641
Comp Breast Screening - State	\$32,970
Health Promotion - Medicaid	\$24,000
Children’s Spec Health - State	-0-
Maternal Health Medicaid	\$170,359
WIC - State	\$311,346
Dental – Medicaid Reimbursement	\$362,227
Comm. Disease - State	\$46,233
Comm. Disease - Medicaid	\$5,600

Tuberculosis - State	\$1,529
Environmental Health	\$6,000
Mosquito Control- Health	\$3,100
10.561 Food Stamp Administration	\$511,789
93.558 Work First Block Grant	\$731,594
93.563 IV-D	\$567,913
93.568 Energy Administration	\$27,371
93.568 Crisis Intervention	\$110,326
93.596 Child Care Dev-Adm	\$96,143
93.645 Permanency Planning	\$21,049
93.658 IV-E Administration	\$404,258
93.667 Social Services Block Grant	\$381,951
93.674 Independent Living	\$11,700
93.767 N.C. Health choice	\$98,067
Medicaid Administration	\$1,041,521
CP&L Energy	\$7,298
Share The Warmth	\$550
DHR - SPEC Child - Adoptions	\$15,000
NCDOT - Interagency Transportation	\$260,270
State Aid to DSS Administration	\$82,175
Medicaid Transportation	\$183,909
Food Stamp Fraud Recovery	\$10,444
State Aid- Foster Care IVE	\$178,871
Adoption Asst Vendor Payments	\$2,014
State Aid- Foster Care - State	\$24,906
Day Care	\$3,036,243
Incentive &IVD	\$191,859
AFDC/TANF Incentives	\$10,000
NC Partnership for Children	\$12,000
NC Rural Center- LEG-UP	-0-
Emergency Food Administration	\$5,000
State Aid - Library	\$130,000
NC DOT Rural Operating	\$114,689
CCIT Gasoline Reimbursement Trans.	\$110,000
Airport FAA- 36237.53.1.1	-0-
Concealed Weapon Fees	\$7,000
Arrest Fees	\$100,000
Facilities Fees	\$90,000
Dental – Donations/Ins. Payment	\$78,500
Environmental Health Fees	\$57,000
Family Planning Fees	\$25,000
Health Promotion Fees	\$134,553
Child Health Fees	\$11,000
Comm. Disease - Local	\$2,500
Maternal Health - Local	\$5,900
Building Permits	\$195,000

Fines/Illegal Burning	\$2,000
Fire Inspection Fees	\$45,000
Register of Deeds' Fees	\$260,000
Sheriff's Department Commission	\$2,905
Jail Fees - Clerk of Court	\$86,660
No Till Drill Rental Fees	\$5,300
Animal Control Fines/Fees	\$16,000
Cable Franchise Fees	\$55,000
Occupancy Tax	\$75,000
Tax – Rental Vehicles	\$12,000
Hold Harmless Reimbursement	\$33,023
Gasoline Tax Refund	\$8,500
5% Commission on Tax Coll-Riegelwood	\$3,000
1 ½ Coll Fee - Towns Vehicle	\$4,500
Transfer from Aging	\$256,250
Transfer from Water Dist. I	\$0
Transfer from Water Dist. II	\$0
Transfer from Water Dist. III	\$0
Transfer from Solid Waste	\$169,270
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$2,904,411.00 (\$1 Million from Health Department)

TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE:

\$53,571,992

EXPENDITURES:

DEPARTMENT	EXPENDITURE
Governing Body	\$301,529
County Administration	\$341,620
Personnel	\$141,940
Purchasing	\$164,387
County Garage	\$0
Elections	\$336,821
Finance	\$355,158
Tax Administration	\$985,997
Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$332,690
Professional Services	\$66,550
County Attorney	\$167,670
Register of Deeds	\$486,976
Economic Development	\$381,065
Travel and Tourism	\$89,978
Courthouse and Grounds	\$233,800
Judges Chambers	\$5,330
Social Services Building	\$494,531
Admin Building/Grounds	\$54,131
Senior Center Building	\$26,865
Miller Building	\$399,458
Public Buildings - All Others	\$487,390
Farm Services Building	\$172,605

