

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Tuesday, September 08, 2020****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 the regularly scheduled meeting, it being the first Tuesday, due to the first Monday being a legal holiday.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING: **Proposed Text Amendment to Columbus County Land Use Regulation Ordinance** - the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive oral and/or written comments from the public regarding deleting "Intensive Livestock Operation".

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED to ORDER:

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the Public Hearing to order, and stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive oral and/or written comments from the public regarding deleting "Intensive Livestock Operating from the Columbus County Land Use Regulation Ordinance.

COMMENTS:

Commissioner Ricky Bullard: stated that due to inconsistencies, I will make a motion to cancel this Public Hearing until the next Board Meeting on September 21, 2020.

MOTION:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to cancel the Public Hearing scheduled for September 08, 2020, at 6:30 P.M., for a Proposed Text Amendment to Columbus County Land Use Regulation Ordinance, and schedule the Public Hearing for September 21, 2020, at 6:30 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:

At 6:32 P.M., Commissioner Byrd made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

6:32 P.M.**REGULAR SESSION:**

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

At 6:32 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner James E. Prevatte. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner Ricky Bullard.

Agenda Item #4: **BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Vice Chairman McMillian made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Regular Session Minutes, with one (1) correction on Page 601, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion

unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: PROCLAMATION - PROCLAMATION of RECOGNITION and APPRECIATION to NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PAROL TROOPER COLBY PRIDGEN:

Vice Chairman McMillian requested Board approval and adoption of the following proclamation, to be presented at a later date.

**PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION and APPRECIATION
to
NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PATROL
TROOPER COLBY PRIDGEN**

WHEREAS, during the course of performing his duties as a highway patrol trooper, *Colby Pridgen* was dispatched to a van stopped on the side of a busy highway; and

WHEREAS, on arrival to the scene of the van, during his observation of the situation, he observed a flat tire, the remaining tires with wires showing to the naked eye, the family of six (6) had been on the side of the road for five (5) hours, they were hungry, tired, and no sufficient funds to seek the help they needed and were on their way to Duke Hospital; and

WHEREAS, *Colby Pridgen*, as a native of Columbus County and having a tender and enormous heart, he made a decision to help the family with the needed tires, food and exercising the philosophy of *“to do unto others as you would have them do unto you”*, at his expense; and

WHEREAS, among the multitude of duties for Highway Patrolmen, this is just daily occurrences.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is very honored to present this document to North Carolina Highway Patrolman Trooper Colby Pridgen, native of Columbus County, for recognition of his devotion *to do unto others as you would have them do unto you*, and to show our appreciation.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 8th day of September, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ *P. EDWIN RUSS*, Chairman

/s/ *JAMES E. PREVATTE*

/s/ *TRENT BURROUGHS*

/s/ *CHARLES T. McDOWELL*

/s/ *MICHAEL H. STEPHENS*, County Manager

/s/ *JEROME McMILLIAN*, Vice Chairman

/s/ *GILES E. BYRD*

/s/ *RICKY BULLARD*

ATTESTED BY:

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

/s/ *AMANDA B. PRINCE*, County Attorney

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve and adopt the Proclamation and Appreciation to North Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper Colby Pridgen, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #6: PROCLAMATION - PROCLAMATION of APPRECIATION and RECOGNITION to SERGEANT JOHN COBBS:

Michael Stephens, County Manager, requested Board approval and adoption of the following Proclamation of Appreciation and Recognition to Sergeant John Cobbs, to be presented at a later date.

**PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION and APPRECIATION
to
SERGEANT JOHN COBBS**

WHEREAS, during the course of performing his duties as law enforcement officer, *Sergeant John Cobbs* was patrolling the Lake Waccamaw area, to assess the damages from Hurricane Isaias; and

WHEREAS, during his observation, he witnessed a gentleman, namely **Phillip Henry Ray**, at the golden age of eighty-six (86), fall into a ditch filled with approximately three (3') feet of water; **and**

WHEREAS, his keen observation of the situation immediately let him know this gentleman was unable to get up unassisted; **and**

WHEREAS, as a result of quick thinking, proper training and sound reaction, ***Sergeant John Cobbs*** immediately went to Mr. Ray and lifted him out of the ditch, escorted him to his home to dry off and change clothes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, we, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is very honored to present this document to **SERGEANT JOHN COBBS** for recognition of his devotion to mankind and life-saving techniques, and to show our appreciation.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 8th day of September, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

/s/ JAMES E. PREVATTE

/s/ TRENT BURROUGHS

/s/ CHARLES T. McDOWELL

/s/ MICHAEL H. STEPHENS, County Manager

/s/ JEROME McMILLIAN, Vice Chairman

/s/ GILES E. BYRD

/s/ RICKY BULLARD

ATTESTED BY:

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

/s/ AMANDA B. PRINCE, County Attorney

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve and adopt the Proclamation of Appreciation and Recognition to Sergeant John Cobbs, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #7: SHERIFF - ADDITION of \$263,659.28 to SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET LINES as NEEDED:

The Honorable Sheriff Jody Greene requested the addition of \$263,659.28 for equipment and vehicles for the four (4) new Bailiff positions.

