

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 04, 2007

6:00 P.M.

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex Building, located at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, for the purpose of holding four (4) Public Hearings and 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**

6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING #1: **Columbus County Water and Sewer District III - Whether the Maximum Time Period for Issuing Bonds Under Such Order Should be Extended from Seven (7) Years to Ten (10) Years:** the purpose of this Public Hearing is to notify citizens and receive written or oral comments from the public.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED:

At 6:00 P.M., Chairman Jacobs opened the Public Hearing and stated the purpose of this Public Hearing was to notify the citizens and receive written or oral comments from the public. Chairman Jacobs requested Steven W. Fowler, Columbus County Attorney, to inform the audience of the procedure of these Public Hearings. Mr. Fowler read the contents of the following to the audience, and stated this policy will apply to all four (4) Public Hearings.

POLICY ON COMMENTS AT PUBLIC HEARINGS

The meeting agenda will be followed as outlined in the Columbus County Commissioner's Board Package and as posted on the Public Agenda prior in the meeting room, unless modified by the Chairman, with the consent of the majority of the Board of Commissioners. The following rules shall apply to Public Hearings conducted during this time.

1. All persons wishing to speak during the time allotted for the public hearing must register on a sign up sheet in the rear of the room prior to the beginning of the public hearing as outlined in the printed and posted agenda. Individuals desiring to address the Board of Commissioners are requested to print their name and address at the time of signing up.
2. Public Hearings scheduled for the Board meetings shall be conducted by the County Board Chairman. Prior to opening any public hearing, the County Attorney shall advise those in attendance of the rules to be followed.
3. The Chairman may elect to first call upon the appellant or designated representative who shall be allowed a combined maximum time of ten minutes to explain the purpose of the hearing.
4. The Chairman may call upon Staff members to provide any information related to the matter at hand.
5. The customary amount of time set aside for public comment during a public hearing shall be thirty minutes. The Chairman shall note that the public hearing is the time for speakers to express their opinions about the issue under discussion, not a time to ask questions of the Chairman and County Board or staff members. The Chairman will recognize those wishing to speak on the particular issue, and the individuals who are recognized will come to the podium and give their name and address. They will then be allowed three minutes in which to present comments, and the County Attorney will keep the time for that period. A person may only speak once during the period allotted for all comments on the issue.
6. In an attempt to give balance to discussion on a particular issue, the Chairman shall alternate speakers between someone wishing to support an issue and someone who is opposed to the

issue.

- 7. At the conclusion of the thirty (30) minute period, the Chairman shall close the public hearing.

ADOPTED this the 2nd day of February, 2004.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **BILL MEMORY, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

This Policy will become effective the next meeting of the Columbus County Commissioners following the adoption.

COMMENTS from COUNTY MANAGER:

Chairman Jacobs requested that Jim Varner, Columbus County Manger, present a brief overview of this matter. Mr. Varner stated the following:

- 1. I received notification on April 10, 2007 from the State Revenue Office that Columbus County has one million sixty-nine thousand and 00/100 (\$1,069,000.00) dollars in bonds that had not been sold;
- 2. I was informed that our time is running out for these bonds in November, 2007, and if we do not utilize these funds, they will be returned to the Federal Government;
- 3. We were asked to extend the time for issuing bonds from seven (7) to ten (10) years;
- 4. We have had this money since August, 2000; **and**
- 5. We need to extend the time for issuing bonds from seven (7) to ten (10) years.

Vice Chairman Prevatte asked the following questions:

- 1. Mr. Varner, does this have anything to do with the payment of the bonds? Mr. Varner replied stating no;
- 2. When will the bonds be paid back? Mr. Varner replied stating that was up to the bonding company;
- 3. Will this increase the additional tax for water that is being charged to citizens in Water District III? Leo Hunt, Interim Finance Director, replied stating if the bonds are sold, yes it would increase the additional tax.

Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, stated that nine hundred twenty (920) customers have signed up in District III.

No comments, either oral or written, were received from the audience or public.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:12 P.M., Commissioner Norris made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

6:10 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING #2: **Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV - Whether the Maximum Time Period for Issuing Bonds Under Such Order Should be Extended from Seven (7) Years to Ten (10) Years:** the purpose of this Public Hearing is to notify citizens and receive written or oral comments from the public.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED to ORDER:

At 6:13 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the Public Hearing to order, and stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to notify the citizens and receive written or oral comments from the public.

COMMENTS from COUNTY MANAGER:

Chairman Jacobs requested Jim Varner, Columbus County Manager, to present an overview of this matter. Mr. Varner stated the following:

1. This is the same scenario as was presented to you in the first Public Hearing;
2. Columbus County was awarded the funds in 2000, and have had these funds since that time;
3. The work in this district has not been started yet, and we are trying to resurrect this district;
4. If Columbus County does not utilize these funds, they will be returned to the Federal Government.

Commissioner Bullard asked Mr. Varner if Columbus County would be obligated to put water lines down if these bonds were sold. Mr. Varner replied stating yes, **Columbus County would be obligated to put water lines down if the bonds were sold.**

Commissioner Memory stated that Columbus County has the right to sell the bonds or not sell the bonds, but this will give Columbus County three (3) additional years to make that decision.

No comments, either oral or written, were received from the audience or public.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:15 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion for the Public Hearing to be closed, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously carried.

