

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Kenwood Nexedge Radio System - Workshop
Monday, April 15, 2013
5:00 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 conducting a Workshop on the Kenwood Nexedge Radio System.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

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

OTHERS in ATTENDANCE:

Kay Worley, Emergency Services Director
 Nick Long, President, Fleet Connect
 Scott Merritt, Fire Marshal
 Fire and Rescue Personnel

WORKSHOP CALLED TO ORDER:

At 5:00 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the April 15, 2013 Workshop to order and stated the purpose of the workshop is to discuss the Kenwood Nexedge Radio System.

WORKSHOP MEETINGS DEFINED:

- First:** the workshop meeting is to inform the Board and permit discussion - no final action is taken; and
- Second:** the procedures are less formal than at a regular meeting, but such meetings are part of the decision-making process, deliberations are going on, and therefore, they constitute "official meetings".

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Chairman McDowell turned the floor over to Kay Worley, Emergency Services Director.

PRESENTATION of COLUMBUS COUNTY DIGITAL RADIO PROJECT:

Kay Worley, Emergency Services Director, delivered the following Power Point presentation.

1. The Communications Committee membership is as follows:
 Jerry Hodges, Chair
 Deuce Niven
 Alton Edwards
 Mike Bartley
 Billy Rushing
 David Nobles
 Dean Foley replaced with Russell Conway
 Ronnie Hayes
 Thurman Roseboro
 Tony Miller
2. Demographics of Columbus County:
 -The area of Columbus County is 609,882 acres, or about 953 square miles
 -The third largest county in the state
3. Previous Radio System:
 -UNF/VHF system

- The system was very, very old
 - The communications were very poor
 - There were many areas in the county in which responders could not communicate due to very poor coverage and old equipment
 - System had limited to no interoperability between agencies
4. Solution:
 - Kewnwood Nexedge Digital Trunking system
 - Designed to meet the demands of public safety users. Designed to be both fault tolerant and provide robust coverage operating 24/7 under the most extreme conditions.
 5. Construction:
 - Construction of the system began December 2011;
 - First multi-agency usage was during the Strawberry Festival 2012;
 - Construction continued through the summer with tower sites being constructed in Fair Bluff, Whiteville, Lake Waccamaw, Delco, Nakina and Tabor City;
 - Received support from Columbus County Maintenance, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Building Inspections and the Town of Lake Waccamaw; **and**
 - Construction completed in the fall of 2012.
 6. Tower Sites:
 - Predetermined due to financial constraints. These sites are used to house necessary equipment.;
 - Using existing towers prevented the county from having to invest time and money on building new towers or leasing tower sites;
 - Of these sites, only Nakina is owned by the County;
 - Additional sites were made available by the generosity of the following corporations: Progress Energy, Verizon Communications, UNC Television and the Town of Lake Waccamaw.
 7. End User Equipment:
 - Each Fire, EMS and law enforcement department in the County was given portable radios;
 - Each agency was given a base station for their department; **and**
 Departments were responsible for purchasing mobile radios for their apparatus.
 8. **Consensus:**
 - For the past 8 months, this system has performed as the primary system used in the county for public safety communications;
 - System reporting roughly 4,0000 voice transmissions per day on average and these calls are being made from more than 1,300 radio users;
 - Other county departments are using the system such as: Columbus County Transportation, Public Utilities and other county agencies;
 - Overall the system has proven to be a much better system than the existing one;
 - System has provided much better coverage than the previous UHF/VHF system;
 - New system has exceeded past system with coverage and added features such as interoperability between Fire/EMS and Law Enforcement agencies;
 - We can now communicate across disciplines, we can talk pretty much anywhere inside the county and even to neighboring cities and towns. Each department has their own private channel and we now have the ability to make private calls to individual radios.;
 - Some departments are using the GPS feature to track their personnel.
 9. **System Improvements:**
 - Paging; **and**
 - Coverage.
 10. **Paging:**
 - Currently paging responders with pagers on the old VHF analog system as well as alerting users with new UHF radios from the console system that was already in place; **and**
 - The alert feature works but we have found limitations. Can only alert 1 department at a time. This causes a time delay in paging multiple departments for calls. At times, responders receive tones but no verbal or verbal but no tones.
 11. **Solution for Paging:**
 - Build a UHF Radio paging system for the county;
 - Reconfigure the new system to operate in a paging friendly mode;
 - Use one repeater out of the trunk system at each site and dedicate it to paging;
 - By doing this we will then have a county wide UHF radio paging system;
 - UHF Paging solutions were demonstrated to Communications Committee and approved.

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Commissioner McKenzie: Are you telling us that the problem is solved?

Kay Worley: It is not solved yet, but we have come up with a solution.

Commissioner McKenzie: If that solution is put in place, do you think we will be okay?

Kay Worley: I think so. That is the recommendation that we are getting from the vendor. The two (2) solutions that we have, the one for paging and the one for the coverage areas should correct the problems that we are having.

Commissioner Byrd: stated the following:

1. This is the same information that we have heard for months;
2. I have been out in the field, and I have talked to many of the people that are involved in this, and they are saying the system is not working like you are presenting it;
3. We are being told that the system is better than the old one, but they are saying there is a lot missing;
4. This new radio system was suppose to replace the old system with much improvement;
5. This new system is better that what we had, but it is no where near what we were expecting it to be.

Chairman McDowell: I know you had two (2) meetings recently, and can you give us an overview of what was discussed and solutions that were suggested for the gaps that we have, and so forth?

Kay Worley: replied stating the following:

1. There were two (2) solutions that we talked about, and the first one we talked about was paging and the second one was the coverage areas;
2. On the paging, the vendor has come up with a paging solution, and that one is having to build a radio paging system; **and**
3. At the present time, we do not have a radio paging system in place, we have the old one.

Commissioner Prevatte: Is building a paging system an additional cost?

Kay Worley: Yes.

Commissioner Byrd: The proposals where you are talking about improvements, like you have in the past, I think it is time that this come from the vendor.

Commissioner Prevatte: Were we not promised paging when we agreed to the contract?

Kay Worley: No, paging is not part of the contract.

Commissioner Prevatte: No, paging might not be a part of the contract, but it was discussed in these chambers. We were told that the paging would be corrected through this system here.

Chief Ray Jacobs: Is going higher on the tower going to help in the Buckhead area in the eastern end of the County?

Nick Long: replied stating the following:

1. This system is very much like a cellular system with sites, and as you drive around the coverage is determined as to where the sites are located;
2. As the traffic passes, there is a microwave system that connects the sites together and it allows that traffic connected to one site to come out at another site;
3. Addressing the scene at sites between Buckhead and Bolton, at the site at Lake Waccamaw there is a water tank and it is only about 120' or 130', and the other sites are 300' or 400', and I have suggested that if that was farther east on a taller tower, we could close that gap;
4. When we came into the project, the sites were determined for us as to where the equipment would be installed at and that is where they are;
5. I don't think the County was open to renting sites or building towers to build the system and that is essentially why we utilized the sites; **and**
6. The sites are spaced fairly well, but there are some things that could have been done better.

Commissioner Byrd: Have you checked into placing the equipment on existing towers?

Nick Long: We met last week and discussed this, and we were directed to explore the possibility of the sites, and we are going to do the preliminary work of what that change would do without being detrimental to other departments.

Vice Chairman Bullard: At West Columbus High School and Cerro Gordo, they have a tower there at the school, can that tower be used?