Sheriffs Department	\$3,731,062
District Court	\$18,550
CJPP Grant	\$64,704
Law Enforcement Center	\$2,598,819
Fire Marshal	\$176,516
Emergency Services	\$1,072,494
Emergency Medical Services	\$58,500
GIS/911	-0-
Inspections	\$276,764
Planning	\$75,546
Wise Woman	\$9,800
March of Dimes	\$0
Environmental Health	\$379,150
Childhood Lead Poisoning	\$1,050
Bio-terrorism - Health	\$62,757
DMA Health Check	\$33,187
Immunization Action 93.268	\$27,060
Comp Breast Screening	\$32,969
Comm. Disease - AIDS & T B	\$140,510
Healthy Carolinians	\$0
School Nurse- Health	\$0
Health Promotion	\$210,195
Child Services Coordination	\$118,915
Child Health Care	\$164,342
Cooperative Health	\$898,134
Family Planning	\$193,663
Maternal Health	\$294,917
Home Health	\$3,474,645
Mobile Dental Van Grant	\$440,727
Children's Spec Health Service	-0-
WIC	\$311,346
Animal Control	\$208,110
Coroner & Medical Examiner	\$58,030
Cooperative Extension	\$476,001
Soil Conservation	\$183,054
Veterans Services Officer	\$102,487
Social Services Administration	\$7,048,121
Public Assistance Program	\$9,170,886
Interagency Transp Grant #9918	\$449,483
Recreation	\$562,213
Library	\$1,259,612
Airport	\$572,942
Non-Departmental	\$602,000
Education	\$9,479,309
Special Appropriations	\$860,101
Miscellaneous	\$223,993
Interfund Transfer	\$1,422,937

TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$53,571,992

B. LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND**REVENUE:****-0-**

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
LLEBG-US Department of Justice	\$0
Transfer from Special Alcohol	\$0
TOTAL LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND:	\$0

EXPENDITURES:**Local Law Enforcement Block Grant****\$0****C. AGING FUND****REVENUES:**

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Miscellaneous	\$692,935
Misc. Income – USDA/CONG	\$28,350
Misc. Income – USDA/ HDM	\$8,520
Donations	\$0
Gifts/Donations MHRNF	\$200
Gifts/Donations - Nutrition	\$14,800
Gifts/Donations HDM	\$4,000
Gifts/Donations - Transportation	\$400
Lease Purchase Proceeds	\$0
Federal Grant – CMF	\$158,414
Federal Grant – SCDF	\$5,631
Federal Grant - TCSC	\$5,630
Federal Grant - MHRF	\$19,620
Federal Grant - Nutrition	\$94,509
Federal Grant - HDM	\$58,905
Federal Grant - Transportation	\$32,040
Federal Grant - SCBH	\$5,630
Federal Grant - FBSC	\$5,630
Federal Grant – Level III CHO	\$94,716
Federal Grant – East Columbus	\$5,630
Federal Grant – Bolton SC	\$11,260
Long-Term Screening	\$1,821,300
Personal Care	\$1,644,947
Title III-B	\$135,936
County Appropriations	\$106,342
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$225,368
TOTAL AGING FUND:	\$5,180,713

EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Chadbourn Senior Center	\$49,625

Bolton Senior Center	\$47,744
Personal Care Services	\$1,502,195
Bug Hill Senior Center	\$51,054
Chore Title IIIB; Title XX	\$624,327
Community Alternative Program	\$1,954,994
Information/Case Assistance	\$222,760
Tabor City Senior Center	\$49,829
Whiteville Senior Center	\$111,618
Nutrition	\$240,192
Minor Home Repairs	\$22,000
Transportation	\$60,693
Home Delivered Meals	\$141,340
Fair Bluff Senior Center	\$51,412
East Columbus Senior Center	\$51,330
TOTAL AGING FUND:	\$5,180,713

