

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

January 02, 2007

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 first Tuesday, due to the first Monday being a legal holiday.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Sammie Jacobs, **Chairman**  
James E. Prevatte, **Vice Chairman**  
Amon E. McKenzie  
Bill Memory  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard  
Ronald Gore

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

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

**APPOINTEE ABSENT:**

Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

**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 Bullard. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Agenda Item #3: PRESENTATION of RETIREMENT PLAQUES:**

Chairman Jacobs presented the following Retirement Plaques to two (2) Sheriff's Department employees, Margaret E. Strickland and Billy W. Hammond, who retired as of December 29, 2006.

**PRESENTED TO  
MARGARET E. STRICKLAND  
IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION  
FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND LOYALTY  
TO  
COLUMBUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
Twenty-Six (26) Years  
\*\*\*\*\*  
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**PRESENTED TO  
BILLY W. HAMMOND  
IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION  
FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND LOYALTY  
TO  
COLUMBUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
12-01-1979 - 12-29-2006  
\*\*\*\*\*  
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

After the plaques were presented, Chairman Jacobs extended an opportunity to each retiree to speak. Each retiree stated it had been a pleasure to work for the Columbus County Sheriff's Department.

Members of the Sheriff's Department, namely Major Bill Ingram, Captain Alexander Singletary, Lewis Hatcher, Renee Cole and Mark Martin, each stated it had been a pleasure to work with these two (2) retirees, and wished them well in their new endeavors.

**Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the December 04, 2006 Regular Session Meeting Minutes, with one (1) correction, the December 04, 2006 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, and the December 04, 2006 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to approve the December 11, 2006 Special Called Meeting Minutes, with one (1) correction, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

**Agenda Item #5: AUDIT PRESENTATION - COLUMBUS COUNTY'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONCLUDING JUNE 30, 2006:**

Alan Thompson, CPA, with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company, P.A., presented the following presentation of the Columbus County's Financial Statements Concluding June 30, 2006.

**1. Summarization of some of the key items in the Audit Report:**

<b>DETAIL</b>	<b>6/30/2006</b>	<b>6/30/2005</b>	<b>AUDIT LOCATION</b>
Cash - All Funds	18,631,112	14,360,790	Exhibit 1
Fund Equity (General Fund)	13,704,006	13,615,915	Exhibit 3
Fund Equity (Special Revenue Fund)	713,095	531,310	Exhibit C-1
Fund Equity (Solid Waste Fund)	3,057,765	2,938,464	Exhibit E-1
Fund Equity (Water Districts)	6,313,422	4,908,638	Exhibit E-1
Fund Equity (Capital Projects Fund)	3,426,477	8,786,730	Exhibit C-1
Fund Equity (Debt Service Fund)	502	502	Exhibit C-1
Tax Collection Rate	94.16%	93.73%	Exhibit G-2
Total Revenues (General Fund)	55,412,171	51,462,161	Exhibit B-1
Total Expenditures (General Fund)	54,259,246	53,479,425	Exhibit B-1
Total Operating Revenues (Solid Waste Fund)	5,571,571	5,679,948	Exhibit 7
Total Operating Revenues (Water Districts)	1,874,702	1,671,783	Exhibit 7
Total Operating Expenditures (Solid Waste Fund)	5,596,761	5,273,627	Exhibit 7
Total Operating Expenditures (Water Districts)	1,395,820	1,372,135	Exhibit 7
Total Depreciation (Solid Waste Fund)	94,918	52,625	Exhibit 7
Total Depreciation (Water Districts)	658,826	660,776	Exhibit 7
Net Assets (Governmental Funds)	26,367,379	23,565,014	Exhibit 2
Net Assets (Proprietary Funds)	9,371,187	7,847,102	Exhibit 2

The County received an unqualified opinion.

**2. Management Letter:**

November 30, 2006

To The Board of County Commissioners  
Columbus County, North Carolina

Dear Commissioners,

In planning and performing our audit of the general purpose financial statements of Columbus County for the year ended June 30, 2006, we considered the internal control structure in order to determine the extent and nature of our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, and not to provide assurance on the internal control system. However, we noted certain matters we considered important enough for your attention. No opinion is being expressed regarding internal control. Had our procedure been designed to express such an opinion other matters might have been noted.