Long and in-depth discussion was conducted relative to this request.

MOTION:

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to leave the budget as it is, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs.

After additional discussion was conducted, Commissioner Prevatte withdrew his motion and Commissioner Burroughs withdrew his second.

It was the general consensus of the board that no action would be taken, and Michael Stephens, County Manager, to contact Sheriff Greene for clarification, and the possibility of this item being placed on the September 21, 2020 Agenda.

Agenda Item #8: SHERIFF - GOVERNORS HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM:

The Honorable Sheriff Jody Greene requested Board approval of the \$31,074.00 grant match and approval of Resolution, for the .

North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program Local Governmental Resolution

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Sheriff's Office (herein called the "Agency") has completed an application contract for traffic safety funding, and that County Columbus Board of Commissioners (herein called the "Governing Body") has thoroughly considered the problem identified and has reviewed the project as described in the contract.

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED by the Columbus County Board, in open meeting assembled in the City of Whiteville, North Carolina, this 08 day of September, 2020, as

follows:

1. That the project referenced above is in the best interest of the Governing Body and the general public; **and**
2. That Sheriff Jody Greene is authorized to file, on behalf of the Governing Body, an application contract in the form prescribed by the Governor's Highway Safety Program for federal funding in the amount of \$176,083.00 to be made to the Governing Body to assist in defraying the cost of the project described in the contract application; **and**
3. That the Governing Body has formally appropriated the cash contribution of \$31,074.00 as required by the project contract; **and**
4. That the Project Director designated in the application contract shall furnish or make arrangement for other appropriate persons to furnish such information, data, documents and reports as required by the contract, if approved, or as may be required by the Governor's Highway Safety Program; **and**
5. That certified copies of this resolution be included as part of the contract referenced above; **and**
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DONE AND ORDERED in open meeting by /s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS**.

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

(SEAL)

DATE: 09-09-2020

MOTION to be EXCUSED from VOTE:

Vice Chairman McMillian made a motion to be excused from the vote, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Commissioner Prevatte made a motion to approve the Governor's Highway Safety Program, by Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #9: EMERGENCY SERVICES - RESOLUTION of ADOPTION of the MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:

Kay Worley, Emergency Services Director, request Board adoption of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan named the Bladen Columbus Robeson Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, by Resolution of Adoption.

**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
County of Columbus
Hazard Mitigation Plan**

WHEREAS, the citizens and property within Columbus County are subject to the effects of natural hazards that pose threats to lives and cause damage to property, and with the knowledge and experience that certain areas are particularly vulnerable to hurricanes, flooding, severe winter storms, thunderstorms/lightning/hail, tornadoes, wildfire, earthquakes, dam/levee failure, and droughts/heat waves; **and**

WHEREAS, the County desires to seek ways to mitigate the impact of identified hazard risks; **and**

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Part 6, Article 21 of Chapter 143; Parts 3, 5, and 8 of Article 19 of Chapter 160A; and Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, delegated to local governmental units the responsibility to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry; **and**

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Section 1 Part 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes (adopted in Session Law 2001-214—Senate Bill 300 effective July 1, 2001), states in Item (a) (2) "For a state of disaster proclaimed pursuant to G.S. 166A-6(a) after August 1, 2002, the eligible entity shall have a hazard mitigation plan approved pursuant to the Stafford Act"; **and**

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 states that local government must develop an All-Hazards Mitigation Plan in order to receive future Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds and other disaster-related assistance funding and that said Plan must be updated and adopted within a five year cycle, **and**

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus has performed a comprehensive review and evaluation of each section of the previously approved Hazard Mitigation Plan and has updated the said plan as required under regulations at 44 CFR Part 201 and according to guidance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management; **and**

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County to fulfill this obligation in order that the County will be eligible for state assistance in the event that a state of disaster is declared for a hazard event affecting the County.

NOW, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Columbus County hereby;

1. Adopts the Bladen Columbus Robeson Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and
2. Vests the Columbus County Planning Department Manager with the responsibility, authority, and the means to:
 - (A) Inform all concerned parties of this action.
 - (B) Cooperate with Federal, State and local agencies and private firms which undertake to study, survey, map, and identify floodplain areas, and cooperate with neighboring communities with respect to management of adjoining floodplain areas in order to prevent exacerbation of existing hazard impacts.
3. Appoints the Columbus County Planning Department Manager to assure that the Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed annually and every five years as specified in the Plan to assure that the Plan is in compliance with all State and Federal regulations and that any needed revisions or amendments to the Plan are developed and presented to the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County for consideration.
4. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Adopted this the 8th day of September, 2020..