Nick Long: It probably can, but when we entered into the contract, the sites were predetermined.

Vice Chairman Bullard: If we had been told that these sites would not work, then we would have looked at other sites. I do not remember being told that these sites would not work.

Chairman McDowell: If you are talking about moving the site between Lake Waccamaw and Bolton farther east, would it not increase the non-coverage area between Lake Waccamaw and Nakina?

Nick Long: If we come up in height with another site, I believe that is something we really need to study and look into.

Chairman McDowell: I think what we are thinking and some are saying is that we understand there has to be some changes, we want to make sure the changes correct all the problems instead of correcting some and creating another one.

Commissioner McKenzie: When we talked last, you did tell me you were going to fix our system.

Nick Long: When I met with you last, and I think that was last November, we did not have the

Tabor City site. There was a large blue area where that site currently shows coverage. We made some changes. I would say that change is dramatic..

Commissioner McKenzie: Are you going to continue to work with us to fix the system:

Nick Long: Absolutely.

Commissioner Byrd: And the paging?

Nick Long: Yes sir. The paging solution, we have been trying to use it by doing a feature of the console. We did quote a UHF paging system, at that time, it was not appealing. Evidently, the price was too high, and we were unaware of how many departments did not have pagers and relied on radios only to receive pages.

Commissioner Byrd: But you are speaking of another contract and another expense. We felt like, at that time, we were replacing our complete system, and at that time, we had paging on it. We were under the impression that we were getting a complete system.

Vice Chairman Bullard: You stated earlier that you could fix the paging at another cost, and what is that cost going to be?

Nick Long: We quoted a price of \$25,000 to make these changes to the system.

Commissioner Byrd: I was Chairman at this time, and I was very vocal about getting a system that was going to work, and not have to come back in six months or a year and find out the system was not working as it should. As far as I am concerned, if the paging is not working, then the system is not working.

Chief Ray Jacobs: If I understand correctly, Channel 15, the paging channel on there, is no good, is that right?

Nick Long: What we got set up on their radios is an alert, especially the console system that is in use in the 911 Center plays an alert tone on a channel that represents the department that is being paged. They could go to that point to not hear the normal traffic and hear the alert tones from the console.

Stephen Shaw, Chadbourn Police Chief: stated the following:

1. We seem to be fixated on portable radio coverage;
2. Mobile radio coverage is very important;
3. Chadbourn was the first test site and I have worked with this system extensively and I know the system well;
4. One answer to the problems is to put a strong base station in;
5. There are gaps in the portable system;
6. You have the redundancy to switch back to the old system;
7. One big advantage of the new radio system is if one channel goes down, you can go to another channel; **and**
8. This system far exceeds the old system.

Steve Camlin: stated the following:

1. I think you got intimidated;
2. I have been doing this for 36 years;
3. When FCC came out, they said you needed a narrowband;
4. There were problems with the County system, but it was doing a good job, but it had weak spots;
5. Whenever something is not broken, you don't fix it, you just improve it;
6. Grant it, LEO needs to be on Viper so they can communicate with other agencies;
7. We were decent, but we needed better, and we needed to improve, and there were ways we could have done it;
8. Somebody got intimidated, and thought they had to change the whole ball of wax;
9. Instead they could have made improvements and done technical channels on the system and we would not be experiencing these problems now;
10. When the committee was put together, I don't think there was enough research done as to what all the departments needed;
11. Paging is very critical for us as firefighters;
12. There are tricks of the trade and one of those is simulcast paging which we can't do, we are back in the 1970's on the paging right now;
13. If you are going to put in a new radio system, the question should have been asked if it was going to affect anything that is presently being used;
14. That question was not asked, and if it was, it was not relayed to my department;
15. That created a nightmare there, we are not doing our simulcast paging which by D.O.I. standards, you have to page your mutual aid departments within 58 seconds, and if you don't that is points taken away, points are everything in the grading system in order to get your rating down;
16. That was a no no;
17. The equipment standards that we have to carry on our trucks to be compliant for points was not addressed;

18. According to my resources in Wilmington, I am being told these kits that we need to get are not available, and that is useless to us;
19. Then we look at the coverage, our end is a large industrial area, and if you go inside these places, they don't work;
20. Our equipment works;
21. My problem with the system is why do we have to step down into something that is not even equal to what we got;
22. My opinion is that until they can step up to the ball game, there is no need to think about switching because it will cost \$20,000;
23. It is a safety issue; **and**
24. All of the workers out here are telling you that something is wrong with the system and this system is not working, and you don't need to keep throwing money in it.

Commissioner Prevatte: Steve, those are the same words that were said before we chose this system. We were told that if you don't change the radio system, someone is going to die because they are not going to be protected. That is what we were told. I am hearing from Mr. Shaw who is saying that you are going to have this problem anytime you use portables, and I know that firefighters use portables more than they use mobiles. Until I read your letter, I had not heard one word about problems being experienced with the radio reception. We did not know, and I know you got to conduct your business. You have got to rely on your equipment.

Steve Camlin: My question to you, as a Board is, were you told that you had to go to another frequency, or were you told you had to go to a whole new system, or did you have to re-vamp the old system, or did you just have to narrowband.

Commissioner Prevatte: Stand up Jeremy. We were told that our system was so dilapidated that if we didn't do it, we couldn't keep patching it. Were we not told that?

Jeremy Jernigan, former Emergency Services Director: stated the following:

1. Right, we had gotten to a point with our existing system, that it was just a heart attack waiting to happen;
2. We had so many weak spots, and we could have stayed with our old system, we could have narrow banded it, we could have put in some more repeaters, we could have put in some more coverage sites, but we still had some of the same issues of where having one tower site go down would cripple the entire radio system;
3. This was the best system we could come up with, and it was done, I did not make the decision;
4. We worked together, a group of people that you appointed, and peers from the various disciplines;
5. We evaluated the different systems, we made a decision, we brought it to you, and you approved you;
6. A copy of the contract was given to the County Attorney, the Finance Officer and the Purchasing Officer;
7. Paging was never in the contract and the reason is we were looking at a \$250,000.00 cost to go to a simulcast paging system that you were talking about; **and**
8. By the way, DOI does not require that you have a simulcast paging, they just require that you have a paging system in place.

Steve Camlin: No they don't.

Chairman McDowell: Scott, will you speak to that from the Fire Marshall's Office.

Scott Merritt, Fire Marshall: DOI requires that departments, on a mutual aid call, they have to be dispatched. The recommended procedure throughout all the places I have been, has been a simulcast system. Steve is right, you have got so many seconds to page that department out. If that page does not go out, it is considered a missed call, and it will affect your rating.

Jeremy Jernigan: But again, the requirement is not a simulcast system. We could do an alpha-numeric system, and as long as we own that system, and that is according to the conversation I had with DOI when we were doing this.

Commissioner McKenzie: stated the following:

1. I am getting a little disappointed about this process;
2. We, as a Board, put knowledgeable people in place to advise us on the right way to go with these matters;
3. We were informed that this system was what we needed and was complete; **and**
5. Up until a few months ago, I had not heard of any of these problems.

Commissioner Byrd: After some of the monthly Fire and Rescue Association Meetings, I came back to this Board and stated that the new radio system was not working properly.