We noted the following items that should enhance your internal control structure and reporting.

1. The Board should make adequate time for the Finance Officer/Deputy Finance Officer to perform random checks of the internal control system in the various departments. This would act as a deterrent since no one knows when their office would be checked. It would also enhance reporting and communication between the county's departments that handle cash.
2. Although the Tax Department is eventually getting over 99% of all taxes for any given year, the tax collection for the current year is below the state average. The current year's collection percentage is 1 percentage point higher than last fiscal year. The collection rate for non-motor vehicles is in line with the state average.
3. The increasing size (growth) of the water districts and the finances related to them need careful attention going forward. The debt repayment and the operational effectiveness of the internal control in regards to the water districts will need constant attention until the growth stabilizes. Their ability to cash flow is crucial for long-term financial stability of the districts.
4. The county's General Fund fund balance declined by \$211,489 during the current year. The County should review all budget items to avoid a further reduction during the current fiscal year.
5. The county should update its fixed asset list during the year as assets are added rather than wait until year end.
6. All county departments that handle cash should be monitored at least once a year as part of the county's Finance Department's role.
7. A physical count of inventory should be taken as of 6/30/06 for all inventory accounts.
8. Travel expenses for employees' spouses who accompany them on trips to seminars and workshops should be closely monitored. Spousal expenses on such trips should be kept separate to ensure proper accounting. If spousal expenses are charged to the county's credit card, these expenses should be timely reimbursed by the employee.
9. It is recommended that payroll (941's) be reconciled to the General ledger at least on a quarterly basis, if not monthly. There has been a problem with reconciling at year end for the last couple of years. (This has been discussed with Leo...Auditor will provide reconciliation worksheet for client.)
10. Lease agreements and capital purchases should be closely monitored. (Especially capital leases occurring near year end.) Instances were noted during current year audit where capital leases had been executed near year end but were not included in fixed assets.
11. It is recommended that Water receivables be reconciled to the General Ledger monthly.
12. It is recommended that Accounts Payable/Prior Years Payable accounts be reconciled to the General Ledger monthly. The prior years payable report should agree with the General Ledger.
13. All back accounts should be reconciled monthly to the General Ledger.
14. Sales tax refund reports should be completed timely.
15. All department accounts should be monitored to ensure they stay within the constraints of the

approved budget.

Our firm is available to meet with you at any time to discuss any item in the Audit Report. Our firm continues to be impressed with the quality of work performed by the Administrative staff of the County.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Governing Board. However, this is also a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.

/s/ **Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company, P.A.**

Questions relative to the required eight (8%) percent Fund Balance that is recommended by the Local Government Commission were presented to Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson replied stating that Columbus County needed to be in the twenty-five (25%) percent range to be safe, and there has been significant progress made from 2004 - 2005 to 2005 - 2006, but we need to continue to work on this.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to accept the Columbus County Financial Statements, June 30, 2006, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

**Agenda Item #6: WATER - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:**

Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board:

1. As of December 31, 2006, we had three thousand four hundred sixty-three (3,463) active customers, with new lines being planned in Districts IV and V, which will be an additional five hundred to six hundred (500-600) new customers;
2. The Public Utilities Office is responsible for approximately five hundred (500) miles of water lines with seven (7) employees to oversee everyday operations and testing;
3. In the past year, the Public Utilities Office has completed one thousand seven hundred ninety-two (1,792) work orders. In addition, we performed approximately seven hundred (700) locates for the Department of Transportation and the telephone company;
4. We oversee the operation of the P.O.T.W. at Acme Delco, and do grab samples of the water being released into Livingston Creek;
5. The following new projects are in process:
  - a. Fifty-four (54) miles of water lines in District V;
  - b. Sixteen (16) miles of water lines in District IV;
  - c. Water lines to be installed on Carl Stephens Road in District I;
  - d. Water main extension in Timber Cove; **and**
  - e. Two thousand (2,000') feet of water lines at the Columbus County Airport which will be started tomorrow.

