

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, November 20, 2017****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, it being the third Monday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

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

6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Sanitation, Health and Public Nuisances, -and- Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles: the purpose of this Public Hearing to receive oral and written comments from the public.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED to ORDER:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the Public Hearing to order and stated the Public Hearing is for an Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Sanitation, Health and Public Nuisances, -and- Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to receive oral and written comments from the public.

READING of POLICY:

Chairman Prevatte requested that Michael H. Stephens, County Attorney / Manager, orally read the Policy on Comments at Public Hearings. Mr. Stephens orally read the policy in its entirety.

COMMENTS:

Chairman Prevatte opened the floor for oral and written comments. The following spoke.

1. **Gary Lanier, Economic Development/Planning Director:** stated the following:
 - I appreciate the opportunity to have a public hearing on this;
 - We have consistently been getting telephone calls from citizens throughout our county with regard to junk and abandoned vehicles and people living beside them or in their yard, it lowers their property values;
 - We are only one of the few counties in the area that has not put a junk and abandoned vehicle ordinance in place to help protect the rights and property values for the citizens, as well as a nuisance; **and**
 - When people complain, we need some mechanism in place to address those complaints.
2. **Commissioner Giles E. Byrd:** Don't we already have something in place to address this issue, and you want to strengthen it?
Gary Lanier: We have a Land Use Regulation Ordinance in place but it does not address types of particulars that these Ordinances do.
3. **Robert Eugene Adams, 233 Mt. Calvary Road, Clarkton, NC 28433:** stated the following:
 - As you all know, I have a large family, many grandchildren and many great grandchildren;
 - There are many vehicles involved when they tear up or break down with them, and I have six (6) vehicles of my own;
 - Does this ordinance interfere with my business?
 - That is what bothers me, when the County starts interfering with my business;

- It needs to be explained in detail so people will know what it is;
- People build classic cars in this County; **and**
- Who decides when the car is considered junk?

4. **Chairman James E. Prevatte:** stated the following:
 - I had concerns in the Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Abandoned, Nuisance, and Juked Motor Vehicles, on Page 5, Section 8. Removal of vehicles, Post towing notice requirements, and I have requested that to be amended, and on Page 7, Section 14. Exceptions, B, and I have requested that to be amended.
5. **Person in Audience:** stated the following:
 - How many feet off the road does it have to be in order not to be considered a nuisance?; **and**
 - I have junk cars in the back of a field and in the front of my house.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:48 P.M., Commissioner Russ made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

**6:48 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION**

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

At 6:48 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the November 20, 2017 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Ricky Bullard. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie.

**Agenda Item #4: PRESENTATION - RETIREMENT PLAQUE:
Hilda J. Memory - 10-13-1997 - 10-20-17**

Due to illness, Ms. Memory could not attend, and this plaque will be presented at a later date.

Agenda Item #5: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve the October 30, 2017 Historic Courthouse Workshop Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Regular Session Minutes, with correction on Page 29, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #6: PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman Prevatte opened the floor for Public Input. No Public Input was received either orally or written.

Agenda Item #7: PRESENTATION - RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CONSOLIDATION of SCHOOL SYSTEMS:

Senator Danny Britt and Representative Brenden Jones presented the following recommendations regarding the consolidation of the Columbus County school systems.

Senator Danny Britt: stated the following:

1. Thank you for reaching out to myself and Representative Jones for input in this matter;
2. We are dealing with a very sensitive issue and important matter;
3. After much work and consideration, Mr. Jones and I have both consulted with the General Assembly Research staff;
4. I have an e-mail from Mark Twotter, who is the director of the Physical Research Commission;

5. In that e-mail forwarded to the Commissioners, essentially what it says is they do not have the resources to conduct an in-depth study;
6. At the last meeting you held, you made a motion for an in-depth study to be done by the Legislative members, and then move forward with what we need to do for merger;
7. First, the motion was flawed legally in that we do not have statutory authority to move forward with merger;
8. Merger and the authority to merge rest solely with the County Commissioners;
9. If N.C.G.S. §115C-68.1 was consulted, that would be apparent that statutory authority does not rest with legislative members and does not rest with the General Assembly, it rests solely with the County Commissioners;
10. What you did at the last meeting, did make sense, you did recognize that an in-depth study needed to be done prior to making this decision; **and**
11. We have also consulted with the North Carolina School Board Association, and Dr. Dunlap recommends that his recommendations are essentially the same that we have recommended.

Representative Brenden Jones: stated the following:

1. We have done a lot of leg work the past few weeks;
2. We feel like we have found something that will work;
3. After meeting several times and discussing this the past few weeks, Senator Britt and I bring the following recommendation to this body:
 - It is our opinion and the ones that have discussed this matter, that an ad hoc committee be formed immediately, to start the process by hiring an independent contractor that specializes in these matters to help gather the necessary facts and any figures that are needed to help make a decision of this magnitude;
 - This committee should be comprised of three (3) members from the Whiteville City School Board, three (3) members from the Columbus County School Board and two (2) County Commissioners;
 - We believe that each school board should make their selections and report back to the County Manager, Mike Stephens, within no more than thirty (30) days from today's date;
 - Two (2) County Commissioners should be selected by an internal vote with the guidance of the County Manager, also within the next thirty (30) days;
 - This should allow the first meeting of the ad hoc committee to be held sometime in January, 2018;
 - We feel this will provide a complete transparency of all parties, and bring everyone to the decision making table;
 - It is also of our opinion that the County should pay all fees related to this matter, as suggested by the General Assembly Research Committee;
 - Further, if either side rejects or fails to comply within the given guidelines, the matter should still move forward by the County Commissioners for their decision;
4. Again, this is our recommendation that we highly suggest to this body to vote on and adopt; **and**
5. Thank you.

MOTION:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to take this recommendation under advisement, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION DISCUSSION:

The following discussion was held relative to the needed funds for school construction;

1. The great need for repairs and replacement of Columbus County Schools;
2. The inability to move forward with the plans due to lack of funds; **and**
3. The limitation of the County to provide a higher percentage of funds needed.

After discussion, Representative Jones requested that Mike Stephens, County Attorney / Manager, have Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director, to send the information for the funds that are needed for the schools' construction to Senator Britt and Representative Jones.

Agenda Item #8: HISTORIC COURTHOUSE - DECISION ON USE:

Commissioner James E. Prevatte, Chairman, requested a decision to be made on the use of the Columbus County Historic Courthouse.

MOTION:

Commissioner McDowell made a motion that we go forward as was planned at our last meeting which would be to put the DA Office downstairs, move the judicial branch from this building to the Historic Courthouse, and maintain the two (2) courtrooms upstairs, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: We met last Monday on the Historic Courthouse, and at this time, I am requesting a decision be made on the use of the Historic Courthouse. What is the pleasure of the Board?

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: Mr. Chairman, I made a motion that we go as planned that was discussed at our last meeting which would be to put the DA downstairs and move the judicial branch in this building to the Historic Courthouse upstairs, and maintain those two (2) qualities.

MOTION #1:

Commissioner McDowell made a motion we go as planned that was discussed at our last meeting which would be to put the DA downstairs and move the judicial branch in this building to the Historic Courthouse upstairs, and maintain those two (2) qualities, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: I have a motion, do I have a second? Mr. Burroughs makes a second. Do we have any discussion?

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: Mr. Chairman, I am a little hung up on it Mr. Chairman,

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Okay.

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: . . .and I will express my concerns about it.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Okay.