Jeremy Jernigan: I will give you some of the background as to why paging was not included, as follows:

-We could have looked at a \$250,000.00 paging solution;

-It would have been a couple of tower sites in the County that all simulcasted;

- Not every department in this County uses pagers;
- Also, we were looking at the issue of are we going to do a DHF or are we going to do a UHF paging system;
- Basically, every department in this county was going to have to invest money;
- We were looking at the cost that it would take for these departments to go out and buy this equipment;
- What I had discussed was doing regional paging and then phasing in the system;
- Paging was not deliberately left out, it was because we were trying to find a better way to skin the cat.

Vice Chairman Bullard: My question is time is slipping away from us. What is important is what do we need to do and how much will it cost?

Jeremy Jernigan: They are headed in the right direction by relocating the equipment in Lake Waccamaw in the Bolton area. There is a Verizon cell phone tower in the area that will be very beneficial.

Scott Merritt: stated the following:

1. Part of my job is to be the liaison for the twenty-five (25) fire chiefs that are in here and you guys;
2. My question is what test will be done to determine if what you are recommending works;
3. The firefighters need phone equipment that works and they can depend on;
4. Were there ever a test done to show the tower height that was needed to have adequate coverage?; **and**
5. We started with one (1) tower and now we have six (6) towers and still we do not have the adequate coverage that is needed.

Chairman McDowell: Scott, are you saying that this is happening in the areas on the maps that are yellow, red and green, or are you saying the coverage is not there as it is in other areas?

Scott Merritt: I am saying it depends on what day of the week it is. The coverage is not consistent.

Commissioner Byrd: I would like to know why you have not come to the Board with all of these complaints over the last several months.

Scott Merritt: I follow the chain of command, and that was to go to my supervisor which is Kay Worley.

Chairman McDowell: Nick, would you respond to that?

Nick Long: All the portables have a tactical channel in them that can be used to work radio to radio. The way they are supposed to be used in the fire service is the Incident Commander will talk directly to his people. They simply have to change a button. That is in all of the radios, it was covered in training, and they are not using it.

David Yergeau: When you are dealing with a fire, you can not be changing from one channel to another one. That could result in a lost firefighter.

Scott Merritt: You can not go into a house to see if you have adequate coverage and then determine if you can enter and fight the fire.

Sheriff Batten: stated the following:

1. Portables have a lot to be desired;
2. A few years ago, during the discussions of the new radio system, I recommended the 800 System that would work well for everyone for communication purposes;
3. The new system we have now is working 85% - 95% percent for law enforcement, but law enforcement is different from rescue and fire;
4. Mobile wise, the new system is somewhat better than what we had;
5. Portable wise, with the new system, you are in the same ball park or even worse; **and**
6. With equipment needs for our office, when I tell you what my department needs, the lives of these officers are in your hands.

Chairman McDowell: With the questions that we have heard, what can you tell us that can be done. We need some answers. We need immediate action.

Kay Worley: stated the following:

1. We have come up with a paging solution;
2. We are dealing with two (2) issues - paging and coverage;
3. With paging, we are looking at implementing and building a new paging system which is going to be a UHF paging system; **and**
4. Nick is able to build that system if the County decides that is the direction they want to go in.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Is it guaranteed to work?

Nick Long: It is going to work better than what we have now.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Are you going to put that in writing?

Nick Long: I can answer it this way, it is the best solution we have with what we have to work with. If you guys want 100% coverage, you guys should put out a RFP requiring that, and go with that. That would be the best.

Vice Chairman Bullard: What is the difference in the money?

Nick Long: \$1 Million.

Kay Worley: With the coverage, you have to look at each individual site. You will have to look at each individual site, and come up with a plan for that site.

Commissioner Byrd: We don't need to hear about extra charges to correct the radios, that is the radio system. Paging is not included in the contract, but the radios are.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Nick, what about the areas where there is weak coverage?

Nick Long: As stated earlier, your coverage comes from sites, and your proximity to the sites. We built the system where we were instructed to build it. Your coverage is what you see. The obvious solution would be more sites. I am not in a position to just give those up. We can look at re-locating the equipment to sites that will better serve the County. 100% Radio coverage is impossible anywhere. I don't have an instant answer. I don't feel like this is my position, as a vendor.

Commissioner Burroughs: I would suggest that you talk to your people to see what you can do to rectify the problem.

Chairman McDowell: When any of you encounter problems with this system, please let all seven (7) of the Board members know. We need to all work together. I don't think we have really solved anything here tonight. Each department needs to make a list of all the problems that you are encountering and send this list to Kay Worley, and then she will send these lists to us. We have not solved anything here tonight. Approximately thirty (30) days from now, we will have another workshop.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:26 P.M., Chairman McDowell stated the workshop was adjourned.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. Mc DOWELL, Chairman

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, April 15, 2013****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 a Public Hearing and their regularly scheduled meeting on the third Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

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

6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING - East Columbus Fire District: the purpose of the public hearing is to receive oral and written comments from interested parties.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell opened the Public Hearing and stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive oral and written comments from all interested parties on the discussion of a fire tax district request for East Columbus Fire District. Chairman McDowell requested that Michael H. Stephens, County Attorney, orally read the Policy on Comments at Public Hearings. Mr. Stephens orally read the policy in its entirety.

COMMENTS:

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

1. **Darren Currie, Lake Waccamaw Town Manager:** stated the following:
 - A. For the purpose of informing the audience, this is in regards to the request that we placed earlier for East Columbus Fire District and a tax in that district;
 - B. This is the last district in the County that does not have a fire district tax; **and**
 - C. You should have documentation about this with the requested revenue amount to be generated from this tax.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:35 P.M., there being no further comments, Commissioner Russ made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

6:35 P.M.**REGULAR SESSION**

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

Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the April 15, 2013 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 Amon E. McKenzie.

AGENDA ADD-ON:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjust the April 15, 2013 Agenda by adding the following item, and for this item to be Agenda Item #5A, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

East Columbus Fire District - Approval and Adoption of Resolution and Set Tax Levy: Darren Currie, Lake Waccamaw Town Manager, is requesting the Board to approve and adopt a Resolution that will create a fire tax district for the East Columbus Fire District, and set the tax rate at 10 cents per \$100 in property value.

(Darren Currie will be present to explain and answer any questions the Commissioners may have.)

Agenda Item #4: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman McDowell opened the floor for public input. The following spoke.

1. **Harry L. Edwards, 366 Creek Ridge, Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450:** stated the following:
 - A. I was a thirty (30) year Park Ranger there;
 - B. It is a no brainer that if we let the hydrilla take Lake Waccamaw, we give up one of the most valuable resources in the world;
 - C. It is the most bio-diversed body of fresh water on the earth; **and**
 - D. It is a valuable resource to Columbus County.

