

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**Monday, October 21, 2024****5:30 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**
 Giles E. Byrd, **Vice Chairman**
 Lavern Coleman,
 Scott Floyd
 Barbara Featherson
 Brent Watts
 Chris Smith

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Eddie Madden, Jr., **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **Attorney**
 Jana Nealey, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEES ABSENT:**Agenda Item #1: MEETING CALLED to ORDER:**

At 5:30 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 and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(6) PERSONNEL

MOTION:

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

Agenda Item #2: 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

RECESS CLOSED SESSION and enter into REGULAR SESSION

MOTION:

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

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Attorney Amanda Prince gave the general account as follows:

The board discussed (5) matters of Attorney-Client Privilege, (3) matters of Personnel, and no action was taken.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Byrd made a motion to approve the General Account, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

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 Commissioner Lavern Coleman. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Garren Priest, a member of the Boys Scouts, Troop 513.

Public Hearing – 6:30 P.M. or as soon as can be heard regarding the Preliminary Plats for the McGill Meadows Planned Unit Development District (PUD):

No public comments were made regarding the McGill Meadows PUD.

MOTION:

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

Agenda Item# 5: APPROVAL OF AGENDA, TAX REFUNDS & RELEASES:

a. 10/21/2024

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve the Agenda with discussed Add-on 9a, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

Tax Refunds and Releases

<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Jennings, Lisa	PROPERTY: 00000		Total:	\$66.67
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2024	Account: 10-26101	Bill#: 99999	
Refund prepayment amount paid twice. (Columbus County User Fee)				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Jenrette, Dorothy Mae	PROPERTY: 00000		Total:	(\$3.00)
Value: \$0.00	Year: 2024	Account: 07-04950	Bill#: 99999	
Refund overage paid on account. (Columbus County Discount)				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00
Watson, Melody	PROPERTY: 00000		Total:	\$226.00
Value: \$0.00	Year: 22-23	Account: 06-41490	Bill#: 99999	
Refund city user fee.(Tabor City)				
<i>Refunds</i>			Amount:	\$0.00

Wray, Vickie K. & Ricky T **PROPERTY:** 00000 Total: \$600.00
 Value: \$0.00 Year: 22-24 Account: 12-00051 Bill#: 99999
 Refund user fee. Bldg not a home. No can.(Columbus county)

NAME Fee	Account # Late List	Date District	Amount Released Discount	Property Value TOTAL	Year	Bill#	Property #	User
Jennings, Lisa 26101 \$0.00 1873 Klondyke Rd Chadbourn, NC 28431	10- 10/21/2024 \$0.00		\$0.00 \$66.67	\$0.00	2024 99999	00000	\$66.67	\$0.00
Refund prepayment amount paid twice. (Columbus County User Fee)								
Jenrette, Dorothy Mae 04950 \$0.00 P.O. Box 133 Tabor City, NC 28463	07- 10/21/2024 \$3.00		\$0.00 (\$3.00)	\$0.00	2024 99999	00000	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refund overage paid on account. (Columbus County Discount)								
Watson, Melody 23 512 Deacon Drive Loris, SC 29569	06-41490 99999	10/21/2024 00000	\$0.00 \$226.00	\$0.00	22- \$0.00	\$0.00	\$226.00	
Refund city user fee.(Tabor City)								
Wray, Vickie K. & Ricky T 24 1774 Jack Hayes Road Whiteville, NC 28472	12-00051 99999	10/21/2024 00000	\$0.00 \$600.00	\$0.00	22- \$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	
Refund user fee. Bldg not a home. No can.(Columbus county)								

Agenda Item #6: BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL:

- a. October 07, 2023

MOTION:

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

Agenda Item #7: PUBLIC INPUT:

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Agenda Item #8: ADMINISTRATION – RECOGNITION OF DISASTER RELIEF PERSONNEL FOR HURRICANE HELENE:

County Manager Eddie Madden recognized those staff members who assisted with disaster relief in Western NC following Hurricane Helene. Mr. Madden explained their experienced and showed photos (below) of the devastation following the hurricane.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally recognize and express my heartfelt gratitude for your outstanding service during the disaster relief efforts in Western North Carolina following the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene.

Your dedication, resilience, and willingness to go above and beyond in a time of crisis truly exemplify the spirit of service that defines our county. The communities affected by the hurricane were able to begin their path to recovery because of the tireless work you put in—providing aid, comfort, and essential services during an incredibly difficult time.

Your commitment not only brought relief to those in need but also reflected the values of compassion, integrity, and teamwork that are central to our mission. Each of you played a crucial role in ensuring that our county's resources were deployed efficiently and effectively in response to the disaster. The positive impact of your efforts will be felt by those communities for years to come.

On behalf of the county and the many people whose lives you've touched through your selfless actions, I extend my deepest thanks. It is an honor to work alongside such a dedicated and capable group of individuals.

Please accept this letter as a token of our appreciation for all that you have done. Your hard work and contributions do not go unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for your unwavering service during this critical time.

Sincerely,

Edwin H. Madden Jr.
County Manager

Ricky Bullard
Chairman, Board of Commissioners







Agenda Item #9: PRESENTATION – RON LEWIS FROM FOUNDATION FORWARD WILL PRESENT INFORMATION REGARDING THEIR CHARTERS OF FREEDOM REPLICAS:

MR. LEWIS HAD A FAMILY EMERGENCY IS WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, THIS WILL POSSIBLE BE ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Agenda Add-On #9a: PROCLAMTION – BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH:

MOTION:

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



Columbus County Proclamation

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS



WHEREAS, breast cancer is one of the most common cancers among women, with more than 297,000 new cases expected to be diagnosed in the United States in 2024; and

WHEREAS, millions of families have been affected by breast cancer, which impacts not only patients but their loved ones, caregivers, and entire communities; and

WHEREAS, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, recognized nationally during the month of October, serves as an opportunity to increase awareness, promote regular screenings, support research, and honor those who have battled breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County recognizes the importance of showing support for breast cancer patients, survivors, and their families, as well as the healthcare professionals and researchers dedicated to improving treatments and finding a cure; and

WHEREAS, in a display of solidarity and support for the fight against breast cancer, all county employees are encouraged to wear pink on October 24th, 2024, to raise awareness and honor those impacted by this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Columbus County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 2024 as **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** in Columbus County and encourage all residents, businesses, and organizations to take part in activities that raise awareness, promote early detection, and support efforts toward prevention, treatment, and finding a cure.

