

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**May 07, 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 Monday.

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**
Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

Agenda Items #1, #2 and #3:**MEETING CALLED to ORDER, INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:**

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the May 07, 2007 Regular Session Board Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Bill Memory. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Vice Chairman James E. Prevatte.

Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

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

- A. April 16, 2007 Regular Session Minutes;
- B. April 16, 2007 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting Minutes (Combination Meeting);
- C. April 16, 2007 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting;
- D. April 20, 2007 Regular Session Minutes; **and**
- E. April 20, 2007 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes.

Agenda Item #5: LANDFILL GAS TASK FORCE - GOLDEN LEAF REPORTS and UPDATE:

Chairman Jacobs stated the former County Commissioner Kipling Godwin was present and was working with the Landfill Gas Task Force; Mr. Godwin stated the following:

1. We have been meeting on a regular basis;
2. We have held one (1) public forum;
3. We are working with the Energy Center at Appalachian State University;
4. There are two (2) representatives from Appalachian State University here tonight; **and**
5. I will turn this over to Jason Hoyle who is a Research Analyst with the university.

Jason Hoyle, Appalachian State University, stated the following:

1. We facilitate landfill gas into energy;
2. The Landfill Gas Task Force was started in July 2006;
3. On August 21, 2006, Agenda Item #12 was approved by the County Commissioners and, at that time, the Commissioners asked for a business plan to be provided;
4. The information I have distributed to you is the business plan that was requested, and I prefer to call it a Development Plan for Columbus County;
5. We conducted a public meeting on February 26, 2007 and had good attendance;
6. The Columbus County Landfill is at a sixty (60%) percent methane level;
7. This methane gas can be used the same as natural gas;
8. The cost of moving gas could cost up to \$1 million per mile;
9. Columbus County could use ninety-two and one-half (92.5%) percent of the methane gas produced over the next twenty (20) years;

10. The revenue realized from the usage of the methane gas could be approximately one hundred forty-three thousand (\$143,000) dollars annually;
11. The collection system needed for this project would cost approximately \$1 million, the 600 KW reciprocating engine would cost approximately \$1 million, other costs involved would be approximately \$1 million, which equates to a total investment of approximately \$3 million;
12. The best ways to promote this project are as follows:
 - demonstrate the advantages
 - be willing to invest the necessary cash needed; **and**
 - pursue the project aggressively;
13. The trend of this project is to work with local development;
14. The least effective use of the methane gas is the generation of electricity;
15. You will need an engineering study done before the Request For Proposals;
16. Many grants are available to fund a project like this; **and**
17. The total cost of this project would not have to be upfronted, you could earn revenue as you proceed.

Agenda Item #6: DISCUSSION - ISSUES with MONTHLY WATER BILL:

Bart Brown, Project Manager, and Danny Vandiver, Superintendent, with Balfour Beatty Construction, stated the following:

1. We are building the State Correctional Facility just outside Tabor City;
2. We are connected to the County water supply during this construction;
3. There are inconsistencies in the billing of our water usage that need to be resolved;
4. For the first two (2) months, we were not billed for any water usage;
5. We notified the County Water Department, and we were told there were no meter readings;
6. For the months of December, 2006 and January, 2007, we received a bill showing usage of 2.1 million gallons;
7. This amount of water usage is one-half (½) of the entire water usage for the previous prisons we have built;
8. The total water usage for the previous projects we have done has been three to four (3-4) million gallons;
9. The other water bills we have received were normal;
10. I would like to know what the established water rate is for this water, is it city, county, industrial or business rates?;
11. According to the water bills we have received, the meter readings are inconsistent;
12. The meter numbers do not accurately compute;
13. It is my understanding the prison is located on State property that has been annexed into Tabor City, and I would like to know if this is correct;
Chairman Jacobs stated that this was correct.
14. We held back from hooking up to the water line; **and**
15. I have personally witnessed the flushing of the line and the fire hydrants.

Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, stated the following relative to this matter:

1. The company did not make application for the water;
2. The Department of Corrections will pay for the tap fee;
3. The water rate is six and 00/100 (\$6.00) dollars per one thousand (1,000) gallons used;
4. The meter readings show the usage of 2,192,000 gallons which included 21,000 gallons for a trailer which should have been billed separately; **and**
5. I don't know what happened.

Bart Brown (cont'd):

16. There was a problem with the meter in February; **and**
17. We have a fire loop with the fire hydrants.

After in-depth discussion was conducted as to a resolution to this matter, Chairman Jacobs asked Mr. Brown how this matter could be resolved to meet his satisfaction. Mr. Brown replied stating the bill needed to be consistent with the average monthly water bills over the months of their usage.

After additional discussion was conducted, it was the general consensus of the Board for Balfour Beatty Construction Company, Frank Horne, Mr. Varner and Leroy Sellers to meet and reach a workable solution for all parties involved, and then bring their decision to the Board at the next scheduled meeting.

Agenda Item #7: PROCLAMATION - MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2007:

Randy Norris, private citizen, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month May 2007.

**MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH
PROCLAMATION
MAY 2007**

WHEREAS, motorcycle riding is a popular form of recreation and transportation for thousands of citizens across North Carolina and the United States; **and**

WHEREAS, North Carolina has over one hundred forty-two thousand (142,000) registered motorcycles and over two hundred sixty thousand (260,000) licensed drivers who have either a motorcycle endorsement or a motorcycle learner's permit; **and**

WHEREAS, it is important that the citizens of North Carolina be aware of motorcycles on our roadways and recognize the importance of motorcycle safety and of sharing the roadways; **and**

WHEREAS, the safe operation of a motorcycle is enhanced through a combination of rider training and experience, good judgment, and a knowledge of traffic laws and licensing requirements; **and**

WHEREAS, several organizations, such as the **Columbus County Concerned Bikers Association (CBA)**, along with the North Carolina Motorcycle Safety Education Program, other state and local motorcycle clubs and riding/social clubs, are committed to increasing the safe operation of motorcycles by promoting rider-safety education programs, and their goal is to alert the motorists of Columbus County to:

LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE

; and

WHEREAS, MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH is designed to increase public awareness about motorcycles and to encourage their safe and proper use among motorcycle riders.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2007 as **"MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH"** in Columbus County, and urge all citizens to commend its observance.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of May, 2007.

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

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month May 2007, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #8: JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL - REQUEST for FUNDING for FY 2007/08:

Greg Worthington, Chairman of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, presented the following:

1. The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council has been funded the amount of \$204,983 for the Budget Year 2007/2008;
2. The Columbus County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Committee's recommendations for the following five (5) programs are as follows:

PROGRAM	REQUESTED 07/08	RECOMMENDED 07/08	10% IN-KIND CONTRIB	TOTAL
Lasting Impressions	32,584	32,584	10,459	43,043
Making a Difference	19,497	49,497	5030	54,527
Court Psychologist	4,950	4,950	606	5,556
Teen Court/Restitution	62,539	61,539	12,120	73,659
Youth/Family Counseling	54,561	54,561	12,074	67,435
Administrative Funds		1,852	1,852	1,852
TOTAL:	203,131	204,983	41,089	246,072

; and

3. We are requesting the Board’s approval of the recommended breakdown of this funding.

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to approve the Columbus County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Committee’s recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2007/2008, as presented, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #9: AGING - APPROVAL of TWO (2) ITEMS for PROSPECTIVE NEW BUILDING:

- A. Exploration of possible exchange of lot clearing for exchange of dirt for the road; and**
- B. Establish a fund raising headed up by a firm or an individual.**

Ed Worley, Aging Director stated the following:

1. We are very hopeful of Senator Soles being able to secure the \$1 million funding that we have requested for a new building for the Columbus County Aging Department;
2. Our senior citizens are very excited about the possibility of a new building;
3. We have met with the Department of Transportation regarding the possibility of the exchange of dirt for the clearing of the lot, and they liked the idea, but since this time, we have discovered this dirt may have to be used to fill a field with, and we need to holdup on this; **and**
4. I would like the Board’s permission to establish a fund raising to be headed up by a firm or an individual as a good faith effort of the County to be combined with the \$1 million dollars.

In-depth discussion was conducted relative to the consequences of what would happen with the fund-raising dollars if the \$1 million of requested funds do not materialize.

Commissioner Ronald Gore stated the following:

1. A committee was formed to help find a solution to obtaining a larger facility for the Department of Aging, and I am a member of that committee;
2. I am looking at a building that would supply Mr. Worley with an additional ten thousand (10,000) square feet above what he has at the present time;
3. The cost of this building will not take as much funding as we had originally thought; **and**
4. It is my opinion that we need to hold off on this fund raising until we know if we will get the \$1 million of requested funds.

After additional discussion was conducted, it was the general consensus of the Board to take this matter under advisement.

Agenda Item #10: Approval of Proposed Budget for Home and Community Care Block Grant and Committee’s Recommendations as follows:

- A. To appoint the Columbus County Department of Aging as the provider and Lead Agent for Columbus County;**
- B. To allow all programs to remain as presently provided;**
- C. Accept the proposed budget from the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee for the allocations of \$541,442.00, with a local match of \$60,160.00 (10%), for a grand total of \$601,602.00; and**
- D. Approval to allow the Columbus County Department of Aging to accept any additional future funds for the budget year 2007-2008,**

or adjust its budget should there be a cost.

Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested Board approval of the above listed items, and a letter to Jane Jones from the Clerk. Mr. Worley stated the following:

1. I need for the first three (3) items to be handled as a group, and the last item to be handled separately;
2. This is our annual funding and recommended allocations from the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee;
3. On the last item, we need Board approval to accept any additional funds that are available to us, and adjust our budget, if there is a cost, without having to come back before the Board for permission.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the Proposed Budget for the Home and Community Care Block Grant, and the Committee's recommendations, as listed in items A - C above, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve allowing the Columbus County Department of Aging to accept any additional future funds for the Budget Year 2007-2008, or adjust its budget should there be a cost, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Bullard stated he had been contacted by several people that thought it would be advantageous to have a building for the Department of Aging and Parks and Recreation, and for them to be run together. I am requesting that Jim Varner, County Manager, to do the necessary research on housing the Department of Aging and the Parks and Recreation Department in the same building, and for them to be run together.

Agenda Item #11: HEALTH - NATIONAL NURSES' WEEK PROCLAMATION:

Al West, President of the Columbus County Chapter, requested Board approval and adoption of the following National Nurses' Week Proclamation.