D. DEBT SERVICE FUND

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Contribution-School Bldg Capital Funds	\$428,872
Contribution - Hospital	\$983,066
Contribution - Schools ½ Cent Sales Tax	\$730,000
Contribution - General Fund	\$1,082,704
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUND:	\$3,224,642

EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Principal on Bonds	\$1,190,000
Interest on Bonds	\$95,288
Principal on Bonds- Hospital	\$569,444
Interest- Hospital	\$413,626
Principal - RBC - Jail/School	\$640,000
Interest - RBC - Jail/School	\$316,288
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUND:	\$3,224,642

E. INTERNAL SERVICE FUND

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Contribution- General Fund	\$0

EXPENDITURES:

Total Internal Service Fund **\$0**

Releases	(\$140,000)
Interest	\$15,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$200
White Goods Sales Recycles	\$25,000
Miscellaneous - Recyclable Material	\$0
State Aid - Tire Disposal F	\$40,000
State Aid - White Goods	\$18,000
Landfill User Fees	\$4,316,284
Solid Waste Permit Fees	\$20,000
Tipping Fees	\$2,000,000
Transfer - General Fund	\$0
Fund Balance Appropriated	-0-
TOTAL SOLID WASTE:	\$6,282,484

EXPENDITURES:

Solid Waste Enterprise: **TOTAL:** \$6,282,484

L. COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT V.

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Refunds	\$0
Interest Earned	\$0
Other Revenue	\$0
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$2,000
Water Sales	\$351,403
Water Tap on Fees	\$5,000
Water Deposits	\$0
Penalties	\$2,000
Reconnect/Cut-Off Fees	\$2,500
Retained Earnings Appropriated	\$0
Transfer from Project	\$6,000
TOTAL COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT V:	\$368,903

EXPENDITURES:

Columbus County Water District V.
TOTAL **\$368,903**

M. H.U.D. FUND

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Annual Contr Earned	\$1,719,198
TOTAL H.U.D. FUND:	\$1,719,198

EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Public Housing Admin Expense	\$1,719,198
TOTAL H.U.D. FUND:	\$1,719,198

N. SPECIAL ALCOHOL/DRUG FUND

Evergreen Special District Tax	\$27,000		
Refunds	(\$300)		
Releases	-0-		
TOTAL EVERGREEN FIRE:		\$26,700	\$26,700
St. James Special District Tax	\$16,700		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$200)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL ST. JAMES VOLUNTEER:		\$16,500	\$16,500
North Whiteville Special District Tax	\$75,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$1,000)		
TOTAL NORTH WHITEVILLE:		\$74,000	\$74,000
Nakina Special Tax District	\$65,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$200)		
TOTAL NAKINA FIRE DISTRICT:		\$64,800	\$64,800
Old Dock-Cypress Creek Special District Tax	\$37,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$300)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL OLD DOCK-CYPRESS CREEK:		\$36,700	\$36,700
Hallsboro Fire Special District Tax	\$50,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$300)		
State Share Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL HALLSBORO FIRE:		\$49,700	\$49,700
Roseland Fire Special District Tax	\$47,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$500)		
State Shared Revenue	\$0		
TOTAL ROSELAND FIRE:		\$46,500	\$46,500
Yam City Fire Special District Tax	\$92,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$1,000)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL YAM CITY FIRE:		\$91,000	\$91,000
Acme-Delco Fire Special District Tax	\$213,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$300)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL ACME-DELCO FIRE:		\$212,700	\$212,700
Klondyke Fire Special District Tax	\$105,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$1,000)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL KLONDYKE FIRE:		\$104,000	\$104,000
Cole's Service Special District Tax	\$57,500		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$400)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL COLE'S SERVICE:		\$57,100	\$57,100
Cerro Gordo Special District Tax	\$67,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$500)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL CERRO GORDO:		\$66,500	\$66,500

Williams Township Special

District Tax	\$65,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$500)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP		\$64,500	\$64,500

White Marsh-Welches Creek Special

District Tax	\$39,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$300)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL WHITE MARSH-WELCHES CREEK:		\$38,700	\$38,700