2. **Leon M. Fox, Jr., 1300 Canal Cove Road, Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450:** stated the following:
 - A. You are being asked to consider providing a \$50,000 funding match to go with a \$50,000 match approved by the Lake Waccamaw Town Council to apply toward a grant available from the State;
 - B. Many will argue that the State should step up and provide funds and leadership for all of the Hydrilla Eradication Project;
 - C. That is true and there are many who are working hard to try to make this happen;
 - D. The residents of Lake Waccamaw and the citizens of Columbus County have a stake in this as well, as do our government leaders;
 - E. Lake Waccamaw is one of Columbus County’s greatest assets and it provides an economic benefit to the County, that benefits all of Columbus County residents;
 - F. Unfortunately, the timing of the State budgeting process does not coincide with the urgent need to conduct the initial herbicide treatment needed in May;
 - G. Fortunately, the State matching grant opportunity will make that treatment possible if we are willing to make that commitment for matching funds;
 - H. The Lake Waccamaw Town Council has made that commitment and we ask that Columbus County Commissioners do the same;
 - I. There are people present here tonight that is more qualified to discuss the implications of missing or delaying this initial application;
 - J. We know for certain that the delay will allow the hydrilla to gain a better foot hold in the lake and significantly increase the cost of future treatment; **and**
 - K. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Agenda Item #5A: EAST COLUMBUS FIRE DISTRICT - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of RESOLUTION and SET TAX LEVY:

Darren Currie, Lake Waccamaw Town Manager, requested the Board to approve and adopt the following Resolution that will create a fire tax district for the East Columbus Fire District, and set the tax rate at 10 cents per \$100 in property value.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, the East Columbus Fire District has a service district established by Article 16 of Chapter 153-A of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the East Columbus Fire District has a \$0.00 tax levy at the present time; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding bonds or notes issued to finance the projects in the district as a result of the same being established pursuant to Article 16; and

WHEREAS, the East Columbus Fire District is in need for a fire tax district.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, did establish the 15th day of April, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of holding a public hearing before adopting a resolution to create a fire tax district. A copy of the Notice of Hearing stated the date, hour and place of the hearing, as well as, the subject matter, and was published at least once no less than one (1) week before the public hearing in the News Reporter, a newspaper of general publication in Columbus County, and

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of April, 2013 the Board of Commissioners met and held the public hearing for the purposes advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

The East Columbus Fire Tax District is created.

This resolution shall take effect at the beginning of fiscal year commencing on 1 July, 2013.

This Motion was made by Commissioner Prevatte, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, and passed with a six (6) to one (1) vote.

This the 15th day April, 2013.

/s/ **Charles McDowell, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners**

Attested to by:

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

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution that will create a fire tax district for the East Columbus Fire District, and set the tax rate at eight (8) cents per one hundred (\$100) dollars in property value, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie.

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

AYES: Chairman Charles T. McDowell, Vice Chairman Ricky Bullard, Commissioners Giles E. Byrd, James E. Prevatte, Trent Burroughs and Amon E. McKenzie; **and**
NAY: Commissioner P. Edwin Russ.

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

Agenda Item #6: AGING - PRESENTATION OF SELF AUDIT FINDINGS:

- Susan Shipman, Supervisor of In-Home Service, presented the findings of the self audit.
1. We found some discrepancies in one of our Case Manager's work;
 2. It was discovered that she had not been doing her visits and not doing the things she should have done;
 3. The CAP consultant came down from Raleigh and checked our records and advised us to do a self audit;
 4. She turned us into Program Integrity and they advised us to do a self audit;
 5. After some legal advise from an attorney in Raleigh and Program Integrity, we were advised to audit her case management that she was supposed to have done from January 01, 2012 until December 31, 2012, and the total amount of her case management is \$68,406.05;
 6. We were advised to give this amount back to the State; **and**
 7. That will pay back all the case management that she was supposed to have done and we can not prove that she done.

Chairman McDowell: Do you think this figure is inclusive of all the money that we owe to the State and will stand?

Susan Shipman: This came directly off of our RA's of all of her clients from January 01, 2012 through December 31, 2012, which is forty-one (41) clients.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Was she employed after December 31, 2012?

Susan Shipman: She resigned in January, 2013, and that is when we discovered the discrepancies.

Commissioner Byrd: She didn't do any of the forty-one (41)?

Susan Shipman: She didn't do the visits. She did documentation but she did not sign it. If you don't sign it, it is not considered done. You have to have a written signature on this paper.

Commissioner Byrd: Are there any repercussion for her?

Susan Shipman: We hope so.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Who is her supervisor?

Susan Shipman: I am.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Did you not check the paperwork to see if it was signed.

Susan Shipman: No, I did not. That is the QA's job. I don't do QA. I sign off on her work and everything that I approved was there when I signed it, and I don't know what she did it with after that.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Did you ask the QA person why she did not check the paperwork?

Susan Shipman: She doesn't work directly under me.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Who does she work under?

Susan Shipman: She works for Mr. Worley directly.

Ed Worley: The QA person's time is limited, and what she does is she takes a sample of each one of the Case Managers, and she has payroll to look after also. We're hoping one day to get her to do QA work only.

Chairman McDowell: Is it appropriate and legal for her to only do a sampling instead of only one?

Commissioner Prevatte: Did she sample any of these cases?

Susan Shipman: This girl has not been checked since 2011.

Commissioner Prevatte: Do we have a legal recourse to bring prosecution against this person for fraud?

Mike Stephens: replied stating the following:

1. The State did allow us to self audit ourself, and accepted our findings in the case;
2. That does not preclude the State from getting the Attorney General's Fraud Section involved and the Medicare fraud, and further investigating this;
3. They have not said, at this point, whether the Attorney General's Office is going to pursue it or if we are going to have to do it on the local level; **and**
4. We are waiting to hear.

Vice Chairman McDowell: How much time it will take before we know?

Mike Stephens: Probably within the next thirty (30) days.

Susan Shipman: We have requested that they take this payment from future payments.

Vice Chairman Bullard: I am concerned about the QA not being done. Somebody is not doing their work and that is the reason these things keep happening. What is being done about it?

Ed Worley: We have a system in place where all the paperwork goes across Ms. Shipman's desk.

Chairman McDowell: When did that go into effect?

Ed Worley: It went into effect February 01, 2013.

Vice Chairman Bullard: If you are signing off on all the paperwork, what is the QA person doing?

Susan Shipman: She is still doing random checks.

Commissioner Burroughs: Somebody dropped the ball.

Susan Shipman: We have 193 CAP clients. We do not have time to go behind and check all of these people.

After additional discussion was conducted, Chairman McDowell requested that William S. Clark, County Manager, to meet with Ed Worley and Susan Shipman to come up with a better way to make sure that what is suppose to take place is indeed taking place, and present this information back to us at the May 06, 2013 Board Meeting:

MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to proceed with possible litigation with this case locally if the Attorney General's Office does not, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #7: COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET - APPROVAL of LEASE ADDENDUM:

Kipling Godwin, Marketing Consultant, Community Farmers Market, requested Board approval of the following Lease Addendum to the Lease between Columbus County and Columbus County Community Farmers Market, Incorporated that was entered into on April 21, 2003.

**STATED OF NORTH CAROLINA
COLUMBUS COUNTY**

LEASE ADDENDUM

THIS ADDENDUM, made and entered into this 15th day of April, 2013, by and between **COLUMBUS COUNTY**, the Lessor, and **COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET, INC.**, the Lessee.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus agreed to lease a certain parcel of land to the Lessee as outlined in a Lease made and entered into on April 21, 2003.

AND WHEREAS, said Lease was for a seven (7) year period renewable for three (30) additional years expiring on May 1, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, CONTRACTED, and AGREED for and in consideration of the promises and covenants which are to be preformed by the various parties of the original LEASE agreement that LEASE is hereby extended for an additional ten (10) year term expiring on May 1, 2023. All provisions of the original LEASE shall remain in effect any may be extended or renewed by mutual agreement of the various parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hand and seal, in duplicate originals, as appears above.

COLUMBUS COUNTY

by: **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET, INC.