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK - MAY 6 - 12, 2007
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the nearly 2.7 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession; **and**

WHEREAS, the depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings; **and**

WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association, as the voice for the registered nurses of this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventative health care; **and**

WHEREAS, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require the better utilization of all of our nation's registered nursing resources; **and**

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; **and**

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services; **and**

WHEREAS, that more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; **and**

WHEREAS, the cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an ever more important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future; **and**

WHEREAS, along with the American Nurses Association, the Columbus County Commissioners have declared the week of **May 6-12** as **NATIONAL NURSES WEEK** in celebration of the ways in which registered nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care

and map out the way to improve our health care system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Columbus County Commissioners, ask that all residents of this community join us in honoring the registered nurses who care for all of us; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the residents of Columbus County celebrate nursing's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this month, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Al West stated the following:

1. There are three hundred thousand (300,000) nurses in North Carolina;
2. There are seven hundred (700) nurses in Columbus County;
3. Nurses work hard and have a demanding job; **and**
4. I would like for the nurses in Columbus County to be recognized for all of their hard work and commitment.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the National Nurses' Week Proclamation, seconded by Vice Chairman Prevatte. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #12: PLANNING - 2005 CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM, SELECTION of NEW RECIPIENT:

Stevie Cox, Planning Director, requested Board approval of Ms. Rosa Braxton as the new recipient for housing assistance through the 2005 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program. Mr. Cox stated the following:

1. The current program suffered the death of one (1) resident prior to construction on the house;
2. The heirs of the property do not wish to participate in the program;
3. This has created a need to delete this house from the program and add another unit;
4. Based on the applications previously received, the next candidate that most closely fits the original criteria is Rosa Braxton who lives on New Britton Highway, Whiteville, North Carolina; **and**
5. Ms. Braxton meets the income requirements.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve Rosa Braxton as the new recipient for housing assistance through the 2005 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #13: PLANNING - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of OPTIONAL COVERAGE RELOCATION PLAN for 2006 CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM:

Stevie Cox, Planning Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the Optional Coverage Relocation Plan for the 2006 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program. Mr. Cox stated the following:

1. This plan basically follows the regulatory Uniform Act with variances to accommodate the County's desires;
2. It changes the method of selection of the replacement homes;
3. Rather than the homeowner having the opportunity to select a house of their choice, this plan requires the homeowner to select one (1) of three (3) house plans selected by the county; **and**
4. The County will control the placement of the house on the site or the construction of the house on the site.

**COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
2006 CDBG PROGRAM**

**OPTIONAL COVERAGE RELOCATION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Organization and Administration

The 2006 Columbus County Community Development Program (hereinafter called “County”) will administer and coordinate all relocation activities (temporary or permanent) resulting from Community Development activities. Citizens displaced by Community Development Program activities are eligible to receive relocation assistance. The financial assistance is in a form as permitted under implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies act of 1970, as amended.

Definition of a “Displaced Person”

A displaced individual is someone whose home, which is located within the Community Development Activity Area, is determined to be in a condition too dilapidated to be economically feasible to rehabilitate and will be demolished. This can also include a person temporarily displaced as a result of program activities such as housing rehabilitation.

Definition of “Standard Housing”

A dwelling unit is in standard condition if it is decent, safe, and sanitary. A dwelling unit is considered decent, safe, and sanitary if (a) it is in good repair and is weathertight, with no leakage nor dampness; (b) it has no health, fire nor safety hazards within the structure or in the immediate vicinity; (c) it has running water, a private sewer-connected to a flush toilet, and a bathroom for exclusive use of the occupant, with tub or shower with hot and cold running water, all within the dwelling unit; (d) it has permanent, reasonably efficient kitchen facilities for exclusive use of the occupant, including sink with hot and cold running water, cooking stove connections, shelves and storage space for food and utensils; (e) it has facilities or connections for washing and drying clothes; (f) it is large enough to accommodate the occupants without overcrowding; (g) it is equipped with adequate heating facilities; (h) it is adequately ventilated by at least one operable window in every room and is screened, or screens are available; (i) it is wired for electricity; and (j) it is located in a neighborhood which is free from industrial and other nuisances, is supplied with the community facilities of a standard neighborhood, and is reasonably accessible to transportation, school, churches and stores.

It is intended that all dwellings into which displaced families relocate will be inspected by the County. If the dwellings are not found to be decent, safe and sanitary, the move will be considered temporary relocation.

Optional Coverage for the 2006 County of Columbus CDBG Program

The 2006 Columbus County Community Development Program shall undertake relocation that may not be covered automatically under the URA such as would be the case with voluntary demolition. The County intends for these persons to be served at the same levels as those described under the URA and will use this Optional Coverage Relocation Plan to establish this coverage. Under this Plan, the County of Columbus shall provide relocation payments and assistance to the following:

1. Homeowners and their families who are displaced by rehabilitation activity of a dwelling located within the Community Development Area by the County. This will be effective only when the County makes the request for the occupant to move.
2. Homeowners and their families who are displaced by the voluntary demolition of a dwelling occupied by the families and located within the Community Development Area.

