

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS****Monday, March 19, 2012****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 the purpose of conducting their regularly scheduled meeting on the third Monday.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
 Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
 James E. Prevatte  
 Giles E. Byrd  
 P. Edwin Russ  
 Lynwood Norris  
 Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
 Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

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

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Amon E. McKenzie called the March 19, 2012 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner James E. Prevatte. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner P. Edwin Russ.

**Agenda Item #4: PRESENTATION - RETIREMENT PLAQUE:**

In the absence of Ms. Vivian L. Smith, Chairman McKenzie orally read the following retirement plaque for her many years of service to the Columbus County Department of Social Services.

***PRESENTED TO******VIVIAN L. SMITH***

***IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION  
 FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND LOYALTY  
 TO***

***COLUMBUS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
 2-04-1991 - 2-29-2012***

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***COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS***

Ms. Smith received a round of applause for her many years of service to the Columbus County Department of Social Services.

**Agenda Item #5: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the February 27, 2012 Joint Meeting with Columbus County Schools and Whiteville City Schools Boards of Education Minutes, and the March 05, 2012 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #6: PUBLIC INPUT:**

Chairman McKenzie opened the floor for public input. The following spoke:

1. **Danny Earl Cartrette, 42349 Highway 9 E. Bypass, Loris, SC:** stated the following:
  - A. I am a resident of Loris, and a landowner of property on River Road;
  - B. Not all of the landowners are residents, some use the property for retirement and

- recreational purposes;
- C. I would like to thank the Columbus County Commissioners for the water line and pavement of the River Road;
  - D. At the end of the pavement, the landowner will not allow us to maintain the road and keep it up, and the asphalt is cracking;
  - E. The said landowner has put up a fence, and when the trash truck went through, it was forced to run over the fence in order to get through and damaged a tire;
  - F. A rollback had to undergo great difficulty to get through;
  - G. I would venture to say that a fire truck could not get through the narrow passage that has been created;
  - H. A short ambulance may be able to get through, but I fear for even an ambulance;
  - I. The landowner is digging holes in the road;
  - J. Article 1 of my deed states that I cannot impair the road or lot to where it will prevent ingress or egress; **and**
  - K. People are damaging their vehicles because the holes are getting so deep, and he will not allow anyone to scarp the road between my property and where the pavement stops.

**Commissioner Norris:** How many houses are on that road?

**Danny Cartrette:** There are 54+ houses down there, 5 campers, 2 old houses about to fall down. A lot of permanent residences down there.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Is this just one landowner causing all of these problems?

**Danny Cartrette:** Just one landowner, and it all started New Years weekend. He had put some portable road bumps down. They had gotten worn with a spike sticking up. He was made aware of this, and finally took the bumps up. The Sheriff's Department was contacted about this and went down there.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Mr. County Attorney, even if this was a cart path, without any legal right-of-ways, wouldn't this fall under a cart path that has been used for a number of years?

**Michael Stephens:** From a legal definition, I think what their situation is, it is a neighborhood public road. This Board can request from the Department of Transportation to provide maintenance on that road. The Department of Transportation is not required to do that. If they do it, they will be doing it at the request of the County Commissioners. The property owners, according to the statute, can institute civil proceedings against that individual, and go before a judge and get legal documents, such as an injunction or temporary restraining order to prohibit him from doing these kind of activities if that is what the citizens want to do. They can file that injunction, and if the person violates that court order, then the person would have to go before a Superior Court judge and say why he did it.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Would he be liable for any damage that was done to anyone's vehicle from the objects that were placed in the road or cart path?

**Michael Stephens:** Absolutely.

2. **Gene McNeil, 736 Cemetery Road:** stated the following:

- A. I read an article in the newspaper about the tremendous volume of water that is being flushed out of the lines onto the ground;
- B. I live between Highway 11 and Highway 87;
- C. The waterline deadends on Highway 87;
- D. About 3/4 of a mile west of Highway 87 is Highway 11;
- E. The water line deadends on Highway 11 by Raymond Creek;
- F. I understand the reason for the high volume of water wasted is the deadends, water laying in the pipe and chlorine builds up;
- G. If they would put a natural loop in the line, they would not have to run it off;
- H. I don't like wasting the water because the water is good for everything that we need, and it cost the County money to waste water;
- I. I am appalled in Water District IV, which started around October, 2010, that no one has connected to the water since then;
- J. I don't understand this;
- K. Before the new houses or any construction is built, they have to come and get a permit to put down a well which costs around \$3,000.00;
- L. What is wrong with the County water system that no one wants to hook up?;
- N. I don't see any progress being made, and we need to find out where the problem is;
- O. Are we doing any positive advertising, and why is all we read in the paper negative?; **and**
- P. I want to hear some good news about the water system.

**Agenda Item #7: PRESENTATION - RIVER ROAD INGRESS AND EGRESS:**

Deborah Huggins, on behalf of the residents and homeowners of River Road, presented the following problems being encountered with ingress and egress to properties.

1. On River Road, we have some of the most beautiful water in the United States;
2. On River Road, we have some of the most valuable property in Columbus County, excepting in Lake Waccamaw, but at present, it is not very valuable;
3. There are existing obstacles at the end of the pavement impeding ingress and egress to our property;
4. My property is at the end of River Road;
5. I have three (3) grandchildren and at the present time, emergency vehicles can not get to my property, and what is going to happen when my place catches on fire;
6. Something is wrong when a man curses in front of a lady;
7. The following events are occurring where the pavement ends:
  - A. The man stands in the middle of road preventing access;
  - B. Excessive use of profanity; **and**
  - C. Holes are being made in the road with a water hose intentionally;
8. There are two (2) places on River Road that would impede emergency vehicles from getting to my property;
9. I am a homeowner and a property owner;
10. My point is the safety and well being of my children and my grandchildren;
11. Something is wrong if the law allows a man to stop progress, and there is a law called eminent domain;
12. You did a good job with our water, and you are going to do a good job for us on River Road;
13. You are going to stop one man from placing obstacles in our road that impede ingress and egress to our property;
14. There are two (2) different places on River Road that a fire truck or large ambulance could not get through;
15. We want this person stopped from this type of activity, and any future person that goes there with that in mind, that they not be allowed, and that is progress;
16. I have made numerous contacts, and I was advised to bring this matter to the Board of Commissioners;
17. We need this matter handled now, and for it to be finalized and not keep recurring;
18. In the late 1990's or 2000, my husband had the Tedders to represent him, and nothing was done, and the cost of this was \$10,000.00;
19. In prior years, several attempts have been made, and so far, nothing has been done;
20. This property is valuable, and the most beautiful property I have ever seen; **and**
21. I thank you for handling this matter, and for all that you do.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve, adopt and send the following Resolution to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and for Mike Stephens, County Attorney, to work on this matter in whatever way that is needed, and to authorize Mike Stephens to take any action needed to resolve this matter, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE**  
**with INGRESS and EGRESS to PROPERTIES**

           **WHEREAS**, beyond the end of River Road, Road Number 1940, there are approximately fifty-four (54) houses, and five (3) campers which are privately owned; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the said road to these properties runs parallel to Waccamaw River;

**WHEREAS**, access to this road and properties is located at the end of River Road which is state maintained; **and**

**WHEREAS**, numerous problems are being encountered with ingress and egress to the said road and properties where the stated-maintained River Road ends; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the existing access is limited to small to medium-sized vehicles, thus placing barriers to emergency vehicles or large size vehicles; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the property owners are requesting assistance with adequate ingress and egress to their property; **and**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 136-67, upon request of the Board of County Commissioners of any county, the Department of Transportation is permitted, but is not required, to place such neighborhood public roads in a passable condition without incorporating the same into the State system, and without becoming obligated in any manner for the permanent maintenance thereof; **and**

**WHEREAS**, a request has been received from the property owners that we render assistance in seeking a solution for adequate ingress and egress to their properties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, are requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation to place such neighborhood public roads in a passable condition without incorporating the same into the State system, and without becoming obligated in any manner for the permanent maintenance thereof.