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: It seems like we are looking for something to put in the Courthouse, other than having a really deep need to put anything in the Courthouse, and, ah, you know we want to spend a lot of money whenever we do the inside of this Courthouse, possibly 3, 4 or 5 million dollars, I don't know. But it seems like, if we knew exactly if we needed anything to go in there, that would be one reason to spend the money. But, we - - we are looking for something to put inside, and I just don't think it is a good move. Ah, I wonder if we need to fix up the outside. I think Larry said the roof was leaking. Fix the roof where no damages occur, and I know looking at the light bills that Bobbie sent us from the old Courthouse to the Professional Building, we are looking at about \$3,000 a month, and above. The light bill at the Professional Building now is \$200.00 a month, so, we will spend more money just by expenses by going back and forth. I am hung up on it, is it a good business move or not? That is my concerns on it.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: I am not going to

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: My – My – My response would be that we have been working on this for a long, long time. Ah, the plan was to use the Courthouse. I realize that we had some options where we were only going to use part of the Historic Courthouse, which I agree did not make any sense. However, we are paying rent, and I understand right now that the rent to the Professional Building is not that much, but my understanding is that we are not under a lease which means it could go up at any time. I also understand that since we have procrastinated as long as we have, that not only has the interest rate risen, we will not only pay more in interest, but also materials have probably gone up because of the turn in the economy. My suggestion would be that, but my idea would be that the longer we wait, the more it will cost. We do have employees though in leased properties, somewhat they are suitable, somewhat suitable, but we have heard from many folks the facts that they simply they do not have the facility that they need because of needed space. We have heard from the community that building is located in from the very beginning that they were not happy with that service being provided there. At some point of time, if it is not now, as Mr. Bullard suggested in his time, that we will need that space, and it will cost us more than it will cost us now. That is a given. I understand that there were other-other ideas, and this-this idea came up, may-

maybe that was a disappointment to some, but I still say that this is the most viable thing to use **the** most noticed and well-known building in this County. We cannot let it go into disarray, and I understand Mr. Bullard saying to keep the outside up, but we also have to keep the inside up as well because of disarray. We will be spending money monthly, not only to keep the Courthouse up, but spending money monthly to rent the Professional Building. So I stand by my motion to move forward.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: So, if you move the ah the courts from here over there, you . . .

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: Potentially like I stated last time, it could save us from having to build a Board of Elections because it could be housekeeping. It will save us one-half million dollars.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: Charles, in your motion, are you saying to move the other Judicial? The District Court Judges are in this building. Are you going to leave them here, or are you going to move them also?

Chairman James E. Prevatte: No.

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: There are going to be room for them also.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: I don't think we talked about that though.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: When you said judicial, you know there is a difference in the two (2) courts.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: I feel like, since everybody has already - Since everybody has already been heard on that, it seems like we have some time in order for us to be able to do this. Why don't we get some recommendations from the citizens. The Courthouse belongs to the citizens of this County. Ask them for some recommendations. I think right now, we ah, all of the judicial systems are in buildings. We spent a lot of money getting the - ah - - -

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: I agree with that.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: . . . ah, getting those buildings prepared. Especially, the DA's building and of course, so they are housed and we need to get some recommendations from the citizens.

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: If I am the only one that . . .

Vice Chairman McKenzie: If we run out of ideas, or better still, just bring it up to code and use it as needed, for whatever department you think needs to go in there, but we do need to bring it up to code, and bring it to some point whereby it is not going to fall down, it is not going to decay no more than it has already.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: Four (4) million dollars . . .

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: Just to move people around. What are we going to do with the DA's Building once we get them over there? We will just . . .

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: Now - now we - - In our workshop, we discussed the movement of everyone, but I thought the purpose of this item on our Agenda was just to discuss the Historic Courthouse, but we did discuss every facility being housed, and is probably it is in one of the multiple courthouse meetings. In our minutes, we discussed over and over about kicking the can down the road, just like we did about building schools. We talked about kicking it further down the road, and yet every time we come to make a decision, what we do is we throw our leg out and kick it down the road.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: We need another night's sleep.

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: We had another night's sleep.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: I thought we had - we had a consensus and . . .

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: We had an unanimous consensus.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: We had - we had a consensus unanimously last Monday night and that is what we were going to do.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: He and I were not here. That was the decision right there.

Chairman James Prevatte: That was the decision by multiple Board members.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: Did everybody agree with that decision?

Chairman Prevatte: I don't know if they did or not, but I had a consensus . . . and, and right, Mr. Attorney?

Michael Stephens: A lot of discussion. I don't know about a consensus.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: Mr. Chairman . . .

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: I am just saying

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: I am just saying that, you know the majority of the Board ruled, and I accept that, but I am just saying that I am not comfortable with voting for between four (4) or five (5) million dollars when we are having to look for something to go in the Courthouse, instead of having a need for something. We have . . .

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: We cut the schools so low. That money could be better used in the schools that we are going to build.

(2-3 voices inaudible in the background)

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: Just bring it up to code, fix our schools . . .

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: Fix the schools. Spend the money on the schools. That is what we need to do.

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: I will agree

(Several inaudible voices in the background)

(Loud clapping of the hands in the audience.)

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: If you put that in the form of a motion and it passes, and no one re-niggs from it, then I have no problem with that because I have said that all along.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: If you divide that \$4 million dollars up between the schools, then I wouldn't fight it either. But, if you are going to promise that down the road that we might do that, then I want to go ahead and take care of that Courthouse because it is on the Historic Register and we don't have a choice. We cannot let it fall in disarray. We have to get it - - - we have to take care of it. It is leaking, someone has taken the ceiling out of it, the . . . in parts. Ah, we have some rot that is going on.

(Inaudible voice)

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: Well, naturally, we should take care of the roof. I said that earlier, take care of the roof, keep it sprayed for termites, give it a little more time until we know what we want to use it for. And yet, I support the money going to the schools, and splitting squarely.

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: That's right.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: I will put that in the form of a motion.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: We have a motion on the floor.

(Chuckling audible, and multiple inaudible voices heard)

Vice Chairman Amon E. McKenzie: Do a substitute motion.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: I will do a substitute motion.

(Multiple inaudible voices heard.)

Chairman James E. Prevatte: It is about time that I started running this meeting. **(Giggling heard from audience.)** We got to decide who is going to do it. Has everybody had their say?

Commissioner P. Edwin Russ: Mr. Chairman, at the last workshop we had, with the consensus, I understood that we were going to put the DA downstairs, the judicial system upstairs, move Probation/Parole out of the building rented from Mr. Hill, to the old DA and Tax Office. That is what I understood when I walked out the door.

(Two to three voices inaudible.)

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: That is what we discussed.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: That is what we . . . Let's deal with that.

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: He needs to offer a Substitute Motion and I will second it.

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell: I don't think it is pertaining to the same.

(2-3 Inaudible voices heard)

Chairman James E. Prevatte: It is not pertaining to the same thing, is it Mr. Attorney?

Michael Stephens: Alright, your first motion to do the . . .

Chairman James E. Prevatte: To do the Historic Courthouse.

Michael Stephens: To do the judicial . . .

Chairman James E. Prevatte: This is something different. This is to take the money away.

Michael Stephens: Alright, was there a second?

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Yes, I got a second.

Michael Stephens: On the second motion?

Chairman James E. Prevatte: No.

(Several inaudible voices heard.)

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Yes, Yes, on the second motion.

Michael Stephens: Alright, if you did the second motion, you got to vote on it first. If it fails, you go back to the first motion.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: I thought you couldn't have a substitute motion if it was not pertaining to the subject.

Michael Stephens: That is not a substitute motion. That is not a substitute motion. It's completely changed that motion.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Then, you can take a second motion on top of the first one.

Michael Stephens: If the second motion passes, there is no use to vote on the first motion because it is gone.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Isn't that a Substitute.

Michael Stephens: That is another motion in itself.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: You got me confused tonight.

(Multiple inaudible voices heard -audience and Board members-.)

Michael Stephens: The first motion and the second was to use the Historic Courthouse for judiciary purposes.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: That is right.