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

At 7:23 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

**Agenda Item #7: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT I - APPROVAL of LOW BID, AWARD to LOW BIDDER, CONTRACT, NOTICE to PROCEED and BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

This information will be recorded in Minute Book 1 of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board.

**ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT I BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION:**

At 7:24 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting and resume Regular Session, seconded by Vice Chairman Prevatte. The motion unanimously carried.

**Agenda Item #8: SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION - APPROVAL to APPLY for SECTION 205 STUDY for LIVINGSTON CREEK:**

Edward Davis, Department Head, requested Board approval for staff to apply for a Section 205 Study

Chairman Jacobs stated this request needed to be made by Resolution.

**AGENDA ADD-ON:**

**Livingston Creek Flooding Issue - Board Approval of Resolution Requesting Section 205 Study for Livingston Creek:**

Edward Davis, Department Head, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING SECTION 205 STUDY for LIVINGSTON CREEK**

Be it resolved that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners requests the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct investigations and studies to determine the feasibility of developing a flood control project at Livingston Creek under the authority provided by Section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act, as amended.

The Feasibility Study phase is federally funded up to \$100,000.00. Study costs in excess of \$100,000.00 are shared 50 percent Federal and 50 percent by the project sponsor. The project sponsor will be required to sign a feasibility cost sharing agreement when study costs exceed \$100,000.00.

It is understood that, if it is found feasible and advisable to implement a flood control project at Livingston Creek, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners would be required before construction commences to enter into a contractual agreement that it will provide such local cooperation as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Army. As the non-Federal project sponsor, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners would contribute 35 percent to 50 percent of project implementation costs.

The Clerk to Board of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners shall be, and is hereby directed to transmit three copies of this resolution to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Post Office Box 1890, Wilmington, North Carolina 28402-1890.

Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2007.

/s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**  
**Columbus County Board of Commissioners**

**ATTESTED BY:**

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

Commissioner Memory made a motion to approve the Resolution Requesting Section 205 Study for Livingston Creek, seconded by Vice Chairman Prevatte. The motion unanimously carried.

**Agenda Item #9: APPOINTMENT - LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:**

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners requested Columbus County to appoint one (1) County Commissioner as its Legislative Liaison to serve as a conduit of information between the Association (via District 4 Director Sammie Jacobs) and the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to appoint Vice Chairman James E. Prevatte as the Legislative Liaison, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #10: APPOINTMENTS - BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE:**

Chairman Jacobs requested the remaining Board appointments to be made to the Bicentennial Committee.

Chairman Jacobs appointed Cindy Jacobs, 8669 Old Lake Road, Bolton, North Carolina 28423, Telephone: (910) 655-4051 (H), (910) 642-2159 (W), and John A. McNeil, Sr., 600 Canal Cove Road, Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450, Telephone: (910) 646-4842, (H), to the Columbus County Bicentennial Committee.

Commissioner Gore appointed Robin Reaves, 6847 Manley Smith Road, Nakina, North Carolina 28455, Telephone: (910) 642- 6882 (H), and Letha Ward, 7093 New Britton Highway East, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, Telephone: (910) 642-4257 (H), to the Columbus County Bicentennial Committee.

**Agenda Item #11: APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS:**

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, requested Board appointments/re-appointments and/or replacements to the following committees/boards.

**1. Department of Aging Advisory Council (Columbus County):**

Commissioner Norris appointed Wilbur Chestnutt, 206 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Tabor City, North Carolina 28463, Telephone: (910) 653-3957 (H), to fill the unexpired term of Dr. John C. Williams, with term expiring June 30, 2009.

**2. Housing Advisory Committee (Columbus County):**

Chairman Jacobs appointed Haynes Graham, 379 Carver Moore Road, Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450, Telephone: (910) 646-3759, to fill the vacancy of Harold Rains, for a two (2) year term, with term expiring June 30, 2008.