Relocation Assistance to Families and Individuals

The County shall provide relocation planning, advisory and coordination services consistent with those described in Section 24.205 of the URA. These shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of transportation as deemed necessary and reasonable to support the relocation, assistance in submitting claims for payment, counseling and education on relocation regulations and coordinating these activities with existing social service and economic assistance programs as they are available.

Temporary Relocation

Rehabilitation shall be conducted without relocation of the affected occupants to the greatest extent feasible. Should relocation be necessary and should available temporary housing be substandard by the above definition, the minimum standards set forth shall not apply. Such relocation shall be accomplished at the minimum feasible cost. The County will only pay for the cost of the lodging during the temporary relocation time period. A maximum allowable per night charge shall be established prior to the move. Relocates are required to submit receipts to the County documenting

the expenses for which they are requesting reimbursement.

Moving Expense Payment

A permanently displaced individual or family covered under this Plan shall be eligible to receive a moving expense payment in accordance with the following sections of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (URA). Specifically referenced is the following section of the URA:

1. Section 24.302 – Fixed payment for moving expenses – residential moves.

The relocatee will receive payment on the basis of the moving expense schedule (Fixed Rate Method) which is prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation and shown below for the State of North Carolina.

Occupant Owns Furniture								Occupant Does Not Own Furniture		
Number of Rooms of Furniture								Each Add. Room	First Room	Each Add. Room
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
500	700	900	1100	1300	1500	1650	1800	150	350	50

Under the Fixed Rate method, it should be noted that certain rooms are excluded from the calculations. These include unfurnished or unused rooms, halls, bathrooms, attics, porches, garages, dressing rooms and utility rooms. However, should the relocatee have sufficient storage room in the above stated rooms, the County may count one additional room for the sum of these, but this is not to exceed one additional room for the calculation of the number of eligible rooms in the dwelling.

Basic Replacement Housing Payment

A permanently displaced individual or family covered under this Plan shall be eligible to receive replacement housing payments in accordance with the following sections of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970, as amended (URA). Specifically referenced are the following sections of the URA:

1. Section 24.401 – 180 Day Homeowners
2. Section 24.403 – Additional Rules
3. Section 24.404 – Replacement Housing of Last Resort

Replacement Housing – (Variance from URA)

The County will provide a minimum of three options for each eligible family. Families will be required to select one of the three options. Upon selection, the County will coordinate the construction or placement of the unit on the property.

Each family will be evaluated based on the current needs for number of bedrooms. The minimum size home will be a two-bedroom unit. Due to budget restraints, the County may offer a smaller home to a family than the one they presently occupy, provided the home is large enough for the existing family members, taking into account the composition of the family. Therefore, a family of two, living in a three-bedroom home may be offered a two-bedroom home as a replacement home.

The homeowner has a right to decline participation in the program if they feel this program does not offer a replacement home suitable for their needs.

Complaint Procedure

The County conforms to standard ethical practices in the relocation of individuals and families and desires to see that all interests are protected. If there are any questions or complaints, the County solicits the cooperation of all owners and requests an opportunity to discuss them in an effort to satisfy all parties concerned. The County has adopted the following Complaint Procedure:

Should any individual, family or entity have a complaint concerning the County of Columbus 2006 Community Development Program, the complaint should first be discussed with the Project Manager. **ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE EXHAUSTED TO RESOLVE THE COMPLAINT AT THIS LEVEL.**

If the complaint cannot be resolved in this manner, a meeting with the County Manager to discuss the complaint should be requested. The request should be in writing and should briefly outline the complaint. A meeting date and time will be established within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the request. Upon meeting and discussing the complaint, a reply will be made, in writing, within ten (10) calendar days.

If the citizen is dissatisfied with local response, they may **write** to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance (DCA), 4313 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4313. DCA will respond **only to written comments** within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of the comments.

/s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman**
DATE: **05/07/2007**

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt the Optional Coverage Relocation Plan for the 2006 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #14: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Kay Worley, Interim Emergency Management Director, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board:

1. During the week of April 8 - 14, 2007, we celebrated "Telecommunicator Week" by providing the 9-1-1 staff with an ice cream party;
2. We have two (2) vacant Telecommunicator I positions available;
3. For the months of January 01, 2007 through April 30, 2007, we dispatched the following calls:
-1,125 Fire Department;
-2,736 EMS; **and**
-15,414 Law Enforcement;
4. Whiteville Police Department calls have almost tripled, due to the increase of security checks of businesses and parking violations;
5. In conjunction with State Emergency Management, we will be participating in a hurricane exercise for the dates of May 22, 23 and 24th. On May 24, 2007, we will be having a hurricane preparedness meeting;
6. For the months of January through April 2007, we have issued 299 new addresses, and have updated 812 addresses;
7. We have completed a grant for gas masks which have been received and are being distributed to members of law enforcement;
8. The tower at the 9-1-1 Center has been replaced and is working;
9. We are doing upgrades on the old radio equipment,
10. We received a grant to purchase a Ford F-250 Truck, dub cadet to be used on scenes, trailer to haul cub cadet, 2 MDT's for Sheriff's Department, security system for the Mobile Command Unit and new security system for 9-1-1 Center;
11. Shane Blackman, the Acting Fire Marshall, has completed the fire inspections on the schools in Columbus County; **and**
12. The EMS Steering Committee has been working for several months to update the County's EMS System Plan, the updates have been completed and we are now in the process of submitting them to the State OEMS.