Michael Stephens: Then you had a second.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: Yes.

Michael Stephens: Then you had discussion, and you came up another motion to put it off, and you had a second on that motion, not to do anything.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: That is not the motion I heard. I heard the motion to take the money and spend it with the schools.

Michael Stephens: Okay, that is not doing anything with the Courthouse.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: That's right. But that is a different area. I understood when you stated it was something different, you could not . . .

Michael Stephens: If it was totally different.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: This is totally different.

Michael Stephens: It substantially changes the first motion, and that does.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: It does.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: So, what are you saying, we vote on the second motion?

Michael Stephens: Vote on the second motion. If that passes, then the first motion goes away.

Chairman James E. Prevatte: I don't think it is right. We will let Commissioner Byrd re-state his motion and we will deal with that way.

Commissioner Giles E. Byrd: **MOTION #2:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd that the money we intended to spend on the Columbus County Historic Courthouse, that we leave the Courthouse on hold and move that money to the schools construction, to be split in the appropriate percentages, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Commissioner P. Edwin Russ: **MOTION #3:**

Commissioner Russ made a motion to move forward with the money amount we have allocated to the schools, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: **SOCIAL SERVICES - DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:**

Algernon McKenzie, Social Services Director, deliver the following Departmental Update for Social Services.

The Department of Social Services has around 150 employees on a regular basis.

We operate on a budget of around \$12,552,784; which may vary from year to year. The majority of these funds are State and Federal funds, which are used to administer many State mandated programs. These programs and services are available to assist our citizens with various needs.

We have upgraded our agency computers to meet State standards, which has increased our productivity in processing applications. We also replaced our server; which was in danger of shutting down. This server controls all of our computer operations in the agency.

Our Medicaid and Food & Nutrition units have improved their processing time frames with State requirements.

The Child Care Subsidy program was monitored for compliance this past year. We passed with a score of 97.3%. The state standard is 95%.

In August of 2017, our Child Care Subsidy program went live in NCFAST. Providers now enter the attendance online and payments for Child Care services are paid via direct deposit. Day Care staff will continue to process applications; as they have in the past.

All of our Energy programs are also now being processed through the NCFAST system; although payments are still being made to vendors locally.

We have been fortunate this year to add four new Social Work positions in Child Welfare as a result of our State Child Welfare Program Review. These positions are used to develop a Child Welfare Transitional Unit to work with children involved in Protective Services and to work with adoptive and Foster Care families.

We have been able to make some good progress on our Child Welfare Program Development Plan and have achieved several of our objectives; however, there are still improvements to be made.

The Columbus County Department of Social Services continues to strive to provide the citizens with its best possible service.

We provided the following benefits and services during the past year.

ECONOMIC SERVICES

PROGRAM	STATISTICS
Food & Nutrition	Applications Taken: 9,215 Benefits Issued: \$17,565,709.00 Participants Served: 12,319
Adult Medicaid	Applications Taken: 1,484 Applications Processed: 1,823
Family & Children's Medicaid	Applications Taken: 1,583 Total Individuals Receiving Medicaid: 22,992 Total Medicaid Cases: 14,507 Applications Processed: 1,564
Child Support	Absent Parents Located: 1,400 Orders Enforced: 11,152 Active Cases: 4,055 Collections: \$5,670,859.91

HUMAN SERVICES

PROGRAM	STATISTICS
Adult Services (APS)	APS Reports Accepted: 173 County Wards: 28 Adults Served APS: 43 Number of Payee Cases: 30 Number of Medicaid Transportation Trips: 20,751 Monthly Average of Trips: 1,729 Monthly Average Served on Transportation: 228

Children’s Protective Services (CPS)	Reports Accepted: 434 Reports Screened Out: 194 Families Receiving In-Home Services: 48 Children Served: 83 Contacts with Families Monthly: 3,008 Monthly Average of 251 Assessments: 315
Foster Care	Foster Children in Foster Homes: 82 Children Placed Outside County: 21 Agency Adoptions: 16 Pending Adoptions: 11 Total Foster Homes Licensed: 7
Work First Employment (TANF)	Applications Taken: 291 Applications Approved: 203 Individuals Receiving Benefits: 362 Entered Employment: 24 Number in Non-Paid Work Experience: 4
Program Integrity	Referrals for Fraud: 210 Fraud Cases Established: 61 Collections for Fraud: \$87,470.20
Day Care	Children Receiving Day Care Assistance: 516 Children on the Waiting List: 566 Amount Spent on Day Care Services: \$199,602.65 Total Subsidy Funds Received: \$2,036,615.00
Energy Programs	CIP – Crisis Intervention Program: \$334,774.00 LIEAP – Low Income Energy Assistance Program: \$324,400.00

We were able to serve 1,337 applicants with CIP funds and 1,186 with LIEAP; for a total of 2,523.

Other

DSS has issued 266 fishing licenses to recipients of Medicaid, Work First and Food & Nutrition.

75 Citizens were registered at DSS to vote.

Agenda Item #10: SOCIAL SERVICES - MONTHLY ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE:

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

On October 4, 2017 we held our monthly agency staff meeting. During this meeting, we had a presentation on “Hope For NC”; which is a disaster relief program. Staff was informed about the program and how it can help those individuals who are continuing to recover from Hurricane Matthew. The goal of “Hope For NC” is to link families to resources to assist them with unmet needs. At the end of the presentation, flyers were left with the agency to give to customers. The presentation was done by Martha Bromell and Lynn Edge. Mrs. Ashley Smith also works with “Hope For NC”.

Following this presentation, staff was given information about a new program being offered by DHHS called “Benefit Data Trust”. This program is targeted at seniors 60 years of age and older receiving Medicaid, but not receiving Food and Nutrition benefits. The State will be sending out letters to those households to inform them of their possible qualification, however they will have to complete an application. This new outreach effort could increase the amount of applications for local DSS agencies; if individuals choose to apply for Food and Nutrition.

Staff was reminded again to complete the open enrollment process for their health insurance and given an update on the installation of the new computers, which will soon be completed.

Finally, the Medicaid and Food Stamp units were recognized for passing their application process

timeliness standards.

On October 11, 2017 the Social Work Program Manager and I met with Dr. Godfrey Fondinka and his wife, who are opening Sandhills Medical Center here in Whiteville. They explained the services they will provide to us. We were happy to learn they will provide drug testing and substance abuse treatment as our county is seeing an increased need for substance treatment locally. We are hopeful this new medical center will enhance our ability to refer the families we serve for much needed services.

On October 18 – 20, 2017 myself and several employees attended the 2017 Social Services Institute in Hickory, NC. The theme of the institute was; “Resilience, The Calm After The Storm”. There were various workshops in all program areas administered by DSS agencies. Updates were given on NCFAST projects, Document Management and Program Monitoring that are being worked on by DHHS. During the institute, the DSS Directors had several meetings to discuss House Bill 630, Medicaid Managed Care, Child Support and Child Fatality Policy changes that are coming soon. Some of these new changes may require more staff time and increased spending by counties for equipment to effectively perform duties and implement.

We also learned County Commissioners are welcome to join the NC Association of County Boards of Social Services; to help them learn and understand the issues DSS agencies face and how they operate.

On the last day of the Institute, I attended our Director’s Association Executive Board Meeting where we voted on some proposed policy in Child Support.

Finally, I received certificates recognizing three Columbus County DSS employees for 20 years of service. They will be presented at our agency staff meeting. The 2018 Social Services Institute will also be held in Hickory, NC.

During the month of October, we lost two of our Wards; however, we continue to receive cases for guardianship, which requires a lot of time and effort from the agency staff and Director, who are legally responsible for their care.

We are continuing to work on our Program Improvement Plan in Child Welfare. We will be adding activities that will help us ensure policies are followed, which will be reviewed by our State Representative.