**APPROVED** and **ADOPTED** this the 19th day of March, 2012.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/ **AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman**

**ATTESTED BY:**

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

**Agenda Item #8: HEALTH - APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVISION:**

Kimberly Smith, Health Director, requested Board approval of a budget revision. Ms. Smith stated the following:

1. This is to pre-book 1,670 doses of the flu vaccine for next year at the total cost of \$34,654.40;
2. According to our new policy that was adopted in May, 2011, I have to come before the Board and ask for this;
3. It will be included in the budget that we are working on for next year; **and**
4. It will be paid for out of next year's budget.

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve a budget revision for the Health Department to purchase flu vaccine for next year, at the cost of \$34,654.40, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #9: AGING - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:**

Ed Worley, Director of Aging, delivered the following Departmental Update.

I would like to share with you some other things that the Columbus County Department of Aging does. Since July 01, 2011, we have done the following:

75	Rails and ramps put in;
3,600	Cases of Ensure sold at cost to the public;
17	Seniors helped with their Prescription Programs;
450	People helped with Medicare D;
324	Needy people on programs;
216	Seniors helped with incontinence supplies
72	Seniors with loan equipment;
24	Grab bars provided;
300	Fans provided;
7,257	Home-delivered meals provided;
28,795	Congregate meals at Senior Centers;
5,408	Boxes of groceries given away through the Harvest House;
13,392	Seniors helped in the Health and Wellness Exercise Program;
500-600	People attended the Senior Prom;
150	People attended the Real Senior Prom;
39	Total programs that we do; <b>and</b>
7	Senior Center locations.

**Agenda Item #10: ADMINISTRATION - ESTABLISHMENT of DATE and TIME for PUBLIC HEARING on the NC CATALYST GRANT:**

William S. Clark, County Manager, requested the Board to establish April 02, 2012, at 6:30

P.M., as the date and time for a Public Hearing on the North Carolina Catalyst Grant.

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Prevatte:** Mr. Clark, what is the North Carolina Catalyst Grant?

**William S. Clark:** This grant can be used for housing. It is a very competitive grant, with no guarantee that the County is going to get this grant. There is some flexibility in this grant that the money can be used for other things besides housing. The amount of the grant is \$500,000.00, and this will be the first time.

**Commissioner Bullard:** What are you applying to use this grant for?

**William S. Clark:** In the application that is being filled out, we gave the grantor a broad range of potential projects. One thing we talked about was wellness, and repair of houses.

**Commissioner Russ:** Could this grant be used for water taps for low income residents if the water line runs by their house?

**William S. Clark:** I don't know, it might be a possibility.

Commissioner Norris made a motion to establish April 02, 2012, at 6:30 P.M., as the date and time for a Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant, North Carolina Catalyst Grant, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #11: BEAVER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT of COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Commissioner James E. Prevatte requested that appointments be made to the Beaver Management Program Committee.

Commissioner Byrd requested that the Board re-appoint Milton McLean and Donna Register as the ex-officio members.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to appoint Milton McLean to the Beaver Management Program Committee, as an ex-officio member, seconded by Commissioner Bullard.

**AMENDED MOTION:**

Commissioner Byrd made an amended motion to appoint Milton McLean to the Beaver Management Program Committee, as an ex-officio member, and as the Chairman.

After discussion was conducted relative to the fact that the Chairman needed to be a voting member of the committee, Committee Byrd withdrew the amended motion.

The original motion unanimously passed.

The following appointments were made.

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>APPOINTEE</b>	<b>BOARD ACTION</b>
I	Harold McKenzie Alfonza George	<b>Re-Appoint Appoint</b>
II	Bill Figiel Robert A. Bass. Sr.	<b>Re-Appoint Appoint</b>
III	Wilson Jacobs	<b>Re-Appoint</b>
IV	Jimmy Stanley	<b>Re-Appoint</b>
V	Lofton Cox Charles Milligan	<b>Re-Appoint Appoint</b>
VI	Freddie McPherson	<b>Appoint</b>
VII	Lanny Formyduval Terry Ward	<b>Re-Appoint Appoint</b>

N/A	Milton McLean, <b>Ex-Officio</b> <b>Motion: Commissioner Prevatte</b> <b>Second: Commissioner Bullard</b>	<b>Re-Appoint</b>
N/A	Donna Register -or- Edward Davis, <b>Ex-Officio</b> <b>Motion: Commissioner Prevatte</b> <b>Second: Commissioner Norris</b>	<b>Re-Appoint</b>

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to appoint Donna Register or Edward Davis to the Beaver Management Program Committee, as an ex-officio member, to represent Soil and Water Conservation, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #12: APPOINTMENT - NURSING/ADULT CARE HOME JOINT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

Kriste R. Mumm has resigned from the Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Committee, and needs to be replaced.

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to appoint Kathryn Burch, 2165 Pinelog Road, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, Telephone: (910) 640-0737, to the Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Committee, for a one (1) year term, with term expiring March 19, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Norris, and unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #13: ADMINISTRATION - FEE ESTABLISHED FOR COPIES:**

William S. Clark, County Manager, requested the Board to revisit the fee of \$ .25 per copy that was established at the February 16, 2004 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Russ made a motion to establish the following fees for requested copies:

- Five (\$ .05) cents per page (black and white);
- Ten (\$ .10) cents per page (colored copy); **and**
- A two (2) sided copy will be considered as two (2) pages.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullard, and unanimously passed.

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COMBINATION MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING:**

At 7:25 P.M., Commissioner Norris made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into a **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 1 for each Water District respectively.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 1 for each Water District respectively.

**ADJOURN COMBINATION MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III IV and V BOARD MEETING and resume REGULAR SESSION:**

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #16: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda Items, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**A. Budget Amendments:**

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditures	10-6120-549992	Special Populations	753
Revenues	10-3991-499115	Sunshine Games - Recreation	753
Expenditures	10-5820-535110	M&R Bldg/Grounds	1,500
	10-5820-539530	Donations for Veterans Services	150
Revenues	10-3582-484025	Veterans Services Donations	1,650
Expenditures	10-9600-560059	Emergency Food Program	34,842
Revenues	10-3839-430113	Emerg Food Administration	34,842

**B. Tax Refunds and Releases:**

**TAX REFUND (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):  
March 19, 2012**

Refunds Name: Help Mission Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year 007-1 Account # 18-00204 Bill # 999999 Total \$606.00  
Refund user fees. Uses a commercial hauler.