Proclaimed this 21st day of October 2024

COLUMBUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Item #10: ADMINISTRATION – APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BROADBAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

Floria Oates-Williams are requested approval of the resolution supporting the Broadband Technical Assistance Program.

MOTION:

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

BROADBAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Columbus County is committed to promoting equitable access to essential resources, including reliable broadband connectivity, for all residents of Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, access to broadband internet has become increasingly vital in today's digital age, impacting various aspects of our lives, from education and healthcare to employment and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Assistance Program offered by the Broadband Help Hub presents a valuable opportunity for our community to address challenges related to broadband infrastructure and coverage expansion; and

WHEREAS, participation in the Technical Assistance Program aligns with our mission and goals of fostering innovation, promoting economic prosperity, and enhancing quality of life in Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, by investing in broadband infrastructure and technology, we can unlock new opportunities for education, and entrepreneurship, laying the foundation for a more resilient and equitable community;

ARTICLE I THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Columbus County Board of Commissioners hereby endorses and supports participation in the Broadband Help Hub's Technical Assistance Program.
2. The Board authorizes the allocation of necessary resources, including but not limited to, personnel, and logistical support, if needed, to facilitate our involvement in the Technical Assistance Program.
3. Columbus County Board of Commissioners are directed to communicate this resolution to appropriate stakeholders, including members of the board, relevant community organizations, and the Broadband Help Hub.
4. The Board expresses its commitment to actively engage and collaborate with the Broadband Help Hub and other partners to achieve the objectives outlined in the Technical Assistance Program.
5. The Board extends its appreciation to the Broadband Help Hub for providing this valuable opportunity and looks forward to the positive impact it will have on the residents of Columbus County.

ARTICLE II This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Agenda Item #11: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / PLANNING – APPROVAL OF THE PRELIMINARY PLATS FOR THE MCGILL MEADOWS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PUD):

EDC & Planning Staff were available for any questions about the request for approval of the proposed preliminary plans for McGill Meadows PUD Zoning District located on Seven Creeks Hwy, Tabor City, NC. This is the action item associated with the previous public hearing.

****THE FULL PRELIMINARY PLATS ARE HOUSED IN THE CLERK’S OFFICE****

MOTION:

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

Agenda Item #12: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / PLANNING – APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT AND GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE REGARDING COLUMBUS COUNTY’S PORTION OF THE TABOR CITY SHELL BUILDING PROJECT:

EDC & Planning Staff were available for any questions about the request for approval of Budget Amendment and Grant Project Ordinance regarding Columbus County’s portion associated with the Tabor City Shell Building Project.

MOTION:

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

**COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Ordinance making amendments to the
Tabor City Shell Building Grant Capital Project Fund
for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina as follows:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby made to the Tabor City Shell Building Grant Capital Project Fund as of October 21, 2024 pursuant to G.S. 159 -13.2 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024.

	Current Revenue	Changes	Proposed Revenue
15-3482-489001 – Transfer From General Fund	\$502,950	\$0	\$502,950
Total:			\$502,950

	Current Appropriations	Changes	Proposed Appropriations
15-4414-569960 – EDC Partnership With Tabor City	\$502,950	\$0	\$502,950

Total:			\$502,950

Section 2: The project undertaken pursuant to this ordinance is in accordance with the Recommended Budget and any changes made during the County Commissioners' budget work sessions.

Section 3: The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy all applicable regulations. The terms of any financing agreement also shall be met.

Section 4: The County desires to expend its own funds for the purpose of paying certain costs of various projects, for which expenditures the County reasonably expects to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the County.

Section 5: All expenditures relating to obtaining any bond referendum and or installment purchase will be reimbursed from bond proceeds and installment purchase proceeds in accordance with the requirements of the United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150 -2.

Section 6: This declaration of official intent is made pursuant to Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations to expressly declare the official intent of the County to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be hereinafter incurred by the County for certain expenditures paid by the County on or after the date which is sixty (60) days prior to the date hereof.

Section 7: The County intends to seek Federal, State, and/or other grant funding to reduce the amount of loan proceeds. The adoption of this ordinance authorizes the County Manager and/or his representative to apply for and accept such funding if awarded.

Section 8: This project ordinance shall be entered in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County. Within five days hereof, copies of this ordinance shall be filed with the finance office in Columbus County, and with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County. Copies of the Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer, the Project Manager, and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

This Project shall become effective on October 21st , 2024.

ADOPTED, this 21st day of October, 2024

[illegible]

Agenda Item #13: COOPERATIVE EXTENSION - APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN MICHAEL SHUMAN:

Cooperative Extension Director Howard Wallace requested approval of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Agricultural Technician Michael Schuman.

MOTION:

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

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program/North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

and

Columbus County

The Memorandum of Agreement is to provide for the establishment of a procedure at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University to be of service to **Columbus County** in a payroll program that places **Michael Shuman** who is employed with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program (either jointly or entirely paid by said county) under one payroll system. The State Auditor and Auditors of the agencies shall have access to persons and records as a result of

all contracts or grants entered into by State agencies or political subdivisions in accordance with General Statute §147-64.7 and Session Law 2010-194, Section 21 (i.e., the State Auditors and internal auditors may audit the records of the contractor during the term of the contract to verify accounts and data affecting fees or performance). Parties shall abide by the requirements of 41 CFR §§ 60-1.4(a), 60-300.5(a) and 60-741.5(a). These regulations prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals based on their status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities and prohibit discrimination against all individuals based on their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Moreover, these regulations require that covered prime contractors and subcontractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, protected veteran status or disability. **Columbus County**, hereinafter designated as said county, and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program/North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, hereinafter designated N.C. A&T, shall adhere to the following provisions:

