

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**127 W. Webster St
Whiteville, NC 28472**



AGENDA

**Monday, April 7, 2025
5:45 P.M. – Closed Session
6:30 P.M. – Regular Session**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order:** Chairman Lavern Coleman

**RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with
N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE and N.C.G.S. § 143-
318.11(A)(6) PERSONNEL**

- 2. Closed Session in Accordance with N.C.G. N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(3) Attorney-Client
Privilege and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (6) Personnel.**

RECESS CLOSED SESSION and enter into REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Regular Session Resumes at 6:30 P.M.

- 3. Invocation:** Vice Chairman Chris Smith
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** Commissioner Scott Floyd

<p>Public Hearing – 6:30 P.M. or as soon as can be heard regarding the Building Reuse and Incentive Grant:</p>

- 5. Approval of Agenda, Tax Refunds & Releases:**
 - a. 4/07/2025

6. Board Minutes Approval:

- a. Sheriff's Office Budget Workshop
- b. March 17, 2025 Regular Session

Board Minutes Section

- 7. Proclamation – Week of the Young Child:** Selena B. Rowell from the Columbus County Partnership for Children is requesting adoption of the Week of the Young Child Proclamation. **Pages: 1-2**
- 8. Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month:** Sky Robinson from Families First is requesting adoption of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation. **Pages: 3-4**
- 9. Proclamation - Telecommunicators' Week:** Emergency Services Interim Director Kay Stevens is requesting adoption of the Telecommunicators Week Proclamation. **Pages: 5-6**
- 10. Proclamations – Lineman Appreciation Day:** BEMC Communications Manager Brookes Versaggi is requesting adoption of the Lineman Appreciation Day Proclamation. **Pages: 7-8**
- 11. Employee Spotlight – Recognition of Jody King and Reggie Morrison:** County Manager Eddie Madden and Interim Emergency Services Director Kay Stephens will recognize paramedics Jody King and Reggie Morrison for their achievement in winning the North Carolina State Paramedic competition. **(Eddie Madden and Kay Stephens will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)** **Page: 9**
- 12. Health Services – Introduction of the New Health Director:** Health Services Director Kim Smith will introduce the new Health Director. **(Kim Smith will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)** **Page: 10**
- 13. Angela Norris – Discussion about “The Wall that Heals” that will be coming to Columbus County April 21st through April 28th**
- 14. Cooperative Extension - Rob Emens from NC Department of Environmental Quality to Present an Update on Giant Salvinia:** Rob Emens from the NC DEQ will give the annual update on the eradication of Giant Salvinia in Columbus County. **(Rob Emens will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**
- 15. Economic Development – Acceptance of the Building Reuse and Incentive Grant:** EDC/Planning Director Gary Lanier is requesting approval of the Building Reuse and Incentive Grant for Barrier Fencing which will create 151 jobs in Columbus County. This action item is associated with the previously held public hearing. **(Gary Lanier will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)** **Pages: 11-12**

- 16. Columbus County Schools – Approval to use Lottery Funds for HVAC at East Columbus High School and South Columbus High School:** Assistant Superintendent Adam Thompson is requesting to use lottery funds for HVAC systems for East and South Columbus High Schools. (Adam Thompson will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 13-19**
- 17. Transportation - Approval of the Amendment to the Lease Agreement between Columbus County Transportation and Transdev:** Transportation Director Joy Jacobs is requesting approval of the amendment to the lease agreement between Columbus County Transportation and Transdev to cycle out old vehicles with new vehicles. (Joy Jacobs will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 20-23**
- 18. Airport – Approval of the Low Bid from Rufus Young Construction and Contract Authorization for AWOS Clearing and Grubbing:** Airport Director Phil Edwards is requesting approval of the low bid from Rufus Young Construction in the amount of \$445,199.80, for clearing and grubbing of 16 acres for the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS), and authorization of contract pending approval from the County Manager and Attorney. (Phil Edwards will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 24-26**
- 19. Emergency Services – Approval to Extend the Contract with Dr. Peter Chambers for the EMS and E911 Medical Director:** Interim Emergency Services Director Kay Stephens is requesting approval to extend the contract with Dr. Peter Chambers for the EMS and E911 Medical Director. (Kay Stephens will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 27-37**
- 20. Facility Services – Approval of the Low Bid from Waters Construction and Contract Authorization for Construction of the New Sheriff's Office:** Facility Services Director Stuart Carroll is requesting approval of the low bid from Waters Contracting in the amount of \$4,440,500 for construction of the new Sheriff's Office and contract authorization pending approval from the County Manager and Attorney. This will be paid out of the SCIF allocation. (Stuart Carroll will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 38-41**
- 21. Facility Services – Approval of the Right of Way to Move a Power line:** Facility Services Director Stuart Carroll is requesting approval of the right of way to move a power line. (Stuart Carroll will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 42-47**
- 22. Sheriff's Office / Detention Center - Approval of the Food Service Agreement with Kellwell Food Management for Detention Center:** Logistics Captain Robert Creech is requesting approval of the Food Service Agreement with Kellwell Food Management for detention center. (Robert Creech will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 48-62**