Our agency continues to experience problems with our phone system; which causes the system to go down and not work properly. We are hopeful we will be able to upgrade/purchase a new system in the upcoming budget for 2018; as this is a very important part of our daily operation in providing services to our citizens.

**October 2017
Economic Services**

PROGRAM	STATISTICS
Food & Nutrition	Applications Taken: 272 Applications Approved: 226 Active Cases: 5,730 Benefits Issued: \$1,358,239 Participants Served: 8,671
Adult Medicaid	Applications Taken: 134 Cases Terminated: 49 Redeterminations: 246 Applications Processed: 146
Family & Children’s Medicaid	Applications Taken: 108 Applications Processed: 110 Redeterminations: 492 Total Medicaid Cases: 13,976 Total Individuals Receiving: 23,011

Child Support	Absent Parents Located: 162 Orders Enforced: 906 Active Cases: 3,961 Collections: \$451,434.48
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**October 2017
Human Services**

PROGRAM	STATISTICS
Adult Services (APS)	APS Reports Accepted: 8 County Wards: 24 Number of Payee Cases: 18 Adults Served APS: 27 Number of Medicaid Transportation Trips: 1,923 Amount Requested for Reimbursement: \$32,845.01
Children's Protective Services (CPS)	Reports Accepted: 42 Reports Screened Out: 32 Families Receiving In-Home Services: 22 Children Served: 49 Contacts with Families Monthly: 279 Assessments: 30
Foster Care	Foster Children in Foster Homes: 68 Children Placed Outside County: 16 Agency Adoptions: 3 Pending Adoptions: 2 Total Foster Homes Licensed: 5 Total Children in Foster Care: 70
Work First Employment (TANF)	Applications Taken: 50 Applications Approved: 28 Individuals Receiving Benefits: 206 Entered Employment: 0 Number in Non-Paid Work Experience: 1
Program Integrity	Collections for Fraud: \$6,109.00 New Referrals: 4 Cases Established: 0
Day Care	Children Receiving Day Care Assistance: 451 Children on the Waiting List: 582 Amount Spent on Day Care Services: \$175,501.00

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD REPORT

Melinda H. Lane, Program Manager
Vacancies/Updates/News for October 2017

Intake/Investigation/Assessment:

The Intake/Investigation/Assessment Unit continues to be fully staffed and busy! New staff are now receiving caseloads and planning for future needed training. At this time NCFAST for Child Welfare has been postponed until March 2018, but staff will continue to prepare and complete training.

In-Home Services:

The In-Home Services Unit is currently short-staffed due to a worker leaving to go to another county. Interviews will be scheduled as soon as possible. At this time NCFAST for Child Welfare has been postponed until March 2018, but staff will continue to prepare and complete training.

Foster Care/Adoptions:

The Foster Care/Adoptions Unit continues to be short-staffed due to the transition to the new Unit. Two available positions are currently open and space is being sought for these staff. Interviews will be scheduled as soon as possible. At this time NCFAST for Child Welfare has been postponed until March 2018, but staff will continue to prepare and complete training.

Transitional Unit:

The new transitional unit is now beginning to take shape. This Unit is now fully staffed and needed trainings are being planned, although space will be an issue for this Unit. Plans are being discussed to begin active recruitment for more foster parents and adoptive parents with an event possible in the Spring of 2018. At this time NCFAST for Child Welfare has been postponed until March 2018, but staff will continue to prepare and complete training.

Adult Services:

The Adult Services Unit continues to be busy. Many members of this Unit are in training and cross-training in order to work together more efficiently.

Work First Employment:

The Work First Employment Unit continues to transition to the NCFAST system. This Unit continues to assist with 200% and with CPS Intake coverage when needed. It continues to assist with Emergency Assistance inquiries and applications as a part of its responsibilities.

Child Day Care:

The Child Day Care Unit continues to be fully staffed. This Unit continues to work within the NCFAST system dealing with daily issues and updates.

Program Integrity:

Program Integrity continues to work hard to get caught up with program integrity duties and cases. Five temporary workers are now working fulltime taking Crisis Intervention Program applications and the heating season has begun. In October 115 applications for CIP were approved and 3 denied.

Economic Services Program Narrative

Child Support/Paralegal and Work First Cash/Medicaid Transportation/Maintenance and Housekeeping
Food and Nutrition and Family and Children's Medicaid
Adult Medicaid//Rest Home and Nursing Home/Community Alternatives Program (CAP)
Submitted by Cyndi Hammonds, Income Maintenance Administrator

Reporting Month: October 2017**News/Updates/Vacancies****Adult and Family & Children's Medicaid:**

While attending classes at our annual October Social Services Institute we learned some of the following information that is coming to all Medicaid programs:

- Medicaid Transformation – Medicaid will be transformed into a managed care program meaning NC will contract with 3 statewide health plans for coverage of Medicaid recipients. This transformation is expected to keep the State in line with their budget each year; if the contracted vendor goes over their budgeted amount for services that health plan picks up the cost, not Medicaid. This transformation requires our work to be accurate and timely which will require supervisors of each department to 2nd party cases closely and the State will be auditing every county every year. The transformation will be a staggered implementation of programs and is expected to begin July of 2019. They are stating everything will be finalized by the end of 2017 so counties will know about staffing and budgeting needs for the upcoming year.
- NCFAST Document Management System – This system will be a key part of Medicaid Transformation and is scheduled to be implemented next year. This is a system where all documents that are used to determine eligibility must be scanned and attached within the NCFAST system so the State and any auditors can just go within NCFAST to audit cases without having to go to counties or have counties to box up files and send them anywhere. Training for this system is expected to begin in July of 2018.

Food and Nutrition:

Our Food and Nutrition team has done a great job with their timeliness efforts. The Benefit Data Outreach Project the State has implemented resulted so far in 11 applications from our potential 815 senior population. This is not a lot of applications and seniors have said the amount of benefits they

would be eligible for is not worth completing the paperwork. Most of our low income seniors will only receive \$15.00 month. Effective October 1, the cost of living increase for this program caused individual benefits to decrease slightly however the income limits increased allowing more individuals to potentially be eligible. The Review Team had an employee to resign in October to begin employment with New Hanover County DSS.

Child Support and Paralegal:

The Child Support Teams continue to struggle as they still have vacancies and a worker out temporarily. We have interviewed and have recommended applicants for vacancies. The process now begins with training new employees to get them to where they can carry a caseload. As we continue with 3 court days, they prepared 335 cases and our paralegal prepared 397 orders and reviewed 113 orders the attorney prepared.

Work First Cash/Medicaid Transportation/Interpreter/Maintenance and Housekeeping/Deputy:

- Transportation billing process is going more smoothly.
- Cash Assistance continues to keep their applications and recertifications timely.
- Maintenance, Housekeeping and the Interpreter are gearing up for our anticipated crowd in the Energy Programs.
- Deputy Best continues to do a wonderful and professional job of helping us feel safe at DSS.

Agenda Item #11: ADMINISTRATION/LEGAL - DECEMBER EARLY PAYROLL and BONUS DISBURSEMENT:

Michael H. Stephens, County Manager/County Attorney, requested Board approval for December, 2017, early payroll and bonus disbursement to be December 22, 2017, and CNA's to be paid December 8 and December 22, 2017.

Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to approve the December, 2017, early payroll and bonus disbursement to be December 22, 2017, and CNA's to be paid December 8 and December 22, 2017, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #12: PLANNING - An ORDINANCE AFFECTING the REGULATION of SANITATION, HEALTH and PUBLIC NUISANCES; ENACTING CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 1, The CODE of ORDINANCES of the COUNTY of COLUMBUS:

Gary Lanier, Planning Director, and Samantha Alsup requested Board approval and adoption of the following An Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Sanitation, Health and Public Nuisances; Enacting Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 1, the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus. (The required Public Hearing was conducted on this date at 6:30 P.M., before the meeting.)