1. Purpose of Procedure – The purpose of the procedure is to provide a mechanism whereby funds can be transferred from **Columbus County** to N.C. A&T for use in paying the salary and benefits to Cooperative Extension employees of said county and N.C. A&T in a single monthly paycheck.
2. Procedure for Providing Funds to the Account – N.C. A&T 's Contracts and Grants Office will bill said county for their portion of the gross amount of the monthly payroll and proportionate benefits related to the county employee. Upon receipt of the invoice, the said county will reimburse the specified amount to N.C. A&T. In lieu of receiving paper checks, said county may complete and return a State Treasurer's Electronic Payment System (STEPS) form with the Memorandum of Agreement to establish an electronic reimbursement process.
3. Administration of the Funds – The funds will be maintained in accordance with N.C. A&T accounting policies and procedures.
4. Employee Benefits – Affected employees will participate in the North Carolina Retirement System and accompanying North Carolina Disability Income Plan. They also will be eligible for N.C. A&T employee benefits for which they are entitled. Affected employees will follow N.C. A&T 's personnel policies and procedures. Leave maintenance will be administered entirely by the N.C. A&T. Said county will be responsible for providing their proportional share of benefits.
 - a. County may indicate below their desire to provide monies to Cooperative Extension employees for payment of an employer matching benefit for the NC 401(k) or other tax deferred programs. These monies will be paid in a lump sum on an annual basis and will not be included in the monthly base

salary. Official notification in writing from said County of the lump sum dollar amount to be paid to each employee will be processed for payment and billed to the County for reimbursement to N.C. A&T.

Columbus County Yes ☐ No ☐

- b. County may indicate below if they desire to “lock-in” their proportional salary funding percentage which will apply throughout the course of this Memorandum of Agreement. Indicating “yes” will provide future salary compensation for Cooperative Extension employees as approved by the Legislature and implemented by the

Office of the President, North Carolina University System. These compensation components include but are not limited to: cost of living adjustments (COLA), merit adjustments, bonuses (in any form conveyed), and promotions and/or reclassification adjustments.

Columbus County Lock-In: Yes ☐ No ☐

5. Budget and Support – Current Proportional Salary Funding Agreement

Columbus County Percentage:	49.45%
North Carolina A&T State University Percentage:	50.55%

Signatures of the persons below authorize the execution of the Memorandum of Agreement, commencing on **July 21st, 2023**, and continuing year-to-year. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by providing no less than sixty (60) days written notice.

Signed:

_____	_____
County Manager	Date
_____	_____
Clerk to Board	Date
_____	_____
Administrator, North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program, North Carolina A&T State University	Date
_____	_____
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, North Carolina A&T State University	Date

Agenda Item #14: ATTORNEY'S OFFICE – APPROVAL OF THE 15 YEAR EXTENSION TO THE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH COLUMBUS REGIONAL TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY:

Attorney Amanda Prince requested approval of the 15-year extension to the management agreement with Columbus Regional to include additional county owned property. This property is in reference to the Acme Delco School.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Byrd made a motion to *approve contingent upon amendments made to the agreement that in the event certain requirements are not met, the agreement reverts back to the original management agreement and final approval by the County Attorney,* seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

*****THE FULL MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT IS HOUSED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE*****

Agenda Item #15: EMERGENCY SERVICES – CERRO GORDO FIRE AND RESCUE UPDATE REGARDING STAFFING ISSUES:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested discussion regarding Cerro Gordo Fire and Rescue EMS staffing issues.

(910) 640-6610
Phone

**Columbus County
Emergency Services**

(910) 640-1241
Fax



September 18, 2024

Cerro Gordo Fire & Rescue
Attn: Terry Floyd, Chief
75 Railroad Street
Cerro Gordo, NC 28430

Chief Floyd,

In accordance with the recent contract signed by your department, there are concerns that we would like to discuss with you regarding EMS daily staffing. A letter was previously sent to you dated July 9, 2024, regarding this concern. Since the date of your previous letter, your department has been non-compliant with 6-A, B, C, and D of Services Provided of the Specific Emergency Medical Services section of the contract on multiple occasions (see attached provision). By signing the contract, your department agreed to provide Advanced EMT services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. During this time your department has either been out of service or has functioned at a level below AEMT 13 times. Attached to this letter are the non-compliant EMS unit status times since June 2024.

In our previous letter the county requested that you submit a plan in writing in order to identify the steps you intended to implement to alleviate the matter in question. The county did not receive the requested plan in writing. The county is now requesting that you present your plan of action to the Board of Commissioners at the October 21st 2024 meeting regarding alleviating EMS staffing issues. As the Chief Officer of the department, please be prepared to discuss the detailed report as to how you will implement steps to meet your current contractual requirements to provide contracted emergency medical services to the Cerro Gordo Fire and Rescue District. Failure to provide the requested plan may constitute a breach of contractual obligations.

The county has provided additional funding to your department totaling \$115,000 (see attached) for the specific purpose to help ensure EMS units are staffed and available for service. With the help of you and your department, the county is certain we can overcome these challenges to provide the best care for the citizens of Columbus County. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to reach out to the Emergency Services Office and we will be happy to assist.

Thank you,

Amanda Prince, Columbus County Attorney

Cc: Edwin H. Madden, Jr., County Manager; Peter R. Chambers, Columbus County Medical Director; David Ransom, Emergency Services Director; Nick West, Assistant County Manager; Jody King, EMS Training and Compliance Officer; Kevin Graves, President Cerro Gordo Fire Department Board of Directors.

130 W. Columbus St.
Whiteville, NC 28472

(910) 640-6610
Phone

Columbus County
Emergency Services

(910) 640-1241
Fax

SPECIFIC EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVISIONS EXHIBIT

5. Emergency Medical Funding- Beginning FY24/25 As hereby identified in the attached budget spreadsheet and incorporated by reference (Exhibit B1)

- A. In addition to the amount shown in paragraph 21 and special EMS taxes as shown in this contract, the COUNTY has set aside a total sum of One Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00) annually to CORPORATION *for the specific purpose of providing one (1) Advanced Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic staffed position as required for twelve (12) hours daily (Monday thru Sunday) of each week.* This amount will be re-evaluated and determined in subsequent budgets. The COUNTY shall disburse the bi-annual payments of the Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$50,000.00) in semi-annual payments on the 15th day of August and the 15th day of January of each year.
- B. In addition to the amount shown in paragraph 21 and special taxes as shown in this contract, the COUNTY has set aside a total sum of Fifteen-Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$15,000.00) annually to the CORPORATION for the specific purpose providing part-time EMS staffing to ensure ambulance availability. This amount will be re-evaluated and determined in subsequent budgets. The COUNTY shall disburse the annual reimbursement payments not to exceed fifteen-thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$15,000.00) in two bi-annual payments of \$7,500 on the 15th day of December, and 15th day of June each year. This amount will be re-evaluated and determined in the planning of subsequent budgets.

