

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, November 6, 2023

5:45 P.M. – Closed Session

6:30 P.M. – Regular Session

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and time at the Columbus County Commissioners Chamber, 127 West Webster Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose of conducting a Regular Session.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ricky Bullard, **Chairman**
Lavern Coleman, **Vice Chairman**
Giles E. Byrd
Scott Floyd
Barbara Featherson
Brent Watts
Chris Smith

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Eddie Madden, Jr., **County Manager**
Jana Nealey, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEES ABSENT:

Amanda B. Prince, **Attorney**

Agenda Item #1: MEETING CALLED to ORDER:

At 5:15 P.M. Chairman Ricky Bullard called the regular session meeting to order.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (4) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (6) PERSONNEL

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to recess regular session and enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #2: CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (4) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (6) PERSONNEL

RECESS CLOSED SESSION and enter into REGULAR SESSION

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to recess closed session and enter into regular session, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Attorney Amanda Prince gave the general account as follows:

The board discussed (2) matters of Attorney-Client Privilege, and (1) matter regarding Personnel.

MOTION:

Chairman Bullard recessed regular session until 6:30 P.M.

Regular Session resumes at 6:30 P.M.

Agenda Items # 3 and #4: INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

The invocation was delivered by Vice Chairman Coleman. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner Watts.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

At 6:35 P.M., Chairman Bullard opened the floor for the following public hearings:

6:30 PM or as soon as can be heard – Public Hearing regarding the 2023 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant Application. (Joshua Outlaw from The Adams Company will present the Application Information.)

Joshua Outlaw from The Adams Company discussed the following in regard to the 2023 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant Application:

- Second of 2 public hearings to notify of intent to apply for a Community Development Block Grant-Neighborhood Revitalization project
- Applications due in Raleigh on November 15
- Applying for the maximum amount \$950,000
- Started with county’s Unmet Needs List which includes applicants who were not included in previous projects as well as a running list of people who call in asking for assistance.
- Contacted or visited over 20 homeowner trying to find eligible applicants.
- Submitted to Housing Advisory Committee for concurrence and all respondents agreed.
- Activities to include
 - Reconstruction of 5 homes (demolish and rebuild new)
 - 5264 Andrew Jackson Hwy, Chadbourn
 - 526 JM Bordeaux Ln, Delco
 - 1466 Mill Pond Rd, Whiteville
 - 2807 Blackwell Rd, Cerro Gordo
 - 563 Woodyard Rd, Riegelwood
 - 2 Alternates in case someone isn’t eligible
 - Alternate #1—901 Cherry Town Rd, Hallsboro
 - Alternate #2—1608 Old Boardman Rd, Evergreen

Following this public hearing, Board will vote on a resolution to apply allowing the Chairman to sign application documents

MOTION:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item# 5: APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #6: PUBLIC INPUT:

Columbus County Board of Commissioners

REQUEST #:	TIME REC'D:	P.M.	MEETING DATE: <i>November 6, 2023</i>
<small>(Leave this blank, Clerk will fill in)</small>			
NAME:	<i>John Stillman Wood</i>		
	<small>(First)</small>	<small>(Middle)</small>	<small>(Last)</small>
ADDRESS:	<i>105 F Jones Place Whiteville, N.C</i>		
TELEPHONE:	<i>(862) 400 - 3928</i>		
COMMENTS (if desired):	<i>Fitness Park in Whiteville Has New Equipment And Needs Some Hardware, Bus Stop in Whiteville Needs A Visible Sign</i>		

NOTE: Thank you for taking the time to address the Board with your information and concerns. Please give this card to the Clerk no later than thirty (30) minutes after the commencement of the meeting. This will aid in the Board's decision making process. In addition, give more people the opportunity to speak.

Citizen John Woods commented on communication issues regarding the Greyhound Bus access in Columbus County and suggested getting a sign. Also, he commented on the hardware at the new inclusive playground

Columbus County Board of Commissioners

REQUEST #:

TIME REC'D: 6:20 P.M.

MEETING DATE: 11-6-2023

(Leave this blank, Clerk will fill in)

NAME:

Danielle

Deaise

Darkangelo

(First)

(Middle)

(Last)

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:


919 607-9996

COMMENTS (if desired):

Announce public meeting to invite comments on Waccamaw River Drainage project by Cape Fear Resource Conservation and Development

NOTE: Thank you for taking the time to address the Board with your information and concerns. Please give this card to the Clerk no later than thirty (30) minutes after the commencement of the meeting. This will aid in a more harmonious meeting, and, in addition, give more people the opportunity to speak.

Danielle Darkangelo commented on the below flyer:



CAPE FEAR
Resource Conservation and Development

Waccamaw River Drainage Study
Bladen/Columbus County Public
Meeting Notice
November 16, 2023

The Cape Fear Resource Conservation & Development (CFRCD) is partnering with ms consultants, Inc. to evaluate flooding within the Waccamaw River Watershed and identify potential mitigation options. This project is anticipated to be the first step in a larger effort to identify and implement flood mitigation measures within the Waccamaw River Drainage Basin.

The project team is currently collecting information from residents related to flooding concerns within the Waccamaw River Watershed. You are invited to attend a public meeting on November 16, 2023, to provide input on flooding that you have experienced and discuss the project scope. The meeting will begin at 6:00 PM with a brief presentation about the project scope and objectives followed by open discussion from 6:15 PM to 7:30 PM.

Please spread the word and plan to attend. Your input is critical to the success of the project!

Waccamaw River Drainage Study
Bladen/Columbus County Public Meeting

When:

November 16, 2023 from
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Where:

Whiteville City Hall
317 S. Madison Street
Whiteville, NC 28472

For more information, contact:

CFRCD
Executive Director
Danielle Darkangelo
(919) 607-9996
ddarkangelo@cfrcd.onmicrosoft.com

Your Input is Critical to the Success of the Project!

We encourage you to not only attend the meeting but let your community members know about the meeting too. We will be collecting feedback, regarding flooding issues that you have experienced within the Waccamaw Watershed, through a survey that will be available at the meeting, as well as online at <https://www.capefearcrrcd.org/> prior to and following the meeting.

Agenda Item #7: APPROVAL of BOARD MINUTES:

- a. October 16, 2023
- b. October 18, 2023 (Emergency Called)

MOTION: Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #8: PROCLAMATION – The CONCERNED CITIZENS of LAKE WACCAMAW:

Hattie Campbell, Committee Member, requested Board approval and adoption of the Proclamation of Appreciation to the Concerned Citizens of the Lake Waccamaw Area 23rd Annual St. James Waccamaw Siouan Festival. To be presented at the festival by Commissioner Byrd.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

**PROCLAMATION of APPRECIATION to the CONCERNED CITIZENS of the
LAKE WACCAMAW AREA
23rd ANNUAL ST. JAMES WACCAMAW SIOUAN FESTIVAL**

BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT WHEREAS, the Annual St. James Waccamaw Siouan Festival of Columbus County has made life-long strides to improve the quality of life in their community and county; and

WHEREAS, members of the St. James Waccamaw Siouan Festival have served on numerous boards, agencies, committees in their church, government and community functions; and

WHEREAS, the Committee is recognized County and State-wide for leadership in positive endeavors for the general welfare of all people; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has given unselfishly of their time and energies to help those in need or those with unfortunate situations in a most untiring and caring way.