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS**, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Attested By::
/s) **JUNE B. HALL**, Clerk to Board

(SEAL)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the Resolution of Adoption, Columbus County, Hazard Mitigation Plan, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #10: **Finance - Designation of Applicant's Agent:** Dylan Bowen, Deputy Finance Director, requested Board approval of the following application for FEMA-3534-DR-NC.

**DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT
and APPLICANT ASSURANCES
for PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

County of Columbus, FEMA-3534-DR NC
56-6000289

PRIMARY AGENT

Bobbie Faircloth
Columbus County Finance Department

Finance Director

111 Washington Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-6825
(910) 914-4108 Facsimile Number

SECONDARY AGENT

Kay Worley
Columbus County Emergency
Services Department
Columbus Co. Emergency Services
Director

608 N. Thompson Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 640-6610 Extension: 221
(910) 640-1241 Facsimile Number

The above primary and secondary agents are hereby authorized to execute and file application for

public assistance on behalf of the Organization for the purpose of obtaining certain state and federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, (Public Law 93-288 as Amended) or otherwise available. This agent is authorized to represent and act for the organization in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for matter pertaining to such disaster assistance required by the agreements and assurances printed on the reverse side hereof. The agreement and assurances printed on the reverse side will be marked as Exhibit A”, and kept on file in Minute Book Attachments, Book Number 6, in the Clerk to the Board’s Office, for review./.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Bobbie Faircloth
 Columbus County Finance Department
 Finance Director
 111 Washington Street
 Whiteville, NC 28472
 (910) 642-6825
 (910) 914-4108 Facsimile Number

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

P. Edwin Russ
 County of Columbus
 Chairman
 608 N. Thompson Street
 Whiteville, NC 28472
 (910) 640-6640
 (910) 640-2208 Facsimile Number

APPLICANT’S STATE COGNIZANT AGENCY FOR SINGLE AUDIT PURPOSES (If a Cognizant Agency is not assigned, please indicate).

North Carolina

Applicant’s Fiscal Year (FY) Start

Month: July Day: 2020

Applicant’s Federal Employer’s Identification Number:

56-6000289

Certifying Official’s Signature:

/s/ P. EDWIN RUSS

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Designation of Applicant’s Agent and Applicant Assurances for Public Assistance, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: ADMINISTRATION - COVID-19 CARES ACT FUNDING REQUESTS:

Michael H. Stephens, County Manager, requested Board approval of the staff’s recommendation for the use of these funds, as follows.

PLACE	AMOUNT
Whiteville City Schools	\$94,500
Columbus County Schools	\$255,500
Sheriff	\$223,561
Emergency Services	\$225,000
TOTAL ALLOCATED:	\$798,561

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the Manager’s recommendation of the above listed allocations of the COVID-19 CARES Act funding, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item 12: LEGAL - RESOLUTION to PLACE a TWO CENT RESCUE TAX INCREASE on the 2020 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT:

Amanda Prince, County Attorney, requested Board approval of the following Resolution to Place a Two Cent Rescue Tax Increase on the 2020 General Election Ballot.

Resolution to Place a Two Cent Rescue Tax Increase on the 2020 General Election Ballot

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for Columbus County desire to place a

referendum for a two cent rescue tax increase on the 2020 General Election Ballot.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, do hereby request for the Columbus County Board of Elections to place the following on the 2020 General Election Ballot:

“ **FOR** **AGAINST** Shall the property tax rate limitation applicable to Columbus County be increased from two (\$.02) cents on the one hundred dollars (\$100.00) value of property subject to taxation to four (\$.04) cents on the one hundred dollars (\$100.00) value of property subject to taxation to be used for Intermediate County Rescue Services?”

ADOPTED this the 8th day of September, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS**, Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ **JUNE HALL**, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Bullard made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution to Place a Two Cent Rescue Tax Increase on the 2020 General Election Ballot, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: GOVERNING BODY - APPROVAL OF LEGISLATIVE GOAL:

Commissioner Trent Burroughs requested Board approval of the following Legislative Goal to be submitted to the NCACC:

Enhance the state’s inventory of available industrial sites, parks and buildings by creating and funding a Commerce-managed low -or no- interest - revolving loan program that communities may tap in order to complement local resources for product development needs.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Legislative Goal to be submitted to the NCACC, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #14: GOVERNING BODY - PUBLIC ACCESS TO COUNTY OFFICES:

Commissioner Ricky Bullard will discuss the possibility of opening County offices to the public.

After discussion was conducted, the general consensus of the Board was to leave the County offices as they are until the number of COVID-19 cases decreases.

Agenda Item 15: GOVERNING BODY - MOLD IN SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT:

Commissioner Ricky Bullard will discuss the existence of mold in the Columbus County Sheriff’s Department. Commissioner Bullard stated the following:

1. A letter was received on August 02, 2020 relative to the existence of mold being in the Columbus County Sheriff’s Department; **and**
2. We need to have this matter checked out to see what the status may be.

After discussion was conducted among the Board members, it was the general consensus of the Board to have the County Manager handle this situation.