AN ORDINANCE AFFECTING THE REGULATION OF SANITATION, HEALTH AND PUBLIC NUISANCES; ENACTING CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 1, THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, Article 6 of Chapter 153A of the North Carolina General Statutes, N.C.G.S. 153A-121, et seq., delegates to counties the authority to exercise the general police power; **and**

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 153A-140 authorizes counties to summarily remedy, abate or remove public health nuisances; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus finds that it is in the public interest to enact Chapter 8, Part 3, Sanitation, Health and Public Safety, of the Code of Ordinances and Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 1, to provide more specificity as to the requirements for regulating Public Nuisances, Unlawful Conditions on Private Property; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, after due notice, conducted a public hearing on the 20th day of November, 2017, upon the question of enacting an ordinance in this respect.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA:

PART ONE. That Chapter 8, Part 3, Sanitation, Health and Public Safety, of the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, is hereby enacted.

PART TWO. That Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 1: Public Nuisances, Unlawful Conditions On Private Property, of the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 1: PUBLIC NUISANCES, UNLAWFUL CONDITIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Section 1. Administration.

- A. For the purpose of this Article, the term "nuisance" shall mean or refer to any condition or any use of property or any act or omission affecting the condition or use of property which threatens or is likely to threaten the safety of the public; adversely affects the general health, happiness, security or welfare of others; or, is detrimental to the rights of others to the full use of their own property and their own comfort, happiness and emotional stability because of decreased property values and the unsightliness and decreased livability of neighborhoods.
- B. An act constituting a violation of the provisions of this Article or a failure to comply with any of its requirements shall subject the offender to a civil penalty of \$50.00. Each day any single violation continues shall be a separate violation. A violation of this Chapter shall not constitute a misdemeanor pursuant to N.C.G.S. 14-4. If the offender fails to correct the violation by the prescribed deadline after being notified of said violation, the penalty may be recovered in a civil action in the nature of a debt.

Section 2. Declaration of Public Nuisance

- A. The following enumerated and described conditions, or any combination thereof, are hereby found, deemed, and declared to constitute a detriment, danger and hazard to the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the inhabitants of the County. They are hereby found, deemed and declared to be public nuisances wherever the conditions may exist in any part of Columbus County, not within the corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction of any municipality, as is now or may hereafter be established. The creation, maintenance or failure to abate any nuisances is hereby declared unlawful:
1. Any weeds or other vegetation having an overall height of more than eighteen (18) inches above the surrounding ground provided that the following shall not be considered to be a part of this condition: trees and ornamental shrubs; cultured plants; natural vegetation on undeveloped property or land used for agricultural purposes, that is not a threat to the character of surrounding properties; and flowers and growing and producing vegetable plants.
 2. Any accumulation of trash, garbage, food waste and other trash which is the result of the absence of, or overflowing of, or improperly closed trash or garbage containers, that attracts or is likely to attract mice and rats, flies and mosquitoes or other pests.
 3. An open or unsecured storage or collection place for chemicals, acids, oils, gasoline, flammable or combustible materials or flammable or combustible liquids, poisonous materials or other similar harmful or dangerous substances, gasses or vapors. (Exception: bona fide farm or agricultural uses)
 4. An open place, collection, storage place or concentration of combustible items such as mattresses, boxes, paper, automobile tires and tubes, garbage, trash, refuse, brush, old clothes, rags, or any other combustible materials collection.
 5. An open storage place for old worn out, broken or discarded machinery, car parts, junk, tire rims, furniture, stoves, refrigerators, appliances, cans and containers, household goods, plumbing or electrical fixtures, old rusty metal, fencing materials or other similar materials.
 6. Any accumulation of garbage, rubbish, trash, or junk causing or threatening to cause

a fire hazard, or causing or threatening to cause the accumulation of stagnant water, or causing or threatening to cause the inhabitation therein of rats, mice, snakes, mosquitoes, or vermin prejudicial to the public health.

7. Any accumulation of animal or vegetable matter that is offensive by virtue of odors or vapors or by the inhabitation therein of rats, mice, snakes, or vermin of any kind which is or may be dangerous or prejudicial to the public health. However, any property or parcel of land used for agricultural purposes or the lawful use of a permitted livestock or fowl operation shall not be considered to be a part of this condition.
8. The open storage of any discarded ice box, furniture, refrigerator, stove, glass, building materials, building rubbish or similar items. The use of carports, open porches, decks, open garages and other outdoor areas that are visible from the street as a storage or collection place for boxes, appliances, furniture (not typical outdoor or yard furniture), tools, equipment, junk, garbage, old worn out broken or discarded machinery and equipment, cans, containers, household goods or other similar condition that increase the likelihood of a fire; may conceal dangerous conditions; may be a breeding place or habitat for mice, rats or other pests; or, create an unattractive condition or visually blighted property.
9. A collection place for lumber, bricks, blocks, nails, building hardware, roofing materials, scaffolding, masonry materials, electrical supplies or materials, plumbing supplies or materials, heating and air conditioning supplies or materials or any other type of old or unusable building supplies (especially those with nails, staples or sharp objects and edges) unless such conditions are temporary in nature and caused by a current construction project in progress pursuant to a lawfully issued building permit.
10. Any building or other structure which has been burned, partially burned or otherwise partially destroyed and which is unsightly or hazardous to the safety of any person, is a continuing fire hazard or which is structurally unsound to the extent that the Code Administrator or his designee can reasonably determine that there is a likelihood of personal or property injury to any person or property entering the premises.
11. Dog lots, pens, pet enclosures of all kinds, outdoor areas where dogs or other pets are chained or kept or areas where dogs and cats are permitted to roam which become a collection place for dog, cat or pet waste and excrement and which attract flies or other pests, emit foul odors which can be detected or noticed on adjacent property or are not kept in a sanitary condition.
12. A collection place for tree limbs, dried brush, dead vegetation, stumps or other decayed wood and materials or other similar rubbish.
13. Any condition which blocks, hinders, or obstructs in any way the natural flow of branches, streams, creeks, surface waters, ditches, or drains, to the extent that the premises is not free from standing water.
14. Nuisance vehicle: A vehicle on public or private property that is determined and declared to be a health or safety hazard, a public nuisance, and unlawful, including a vehicle found to be:
 - a. A breeding ground or harbor for mosquitoes, other insects, rats or other pests; or
 - b. A point of heavy growth of weeds or other noxious vegetation which exceeds eighteen (18) inches in height ; or
 - c. In a condition allowing the collection of pools or ponds of water; or
 - d. A concentration of quantities of gasoline, oil, or other flammable or explosive materials as evidenced by odor; or
 - e. An area of confinement which cannot be operated from the inside, such as, but not limited to, trunks or hoods; or
 - f. So situated or located that there is a danger of it falling or turning over; or
 - g. A collection of garbage, food waste, animal waste, or any other rotten or putrescent matter of any kind; or
 - h. One which has sharp parts thereof which are jagged or contain sharp edges of metal or glass;

- I. Any other vehicle specifically declared a health and safety hazard and a public nuisance by the Board of Commissioners.
- j. Any condition detrimental to the public health which violates the rules and regulations of the County Health Departments.

Section 3. Complaint; Investigation of Public Nuisance

When any condition in violation of this Article is found to exist, the Code Administrator or such persons as may be designated by the Board of Commissioners shall give notice to the owner of the premises to abate or remove such conditions. Such notice shall be in writing, shall include a description of the premises sufficient for identification and shall set forth the violation and state that, if the violation is not corrected prior to a specified date, (no sooner than 10 calendar days after the notice is mailed and/or affixed to the property), the County may proceed to correct the same as authorized by this Article. Service of such notice shall be by any one of the following methods.