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that they do hereby recognize the true loyal and faithful service to their community and county and congratulate them on this special occasion.

ADOPTED unanimously on this the 6th day of November 2023.

Columbus County Commissioners

Agenda Item #9: ADMINISTRATION – EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT and RETIREMENT PLAQUE:

- County Manager Eddie Madden recognized the following:
- a. Employee Spotlight - Gary Dean Ward from Parks and Recreation
 - b. Retiree - Mary Katherine Spaulding for over 20 years of service with the Department of Aging.

Agenda Item #10: PRESENTATION – NEIL EMORY from NC ASSOCIATION of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Neil Emory from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners presented an update regarding the finance audit and explained what they have and will continue to offer as assistance to the board.

MOTION:

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to accept the audit update, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #11: ADMINISTRATON – APPROVAL of the 2023 CDBG NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION:

Joshua Outlaw from the Adams Company is requested approval of the 2023 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Application.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR THE
2023 CDBG-NR PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has previously indicated its desire to assist in community development efforts for housing within the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have held two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit LMI families with housing needs; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners wish the County to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit LMI families with housing needs; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners certify it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the State of North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners that the County is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant to benefit LMI families with housing needs.

Adopted this the 6th day of November, 2023 in Whiteville, North Carolina.


Ricky Bullard, Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

Agenda Item #12: HUMAN RESOURCES – APPROVAL to RENEW GROUP MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN:

County Manager Eddie Madden requested to extend the Group Medicare Advantage Plan from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

AMENDMENT TO MEDICARE ADVANTAGE EMPLOYER AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE EMPLOYER AGREEMENT ("Amendment") is made and entered into, by and between Columbus County ("Employer") and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina ("Blue Cross NC") (each a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Parties previously entered into the Medicare Advantage Employer Agreement (the "Agreement") pursuant to which Blue Cross NC provides certain services with respect to administration of Employer's Medicare Advantage Plan;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to amend the Agreement regarding certain matters as provided for herein;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants made herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties do hereby agree to amend and renew the Agreement effective for the Contract Period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, as follows:

1. The existing Exhibit B to the Medicare Advantage Employer Agreement is hereby replaced with the following:

EXHIBIT B

Premium Attachment for the Contract Period

January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024

Amount of Premiums. The monthly premium for each member of Employer's Group who is enrolled in Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage Plan shall be:

\$ 239.00 Med/Rx
\$ 10.00 Commission (if applicable)
\$ 249.00 Total premium for each eligible member

These rates are subject to change each contract year.

An individual's premium may be higher due to the application of the Medicare Part D late enrollment penalty (LEP), as required by CMS. Blue Cross NC will indicate any premium adjustments due to the LEP on its monthly invoice to Employer, which will include a supplemental schedule showing any LEP premium adjustments, if applicable.

Payment of Premiums. Blue Cross NC must receive premiums no later than the 1st day of the month for which coverage is being purchased.

Premiums will be paid as follows:

- ☒ Premiums to be paid in full to Blue Cross NC for the Medicare Advantage Plan by employer on behalf of enrollees.
- ☐ Premiums to be paid directly to Blue Cross NC by eligible dependent spouse.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Parties have caused their duly authorized representatives to execute this Amendment as of the date set forth above.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Columbus County
of North Carolina

By: _____ By: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Agenda Item #13: **SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – APPROVAL of the RESOLUTION for the DESIGNEES of the BRIC 2022 GRANT CYCLE:**

Soil and Water Conservation District Director Morgan Hayes requested approval of the resolution designating Morgan Hayes as the primary agent and Lacie Jacobs as the secondary for the BRIC 2022 Grant.

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT North Carolina Division of Emergency Management	
Organization Name (hereafter named Organization) County of Columbus	Disaster Number:
Applicant's State Cognizant Agency for Single Audit purposes (If Cognizant Agency is not assigned, please indicate): not assigned	
Applicant's Fiscal Year (FY) Start Month: July Day: 01	
Applicant's Federal Employer's Identification Number 56 - 6000289	
Applicant's Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Number CC - 370 - 47	
PRIMARY AGENT	SECONDARY AGENT
Agent's Name Morgan P. Hayes	Agent's Name Lacie Jacobs
Organization Columbus SWCD	Organization Columbus County Finance
Official Position Director	Official Position Director
Mailing Address 45 B Government Complex Rd	Mailing Address 127 West Webster Street
City, State, Zip Whiteville, NC 28472	City, State, Zip Whiteville, NC 28472
Daytime Telephone (910) 642-2196	Daytime Telephone (910) 640-6611
Facsimile Number	Facsimile Number
Pager or Cellular Number	Pager or Cellular Number
BE IT RESOLVED BY the governing body of the Organization (a public entity duly organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina) that the above-named Primary and Secondary Agents are hereby authorized to execute and file applications for federal and/or state assistance on behalf of the Organization for the purpose of obtaining certain state and federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act, (Public Law 93-288 as amended) or as otherwise available. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-named agents are authorized to represent and act for the Organization in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for all matters pertaining to such disaster assistance required by the grant agreements and the assurances printed on the reverse side hereof. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the above-named agents are authorized to act severally. PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 20__.	
GOVERNING BODY	CERTIFYING OFFICIAL
Name and Title	Name
Name and Title	Official Position
Name and Title	Daytime Telephone
CERTIFICATION	
I, _____, (Name) duly appointed and _____ (Title) of the Governing Body, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and approved by the Governing Body of _____ (Organization) on the _____ day of _____, 20__.	
Date: _____	Signature: _____

Rev. 06/02

Agenda Item #14: **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – APPROVAL to ESTABLISH a PUBLIC HEARING regarding ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT for PROJECT ACCESS:**

Dylan Bowen requested approval to establish a public hearing on November 20th, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. or as soon as can be heard regarding an Economic Development Incentive Grant for Project Access which will help up-fit a building and retain jobs in Columbus County, also, this incentive grant is counted as a required local match.

MOTION:

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

SAMPLE Columbus County Incentive Calculations
(based on historical calculations)

Proposed Incentive grant
Columbus County Incentive Grant Proposal Calculation Sheet

Project:	Access Building -- complete 2024	Equipmt Yr 1 (3 yr Dep)	Equipmt Yr 2 (2023)	Yr 3 (2024)	Yr 4 (2025)	Yr 5 (2026)	Total Tax Base	Yr End:
Year 1	\$1,100,000	\$	\$14,000				\$ 1,014,000	2024
Year 2	\$1,045,000	\$	414,000				\$ 1,459,000	2025
Year 3	\$340,500	\$	314,000				\$ 1,254,500	2026
Year 4	\$750,425	\$	214,000				\$ 1,013,425	2027
Year 5	\$630,540	\$	114,000				\$ 753,540	2028
Year 6							\$ -	2029
Year 7							\$ -	2030
County Tax Rate:	0.805							

Tax Year	County Property Taxes Paid on Investment**	Percentage	Grant Amount	Not property taxes paid
Tax Year 1 (end of 2024)	\$ 12,903	85%	\$11,044	\$1,049
Tax Year 2	\$ 11,745	80%	\$9,396	\$ 2,349
Tax Year 3	\$ 10,089	75%	\$7,574	\$ 2,525
Tax Year 4	\$ 8,158	70%	\$5,711	\$ 2,447
Tax Year 5	\$ 6,066	70%	\$4,246	\$ 1,820
Tax Year 6	\$ -		\$0	\$ -
Tax Year 7	\$ -		\$0	\$ -
Total over 5 year period	\$ 49,060		\$37,971	\$11,000

**Hypothetical does not include detailed depreciation schedules, which will affect property taxes paid and incentives grant awarded, and does not include any personal property such as delivery trucks, forklifts, etc which have not been identified at this point.