Whiteville Rescue Service Special

District Tax	\$149,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$1,500)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL WHITEVILLE RESCUE SERVICE:		\$147,500	\$147,500

Brunswick Fire Special District Tax

District Tax	\$100,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$500)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL BRUNSWICK FIRE:		\$99,500	\$99,500

Bolton Fire Special District Tax

District Tax	\$26,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$200)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL BOLTON FIRE:		\$25,800	\$25,800

Buckhead Fire Special District Tax

District Tax	\$11,000		
Refunds	-0-		
Releases	(\$100)		
State Shared Revenue	-0-		
TOTAL BUCKHEAD FIRE:		\$10,900	\$10,900

S. TOTAL FUNDS

TOTAL REVENUES (ALL FUNDS):	\$74,425,573
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (ALL FUNDS):	\$74,425,573

SECTION II. TAX RATE LEVY

There is hereby levied for the fiscal year 2006-2007 an ad valorem property tax on all property having a situs in Columbus County as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2006, at a rate of Seventy-six and one-half (\$.765) Cents per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars of assessed value of such property pursuant to and in accordance with the Machinery Act of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes and other applicable laws. The estimated revenues from the ad valorem property tax are based on an established collection during the 2005-2006 fiscal year of Ninety-six (96%) percent of the levy and the estimated taxable base of two billion, nine-hundred and ninety nine million, eight-hundred and eighty-two thousand, one hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$2,999,882,100.00).

Special district tax rates for purpose of providing Fire and Rescue Protection are also levied as follows:

DISTRICT	FEE
Evergreen Fire	Fee

Acme-Delco Fire	\$.12
Bolton Fire	\$.10
Brunswick Fire	\$.07
Buckhead Fire	\$.06
Cerro Gordo Fire	\$.10
Cole Fire	\$.10
Hallsboro Fire	\$.06
Klondyke Fire	\$.07
Nakina Fire	\$.08
North Whiteville Fire	Fee
Old Dock – Cypress Creek Fire	\$.08
Roseland Fire	\$.06
St. James Fire	\$.06
Tabor City Fire	\$.10
White Marsh / Welches Creek Fire	\$.08
Whiteville Rescue	\$.02
Williams Township Fire	\$.06
Columbus County Rescue Tax	\$.02

Special district tax rates for Water District II at \$0.09 per \$100 property valuation and Water District III at \$.13 per \$100.00 property valuation for property located within each water district.

SECTION III. VARIOUS FEE SCHEDULES FOR COLUMBUS COUNTY

A. BUILDING PERMITS FEES

Residential

Stick Built (4 trips) based on \$50.00 per square foot heated floor space.

Heated Floor Space:

Base Fee- \$150
\$4.00 per \$1,000 over \$50,000

Unheated Floor Space:

Closed in Garage \$20.00/sq.ft.
Porches \$20.00/sq.ft.
Decks \$20.00/sq.ft.
Storage Buildings (above 200 sq.ft.) \$20.00/sq.ft.

Mobile/Modular Homes (marriage wall inspection required) (3 trips)

SW Mobile home Set-up & footings \$100
DW Mobile Home Set-up & footings \$150
Modular Home \$150
Garages \$20/Sq.ft.

Miscellaneous (2 trips)

Buildings moved onto lots \$100
(Residential)
Plus Plumbing and HVAC \$25 each
Any addition to a building will be an added fee per square foot.

Commercial

Heated Floor Space (4 trips)
Base Fee \$150
\$4 per \$1,000 over \$50,000

Unheated Floor Space

Based on \$20/Sq.Ft. for all unheated and unfinished area

Plumbing:

Residential (2 trips)

0-12 fixtures	\$10/ fixture	\$10/fixture
13 & up		\$120 + \$2 per fixture
Minimum fee for plumbing		\$40
Mobile Home Connections		\$50
Relocated House		\$50
Relocated House w/additional fixtures		\$75

Commercial (2 trips)

0-12 fixtures		\$10/ fixture
13 & up		\$120 + \$5 per fixture

Electrical

Residential (New Construction) (2 trips)