By: _____
_____ Corporate Secretary

Kipling Godwin stated the following:

1. We have invested over \$300,000.00 through grant money on the property;
2. We have a wonderful 120' x 60' covered shelter;
3. A couple of years ago, we received a \$150,000 grant from the Tobacco Trust Fund to build a commercial kitchen on the property and we got a commercial honey extractor;
4. This is good for the community and the farmers;
5. Since 2002, farmers markets have grown in popularity; **and**
6. Our Lease expires May 01, 2013, and we are requesting approval of this Lease Addendum which extends the Lease for an additional ten (10) years.

After a brief discussion of the original Lease being antiquated and in need of several terminology changes, it was the general consensus for a new lease to be prepared and presented at the May 06, 2013 Board Meeting.

Agenda Item #8: HYDRILLA WEED ERADICATION - APPROVAL of \$50,000 ALLOCATION:

Stephen Smith, Lake Waccamaw resident, requested Board approval of a \$50,000 county match for the Lake Waccamaw Weed Control Fund. **(Resolution to be approved to apply)**

Mr. Smith stated the following:

1. I am here as a citizen and also the chairperson of the Resource Development for the Hydrilla Task Force;
2. Discovery has been made of hydrilla in Lake Waccamaw;
3. There is \$100,000 available through the North Carolina Division of Environmental and Natural Resource, Aquatic Weed Program, in this fiscal year;
4. It does require a dollar for dollar match;
5. The Town of Lake Waccamaw did vote unanimously to donate \$50,000 and we hope that you will do the same;
6. An environmental assessment has been done;

7. The Hydrilla Task Force has been in constant contact with our legislative delegation;
8. The initial treatment in May, 2013 is very important in the control of the hydrilla, and as you know the budgets will not be passed, on any level, until July at the earliest;
9. Today, Rob Inmans has waived their requirement for any resolution from the town or the county;
10. I am requesting that you consider a \$50,000 match, combined with the Town of Lake Waccamaw, that will provide \$200,000;
11. The estimate is \$450,000 per year for the long-term treatment; **and**
12. The Hydrilla Task Force is recommending herbicide because of the unique nature of Lake Waccamaw, Sonar One by SePro.

Toby Hall, Lake Waccamaw State Park Superintendent, presented a slide presentation on an Overview of Hydrilla in Lake Waccamaw and Management Options, and stated the following:

1. Lake Waccamaw is very unique and has extensive bio-diversity;
2. The Lake Waccamaw State Park is threatened if hydrilla destroys the lake;
3. A large group of scientists have been meeting for months to come up with the best method of treatment for this infestation of hydrilla;
4. The treatment is very expensive and will cost \$450,000 per year for 7 years;
5. Sonar Flouridone by SePro is the herbicide that we are recommending for the initial treatment in May;
6. Once the hydrilla is under control, it is very important to develop a plan for control; **and**
7. The poison of the hydrilla plant will kill birds.

Dr. Randy Westbrook: stated the following on prevention:

1. It is very important to educate the public about methods of prevention;
2. You need to think about what we can do to prevent this from happening again;
3. Educating the boaters as to how to clean their boats before entry and after exit; **and**
4. After eradication of hydrilla, you need to start a monitoring program.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the \$50,000 county match for the Lake Waccamaw Weed Control Fund, a one (1) time allocation, to be taken from the Fund Balance, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: PROCLAMATION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH:

Randy Norris, President, Columbus County Concerned Bikers Association (CBA), requested Board approval and adoption of the following Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month Proclamation, May 2013.

**MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH
PROCLAMATION
MAY 2013**

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

WHEREAS, North Carolina has over one hundred forty-two thousand (196,000) registered motorcycles and over two hundred sixty thousand (260,000) licensed drivers who have either a motorcycle endorsement or a motorcycle learner's permit; **and**

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

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

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

LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE

; and

WHEREAS, Motorcycle Awareness Month is designed to increase public awareness about motorcycles and to encourage their safe and proper use among motorcycle riders.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2013 as **“MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH”** in Columbus County, and urge all citizens to commend its observance.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve and adopt the Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month Proclamation, May 2013, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #10: PROCLAMATION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of LOYALTY DAY PROCLAMATION:

Angela S. Norris, President of Ladies Auxiliary, VFW Post, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Loyalty Day Proclamation, May 01, 2013.

**LOYALTY DAY PROCLAMATION
MAY 01, 2013**

WHEREAS, Loyalty Day was first observed in 1921 as “Americanization Day”: to counterbalance Labor Day on May Day (May1), celebrated in other parts of the world; **and**

WHEREAS, on May 01, 1930, about 120,000 Veterans of Foreign War members staged a rally at New York’s Union Square to promote patriotism; **and**

WHEREAS, through a resolution adopted in 1949, May 01 evolved into Loyalty Day; **and**

WHEREAS, observances began on April 28, 1950, and climaxed on May 01 when more than five million people across the nation held rallies; **and**

WHEREAS, on July 18, 1958, the Congress designated May 01 of each year as Loyalty Day (Public Law 85-529) to foster loyalty and love of the country; **and**

WHEREAS, Loyalty Day is a special day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American Freedom; **and**

- WHEREAS**, the President is requested to issue a proclamation -
- (1) calling on United States Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on Loyalty Day; **and**
 - (2) inviting the people of the United States to observe Loyalty day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and other suitable places.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, proclaim May 01 as Loyalty Day in Columbus County for 2013 and in all pursuing years.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve and adopt the Loyalty Day Proclamation, May 01, 2013, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda #11: PROCLAMATION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION:

Melinda Lane requested Board approval and adoption of the following Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity, and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets; **and**

WHEREAS, all children deserve to have the safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities they need to foster their healthy growth and development; **and**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community; **and**

WHEREAS, communities that provide parents with the social support, knowledge of parenting and child development and concrete resources they need to cope with stress and nurture their children ensure all children grow to their full potential; **and**

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community.

THEREFORE, I do proclaim **April** as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Signature: **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

Date: **April 15, 2013**

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: ADMINISTRATION - PROPOSED GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE:

Tracy McCarty, Mark III Brokerage, Incorporated, presented the following information on the renewal of the proposed group health insurance for Columbus County.

Medical Plan Renewal:

1. For the past several years, the medical plan has run poorly;
2. The past 12 months have been a loss position for UHC (105% loss ratio);
3. As a result, UHC delivered a 28% increase for the 2013-2014 plan year; **and**
4. Given this, we bid the plan.

We Requested Quotes from:

Aetna, BCBSNC, CIGNA, First Health of the Carolinas, United Healthcare and Wellpath.

Recommendation:

The recommendation is for the County to select CIGNA as the medical plan insurer and to retain the current plan structure.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to accept CIGNA as the medical plan insurer and to retain the current plan structure, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ESTABLISHMENT of DATE and TIME for PUBLIC HEARING:

Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested the Board to establish a date and time for a public hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for Ply Gem Industries.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to establish May 06, 2013, at 6:30 P.M., as the date and time to conduct a public hearing to consider an Economic Development Incentive Grant for Ply Gem Industries, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #14: PLANNING - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of COLUMBUS COUNTY ELECTRONIC GAMING OPERATIONS ORDINANCE:

Robert Lewis, County Planner, requested Board approval and adoption of the Columbus County Electronic Gaming Operations Ordinance, on its second reading. (This item was tabled at the April 01, 2013 Meeting.)

Mr. Lewis stated the following:

1. I have talked with the attorney at the School of Government, and other county planners, and all the information that I have received regarding counties is they don't have the authority to tax or have privilege license imposed on these operations;
2. I know that House Bill 547 is out there now and I think this is something that needs to be taken into consideration; **and**
3. Our Ordinance is similar to that bill, but it is not exactly like it, verbatim.