6:15 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING #3: **Intentions of Columbus County to apply for \$2.5 Million Additional Financing for the Construction of the Columbus County Jail:** the purpose of this Public Hearing is to notify citizens of the request for financing and to receive oral or written comments relative to the request for additional financing.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED:

At 6:15 P.M., Chairman Jacobs stated this Public Hearing was now open and stated the purpose of this Public Hearing is to notify citizens of the request for financing and to receive oral or written comments relative to the request for additional financing.

COMMENTS from COUNTY MANAGER:

Chairman Jacobs requested Jim Varner, Columbus County Manager, to present a brief overview of this matter. Mr. Varner stated the following:

1. This Public Hearing is a requirement of the Local Government Commission as a part of the process;
2. We have held a previous meeting with the Sheriff's Department regarding the need for the additional funding;
3. We will be receiving this funding for less than four (4%) percent interest; **and**
4. There is a thirteen (13) year payback for these funds.

No comments, either oral or written, were received from the audience or public.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:18 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING #4: **Proposed 2007 - 2008 Columbus County Operating Budget:** the purpose of this Public Hearing is to receive oral and written comments from any person who wishes to be heard on the Budget.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Jacobs opened the Public Hearing and stated the purpose of this

Public Hearing is to receive oral and written comments from any person who wishes to be heard on the Budget.

COMMENTS from COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman Jacobs requested each County Commissioner to make any comments they would like to make relative to the Proposed 2007-2008 Columbus County Operating Budget.

Commissioner McKenzie:

1. This Board, as well as our staff, have been faced with some tough situations when it comes to the Annual Operating Budget;
2. We are always faced with a shortage of revenue;
3. I am not interested in any personnel cuts;
4. I fully support keeping the benefits for our employees;
5. We have a \$3.5 million Budget shortage;
6. This Board will figure out a way to balance this budget, possibly by eliminating amenities, travel etc.; **and**
7. Our primary goal is to keep all the benefits for our employees and to provide all the services we can for our citizens.

Commissioner Memory:

1. This has been the most comprehensive Budget we have had in several years;
2. A twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase has been proposed by our County Manager, and the Department of Social Services has agreed to cut over six hundred thousand (\$600,000) dollars from their budget, which will drop the tax increase from twelve (\$.12) cents to ten (\$.10) cents;
3. I can not agree with a twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase, I will agree to a no more than four (\$.04) cents tax increase;
4. We have to keep the COLA for our employees;
5. The average annual salary for Columbus County employees is twenty-six thousand to twenty-seven thousand (\$26,000 - \$27,000) dollars;
6. Our employees are spending at one (\$1.00) dollar extra, per day, for gasoline due to increase in gasoline prices;
7. For one (\$.01) cent to be added back to the tax base, we would have to lay off at least nine (9) people;
8. Our citizens can not stand much more taxes, and there is no growth happening in Columbus County; **and**
9. Our Board is committed to finding a way to balance this Budget without placing the burden on our employees or citizens.

Commissioner Norris:

1. I concur with what Commissioners McKenzie and Memory have stated earlier;
2. I can not support or will not support a ten (\$.10) cents or twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase; **and**
3. We can not cut the benefits for our employees.

Commissioner Gore:

1. I concur with some of the previous statements made;
2. We are in a critical situation;
3. Columbus County has no means of additional revenue;
4. We are faced with a twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase;
5. I do not support the tax increase;
6. The taxpayers of Columbus County have bore the blunt of the budget shortfall long enough;
7. We have asked the departments to make cuts and they have done a good job, but I feel like the departments can make additional cuts;
8. We will all have to work together to save money;
9. It is imperative that we do not increase taxes; **and**
10. I am strongly against the twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase.

Commissioner Bullard:

1. There are areas within the Budget that we can cut;
2. Columbus County is a low-wealth county with a high tax rate;
3. Our Economic Development Department is not productive, and I don't understand why;
4. I will not support a twelve (\$.12) cents tax increase;

5. We have to respect both sides in this process;
6. We need to eliminate the fat within the budget; **and**
7. I will not support the COLA and the elevator that is proposed for the Administration Building.

Vice Chairman Prevatte:

1. I feel like I am responsible to all the citizens of Columbus County, and not only to the citizens within my District;
2. I am in favor of no tax increase;
3. I will not support the COLA;
4. I think we should freeze all positions where they are at the present time;
5. We need to eliminate the fat that is in the budget;
6. We need to start working within the confines of our Budget, and not exceeding the allotted amount; **and**
7. Every department needs to stay within their budget at whatever level that may be.

Chairman Jacobs:

1. I am open for whatever it takes to carry on the services for the citizens of Columbus County; **and**
2. I will not state my opinion on the tax increase.

COMMENTS from PUBLIC:

Chairman Jacobs stated that twenty-two (22) Public Comment Cards had been received, and the people would be heard in the order the cards were received. Each speaker will be allotted three (3) minutes. At the time the alarm goes off, your time will be over. The following people spoke.