Agenda Item #16: GOVERNING BODY - ATTENDEE ALLOWANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS:

Commissioner Ricky Bullard will discuss attendee allowance at Board Meetings with strict social distancing. Commissioner Bullard stated the following:

1. We need to allow the person with an item on the Agenda to be present at the Board Meeting with strict adherence to social distancing; **and**
2. If strict adherence is practiced, it will not put our health in danger.

After discussion was conducted, Commissioner Bullard made a motion to allow the people with items on the Agenda to come in the Board Room to speak, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. A roll-call vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Vice Chairman McMillian and Commissioner Bullard; **and**
NAYS: Chairman Russ, Commissioners Prevatte, McDowell, Byrd and Burroughs.

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

Agenda Item #17: APPOINTMENTS / RE-APPOINTMENTS / REPLACEMENTS to BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND AUTHORITIES:

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

COMMITTEE	ZONE/ EB	PERSON(S)	EXPIR. DATE	BOARD ACTION
Housing Advisory Committee	III	David Solomon	06/30/2020	HOLD
Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees	IV	Pickett Council	06/30/2022	Gene Wayman
Southeastern Economic Development Commission	II	Ricky James Benton	04/01/2020	Lisa Nye
Water and Sewer Advisory Commission	II III	Chris Smith Margaret Gordon	06/02/2020 06/02/2020	HOLD HOLD
Trillum Regional Board Motion: Prevatte Second: Burroughs	EB	Theron McKvian	?	Theron McKvian

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

At 7:31 P.M., Commissioner Byrd 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 McDowell. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 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.

Agenda Item #19: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT II - HELENA CHEMICAL PROJECT - IDF GRANT AWARD:

Dr. Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested Board approval of the following Infrastructure Grant Resolution.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book Number 2 for Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III and V - WATER LINE EXTENSIONS:

Harold Nobles, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to move forward with the following water line extensions.

This information will be recorded in Minute Book 2 for Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III and V.

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

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion adjourn the combination meeting of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #21: PUBLIC INPUT (by TELEPHONE, E-MAIL or LETTER):

Chairman Russ opened the floor for Public Input. The following two (2) inputs were orally read by the Clerk to the Board - one (1) by e-mail, and one (1) hand delivered.

Brandon Patrick, no address or telephone number given: stated the following:

I find it very disturbing that when a tax paying citizen requests public information or records they are called out in an open Commissioners meeting. As many times as Calvin Norton and others have requested records I've never heard any Commissioner call them out in a open meeting the way Edwin Russ did me the other Monday. For that matter one Commissioner went on a radio show with this man who has been known for suing and reeking havoc across our county.

I knew when I requested these records, Mike Stephens would immediately be on the phone with Mr. Russ giving him a heads up. What was the point in bringing my name up in an open meeting without me being able to attend the meeting? Mr. Russ you had absolutely no substance behind your comments at all, they were both cowardly, pointless and arrogant.

And Mr. Burroughs, who I tried to have a conversation with about efforts to undermine our Sheriff's Department, hung up on me mid conversation saying "I see I'm not going to win this argument so I'm just going to hang up now". You sir are a public official who prides himself on FOLLOWING the other 4 Commissioners in their efforts to undermine our Sheriff's Department and our county. Do you all realize how far behind our neighboring counties we are?]

We have absolutely the BEST employees of anywhere in this state, but you guys would rather spend millions on an old courthouse that will serve no purpose at this time than you would give our employees raises, you would rather take risks in buying old buildings that will served no purpose than to equip our Sheriff's Department with much needed equipment, you guys didn't have a problem spending millions on a new courthouse that has as many problems as the old one but you can't find the money to help the departments that keep this county running.

It's a crying shame you, as our leaders, are so poorly equipped, incompetent and irresponsible you would rather play politics with our safety and loose employees than to give these guys what they deserve.

You 5 are the reason why Columbus County will only be a stepping stone for the best employees who really want to stay here but can't afford to.

Thank you Jerome and Ricky for fighting these thugs who are set on the national democratic platform of seeing our county fail. You all have my number. I encourage you to call me if you want to talk.

Robert Adams, 2133 Mount Calvary Road, Clarkton, NC 28433: stated the following:

We are writing to request an inquiry into the low bonds and minimal sentences being given to the defendants in Columbus County who are being charged with some very serious drug charges. Our county has been in a downward spiral for the last few years with all the drugs being used and sold. These offenders selling and distributing these illegal substances are ruining families and our communities. The drugs are killing people, leaving children as orphans, leaving parents to plan funerals way too early, and destroying the lives of everyone who is introduced to them and even the lives of those who couldn't even tell you what the substances look like.

Law enforcement is showing great progress in trying to get these people and drugs off of the street! Sheriff Jody Greene and our local chiefs of police have made sure that every effort possible is put into catching the offenders selling and using these substances. They have seized a great deal of illegal substances just in this year alone to no avail.