**3. Lake Waccamaw Planning Board:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to appoint Kyle Peacock, 601 Jefferson Road, Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450, Telephone: (910) 646-3188, to replace Betty McCarthy, for a three (3) year term, effective January 08, 2007, and expiring January 08, 2010. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Memory, and unanimously carried.

**4. Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees:**

Commissioner Norris appointed Maude Davis, 40 Stallion Drive, Tabor City, North Carolina 28463, Telephone: (910) 653-4073, to fill the unexpired term of Dr. John C. Williams, with term expiring June 30, 2009.

**Agenda Item #12: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. Budget Amendment:**

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

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-690-9812	Idaho Timber Corp Grant	\$166,260
Revenue	10-348-2101	Redc Idaho Tim er Corp Grant	\$166,260

**B. Tax Releases:**

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

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):  
January 02, 2007**

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Eric Amount: \$122.62  
 Value: \$15,720.00 Year: 2003 Account # 06-03703 Bill # 9694 Total \$332.63

Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (15.72) and the Columbus Rescue (3.14). The home was repossessed in 2001.

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Eric	Amount:	\$114.74
Value: \$14,710.00 Year: 2004 Account # 06-03703 Bill # 5845	Total	\$322.63

Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (14.71) and the Columbus Rescue (2.94). The home was repossessed in 2001.

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Eric	Amount:	\$100.38
Value: \$13,750.00 Year: 2005 Account # 06-03703 Bill # 9516	Total	\$305.57

Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (13.75) and the Columbus Rescue (2.75). The home was repossessed in 2001.

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Eric	Amount:	\$98.38
Value: \$12,860.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-03703 Bill # 0238	Total	\$318.19

Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (12.86) and the Columbus Rescue (2.57). The home was repossessed in 2001.

Release the Property Value in the name of Blackman, Eric	Amount:	\$131.66
Value: \$16,880.00 Year: 2002 Account # 06-03703 Bill # 9469	Total	\$344.11

Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (16.88) and the Columbus Rescue (3.38). The home was repossessed in 2001.

Release the Property Value in the name of Boone, Barbara	Amount:	\$215.28
Value: \$27,600.00 Year: 2003 Account # 01-06831 Bill # 0071	Total	\$447.80

Release the property value, the North Whiteville Fire (50.00) and the Whiteville Rescue (5.52). The property is double listed in the name of Lacy I. Wilson (etal).

Release the Property Value in the name of Boone, Barbara	Amount:	\$215.28
Value: \$27,600.00 Year: 2004 Account # 01-06831 Bill # 6224	Total	\$447.78

Release the property value, the North Whiteville Fire (50.00) and the Whiteville Rescue (5.52). The property is double listed in the name of Lacy L. Wilson (etal).

Release the Property Value in the name of Boone, Barbara	Amount:	\$170.82
Value: \$23,400.00 Year: 2005 Account # 01-06831 Bill # 9906	Total	\$377.50

Release the property value, the North Whiteville Fire (25.00) and the Whiteville Rescue (4.68). The property is double listed in the name of Lacy L. Wilson (etal).

Release the Property Value in the name of Boone, Barbara	Amount:	\$179.01
Value: \$23,400.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-06831 Bill # 0635	Total	\$401.69

Release the property value, the North Whiteville Fire (25.00) and the Whiteville Rescue (4.68). The property is double listed in the name of Lacy L. Wilson (etal).

Release the Property Value in the name of Byrd, Giles E.	Amount:	\$872.10
Value: \$114,000.00 Year: 2006 Account # 04-04942 Bill # 3113	Total	\$1,008.90

Release a portion of the property value, a portion of the Bolton Fire (114.00) and a portion of the Columbus Rescue (22.80). Property should be in the Land Use Program.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gurkin, Earl	Amount:	\$19.13
Value: \$2,500.00 Year: 2006 Account # 05-02600 Bill # 4139	Total	\$22.88

Release a portion of the property value, a portion of the Columbus Rescue (.50) and a portion of W3 (3.25). Mapping error.

Release the Property Value in the name of Keith, James D.	Amount:	\$419.00
Value: \$54,900.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-21937 Bill # 9470	Total	\$495.86

Release the value of a building, the Acme Delco Fire (65.88) and the Columbus Rescue (10.98). The building burned in 2005.