0-200 amps		\$70
201-400 amps		\$110
>400 amps		\$130+ \$.30 per amp

Commercial (New Construction) (2 trips)

0-200 amps		\$90
201-400 amps		\$130
>400 amps		\$70 + \$.50 per amp

Service Upgrade (New Service) (1 trip)

0-200 amps		\$50
201-400 amps		\$70
400 & up		\$70 + \$.30 per amp over 400

Wiring for Additions and Renovations with No Upgrades (1trip)

20 outlets		\$30
> 20 outlets		\$40

Electrical Verification of Existing Service

Residential		\$30
Commercial		\$30
Temporary Pole		\$30

Mechanical

Heat and Air (2 trips)

Up to 1,000 sq. ft.		\$60
> 1,000 sq. ft.		\$60 + \$30 per 500 sq. ft.
Unit Change Out		No fee

Miscellaneous Permits

Insulation		\$30
Swimming Pool		\$100
Reinspection Fee		\$30
Signs & Billboards (up to \$25,000)		\$75
	>\$25,000	\$150
Towers (up to \$50,000)		\$150
	>\$50,00	\$150 + \$5 per \$1,000 in valuation
All Additional Inspections		\$30

NOTE: All applicable permits both septic tank and building are required before any

construction work can begin or any residence is brought onto the property. The building inspections department will assess a penalty equal to twice the normal fee if this occurs.

B. MAP FEE SCHEDULE FOR COUNTY

STANDARD LAYERS:

- Centerlines
- County Boundary
- Municipalities
- Hydrograph
- Fire Districts
- Law Enforcement areas
- Rescue Response
- Ortho-photography
- Satellite Annexations
- Parcels
- Townships

CUSTOM LAYERS:

- Flood plain zones
- School districts
- Political Districts,
(including commissioners, city council, Senatorial, and House of Representatives)

NOTE: All standard layers are in linear

STANDARD LAYER MAPS

A.	8 ½ x 11	=	\$1.00
B	11 x 17	=	\$2.00
C.	17 x 22	=	\$5.00
D.	18 x 18	=	\$5.00
E	18 x 36	=	\$7.00
F.	22 x 34	=	\$10.00
G.	34 x 44	=	\$20.00
H.	36 x 40	=	\$20.00
I.	28 x 40	=	\$20.00

Price of map includes orthophotography layer as well as any layer listed as standard layers.

Countywide cadastral = \$100.00
 Countywide Ortho's = \$100.00

Additional analysis and custom maps will be charged at a rate of \$20.00/hour plus the costs of map and materials as listed above. Fees will be billed per 15 minutes of analysis. Any changes are considered to be custom and will be charged accordingly.

Lamination of maps is available at a cost of: \$1.00 per linear foot.

County wide road book= \$35.00format.

C. ANIMAL CONTROL FEE SCHEDULE

Per day Boarding Fee for Dogs \$10.00
 Per day Boarding Fee for Cats \$10.00

Boarding Fee for all other Animals kept at Animal Shelter - \$10.00 per day.

Per day Boarding Fee for all other animals not kept at the animal shelter shall be the actual amount charged by the caretaker or boarding of the animal.

Non-Routine charge for transporting the animal shall be the actual amount charged by the person providing the transporting.

Miscellaneous Fee - Euthanasia by Request	\$10.00	Per Animal
Livestock Animal running at large Goats, cows, hogs, horses		1 st Time - \$50.00 2 nd Time - \$75.00 3 rd Time - \$100.00 4 or more - \$150.00
Interference with Officer	\$150.00	
Interference with traps or cage	\$100.00	
Unspecified violation of the ordinance	\$50.00(each)	
Dangerous Dog or Potentially dangerous Violations	\$100.00	

SECTION IV. SCHEDULE BUSINESS LICENSES

The business license fees are hereby continued for Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

SECTION V. ENTERPRISE FUNDS

A. SOLID WASTE FEES

The Solid Waste Tipping Fees are as follows for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. The Collection and Landfill Fees are hereby continued for Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

Commercial and Residential Tipping Fee	\$ 49.31/Ton
LCID and C&D Materials Tipping Fee	\$ 36.58/Ton
Collection and Landfill Fee for County Residents	\$193.00/Annually
Landfill Fee for Municipal Residents	\$106.00/Annually

B. WATER DISTRICT RATES

The following Water District Fees will take effect as of July 1, 2006.