This is only a proposal. All incentives must be approved by Columbus County Board of Commissioners. The requirement of creating a minimum number of jobs has been dropped, but the number created may influence the decision by the Commissioners.

Additional Incentives

Reduced Building Inspection Fees : TBD

Other (Water Connection Fees): N/A

Total local Incentives = \$37,971

Agenda Item #15: OPIOID SETTLEMENT – APPROVAL of the amended CROSSWALK of DOCUMENTS ensuring COMPLIANCE with the OPIOID SETTLEMENT MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT (MOA):

Syd Wiford requested approval of North Carolina Department of Justice’s (NC DOJ) formal request for amendments to Columbus County's Opioid Settlement Crosswalk of Documents to guarantee full compliance with all necessary requirements.

MOTION:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

****THE FULL CROSSWALK OF DOCUMENTS IS HOUSED IN THE CLERK’S OFFICE*****

Agenda Item #16: OPIOID SETTLEMENT – APPROVAL of the PROPOSALS using OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS:

Syd Wiford requested approval of the proposals for the Opioid & Substance Abuse Marketing Campaign for \$12,000 and the Prescription Opioids and Chronic Pain Lecture Series estimated at \$30,000 to be funded with Opioid Settlement Funds.

MOTION:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

Paul A. Buongiorno, MD, PA.

October 5, 2023

Attention Cynthia Wiford
cwiford@act-llc.org

Dear Cynthia,

Re: Prescription Opioids and Chronic Pain Lecture Series for Columbus County Opioid Settlement

ESTIMATE for Columbus County

Series of 9 Lectures:

1. Phases of Chronic Pain	\$3333.33
2. Neurobiology of Chronic Pain Volume 1	\$3333.33
3. Neurobiology of Chronic Pain Volume 2	\$3333.33
4. Antidepressant Treatment of Chronic Pain	\$3333.33
5. Anticonvulsant Treatment of Chronic Pain	\$3333.33
6. Antipsychotic Treatment of Chronic Pain	\$3333.33
7. Anti Inflammatory Treatment of Chronic Pain, po, IM, topicals and compounded preparations	\$3333.33
8. Office Management of Withdrawal from Opiates	\$3333.33
9. Stimulation Therapy for Chronic Pain	\$3333.33

TOTAL \$30,000.00

Sincerely,



Paul A. Buongiorno MD, DLFAPA

COST ESTIMATE

Campaign logo

Brand development
Brand guidelines (including but not limited to colors, typography, business cards, stationery, example ads, social media posts, social media banners, OOH, signage)

Campaign messaging

Themes and headlines for specific messaging streams
Strategic planning for marketing campaign elements
Content and copy for core brand elements and sample marketing deliverables

\$12,000

4B. PHASE 2. CAMPAIGN IMPLEMENTATION YEAR

Create print- and publication-ready materials for the first year of the campaign
Cost estimates and timelines to be determined based on Phase 1 development.

Agenda Item #17: ATTORNEY’S OFFICE – APPROVAL of the RESOLUTION regarding the UPSET BID for CERRO GORDO PROPERTY:

County Manager Eddie Madden requested approval of the resolution regarding the upset bid for the Cerro Gordo property.

MOTION:

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to reject, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Resolution Authorizing Sale of 36 Railroad St., Cerro Gordo

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus owns property listed on Schedule A, attached and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, the property is currently surplus property for the County; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-269 permits the County to sell property by upset bid, after receipt of an offer for the property described above, in the amount of \$ 13,500.00, submitted by BFMH Enterprises, LLC; and

WHEREAS, BFMH Enterprises, LLC, have paid above the required five percent (5%) deposit on his offer;

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS RESOLVES THAT:

1. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the sale of the property described above through the upset bid procedure of North Carolina General Statute § 160A-269.
2. The Clerk shall cause a notice of the proposed sale to be published. The notice shall describe the property and the amount of the offer, and shall state the terms under which the offer may be upset.
3. Any person may submit an upset bid to the office of the Clerk within 20 days after the notice of sale is published. Once a qualifying higher bid has been received, that bid will become the new offer.
4. If a qualifying higher bid is received, the Clerk shall cause a new notice of upset bid to be published, and shall continue to do so until a 10-day period has passed without any qualifying upset bid having been received. At that time, the amount of the final high bid shall be reported to the Board of Commissioners.
5. A qualifying higher bid is one that raised the existing offer by not less than ten percent (10%) of the first \$1,000.00 of that offer and five percent (5%) of the remainder of that offer.
6. A qualifying higher bid must also be accompanied by a deposit in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid; the deposit may be made in cash, cashier’s check, or certified check. The county will return the deposit on any bid not accepted, and will return the deposit on an offer subject to upset if a qualifying higher bid is received. The county will return the deposit of the final high bidder at closing.
7. The terms of the final sale are as follows:

- the Board of Commissioners must approve the final high offer before the sale is closed, which it will do within 30 days after the final upset bid period has passed, and
- that the property is sold in its current condition, as is; and
- that the buyer must pay with cash at the time of the closing.

8. The County reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time before the final high bid is accepted and the right to reject at any time all bids.
9. If no qualifying upset bid is received after the initial public notice, the offer set forth above is hereby accepted. The County Manager is authorized to execute the instruments necessary to convey the property to BFMH Enterprises, LLC.

Adopted this the 6th day of November, 2023.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Item #18: **FINANCE – APPROVAL of the MONTHLY REPORT for SEPTEMBER 2023 and BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

Finance Director Lacie Jacobs is requesting approval of the monthly report for September 2023 and the following budget amendments:

1. Finance - SCC Apprenticeship Program
2. Facilities - Mosquito Control
3. EMS - Motorola
4. Attorney - Professional Services
5. Health - COVID account correction
6. HR - Employee Appreciation