6. Services Provided-

- A. CORPORATION agrees to provide emergency medical services as directed by the approved County EMS Plan, which is subject to revisions and updates on an annual basis, to all citizens in the territorial zone of the Cerro Gordo Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Inc. district in accordance with the standards established by the County Medical Director, North Carolina Department of Insurance Fire and Rescue Services Division; North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services.
- B. CORPORATION in conjunction with the COUNTY and Chiefs Association agree to develop sustainable future response and funding plans based on achieving sustainable response time goals for EMS emergency calls for service in the approved response district. The COUNTY and the CORPORATION agree to collaboratively monitor response times, and agree to develop strategies to address any response time, funding, and/or on-scene staffing issues as applicable.
- C. The EMS Chief and/or BOARD is responsible for ensuring qualified and certified personnel are available to respond when dispatched as required and identified in the County EMS Plan.
- D. The EMS Chief and/or BOARD is responsible for ensuring that the standards established by the North Carolina Department of Insurance, Fire and Rescue Division; North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services and Columbus County EMS System Plan are met within local capabilities.

130 W. Columbus St.
Whitoville, NC 28472

(910) 640-6610

Phone

Columbus County Emergency Services

(910) 640-1241

Fax

Cerro Gordo EMS Status Since June 2024

June 2024

- 6/20/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 9p-6a OOS 6a-9p
- 6/26/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-8p In-Service 8p-6a QRV 10 will be
First Responding to all CG calls until 8pm. Mutual aid should be paged
- 6/29/2024 CGRD 511 OOS 6a-8p In-Service 8p-6a

July 2024

- 7/2/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a Page Mutual
Aid Until 6PM
- 7/8/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a OOS 6a-6p.
Mutual Aid paged.
- 7/17/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a CG out of
service unit 6pm. Page Mutual Aid
- 7/23/2024 CGRD 511 In-Service AEMT 6a-12p In-Service 6p-6a CG will
be OOS from 12p-6p. Mutual Aid will need to be paged during this time.
- 7/26/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a CG Rescue will
be out of service from 6a-6p.

August 2024

- 8/7/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a CG will be out
of service 24 HOURS. Page Mutual Aid.
- 8/16/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a CG Rescue will
be OOS from 6a-6p. Mutual aid will be paged.
- 8/20/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-2p In-Service 2p-6a Out of service
from 6a-2p. Mutual aid paged at this time.
- 8/22/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a OOS from 6a-
6p. Page Mutual Aid for Rescue
- 8/22/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a OOS from 6a-
6p. Page Mutual Aid for Rescue
- 8/28/2024 CGRD 511 OOS/In-service AEMT In-Service 6p-6a OOS
from 6a-9a and from 1p-6p. Mutual aid will need to be paged.
- 8/31/2024 CGRD 511 In-service AEMT 6a-3p In-Service 8p-6a OOS
from 3pm-8pm

September 2024

- 9/3/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-6a CG Rescue
OOS 6a-6p. Page Mutual Aid.
- 9/6/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-6p In-Service 6p-4a CG Rescue
OOS 6a-6p. Then OOS 9/7/24 from 4a-6a. Page Mutual Aid.
- 9/9/2024 CGRD 511 OOS AEMT 6a-2p In-Service 6p-6a CG Rescue
OOS from 2p-6p


130 W. Columbus St.
Whiteville, NC 28472

Agenda Item #16: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL OF THE LOW BID FOR METAL BUILDING AT THE NORTH CAMPUS:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of the low bid from Viking Steel in the amount of \$87,900 for a metal building to be located at the North Campus.

MOTION:

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

MANUFACTURE 1				 VIKING STEEL STRUCTURES																																																																																																																																																							
(877) 219-9946 www.vikingsteelstructures.com sales@vikingsteelstructures.com																																																																																																																																																											
Customer Information				Building Specialist Information																																																																																																																																																							
Name <u>County of Columbus</u>				Quote Date <u>9/5/2024</u>																																																																																																																																																							
Street <u>205 lee avenue</u> County <u>columbus</u>				Name <u>Seth Stanley</u>																																																																																																																																																							
City <u>whiteville</u> State <u>nc</u> Zip <u>28472</u>				Direct Line <u>(910) - 621 - 4240</u>																																																																																																																																																							
Phone <u>910 640 7547 (nick)</u> Cell <u>910 640 6613 (shannon)</u>				Email <u></u>																																																																																																																																																							
Email <u>gsblackman@columbusco.org</u>				Email <u>seth.s@vikingsteelstructures.com</u>																																																																																																																																																							
Let must be level no more than 2" off-level, and clear of obstacles or unit may not be installed.				5% return trip fee if lot is unlevelled and unit cannot be installed																																																																																																																																																							
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Agenda Item #17: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN COLUMBUS COUNTY 911 AND DAVIE COUNTY 911 TO PROVIDE BACKUP ASSISTANCE IF NEEDED:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Columbus County 911 and Davie County 911 to provide backup assistance in the event that communication systems malfunction.

MOTION:

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

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN COLUMBUS COUNTY 911 COMMUNICATIONS,
NORTH CAROLINA AND DAVIE COUNTY 911
COMMUNICATIONS, NORTH CAROLINA**

Mutual aid in occurrence of failure of 911 Emergency Call System and/or Dispatch system in Columbus County 911 Communications Center or Davie County 911 Communications Center.