Release the Property Value in the name of King, Ernest	Amount:	\$13.21
Value: \$1,330.00 Year: 2004 Account # 07-09968 Bill # 592	Total	\$14.77

Release the property value and portion of the Columbus rescue. This property does not exist.

Release the Property Value in the name of King, Ernest	Amount:	\$11.42
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Value: \$1,330.00 Year: 2005 Account # 07-09968 Bill # 558 Total \$12.90  
Release the property value and the Columbus rescue. The property does not exist.

Release the Property Value in the name of King, Ernest Amount: \$10.17  
Value: \$1,330.00 Year: 2006 Account # 07-09968 Bill # 9684 Total \$11.48  
Release the property value and the Columbus Rescue. This property does not exist.

Release the Property Value in the name of Long, James A Amount: \$42.08  
Value: \$5,500.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-01610 Bill # 1466 Total \$47.58  
Release a portion of the property value, a portion of the Old Dock Fire (4.40) and a portion of the Columbus Rescue (1.10). Land breakdown corrected for 2006.

Release the Property Value in the name of Scott, Darriel Amount: \$247.10  
Value: \$32,300.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-00933 Bill # 0501 Total \$478.86  
Release the value of a double wide, the Yam City Fire (32.30) and the Columbus Rescue (6.46). The home was repossessed in 2004.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$351.14  
Value: \$45,900.00 Year: 2006 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 8315 Total \$553.32  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$335.07  
Value: \$45,900.00 Year: 2005 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 6963 Total \$521.25  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$333.84  
Value: \$42,800.00 Year: 2004 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 2784 Total \$519.40  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$333.84  
Value: \$42,800.00 Year: 2003 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 6456 Total \$519.40  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue fee. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$308.16  
Value: \$42,800.00 Year: 2000 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 6605 Total \$441.72  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue fee. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$333.84  
Value: \$42,800.00 Year: 2002 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 5708 Total \$519.40  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue fee. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of V F S Sales Office Amount: \$333.84  
Value: \$42,800.00 Year: 2001 Account # 02-50601 Bill # 7561 Total \$507.40  
Release the value of a double wide and the Whiteville Rescue fee. The home is listed in Robeson County.

Release the Property Value in the name of Webb, Wiley Amount: \$21.61  
Value: \$2,824.00 Year: 2006 Account # 04-01837 Bill # 0468 Total \$131.01  
Release the value of a mobile home, the Bolton Fire (2.83) and the Columbus rescue (.57). The home burned in 2005.

Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Denise Amount: \$56.92  
Value: \$8,190.00 Year: 1998 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 4844 Total \$116.92  
Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.

Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Denise Amount: \$49.76  
Value: \$6,380.00 Year: 2003 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 9286 Total \$143.14  
Release the value of a mobile home and the Columbus Rescue. The home is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.

Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Denise Amount: \$55.39  
Value: \$7,970.00 Year: 1999 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 7451 Total \$120.93  
Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.



Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Denise	Amount:	\$56.92
Value: \$8,190.00 Year: 1997 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 9357	Total	\$116.92
Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.		
Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Denise	Amount:	\$54.00
Value: \$7,500.00 Year: 2000 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 9269	Total	\$124.40
Release the value of a mobile home that is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.		
Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Eddie	Amount:	\$40.55
Value: \$5,300.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-43094 Bill # 1225	Total	\$244.60
Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (5.30) and the Columbus Rescue (1.06). The home is double listed in the name of Denise Williams.		
Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Eddie	Amount:	\$41.25
Value: \$5,650.00 Year: 2005 Account # 06-43094 Bill # 9833	Total	\$225.03
Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City fee (5.65) and the Columbus Rescue (1.13). The home is double listed in the name of Denise Williams.		
Release the Property Value in the name of Williams, Eddie	Amount:	\$46.72
Value: \$5,990.00 Year: 2004 Account # 06-43094 Bill # 5643	Total	\$236.30
Release the value of a mobile home, the Yam City (5.99) and the Columbus Rescue (1.20). The home is double listed in the name of Denise Williams.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Allgood, Fred	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-00562 Bill # 7795	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a double wide that is vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Archie, Kim	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-02472 Bill # 8123	Total	\$106.00
Release user fee on vacant lot.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Backwoods Grill	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-04534 Bill # 8340	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. Customer used a commercial hauler.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Ball, John	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-00520 Bill # 8645	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee that was pre-paid in June 2006.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Bright, Bobby	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-03800 Bill # 1239	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. Trash can picked up in 2004.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Bullock, C.B. Jr.	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 09-02245 Bill # 2565	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. Mobile home moved off the lot.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd Family LLC	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-03828 Bill # 3070	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on house that is vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd Family LLC	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-03828 Bill # 3083	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd Family LLC	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-03828 Bill # 3069	Total	\$336.00
Release two user fees on houses that are vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd, Giles & Sons	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-04796 Bill # 3100	Total	\$96.50
Release half of the user fee. This is a hunting lodge.		