**TAX RELEASES (as submitted to the Governing Body Office from the Tax Office):  
March 19, 2012**

Release the Property Value in the name of AAA The Awing Shoppe Amount: \$6.54  
Value: \$802.00 Year: 2011 Account # 1-01058 Bill # 3073 Total \$7.37  
Release value of business equipment. Business closed. Release Columbus Rescue (.16)

Release the Property Value in the name of Anderson, Allen G. Amount: \$59.14  
Value: \$3,377.00 Year: 2009&1 Account # 3-01955 Bill # 9999 Total \$506.04  
Release value of mobile home years 2009 and 2011. Rebilled new account 3-02732, James Wesley Cook.  
Release Old Dock (5.80), release Columbus Rescue(1.46)

Release the Property Value in the name of Brown, Brenda Frink Amount: \$2,901.40  
Value: \$89,000.00 Year: 08-11 Account # 1-04052 Bill # 9999 Total \$2,981.50  
Release value of land. Land Use Deferred Taxes. Sold to qualifying Owner under new application. Release Brunswick Fire(62.30), release Columbus Rescue(17.80)

Release the Property Value in the name of Crisco, Fairley Dean Amount: \$8.56  
Value: \$1,050.00 Year: 2011 Account # 15-00935 Bill # 2197 Total \$11.03  
Release value of 1974 15' Tidecraft Boat.Owner deceased. Boat moved to Brunswick County. Release Acme Delco (1.26), release Columbus Rescue (.21)

Release the Property Value in the name of Hedgepeth, Toni Burney Amount: \$408.95  
Value: \$4,312.00 Year: 02-11 Account # 13-18633 Bill # 9999 Total \$2,389.29  
Release value of 1987 mobile home. Repoed in 1996. Release Klondyke Fire(31.70), release columbus Rescue(10.39), release Water District II(38.82)

# 664

Release the Property Value in the name of Lee, Chris & Lisa Amount: \$321.24  
Value: \$2,916.00 Year: 02-11 Account # 3-12801 Bill # 9999 Total \$2,340.21  
Release value of 1985 mobile home. Flooded in 1999. Release Old Dock(32.61), release Columbus  
Rescue(8.15)

Release the Property Value in the name of Lee, Christie Amount: \$261.91  
Value: \$2,143.00 Year: 02-11 Account # 1-02503 Bill # 9999 Total \$2,263.07  
Release value of mobile home. Sold in 2001. Double listed on several accounts from 2002-2011. Release  
Brunswick Fire(23.31), release Columbus Rescue(6.66)

Release the Property Value in the name of Lee, Christopher Amount: \$27.92  
Value: \$1,024.00 Year: 09-11 Account # 3-01851 Bill # 9999 Total \$34.48  
Release value of boat. Sold in 2008. Release Old Dock (2.74), release Columbus Rescue(.68)

Release the Property Value in the name of Locklear, Roy Amount: \$24.45  
Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 09-11 Account # 6-23261 Bill # 9999 Total \$678.87  
Release value of mobile home. Vacant and unliveable. Release Yam City(1.00), release Columbus Rescue(.20)

Release the Property Value in the name of Noble, Judy (ETAL) Amount: \$370.16  
Value: \$370.16 Year: 08-11 Account # 1-65870 Bill # 9999 Total \$380.38  
Release portion of property qualified for continued Land use.. Release Brunswick Fire(7.95), release Whiteville  
Rescue(2.27)

Release the Property Value in the name of Sessions, James H. & Thetus B. Amount: \$107.40  
Value: \$6,589.00 Year: 2011 Account # 14-00032 Bill # 8529/28 Total \$113.98  
Release value of land. Double billed to Act 14-13263. Release Welches Creek(5.27), release Whiteville  
Rescue(1.31)

Release the Refunds in the name of Help Mission Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2007-1 Account # 18-00204 Bill # 99999 Total \$606.00  
Refund user fees. Uses a commercial hauler.

Release the User Fee in the name of Cox, Daniel Hartford & Carol Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 3-04157 Bill # 1799 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Only 1 can.

Release the User Fee in the name of Creech, Phyllis C. Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 14-04003 Bill # 1995 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Floyd, William Page Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 10-05658 Bill # 6186 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Freeman, Johnnie Edward Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 4-05020 Bill # 7019 Total \$438.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling unliveable.

Release the User Fee in the name of George, Richard Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 14-05780 Bill # 7921 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Hayes, Linda King Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 10-02536 Bill # 1653 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Johnson, Mary E. Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 15-04451 Bill # 5344 Total \$223.00  
Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Leggett, Elroy Amount: \$0.00  
Value: \$0.00 Year: 10-11 Account # 10-10160 Bill # 9999 Total \$264.00  
Release user fee. Mobile home is vacant and without a can.

Release the User Fee in the name of McIntyre Ollie Frank Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 3-03347 Bill # 0002 Total \$223.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant. No 911 address.

Release the User Fee in the name of Newell, S B (Heirs) Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 13-29120 Bill # 3192 Total \$136.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Nichols, Ava S. Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 15-01634 Bill # 3243 Total \$223.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Nobles, Sabrina E. Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 13-01325 Bill # 3532 Total \$223.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

Release the User Fee in the name of Rattley, Motaleen Ward Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 10-11 Account # 12-01238 Bill # 6814 Total \$446.00  
 Release user fees. 2 mobile homes burned.

Release the User Fee in the name of Strickland, Betty Jane Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 16-01427 Bill # 3494 Total \$223.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant. Can picked up 2010

Release the User Fee in the name of Webb, Joseph Marvin (ETAL) Amount: \$0.00  
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 2011 Account # 8-03534 Bill # 8230 Total \$223.00  
 Release user fee. Dwelling is vacant.

**Agenda Item #17: COMMENTS:**

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

**A. Public:**

**Robert Adams:** stated the following:

1. Last Friday night, on the road that runs by my house, four (4) teenagers almost got killed;
2. This wreck was caused by a yard dog running out into the road;
3. The teenager driving chose to miss the dog and hit another vehicle head on;
4. Both vehicles were totaled; **and**
3. I am requesting the News Reporter to publish an article relative to the safest choices to make when driving, with emphasis on teenage drivers.

**B. Department Heads:**

1. **Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director:** stated the following:

- A. The Columbus County Schools is putting in an application for Quality School Construction Bond funds;
- B. They have several projects which range anywhere from \$200,000.00 to \$1.8 million for renovating schools;
- C. They are at the stage now where they are actually putting an application in to see if they can qualify;
- D. This will be brought to the Board once they hear from the State or Federal;
- E. These are leftover R funds;
- F. If they choose to go ahead and do the loan, they will bring it back to this Board to get Board approval;
- G. They are planning to pay these funds back, with permission from the Board, with funds that are allocated for capital outlay needs; **and**
- H. These funds are at 0% interest loans for 20 years.