According to the articles in The News Reporter, these people come in they are getting minimal bonds, some in the low thousands, and out before they ever get to see the inside of a jail cell. Then when they go to court, they are not having to serve much prison time for their crimes, if any at all.

A lot of the times, these offenders are getting off on probation and back on the street selling more drugs.

These people are not just drug dealers, and although we understand that it can not be proven who sold someone these drugs after they overdose from them, they are killing their customers. It is completely understood that these people choose to start using, and they make a choice every time to purchase from these dealers, but if we could start raising the bonds and punishments for these crimes at least we could make it harder for them to get.

Our children and grandchildren for many years to come deserve a place they are proud to call their hometown, and we aspire to do everything we can to be able to provide this for them, but it seems the harder our Law Enforcement Officers work to clean up our county the easier it is being made to them to get right back out and go back to what they were doing. It is very discouraging to our citizens and to our officers to see them working so hard to get them off the streets and before they get back into their patrol vehicles the offenders are right back on the streets.

Please take into consideration that these could be your families ruined by these people and help us get higher bonds and more strict prison sentences for these drug charges. Please help us clean up the streets of our communities and deliver a safer environment for our citizens to live and raise their families. Help up let our neighbors know that these people cannot just break the law and get to go home at night to ruin another person's life or another family.

P.S.

Recently the Sheriff raided an area in the Tabor City, Iron Hill Community and they were released back into the community within hours. Not having to even serve one day in jail. We do not feel that that is protecting our community. Their bonds need to high enough that they have to stay in jail

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Agenda Item #22: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

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

A. Budget Amendments:

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Expenditures	10-5880-512100	Salaries & Wages Regular	3,749
	10-5880-512600	Salaries & Wages - Part Time	13,083
	10-5880-518100	FICA	1,288
	10-5880-518200	Retirement Contribution	1,523
	10-5880-519001	Contracted Services	44,396
Revenues	10-3585-430172	Families First Coronavirus Response Act	64,039
Expenditures	17-4213-512100	COVID-19 Salaries	70,000
	17-4213-512700	COVID-19 Longevity	1,000
	17-42130518100	COVID-19 FICA	20,000
	17-4213-518300	COVID-19 Insurance	15,000
	17-4213-518200	COVID-19 Retirement	15,000
	17-4213-526001	COVID-19 Departmental Supplies	28,742
Revenues	17-3581-430172	COVID-19 Grant	149,742
Expenditures	10-4317-560160	Grant Expenditures-Good Shepherd Grant	2,500
Revenues	10-3431-440035	Grant Revenues	2,500
Expenditures	10-4317-560160	Grant Expenditures - GCC Grant	25,006

TYPE	ACCOUNT	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Revenues	10-3431-440035	Grant Income - GCC Grant	25,006
Expenditures	10-5167-550010	Maternal Health Non-Capital Outlay	5,000
	10-5167-531100	Travel	2,500
Revenues	10-3510-430035	Maternal Health Grant	7,500

B. Tax Refunds and Releases:

<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$78.81
Payne, John	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$203.56
Value: \$9,790.00	Year: 2020	Account: 04-13022	Bill#: 91213
Release property value. Sold and moved. Release Bolton Fire(9.79) release Columbus Rescue(1.96)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$275.96
Buffkin Trucking Inc.	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$282.82
Value: \$34,281.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-01121	Bill#: 61799
Release portion of value. Truck value to high. Release Columbus Rescue(6.86)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$19.19
Conterra Ultra Brodband LLC	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$21.58
Value: \$2,384.00	Year: 2020	Account: 12-04454	Bill#: 65314
Release portion of value Value to high. Release Columbus Rescue(.48) Evergreen Fire(1.91)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$3.34
Conterra Ultra Brodband LLC	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$3.84
Value: \$415.00	Year: 2020	Account: 04-04324	Bill#: 65312
Release portion of value Value to high. Release Columbus Rescue(.08) Release Bolton Fire (.42)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$166.23
Conterra Ultra Brodband LLC	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$170.36
Value: \$20,650.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-08852	Bill#: 65315
Release portion of value Value to high. Release Whiteville Rescue(4.13)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$8.05
Gore, Chris & Audrey	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$208.25
Value: \$1,000.00	Year: 2020	Account: 07-05026	Bill#: 73297
Release value of SWMH moved off in 2019. Release Columbus Rescue(.20)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$75.67
Hicks, Margaret S	PROPERTY: 26595	Total:	\$85.07
Value: \$9,400.00	Year: 2020	Account: 14-04009	Bill#: 77325
Release value. Sold to Columbus County 2020. Release Welches Creek(7.52) release Whiteville Rescue(1.88)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$5.59
Niven, Amy	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$6.77
Value: \$695.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-04414	Bill#: 89692
Release value of boat. Sold. Release Williams Fire(.42) release Columbus Rescue(.14) release late list(.62)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$3.26
Porter, Charles Dean & Charleen L.	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$3.94
Value: \$405.00	Year: 2020	Account: 06-02118	Bill#: 92072
Release value of business equipment. Sold with land. Release Williams Fire(.24) release Columbus Rescue(.08) release late list(.36)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$49.75
Reaves, Myrvin	PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$258.41
Value: \$6,180.00	Year: 2020	Account: 15-02448	Bill#: 93813
Release entire value of SWMH and user fee. Double billed. Release Acme Delco(7.42) release Columbus Rescue(1.24)			
<i>Property Value</i>		Amount:	\$201.25
Stanley, Edwin Lambert	PROPERTY: 5125	Total:	\$223.75
Value: \$25,000.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-04881	Bill#: 99940
Release portion of value. Partial elderly exemption. Release Brunswick Fire(17.50) release Whiteville Rescue(5.00)			