1. **George W. Baysden:** stated the following:
 - A. I will be addressing the Board of Commissioners and the Columbus County citizens;
 - B. A ten (\$.10) cents tax increase is a thirteen (13%) increase;
 - C. The cost-of-living only went up two and one-half (2 ½%) percent;
 - D. Are you aware there are five hundred fourteen (514) full-time employees in the Columbus County Government, and that is not including all the part-time employees;
 - E. Thirty-four (34) employees received salary increases last year ranging from one thousand (\$1,000) dollars to twenty-two thousand (\$22,000) dollars;
 - F. I am recommending that the County Commissioners' salaries be cut in half;
 - G. The County Manager makes over eighty thousand (\$80,000) dollars a year;
 - H. The people who operate in the management positions need to be looked at closely.

(Bell went off before comments were finished)
2. **Andrenetta Galloway:** stated the following:
 - A. Some of the recommended changes will have a detrimental effect on the County employees;
 - B. We are on call twenty-four (24) hours a day;
 - C. The County employees who are on the lower levels of the salary range need these benefits to survive;
 - D. Getting COLA is very important to me; **and**
 - E. I am self-supportive and I depend on the COLA.
3. **Pamela Brown Bryan:** stated the following:
 - A. We risk our lives every day for the citizens of Columbus County;
 - B. I have three (3) children to support and I take care of a disabled husband;
 - C. Please think long and hard before you cut the employees' benefits; **and**
 - D. I have to live on what I make.
4. **Lakisha M. Jordan:** stated the following:
 - A. The Sheriff's Department has worked long and hard to get the new jail opened;
 - B. We appreciate all that the Commissioners do to help us; **and**
 - C. Please think long and hard before you make the final decision as to where to cut.
5. **Norman Dwayne Barnes:** stated the following:
 - A. We sincerely appreciate all that the Commissioners have done to help the Sheriff's Department; **and**
 - B. I would like for you to use your intimate clarity to make your final decisions on the

Budget.

6. **Susan Smith:** stated the following:
 - A. It is imperative that the employees get the COLA;
 - B. We work hard at the Sheriff's Department, and we are dedicated employees;
 - C. We put in at least ten (10) extra hours every week without any compensation;
 - D. We put criminals in jail, as well as sex offenders, and put our lives on the line for the citizens of Columbus County;
 - E. We need to have the four (4) new positions at the jail for it to run efficiently;
 - F. We need to receive the employee benefits; **and**
 - G. We need to receive travel that is imperative to our job performance.

7. **Susan Lennon:** stated the following:
 - A. As an Administrative Assistant, I realize how many dollars it takes to run the Sheriff's Department;
 - B. We do not pad our Budget, we only put in the necessary items that it takes to operate the jail efficiently; **and**
 - C. Law Enforcement is very essential to the safety of the citizens of Columbus County.

8. **Gregg Cole:** stated the following:
 - A. The four (4) new positions are definitely needed in the new jail;
 - B. We can not take any deputies off of the road to fill these positions; **and**
 - C. I have worked in the Sheriff's Department for many years, and have worked in every position in the department at one time or the other, and I know, first hand, the importance of each position.

9. **Lewis Hatcher:** stated the following:
 - A. I am the Assistant Patrol Supervisor at the Sheriff's Department;
 - B. We have twenty-nine (29) vehicles with over one hundred thousand (100,000) miles on them;
 - C. All the remaining vehicles have close to eighty thousand (80,000) miles or over on them;
 - D. We need at least three (3) additional vehicles;
 - E. Each of our vehicles travel over one thousand (1,000) miles in a week's time;
 - F. Within three (3) years after acquiring a vehicle, it is ready to be declared surplus property;
 - G. We are in bad need of additional vehicles; **and**
 - H. I appreciate what you have done for this department and what you will do for this department.

10. **Joy Renee Cole:** stated the following:
 - A. I have worked for the Sheriff's Department for twenty-five (25) years, and I know, first hand, what a challenging job this can be;
 - B. I thank you for what you have done for us; **and**
 - C. I am requesting your help with the COLA for the employees.

11. **William Sibbett:** stated the following:
 - A. I have been through several issues through the years;
 - B. More responsibility has been put on the Sheriff's Department; **and**
 - C. They need the proper equipment to do their job effectively.

12. **Lillie Jill Grissett:** stated the following:
 - A. I have recently come back to the Sheriff's Department from the E-911 Department;
 - B. I am here tonight to speak in reference to the benefits for the employees and the loss of things we badly need;
 - C. The Sheriff's Department and the E-911 Center are two (2) very important departments;
 - D. I know this Board has some very tough decisions to deal with;
 - E. I fully realize that you are in a crisis with this budget; **and**
 - F. I am requesting that you help the employees as much as you can.

13. **Janie Spivey:** stated the following:
 - A. I have two (2) children at home; **and**
 - B. I would like for each of you to consider how the employee benefits will affect the

employee's lives.

14. **Edwin Ezzell:** stated the following:
 - A. I asked Mr. Varner to include the ROPE Rescue Team in the Budget;
 - B. This service will be throughout Columbus County;
 - C. This program was started by the two (2) largest businesses in Columbus County, Georgia Pacific and International Paper;
 - D. Through the years, there have been twenty-five (25) of our personnel who have gained training in this area;
 - E. For a Level III, the cost for this training would be twenty-four thousand (\$24,000) dollars; **and**
 - F. This resource is already available and we need to make use of it.

15. **Mike Dixon:** stated the following:
 - A. I am the Bolton Fire and Rescue Department Chief;
 - B. I am employed by International Paper;
 - C. We only get \$9,673 from the County annually; **and**
 - D. The ROPE Team has saved four (4) people already this year.