2. **Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director:** stated the following:

- A. Whiteville Fabrics did receive a Building Reuse and Restoration Grant that

will be used to replace the roof on the Flowline Building;

- B. Every grant that we have applied for to help our industrial base to improve themselves, the Rural Center has funded every single one of them;
- C. This is an organization that really has the interest of the rural part of the State at the forefront of everything they do; **and**
- D. I appreciate, along with all the industries in the County, their help.

**C. Board of Commissioners:**

1. **Commissioner Byrd:** stated the following:

- A. I would like the Attorney to check and see if there is anyway, dealing with the loop road down in the Buckhead Community, that we could assess a tax to service that area;
- B. The only way to access that area is through the Old Lake Road;
- C. There is a special fire and rescue tax in that area;
- D. In the area of that loop road, there is several miles to travel from Bladen County in case of an emergency;
- E. Could we assess the regular same tax that we are assessing on the people of Columbus County?;
- F. This would have to be a joint effort with Bladen County;
- G. These people do need emergency service;
- H. You can see the fire department from the Bladen County line; **and**
- I. We need to do a joint effort between the two (2) counties.

2. **Commissioner Russ:** stated the following:

- A. At the Farmers Market Show this past weekend, at Lake Waccamaw, we had 1,200 paying customers;
- B. Military people got in free; **and**
- C. The Columbus County and Brunswick County beaver men were there.

3. **Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:

- A. It is a pleasure to see some of you here tonight;
- B. I am sorry you are having to go through some of the problems that you are encountering; **and**
- C. Now that we are aware of these problems, we are going to try to work and help you correct these problems.

4. **Vice Chairman McDowell:** stated the following:

- A. We are having mosquitos now; **and**
- B. It was pleasant to see in the paper that we had in excess of \$1 million in home sales.

5. **Chairman McKenzie:** stated the following:

- A. We received a grant from the Rural Center for \$120,480.00 for the Car Seat Project, and will create 15 jobs;
- B. We received notification of a denial from the Rural Center; **and**
- C. We would like to welcome Hallie Milligan here tonight, and she is doing a class project.

- D. **County Manager:** We set the date of April 02, 2012, before our next Board Meeting for the Pay Study to be presented. The consultant will not be available on that date, so we need to set another date. After discussion, it was the general consensus to have the Clerk to the Board to poll the Board members for the date.

**Agenda Item #18: ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:57 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**



**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V  
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING  
Monday, March 19, 2012  
7:25 P.M.**

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex Building, located at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
James E. Prevatte  
Giles E. Byrd  
P. Edwin Russ  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:25 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the March 05, 2012 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District I.

**DISTRICT I ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2012**

DATE	ACCT #	NAME ON ACCOUNT	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
2/3/2012	105430.00.97	VICKIE SOLES LOVETT	-8.00	METER READ WRONG

DATE	ACCT #	NAME ON ACCOUNT	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
2/6/2012	303185.00.98	BILLY LAWSON ALLEN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/2012	400490.00.96	CHARLES G. HARDEE	-30.00	BILLING ERROR
2/6/2012	100569.00.97	DAVID JOSEPH HUMPHRIES	-25.00	BILLING ERROR
2/7/2012	205670.00.98	JOHN TODD	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/7/2012	201520.00.98	WILLIAM PITTS, JR	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/15/2012	601770.00.98	EUCLID W. SOLES	5.00	POSTING ERROR
2/16/2012	206140.00.97	MICHAEL HARRELSON	58.00	RETURNED BANK DRAFT/FEE
2/17/2012	103730.00.98	CRAIG MCPHERSON	173.00	BILLING ERROR
2/21/2012	206530.00.98	CHARLES MILLIGAN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	401730.00.98	JEWELL CRIBB	-30.00	POSTING ERROR
2/22/2012	401720.00.98	PERRY B. CRIBB	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	201040.00.97	ANGIE PRINCE GIVINS	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	405040.00.95	ANGELA NEALEY	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	402310.00.97	RHONDA EZZELL	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	402180.00.96	KAYLA MICHELLE SIMMONS	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	102967.00.93	PEGGY A. NOBLES	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/28/2012	203906.00.98	SUSAN T. LEMBCKE	25.00	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/28/2012	203910.00.98	SUSAN T. LEMBCKE	-30.00	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/29/2012	206620.00.98	DAVID FOWLER	-42.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/29/2012	103730.00.98	CRAIG MCPHERSON	-203.00	BILLING ERROR
2/29/2012	301850.00.95	KELLIE BREWER GORE	-60.00	BILLING ERROR

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly waster bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District I, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**ADD-ON:**

**DISCOUNT ON HOOKUPS:**

**Chairman McKenzie:** we talked briefly about giving a discount on hookups.

**Kip McClary:** The discount is still in effect if there is a meter box in front of the house. They were put in at the time the mandatory hookup was being enforced. If the person wishes to utilize that, they can tie into that for an \$100.00 tap fee and a \$50.00 deposit on the account.

**Chairman McKenzie:** What about regular hookups?

**Kip McClary:** We have not explored that any further.

**Commissioner Bullard:** A few months ago, what I was asking about is a discount being offered for installing the meter box.

**Kip McClary:** We have done that in the past for the cost of the materials, which at one time was running \$251.00, and now is up to approximately \$300.00. Our standard tap fee is \$500.00, plus the \$50.00 account deposit.

**Chairman McKenzie:** It would be approximately \$300.00?

**Kip McClary:** Around \$300.00.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** Didn't we do this for \$100.00 at one time?

**Kip McClary:** We do that in construction zones during the construction period.

**Chairman McKenzie:** We have done this before.

**Kip McClary:** We haven't done that since I have been here. We did do Water District IV during construction, and River Road during construction.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I remember we did it one time and then we extended it. I think that is something we need to look at again because I am talking to people who are getting interested in the water. The interested people are stating that if we make that offer to them again, they are willing to hookup to the water.

**Chairman McKenzie:** If you put a time frame on that, maybe from this point until July, 2012.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we see fit to do that, I also feel like we need to extend this time on those customers that we gave a short period of time for them to come on and join onto the water and we would drop the penalties.

**Kip McClary:** That was done for six (6) months last year, and no one joined.

**Chairman McKenzie:** That time has past.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we are going to do this, let's reenact that because some of the people may have had time to revisit the issue and see that they would be better off to pay the flat fee because the penalty is greater than the flat fee. I think that if we are going to do one, we should do the whole package. I have met with some of the folks, and that is what they are implying.

### MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to extend, for a period of time, the tap fee for one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars, for a period of six (6) months, waive the penalty for those who have not hooked onto the water, for all water districts, to be effective on April 01, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Kip McClary:** If we do get a run on this offer, and I have to come back and ask for money for tap materials, are we going to be willing to amend the budget to take care of that?

**Commissioner Prevatte:** If you have a run, then that will take that tax off of those people.

**William S. Clark:** Are all late charges included in this?

**Kip McClary:** I think you will create a problem if you try to waive all penalties in all districts. This will create a real problem with the billing office.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I am talking about penalties for not tapping onto the water system.

**Kip McClary:** These penalties will not be common penalties that are assessed during the course of normal business. These are outstanding balances that are owed due to lack of hookups and have accumulated on the account.