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Release the User Fee in the name of Byrd, Gwyn	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 08-02649 Bill # 3129	Total	\$193.00
Release the user fee. House vacant, no trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Corbett, Tomeka	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-05220 Bill # 5757	Total	\$32.16
Release a portion of the user fee. Did not have the trash can for a full year.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2004 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 8818	Total	\$177.00
Release the user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2005 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 717	Total	\$177.00
Release the user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2003 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 2605	Total	\$177.00
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2002 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 2221	Total	\$177.00
Release the user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2001 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 4492	Total	\$165.00
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 1999 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 3127	Total	\$100.00
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 1998 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 1283	Total	\$100.00
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable. No trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Green, Horace	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 16-06243 Bill # 3750	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Hampton, William	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-36723 Bill # 4561	Total	\$106.00
Release user fee on a house that has been torn down.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Hayes, Dorothy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 16-07704 Bill # 5236	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Hobbs, Thomas	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 13-19440 Bill # 6647	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. Customer using a commercial hauler.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Hodge, Betty	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 05-02224 Bill # 6674	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a mobile home that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Jacobs, Sanuel B. II	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-34095 Bill # 8147	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a mobile home that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Keith, James	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-21937 Bill # 9470	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a vacant shop.		

Release the User Fee in the name of Larrimore, Barbara	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 13-22921 Bill # 0253	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on land that is vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Marlowe, Thomas	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 09-04037 Bill # 0691	Total	\$193.00
Release the user fee that was pre-paid.		
Release the User Fee in the name of McCallum, Wilbert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 10-10586 Bill # 2746	Total	\$106.00
Release user fee on a mobile home that was repossessed in 2005.		
Release the User Fee in the name of McPherson, Walter	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 09-03216 Bill # 3979	Total	\$193.00
Release the user fee on land that is vacant.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Milligan, James	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-62264 Bill # 4616	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a mobile home that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Nance, W. Morris	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-20460 Bill # 5889	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Palmer, Shade	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-02750 Bill # 7184	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Parry, Brian	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 04-03862 Bill # 0725	Total	\$30.75
Release the user fee that was pre-paid in February, 2006.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Peterson, D.J.	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-05122 Bill # 7678	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a vacant house that does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Ragan, Philip	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-04831 Bill # 9405	Total	\$106.00
Release the user fee on a storage building.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Sellers, Norman	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-05664 Bill # 1751	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a vacant shop.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Smith, T V	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 07-04404 Bill # 3850	Total	\$96.50
Release a portion of the user fee. Did not have the trash can for a full year.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Spaulding, John H	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 14-15600 Bill # 4436	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Stocks, Reuben	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 07-02560 Bill # 5765	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. House vacant, no trash can.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Strickland, Robert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 13-38661 Bill # 6166	Total	\$106.00
Release one of two user fees. Only one trash can here.		
Release the User Fee in the name of Turbeville, Billy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 16-16100 Bill # 7900	Total	\$193.00
Release user fee. There is no trash can here.		