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT September 2023		Percent of Year Complete: 25.00%		GENERAL FUND (Annual Operating Budget)			
				EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL FUND (Annual Operating Budget)		FY 23/24	ACTUAL YTD	BALANCE	% COLLECTED	FY 23/24	ACTUAL YTD
REVENUES		BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD	BUDGET	TOTALS
AD VALOREM TAXES		39,366,952	19,028,709	20,328,243	48.3%	306,362	71,517
COURT		125,000	19,469	105,531	15.6%	1,042,881	942,429
SALES TAX		14,051,521	1,229,847	12,821,674	8.8%	639,621	359,882
TAX ADMINISTRATION REVENUES		37,675	-	37,675	0.0%	902,807	182,864
NC JCPC PROGRAM - TEEN COURT		77,477	19,120	58,357	24.7%	1,912,335	442,182
ELECTION FEES		120	417	(297)	347.3%	573,685	402,591
REGISTER OF DEEDS		418,500	170,656	247,845	40.8%	77,477	16,776
SHERIFF		2,197,000	81,901	2,115,099	3.7%	434,406	111,226
DETENTION CENTER		802,000	5,502	796,498	0.7%	527,987	92,177
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		182,637	3,785	178,852	2.1%	567,141	129,945
INSPECTION		600,000	130,649	469,351	21.8%	492,864	146,597
ANIMAL CONTROL		35,000	11,164	23,837	32.0%	131,972	1,086
AIRPORT		523,400	93,776	429,624	17.9%	2,396,478	402,703
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING		46,000	2,750	43,250	6.0%	10,361,224	2,345,497
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION		1,200	-	1,200	0.0%	4,408,538	1,050,737
SOIL CONSERVATION		30,800	1,912	28,888	6.2%	31,250	7,500
DEPARTMENT OF AGING REVENUES		1,733,735	154,309	1,579,426	8.9%	3,627,474	607,243
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		3,458,341	777,663	2,680,678	22.5%	3,000	8,250
SOCIAL SERVICE		8,411,067	1,293,862	7,117,205	15.4%	708,548	148,619
VETERANS SERVICE		2,000	-	2,000	0.0%	685,979	132,802
PUBLIC SCHOOLS		21,000	3,414	17,586	16.3%	470,789	102,446
LIBRARY		228,848	36,692	192,156	16.0%	546,845	104,627
RECREATION		31,600	27,635	3,965	87.5%	613,749	65,317
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES		1,265,940	501,708	764,232	39.6%	335,813	78,577
TRANSFER FROM REVENUES		689,751	-	689,751	0.0%	2,832,292	614,165
FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED		2,293,820	-	2,293,820	0.0%	6,519,154	1,150,163
Total General Fund Revenues		76,621,384	23,994,950	53,026,434	30.8%	10,651,483	2,221,679
						2,424,103	456,664
						172,695	41,299
						16,459,156	4,038,359
						1,757,288	399,438
						588,201	122,969
						863,846	94,787
						2,526,941	-
						76,621,384	17,093,114
							59,528,270
							22.3%
							6,501,835

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
COURTHOUSE CAP PROJ REVENUES	7,917,194	7,917,485	(291)	100%
EXPENDITURES				
PRIOR YEAR EXPENDITURES		2,153,844		
COURTHOUSE CAP PROJ EXPENDITURES		1,007,218		
	7,767,194	3,161,062	4,606,132	41%

HUD SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	1,953,324	520,706	791,669	27%
EXPENDITURES	1,953,324	536,691	1,416,633	27%

TRANSPORTATION	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	1,260,186	15,176	1,245,010	1%
EXPENDITURES	1,260,186	138,417	1,121,769	11%

DEBT SERVICE	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	32,642,244	-	32,642,244	0%
EXPENDITURES	32,642,244	326,244	32,316,000	1%

WATER DISTRICTS I-V	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
WATER DISTRICT I	871,210	162,483	708,727	19%
WATER DISTRICT II	1,456,143	249,120	1,207,023	17%
WATER DISTRICT III	783,165	141,660	641,505	18%
WATER DISTRICT IV	927,325	131,294	796,031	14%
WATER DISTRICT V	843,416	184,578	658,838	22%
COMBINED WATER DISTRICT TOTALS	4,881,259	869,136	4,012,123	N/A

EXPENDITURES				
WATER DISTRICT I	871,210	90,551	780,659	10%
WATER DISTRICT II	1,456,143	74,707	1,381,436	5%
WATER DISTRICT III	783,165	50,613	732,552	6%
WATER DISTRICT IV	927,325	101,471	825,854	11%
WATER DISTRICT V	843,416	54,328	789,088	7%
COMBINED WATER DISTRICT TOTALS	4,881,259	372,270	4,508,989	N/A

SOLID WASTE	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	6,750,052	2,548,622	4,201,430	38%
EXPENDITURES	6,750,052	890,997	5,859,055	13%

Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures	-	1,857,825		
--	---	-----------	--	--

FIRE DEPARTMENTS	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	1,781,537	1,061,448	720,089	60%

EXPENDITURES				
Ad Valorem Taxes	1,781,537	723,980	1,057,557	41%
	1,781,537	723,980	1,057,557	41%

AMBULANCE AND RESCUE UNITS	FY 23/24	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected
REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS	REMAINING	YTD
	728,090	437,276	290,814	60%
EXPENDITURES				
Ad Valorem Taxes	728,090	75,594	652,496	10%

CASH & INVESTMENTS

Cash:

Central Depository - Truist	24,624,855
Central Depository - NCCMT	24,997,088
Water Districts - \$7,847,957	
Solid Waste - \$9,386,343	

Investments:

Truist	5,063,209
First Citizens Wealth Management	6,048,573
United Bank - CD	339,291
Dana Investments/TD Ameritrade	873,983
Multi Bank Securities	568,797
First Bank - CDs	2,125,392

FUND BALANCE

General Fund:

Unavailable Fund Balance (per auditors)	7,223,150
Committed and Assigned Fund Balance	15,236,356
Unassigned Fund Balance	18,100,377
Total Fund Balance	40,559,883

General Fund Total Expenditure Budget	76,621,384
Unassigned fund balance as % of Gen. Fd. Expend.	23.6%

Note: The Fund Balance computation listed above is unaudited. Final computation will be submitted when verified by Auditors

Total Grants received year to date for fiscal year 2023-2024	1,409,223
Through date of of last Board meeting	

FY 23/24

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin: October 31, 2023 Date Received in Admin:

Budget Code			REVENUES	Requested
Und	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
10	3991	499125	ARTICLE 44 SALES & USE TAX FUND BALANCE ALLOCATED	\$150,000
			Total Net Revenue	\$150,000

☒ This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on: _____

Explanation of Increase or Decrease:
To move funding from Article 44 Sales & Use Fund Balance to provide funding for the Apprenticeship Program through Southeastern Community College and Columbus County Schools and Whiteville City Schools

FY 23/24

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin:	October 31, 2023	Date Received in Admin:	
------------------------------------	------------------	-------------------------	--

Budget Code			REVENUES	Requested
Fund	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
44	3425	499101	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$49,080
			Total Net Revenue	\$49,080

MCM

Explanation of Increase or Decrease:
To move Fund Balance to pay prior year Motorola Invoice

FY 23/24

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin: **October 31, 2023** Date Received in Admin:

Budget Code			REVENUES	Requested
Fund	Dept.	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
10	3991	499101	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$5,000
			Total Net Revenue	\$5,000

Explanation of Increase or Decrease:

To increase budget availability for NCACC insurance deductible notice.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

FY 23/24

Name of Department:

FINANCE

Agency Head Signature:

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin:

October 27, 2023

Date Received in Admin:

Budget Code			EXPENDITURES	Requested
Fund	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
17	4213	512100	COVID SALARIES AND WAGES	(\$60,000)
10	4213	512100	COVID SALARIES AND WAGES	\$60,000
17	4213	512700	COVID LONGEVITY	(\$3,000)
10	4213	512700	COVID LONGEVITY	\$3,000
17	4213	518100	COVID FICA	(\$10,000)
10	4213	518100	COVID FICA	\$10,000
17	4213	518200	COVID RETIREMENT	(\$10,000)
10	4213	518200	COVID RETIREMENT	\$10,000
17	4213	518301	COVID INSURANCE	(\$10,000)
10	4213	518301	COVID INSURANCE	\$10,000
17	4213	526001	COVID DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES	(\$220,000)
10	4213	526001	COVID DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES	\$220,000
Total Net Expense				\$0

Budget Code			REVENUES	Requested
Fund	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
17	3581	430172	COVID FUNDING	(\$313,000)
10	3581	430172	COVID FUNDING	\$313,000.00
Total Net Revenue				\$0

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County Finance Office:

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County County Manager:

☒ This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on:

Signature

Date

Explanation of Increase or Decrease:

TO CORRECT FUND NUMBER ON BUDGET AMENDMENT. STARTING FY 23/24, TO REDUCE FUND CODES AND TO HAVE ALL HEALTH DEPT ACCOUNTS TOGETHER, WE MOVED THE COVID YEARLY BUDGET FROM FUND 17 TO FUND 10. AMENDMENT WAS WRITTEN UP AS FUND 17 WHEN FUNDING WAS RELEASED FROM THE STATE. SEE ORIGINAL ATTACHED AMENDMENT.