## CONSOLIDATION of ALL WATER DISTRICTS:

**Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:

1. When I came on this Board over seven (7) years ago, water was still a pressing issue, and we have made some strides in trying to reduce some water district taxes;
2. I asked why we could not cut out some of the dead ends, and was told that we could not because the water districts had to stand on their own due to the manner they were financed;
3. I am asking that we go back and look at those loans, due to the low interest rate at this time;
4. Let's see if it would be beneficial to refinance those loans and put it in Columbus County Water District, and consolidate all the districts into one district; **and**
5. I am asking for an investigation into that to see if we can do that.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Our attorney has been looking into that, and he will continue the process.

## MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to look at the present financing rate to see if it would be beneficial to refinance all debts for the five (5) existing water districts, combine all the water districts into one (1) district and for the system to be entitled Columbus County Water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

## POSSIBLE LOOPING of DEAD END WATER LINES:

**Commissioner Byrd:** Kip, are you familiar with the two (2) dead end water lines that Mr. Gene McNeil referenced?

**Kip McClary:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Byrd:** What is the distance between those two water lines?

**Kip McClary:** I have not measured that. I would actually have to take a look at that on the map to give you an answer.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Do you have an idea what the distance is, Mr. McNeil?

**Gene McNeil:** It is somewhere around seven-tenths (7/10) of a mile.

**Commissioner Byrd:** How many houses are on that seven-tenths (7/10) mile?

**Gene McNeil:** There are approximately forty (40) houses in that area.

**Kip McClary:** I can say this, the lines that were installed were installed based on the number of people that applied for water, and if the line didn't extend further, it was because there was not enough density applied for to warrant the cost of construction.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Would you please revisit that issue?

**Chairman McKenzie:** Do the blowoffs of the water occur at the dead ends of the water lines?

**Kip McClary:** The dead end blow offs are at the end of each dead end. We blow off in some segments midway when we are flushing to clean up the water.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** In Water Districts II and III, there are two (2) dead end water lines that are eight (8') feet from each other, with an emergency connect.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Why is that rule in effect?

**Kip McClary:** It was only done as a result of the district financing. The state actually would prefer that we could open the interconnect and create an universal system. Because each district was created independently, and financed independently, the systems were constructed in piece-meal fashion over time, so you have one district stopping and another district beginning at a later date or later time. The Finance Officer and the County Attorney have checked into the feasibility of connecting these systems, and the only answer they are getting is the only way that it would be

possible is that if we refinance the entire debt.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**AMON E. McKENZIE Chairman**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V  
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, March 19, 2012**

**7:25 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 II Board.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
James E. Prevatte  
Giles E. Byrd  
P. Edwin Russ  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:25 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the March 05, 2012 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

## DISTRICT II ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2012

DATE	ACCT #	NAME ON ACCOUNT	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
2/3/2012	143966.00.98	COLUMBUS CO SOLID WASTE	-30.00	REMOVE PENALTIES
2/6/2012	132584.00.96	RAQUEL TODD	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/2012	111016.00.98	JERRY DEAVER	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/2012	140625.00.93	LAKECIA SHIRDEN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/7/2012	141260.00.97	BOYCE MECKENZIE	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/7/2012	111596.00.93	BRANDON W. MERCER	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/10/2012	120590.00.94	GREGORY THOMAS DUNCAN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/15/2012	132640.00.97	ELIZABETH MABE	-320.00	METER READ WRONG
2/15/2012	130160.00.98	CORINTH BAPTIST CHURCH	-90.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/16/2012	111805.00.98	GERALDINE BEST	-84.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/16/2012	110066.00.97	RONNIE JEFFERS	-4.00	METER READ WRONG
2/17/2012	112205.00.97	ELSIE S. CARTRETTE	-3.83	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/17/2012	112210.00.97	ELSIE S. CARTRETTE	3.83	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/22/2012	111470.00.96	MARGIE SIMMONS	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	130780.00.97	DEBORAH MCINTYRE	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/23/2012	143275.00.98	DANNY JOE PRICE III	-75.00	REMOVE PENALTIES
2/29/2012	143290.00.89	CAITLAN AMBER NANCE	-60.00	BILLING ERROR
2/29/2012	110778.00.97	DICK LEE WHITE	-25.00	BILLING ERROR
2/29/2012	110778.00.97	DICK LEE WHITE	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/29/2012	140179.00.97	CORNELL HALL	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly waster bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**ADD-ON:****DISCOUNT ON HOOKUPS:**

**Chairman McKenzie:** we talked briefly about giving a discount on hookups.

**Kip McClary:** The discount is still in effect if there is a meter box in front of the house. They were put in at the time the mandatory hookup was being enforced. If the person wishes to utilize that, they can tie into that for an \$100.00 tap fee and a \$50.00 deposit on the account.

**Chairman McKenzie:** What about regular hookups?

**Kip McClary:** We have not explored that any further.

**Commissioner Bullard:** A few months ago, what I was asking about is a discount being offered for installing the meter box.

**Kip McClary:** We have done that in the past for the cost of the materials, which at one time was running \$251.00, and now is up to approximately \$300.00. Our standard tap fee is \$500.00, plus the \$50.00 account deposit.

**Chairman McKenzie:** It would be approximately \$300.00?

**Kip McClary:** Around \$300.00.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** Didn't we do this for \$100.00 at one time?

**Kip McClary:** We do that in construction zones during the construction period.

**Chairman McKenzie:** We have done this before.

**Kip McClary:** We haven't done that since I have been here. We did do Water District IV during construction, and River Road during construction.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I remember we did it one time and then we extended it. I think that is something we need to look at again because I am talking to people who are getting interested in the water. The interested people are stating that if we make that offer to them again, they are willing to hookup to the water.

**Chairman McKenzie:** If you put a time frame on that, maybe from this point until July, 2012.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we see fit to do that, I also feel like we need to extend this time on those customers that we gave a short period of time for them to come on and join onto the water and we would drop the penalties.

**Kip McClary:** That was done for six (6) months last year, and no one joined.

**Chairman McKenzie:** That time has past.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we are going to do this, let's reenact that because some of the people may have had time to revisit the issue and see that they would be better off to pay the flat fee because the penalty is greater than the flat fee. I think that if we are going to do one, we should do the whole package.

I have met with some of the folks, and that is what they are implying.

### **MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to extend, for a period of time, the tap fee for one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars, for a period of six (6) months, waive the penalty for those who have not hooked onto the water, for all water districts, to be effective on April 01, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Kip McClary:** If we do get a run on this offer, and I have to come back and ask for money for tap materials, are we going to be willing to amend the budget to take care of that?

**Commissioner Prevatte:** If you have a run, then that will take that tax off of those people.

**William S. Clark:** Are all late charges included in this?

**Kip McClary:** I think you will create a problem if you try to waive all penalties in all districts. This will create a real problem with the billing office.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I am talking about penalties for not tapping onto the water system.

**Kip McClary:** These penalties will not be common penalties that are assessed during the course of normal business. These are outstanding balances that are owed due to lack of hookup and have accumulated on the account.