Agenda Item #15: ELECTIONS - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Carla Strickland, Board of Elections Director, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board:

1. During the years 2006 and 2007, the Columbus County Board of Elections has completed the purchase of two (2) Unity Servers, forty-three (43) M100 Optical Scan Units and thirty-four (34) AutoMark units for handicap accessibility, and programs affiliated with all systems, and the Unity Servers for Election Night Reporting;
2. Due to the added number of pieces of equipment, a storage unit had to be added onto the Board of Elections Building site to accommodate the new equipment;
3. We are required, by law, to perform logic and accuracy tests on every piece of equipment to be utilized at the One-Stop sites, in the office, and at the precincts on Election Day;

4. Telephone lines are established at the precinct places and One-Stop sites, and precinct assistants are appointed by the Board, for Election Day;
5. Advertisements are set up to announce election schedules which are also posted on the Board of Elections website;
6. Candidate filing takes place during the year, the time schedule depending on offices which are up for election;
7. Effective October 1, 2006, all treasurers listed for candidate committees are required to attend treasurer training;
8. Columbus County has a population of 48,218 residents over the age of 18 years, and the Board of Elections has registered 36,345 members of this population which is a substantial increase from 33,898 that were registered in 2005;
9. We are working toward a grant in the amount of \$78,000 to establish Election Record Access at the Polling Place (E.R.A.P.P.);
10. We will undergo another Wellness Check conducted by the State Board of Elections this year;
11. We stay very busy all year round, and not just at election time; **and**
12. Gina Ward, Deputy Director, received her first State Certification in April of this year.

Agenda Item #16: RESOLUTION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of RESOLUTION of SUPPORT for the CLEAN WATER ACT of 2007:

Jim Varner, County Manager, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007.

RESOLUTION of SUPPORT for the CLEAN WATER ACT of 2007

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s continued prosperity depends on protecting the State’s water resources for current use and future generations; **and**

WHEREAS, North Carolina is expected to grow by 3.5 million people to exceed 12 million by the year 2030, placing pressures on the State’s water resources and local water providers; **and**

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s businesses, traditional and emerging industries, all depend on reliable supplies of clean water, reasonable utility costs, well maintained water infrastructure and an attractive natural environment; **and**

WHEREAS, the 1998 Clean Water Bonds delivered significant benefits to North Carolina communities and citizens, support 1,103 projects in 97 counties, which:

- helped create or retain 42,000 jobs
- corrected major regulatory violations in 97 communities
- addressed failing septic systems and contaminated wells in 59 counties
- resulted in 50 communities receiving sewer service for the first time
- encouraged regional efficiencies, sound planning and conservation practices; **and**

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s public water, sewer and storm water utilities will require investments totaling \$16.63 billion to keep pace with necessary improvements and population growth over the next 25 years, including \$6.85 billion in investments within the next five years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners urges the North Carolina General Assembly to enact the “**Clean Water Act of 2007**”, which provides for a \$500 million bond issue to be expended over the next five years, and an annual appropriation of \$50 million in recurring funding to address urgent needs.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of May, 2007.

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

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

Mr. Varner stated the following:

1. Billy Ray Hall, North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Incorporated, has sent me a letter requesting that we contact our representatives and ask for their support for the

- Clean Water Act of 2007; **and**
2. He is requesting that the Board adopt a Resolution in support of House Bill 127 and Senate Bill 208.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #17: ADMINISTRATION - AMENDMENT to MOTION:

Jim Varner, County Manager, requested Board approval of the following amendment to the motion that was made by Commissioner Bullard on January 16, 2007, for its first reading, and on February 05, 2007, for its second reading, and passed unanimously by the Board:

“All board and committee members who are appointed by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, and/or, individual County Commissioner appointees must live within the Columbus County boundaries to be eligible to serve.”

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the amendment to the motion that was made by Commissioner Bullard on January 16, 2007, for its first reading, and on February 05, 2007, for its second reading, and passed unanimously by the Board, as listed above, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

After discovery was made that this was the first reading of this amendment, Commissioner Memory withdrew his second and Commissioner Bullard withdrew his motion. This will be placed on the May 21, 2007 Agenda for its second reading.

Agenda Item #18: APPOINTMENTS - COMMITTEES/BOARDS:

A. Brunswick Zoning, Planning Board and Board of Adjustments:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to reappoint Caletta Faulk to the Brunswick Zoning, Planning and Board of Adjustments for a one (1) year term with term expiring May 17, 2008, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

B. Fair Bluff Planning Board:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to reappoint Billie Washington to the Fair Bluff Planning Board for a three (3) year term, with term expiring April, 2010, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

C. Literacy Council:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie to the Columbus County Literacy Council for a three (3) year term, with term expiring in 2009, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

D. Vehicle Review Committee:

Commissioner Norris made a motion to reappoint Linwood Cartrette to the Vehicle Review Committee for a four (4) year term, with term expiring 02/01/2011, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

AGENDA ADD-ON:

PROCLAMATION - OLDER AMERICANS MONTH MAY 2007: Ed Worley, Aging Director, is requesting Board approval and adoption of the following Proclamation.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH MAY 2007 PROCLAMATION
“Older Americans making “Choices for a Healthier Future”