Version 1.0

Budget Amendment.xls

Created:12/15/04

BUDGET AMENDMENT

FY 23/24

Name of Department:

FINANCE

Agency Head Signature:

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin:

October 31, 2023

Date Received in Admin:

Budget Code			EXPENDITURES	Requested
Fund	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
10	4121	523001	STAFF DEVELOPMENT	\$2,500
10	4920	512100	SALARIES & WAGES - REGULAR	(\$2,500)
Total Net Expense				\$0

Budget Code			REVENUES	Requested
Fund	Dept	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
Total Net Revenue				\$0

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County Finance Office:

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County County Manager:

☒ This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on:

Signature

Date

Explanation of Increase or Decrease:

To move funding from vacant position in EDC to Personal Staff Development for Employee Appreciation

Agenda Item #19: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL of the MOA with the COLUMBUS COUNTY and WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS BOARD of EDUCATION for SHELTER SERVICES:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of the MOA’s between Columbus County and the Board of Education for Whiteville City and Columbus County Schools regarding emergency shelters.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
COLUMBUS COUNTY
AND THE
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SHELTER AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, COLUMBUS COUNTY (“County”), and the COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (Board”) have mutual interests in preparing for and responding to disasters and other events during a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County Emergency Services is responsible for coordinating the operation and planning of the Emergency Management functions of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board owns and operates school facilities and is willing to make such facilities available for emergency management purposes; and

WHEREAS, THE County desires to utilize school facilities for emergency shelters; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority to permit the use of its school facilities for emergency shelters under N.C.G.S. IISC, Article 13; N.C.G.S. LLSC-518; N.C.G.S IISC-524; and N.C.G.S. 160A-274; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted Policy 9330 addressing cooperation with Emergency Management; and

Whereas, both the County and the Board recognize and intend that these mutual covenants and agreements be interpreted in accordance with Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes, including but not limited to N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.60 and N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.61; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Board have the authority to enter into and abide by this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

BOARD APPROVAL
10/9/23

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Facilities: The Board and the County, or their designees, shall annually develop a list of schools to be used as emergency shelters (Facilities) pursuant to this MOU. Additional schools may be used as emergency shelters, with the approval of the Superintendent and the County Manager, if necessary to address exigent circumstances.

2. Application: The Board will permit the County to use the Facilities on a temporary basis as emergency public shelters in any state of disaster or local state of emergency declared under Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statues, and/or for the purpose of testing emergency management plans. The Facilities shall only be used during such times as they are closed to students.

3. Shelter Manager: The County will have primary responsibility for the operation of the shelters and will designate a County official (“Shelter Manager”) to manage the sheltering activities. The Board will designate a Facility Coordinator to coordinate with the Shelter Manager regarding the use of the Facilities by the County. To the extent not addressed in this MOU, the County and the Board shall jointly develop rules for the operation of emergency shelters. The Board authorizes the County to delegate Shelter Management to the American Red Cross when appropriate as determined by the County.

4. Condition of Facilities: The facility Coordinator and Shelter Manager (or designees) will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy survey of the Facilities before they are turned over to the County. They will record in writing any existing damage or conditions. The Facility Coordinator will identify and secure all equipment that the County should not use while sheltering in the Facilities. The County will exercise reasonable care while using the Facilities as shelters and will make no modification to the Facilities without the express written approval of the Board.

5. Food Services: Upon request by the County, and if such resources are available, the Board will make the food service resources of the Facilities, including food, supplies, equipment and food service workers available to feed the shelter occupants. The Facility Coordinator will designate a Food Service manager to coordinate the provision of meals at the direction of an in cooperation with the Shelter Manager. The Food Service Manager will establish a feeding schedule, determine food service inventory and needs, and supervise meal planning and preparation. The Food Service Manager and Shelter Manager will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy inventory of the food and food service supplies in the Facilities before they are turned over to the County. When the County vacates the Facility, the Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy inventory of the food and supplies used during the County's activities at the Facility.
6. Custodial Services: Upon request by the County and if such resources are available, the Board will make its custodial resources, including supplies and custodial workers, available to provide cleaning and sanitation services at the Facilities. The Facility Coordinator will designate a Facility Custodian to coordinate the provision of cleaning and sanitation services at the direction of and in cooperation with the Shelter manager. The Facility Custodian and Shelter Manager will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy inventory of custodial resources and bathroom supplies in the Facilities before they are turned over to the Red Cross.
7. Security: In coordination with the Facility Coordinator, the Shelter Manager, as he or she deems necessary and appropriate, will coordinate with law enforcement regarding any public safety issues at the facilities.
8. Signage and Publicity: The County may post signs identifying the Facilities as County shelters in locations approved by the Facility Coordinator and will remove such signs when the shelters are closed. The Board will not issue press releases or other publicity concerning the shelters without the express written consent of the Shelter Manager.

operational costs must be accompanied by supporting invoices. Any request for reimbursement for personnel costs must be accompanied by a list of the personnel with the date and hours worked at the shelters.

11. Animals: The Shelter Manager and the Facility Coordinator shall agree on a plan regarding the sheltering of animals in the Facilities. No animals, other than service animals, will be permitted in the Facilities, except at identified per co-location shelters.
12. Liability: This MOU is based on the provisions of Chapter 166A, including but not limited to the immunity provisions of G.S. § 166A-19.60 and G.S. § 166A-19.61, as well as other statutory and common law provisions concerning sovereign and/or governmental immunity. The County agrees to provide insurance coverage for Columbus County School equipment and personnel engaged in emergency operations on the same terms as otherwise applicable to other County vehicles and personnel, including any provisions relating to sovereign and/or governmental immunity, as normally applicable to County vehicles and personnel used in emergency management operations. any such insurance coverage provided shall not be deemed a waiver of any sovereign and/or governmental immunity, including the immunity provided by Chapter 166A. The County shall also carry Worker's Compensation coverage in the required statutory amount for all Board employees participating in the provision of services under this MOU.
13. Term: The term of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be effective and continue until written notice of termination is given by any party. This MOU may be terminated upon receipt of thirty (30) days prior written notification from any party to the others sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. In addition, this Memorandum of Understanding may be updated or modified at any time as mutually agreed by the parties in writing.

The Board will refer all media questions about the shelters to the Shelter Manager.