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Release the User Fee in the name of Vereen, Shedward Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 09-04021 Bill # 8457 Total \$193.00  
Release user fee on a house that is unlivable and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Walker, Jeanette Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-05542 Bill # 8854 Total \$193.00  
Release user fee on vacant land.

Release the User Fee in the name of Watford, Michael Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-00710 Bill # 9984 Total \$193.00  
Release user fee. House vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Willett, Johnny Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-04743 Bill # 1088 Total \$193.00  
Release user fee on vacant land.

Release the User Fee in the name of Williams, Denise Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 1997 Account # 06-43037 Bill # 5045 Total \$40.00  
Release user fee that is double listed in the name of Eddie Williams.

Release the User Fee in the name of Williams, Eddie Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2002 Account # 06-43094 Bill # 8534 Total \$131.55  
Release the user fee that is double listed in the name of Denise Williams.

Release the User Fee in the name of Williams, Marian Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 10-18560 Bill # 1407 Total \$106.00  
Release the user fee on a house that is vacant.

## **Agenda Item #13: COMMENTS:**

Chairman Jacobs opened the floor for any comments. The following people spoke.

### **A. Public:**

1. **Jim Nance (private citizen):** stated the following:
  - a. There is a two thousand (2, 000) acre area bordering the Lumber River that is being maintained by the North Carolina State Parks and Recreation Department;
  - b. Anyone can purchase a thirty-five and 00/100 (\$35.00) dollars permit and ride horses in this area;
  - c. This area has no posted trails for the horse rides for everyone to see, and has no bathroom facilities;
  - d. I have been denied the opportunity to purchase a permit for my personal use to camp in this area;
  - e. Last weekend, a trail ride, in the said area, started on Thursday evening and ran through Monday morning, with extremely loud noises that sounded like steel being unloaded; **and**
  - f. I would like to find out why these people are allowed to ride horses in this area, and I can't even purchase a permit to camp in the same area.

After discussion was conducted among the Board members, it was the general consensus of the Board for Jim Varner, County Manager, and June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, to prepare a letter to the North Carolina State Parks and Recreation to discover what the rules and regulations are that govern this area.

2. **Robert Adams (private citizen):** stated the following:
  - a. I am speaking on behalf of the Columbus County Aging Advisory Council;
  - b. I have been informed by Ed Worley, Aging Director, that the North Carolina Department of Transportation has informed him they cannot place green signs at five (5) of the seven (7) Senior Citizens' Centers that are located in Columbus County, due to their locations;
  - c. I am requesting the Board of County Commissioners to pass a Resolution requesting the State to change their policy on these signs to be placed at the

- Senior Centers; **and**
- d. This will aid our senior citizens in locating these centers.

After discussion was conducted relative to this matter, it was the general consensus of the Board for Jim Varner, County Manager, and June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, to send a letter to the North Carolina Department of Transportation to inquire about the details surrounding this matter.

**B. Department Heads:**

1. **Ray Reeves (Building Inspections):** stated the following:  
I have prepared, for the Board, the options that are available for the Riegelwood Tornado Permit Fees in the rebuilding process. They are as follows:

**OPTIONS:**

- A) Charge for permits if:
1. The home is rental property; **or**
  2. The homeowner pays someone else to do the work or part of the work.
- B) Do not charge for permits if: (Permits will still be required)
1. The owner is doing all the work themselves; **or**
  2. The owner has help from the volunteer group.
- C) No charge for any permits. (Permits will still be required)  
(Approximate amount of fees not collected will be between \$5,000 - \$6,000)

I need to know what the pleasure of the Board is on this matter.

After discussion was conducted among the Board members relative to the three (3) options presented by Ray Reeves, Building Inspections Director, the following motion was made.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Memory made a motion to select Option C, as presented by Ray Reeves, Building Inspections Director, for the Riegelwood Tornado Permit Fees, and as listed above, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously carried.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Memory made a motion to reimburse the citizens who have already purchased their permits for the rebuilding process from the Tornado, seconded by Vice Chairman Prevatte. The motion unanimously carried.

2. **Ed Worley, Aging Director:**

I would like to remind the Board about the ongoing need for a larger location for our Whiteville Senior Center.