16. **Ricky Williamson:** stated the following:
 - A. It is an honor to be here tonight;
 - B. I appreciate the job that our Sheriff's Department is doing;
 - C. The employees of the Sheriff's Department risk their lives every day for the citizens of Columbus County;
 - D. I request that you do cut the COLA out of the Budget;
 - E. I commend this Board for the work they are doing; **and**
 - F. If you must have a tax increase, do not let the increase exceed three to four (3-4%) percent.

17. **Robert Adams:** stated the following:
 - A. I have a large family with all my children, grandchildren and step grandchildren;
 - B. The citizens of Columbus County can not stand a tax increase;
 - C. There are many places in the budget where the fat can be removed; **and**
 - D. If you do remove this fat from the budget, you will not have to place a tax increase on the citizens of Columbus County.

18. **Frances Green:** stated the following:
 - A. I would like to thank this Board for the job they are doing; **and**
 - B. The Sheriff's Department is in desperate need of the four (4) officers.

19. **Harry Foley:** stated the following:
 - A. Do not take any COLA out of the Budget;
 - B. The County needs to pay for less expensive cars; **and**
 - C. Put the seventy-five thousand (\$75,000) dollars back in the Budget for the overseer of the new jail.

20. **Sammy Hinson:** stated the following:
 - A. I have been called a hot head for the past two to three (2-3) years;
 - B. I would like for each one of you to get a dictionary and look up two (2) words, and they are want and need;
 - C. We have no growth in Columbus County, and I don't understand why; **and**
 - D. We need to start fixing the problem we have and not patching the problem.

21. **Stephen M. Smith:** stated he was offering the following recommendations to cut the County tax rate by fourteen (\$.14) cents:
 - A. Sell County Medicare-Certified Home Health Agency for estimated \$4 million on limited auction sale;
 - B. Establish Health Care Trust Fund generating annual interest as well as annual distribution;
 - C. Examine Line Item 10-51551-519001 Contracted Services - this is \$1.4 million and represents thirty-nine (39%) percent of the entire Budget. It is a staffing contract that has been awarded to the same company for nearly the past twenty (20) years. These are not County employees.

- D. County Department of Aging should either cease being a direct provider of in-home aide services, or at least stop discounting their rates to what is now a seven (7%) percent to N.C. Medicaid;
- E. Medicaid may interpret this discount as an inducement, which is non-allowable;
- F. This discount will total \$151,521 in 2008 Budget; **and**
- G. I would welcome an opportunity to discuss this with you in greater detail.

Chairman Jacobs stated the comments that have been made would be taken into consideration during the budget process and workshops.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 7:29 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

REGULAR SESSION:

Agenda Items #1, #2 and #3: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

At 7:43 P.M., Chairman Sammie Jacobs called the June 04, 2007 Regular Session Board Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Ricky Bullard. 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 McKenzie made a motion to approve the following Board Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris.

Vice Chairman Prevatte stated there was an error on Page 42 of the May 21, 2007 Board Minutes under **Presentation - Tornado Relief**. The minutes state Bolton Fire and Rescue Department and they should state Buckhead Fire and Rescue Department. June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, stated these are the draft Board Minutes, and this would be corrected in the final version.

- A. May 21, 2007 Regular Session Board Minutes;
- B. May 21, 2007 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Minutes;
- C. May 21, 2007 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Minutes; **and**
- D. May 24, 2007 Budget Workshop Minutes.

With the one (1) correction in the Draft copy of the May 21, 2007 Regular Session Board Minutes noted, the motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item 5: LIVINGSTON CREEK FLOODING - WATER TANK ROAD:

Jeff Crawford and Martin L. Benton requested follow-up information from the Board on the current status of progress to address the flooding problems that have occurred on Water Tank Road. Mr. Benton directed his concerns to Commissioner Memory, stating he would like to speak on the flooding on Livingston Creek, and what is the Board doing about this flooding problem.

Edward Davis, Soil and Water Conservation, stated the following information relative to dates and actions that have taken place to address this problem.

Date: 11/13/06

A meeting was held at the Riegelwood Community Center with Engineers from the Army Corps of Engineers explaining to Commissioners and local landowners different programs the Corps offers for flood control. A suggestion by these engineers to request an assessment of Livingston Creek was recommended.

Date: 11/16/06

Donna Register, District Conservationist with Natural Resources Conservation Service, made a request for Engineering Assistance for Livingston Creek.

Date: 11/20/06

Donna received an email from Dean Bingham, NRCS Area 3 Supervisory Civil Engineer, scheduling December 5, 2006 for a preliminary investigation of Livingston Creek.

Date: 12/05/06

Dean came down and we visited several areas along Livingston Creek. It was hard to tell the condition of the creek from the points that we visited therefore; we scheduled to float the creek December 21st.

Date: 12/19/06

Edward received an email from Dean requesting that they float Livingston Creek on Wednesday, December 20th due to rain forecasted for Thursday, December 21st.

Date: 12/20/06

Edward and Dean floated Livingston Creek from US 74 north toward NC 87. There were many blockages. Pictures were taken and Dean said that he would work up an estimate and get it back to the District.

Date: 12/27/06

A Request for Board Action/RFB was requested by Edward Davis of Soil and Water Conservation.