## CONSOLIDATION of ALL WATER DISTRICTS:

**Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:

1. When I came on this Board over seven (7) years ago, water was still a pressing issue, and we have made some strides in trying to reduce some water district taxes;
2. I asked why we could not cut out some of the dead ends, and was told that we could not because the water districts had to stand on their own due to the manner they were financed;
3. I am asking that we go back and look at those loans, due to the low interest rate at this time;
4. Let's see if it would be beneficial to refinance those loans and put it in Columbus County Water District, and consolidate all the districts into one district; **and**
5. I am asking for an investigation into that to see if we can do that.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Our attorney has been looking into that, and he will continue the process.

## MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to look at the present financing rate to see if it would be beneficial to refinance all debts for the five (5) existing water districts, combine all the water districts into one (1) district and for the system to be entitled Columbus County Water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

## POSSIBLE LOOPING of DEAD END WATER LINES:

**Commissioner Byrd:** Kip, are you familiar with the two (2) dead end water lines that Mr. Gene McNeil referenced?

**Kip McClary:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Byrd:** What is the distance between those two water lines?

**Kip McClary:** I have not measured that. I would actually have to take a look at that on the map to give you an answer.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Do you have an idea what the distance is, Mr. McNeil?

**Gene McNeil:** It is somewhere around seven-tenths (7/10) of a mile.

**Commissioner Byrd:** How many houses are on that seven-tenths (7/10) mile?

**Gene McNeil:** There are approximately forty (40) houses in that area.

**Kip McClary:** I can say this, the lines that were installed were installed based on the number of people that applied for water, and if the line didn't extend further, it was because there was not enough density applied for to warrant the cost of construction.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Would you please revisit that issue?

**Chairman McKenzie:** Do the blowoffs of the water occur at the dead ends of the water lines?

**Kip McClary:** The dead end blow offs are at the end of each dead end. We blow off in some segments midway when we are flushing to clean up the water.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** In Water Districts II and III, there are two (2) dead end water lines that are eight (8') from each other, with an emergency connect.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Why is that rule in effect?

**Kip McClary:** It was only done as a result of the district financing. The state actually would prefer that we could open the interconnect and create an universal system. Because each district was created independently, and financed independently, the systems were constructed in piece-meal fashion over time, so you have one district stopping and another district beginning at a later date or later time. The Finance Officer and the County Attorney have checked into the feasibility of connecting these systems, and the only answer they are getting is the only way that it would be

possible is that if we refinance the entire debt.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**AMON E. McKENZIE  
Chairman**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V  
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, March 19, 2012**

**7:25 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:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
James E. Prevatte  
Giles E. Byrd  
P. Edwin Russ  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:25 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the March 05, 2012 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District III.

## DISTRICT III ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2012

DATE	ACCT #	NAME ON ACCOUNT	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
2/3/12	330357.00.98	DAVID G. MCPHERSON	25.00	SERVICE CALL
2/3/12	341144.00.98	ALBERT & EDNA MOORE	-490.00	REMOVED PENALTIES
2/3/12	350860.00.97	JAMES G. HATCHER	-50.00	REMOVE TAMPERING FEE
2/6/12	380960.00.93	JOSEPH DAIVD SEGARA	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/12	381140.00.98	STEVE YOST	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/12	360350.00.91	KIMBERLY SUE ROBINSON	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/12	340500.00.97	JAN BRITT LYNN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/12	330730.00.95	TARA SIMMONS	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/6/12	340680.00.97	JERRY & TIM PRIDGEN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/7/12	350940.00.97	SAMALA SMITH	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/7/12	371365.00.98	JAMIE ROOKS	-49.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/8/12	360670.00.95	JESSICA DENISE WARD	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/8/12	360520.00.98	DEBBIE DORSEY	-72.00	METER READ WRONG
2/8/12	330100.00.98	HEDY MCKENZIE	-42.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/15/12	331170.00.98	LADDEAN GRAHAM	-8.00	METER READ WRONG
2/17/12	371820.00.97	BETHEL CHURCH	-128.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/22/12	370740.00.96	TAMMY JOHNSON	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/12	380960.00.92	PATRICIA SHIPMAN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/12	380350.00.93	AUDRA H. DAVIS	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/12	380133.00.98	BOBBY SHIPMAN	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/12	380405.00.97	EMILY JANELLE GORE	-30.00	BILLING ERORR
2/27/12	360760.00.97	ROBIN LYNN STRICKLAND	-36.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/29/12	380130.00.98	LILLIE BERKLEY	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly waster bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**ADD-ON:**

**DISCOUNT ON HOOKUPS:**

**Chairman McKenzie:** we talked briefly about giving a discount on hookups.

**Kip McClary:** The discount is still in effect if there is a meter box in front of the house. They were put in at the time the mandatory hookup was being enforced. If the person wishes to utilize that, they can tie into that for an \$100.00 tap fee and a \$50.00 deposit on the account.

**Chairman McKenzie:** What about regular hookups?

**Kip McClary:** We have not explored that any further.

**Commissioner Bullard:** A few months ago, what I was asking about is a discount being offered for installing the meter box.

**Kip McClary:** We have done that in the past for the cost of the materials, which at one time was running \$251.00, and now is up to approximately \$300.00. Our standard tap fee is \$500.00, plus the \$50.00 account deposit.

**Chairman McKenzie:** It would be approximately \$300.00?

**Kip McClary:** Around \$300.00.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** Didn't we do this for \$100.00 at one time?

**Kip McClary:** We do that in construction zones during the construction period.

**Chairman McKenzie:** We have done this before.

**Kip McClary:** We haven't done that since I have been here. We did do Water District IV during construction, and River Road during construction.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I remember we did it one time and then we extended it. I think that is something we need to look at again because I am talking to people who are getting interested in the water. The interested people are stating that if we make that offer to them again, they are willing to hookup to the water.

**Chairman McKenzie:** If you put a time frame on that, maybe from this point until July, 2012.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we see fit to do that, I also feel like we need to extend this time on those customers that we gave a short period of time for them to come on and join onto the water and we would drop the penalties.

**Kip McClary:** That was done for six (6) months last year, and no one joined.

**Chairman McKenzie:** That time has past.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we are going to do this, let's reenact that because some of the people may have had time to revisit the issue and see that they would be better off to pay the flat fee because the penalty is greater than the flat fee. I think that if we are going to do one, we should do the whole package.

I have met with some of the folks, and that is what they are implying.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to extend, for a period of time, the tap fee for one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars, for a period of six (6) months, waive the penalty for those who have not hooked onto the water, for all water districts, to be effective on April 01, 2012. The

motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Kip McClary:** If we do get a run on this offer, and I have to come back and ask for money for tap materials, are we going to be willing to amend the budget to take care of that?

**Commissioner Prevatte:** If you have a run, then that will take that tax off of those people.

**William S. Clark:** Are all late charges included in this?

**Kip McClary:** I think you will create a problem if you try to waive all penalties in all districts. This will create a real problem with the billing office.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I am talking about penalties for not tapping onto the water system.

**Kip McClary:** These penalties will not be common penalties that are assessed during the course of normal business. These are outstanding balances that are owed due to lack of hookup and have accumulated on the account.