Michael Stephens, County Attorney, stated he recommended that no action be taken on this item at this time. House Bill 547 will dictate a lot of what we need to do.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to table the Columbus County Electronic Gaming Operations Ordinance until the results are discovered on House Bill 547, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed. The contents of this document may be found in the minutes of the April 01, 2013 Board Meeting.

Agenda Item #15: SOCIAL SERVICES - ADMINISTRATIVE MONTHLY UPDATE:

Algernon McKenzie, Social Services Director, presented the following Administrative Monthly Update.

Service Month: March 2012

Monthly agency staff meetings are held with staff and supervisors. \$254.00 Were presented to the Department of Aging from DSS Dress Downs.

The 2013-2014 Agency Budget has been completed and will be reviewed in April with the County Manager.

The Day Care unit was able to avoid termination of 64 families due to the Division of Child Development and Early Education doing a third reversion of funds from under-spending counties. They have promised to cover what we lack after the recoding. I also contacted the local Partnership for Children and Mr. Wilber Smith contacted me on March 27, 2013. They had \$4,100.00 to offer and I gladly accepted. We thank those Day Care Providers and local representatives who were concerned for the children and families and made phone calls.

We have begun to attend planning meetings for Medicaid and Case Assistance which are being added to the NCFAS System. We have also begun to evaluate our bandwidth capacity. It appears we may have to double what we have, currently 10 megs to 32; based on a total of 81 users.

Economic Services (monthly numbers)

Food & Nutrition	Number		Adult Medicaid	Number
Active Cases	6,062		Applications Taken	199
Benefits Issued	\$1,527,385		Individuals Receiving	5,692
Participants Served	13,270		Cases Terminated	66
Family & Children's Medicaid	Number		Child Support	Number
Applications	333		Absent parents Located	70
Individuals Receiving	10,211		Orders Enforced	837
Applications Processed	325		Active Cases	4,599
			Collections	\$544,927.14

Human Services (monthly numbers)

Adult Services (APS)	Number		Children's Protective Services (CPS)
APS Reports Accepted	10		Reports Accepted
County Wards	19		Reports Screened Out
Adults Served via Guardianship	8		Families Receiving In-Home Services
Adults Served APS	19		Children Served
# of Medicaid Transportation Trips	Not Avail		Contacts with Families Monthly
Amt Requested for Reimbursement	Not Avail		Assessments
Foster Care	Number		Work First Employment (TANF)
Foster Children in Foster Homes	52		Applications Taken
Children Placed Outside County	9		Applications Approved
Agency Adoptions	6		Individuals Receiving Benefits
Pending Adoptions	6		Entered Employment
Total Foster Homes Licensed	18		Number in Non-Paid Work Experience
Program Integrity	Number		Day Care
Collections for Fraud	\$13,491.95		Children Receiving Day Care Assistance
New Referrals	24		Children on the Waiting List
Cases Established	9		Amt Spent on Day Care Services

Economic Services Program Narrative

Food and Nutrition Program
 Family and Children's Medicaid
 Work First Family Assistance/Cash/Medicaid Transportation & Supportive Services
 Medicaid for the Aged and Disabled/Rest Home and Nursing Home/
 Community Alternatives Program(CAP)
 Child Support

Submitted by Cyndi Hammonds
 Income Maintenance Administrator
 Reporting Month: March 2013

News/Updates/Vacancies

Food and Nutrition Unit

NC FAST in Food and Nutrition continues to move forward slowly. The system continues to have glitches but has improved and we remain in contact with the Help Desk on a daily basis to assist us with issues on cases such as benefits not paying out correctly or not posting on the participant's EBT card.

The State Office has developed an online application to be submitted electronically from the public effective April 21, 2013. This will allow anyone wishing to apply for Food and Nutrition Benefits to make the application from a computer near them and never have to come to DSS to wait and see a worker.

Family and Children's Medicaid

This unit is fully staffed now with 3 in training. Workers in Family and Children's Medicaid are continuing to prepare for the NC FAST system to be implemented later this year. They are aligning certification periods with families that are also receiving Food and Nutrition which will in turn allow a family on more than one program at the agency to only have to report and give updates all at the same time. Our monthly report card shows we passed all compliance categories.

Work First Family Assistance/Cash//Medicaid Transportation & Supportive Services

Work First Family Assistance/Cash is also gearing up for the implementation of the NC FAST program later this year. Our monthly report card also showed we passed all compliance categories.

Medicaid Transportation is still awaiting a decision from the State Office as to whether these services will be placed out with a vendor or stay with the agency; which will be a statewide decision. This unit continues to work with Columbus County Transportation and other vendors to get recipients to their medical appointments. The interpreter is also assisting with some of these duties due to the overwhelming need for transportation.

Medicaid for the Aged, Blind and Disabled/Rest Home and Nursing Home/CAP

The Adult Medicaid Unit has one vacancy and three that have recently been hired and are in training. They are also gearing up for the implementation of the NC FAST program by aligning certification periods with anyone receiving in Food and Nutrition and the Family and Children's Medicaid Program. They have participated in webinars and questionnaires from the Work Support Strategy committee in preparation for NC FAST. Adult Medicaid also passed all compliance categories on their monthly report card.

Child Support

Sally McDonald, our State Child Support Representative made her monthly visit on April 17th and reviewed updates to Child Support policy and completed several 2nd party reviews on randomly pulled cases and all passed compliance. One of the supervisors also assisted another county in collecting a one time \$10,000.00 child support payment. Child Support currently has 3 workers in training but is fully staffed.

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD REPORT

Children's Protective Services/Intake/Investigation/Assessment

Children's Protective Services/In-Home Services

Children's Protective Services/Foster Care/Adoptions

Adult Services

Work First Employment

Child Day Care

Program Integrity

Melinda H. Lane, Program Manager

Vacancies/Updates/News for March 2013**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!!!**

The Children's Protective Services Units along with the Community Child Protection Team are making plans for the Annual Child Abuse Prevention Memorial Service scheduled at Columbus County Department of Social Services for April 24, 2013 at 9:30 am.

Intake/Investigation/Assessment:

The Intake/Investigation/Assessment Unit continues to be short-staffed due to the recent retirement of the Lead Social Worker. Possible candidates are being considered. The Social Worker that was on medical leave due to surgery continues to be on limited duty. The In-Home Services and Foster Care/Adoptions Units continue to assist when needed.

In-Home Services:

The In-Home Services Unit is now short-staffed due to a recent voluntary demotion.

Foster Care/Adoptions:

The Foster Care/Adoptions Unit is looking forward to the beginning of a new Model Approach to Partnership and Parenting (MAPP) class for prospective foster parents scheduled to begin April 13th.

Adult Services:

The Adult Services Unit is currently short-staffed due to a recent voluntary demotion.

Work First Employment:

The Work First Employment Unit is pleased with the Family Participation Rate of 40.82%.

Child Day Care:

The Day Care Unit is now fully staffed. Due to budget constraints the Day Care Unit was making plans to decrease the number of children receiving day care assistance. However, due to state reversions and re-coding, these cuts did not have to take place.

Program Integrity:

None.