Date: 01/02/07

A Resolution was read and approved by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners requesting the US 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.

Date: 01/05/07

Edward Davis was in contact with Mr. Coleman Long, Chief of the Planning and Environmental Branch with the Wilmington Branch of the Army Corps of Engineers, by emails and Mr. Long stated that the wording in the approved Resolution was adequate to prompt action from the Corps. Mr. Long also stated in the email that there was currently a hold on Continuing Authority "new starts" (including Section 205) until the Federal Budget passes. Mr. Long said that he would forward this interest to his Division office.

Date: 03/31/07

A letter was received from Dean Bingham with a projected estimate for debris removal from Livingston Creek from US 74 North to the Cape Fear River.

Mr. Benton stated he did not understand why it was taking so long to get this work done to alleviate the flooding problems in this area. Donna Register, Soil and Water Conservation, stated this was a lengthy process, and all the parties involved were trying to correct the situation thoroughly and not just put a band-aid on the problem.

Mr. Davis stated that due to the 1972 Clean Water Act, there were many permits and many processes that must be done in order for work of this nature to be done, and as soon as he could, he would start applying for grants to get this work done.

Agenda Item #6: SHERIFF - DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZED GRANTOR OFFICIAL:

Sheriff Chris Batten requested the Board to designate him as the authorized grant official for the submission of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant. In the absence of Sheriff Batten, Major Bill Ingram stated this was a grant for thirty-two thousand and 00/100 (\$32,000.00) dollars that would be used to purchase computers for the Sheriff's Department.

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to approve the designation of Sheriff Chris Batten as the authorized grant official for the submission of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, seconded by Commissioner Memory. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #7: FINANCE - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

Leo Hunt, Interim Finance Director, delivered the following Departmental Update to the Board:

1. We are re-vamping the Chart of Accounts which will be effective as of July 01, 2007;
2. The new Chart of Accounts follows the State guidelines; **and**
3. Everything is going well.

Commissioner Memory asked Mr. Hunt if he could e-mail the check vouchers to the Commissioners in lieu of mailing them to save postage and paper. Mr. Hunt replied he would check into this request and advise.

Commissioner Bullard stated that thirty-seven (37) employees had received pay raises recently, and I would like to know what these raises were for, and why these raises were given. Mr. Hunt replied stating that ninety to ninety-nine (90% - 99%) percent of these raises were re-classifications or merit raises.

Agenda Item #8: PROCLAMATION - 2007 ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS PROCLAMATION:

Ed Worley, Aging Director, requested Board approval and adoption of the following 2007 Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation Month of June.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT of AGING
2007 ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS PROCLAMATION
MONTH of JUNE**

WHEREAS, Elder Abuse is the broad term used to identify mistreatment of elder and disabled adults, and abuse and neglect of the elderly is one of the most under-recognized and under-reported social problems in this country; **and**

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the problem is likely to increase for several reasons, especially with the anticipated increase in the number of elderly population; **and**

WHEREAS, mistreatment can take many forms: physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect by caretaker, self-neglect and exploitation; **and**

WHEREAS, between five hundred thousand (500,000) and five million (5,000,000) people suffer elder abuse every year; **and**

WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately one (1) out of every fourteen (14) cases of elder abuse is reported; **and**

WHEREAS, elder abuse is preventable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED the Columbus County Board of Commissioners recognizes the month of June as **Elder Abuse Awareness Month**, and encourages all residents and other jurisdictions to become more aware of this problem and join in the prevention of Elder Abuse.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 4th day of June, 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**

ATTESTED BY: /s/ **RICKY BULLARD, District VI**

/s/ **JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board** /s/ **RONALD GORE, District VII**

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to approve and adopt the 2007 Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation Month of June, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #9: Ordinance - Rescind Existing Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County, and Approval and Adoption of Revised Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County:

Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to rescind the existing Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County, and Board approval and adoption of the revised Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County, as requested by DEHNR, on the **second reading**. (**The first reading of this Ordinance was held at the May 21, 2007 Board Meeting.**)

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to rescind the existing Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County, and Board approval and adoption of the revised Sewer Use Ordinance for Columbus County, as requested by DEHNR, on the **second reading**, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried. The contents of this document may be found in the May 21, 2007 Regular Session Board Minutes.

Agenda Item #10: RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A FINANCING AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED BY NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 160A-20:

Jim Varner, County Manager, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A FINANCING AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED BY NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 160A-20

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina desires additional financing for the construction of the Columbus County Jail (the "Project") to better serve the citizens of Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County desires to finance the Project by the use of an installment contract authorized under North Carolina General Statute 160A, Article 3, and Section. 20; **and**

WHEREAS, findings of fact by this governing body must be presented to enable the North Carolina Local Government Commission to make its findings of fact set forth in North Carolina General Statute 159, Article 8, Section 151 prior to approval of the proposed contract.