PARTIES

This understanding is entered into between Columbus County 911 Communications Center and Davie County 911 Communications Center.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish an agreement for the Columbus County 911 and Davie County 911 Communications Center to support each other's 911 call answering and operate as an out of region backup 911 System for each other should a failure of its 911 Emergency Call System occur or evacuation of a 911 center become necessary.

TERMS

Notice will be given to a representative supervisor of the functioning 911 center that emergency telephone calls will be automatically transferred or as soon as a system failure is identified, or evacuation of center is required. Normal operations will resume as soon as the impacted center is able to safely resume operations at primary or backup center.

EQUIPMENT/PERSONNEL

The Center providing relief for calls during system failure or evacuation will have needed radios in place utilizing the VIPER Statewide Communications network to relay call information from one county to another. If able it will be the responsibility of the impacted center to dispatch emergent calls as needed for fire, EMS and law enforcement personnel because the counties are on different types of radio systems however an effort will be made to equip each center with a limited means to communicate directly with responders in each respective county.

TERMINATION

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be in effect from the date of execution and recurring. This memorandum may be terminated by either party upon submission of a thirty-day (30) advance written notice of termination. Modifications of this understanding must be in writing and upon approval of both parties.

EXECUTION

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon execution of all parties to the MOU. The date of execution shall be the date of the last signature.

Columbus County Board of Commissioners

By: _____ Date: _____

Print Name:

Columbus County 911 Operations Director

By: *Shaleen A. Jacobs* Date: 10/11/2024

Print Name:

Davie County Board of Commissioners

By: *Mark Jones* (Chair) Date: 10/7/24

Print Name: Mark Jones, Chairman

Davie County 911 Operations Director

By: *Rodney D. Pierce* Date: 10/8/24

Print Name: Rodney Pierce

Agenda Item #18: EMERGENCY SERVICES – APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE IMAGETREND, LLC SOFTWARE SERVICES AGREEMENT:

Emergency Services Director David Ransom requested approval of the amendment to the software services agreement with ImageTrend, LLC, in the amount of \$27,250, to include the addition of sixteen (16) county fire departments as required in the new service contracts. There are sufficient funds in the budget to cover this cost.

MOTION:

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

SOFTWARE OR SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Contract Details			
Original Contract Number	00008794.0	Amendment Contract Number	00010089.0
("Original Contract")			

This Agreement (hereinafter referred to as this "Agreement") is made as of the date executed by the last of the parties named below:

BETWEEN: ImageTrend, LLC, Minnesota corporation (hereinafter "ImageTrend")

AND: Columbus County Fire Marshal (hereinafter "Client").

The Client and ImageTrend mutually agree to the following changes to the Original Contract between Columbus County Fire Marshal and ImageTrend, LLC.

1. The purpose of this Amendment is for Client to modify the Original Contract and Client's existing product orders and/or add new product items as outlined below in the Price Sheet attachment.
2. This Amendment is coterminous with the Original Contract. The Original Contract's term remains the same. All other terms and conditions remain the same.
3. Out of Scope customization is \$225.00/hour and performed only under mutually agreed upon Statement of Work.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: the undersigned parties, each having authority to bind their respective organizations, hereby agree.

Client	ImageTrend
Signature:	Signature:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
Date:	Date:

PRICE SHEET AND WORK ORDER ATTACHMENT

The prices below are based on the following SaaS transaction volumes, as provided by Client:
4,040 Incidents annually

One Time Fees

Description	SKU	Unit Price	Qty	Extended Amount	Custom Description
Existing CAD Feed - Sub Agency Setup	ELT.003.002.024	\$750.00	16	\$12,000.00	For the benefit of: 1. Bolton - Fire House 2. Brunswick - Emergency Reporting 3. Buckhead - State Image Trend 4. Cerro Gordo - Emergency Reporting 5. Fair Bluff - State Image Trend 6. Hallsboro - State Image Trend 7. Klondyke/Chadborn - State Image Trend 8. Lake Waccamaw - State Image Trend 9. Nakina - State Image Trend 10. Old Dock/Cypress Creek - State Image Trend 11. Roseland - State Image Trend 12. Saint James - State Image Trend 13. Tabor City - Emergency Reporting 14. White Marsh/Welches Creek - Fire

					House 15. Williams Township - Emergency Reporting 16. Acme Delco/Riegelwo od - Emergency Reporting
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Total One-Time Fees: \$12,000.00

Recurring Fees

Description	SKU	Unit Price	Qty	Extended Amount
Other CAD Vendor	ELT.002.007.019	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Continuum® for Fire	CTM.001.002.064	\$4,500.00	1	\$4,500.00
CAD Distribution	ELT.002.007.001	\$4,750.00	1	\$4,750.00
Elite™ Fire Add-on Agency - SaaS	ELT.001.002.039	\$6,000.00	1	\$6,000.00

Total Recurring Fees: \$15,250.00

TOTAL YEAR 1: \$27,250.00

Send Invoices To:

Shannon Blackman
gsblackman@columbusco.org
130 West Columbus Street
Whiteville, NC 28472

Payment Terms:

1. "One Time Fees" are due once upon contract signature.
2. "Recurring Fees" are annual fees which recur each year and are due upon contract signature. They are due on each anniversary of the fee, with the start date beginning upon contract signature.
3. The Recurring Fees will escalate in price annually by 7% beginning one year from the last signature hereto and each year thereafter.
4. ImageTrend may temporarily suspend performance (e.g. cease to provide access, hosting, support) due to Client's breach of contract provided Client shall have 30 days to cure such breach before ImageTrend may suspend performance.
5. ImageTrend may charge to Client a late fee of 1.5% per month, or the highest rate allowed under the law, whichever is lower, on any overdue amounts. Client also agrees ImageTrend may charge to Client all reasonable costs and expenses of collection, including attorneys' fees where, in ImageTrend's discretion, payments are consistently deficient or late.

6. All Annual SaaS Fees are based upon anticipated transaction volumes (as provided by Client) and are subject to an annual usage audit. ImageTrend reserves the right to increase fees in accordance with increased transaction volume per the Unit Price listed in the tables above.
7. ImageTrend will not be responsible for third-party fees related to this Agreement unless specifically outlined by this Agreement.