Agenda Item #16: RESOLUTION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 321 - CONTAIN COUNTIES' INMATE MEDICAL COST:

Sheriff Batten requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 321 - Contain Counties' Inmate Medical Costs.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 321 - CONTAIN COUNTIES' INMATE MEDICAL COSTS

WHEREAS, Counties are responsible for medical costs when inmates are incarcerated in county jails, and counties often pay full, non-negotiated rates for inmate medical care, resulting in great expense to counties; **and**

WHEREAS, State reimbursement rates have been capped in recent state budget provisions, and Columbus County seeks the same cap on inmate medical expenses to save taxpayer dollars on these costs; **and**

WHEREAS, it has been a goal of Columbus County to seek legislation that would authorize medical care providers to charge counties for inmate medical services at a rate not to exceed the

rates paid by the State Department of Public Safety to inmate medical providers; **and**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 321 would put County jail inmate costs processes on par with that afforded to State prisons by limiting County reimbursements to medical providers and facilities for jail inmate treatment to the lesser of seventy (70%) percent of the provider's prevailing charge or twice the Medicaid rate; **and**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 321 would also allow counties to amend their medical care plans to allow for Medicaid reimbursement for those inmates deemed eligible for Medicaid and receiving inpatient hospitalization services; **and**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 321 was co-sponsored by Senators Davis, Newton and Goolsby, and will be considered by the Senate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners urges the North Carolina General Assembly to grant relief to counties from medical costs for inmates by enacting Senate Bill 321.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

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

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 321 - Contain Counties' Inmate Medical Costs, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #17: RESOLUTION - APPROVAL and ADOPTION of RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REQUEST by NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH to RE-INSTATE PRAYER in PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Pastor Cory M. Lyons, New Beginnings Baptist Church, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Resolution Supporting Request by New Beginnings Baptist Church to Re-Instate Prayer in Public Schools.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REQUEST by
NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
to RE-INSTATE PRAYER in PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, Columbus County is large in size and has a small population in comparison to its size; **and**

WHEREAS, a large number of churches are located within Columbus County and many of these churches are voicing their request to have prayer re-instated in our public school system; **and**

WHEREAS, we have received a request from New Beginnings Baptist Church to support their request to have prayer re-instated in our public school system; **and**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do support the request by New Beginnings Baptist Church to re-instate prayer in our public school system.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman
ATTESTED BY:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

After discussion was conducted, the following **revised** Resolution Supporting Request by new Beginnings Baptist Church for Support of Prayer in Public Schools was presented for approval and adoption.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REQUEST by
NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
for Support of PRAYER in PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, Columbus County is large in size and has a small population in comparison to its size; **and**

WHEREAS, a large number of churches are located within Columbus County and many of these churches are voicing their support of prayer in our public school systems; **and**

WHEREAS, we have received a request from New Beginnings Baptist Church to support prayer in our public school systems; **and**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do support the request by New Beginnings Baptist Church to support prayer in our public school systems.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this the 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
/s/ **CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman**

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

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution Supporting Request by New Beginnings Baptist Church for Support of Prayer in Public Schools, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #18. TRAVEL and TOURISM - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE: Jennifer Holcomb, Travel and Tourism Director, will deliver a departmental update to the Board.

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to table the Travel and Tourism Departmental Update, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #19: APPOINTMENTS//RE-APPOINTMENTS/REPLACEMENTS to BOARDS:

June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board, requested the following appointments/re-appointments/replacements be made.

COMMITTEE	DISTRICT /EB	PERSON(S)	EXPIRE DATE	BOARD ACTION
Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee	VII	Dean Gore	06/30/2013	J.D. Gore
Nursing/Adult Care Home Joint Community Advisory Comm.	EB	Betty Goodman (Resigned)	12/01/2014	Judith Ball
Motion: Commissioner Prevatte Second: Commissioner Byrd	EB	Kathryn Burch	03-19-2013	HOLD

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

At 7:58 P.M., Commissioner McKenzie 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 Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **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 all water districts respectively.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 1 for all water districts respectively.

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

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #22: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

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

A. Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditures	10-4960-549840	Beaver Bounty Program	9,000
	10-9999-999999	Contingency	(7,100)
Revenues	10-3496-421020	Beaver Bounty Program Revenues	1,900
Expenditures	10-4170-550055	HAVA Title I Grant	6,838
Revenues	10-3417-433055	HAVA Title I Grant	6,838

B. Tax Releases:

<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$251.84
Bellamy, Beulah A.	PROPERTY: 60889	Total:	\$494.56
Value: \$30,900.00	Year: 2012	Account: 11-02325	Bill#: 99774
Release value. Should have gotten full veterans exemption. Left off in error. Release Hallsboro Fire(18.54), release Columbus Rescue(6.18)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$63.46
Bright, Donald Keith	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$75.47
Value: \$803.00	Year: 06-12	Account: 11-00821	Bill#: 99999
Release value of 1997 jet ski for yrs 06-12. Sold 2004. Release Hallsboro Fire(4.73), release Whiteville Rescue(1.57) release late list(5.71)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$511.01

Campbell, Lonzay (Jr)	PROPERTY: 85929	Total:	\$829.33
Value: \$62,700.00 Year: 2012 Account: 13-06620		Bill#:	3792
Release value of mobile. Repoed 2011. Release Klondyke Fire(43.89), release Columbus Rescue(12.54), release Water District II(43.89)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$76.53
Clewis, James & Tammy	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$311.48
Value: \$9,390.00 Year: 2012 Account: 01-04894		Bill#:	5251
Release value of mobile home. DBL Act#01-04807. James Clewis. Release Klondyke Fire(6.57), release Whiteville Rescue(1.88) release late list (8.50)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$7.34
Gore, Thurston Carroll	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$9.26
Value: \$900.00 Year: 2012 Account: 01-00937		Bill#:	13757
Release value of 1982 16' Bass Tracker. Sold in 2011. Release Whiteville Rescue(.18), release Water District III(.99), release late list(.75)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$70.13
Harrelson, Wayne	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$86.61
Value: \$1,379.00 Year: 08-12 Account: 01-03526		Bill#:	99999
Release value of 1989 19' boat. Scrapped in Dec. 2007. Release Welches Creek(6.88), release Whiteville Rescue(1.73) release late list (7.87)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$8.15
Johnson, Jack	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$9.15
Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2012 Account: 14-03917		Bill#:	19868
Release value of 2005 16' Wuce boat. Sold in 2011 to Steven Sellers act# 09-04901. Release Welches Creek (.80), release Whiteville Rescue(.20)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$8.15
Jordan, Leotha s.	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$9.89
Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2012 Account: 05-03263		Bill#:	20476
Release value of farm equipment. Sold to Alex Jordan. Act#5-03252. Release Whiteville Rescue(.20) release Water District II(.70), release late list(.84)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$8.15
King, Lyle R (ETAL)	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$228.07
Value: \$1,000.00 Year: 2012 Account: 03-12550		Bill#:	21018
Release value of MH. Burned in 2011. Release Old Dock Fire(.80), release Columbus Rescue(.20) release late list (.92)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Thigpen, Theresa	PROPERTY: 93605	Total:	\$6.14
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 11-04611		Bill#:	39382
Release. Discount error. Release Hallsboro Fire (4.16), release Columbus Rescue(1.98)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Wilson, Georgie	PROPERTY: 4559	Total:	\$15.82
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 01-05571		Bill#:	44715
Release 2% discount. Error. Release Water District III (15.82)			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Brown, Jean V.	PROPERTY: 077550	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 11-04021		Bill#:	2078
Release user fee. Vacant. Can picked up 11-29-07			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Doby, Elaine R. (Heirs)	PROPERTY: 11831	Total:	\$10.33
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 06-04751		Bill#:	7930
Release 2% discount. Error.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Long, John Delbert & Betty Jo	PROPERTY: 13396	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 07-10740		Bill#:	22888
Release user fee. Dwelling vacant.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Nobles, Sabrina E.	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 13-01325		Bill#:	28210
Release user fee.			
<i>User Fee</i>		Amount:	\$0.00
Orr, Kenneth K. & Pamela Sue	PROPERTY: 13731	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00 Year: 2012 Account: 07-04415		Bill#:	28796

Release user fee. No can. Can picked up 3-31-05

<i>User Fee</i>	Amount:	\$0.00
Ray, Ervin Woodrow	Total:	\$218.00
Value: \$0.00	Bill#:	31569
Year: 2012		
Account: 09-03564		

Release user fee. Can picked up 9/22/08. Dwelling vacant.