NOW, THEREFORE. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, meeting in regular session on June 4, 2007, make the following findings of fact:

1. The proposed contract is necessary or expedient because the inmate population in the Columbus County Jail is over state limits, thereby resulting in the State Inspector's Office formally requiring construction of additional housing units to meet State Code.
2. The proposed contract is preferable to a bond issue for the same purpose because local financing is available at the percentage rate of 3.93 percent. Debt Service Funding is preferable since the General Fund balance and current budget will not prudently support construction in the amount of approximately 11 percent of yearly ad valorem tax revenues.
3. The sums to fall due under the contract are adequate and not excessive for the proposed purpose because we have engineer's evaluations and costs are reasonable for the stated purpose.
4. Columbus County's debt management procedures and policies are in compliance with all laws, etc., as per the annual audits.
5. The increase in taxes necessary to meet the sums to fall due under the proposed contract will be .0066 cents per one hundred (\$100) dollars valuation and is not deemed to be excessive.
6. The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County is not in default of any of its debt service obligations.
7. The attorney for the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County has rendered an opinion

that the proposed Project is authorized by law and is a purpose for which public funds may be expended pursuant to the Constitution and laws of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County in filing an application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission for approval of the Project and the proposed financing contract and other actions not inconsistent with this resolution.

This resolution is effective upon its adoption this 4th day of June, 2007.

The motion to adopt this resolution was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, and passed by a vote of seven (7) to zero (0).

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

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

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this is a true and accurate copy of the Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20 to be adopted by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners on the 4th day of June, 2007.

/s/ **JUNE B. HALL** CLERK to Board
June 04,2007
DATE

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT III BOARD MEETING

At 8:11 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gore. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #11: ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT III, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON AUGUST 7, 2000, AND ENTITLED "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,571,000 WATER BONDS":

Jim Varner, County Manager, is requesting Board approval and adoption of this order.

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

ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT III BOARD MEETING and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT IV BOARD MEETING

At 8:13 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting and enter into a Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #12: ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT IV, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2000, AND ENTITLED "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,142,000 WATER BONDS":

Jim Varner, County Manager, is requesting Board approval and adoption of this order.

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

ADJOURN COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT IV BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION

At 8:14 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Item #13: GOVERNING BODY - VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE FOR THE NACo'S 72ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JULY 13 - 17, 2007 IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA:

Chairman Jacobs is requesting Board appointment of the voting delegate and alternate for this conference.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to appoint Chairman Sammie Jacobs as the Voting Delegate for the NACo 72nd Annual Conference, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried. No alternate delegate was appointed.

Agenda Item #14: GOVERNING BODY - TEN (10%) REDUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS' SALARIES:

Commissioner Ronald Gore recommended a ten (10%) percent reduction of the Columbus County Commissioners' salaries. Commissioner Gore stated the following:

1. It is a necessity for each of the County departments to take part in the reduction process of the budget in order to avoid placing additional taxes on our citizens; **and**
2. The Board of Commissioners should take the lead in this process and reduce our salaries by ten (10%) percent.

MOTION:

Commissioner Gore made a motion to cut the Commissioners' salaries by ten (10%) percent, to be effective July 01, 2007.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Commissioner Memory made a substitute motion to take one thousand five hundred and 00/100 (\$1,500.00) dollars, which equates to one hundred twenty-five and 00/100 (\$125.00) dollars per month, of each Commissioner's salary, and give this amount to the department and/or organization of their choice, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie.

Vice Chairman Prevatte stated that this process would not be a savings to the taxpayer, and all that was happening, was moving the money around without a reduction in salary.

A roll-call vote was taken on the substitute motion with the following results:

AYES: Chairman Jacobs, Commissioners McKenzie, Memory and Norris
NAYS: Vice Chairman Prevatte, Commissioners Bullard and Gore.

The substitute motion passed on a four (4) to three (3) vote.

Agenda Item #15: APPOINTMENTS - COMMITTEE/BOARDS:

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, is requesting the following appointments/re-appointments be made to the following boards/committees.

- A. **Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Committee:**
Two (2) Vacancies (Diana Garcia and Penny Reynolds deleted)

-Hold-

- B. **Whiteville Zoning Board of Adjustment:**
 -Vacancy- (ETJ) N/A

-Hold-

- C. **June 2007 Appointments:**

COMMITTEE	ZONE/ EB	PERSON(S)	EXPIR. DATE	BOARD ACTION
Aging Advisory Council (COG) - Columbus County Members- Motion: Commissioner Memory Second: Commissioner McKenzie	EB	Roy Lowe Willie Burns	06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Re-appoint Re-appoint
Columbus County Department of Aging Advisory Council	II III IV V VI VII	Barbara Featherson Ronald Campbell Betty Ann Smith Wanda Thompson Maxie Watts (Resigned) Graham Ellis Earl Cribb (Deceased) Esther Moses Doris Dockery	06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Hold Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Hold Re-appoint Hold Hold Hold
Economic Development Commission Board of Directors	III VI VII	Haynes Graham George Wooten J.C. Formy Duval, Jr.	06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Re-appoint Re-appoint Hold
Home and Community Care Block Grant for Aging Services Advisory Council	I II III IV V VI VII	C.W. Williams Willie Green Flora White Betty Williamson Richard Wilson Roscoe Jacobs, Sr. Charles Patton Ervin Stocks Henry Milligan Lester Drew Kelly Godwin	06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Hold Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint Re-appoint
Housing Advisory Committee Motion: Vice Chairman Prevatte Second: Commissioner Memory	IV V VII EB	-Vacant- Henry Milligan Lewis L.Cokley Kipling Godwin (County Commissioner)	06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2008	Hold Re-appoint Re-appoint Ricky Bullard
Jury Commission Motion: Commissioner Bullard Second: Commissioner Memory	EB	J.B. Evans	06-30-2007	Re-appoint