- A. By delivery to any owner personally or by leaving the notice at the usual place of abode of the owner with a person who is over the age of sixteen (16) years and a member of the family of the owner.
- B. By depositing the notice in the United States Post Office addressed to the owner at his last known address with regular mail postage prepaid thereon.
- C. By posting and keeping posted, for ten (10) days, a copy of the notice, in placard form, in a conspicuous place on the premises on which the violation exists, when notice cannot be served by method A and B

Section 4. Abatement Procedure.

If the owner of any property fails to comply with a notice given pursuant to this Article, prior to the specified date, (no sooner than 10 calendar days after the notice is mailed and/or affixed to the property), he shall be subject to prosecution for violation of this ordinance in accordance with law and each day that such failure continues shall be a separate offense. In addition, the County may have the condition described in the notice abated, removed or otherwise corrected and all expenses incurred thereby shall be chargeable to and paid by the owner of the property and shall be collected as taxes and levies are collected. All such expenses shall constitute a lien against the real property on which the work was done.

Section 5. Procedure Is Alternative

The procedure set forth in this Article shall be in addition to any other remedies that may now or hereafter exist under law for the abatement of public nuisances.”

PART THREE. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PART FOUR. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed severable and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

PART FIVE. The enactment of this ordinance shall in no way affect the running of any amortization provisions or enforcement actions, or otherwise cure any existing violations.

PART SIX. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED this 20th day of November, 2017.

/s/ James E. Prevatte, Chairman
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:
/s/June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED as to FORM:

/s/ Mike Stephens, Columbus County Attorney / Manager

Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to approve the An Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Sanitation, Health and Public Nuisances; Enacting Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 1, the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: PLANNING - An ORDINANCE AFFECTING the REGULATION of ABANDONED, NUISANCE and JUNKED MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 2, the CODE of ORDINANCES of the COUNTY of COLUMBUS:

Gary Lanier, Planning Director, and Samantha Alsup requested Board approval and adoption of the following An Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles; Enacting Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 2, the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus. (The required Public Hearing was conducted on this date at 6:30 P.M., before the meeting.)

AN ORDINANCE AFFECTING THE REGULATION OF ABANDONED, NUISANCE AND JUNKED MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 2, THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, Article 6 of Chapter 153A of the North Carolina General Statutes, N.C.G.S. 153A-121, et seq., delegates to counties the authority to exercise the general police power; **and**

WHEREAS, Article 6 of Chapter 153A of the North Carolina General Statutes, N.C.G.S. 153A-132, et seq., authorizes counties to regulate, remove and dispose of Abandoned and Junked Motor Vehicles;

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 153A-140 authorizes counties to summarily remedy, abate or remove public health nuisances; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus finds that it is in the public interest to enact Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 2, of the Code of Ordinances to provide more specificity as to the requirements for regulating Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, after due notice, conducted a public hearing on the 20th day of November, 2017, upon the question of enacting an ordinance in this respect.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA:

PART ONE. That Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 2: Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles, of the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 8, PART 3, ARTICLE 2: ABANDONED, JUNKED AND NUISANCE VEHICLES

Section 1. Administration.

The Sheriff’s Department and the Code Administrator of the County shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this Article. The Sheriff’s Department shall be responsible for administering the removal and disposition of vehicles determined to be "abandoned" on the public streets and highways within the County, and on property owned by the County. The Code Administrator shall be responsible for administering the removal and disposal of "abandoned", "nuisance" and "junked" motor vehicles located on private property. The County may, on an annual basis, contract with private tow truck operators or towing businesses to remove, store, and dispose of abandoned vehicles, nuisance vehicles, and junked motor vehicles in compliance with this Chapter and applicable State laws. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit the legal authority or powers of officers of the Sheriff’s Department and Fire Department in enforcing other laws or in otherwise carrying out their duties.

An act constituting a violation of the provisions of this Article or a failure to comply with any of its requirements shall subject the offender to a civil penalty of \$50.00. Each day any single violation

continues shall be a separate violation. A violation of this Article shall not constitute a misdemeanor pursuant to N.C.G.S. 14-4. If the violator fails to respond to a citation within fifteen days of its issuance, and pay the penalty prescribed therein, the County may institute a civil action in the nature of debt in the appropriate division of the North Carolina General Court of Justice for the collection of the penalty, costs, attorney fees, and such other relief as permitted by law.

State law reference—County authority for removal and disposal of junked and abandoned motor vehicles, G.S. 153A-132 as amended. County authority for regulation of abandonment of junked motor vehicles, G.S. 153A-132.2 as amended.

Section 2. Definitions.

For the purpose of this Article, certain words and terms are defined as herein indicated:

- A. An "abandoned motor vehicle" is one that:
 - 1. Is left on public grounds or county-owned property in violation of a law or ordinance prohibiting parking; or
 - 2. Is left for longer than 24 hours on property owned or operated by the county; or
 - 3. Is left for longer than two hours on private property without the consent of the owner, occupant, or lessee of the property; or
 - 4. Is left for longer than seven days on public grounds.
- B. Authorized Official: The supervisory employee of the Sheriff's Department or the County Code Administrator, respectively, designated to order the removal of vehicles under the provisions of this Article.
- C. Motor Vehicle: Every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle designed to run upon the highways which is pulled by a self-propelled vehicle. Except as specifically provided otherwise, this term shall not include mopeds as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(27)d1.
- D. Junked motor vehicle: As authorized and defined in G.S. 153A-132.2, the term junked motor vehicle means a vehicle that does not display a current license plate lawfully upon that vehicle and that:
 - 1. Is partially dismantled or wrecked; or
 - 2. Cannot be self-propelled or move in the manner in which it originally was intended to move; or
 - 3. Is more than five (5) years old and appears to be worth less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- E. Nuisance vehicle: A vehicle on public or private property that is determined and declared to be a health or safety hazard, a public nuisance, and unlawful, including a vehicle found to be:
 - 1. A breeding ground or harbor for mosquitoes, other insects, rats or other pests; or
 - 2. A point of heavy growth of weeds or other noxious vegetation which exceeds eighteen (18) inches in height ; or
 - 3. In a condition allowing the collection of pools or ponds of water; or
 - 4. A concentration of quantities of gasoline, oil, or other flammable or explosive materials as evidenced by odor; or
 - 5. An area of confinement which cannot be operated from the inside, such as, but not limited to, trunks or hoods; or
 - 6. So situated or located that there is a danger of it falling or turning over; or
 - 7. A collection of garbage, food waste, animal waste, or any other rotten or putrescent matter of any kind; or
 - 8. One which has sharp parts thereof which are jagged or contain sharp edges of metal or glass;
 - 9. Any other vehicle specifically declared a health and safety hazard and a public nuisance by the County Board of Commissioners.

Section 3. Abandoned vehicle unlawful, removal authorized.

- A. It shall be unlawful for the registered owner or person entitled to possession of a vehicle to cause or allow such vehicle to be abandoned as the term is defined herein.
- B. Upon investigation, the authorized officials of the County may determine that a vehicle is an abandoned vehicle and order the vehicle removed.

Section 4. Nuisance vehicle unlawful, removal authorized.

- A. It shall be unlawful for the registered owner or person entitled to possession of a motor

vehicle, or for the owner, lessee, or occupant of the real property upon which the vehicle is located to leave or allow the vehicle to remain on the property after it has been declared a nuisance vehicle.

- B. Upon investigation, the County Code Administrator may determine and declare that a vehicle is a health or safety hazard and a nuisance vehicle as defined above, and order the vehicle removed.

Section 5. Junked motor vehicle regulated, removal authorized.