## **CONSOLIDATION of ALL WATER DISTRICTS:**

**Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:

1. When I came on this Board over seven (7) years ago, water was still a pressing issue, and we have made some strides in trying to reduce some water district taxes;
2. I asked why we could not cut out some of the dead ends, and was told that we could not because the water districts had to stand on their own due to the manner they were financed;
3. I am asking that we go back and look at those loans, due to the low interest rate at this time;
4. Let's see if it would be beneficial to refinance those loans and put it in Columbus County Water District, and consolidate all the districts into one district; **and**
5. I am asking for an investigation into that to see if we can do that.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Our attorney has been looking into that, and he will continue the process.

## **MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to look at the present financing rate to see if it would be beneficial to refinance all debts for the five (5) existing water districts, combine all the water districts into one (1) district and for the system to be entitled Columbus County Water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

## **POSSIBLE LOOPING of DEAD END WATER LINES:**

**Commissioner Byrd:** Kip, are you familiar with the two (2) dead end water lines that Mr. Gene McNeil referenced?

**Kip McClary:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Byrd:** What is the distance between those two water lines?

**Kip McClary:** I have not measured that. I would actually have to take a look at that on the map to give you an answer.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Do you have an idea what the distance is, Mr. McNeil?

**Gene McNeil:** It is somewhere around seven-tenths (7/10) of a mile.

**Commissioner Byrd:** How many houses are on that seven-tenths (7/10) mile?

**Gene McNeil:** There are approximately forty (40) houses in that area.

**Kip McClary:** I can say this, the lines that were installed were installed based on the number of people that applied for water, and if the line didn't extend further, it was because there was not enough density applied for to warrant the cost of construction.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Would you please revisit that issue?

**Chairman McKenzie:** Do the blowoffs of the water occur at the dead ends of the water lines?

**Kip McClary:** The dead end blow offs are at the end of each dead end. We blow off in some segments midway when we are flushing to clean up the water.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** In Water Districts II and III, there are two (2) dead end water lines that are eight (8') from each other, with an emergency connect.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Why is that rule in effect?

**Kip McClary:** It was only done as a result of the district financing. The state actually would prefer that we could open the interconnect and create an universal system. Because each district was created independently, and financed independently, the systems were constructed in piece-meal fashion over time, so you have one district stopping and another district beginning at a later date or later time. The Finance Officer and the County Attorney have checked into the feasibility of connecting these systems, and the only answer they are getting is the only way that it would be possible is that if we refinance the entire debt.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**AMON E. MCKENZIE Chairman**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V  
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, March 19, 2012**

**7:25 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:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
James E. Prevatte  
Giles E. Byrd  
P. Edwin Russ  
Lynwood Norris  
Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:25 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the March 05, 2012 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV.

**DISTRICT IV ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2012**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACCT #</b>	<b>NAME ON ACCOUNT</b>	<b>ADJ AMT</b>	<b>REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT</b>
2/3/2012	430367.00.98	JAMES D. KEITH, JR	-80.00	REMOVE PENALTIES
2/10/2012	420015.00.98	MOMENTIVE SPEC. CHEM	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/10/2012	420720.00.98	MOMENTIVE SPEC. CHEM	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	410350.00.96	ANNA KIRK	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/24/2012	410255.00.98	DAVID BRACEY	-5.00	REMOVE PENALTIES
2/24/2012	430133.00.97	JAMES D. KEITH, JR	-4.00	METER READ WRONG
2/24/2012	430235.00.98	CONNIE JACOBS	-72.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/29/2012	410255.00.98	DAVID BRACEY	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/29/2012	430394.00.98	DARRYL TRUESDELL	-30.00	REMOVE PENALTIES

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly waster bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**ADD-ON:**

**DISCOUNT ON HOOKUPS:**

**Chairman McKenzie:** we talked briefly about giving a discount on hookups.

**Kip McClary:** The discount is still in effect if there is a meter box in front of the house. They were put in at the time the mandatory hookup was being enforced. If the person wishes to utilize that, they can tie into that for an \$100.00 tap fee and a \$50.00 deposit on the account.

**Chairman McKenzie:** What about regular hookups?

**Kip McClary:** We have not explored that any further.

**Commissioner Bullard:** A few months ago, what I was asking about is a discount being offered for installing the meter box.

**Kip McClary:** We have done that in the past for the cost of the materials, which at one time was running \$251.00, and now is up to approximately \$300.00. Our standard tap fee is \$500.00, plus the \$50.00 account deposit.

**Chairman McKenzie:** It would be approximately \$300.00?

**Kip McClary:** Around \$300.00.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** Didn't we do this for \$100.00 at one time?

**Kip McClary:** We do that in construction zones during the construction period.

**Chairman McKenzie:** We have done this before.

**Kip McClary:** We haven't done that since I have been here. We did do Water District IV during construction, and River Road during construction.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I remember we did it one time and then we extended it. I think that is

something we need to look at again because I am talking to people who are getting interested in the water. The interested people are stating that if we make that offer to them again, they are willing to hookup to the water.

**Chairman McKenzie:** If you put a time frame on that, maybe from this point until July, 2012.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we see fit to do that, I also feel like we need to extend this time on those customers that we gave a short period of time for them to come on and join onto the water and we would drop the penalties.

**Kip McClary:** That was done for six (6) months last year, and no one joined.

**Chairman McKenzie:** That time has past.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we are going to do this, let's reenact that because some of the people may have had time to revisit the issue and see that they would be better off to pay the flat fee because the penalty is greater than the flat fee. I think that if we are going to do one, we should do the whole package.

I have met with some of the folks, and that is what they are implying.

### **MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to extend, for a period of time, the tap fee for one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars, for a period of six (6) months, waive the penalty for those who have not hooked onto the water, for all water districts, to be effective on April 01, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Kip McClary:** If we do get a run on this offer, and I have to come back and ask for money for tap materials, are we going to be willing to amend the budget to take care of that?

**Commissioner Prevatte:** If you have a run, then that will take that tax off of those people.

**William S. Clark:** Are all late charges included in this?

**Kip McClary:** I think you will create a problem if you try to waive all penalties in all districts. This will create a real problem with the billing office.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I am talking about penalties for not tapping onto the water system.

**Kip McClary:** These penalties will not be common penalties that are assessed during the course of normal business. These are outstanding balances that are owed due to lack of hookup and have accumulated on the account.

### **CONSOLIDATION of ALL WATER DISTRICTS:**

**Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:

1. When I came on this Board over seven (7) years ago, water was still a pressing issue, and we have made some strides in trying to reduce some water district taxes;
2. I asked why we could not cut out some of the dead ends, and was told that we could not because the water districts had to stand on their own due to the manner they were financed;
3. I am asking that we go back and look at those loans, due to the low interest rate at this time;
4. Let's see if it would be beneficial to refinance those loans and put it in Columbus County Water District, and consolidate all the districts into one district; **and**
5. I am asking for an investigation into that to see if we can do that.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Our attorney has been looking into that, and he will continue the process.

## MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to look at the present financing rate to see if it would be beneficial to refinance all debts for the five (5) existing water districts, combine all the water districts into one (1) district and for the system to be entitled Columbus County Water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

## POSSIBLE LOOPING of DEAD END WATER LINES:

**Commissioner Byrd:** Kip, are you familiar with the two (2) dead end water lines that Mr. Gene McNeil referenced?

**Kip McClary:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Byrd:** What is the distance between those two water lines?