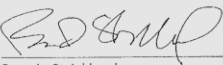
9. Closing the Shelters: The County will notify the Board or Facility Coordinator of the closing date for the shelters. Before the County vacates the Facilities, the Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator will jointly conduct a post-occupancy survey to record any damage or conditions. The Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy survey to record any damage or conditions. The Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy inventory of the food and supplies used during the shelter's operation.
10. Reimbursement: The County will reimburse the Board for the following:
- a. Damage to the Facilities or other property of the Board, reasonable wear and tear excepted, resulting from the operations of the County. Reimbursement for facility damage will be based on replacement at actual cash value. The County will select from among bids from at least three reputable contractors. The County is not responsible for storm damage or other damage caused by the disaster.
 - b. Reasonable costs associated with custodial and food service personnel which would not have been incurred but for the County's use of the Facilities for sheltering. The County will reimburse at the actual per-hour rates for wages actually incurred for all time worked. The County will not reimburse for costs of salaried staff.
 - c. Reasonable, actual, out-of-pocket operational costs, including food, supplies and the costs of the utilities, to the extent that such costs would not have been incurred but for the County's use of the Facilities. The Board will submit any request for reimbursement to the County within sixty (60) days after the shelter closing. Any request for reimbursement for food, supplies or

14. No Third-Party Beneficiary Rights: This MOU is not intended to create any rights of a third-party beneficiary. No third party may enforce or rely upon any obligation of, or the exercise of or failure to exercise any right of, any party to this MOU.

15. Governing Law: Severability: This MOU is governed by the laws of the State of North Carolina. Nothing in this MOU is intended to conflict with current laws or regulations of the United States of America, State of North Carolina, or any local government ordinances of Columbus County, North Carolina. If any term of this MOU is inconsistent with such authority, then that term shall be invalid, but the remaining terms and conditions of this MOU shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have, by their duly authorized representatives, executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the day and year written below.

Columbus County Board of Education



Ronnie Strickland
Columbus County Schools Board Chairperson

10/19/23

Date

Columbus County

Ricky Bullard
Columbus County Commission Chair

Date

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
COLUMBUS COUNTY
AND THE
WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

SHELTER AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, COLUMBUS COUNTY ("County"), and the CITY OF WHITEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION (Board") have mutual interests in preparing for and responding to disasters and other events during a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County Emergency Services is responsible for coordinating the operation and planning of the Emergency Management functions of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board owns and operates school facilities and is willing to make such facilities available for emergency management purposes; and

WHEREAS, THE County desires to utilize school facilities for emergency shelters; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority to permit the use of its school facilities for emergency shelters under N.C.G.S. IISC, Article 13; N.C.G.S. LLSC-518; N.C.G.S IISC-524; and N.C.G.S. 160A-274; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted Policy 9330 addressing cooperation with Emergency Management; and

Whereas, both the County and the Board recognize and intend that these mutual covenants and agreements be interpreted in accordance with Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes, including but not limited to N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.60 and N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.61; and

- Food Services: Upon request by the County, and if such resources are available, the Board will make the food service resources of the Facilities, including food, supplies, equipment and food service workers available to feed the shelter occupants. The Facility Coordinator will designate a Food Service manager to coordinate the provision of meals at the direction of an in cooperation with the Shelter Manager. The Food Service Manager will establish a feeding schedule, determine food service inventory and needs, and supervise meal planning and preparation. The Food Service Manager and Shelter Manager will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy inventory of the food and food service supplies in the Facilities before they are turned over to the County. When the County vacates the Facility, the Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy inventory of the food and supplies used during the County's activities at the Facility.
- Custodial Services: Upon request by the County and if such resources are available, the Board will make its custodial resources, including supplies and custodial workers, available to provide cleaning and sanitation services at the Facilities. The Facility Coordinator will designate a Facility Custodian to coordinate the provision of cleaning and sanitation services at the direction of and in cooperation with the Shelter manager: The Facility Custodian and Shelter Manager will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy inventory of custodial resources and bathroom supplies in the Facilities before they are turned over to the Red Cross.
- Security: In coordination with the Facility Coordinator, the Shelter Manager, as he or she deems necessary and appropriate, will coordinate with law enforcement regarding any public safety issues at the facilities.
- Signage and Publicity: The County may post signs identifying the Facilities as County shelters in locations approved by the Facility Coordinator and will remove such signs when the shelters are closed. The Board will not issue press releases or other publicity concerning the shelters without the express written consent of the Shelter Manager. The Board will refer all media questions about the shelters to the Shelter Manager.
- Closing the Shelters: The County will notify the Board or Facility Coordinator of the

HEREAS, the County and the Board have the authority to enter into and abide by this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

- Facilities: The Board and the County, or their designees, shall annually develop a list of schools to be used as emergency shelters (Facilities) pursuant to this MOU. Additional schools may be used as emergency shelters, with the approval of the Superintendent and the County Manager, if necessary to address exigent circumstances.
- Application: The Board will permit the County to use the Facilities on a temporary basis as emergency public shelters in any state of disaster or local state of emergency declared under Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes, and/or for the purpose of testing emergency management plans. The Facilities shall only be used during such times as they are closed to students.
- Shelter Manager: The County will have primary responsibility for the operation of the shelters and will designate a county official ("Shelter Manager") to manage the sheltering activities. The Board will designate a Facility Coordinator to coordinate with the Shelter Manager regarding the use of the Facilities by the County. To the extent not addressed in this MOU, the County and the Board shall jointly develop rules for the operation of emergency shelters. The Board authorizes the County to delegate Shelter Management to the American Red Cross when appropriate as determined by the County.
- Condition of Facilities: The facility Coordinator and Shelter Manager (or designees) will jointly conduct a pre-occupancy survey of the Facilities before they are turned over to the County. They will record in writing any existing damage or conditions. The Facility Coordinator will identify and secure all equipment that the County should not use while sheltering in the Facilities. The County will exercise reasonable care while using the Facilities as shelters and will make no modification to the Facilities without the express written approval of the Board.

- closing date for the shelters. Before the County vacates the Facilities, the Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator will jointly conduct a post-occupancy survey to record any damage or conditions. The Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy survey to record any damage or conditions. The Shelter Manager and Facility Coordinator or Food Service Manager will conduct a post-occupancy inventory of the food and supplies used during the shelter's operation.
- Reimbursement: The County will reimburse the Board for the following:
 - Damage to the Facilities or other property of the Board, reasonable wear and tear excepted, resulting from the operations of the County. Reimbursement for facility damage will be based on replacement at actual cash value. The County will select from among bids from at least three reputable contractors. The County is not responsible for storm damage or other damage caused by the disaster.
 - Reasonable costs associated with custodial and food service personnel which would not have been incurred but for the County's use of the Facilities for sheltering. The County will reimburse at the actual per-hour rates for wages actually incurred for all time worked. The County will not reimburse the costs of salaried staff.
 - Reasonable, actual, out-of-pocket operational costs, including food, supplies and the costs of the utilities, to the extent that such costs would not have been incurred but for the County's use of the Facilities. The Board will submit any request for reimbursement to the County within sixty (60) days after the shelter closing. Any request for reimbursement for food, supplies or operational costs must be accompanied by supporting invoices. Any request for reimbursement for personnel costs must be accompanied by a list of the personnel with the date and hours worked at the shelters.
 - Animals: The Shelter Manager and the Facility Coordinator shall agree on a plan regarding the sheltering of animals in the Facilities. No animals, other than service

animals, will be permitted in the Facilities, except at identified per co-location shelters.