<i>User Fee</i>	Amount:	\$0.00
Simmons, Durk	Total:	\$220.00
Value: \$0.00	Bill#:	34752
Year: 2012		
Account: 09-05567		

Release user fee. MH vacant. Without a can. Release Columbus Rescue(2.00)

<i>User Fee</i>	Amount:	\$0.00
Sinkler, Lennon (Heirs)	Total:	\$223.00
Value: \$0.00	Bill#:	60438
Year: 2011		
Account: 11-24560		

Release user fee. Vacant and unliveable.

<i>User Fee</i>	Amount:	\$0.00
Ward, Kenneth	Total:	\$441.00
Value: \$0.00	Bill#:	99999
Year: 11-12		
Account: 03-03503		

Release user fees. Vacant and no power.

Agenda Item #23: COMMENTS:

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

A. Department Heads:

1. **Kimberly Smith, Health Director:** stated the following:
 - A. For the people going to China, please make sure that you wash your hands frequently, there is an advisory for the Bird Flu that is going on over there; **and**
 - B. I would like to thank Tony and his crew, Julie Strickland and her group and Stuart Carroll in the removal of a large tree that blew over in the parking lot.
2. **Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director:** stated the second set of shots is going on this week for the people who is going to China.
3. **Edward Davis, Soil and Water Conservation Director:** I have an updated copy of the Beaver Bounty Program that I would like to hand out after the meeting.

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Commissioner Prevatte:** stated the following:
 - A. It looks good to see fewer tax releases and adjustments to the water bills; **and**
 - B. Gary, I don't know how the sweet potato company got away and went to Robeson County.
 - C. **Commissioner Burroughs:** The NC Institute of Constitutional Laws sent me a pocket-size copy of the Constitution and I appreciate that.
 - D. **Vice Chairman Bullard:** I am glad to see Kroy coming to Fair Bluff.
 - E. **Chairman McDowell:** this information came to me later than I would like, but I am recommending that we approve and adopt the following National Day of Prayer 2013 Proclamation.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 2013
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, our nation was founded on a firm and faithful bedrock, by men who turned to their God for guidance through prayer, and prayerful reverence has since sustained our society and guided our government; **and**

WHEREAS, in 1775, the Continental Congress designated a *National Day of Prayer*, an action reaffirmed in 1952, when the United States Congress designated the first Thursday in May as an annual *National Day of Prayer*, **and**

WHEREAS, in these trying times, when the world is so unsettled and when so many brave citizens of Columbus County, and the United States, are far from home, making great sacrifices for those abroad, and for those here at home, prayer becomes all the more meaningful and important; **and**

WHEREAS, *National Day of Prayer* is an opportunity for Americans, of all faiths, to join in united prayer to acknowledge our dependence on God, to give thanks for blessings received, to request healing for wounds endured, and to ask God to guide our leaders and bring wholeness to the United States and her citizens; **and**

WHEREAS, at a time in our nations's history, when the power of prayer is needed more than ever, it is appropriate that we publicly demonstrate our faith in the power of divine intercession; **and**

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to give thanks to God by observing a day of prayer in the County of Columbus, when all may acknowledge our blessings and express gratitude for them, while recognizing the need for strengthening religious and moral values in our county, state and nation; **and**

WHEREAS, this year marks the 62nd annual *National Day of Prayer* with this year's theme, "*America, Honor God*".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim **May 2, 2013**, as

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

in our county, and urge all citizens to observe this day by joining members of all faiths and creeds, all over our nation, in seeking divine guidance for ourselves, our leaders, and our country, and to reaffirm the fact that we are truly one nation, indivisible, under God.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of April, 2013.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/**CHARLES T. McDOWELL**, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

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

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve and adopt the National Day of Prayer 2013 Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #24: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:05 P.M., Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL, Chairman

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

Monday, April 15, 2013

7:58 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:

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

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 7:58 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**).

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District I.

DISTRICT I ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2013

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/2013	404945.00.92	Connie Stepehns	(\$25)	Posting Error
3/22/2013	200365.00.98	David Harrelson	\$41	Posting Error

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/22/2013	200360.00.98	Donald Harrelson	(\$46)	Posting Error
3/14/2013	203930.00.96	Coward McClure	50	Meter Tampering Fee
3/11/2013	402470.00.98	Lavern Gaskin	(\$204)	Customer Leak
3/8/2013	401090.00.98	Jonathan Cox`	(\$62)	Customer Leak
3/8/2013	403380.00.98	Dalane Kitchens	(\$20)	Customer Leak
3/8/2013	208520.00.98	Billy Prince	(\$108)	Customer Leak

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District I, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL Chairman

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

Monday, April 15, 2013

7:58 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:

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

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 7:58 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**).

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

DISTRICT II ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2013

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/2013	111727.00.97	Nice Blends	\$277	Return Bank Draft
3/7/2013	111727.00.97	Nice Blends	\$50	2 Returned Bank Draft Fees

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/2013	140331.00.98	Mandy Rawls	\$25	Service Call
3/18/2013	131649.00.98	Karen Williamson	(\$32)	Customer Leak
3/11/2013	131939.00.97	Leroy Williamson	(\$12)	Customer Leak

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL Chairman

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

Monday, April 15, 2013

7:58 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:

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

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 7:58 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**).

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District III.

DISTRICT III ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2013

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/25/2013	331635.00.98	Col School Headstart Annex	(\$854)	Customer Leak

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/11/2013	380560.00.98	Mary Geroge	(\$123)	Customer Leak

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL Chairman

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

Monday, April 15, 2013

7:58 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:

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

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 7:58 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**).

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV.

DISTRICT IV ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2013

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/13	430304.00.98	David Elkins	(\$26)	Billing Error

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/12/2013	430410.00.98	Keith Garrell	(\$177)	Customer leak

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL Chairman

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

Monday, April 15, 2013

7:58 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:

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

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 7:58 P.M., Chairman Charles T. McDowell called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

April 01, 2013 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**).

Vice Chairman Bullard made a motion to approve the April 01, 2013 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of ADJUSTMENTS to MARCH, 2013 MONTHLY WATER BILLS:

Kip McClary, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval of the following adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V.

DISTRICT V ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2013

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/2013	800505.00.98	Ethel Armakovitch	(\$244)	Customer Leak
3/7/2013	709068.00.98	Vernell Jordan	(\$37)	Posting Errot

DATE	ACCT #	ACCT NAME	ADJ AMT	REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT
3/7/2013	800485.00.98	Needom Hughes IV	(\$252)	Customer Leak

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve the adjustments to the March, 2013 monthly water bills for Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

CHARLES T. McDOWELL Chairman