**Kip McClary:** I have not measured that. I would actually have to take a look at that on the map to give you an answer.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Do you have an idea what the distance is, Mr. McNeil?

**Gene McNeil:** It is somewhere around seven-tenths (7/10) of a mile.

**Commissioner Byrd:** How many houses are on that seven-tenths (7/10) mile?

**Gene McNeil:** There are approximately forty (40) houses in that area.

**Kip McClary:** I can say this, the lines that were installed were installed based on the number of people that applied for water, and if the line didn't extend further, it was because there was not enough density applied for to warrant the cost of construction.

**Commissioner Byrd:** Would you please revisit that issue?

**Chairman McKenzie:** Do the blowoffs of the water occur at the dead ends of the water lines?

**Kip McClary:** The dead end blow offs are at the end of each dead end. We blow off in some segments midway when we are flushing to clean up the water.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** In Water Districts II and III, there are two (2) dead end water lines that are eight (8') from each other, with an emergency connect.

**Chairman McKenzie:** Why is that rule in effect?

**Kip McClary:** It was only done as a result of the district financing. The state actually would prefer that we could open the interconnect and create an universal system. Because each district was created independently, and financed independently, the systems were constructed in piece-meal fashion over time, so you have one district stopping and another district beginning at a later date or later time. The Finance Officer and the County Attorney have checked into the feasibility of connecting these systems, and the only answer they are getting is the only way that it would be possible is that if we refinance the entire debt.

## ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**AMON E. MCKENZIE Chairman**

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V**  
**COMBINATION BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, March 19, 2012**

**7:25 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 V Board.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**  
 Charles T. McDowell, **Vice Chairman**  
 James E. Prevatte  
 Giles E. Byrd  
 P. Edwin Russ  
 Lynwood Norris  
 Ricky Bullard

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

William S. Clark, **County Manager**  
 Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**  
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
 Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

At 7:25 P.M., Chairman McKenzie called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

**Agenda Item #14: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

March 05, 2012 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the March 05, 2012 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Norris. The motion unanimously passed.

**Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to the MONTHLY WATER BILLS:**

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V.

## DISTRICT V ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2012

DATE	ACCT #	NAME ON ACCOUNT	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
2/3/2012	800975.00.98	HOLLY E. RICE	-24.00	BAD READ
2/6/2012	709550.00.98	STEPHEN STANCIL	-55.00	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/6/2012	709740.00.98	STEPHEN STANCIL	55.00	POSTING ERROR
2/6/2012	709550.00.98	STEPHEN STANCIL	-85.00	POSTING ERROR
2/6/2012	709740.00.98	STEPHEN STANCIL	55.00	TRANSFER CREDIT BALANCE
2/6/2012	800485.00.98	NEEDOM GORE HUGHES IV	-16.00	METER READ WRONG
2/6/2012	800138.00.98	EMMA MENDEZ	-25.00	BILLING ERROR
2/7/2012	700038.00.98	HAZEL V. SOLES	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/8/2012	800662.00.98	DELANE ALDERMAN & LINDA TYREE	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/8/2012	800489.00.98	DALLIE CANADY	200.00	METER TAMPERING
2/10/2012	800783.00.98	STEPHANIE PAIGE	-42.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/21/2012	709951.00.98	ELOISE GIVINS	-46.00	CUSTOMER LEAK
2/22/2012	800522.00.98	STEWART HENIFORD	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	800635.00.98	BOBBY E. GORE	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/22/2012	709974.00.97	JAMEY & LINDA MILLER	25.00	DISCONNECTION FEE
2/23/2012	800675.00.98	DONNA O'NEAL SCARBORO	-8.00	BILLING ERROR
2/29/2012	709755.00.98	MELVIN MACK	-35.00	REMOVE PENALTIES

Commissioner Norris made a motion to approve the adjustments to the February, 2012 monthly waster bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**ADD-ON:****DISCOUNT ON HOOKUPS:**

**Chairman McKenzie:** we talked briefly about giving a discount on hookups.

**Kip McClary:** The discount is still in effect if there is a meter box in front of the house. They were put in at the time the mandatory hookup was being enforced. If the person wishes to utilize that, they can tie into that for an \$100.00 tap fee and a \$50.00 deposit on the account.

**Chairman McKenzie:** What about regular hookups?

**Kip McClary:** We have not explored that any further.

**Commissioner Bullard:** A few months ago, what I was asking about is a discount being offered for installing the meter box.

**Kip McClary:** We have done that in the past for the cost of the materials, which at one time was running \$251.00, and now is up to approximately \$300.00. Our standard tap fee is \$500.00, plus the \$50.00 account

deposit.

**Chairman McKenzie:** It would be approximately \$300.00?

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**Commissioner Prevatte:** Didn't we do this for \$100.00 at one time?

**Kip McClary:** We do that in construction zones during the construction period.

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**Kip McClary:** We haven't done that since I have been here. We did do Water District IV during construction, and River Road during construction.

**Commissioner Prevatte:** I remember we did it one time and then we extended it. I think that is something we need to look at again because I am talking to people who are getting interested in the water. The interested people are stating that if we make that offer to them again, they are willing to hookup to the water.

**Chairman McKenzie:** If you put a time frame on that, maybe from this point until July, 2012.

**Commissioner Byrd:** If we see fit to do that, I also feel like we need to extend this time on those customers that we gave a short period of time for them to come on and join onto the water and we would drop the penalties.

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I have met with some of the folks, and that is what they are implying.

### **MOTION:**

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to extend, for a period of time, the tap fee for one hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) dollars, for a period of six (6) months, waive the penalty for those who have not hooked onto the water, for all water districts, to be effective on April 01, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

**Kip McClary:** If we do get a run on this offer, and I have to come back and ask for money for tap materials, are we going to be willing to amend the budget to take care of that?

**Commissioner Prevatte:** If you have a run, then that will take that tax off of those people.

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### **CONSOLIDATION of ALL WATER DISTRICTS:**

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**Chairman McKenzie:** Our attorney has been looking into that, and he will continue the process.

## MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to look at the present financing rate to see if it would be beneficial to refinance all debts for the five (5) existing water districts, combine all the water districts into one (1) district and for the system to be entitled Columbus County Water. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

## POSSIBLE LOOPING of DEAD END WATER LINES:

**Commissioner Byrd:** Kip, are you familiar with the two (2) dead end water lines that Mr. Gene McNeil referenced?

**Kip McClary:** Yes sir.

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**Chairman McKenzie:** Why is that rule in effect?

**Kip McClary:** It was only done as a result of the district financing. The state actually would prefer that we could open the interconnect and create an universal system. Because each district was created independently, and financed independently, the systems were constructed in piece-meal fashion over time, so you have one district stopping and another district beginning at a later date or later time. The Finance Officer and the County Attorney have checked into the feasibility of connecting these systems, and the only answer they are getting is the only way that it would be possible is that if we refinance the entire debt.

## ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:41 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVED:**

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

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**AMON E. MCKENZIE Chairman**