12. Liability: This MOU is based on the provisions of Chapter 166A, including but not limited to the immunity provisions of G.S. § 166A-19.60 and G.S. § 166A-19.61, as well as other statutory and common law provisions concerning sovereign and/or governmental immunity. The County agrees to provide insurance coverage for Whiteville City School equipment and personnel engaged in emergency operations on the same terms as otherwise applicable to other County vehicles and personnel, including any provisions relating to sovereign and/or governmental immunity, as normally applicable to County vehicles and personnel used in emergency management operations. Any such insurance coverage provided shall not be deemed a waiver of any sovereign and/or governmental immunity, including the immunity provided by Chapter 166A. The County shall also carry Worker's Compensation coverage in the required statutory amount for all Board employees participating in the provision of services under this MOU.

13. Term: The term of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be effective and continue until written notice of termination is given by any party. This MOU may be terminated upon receipt of thirty (30) days prior written notification from any party to the others sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. In addition, this Memorandum of Understanding may be updated or modified at any time as mutually agreed by the parties in writing.


14. No Third-Party Beneficiary Rights: This MOU is not intended to create any rights of a third-party beneficiary. No third party may enforce or rely upon any obligation of, or the exercise of or failure to exercise any right of, any party to this MOU.

15. Governing Law: Severability: This MOU is governed by the laws of the State of North Carolina. Nothing in this MOU is intended to conflict with current laws or regulations of the United States of America, State of North Carolina, or any local government ordinances of Columbus County, North Carolina. If any term of this MOU is inconsistent with such authority, then that term shall be invalid, but the remaining

terms and conditions of this MOU shall remain in full force and effect.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have, by their duly authorized representatives, executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the day and year written below.

Whiteville City Schools Board of Education


Kandle Rogers

10/9/2023
Date

Columbus County


Ricky Bullard
Columbus County Commission Chair

Date

Agenda Item #20: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL to PURCHASE (5) DISTRIBUTABLE EMERGENCY NETWORK (DEN) SYSTEMS and ADDITIONAL RADIOS to IMPROVE EMERGENCY SHELTER COMMUNICATIONS:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval to purchase (5) Distributable Emergency Network (DEN) systems for \$42,788.50 and additional radios from Motorola in the amount of \$27,873.75 both paid from grant funds. This helps improve communications in the emergency shelters by providing use of a supplemental network.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.



Politic LLC
Tel: 910-777-5256
sales@politic.com
<https://www.densystems.com>

Columbus County Emergency Services
608 North Thompson Street
Whiteville NC 28472
United States

Quotation # S00071

Quotation
Date:
03/24/2023

Salesperson:
Andy Wittman

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TAXES	AMOUNT
DEN with 2 Phones and 3 Years of Service	1.000	11,989.25	NC 7%	\$ 11,989.25
DEN Lite with R-1900	4.000	5,600.00	NC 7%	\$ 22,400.00
DEN VOIP Phone 2 Pack with Case and 3 Years Service	4.000	1,400.00	NC 7%	\$ 5,600.00
Subtotal				\$ 39,989.25
Taxes on \$ 39,989.25				\$ 2,799.25
Total				\$ 42,788.50

Does not include SIM cards, or cellular service. DEN and DEN Lite require 1 or more SIM cards and cellular service with a static IP address to function. Please contact us for information on procuring SIM cards and static IP addresses. DEN is compatible with Verizon, FirstNet, AT&T, and US Cellular.

Payment terms: 30 Days

1800 Eastwood Rd #264
Wilmington NC 28403
United States

1

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

QUOTE-2099523

Billing Address:
COLUMBUS COUNTY
130 W. Columbus St
Whiteville, NC 28472
US

Shipping Address:
Columbus County Emergency
Services
130 W. Columbus St
Whiteville, NC 28472
US

Quote Date:03/21/2023
Expiration Date:05/20/2023
Quote Created By:
John Briggs
MR
johnbriggs@callmc.com
910 237 2635
End Customer:
COLUMBUS COUNTY
Chase Lancaster
clancaster@columbusco.org
910 207 3333
Contract: 19144 - 725G NORTH
CAROLINA, STATE OF (NON-ARIBA
BASED POS)
Payment Terms:30 NET

Line #	Item Number	Description	Qty	List Price	Contract Price	Ext. Sale Price
	APX™ 6000 Series	APX6000				
1	H98UCF9PW6BN	APX6000 700/800 MODEL 2.5 PORTABLE	5	\$6,946.50	\$5,306.38	\$26,531.90
1a	HA00690AA	ADD: 7Y ESSENTIAL SERVICE HTP	5			
1b	QA01833AH	ADD: EXTREME 1-SIDED NOISE REDUCTION	5			
1c	Q667BB	ADD: ADP ONLY (NON-P25 CAP COMPLIANT) (US ONLY)	5			
1d	QA05570AA	ALT: LI-ION IMPRES 2 IP68 3400 MAH	5			
1e	Q361AR	ADD: P25 9600 BAUD TRUNKING	5			
1f	QA00580AC	ADD: TDMA OPERATION	5			
1g	QA00631AB	ADD: DVRS PSU ACTIVATION	5			
1h	H38BT	ADD: SMARTZONE OPERATION	5			

Any sales transaction following Motorola's quote is based on and subject to the terms and conditions of the valid and executed written contract between Customer and Motorola (the "Underlying Agreement") that authorizes Customer to purchase equipment and/or services or license software (collectively "Products"). If no Underlying Agreement exists between Motorola and Customer, then Motorola's Standard Terms of Use and Motorola's Standard Terms and Conditions of Sales and Supply shall govern the purchase of the Products.
Motorola Solutions, Inc. 300 West Monroe, United States - 60061 - © 36-111900

Pa.66 2

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

QUOTE-2099523

Line #	Item Number	Description	Qty	List Price	Contract Price	Ext. Sale Price
1i	Q806BM	ADD: ASTRO DIGITAL CAI OPERATION	5			
2	PMNN4486A	BATT IMPRES 2 LIION R IP67 3400T	5	\$188.27	\$141.20	\$706.00
3	NNTN8860A	CHARGER, SINGLE-UNIT, IMPRES 2, 3A, 115VAC, US/NA	5	\$169.56	\$127.17	\$635.85

Grand Total \$27,873.75(USD)

Notes:

- Unless otherwise noted, this quote excludes sales tax or other applicable taxes (such as Goods and Services Tax, sales tax, Value Added Tax and other taxes of a similar nature). Any tax the customer is subject to will be added to invoices.

Any sales transaction following Motorola's quote is based on and subject to the terms and conditions of the valid and executed written contract between Customer and Motorola (the "Underlying Agreement") that authorizes Customer to purchase equipment and/or services or license software (collectively "Products"). If no Underlying Agreement exists between Motorola and Customer, then Motorola's Standard Terms of Use and Motorola's Standard Terms and Conditions of Sales and Supply shall govern the purchase of the Products.
Motorola Solutions, Inc. 300 West Monroe, United States - 60061 - © 36-111900

Pa.67 3

Agenda Item #21: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL of the PURCHASE AGREEMENT with FIRSTWATCH which is a DATA MONITORING SYSTEM for FIRST RESPONDERS:

Columbus County Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of the software agreement with FirstWatch to collect, report, and track emergency response data for Fire, EMS, and Law enforcement incidents. Half of the expense will be funded with Opioid Settlement Funds and the remainder was previously budgeted for Emergency Services.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

*****THE FULL FIRSTWATCH PURCHASE AGREEMENT IS HOUSED IN THE CLERK’S OFFICE*****

Agenda Item #22: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL of a SECOND QRV for the EASTERN PART of the COUNTY:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of a second QRV to provide necessary coverage for the eastern part of the county. The funds for the QRV have been appropriated.