<i>Property Value</i>			Amount:	\$33.64
Stanley, William Elihu Martin		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$38.66
Value: \$15,785.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-05101	Bill#:	138
Release value of trailer. Wrecked. Release Yam City(4.18) release Columbus Rescue(.84)				
<i>Property Value</i>			Amount:	\$52.33
Town of Fair Bluff		PROPERTY: 17878	Total:	\$173.13
Value: \$6,500.00	Year: 2020	Account: 10-50100	Bill#:	2895
Release value billed in error. Release Cole Service(6.50) release Columbus Rescue(1.30)				
<i>Property Value</i>			Amount:	\$22.54
Watts, John G Dec & Judy		PROPERTY: 17201	Total:	\$25.34
Value: \$1,640.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-33020	Bill#:	5578
Release portion of value. Road frontage adjusted. Release Roseland Fire(2.24) release Columbus Rescue(.56)				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Barnhill, Tiffany		PROPERTY: 17304	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 09-03123	Bill#:	85699
Refund user fee. No can.				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Faulk, Randy		PROPERTY: 30077	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 16-04300	Bill#:	99999
Refund user fee. Vacant				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Faulk, Randy		PROPERTY: 30078	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 16-04726	Bill#:	99999
Refund user fee. Vacant				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Hahn, Joseph L		PROPERTY: 30666	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 16-05427	Bill#:	2884
Refund user fee. Home demolished.				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Hinson, Lee Devon & Imogene C		PROPERTY: 16075	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-00562	Bill#:	5601
Refund user fee.				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Rhodes, Michael		PROPERTY: 86199	Total:	\$87.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 08-03520	Bill#:	94298
Refund portion of user fee to be applied to Act#08-03520. Make check payable to Columbus County to be applied.				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Smith, Worth D Jr. & Jean B		PROPERTY: 23366	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 12-00439	Bill#:	25960
Refund user fee. Double billed.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Beebe Edwaner & Eboni		PROPERTY: 4954	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2019	Account: 01-05401	Bill#:	86360
Release user fee. Vacant				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Bishop, Larry & Donna		PROPERTY: 75220	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 15-02285	Bill#:	59304
Release user fee. Vacant				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Brown, Carl D		PROPERTY: 95890	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 12-05156	Bill#:	60878
Release user fee. Dblisted.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Brown, Carl Laverne		PROPERTY: 77542	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 12-03706	Bill#:	60884
Release user fees. Vacant land.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Burt, Renitta (ETAL)		PROPERTY: 20830	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 19-20	Account: 12-04777	Bill#:	99999

Release user fees. Billed to SWMH.

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Butler, Shelly		PROPERTY: 19245	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 11-01562	Bill#:	62436
Release user fee. Home is unliveable.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Davis, Thomas L. & Mona B		PROPERTY: 20949	Total:	\$800.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 12-06300	Bill#:	66968
Release user fees. 4 SWMH moved off.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Edwards, John C.		PROPERTY: 4312	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-08764	Bill#:	68676
Release user fee. Vacant				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Faircloth, Larry Michael		PROPERTY: 2350	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-05634	Bill#:	69650
Release user fee. Vacant land.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Graham, Emmett		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 11-04530	Bill#:	21164
Release user fee. Billed on Act#03-03622				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Grainger, Georgianna Alexis		PROPERTY: 29461	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 15-00034	Bill#:	74420
Release user fee. Vacant land.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Griffin Billy Ray & Bernice		PROPERTY: 79766	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-12240	Bill#:	74997
Release user fee. Billed to SWMH				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Hahn, Joseph L.		PROPERTY: 30666	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 16-05427	Bill#:	75208
Release user fee. Home demolished.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Hamilton, Willard Hugh(Heirs)		PROPERTY: 2135	Total:	\$600.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 18-20	Account: 01-36320	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee. Home is unliveable.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Harper, Eloise		PROPERTY: 100080	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 11-04836	Bill#:	76028
Release user fee. Double listed.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Harrelson, Robin D		PROPERTY: 1051	Total:	\$230.50
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-03707	Bill#:	76188
Release portion of user fees. Overbilled.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Heavener Belinda J		PROPERTY: 78198	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 07-08243	Bill#:	76801
Release user fee. Vacant land				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Hinson, Lee Devon & Imogene		PROPERTY: 16075	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-00562	Bill#:	77980
Release user fee. Overbilled				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Billy Joe		PROPERTY: 7329	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 03-13449	Bill#:	83858
Release user fee. Vacant land.				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Glenn Anthony & Sheila Marie		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 03-01223	Bill#:	21163
Release user fee. No can				