**C. Board of Commissioners:**

1. **Commissioner Prevatte:** I would like for Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney, to read orally the findings he discovered on hiring procedures for County Government. Mr. Fowler did likewise.
2. **Commissioner Bullard:** made the following motion:

**MOTION:**

All new policies, and all changes to existing policies, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners implements, be brought before the Board for open discussion, and the Board to conduct at least two (2) readings, before these policies and changes are approved and

adopted. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Prevatte, and unanimously carried.

3. **Vice Chairman Prevatte:** made the following motion:

**MOTION:**

Virginia Taylor, Human Resources Officer, to schedule a workshop with the Columbus County Board of Commissioners for the purpose of discussion of the proposed amendments to the Columbus County Personnel Manual, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

4. **Chairman Jacobs:** I will make the following annual appointments to the Personnel and Finance Committees:

**Personnel Committee:**

Amon E. McKenzie  
James E. Prevatte  
Bill Memory

**Finance Committee:**

Lynwood Norris  
Ronald Gore  
Ricky Bullard

**MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to appoint Chairman Sammie Jacobs as the Educational Liaison for the upcoming year, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

- D. **County Manager (Jim Varner):** stated the following:

1. I would like to know what the status is on the work to be done by Michael Rhodes at the Landfill. Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney, replied stating that Mr. Rhodes had not come into the office for the finalization of the necessary documents.
2. I need to know the details of the Single Family Rehabilitation Dwelling Project. Stevie Cox, Columbus County Planner, replied stating this project consisted of a four hundred thousand and 00/100 (\$400,000.00) dollars grant, which would include a total of eight (8) houses, at a cost of fifty thousand and 00/100 (\$50,000.00) per house, which would entail the hard and soft cost.

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (3) Attorney-Client Privilege:**

At 8:33 P.M., Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in Accordance with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (3) Attorney-Client Privilege, for discussion of the Deena Ward versus the Columbus County Department of Social Services matter. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Memory and unanimously carried.

No official action was taken.

**ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:**

At 9:09 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

**OTHER:****SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT and RELEASE - DEENA WARD -VERSUS- COLUMBUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to accept the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Release for the Deena Ward -versus- Columbus County Department of Social Services matter, and that Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney, and Rachel Espisito, Attorney for the Columbus County Insurance Pool, be the contacts for information. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Norris and unanimously carried. A copy of this document will be marked as Exhibit "A" and kept on file in Minute Book Attachments #2 in the Office of the Clerk to the Board, for review.

**Agenda Item #14: ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:10 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT I  
BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 02, 2007**

**7:23 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, to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Sammie Jacobs, **Chairman**  
James Prevatte, **Vice Chairman**  
Amon E. McKenzie  
Bill Memory  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard  
Ronald Gore

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

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

**APPOINTEE ABSENT:**

Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:23 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting to order

**CARL STEPHENS ROAD WATER MAIN EXTENSION - APPROVAL of LOW BID, AWARD to LOW BIDDER, NOTICE to PROCEED and BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, stated the following:

1. On December 20, 2006, informal bids were accepted for the Carl Stephens Road Water Main Extension;
2. This project consists of approximately 4,600 feet of 4" water main to be installed along Carl Stephens Road;
3. The bids received are as follows:
 

Goodyear Construction	\$25,245.00
Frank Horne Construction	\$66,612.00
Axel McPherson Construction	\$72,050.00;
4. Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, P.A., is recommending that the bid be awarded to Goodyear Construction at the low bid amount of \$25,245.00; **and**
5. In order for this project to proceed, the following Board action is needed:
  - A. Approval of the low bid;
  - B. Approval of the award to the low bidder;
  - C. Approval of the contract, which will be forthcoming;
  - D. Approval of the Notice to Proceed to be executed at the appropriate time; **and**
  - E. Approval of the Budget Amendment in the amount of \$25,245.00 for the cost of this project, as follows:



TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	32-690-7401	Capital Outlay - Water Line	\$25,245
Revenue	32-399-0000	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$25,245

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the above listed five (5) items for the water main extension on Carl Stephens Road, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:24 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion so carried.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**