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve with Tabor City EMS, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #23: APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS/REPLACEMENTS: STAFF is REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS, REAPPINTMENTS or REPLACEMENTS to the FOLLOWING BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS.

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

Zone I:	Barbara Featherson	Zone V:	Brent Watts
Zone II:	Chris Smith	Zone VI:	Ricky Bullard
Zone III:	Giles E. Byrd	Zone VII:	Scott Floyd
Zone IV:	Lavern Coleman		

COMMITTEE	ZONE EB	PERSON(S)	EXP. DATE	BOARD ACTION
** IT IS RECCOMENDED THAT THE DUPLICATE APPOINTEES BE RE-APPOINTED TO THE BLANK DISTRICTS**				

Beaver Bounty Board	I	Franklin Blanton		
Beaver Bounty Board	II			DAN JONES Appointed
Beaver Bounty Board	III	Jerry Freeman		
Beaver Bounty Board	IV	John Deans		
Beaver Bounty Board	V V	Charles Milligan Charles Hinson		
Beaver Bounty Board	VI VI	Dan Jones James Worley Jr.		
Beaver Bounty Board	VII			CHARLES HINSON APPOINTMENT

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V.
MOTION:

At 7:20 P.M. a Motion was made by Commissioner Watts and second by Commissioner Floyd to recess regular session and enter into Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V.

Agenda Item #24: APPROVAL of WATER and SEWER COMBINATION MINUTES:
• **October 16, 2023 (5 sets)**

MOTION:
Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #25: WATER and SEWER DISTRICT II – APPROVAL of RESOLUTION of PLANNING GRANT FUNDS from NC DEQ-DWI:
Public Utilities Director Harold Nobles requested approval of the resolution regarding Planning Grant Funds in the amount of \$400,000 from NC DEQ-DWI.

MOTION:
Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

**COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT II
NORTH CAROLINA DEQ-DWI
PLANNING GRANT
RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF RECIPIENT**

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund was established in S.L. 2021-180 to assist eligible units of local government with meeting their drinking water and/or wastewater needs, and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has offered Pre-Construction Planning Grant ARPA funding in the amount of \$400,000 to perform the work detailed in the submitted application, and

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY of COLUMBUS:

That County of Columbus does hereby accept the American Rescue Plan Grant offer of \$400,000; and

That the County of Columbus does hereby give assurance to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Funding Offer and Acceptance will be adhered to; has substantially complied, or will substantially comply, with all federal State of North Carolina, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project; and to federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto; and

That Edwin H. Madden Jr., County Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with this project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Infrastructure.

Adopted this the 6th of November, 2023, at Whiteville, Columbus County, North Carolina.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTESTED BY:

Ricky Bullard, Chairman

Date

Jana Nealey, Clerk to Board

Date

Agenda Item #26: WATER and SEWER DISTRICT V – APPROVAL to ADVERTISE the RECCOMENDED SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES and to ESTABLISH a PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Utilities Director Harold Nobles requested approval to advertise the system development fees and call for a public hearing January 2nd, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. or as soon as can be heard.

MOTION:

Commissioner Featherson made a motion to establish the system development fees so they can be advertised for 45 days approve to establish a public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

*****A COPY OF THE FULL ANALYSIS FOR THE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES IS HOUSED IN THE CLERK’S OFFICE*****

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

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #27: COMMENTS:

A. Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Watts commented:

Thank everyone for their work at the Yam Festival it was successful event. Veterans Day is coming up so honor our Veterans it is very near and dear to my heart.

Commissioner Byrd commented:

I mentioned this to Dr. English the other day, but I feel like this county would benefit from having a John Deere maintenance program like the one in Wake County. I think it will help people here if they did not have to go all the way to Wake County to take this course. Many of them will pay the tuition if the student agrees to work with them after. There is quite a bit of farmers, children and grandchildren that would take this course around here. Also, who picks up the debris from where the folks who have purchased Chadbourn Middle have cleaned up around there?

***** Eddie Madden replied that the Municipalities are responsible.***

Vice Chairman Coleman commented:

Remember the Veterans Parade and the Boston Butt Sale, please participate. Also, there is a new chipping operation that will come to the Acme Delco area, the citizens mentioned that they will probably need a new

turning lane and a wider area for logging trucks to turn around. Please ask DOT their recommendation. Thank you to the County Staff.

Commissioner Featherson commented:

Congratulations to the West Columbus Football Team and Coach Lamont Williams for winning the Waccamaw Conference Championship. They will start the State Playoffs this Friday night, November 10th at West Columbus. This is the first time since 1979 that West has been the conference champions. Please support them. I will not be at the Veterans parade but thank you all for your service. There is quite a bit of traffic on 410 during the holidays and I want to know if we can get a push button for the intersection at Brown St. Station for the pedestrians to be able to cross over safely especially during the busy times of the year.

B. County Manager

County Manager Eddie Madden commented:

We mentioned celebrating Veterans Day and the Parade coming up but we have had the Administration illuminated in green lights as part of Project Green Light which is an initiative with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. The purpose is to support our 700,000 veterans that call North Carolina home and to show our appreciation for the sacrifice and service. We will continue to illuminate the administration building at least until Veterans Day and we encourage our municipalities businesses in residence across a County to join in Project Green Light to show support. It has been mentioned we have our Veterans Day parade this coming Saturday, November 11 at 11 AM the Veterans Day committee will be hosting his second annual Veterans Day parade in downtown Whiteville. Please come out and watch the parade and once again show support for veterans and I think we're approaching 100 entries or so. The majority of those are primarily made up of veterans who probably served in our nation for years, and last year was a great event, and it sounds like this coming year will be even better. On behalf of the employees at Columbus County, I want to thank our veterans for the service and sacrifice to our nation, our state, and our county. In recognition of Veterans Day, our offices will be closed this Friday.

- Shuck and Shag coming up on November 9. If you want a ticket for that please let me know.
- The Veterans Parade in downtown Whiteville on the 11th
- November is American Indian Heritage Month
- The Inter-governmental meeting November 27 and we are hosting the dinner on the fourth floor of this building so we're looking forward to that.
- The employee appreciation luncheon December 7 from 11 to 2
- Algernon McKenzie will be retiring later this year, his retirement date initially was October 20 which is just a few days away from you, but we quickly twisted his arm. He decided to stay with us a little bit longer through the end of December. The staff is still planning to have a reception for him this Friday from 230 to 4 and I know they would appreciate if you all would come by and express your appreciation to Mr. McKenzie.

This is just a statement regarding the decision by the board this evening regarding the QRV. The Columbus County Board of Commissioners took a significant step to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of the Lakes District and the Nakina and Old Dock rescue district by placing quick response vehicle staffed with paramedics in underserved parts of the county. The citizens of those districts can rest easy, knowing that the county has the critical assets in place to respond quickly to emergencies and to support the volunteer rescue departments that are currently in service across the county. The partnerships that exist between the county and our fire and rescue departments are strong, and we are committed to providing the highest level of care to every citizen, regardless of their location or address. we are also looking forward to entering into new contract with each of our fire rescue departments so that we can provide them with the additional financial resources. They desperately need

Agenda Item #29: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION:

At 8:00 P.M., Commissioner Watts made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

JANA NEALEY, Clerk to the Board

RICKY BULLARD, Chairman