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council	I III IV V VI VII	Timothy Lance Jerry Jacobs JoAnn Rhodes -Vacant- Willis Nealy Faith Beking	06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Re-appoint Hold Re-appoint Hold Re-appoint Re-appoint
Library Board of Trustees Motion: Commissioner Bullard Second: Commissioner Memory	II EB	Robert L. Young Paul Gerald, Jr. (At Large)	06-30-2007 06-30-2007	Hold Re-appoint
Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees	III	Randy Britt	06-30-2007	Hold

D. Social Services Board:

Amon E. McKenzie EB 06-30-2007

Vice Chairman Prevatte made a motion to appoint Commissioner Ronald Gore to the Social Services Board, seconded by Commissioner Bullard.

Commissioner McKenzie nominated himself to continue serving on the Social Services Board. The motion did not receive a second.

A roll-call vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Vice Chairman Prevatte, Commissioners Memory, Norris, Bullard and Gore
NAYS: Chairman Jacobs and Commissioner McKenzie.

The motion passed on a five (5) to two (2) vote.

Agenda Item #16: CONSENT AGENDA ITEM: June 04, 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):
June 04, 2007**

Refunds Name: Bryant, Thelma Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year 006 Account # 05-00014 Bill # 22226 Total \$181.41
Refund user fee that was paid on a vacant house
PO Box 902 Riegelwood NC 28456

Refunds Name: Keaton, Randolph Amount: \$0.00
Value: \$0.00 Year 006 Account # 15-05705 Bill # 39423 Total \$193.00
Refund user fee that was paid on a vacant house that does not have a trash can.
905 Browntown Rd. Riegelwood NC 28456

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):
June 04, 2007**

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$146.30
Value: \$21,050.00 Year: 1998 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 9999 Total \$274.82
Release the value of a mobile home and the Hallsboro fire. The house is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$134.41
Value: \$19,340.00 Year: 1999 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 1791 Total \$260.61
Release the value of a mobile home and the Hallsboro Fire. The house is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$129.46
Value: \$17,980.00 Year: 2000 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 2812 Total \$279.28
Release the value of a mobile home and the Hallsboro Fire. The home is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$134.94
 Value: \$17,300.00 Year: 2001 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 3106 Total \$328.66
 Release the value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro Fire (10.38) and the Columbus Rescue (3.46). The home is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$125.19
 Value: \$16,050.00 Year: 2002 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 0814 Total \$328.83
 Release the value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro Fire (9.63) and the Columbus Rescue (3.21). The home is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$116.69
 Value: \$14,960.00 Year: 2003 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 1179 Total \$318.53
 Release the property value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro Fire (8.98) and the Columbus Rescue (2.99). The property is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$109.28
 Value: \$14,010.00 Year: 2004 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 7414 Total \$309.54
 Release the value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro Fire (8.41) and the Columbus Rescue (2.80). The home is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$95.63
 Value: \$13,100.00 Year: 2005 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 300 Total \$283.11
 Release the value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro fire (7.86) and the Columbus Rescue (2.62). The home is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$93.71
 Value: \$12,250.00 Year: 2006 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 2305 Total \$306.86
 Release the value of a mobile home, the Hallsboro Fire (7.35) and the Columbus Rescue (2.45). The house is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Gooding, Thomas Amount: \$162.00
 Value: \$23,310.00 Year: 1997 Account # 11-10556 Bill # 7030 Total \$293.59
 Release the value of a mobile home and the Hallsboro Fire. The house is double listed in the name of Glenda Byrd.

Release the Property Value in the name of Madison, John Amount: \$7.65
 Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2006 Account # 08-04004 Bill # 1993 Total \$8.64
 Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. The boat was sold out of the county in 2002.

Release the Property Value in the name of Madison, John T. Amount: \$7.30
 Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2005 Account # 08-04004 Bill # 0835 Total \$8.25
 Release the value of a boat and the Columbus Rescue fee. The boat was sold out of the county in 2002.

Release the User Fee in the name of Barfield, Anita Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-03000 Bill # 8735 Total \$193.00
 Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Bryant, Thelma Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2005 Account # 15-00014 Bill # 1381 Total \$177.00
 Release the user fee on house that is vacant has no power and no trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Memory, Robert Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-61200 Bill # 4287 Total \$106.00
 Release user fee on a house that is vacant with no trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Memory, Robert Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-61180 Bill # 4281 Total \$106.00
 Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and has no trash can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Memory, Robert Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-04231 Bill # 4269 Total \$212.00
 Release both user fees. Apartment is vacant and does not have any trash cans.

Release the User Fee in the name of Memory, Robert Amount: \$0.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2006 Account # 01-60985 Bill # 4275 Total \$106.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and has no trash can.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Memory, Robert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2006 Account # 01-60985 Bill # 4276	Total	\$193.00

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

Release the User Fee	in the name of Memory, Robert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2006 Account # 02-60981 Bill # 4267	Total	\$193.00

Release the user fee on a vacant lot.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Memory, Robert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2006 Account # 02-60985 Bill # 4271	Total	\$106.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Memory, Robert	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2006 Account # 07-12030 Bill # 4288	Total	\$193.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and has no trash can.