Optional Items

Items in the table below are not goods or services currently contracted or provided by this Agreement, rather, they are included to allow Client to add those goods or services by first providing written notice to ImageTrend, subsequently ImageTrend will provide Client with a Work Order for the Optional item, and upon Client's signature of that Work Order, ImageTrend will begin the work.

Product	SKU	Unit Price	Description
ImageTrend Geocoding	CTM.001.002.066	\$500.00	The ImageTrend Geocoding option generates latitude and longitude information from EMS and Fire scene location addresses. This option is available for those clients that don't currently have latitude and longitude information being added to their system via either a CAD integration or the ImageTrend MARS offering. Latitude and longitude information is required if you want to view map content in Continuum's numerous content domains.
Slate™	ELT.001.002.062	\$2,562.00	Slate™ is a standalone operations management solution with the first-released module for scheduling with certification tracking. Engineered for flexibility, multiple schedule types and sub-groups can be utilized in a single solution with workflows that are defined by your department. With Slate, you get unlimited time off requests, shift trades, work requirements, seniority lists and fill rules. It is an ImageTrend-hosted solution that connects with the Aware app for end users to view and manage their own schedules, and can either integrate with ImageTrend Elite or work independently.
Slate™ Text/SMS	ELT.001.002.063	\$500.00	Provides the ability to send a variety of individual or bulk text/SMS notifications and alerts to your personnel directly from Slate.

Agenda Item #19: DSS – MONTHLY REPORT:

DSS Director Dwella Hall presented the monthly report for September 2024.

Monthly Administrative Update

For September, 2024

October 21, 2024 Meeting

On September 4th, I attended the 50th Anniversary for Monarch here in Whiteville. It was a pleasure to witness so much history this organization has devoted to the citizens and our County.

On September 18th, I attended the Columbus County Partnership for Children Smart Start Annual Meeting and Celebration. I am so proud to serve on this board.

Community Information:

Energy Program- Individuals and families experiencing a heating or cooling related crisis may apply for assistance through the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP). Applicants can complete a CIP application by mail, email, fax or drop-off at our office. A face to face interview is not required. In addition, disconnect notices are not required. Applicants can present a final notice or past due utility bill and must have a health related or life-threatening emergency to potentially be eligible for crisis funds. Households can apply for the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) online at www.epass.nc.gov.

Medicaid applications- continue to be available through e-pass or walk in's. Our Medicaid workers are here to assist the community.

On site Interpreter- We currently have one Spanish Interpreter available for all departments in our agency. She is available to assist our clients upon request.

Collaboration of Services

The Salvation Army of Wilmington will be collaborating with us to assist the Senior Citizens with an angel tree for children in their custody. They will be housed in our office on October 21st from 10am -3pm.

Once a child has been registered and accepted as an angel their Christmas wish list is shared with donors in our community who purchase gifts of new clothes and toys. The gifts are then distributed to the families. The age limit is 1-year old to 10 years old. Information needed to determine qualification is:

Photo ID, proof of income, proof of residence; lease, utility bill or mail received from the school district or other government agency mail, birth certificate, and official custody or guardianship papers.

September Collections

Child Support Enforcement collected \$441,177.00 this month. In addition, I would like to congratulate our Child Support worker Megan Richardson for being 3rd out of the top 20 Counties in the State for collecting over 24,000 this month.

Program Integrity collected \$8,122.36 from fraudulent Food and Nutrition cases in our County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dwella M. Hall

Director

Economic Services Narrative

Darlene Jenkins-Parks, Income Maintenance Administrator

Vacancies/Updates for September 2024

FNS (Food & Nutrition Services-also known as Food Stamps) Intake/Processing Unit:

Team of (6); (2) frozen positions. Approved 210 FNS applications. All FNS applications submitted into the agency are assigned to one of these workers to complete the intake & process application for eligibility following current program policy and procedures. The unit lead worker & supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work.

FNS (Food & Nutrition Services- also known as Food Stamps) Review Unit:

Team of (6); (2) vacant posted position closing 9/30; (2) frozen positions. Completed 463 re-certifications and approved 88 late re-applications (for active clients that provided their information late but within the deadline to prevent reapplying). All approved FNS applications are assigned to a worker in this unit to manage annual or 6- month review eligibility for new certification period. They must work multiple reports/task/notifications daily as part of the maintenance process to ensure the beneficiary receive all benefits they're entitled. These workers take care of all walk-ins, phone calls, and emails to answer questions or concerns. All phone messages received with a name, phone number where they can be reached are returned the same day if possible or no later than 24 hours from time message received. The unit lead worker & supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work.

This unit is currently struggling to juggle all the responsibilities with the shortage of staff.

F&C (Family & Children) Medicaid Intake/Processing and Energy Unit:

No vacancies; Team of (6); (5) workers Processed 365 F&C Medicaid applications. All F&C Medicaid applications submitted into the agency are assigned to one of these workers to complete the intake & process applications for eligibility following current program policy and procedures. The unit lead worker & supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work.

Energy:

(1) F&C Medicaid/Energy intake; (1) Adult Medicaid intake (energy back-up); (1) Interpreter are handling the intake/processing of CIP (Crisis Intervention Program) applications submitted into the agency. **Processed 177 applications.**

F&C Medicaid Review Unit:

Team of (7) handling (9) caseloads; (2) frozen vacant caseloads have been distributed amongst the current staff. This unit had **(3) additional approved Expansion frozen** positions that had not been filled. These cases have multiple individuals on one case that may have different certification end dates, this requires a review complete at different times for each person in the same household. All approved F&C Medicaid applications are assigned to a worker in this unit to manage annual or 6- month review eligibility for new certification period. They must work multiple reports/task/notifications daily as part of the maintenance process to ensure the beneficiary receive all benefits they're entitled. These workers take care of all walk-ins, phone calls, and emails to answer questions or concerns. All phone messages received with a name, phone number where they can be reached are returned the same day if possible or no later than 24 hours from time message received. The unit lead worker & supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check

for accuracy and quality of work. The workers are beginning to struggle and feel overwhelmed. Request has been made with pending approval to re-assign the (1) Adult Medicaid Intake vacant position that isn't frozen to this unit in an attempt to be of some help.