<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Jesse E JR		PROPERTY: 16253	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-00414	Bill#:	84056
Release user fee. House sold.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Long, Noah David		PROPERTY: 99476	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 13-24227	Bill#:	84161
Release user fee. Vacant land.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Mishoe, Amaryllis J		PROPERTY: 87415	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-01751	Bill#:	87960
Release user fee. Billed on Act#09-03904				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Nealy Gary Dean		PROPERTY: 86442	Total:	\$400.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-02833	Bill#:	89444
Release user fees. Dblisted.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Parker, Phillip Allen & Myrtle		PROPERTY: 22038	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 12-21280	Bill#:	90975
Release user fee. Dblisted.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Rubin Carol Sylvia		PROPERTY: 100738	Total:	\$600.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-08690	Bill#:	95305
Release user fees. Previous owner had more than one can.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Shelby K Sellers Trust		PROPERTY: 5923	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-01052	Bill#:	96736
Release user fee. Billed on Act#01-00722				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Shelby K Sellers Trust		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 01-00722	Bill#:	96734
Release user fee. Dbilled				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Smith, John F		PROPERTY: 16633	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-01169	Bill#:	98266
Release user fee. Home demolished.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Stanley, G W Jr		PROPERTY: 13712	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 07-15983	Bill#:	99949
Release user fee. House unliveable				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Stephens, Naomi		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$200.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 03-02036	Bill#:	366
Release user fee. House unliveable				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Stevens, Christian R & Desere		PROPERTY: 100495	Total:	\$113.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 09-02726	Bill#:	436
Release user fee. No can.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Strong, Bill		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$113.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 11-02958	Bill#:	1257
Release user fee. Uses campground industrial hauler.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Thomas, Larry(Jr)		PROPERTY: 61472	Total:	\$263.64
Value: \$0.00	Year: 18-19	Account: 01-03021	Bill#:	99999
Release user fee. Vacant land				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Town of Tabor City		PROPERTY: 00000	Total:	\$113.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2020	Account: 06-50230	Bill#:	2901
Release user fee. Exempt town.				
<i>User Fee</i>			Amount:	\$0.00

Veterans Memorial Park of Columbus Value: \$0.00 Year: 2019 Release user fee. Vacant	PROPERTY: 00000 Account: 01-07897	Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 31006
<i>User Fee</i> Ward, Noah Lee Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. MH used for storage.	PROPERTY: 77650 Account: 09-32413	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 5005
<i>User Fee</i> Webb, Ossie Mae Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. Billed in error.	PROPERTY: 9515 Account: 04-16480	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 5898
<i>User Fee</i> West, Walter D & Amanda Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. Vacant land	PROPERTY: 90238 Account: 12-04607	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 6054
<i>User Fee</i> Whiteville City Board of Education Value: \$0.00 Year: 19-20 Release user fee. Uses a commercial hauler.	PROPERTY: 00000 Account: 02-50505	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$400.00 Bill#: 99999
<i>User Fee</i> Williamson, Rickey MC Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. Billed to SWMH	PROPERTY: 75971 Account: 12-31647	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 7480
<i>User Fee</i> Williamson, Tammie Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. House moved off.	PROPERTY: 22673 Account: 12-01427	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 7521
<i>User Fee</i> Wilson, Sparky Wendell & Justin Brian Value: \$0.00 Year: 2020 Release user fee. Added to Act#03-03061	PROPERTY: 7579 Account: 03-05615	Amount: \$0.00 Total: \$200.00 Bill#: 7775

Agenda Item #23: COMMENTS:

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

B. Board of Commissioners:

1. **Commissioner Burroughs:** stated the following:
 - I would like to thank the Columbus Chamber and Tourism Board for doing an excellent job with the candidate forum;
 - During the forum one of the candidates stated that Columbus County needed to improve their sewer system, and Columbus County does not have a sewer system; **and**
 - During the forum, one of the candidates stated that the County needed to improve their roads, and the public needs to know that the County has nothing to do with the roads or ditches.
2. **Commissioner Bullard:** stated I would like the Public Hearing that needed to be cancelled tonight be placed on the September 21, 2020 Agenda, and the action item be placed on the Agenda.

MOTION:

Commissioner Bullard made a motion for the Public Hearing on the Agenda needed to be cancelled and to be placed on the September 21, 2020, and the action item to be placed on the September 21, 2020 Agenda, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

3. **Commissioner McDowell:** stated the following:
 - I would like to congratulate the City of Whiteville, they have a New Business Starter Packet;
 - The ribbon cuttings have been fantastic;
 - The Logistics Park will have an \$8.5 million shell building; **and**

-Every high school in Columbus County have received their graduation percentage and they have increased.