WHEREAS, Columbus County is home to more than twelve thousand (12,000) citizens aged sixty (60) years of age or older; **and**

WHEREAS, the older citizens of Columbus County represent a dramatic trend in our

nation’s demographic makeup; **and**

WHEREAS, older persons are diverse, respected citizens who continue to contribute to our nation’s social and economic well-being; **and**

WHEREAS, a growing number of baby boomers are rapidly becoming older citizens, and the number of individuals providing care to family members and friends is expanding significantly; **and**

WHEREAS, the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead require us to think differently about health and long-term care, and work together to re-balance and modernize our current systems so that we may adequately plan for, and address the needs of current and future generations; **and**

- WHEREAS**, older persons are entitled to live lives of dignity and independence through:
- ☒ Streamlined access to information and community services;
 - ☒ Information about cost-effective prevention practices and activities that will improve health and quality of life; **and**
 - ☒ Innovative, affordable options of care and support that will provide an array of choices about how and where to live.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, do hereby proclaim May, 2007, to be “**Older Americans Month**” and urge all citizens to honor older adults, and those who care for them, during May, and throughout the year. We urge all to promote and participate in activities that contribute to helping older Americans make choices for a healthy and rewarding future.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 7th day of May, 2007.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 /s/ **SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman, District III**
 /s/ **JAMES E. PREVATTE, Vice Chairman, District II**
 /s/ **AMON E. McKENZIE, District I**
 /s/ **BILL MEMORY, District IV**
 /s/ **LYNWOOD NORRIS, District V**
 /s/ **RICKY BULLARD, District VI**
 /s/ **RONALD GORE, District VII**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie to approve and adopt the Older Americans Month May 2007 Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #19: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Budget Amendment:

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

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditure	10-610-6065	CP&L Energy	\$483
Revenue	10-348-1660	CP&L Energy	\$483

B. May 07, 2007 Tax Refunds and Releases:

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

TAX REFUNDS (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
May 07, 2007

Refunds Name: Clark, Gattis W. Amount: \$647.51
 Value: \$88,700.00 Year 005 Account # 09-04941 Bill # 93975 Total \$895.47
 Refund the value of a house, the Williams Fire (53.22) and the Columbus Rescue (17.74). The house
 burned in 2004. Check should be payable to customer and Columbus County Tax Administration.
 574 Beaverdam Rd. Clarendon NC 28432

Refunds Name: Izzo, Samuel Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year 006 Account # 01-05919 Bill # 37750 Total \$193.00
 Refund user fee. Customer using a commercial hauler.
 1132 Mrs Tates Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Izzo, Shane Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year 006 Account # 01-00143 Bill # 37751 Total \$193.00
 Refund user fee. Customer using a commercial hauler.
 1132 Mrs. Tates Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Larrimore, Travis Amount: \$15.33
 Value: \$2,200.00 Year 005 Account # 01-51361 Bill # 9147 Total \$17.22
 Refund a portion of the property value, a portion of the Klondyke Fire (1.47) and a portion of the
 Whiteville Rescue (.42). Customer was billed with incorrect acres.
 93 Midway Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Larrimore, Travis Amount: \$17.16
 Value: \$2,200.00 Year 004 Account # 01-51361 Bill # 5184 Total \$19.14
 Refund a portion of the property value, a portion of the Klondyke Fire (1.54) and a portion of the
 Whiteville Rescue (.44)
 93 Midway Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Larrimore, Travis J. Amount: \$17.16
 Value: \$2,200.00 Year 003 Account # 01-51361 Bill # 48941 Total \$19.14
 Refund a portion of the property value, a portion of the Klondyke Fire (1.54) and a portion of the
 Whiteville Rescue (.44). Customer was billed with incorrect acres.
 93 Midway Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Larrimore, Travis Amount: \$17.16
 Value: \$2,200.00 Year 002 Account # 01-51361 Bill # 78440 Total \$17.60
 Refund a portion of the property value and a portion of the Whiteville Rescue. Customer was billed
 with incorrect acres.
 93 Midway Rd. Whiteville NC 28472

Refunds Name: Page, Paul Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year 006 Account # 01-67725 Bill # 47110 Total \$193.00
 Refund user fee. Customer using a commercial hauler.
 1768 Bird Cage Rd. Chadbourn NC 28431

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
 May 07, 2007**

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebebee (Heirs) Amount: \$62.73
 Value: \$8,200.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 2170 Total \$64.37
 Release the property value and the Columbus Rescue fee. The property is double listed in the name of Carolyn B.
 Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebebee (Heirs) Amount: \$29.64
 Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2002 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 1271 Total \$34.96
 Release the property value, the Acme Delco fire (4.56) and the Columbus Rescue (.76). Property is double listed
 in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$29.64
 Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2003 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 1513 Total \$34.96
 Release the property value, the Acme Delco fire (4.56) and the Columbus Rescue (.76). The property is double
 listed in the name of Carolyn B. Bryant.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$29.64

910

Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2004 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 7660 Total \$34.96
Release the property value, the Acme Delco fire (4.56) and the Columbus Rescue (.76). The property is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$59.86
Value: \$8,200.00 Year: 2005 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 1388 Total \$61.50
Release the property value and the Columbus Rescue. The property is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$13.30
Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2002 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 723 Total \$13.30
Release the property value for the Town of Sandyfield that is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$13.30
Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2003 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 5238 Total \$13.30
Release the property value for the Town of Sandyfield that is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$28.70
Value: \$8,200.00 Year: 2005 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 7238 Total \$28.70
Release the property value for the Town of Sandyfield that is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee (Heirs) Amount: \$28.70
Value: \$8,200.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 4745 Total \$28.70
Release the property value for the Town of Sandyfield that is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Bryant, Ferebee, (Heirs) Amount: \$13.30
Value: \$3,800.00 Year: 2004 Account # 15-06780 Bill # 2963 Total \$13.30
Release the property value for the Town of Sandyfield that is double listed in the name of Carolyn B. Brown.