Release the User Fee	in the name of Pridgen, Jeffrey	Amount:	\$0.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2006 Account # 01-73615 Bill # 8989	Total	\$193.00

Release the user fee on a house that is vacant and does not have a trash can.

Agenda Item #17: COMMENTS:

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

A. Public;

1. **Jim Nance (private citizen):** stated the following:
 - a. I have found out we do have an enforceable Noise Ordinance in Columbus County;
 - b. It is time for this Noise Ordinance to be enforced;
 - c. It is time for the laws in the County to be enforced equally; **and**
 - d. I insist that all laws to be carried out for all the citizens.
2. **Robert Eugene Adams (private citizen):** stated the following:
 - a. Selling the Home Health Services would be a big mistake;
 - b. We now have a permanent four (\$.04) cents tax in place with this service; **and**
 - c. The Home Health Services are good for the citizens of Columbus County.

C. Board of Commissioners;

Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie: I would like to thank Leroy Sellers, Public Utilities Director, for the services he rendered, without any hesitation, in an incident that occurred in the Cedar Grove Community.

Agenda Item #18: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:35 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to adjourn the June 04, 2007 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT III
BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 04, 2007
8:11 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 III 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**
Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:11 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #11: ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT III, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON AUGUST 7, 2000, AND ENTITLED "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,571,000 WATER BONDS:

Jim Varner, County Manager, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Order Authorizing \$6,571,000 Water Bonds.

ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT III, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON AUGUST 7, 2000 AND ENTITLED: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,571,000 WATER BONDS"

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina, filed an application with the Local Government Commission of North Carolina (the "Commission") requesting that the Commission approve an extension of the maximum time period for issuing bonds under an order adopted by said Board of Commissioners on August 7, 2000 and

entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,571,000 WATER BONDS", which order took effect on October 3, 2000, from seven years to 10 years from October 3, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered an order approving said proposed extension; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Commissioners has held a public hearing on said proposed extension as required by G.S. § 159-64;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by said Board of Commissioners, as follows:

Section 1. The maximum time period for issuing bonds under the order adopted by said Board of Commissioners on August 7, 2000 and entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,571,000 WATER BONDS", which order took effect on October 3, 2000, shall be extended from seven years to 10 years from October 3, 2000.

Section 2. This order shall take effect 30 days after its publication following adoption as provided by G.S. § 159-64.

The foregoing order was adopted on the 4th day of June, 2007 and is hereby published this 7th day of June, 2007. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of such order must be begun within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.

Mr. Varner stated the following:

1. There was money left over in this district that was not used;
2. This is not anything about the sale of the bonds, it is for an extension of time from seven (7) years to ten (10) years; **and**
3. If we do not use this money, it will be returned to the Federal government.

Commissioner Bullard asked if the Board had to act on this matter at this time. Mr. Varner replied stating the Board did need to act at this time due to the fact the time was running out in November, 2007.

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt the Order Extending the Maximum Time Period for Issuing Bonds Under an Order Adopted by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the Governing Body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, in Columbus County, North Carolina, on August 7, 2000 and Entitled: "Order Authorizing \$6,571,000 Water Bonds", seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:13P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT IV
BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 04, 2007
8:13 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 IV 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**
Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 8:13 P.M., Chairman Jacobs called the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #12: ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT IV, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2000, AND ENTITLED "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,142,000 WATER BONDS:

Jim Varner, County Manager, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Order Authorizing \$5,142,000 Water Bonds.

ORDER EXTENDING THE MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD FOR ISSUING BONDS UNDER AN ORDER ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT IV, IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2000 AND ENTITLED: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,142,000 WATER BONDS"

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the governing body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV, in Columbus County, North Carolina, filed an application with the Local Government Commission of North Carolina (the "Commission") requesting that the Commission approve an extension of the maximum time period for issuing bonds under an order adopted by said Board of Commissioners on September 5, 2000 and

entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,142,000 WATER BONDS", which order took effect on November 7, 2000, from seven years to 10 years from November 7, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered an order approving said proposed extension; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Commissioners has held a public hearing on said proposed extension as required by G.S. § 159-64;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by said Board of Commissioners, as follows:

Section 1. The maximum time period for issuing bonds under the order adopted by said Board of Commissioners on September 5, 2000 and entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$5,142,000 WATER BONDS", which order took effect on November 7, 2000, shall be extended from seven (7) years to ten (10) years from November 7, 2000.

Section 2. This order shall take effect 30 days after its publication following adoption as provided by G.S. § 159-64.

The foregoing order was adopted on the 4th day of June, 2007 and is hereby published this 7th day of June, 2007. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of such order must be begun within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.

Mr. Varner stated the following:

1. This is not anything about the sale of the bonds, it is for an extension of time from seven (7) years to ten (10) years to allow us to make a decision;
2. The time limit on these bonds will run out in November, 2007; **and**
3. If we do not use this money, it will be returned to the Federal government.

Commissioner Memory made a motion to approve and adopt the Order Extending the Maximum Time Period for Issuing Bonds Under an Order Adopted by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as the Governing Body of the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV, in Columbus County, North Carolina, on September 5, 2000 and Entitled: "Order Authorizing \$5,142,000 Water Bonds", seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:14 P.M., Commissioner Memory made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

SAMMIE JACOBS, Chairman