Adult Medicaid Intake/Processing Unit:

No vacancy, Team of (6); (5) processed 148 applications; (1) worker to assist energy applications daily, Unit is back-up only to energy. All Adult Medicaid applications submitted into the agency are assigned to one of these workers to complete the intake & process following current program policy and procedures. The unit lead worker & supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work. This unit has **(1) vacant position (not frozen)**, the program administrator has request/pending approval to re-assign this position to F&C Medicaid review unit that is struggling with the shortage of staff due to the frozen positions.

Adult Medicaid Review Unit:

No vacancy, Team of (7). Completed 211 reviews. All approved Adult Medicaid applications are assigned to a worker in this unit to manage annual or 6- month review eligibility for new certification period. They must work multiple reports/task/notifications daily as part of the maintenance process to ensure beneficiary receive all benefits they're entitled. These workers take care of all walk-ins, phone calls, and emails to answer questions or concerns. All phone messages received with a name, phone number where they can be reached are returned the same day if possible or no later than 24 hours from time message. These workers receive

referrals from the F&C Medicaid on individuals during their review that are no longer eligible under any of their programs that must to be evaluated for all Adult Medicaid programs. This must in addition to the other requirements. The unit lead worker complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work.

LTC/CAP/SA Unit:

Team of (3); (1) frozen position. These programs are the most complex programs. These workers complete all intake/processing of applications and review/maintenance of all active cases for the LTC (Long Term Care), CAP (Community Alternative Program) and SA (Special Assistance) 50% State and 50% County funded programs. The unit supervisor complete 2nd party reviews on random cases monthly to check for accuracy and quality of work.

Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation (NEMT) Unit:

No vacancy; Team of (2). They continue handling daily calls, new/updated assessments, scheduling for pickups from vendors, as well as billing for vendor and mileage. There is a decrease in transportation request through the agency since implementation of the Tailored Plan effective July 1, 2024. The Managed Care plans handle their own NEMT arrangements and billing.

Interpreter:

Team of (1) Spanish interpreter available for all departments in the agency. **She also intakes/process energy applications.** In the event she is not available or another language interpreter needed all agency staff have excess to the NCDHHS Telephonic Interpreting Language Line with Propio.

Child Support Establishment unit:

Team of (3); (1) vacancy; (2) positions frozen. Prepared 44 cases for court action. This team & both unit supervisors were able to attend the Regional Inter-Governmental Boot Camp Training in Onslow County on September 25th and 26th. This training was needed as there had been struggle with some areas of Interstate procedures.

Enforcement unit:

Team of (4); (1) frozen vacancy. Prepared 121 cases for court action. This month the Child Support department only had one court date. This can be challenging since they normally they have (2) court dates (1) for Show Cause and (1) for Establishment & Motions. The limited court dates make it very hard to complete the cases on the court calendar, resulting in cases being continued to another court date. This can cause a delay in getting children the child support needed.

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD REPORT

Dwella M. Hall, Program Manager-Interim Director

Vacancies/Updates/News for September 2024**Intake/Investigation/Assessment:**

The Intake/Investigation/Assessment unit continues to be fully staffed. This unit continues to receive referrals involving substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health issues, among other things.

The after-hours unit continues to assist the Foster Care unit with after hours home visits. The after hours worker also completes all courtesies from other counties, occasional follow up contacts for the In Home Services unit as well as completing CPS and APS intake referrals and responding accordingly.

Now that County and City Schools are back in, the Supervisor has attended several truancy meetings throughout the County with many more scheduled. Monthly CCPT (Community Child Protection Team) meetings are held as well as attending the monthly MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Team) meeting at the local Child Advocacy Center.

Through the generosity of the CAC, SW Mindy Bell was able to attend a 4-day training at no cost to the County. The training was cut short due to the epic flooding in the NC Mountains as the training was held at Lake Junaluska. Our Regional Child Welfare Consultant (RCWC) conducted an on-site visit this month.

In-Home Services:

I H S unit remains fully staffed with one worker out on maternity leave. The unit has an average caseload of 27-30 open I H S cases at this time, which is very manageable for our staff of five SW's. We are still housing some Foster Care cases, but excited to see our Foster Care caseload continuing to decrease this month.

During the month of September, we have not filed any new petitions, this reflects more families are being reunified successfully. It is our daily goal to provide empowerment, guidance and encouragement for the successful outcome of the families we serve.

The Supervisor continues to attend court proceedings, have weekly staffing's with the workers for guidance and direction. Our Regional Child Welfare Consultant (RCWC) conducted an on-site visit this month.

Foster Care/Permanency Planning:

The Foster Care unit is comprised of seven positions, with three of those positions remaining frozen. Currently there are 81 children in custody, with 35 of those children being placed outside of Columbus County. Over the past month, we were released from custody of eleven juveniles; however, we also gained custody of eleven new children placed in our custody. Over the past two months, this unit has experienced a staggering increase in the number of children entering into care. The unit continues to ensure that all of the children's needs and safety are being met, while simultaneously working with community partners, parents, caretakers, foster parents, and the judicial system to seek permanency for each child. Our Regional Child Welfare Consultant (RCWC) conducted an on-site visit this month.

Transitional Unit:

The Transitional unit is fully staff. This unit continues to work caseloads while assisting the other Child Welfare units as needed, particularly in the areas of courtesy requests from other counties, assisting with supervising visits and transporting children in custody. This unit assist in the area of making monthly contacts with the

children in foster care. Foster Home Licensing continues to work on completing more licensures to help increase the number of foster home in the county. Our Licensing Department has received the SBI clearance letters from Raleigh on our families who just finished Foster Care Classes. Our Licensing social worker is now preparing the required packets to send to Black Mountain (licensing headquarters) for approval to be licensed foster parents. Our Regional Child Welfare Consultant (RCWC) conducted an on-site visit this month.

Adult Services:

The Adult Services unit continues to strive to provide quality services to adults 18 years and older. Even though the population in the County is decreasing, the aging population is increasing along with their individual needs. The unit comprises of one Supervisor and five Social Workers.