Release the Property Value in the name of Jimmys 242 Service Center Amount: \$114.52
Value: \$14,970.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-05626 Bill # 8508 Total \$142.73
Release the value of a boat, the Columbus Rescue (2.99) and the W2 (13.47). The boat is listed in New Hanover County.

Release the Property Value in the name of Larrimore, Travis J. Amount: \$28.31
Value: \$3,700.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-51361 Bill # 0279 Total \$31.64
Release a portion of the property value, a portion of the Klondyke Fire (2.59) and a portion of the Whiteville Rescue (.74). Customer was billed with incorrect acres.

Release the Property Value in the name of Littles, Gerald Amount: \$100.74
Value: \$13,800.00 Year: 2005 Account # 12-16500 Bill # 0055 Total \$115.92
Release a portion of the property value, a portion of W2 (12.42) and a portion of the Columbus Rescue (2.76). The home burned in 2004, has been repaired but value has decreased.

Release the Property Value in the name of Littles, Gerald Amount: \$105.57
Value: \$13,800.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-16500 Bill # 1194 Total \$120.75
Release a portion of the property value, a portion of W2 (12.42) and a portion of Columbus Rescue (2.76). The home burned in 2004, has been repaired but the value has decreased.

Release the Property Value in the name of Mahoney, Willis Amount: \$218.03
Value: \$28,500.00 Year: 2006 Account # 13-26721 Bill # 2006 Total \$462.33
Release the value of a double wide, the Klondyke Fire (19.95) the Columbus Rescue (5.70) and W2 (25.65). The home burned in 2004.

Release the Property Value in the name of Mahoney, Willis Amount: \$208.05
Value: \$28,500.00 Year: 2005 Account # 13-26721 Bill # 0848 Total \$436.35
Release the value of a double wide, the Klondyke Fire (19.95) the Columbus Rescue (5.70) and W2 (25.65). The home burned in 2004.

Release the Property Value in the name of Pridgen, Maurice Amount: \$104.54
Value: \$14,320.00 Year: 2005 Account # 01-00242 Bill # 7735 Total \$194.40
Release the value of a mobile home and the Whiteville Rescue. The home is double listed in the same name with a different account number.

Release the Property Value in the name of R & R Quick Mart Amount: \$1.36
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2003 Account # 06-03401 Bill # 7689 Total \$1.39
 Release the 2% discount not absorbed by computer.

Release the Property Value in the name of R & R Quick Mart Amount: \$1.36
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2004 Account # 06-03401 Bill # 3963 Total \$1.39
 Release the 2% discount not absorbed by computer.

Release the Property Value in the name of R & R Quick Mart Amount: \$37.56
 Value: \$5,145.00 Year: 2005 Account # 06-03401 Bill # 8075 Total \$42.45
 Release the business personal value and the Columbus Rescue. The business is no longer in operation.

Release the Property Value in the name of R & R Quick Mart Amount: \$39.27
 Value: \$5,133.00 Year: 2006 Account # 06-03401 Bill # 9358 Total \$44.33
 Release the business personal value and the Columbus Rescue fee. The business is no longer in operation.

Release the Property Value in the name of Scott, Peggy Amount: \$48.37
 Value: \$6,960.00 Year: 1999 Account # 03-20744 Bill # 8599 Total \$153.21
 Release the value of a mobile home that burned in 1998.

Release the Property Value in the name of Soles, Jason Amount: \$24.48
 Value: \$3,200.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-01881 Bill # 4064 Total \$30.10
 Release the value of a boat, the Brunswick Fire (2.24) and the Whiteville Rescue (.64). The boat is double listed in the same name with a different account number.

Release the Property Value in the name of Sunderland, Deborah Amount: \$445.23
 Value: \$58,200.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-02827 Bill # 6499 Total \$503.43
 Release the value of a double wide, the Nakina Fire (46.56) and the Columbus Rescue (11.64). The home has burned.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bowen, Susan Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-01811 Bill # 0955 Total \$193.00
 Release user fee. This is vacant land.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brewer, L. Keith Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-04201 Bill # 1196 Total \$193.00
 Release user fee on vacant land.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brewer, L. Keith Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-04201 Bill # 1195 Total \$193.00
 Release user fee on vacant land.

Release the User Fee in the name of Brown, Gertrude Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 05-00720 Bill # 1708 Total \$193.00
 Release one of two user fees. Customer only has one trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Cox, Daniel Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-04157 Bill # 5920 Total \$193.00
 Release one of two user fees. Only one trash can here.