- A. It shall be unlawful for the registered owner or person entitled to the possession of a junked motor vehicle, or for the owner, lessee, or occupant of the real property upon which a junked motor vehicle is located to leave or allow the vehicle to remain on the property after the vehicle has been ordered removed.
- B. It shall be unlawful to have more than one junked motor vehicle, as defined herein, on the premises of private property. A single, permitted junked motor vehicle must strictly comply with the location and concealment requirements of this Article.
- C. It shall be unlawful for the owner, person entitled to the possession of a junked motor vehicle, or for the owner, lessee, or occupant of the real property upon which a junked motor vehicle is located to fail to comply with the location requirements or the concealment requirements of this Article.
- D. Subject to the provisions of subsection E below, the County Code Administrator may order the removal of a junked motor vehicle found in violation of this Chapter to a storage garage or area. No such vehicle shall be removed from private property without the written request of the owner, lessee, or occupant of the premises unless the Code Administrator finds in writing that the aesthetic benefits of removing the vehicle outweigh the burdens imposed on the private property owner. Such finding shall be based on a balancing of the monetary loss of the apparent owner against the corresponding gain to the public by promoting or enhancing community, neighborhood, or area appearance. The following, among other relevant factors, may be considered:
1. Protection of property values;
 2. Promotion of tourism and other economic development opportunities;
 3. Indirect protection of public health and safety;
 4. Preservation of the character and integrity of the community; and
 5. Promotion of the comfort, happiness and emotional stability of the area residents.
- E. Permitted concealment or enclosure of junked motor vehicles:
1. One junked motor vehicle, in its entirety, may be located in the rear yard, provided the junked motor vehicle is entirely concealed from public view from a public street and/or abutting premises by an acceptable covering for not more than sixty (60) calendar days. Junked motor vehicles kept on the premises more than sixty (60) calendar days shall be kept inside a completely enclosed building. The Code Administrator has the authority to determine whether any junked motor vehicle is adequately concealed as required by this provision. The covering must remain in good repair and must not be allowed to deteriorate.
 2. Any one or more junked motor vehicles kept for a period exceeding sixty (60) calendar days shall be kept within a completely enclosed building.

Section 6. Removal of abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicles; pre-towing notice requirements.

- A. Except as set forth in Section 7 below, an abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle which is to be removed shall be towed only after notice to the registered owner or person entitled to possession of the vehicle. In the case of a nuisance vehicle or a junked motor vehicle, if the names and addresses of the registered owner or person entitled to the possession of the vehicle, or the owner, lessee, or occupant of the real property upon which the vehicle is located can be ascertained in the exercise of reasonable diligence, the notice shall be given by first class mail. Such notice shall be in writing, shall include a description of the premises sufficient for identification and shall set forth the violation and state that, if the violation is not corrected prior to a specified date, (no sooner than 10 calendar days after the notice is mailed}, the County may proceed to correct the same as authorized by this Article. The person who mails the notice shall retain a written record to show the names and addresses to whom and to which mailed, and the date mailed. If such names and addresses cannot be ascertained or if the vehicle to be removed is an abandoned motor vehicle, notice shall be given by affixing on the windshield or some other conspicuous place on the vehicle

a notice indicating that the vehicle will be removed by the County on or after the specified date unless the vehicle is moved by the owner or legal possessor prior to that time.

- B. With respect to abandoned vehicles on private property, nuisance vehicles and junked vehicles to which notice is required to be given, if the registered owner or person entitled to possession does not remove the vehicle but chooses to appeal the determination that the vehicle is abandoned, a nuisance vehicle or in the case of a junked motor vehicle that the aesthetic benefits of removing the vehicle outweigh the burdens, such appeal shall be made to the Board of Adjustment in writing, heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Adjustment, and further proceedings to remove the vehicle shall be stayed until the appeal is heard and decided.

Section 7. Exceptions to prior notice requirement.

The requirement that notice be given prior to the removal of an abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle may, as determined by the authorized official, be omitted in those circumstances where there is a special need for prompt action to eliminate traffic obstructions or to otherwise maintain and protect law enforcement, emergency responders and public welfare. Such findings shall, in all cases, be entered by the authorized official in the appropriate daily records. Circumstances justifying the removal of vehicles without prior notice include:

- A. Vehicles abandoned on the streets. For vehicles left on the public streets and highways, the County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the immediate removal of such vehicles may be warranted when they are:
1. Obstructing traffic.
 2. Parked in violation of an ordinance prohibiting or restricting parking.
 3. Parked in a no-stopping or standing zone.
 4. Parked in loading zones.
 5. Parked in bus zones, or
 6. Parked in violation of temporary parking restrictions.
- B. Other abandoned or nuisance vehicles. With respect to abandoned or nuisance vehicles left on County-owned property other than the streets or highways, and on private property, such vehicles may be removed without giving prior notice only in those circumstances where the authorized official finds a special need for prompt action to protect and maintain the public health, safety, and welfare. By way of illustration and not of limitation, such circumstances include vehicles blocking or obstructing ingress or egress to businesses and residences, vehicles parked in such location or manner as to pose a traffic hazard, and vehicles causing damage to public or private property.

Section 8. Removal of vehicles; post-towing notice requirements.

- A. Any abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle which has been ordered removed may, as directed by the County, be removed to a storage garage or area by a tow truck operator or towing business contracted to perform such services for the County. Whenever such a vehicle is removed, the authorized County official shall immediately notify the last known registered owner of the vehicle with such notice to include the following:
1. The description of the removed vehicle;
 2. The location where the vehicle is stored;
 3. The violation with which the owner is charged, if any;
 4. The procedure the owner must follow to redeem the vehicle; **and**
 5. The procedure the owner must follow to request a probable cause hearing on the removal.
- B. The County shall attempt to give notice to the vehicle owner by telephone; however, whether or not the owner is reached by telephone, written notice, indicating the information set forth in subsections A 1 - 5 above, shall also be mailed to the registered owner's last known address, unless this notice is waived in writing by the vehicle owner or his agent.
- C. If the vehicle is registered in North Carolina, notice shall be given within twenty-four (24) hours. If the vehicle is not registered in the State, notice shall be given to the registered owner within seventy-two (72) hours from the removal of the vehicle.
- D. Whenever an abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle is removed, and such vehicle has no valid registration or registration plates, the authorized County official shall make reasonable efforts, including checking the vehicle identification number to determine the last known registered owner of the vehicle and to notify him of the information set forth in subsections (1) through (5) above.

Section 9. Right to probable cause hearing before sale or final disposition of vehicle.

After the removal of an abandoned vehicle, nuisance vehicle, or junked motor vehicle, the owner or any person entitled to possession is entitled to a hearing for the purpose of determining if probable cause existed for removing the vehicle. A request for hearing must be filed in writing with the county magistrate designated by the chief district court judge to receive such hearing requests. The Magistrate will set the hearing within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of the request, and the hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 20-219.11, as amended.

Section 10. Redemption of vehicle during proceedings.

At any stage in the proceedings, including before the probable cause hearing, the owner may obtain possession of the removed vehicle by paying the towing fees, including any storage charges, or by posting a bond for double the amount of such fees and charges to the tow truck operator or towing business having custody of the removed vehicle. Upon regaining possession of a vehicle, the owner or person entitled to the possession of the vehicle shall not allow or engage in further violations of this Chapter.

Section 11. Sale and disposition of unclaimed vehicle.

Any abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle which is not claimed by the owner or other party entitled to possession will be disposed of by the tow truck operator or towing business having custody of the vehicle. Disposition of such a vehicle shall be carried out in coordination with the County and in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter 44A of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Section 12. Conditions on removal of vehicles from private property.

As a general policy, the County will not remove a vehicle from private property if the owner, occupant or lessee of such property could have the vehicle removed under applicable State law procedures. In no case will a vehicle be removed by the County from private property without a written request of the owner, occupant or lessee, except in those cases where the vehicle has been declared a nuisance vehicle or is a junked motor vehicle and has been ordered removed by the County Code Administrator. The County may require any person requesting the removal of an abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle from private property to indemnify the County against any loss, expense or liability incurred because of the removal, storage, or sale thereof.