DISTRICT I:	\$21 Flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals.) \$ 4/ 1,000 gals. after the 1 st 2,000 gals.
DISTRICT II:	\$25 flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals.) \$ 4/ 1,000 gals. after the 1 st 2000 gals.
DISTRICT III:	\$25 flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals.) \$ 4/ 1,000 gals after the 1 st 2000 gals.
DISTRICT IV.	\$21 flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals) \$ 4/1000 gals. after the 1 st 2,000 gals.
DISTRICT V.	\$21 flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals) \$ 4/1,000 gals. after the 1 st 2,000 gals.
COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT	\$21 flat rate (1 st 2,000 gals) \$ 4/ 1,000 gals. after the 1 st 2,000 gals.
WATER TAP FEES:	
3/4" Tap	\$500.00
1" Tap	\$750.00
2" Tap	\$1,000.00

SECTION VI. SALARIES

The following provision shall govern salary and wage compensation for Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

Full-time and part-time salaried employees, employed on or before July 1, 2006, will receive salary compensation equal to a three (3%) percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). Also, included, across the board, is a two (2%) percent 401-K contribution.

SECTION VII. BUDGET CONTROLS

The Board of Commissioners, in approving the proposed Budget, has utilized to the fullest extent possible its revenue sources and the County Manger is herein directed to initiate steps to ensure that the Budget fixed herein is lived within.

SECTION VIII. APPROPRIATIONS

The amount of the General Fund proposed for the fiscal year 2006-2007 is hereby appropriated to the County Manager for the operations of the Columbus County Government and its departments and agencies for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007. In administering the program authorized under this Ordinance, the County Manager is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund between objects of expenditures within a department without limitations and without a report being requested, and between departments within a fund not to exceed two thousand and 00/100 (\$2,000.00) dollars. Appropriations for land and new buildings included in this Ordinance, can be expended only after release by the Board of Commissioners. The Chairman of the Board and the Manager are hereby authorized to execute the necessary agreements within funds included in the Budget Ordinance for the following purposes:

- (1) Grant agreement to Public and Non-Public Agencies;
- (2) Leases of normal and routine business equipment;
- (3) Consultant, Professional, or Maintenance Service Agreements;
- (4) Purchase of apparatus, supplies and materials where formal bids are not required by law;
- (5) Agreements for acceptance of State and Federal Grant Funds; and
- (6) Construction or repair work where formal bids are not required by laws.

SECTION IX. RESTRICTED REVENUES

The Finance Officer is hereby directed to fund appropriations, which have been specified revenue prior to the funding with General Fund monies. This is to include, but not limited to Fines and Forfeiture, ABC profits and Forestry Revenues.

SECTION X. PUBLIC PURPOSE LIMITATION

In accordance with Article V of the North Carolina Constitution which states in part, that "Power and Taxation shall be exercised for public purposes" and/or division of the State Supreme Court, the County Administrator shall require the following before releasing public funds to other governmental agencies or private groups:

- (1)The activity in question is for a public purpose;
- (2)The activity in question is one which the County is authorized to undertake or for which the County has specific statutory authorization for giving financial aid to the agencies in question; **and**
- (3)Through appropriate means, the County retains some degree of control over the expenditures of its funds.

SECTION XI. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2006.

Adopted this the 30TH day of June 2006.

Motion by Commissioner Memory, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed.

AYES: Chairman Godwin, Vice Chairman Dutton, Commissioners McKenzie, Memory, Norris and Jacobs

NAYS: Commissioner Prevatte.

/s/ **KIPLING GODIN, Chairman**
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ **June B. Hall, Clerk to Board**

(SEAL)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:25 A.M., Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Dutton. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

KIPLING GODWIN, Chairman