Release the User Fee in the name of Davis, James E. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-19760 Bill # 6856 Total \$106.00
 Release user fee on vacant lot.

Release the User Fee in the name of Donahue, Crystal Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-02149 Bill # 7465 Total \$193.00
 Release user fee on house that is unlivable.

Release the User Fee in the name of Federal National Mortgage Assoc. Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 09-01349 Bill # 9531 Total \$193.00
 Release user fee. House is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Gibbs, Vernelle Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 10-05880 Bill # 1877 Total \$106.00

912

Release user fee. House vacant no trash can.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Gordon, Earl	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 13-15480 Bill # 2342	Total	\$386.00

Release two of three user fees. Only one trash can here. Two buildings vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Gore, Ervin	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-01143 Bill # 2539	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on vacant land.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Kinlaw, Jimmy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-14457 Bill # 9814	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on shop that is vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mallory, Christine	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2005 Account # 15-25260 Bill # 0861	Total	\$177.00

Release user fee on a house that is unlivable.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mallory, Christine	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-25260 Bill # 2020	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on a house that is unlivable.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mallory, Christine	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2004 Account # 15-25260 Bill # 889	Total	\$177.00

Release user fee on a house that is unlivable.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mallory, Christine	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2003 Account # 15-25260 Bill # 0628	Total	\$177.00

Release user fee on a house that is unlivable.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Marlowe, Watson	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 07-11940 Bill # 2314	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on a house that is vacant and has no power.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Mauldin, Jimmy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-04774 Bill # 2587	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 Nance, Cathy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2000 Account # 10-12801 Bill # 941	Total	\$160.00

Release user fees on two mobile homes that are vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Nance, Cathy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2005 Account # 10-12801 Bill # 4470	Total	\$354.00

Release user fees on two mobile homes that are vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Nance, Cathy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 10-12801 Bill # 5735	Total	\$386.00

Release user fees on two mobile homes that are vacant.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Nance, Dorothy	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-19623 Bill # 5747	Total	\$193.00

Release one of two user fees. Only one trash can here.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Owens, Major (Mrs)	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-05379 Bill # 0867	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on a vacant house.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Powell, Robert L	Amount:	\$0.00
Value:	\$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 15-30620 Bill # 8579	Total	\$193.00

Release user fee on a mobile home that is vacant and used for storage.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Smith, Bernice	Amount:	\$0.00
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Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-25439 Bill # 3163 Total \$193.00
Release user fee on mobile home that is vacant and does not have any power.

Release the User Fee in the name of Smith, Burnice Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 12-25442 Bill # 3177 Total \$193.00
Release user fee on land that is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Suggs, Daniel Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-90950 Bill # 6322 Total \$193.00
Release user fee on a vacant house.

Release the User Fee in the name of Ward, James Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 03-04431 Bill # 0870 Total \$193.00
Release user fee on a vacant house. Trash can has been picked up.

Release the User Fee in the name of Ward, Shane Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 02-03930 Bill # 9768 Total \$193.00
Release user fee on a house that is still under construction.

Agenda Item #20: COMMENTS:

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

A. Public:

1. **Jim Nance:** I would like for the public to be informed that the Columbus County Noise Ordinance is enforceable. That was proven when I was arrested for playing loud music after 11:00 P.M. at night.
2. **Rickey Williamson:** stated the following:
 - a. When I paid the taxes on my truck, I had to pay a water fee;
 - b. When I paid my ad valorem taxes, I had to pay a water fee;
 - c. I would like for you to take this water fee off of the tax bill; **and**
 - d. The Board of Commissioners is employed by the taxpayers.
3. **Robert Adams:** Medicaid continues to be a major problem for Columbus County, and we all need to encourage everyone to get involved in working on solving this problem.

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Bill Memory:** stated the following:
 - a. I understand that the members of the Columbus County Planning Board are still having to sign a Conflict of Interest Statement to be eligible to vote;
 - b. This requirement is not a part of the Resolution and the Rules of Procedure that was adopted by the Board on May 06, 2002; **and**
 - c. I would like for this matter to be placed on the May 21, 2007 Agenda for this requirement to be voided.
2. **Ronald Gore:** stated the following:
 - a. I have received a letter of resignation from Mitchell R. Nance for the Medicaid Advisory Committee;
 - b. Mr. Nance has recommended that we consider replacing him with his wife, Beverlee S. Nance; **and**
 - c. For my district, I would like to appoint Beverlee S. Nance to the Medicaid Advisory Committee to replace Mitchell R. Nance.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (6)

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 (6) Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION

At 9:43 P.M., Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

COMMENTS (cont'd)

- D. **County Manager:** stated the following:
- a. I would like to present the Proposed 2007 - 2008 Columbus County Operating Budget next week;
(Discussion was conducted among the Board members, and it was the general consensus of the Board to recess this meeting until May 14, 2007, at 6:00 P.M. to allow for the presentation.)
 - b. Virginia Taylor has informed me she would like a Personnel Handbook Workshop to be established, but there are many items of discussion that need to be held before the handbooks are done; **and**
 - c. The Sheriff has stated he will help with the collection of the trash around the Courthouse, but cannot guarantee anything on a regular basis.

Agenda Item #21: ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:45 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to recess this meeting until Monday, May 14, 2007, at 6:00 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously carried.