4. **Vice Chairman McMillian:** stated we need to distribute the information that was forwarded by Gail Edwards to the Board members relative to the available money for damages from the storms, to the citizens of Columbus County.
5. **Commissioner Byrd:** stated the following:
 - I see in publications that counties are opting out of the President's deferred tax plan;
 - In the Hallsboro area, we lost an outstanding young man, Billy Six, which served the Hallsboro Fire Department and help in any manner he could; **and**
 - We need to prepare a proclamation of recognition for this young man to be sent to the family and Hallsboro Fire Department.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to prepare a proclamation in recognition of Billy Six to be sent to the family and Hallsboro Fire Department, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

6. **Chairman Russ:** the Board voted for Columbus County to do business with Southern Tire and Muffler up to the amount established by the state.
 7. **Commissioner Prevatte:** stated he appreciated the departments that sought money from COVID-19, and they were the Department of Aging, the Sheriff's Department and the Health Department.
- C. **County Manager (Michael H. Stephens):** stated I did get the signs for the Department of Aging and they are very appreciative.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and ENTER into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE and (5) (I) ACQUISITION of REAL PROPERTY:

At 8:07 P.M., Commissioner McDowell 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 and (5) (I) Acquisition of Real Property, after a five (5) minute recess, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #24 CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE and (5) (I) ACQUISITION of REAL PROPERTY:

No official action was taken.

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION and resume REGULAR SESSION:

At 8:47 P.M., Commissioner Burroughs 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:

Chairman Russ requested that Amanda B. Prince, County Attorney, orally read the Closed Session General Account. Ms. Prince orally read the following: *"The County Commissioners discussed the Wayne Bailey Bankruptcy Action with David Mills, by telephone, and County Attorney. The County Commissioners discussed Vapes Enterprises - vs- Columbus County and Columbus County Sheriff with the County Attorney. The County Commissioners discussed acquisition of real property with County Manager. No action was taken by the Board of Commissioners"*.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the Closed Session General Account, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #25: ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:47 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 08, 2020
7:31 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, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:31 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 Sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District I Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III and V - WATER LINE EXTENSIONS:

Harold Nobles, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to move forward with the Frank Norris Road water line extension.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Frank Norris Road water line extension, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 08, 2020
7:31 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, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:31 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 Sets**)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District II Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #19: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICT II - HELENA CHEMICAL PROJECT - IDF GRANT AWARD:

Dr. Gary Lanier, Economic Development Director, requested Board approval of the following Infrastructure Grant Resolution.

**INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT RESOLUTION
Columbus County Board of Commissioners**

BE IT RESOLVED, that a grant from the Department of Commerce Industrial Development Fund through the County of Columbus be made to assist in the Water Improvements for the Southeast Regional Park project; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Columbus County will administer this grant in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Commerce; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County will administer this grant through the County Administration Office; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant will be monitored quarterly to assure compliance with this proposal and the Department of Commerce regulations; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the amount of the grant application will be eight hundred sixty-six, nine hundred eighty-three and no/100 (\$866,983.00) dollars, with a local match of ninety thousand and 00/100 (\$90,000.00) dollars.

ADOPTED this 8th day of September, 2020.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ **P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman**

ATTESTED BY:

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

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve and adopt the Infrastructure Grant Resolution, Columbus County Board of Commissioners, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III and V - WATER LINE EXTENSIONS:

Harold Nobles, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to move forward with the Clarendon-Chadbourn Road, and 4,273 feet of Otto Nance Road water line extensions, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District II.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Clarendon-Chadbourn Road, and 4,273 feet of Otto Nance Road water line extensions, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District II, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 08, 2020
7:31 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, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:31 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 Sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District III Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III and V - WATER LINE EXTENSIONS:

Harold Nobles, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to move forward with the Lynn Hill and North Lakes Road water line extensions, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District III.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Lynn Hill and North Lakes Road water line extensions, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District III, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 08, 2020
7:31 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, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:31 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (**5 Sets**)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District IV Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman

COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V
COMBINATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 08, 2020
7:31 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, 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose to act as the Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**
 June B. Hall, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEE ABSENT:

Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

At 7:31 P.M., Chairman P. Edwin Russ called the **combination meeting** of Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting to order.

Agenda Item #18: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V Board Meeting (5 Sets)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the August 17, 2020 Columbus County Water and Sewer District V Board Meeting Minutes, as recorded, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #20: COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III and V - WATER LINE EXTENSIONS:

Harold Nobles, Public Utilities Director, requested Board approval to move forward with the Seven Creeks Highway - 951 feet only, water line extension, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District V.

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to approve the Seven Creeks Highway - 951 feet only, water line extension, in Columbus County Water and Sewer District V, seconded by Commissioner Prevatte. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:37 P.M., Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman McMillian. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

P. EDWIN RUSS, Chairman