Section 13. Protection against criminal or civil liability.

No person shall be held to answer in any civil or criminal action to any owner or other person legally entitled to the possession of an abandoned, nuisance, or junked motor vehicle, for disposing of such vehicle as provided in this Article.

Section 14. Exceptions.

- A. Classic or Antique Vehicles: Any vehicle found on the property that is considered a "classic or antique vehicle" as defined by the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles will be exempted from removal from the property under this amendment. Said vehicles may, however, be relocated on the property to allow for the safe and efficient removal of an abandoned, junked or nuisance vehicle as otherwise defined above.
- B. Nothing in this Article shall apply to any vehicle:
 - 1. which is located in a bona fide "automobile graveyard" or "junkyard" as defined in N.C.G.S. 136-143, in accordance with the "Junkyard Control Act", N.C.G.S. 136-141, et seq.,
 - 2. which is in an enclosed building,
 - 3. which is on the premises of a business enterprise being operated in a lawful place and manner, or
 - 4. which is in an appropriate storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner by the County.

Section 15. Unlawful removal of impounded vehicle.

It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or attempt to remove from any storage facility designated by the County, any vehicle which has been impounded pursuant to the provision of this Article unless and until all towing and impoundment fees which are due, or bond in lieu of such fees,

have been paid.

Section 16. Alternative Remedies.

Nothing in this Article, nor any of its provisions, shall be construed to impair or limit in any way the power of the County to define and declare nuisances and to cause their removal or abatement by summary proceedings or otherwise, nor shall enforcement of one remedy provided herein prevent the enforcement of any other remedy or remedies provided herein or in other ordinances or laws.”

PART TWO. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PART THREE. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption by the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus, North Carolina.

PART FOUR. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed severable and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

PART FIVE. The enactment of this ordinance shall in no way affect the running of any amortization provisions or enforcement actions, or otherwise cure any existing violations.

PART SIX. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED this 20th day of November, 2017.

/s/ James E. Prevatte, Chairman
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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

Approved as to form:

/s/ Mike Stephens, Columbus County Attorney/Manager

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the An Ordinance Affecting the Regulation of Abandoned, Nuisance and Junked Motor Vehicles; Enacting Chapter 8, Part 3, Article 2, the Code of Ordinances of the County of Columbus, as amended, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenzie. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #14: APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS/REPLACEMENTS:

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

COMMITTEE	NAME	EXPIRATION DATE
Community Advisory Committee	EB 6 Vacancies	HOLD
Planning Board	V Vacant VI Vacant(Dale Ward)	HOLD Jimmy Horne

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

At 7:51 P.M.. Vice Chairman 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 #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **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 2 for each Water District, respectively.

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

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie 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 Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #16: Consent Agenda Item:

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

Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditures	10-4155-549900	Miscellaneous Expense	4,000
Revenues	10-3416-489040	Miscellaneous	4,000
Expenditures	10-4317-560160	Grant	5,000
Revenues	10-3991-499115	Various Fund Balance Appropriated	5,000
Expenditures	10-4317-560160	Grant	3,589
Revenues	10-3991-499115	Various Fund Balance Appropriated	3,589
Expenditures	10-4317-560160	Grant	2,147
Revenues	10-3991-499115	Various Fund Balance Appropriated	2,147

Agenda Item #17: COMMENTS:

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

A. Department Managers:

1. **Sheriff Lewis L. Hatcher:** I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving, and a safe and Merry Christmas.
2. **Larry Hayes, Maintenance Director:** stated the following:
 1. I am trying to process what just happened relative to the Historic Courthouse; **and**
 2. There are two (2) ways to lose a building which are to lose the roof and to close the building up with no air circulation.

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Vice Chairman McKenzie:** stated the following:
 - I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving;
 - The exercise equipment at the Whiteville Senior Center is not working correctly and needs to be fixed; **and**
 - I would like to know if the Evergreen Convenience Center is complete.
2. **Commissioner Bullard:** Mr. Attorney, what would you suggest on getting the study done for the two (2) school systems? Michael Stephens replied stating the committee needed to be formed in the near future.

3. **Commissioner McDowell:** stated the following:
 - I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving;
 - I would like to thank the representatives for being at this meeting;
 - If I understand correctly, all of the money we receive from Raleigh will be in addition to what we have already allocated; **and**
 - I have been communicating with Vice Chairman McKenzie about the condition of some of the equipment at the senior centers.
4. **Commissioner Burroughs:** stated the following:
 - I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas; **and**
 - We have appropriated the funds and we need to start on the school construction.
5. **Commissioner Russ:** stated the following:
 - The Social Services Department is experiencing problems with their telephone system, and I would like for Algernon McKenzie to get with Mr. Hayes to see what it would cost to replace or fix the existing telephone system before the next budget process;
 - At the new Zipline location, due to the influx of traffic, I would like a letter sent to Drew Cox about reducing the speed limit from 55 M.P.H. to 45 M.P.H.;
 - The 35 M.P.H. speed limit sign has been torn down at Delco Middle School;
 - New schools need to be built before the money is gone in Raleigh; **and**
 - If you travel this Thanksgiving weekend, please be safe with your travel.

MOTION:

Commissioner Russ made a motion to send a letter to Drew Cox relative to reducing the speed limit from 55 M.P.H. to 45 M.P.H. to see if the State is willing to do a survey to see if it is practical or feasible, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

6. **Commissioner Byrd:** stated the following:
 - At Hallsboro Elementary School, there are playground equipment which I donated;
 - I have been informed the use of the cafeteria at Hallsboro Elementary School was being refused for a spaghetti dinner to use the funds for playground equipment;
 - Assistant Superintendent:** Due to state rules and regulations, the servers have to be certified and be trained to be in the cafeteria. Every server has to be paid and can elect to donate the money that is paid to them to the playground equipment fund.
7. **Chairman Prevatte:** stated the following:
 - We held our first Opioid Forum a couple of weeks ago and we got a good crowd;
 - We had requests that this not be the only one;
 - I concur with what has been said about the equipment at the senior centers;
 - Mr. Stephens told me there was money in the budget for new equipment
 - I have had a problem with Smryna Road at the location of Arby's;
 - We are in the process of disengagement with Eastpointe, our mental health provider;
 - Thank everyone for attending, and I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas; **and**
 - Mr. Faulk, please let us know how Columbus County Schools will re-pay the debt for school construction.

Anita Adams: The Columbus County School children have donated \$19,000 to the Veterans Park over four (4) years, and I would like to thank them. We are having a Pork Chop Plate sale on December 01, 2017, at \$8.00 plate. We are having a movie night on December 09, 2017, at \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12 years of age.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

At 8:24 P.M., Commissioner Bullard made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in Accordance with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a) (3) Attorney-Client Privilege, after a five (5) minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #18: CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE:

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 8:59 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to adjourn Closed Session and resume Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

READING and APPROVAL of CLOSED SESSION GENERAL ACCOUNT:

The County Attorney discussed with the Board of Commissioners issues with GP site and R.J. Corman. No action was taken.

Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to accept the Closed Session General Account, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #19: ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:00 P.M., Commissioner Russ made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2017
7:51 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:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
/ **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2017
7:51 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:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
/ **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2017
7:51 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:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
/ **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2017
7:51 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:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
/ **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2017
7:51 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:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
/ **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman James E. Prevatte called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #15: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V - APPROVAL of BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

November 06, 2017 **Combination Meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 sets**)

Commissioner Russ made a motion to approve the November 06, 2017 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:52 P.M., Vice Chairman McKenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

JAMES E. PREVATTE, Chairman