23. Sheriff's Office – Approval of the Quote from Watch Guard for Body Cameras:

Logistics Captain Robert Creech is requesting approval of the quote from Watch Guard for body cameras. **(Robert Creech will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 63-67

24. Finance – Approval of the Financial Report, Departmental Purchase Orders, Budget Amendments and Project Ordinance Amendment:

Interim Finance Director Heather Woody is requesting approval of the following financial report, departmental purchase orders, budget amendments and Project Ordinance Amendment:

- a. Finance Report – February 2025
- b. Departmental Purchase Orders
- c. Health Services – Budget Amendment Reversal *Duplicate*
- d. Health Services – Budget Amendment – Additional State Funds
- e. EMS – Salary line item adjustment
- f. LESO – Ordinance Amendment – Equipment Sales
- g. Travel Authorization – Tax Administration

Pages: 68-87

25. Chadbourn Park – Approval to Transfer Ownership of County Section:

County Manager Eddie Madden is requesting approval to transfer ownership of the county portion of the Chadbourn park to Jeff Axelberg with the West Columbus Sports Club for public use. **(Eddie Madden will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

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26. Appointments/Re-Appointments/Replacements: Staff is requesting appointments, re-appointments or replacements to the following boards, committees and councils.

Legend: EB = Entire Board
Listed Zone # = Individual Commissioner

Zone I: Barbara Featherson
Zone II: Chris Smith
Zone III: Giles E. Byrd
Zone IV: Lavern Coleman

Zone V: Brent Watts
Zone VI: Ricky Bullard
Zone VII: Scott Floyd

COMMITTEE	ZONE/EB	PERSON(S)	EXP. DATE
Cape Fear COG	EB	Brent Watts Commissioner Appt.	12/31/2024
Cape Fear COG	EB	Lavern Coleman Commissioner Appt.	12/31/2024
Cape Fear RPO	EB	Scott Floyd Commissioner Appt	12/31/2024
Cape Fear RPO	EB	Lavern Coleman Commissioner Appt	12/31/2024
Tabor City Zoning Board of Adjustments	EB/ETJ	Kira Godwin	4/30/2025
Tabor City Planning & Zoning	EB/ETJ	Arthur Prince	4/30/2025

Tourism Development Authority	VII	Anthony Long resigned	Commissioners Term
Southeastern Community College EMS Committee	EB	Commissioner Appt.	*requested for a commissioner to serve on this committee
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Local Official Eddie Madden	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Law Enforcement Courtney Sanford	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Healthcare Providers Kim Smith	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Social Services Dwella Hall	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Columbus County Schools Heather Piggot	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Payers and Funders Cecelia Peers Trillium	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Employers Cynthia Ellis	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Community Groups Julie Strickland	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Faith Community Jeremy Simmons	
Columbus County Opioid Settlement Committee	EB	Citizen Linda Massey	

27. Public Input:

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

28. Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV, and V Combination Minutes:

a. March 17, 2025 Regular Session

Board Minutes Section

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

29. Comments: Commissioners and County Manager.

30. Adjournment