Work First Employment:

This unit continues to be fully staffed. The unit is open for in-person applications, telephone interviews continue for Work First applications, recertification's, short-term services and benefits. Certain necessary application documentation can be mailed to individuals that wish to apply and when received back the worker can conduct telephone interviews to complete that application. Workers are able to conduct home visits to complete the interview process when necessary. Some application information is also being provided for pick-up in the foyer area of the agency. Workers are encouraged to make telephone contacts with clients at least every two weeks to offer support and resources to clients and to encourage program participation. The workers will begin in October helping the foster care unit with transporting and monitoring foster care visits. The agency continues to have monthly meetings with the state reps by conference calls. The Regional Economic Consultant conducted a Teams meeting this month.

Child Day Care:

The Child Day Care unit continues to be fully staffed. The agency has started a waiting list due to funding. As of today, there are about 35 children on the waiting list. The unit is open for in-person applications and telephone interviews, and staff continue to complete day care applications and recertification's.

Program Integrity:

Program Integrity continues to be fully staffed. Repayment agreements are being collected. Staff continue to work towards cleaning up the backlog, establishing cases and repayment agreements.

Agenda Item #20: DSS - APPROVAL OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES CHILD CARE WAITING LIST POLICY:

DSS Director Dwella Hall requested approval of the Columbus County Department of Social Services Child Care Waiting List Policy.

MOTION:

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

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Waiting List Local Policy

as the regular subsidy allocation is not at risk of being overspent. If necessary, children in one of these vulnerable populations must be placed on a separate waiting list.

I. COLUMBUS COUNTY WAITING LIST LOCAL POLICY

Columbus County will monitor placement of children in care when there are insufficient funds, insufficient child care providers, or insufficient staff by prioritizing the services for all eligible families.

Columbus County will maintain the waiting list in NC FAST.

Columbus County will be responsible for conducting the waiting list survey twice per year in March and September.

Columbus County will allow 30 calendar days for families to respond to the waiting list survey.

Columbus County will notify the family in writing, informing the family that they may apply for services.


Columbus County will prioritize services to the following populations in the order below (this is just an example):

1. Care to support Child Protective Services (CPS).
2. Children in Foster Care (FC).
3. Care to support Child Welfare Services (CWS).
4. Work First Family Assistance participants with a signed Mutual Responsibility Agreement (MRA).
5. Non-Work First Family Assistance recipients to support their employment.
6. For teen parents aged 19 and under who are still in high school or attending a Community College to obtain their General Education Development (GED) or Adult High School Diploma (AHS).
7. Families needing childcare to support training leading to employment and post-secondary education who are not teen parents.

III. REDUCING SERVICES

If childcare cases are in jeopardy of termination due to potential lack of funding, Columbus County will contact DCDEE for further guidance.

This policy is passed and adopted by the governing board (Social Services Board or County Official) _____ County, State of North Carolina, this ____ day of _____ (month) of (year) 20 ____.


DSS Director

Date

Human Services Board Chair

Date

II. VULNERABLE POPULATIONS SET-ASIDE

Columbus County will set aside the required 4% set-aside funds to serve families with children identified as a vulnerable population, which includes children with special needs and families experiencing homelessness. (County should indicate the percentage they will set aside if they set aside greater than the 4% required amount.) If the set-aside amount is encumbered, populations already being served will be served with funds in the regular subsidy allocation. Columbus County will continue to serve new children who apply and are in one of these vulnerable populations, as long

Agenda Item #21: FINANCE – APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE REPORT, BUDGET AMENDMENT, BUDGET ORDINANCE, AND SALARY ADJUSTMENTS:

Interim Finance Director Heather Woody is requesting approval of the following Finance Report, Budget Amendment, Budget Ordinance, Salary Adjustments:

- a. Finance Report – September 2024
- b. Budget Amendment – HUD
- c. Budget Ordinance – American Rescue Plan (ARPA)
- d. Tax Administration – Salary Adjustment / Classification Changes
- e. Sheriff's Office – Salary Adjustments / Additional Duties
- f. DSS – Salary Adjustments / Work Against

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT
AUGUST 2024 (REPORT DATE 10.15.24)

Percent of Year Complete: 16.67%

GENERAL FUND (Annual Operating Budget)	FY 24/25 BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD TOTALS	BALANCE REMAINING	% COLLECTED YTD	ACTUAL YTD TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23	% COLLECTED YTD AS OF 8/31/23	DIFFERENCE OF YTD TOTALS	DIFFERENCE OF % COLLECTED YTD
REVENUES								
AD VALOREM TAXES	44,826,509	10,245,572	34,580,937	22.9%	14,317,684	36.4%	\$ (4,072,113)	-13.5%
COURT	125,000	9,510	115,490	7.6%	9,298	7.4%	\$ 211	0.2%
SALES TAX	14,255,878	1,267,359	12,988,519	8.9%	-	0.0%	\$ 1,267,359	8.9%
TAX ADMINISTRATION REVENUES	37,675	-	37,675	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
NC JCPC PROGRAM - TEEN COURT	77,477	12,915	64,562	16.7%	12,747	16.5%	\$ 168	0.2%
ELECTION FEES	150	588	(438)	391.9%	417	347.3%	\$ 171	44.6%
REGISTER OF DEEDS	417,600	108,041	309,559	25.9%	96,912	23.2%	\$ 11,129	2.7%
SHERIFF	1,929,827	187,518	1,742,309	9.7%	49,622	2.3%	\$ 137,896	7.4%
DETENTION CENTER	615,000	59,230	555,770	9.6%	4,605	0.6%	\$ 54,625	9.0%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	251,166	-	251,166	0.0%	3,385	1.9%	\$ (3,385)	-1.9%
FIRE DEPARTMENT REVENUES	34,000	2,155	31,845	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ 2,155	0.0%
INSPECTION	667,000	161,792	505,208	24.3%	94,713	15.8%	\$ 67,079	8.5%
ANIMAL CONTROL	47,500	3,100	44,400	6.5%	6,741	19.3%	\$ (3,641)	-12.8%
AIRPORT	528,000	68,826	457,174	13.1%	65,904	12.6%	\$ 2,922	0.5%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING	13,500	6,495	7,005	48.1%	2,305	5.0%	\$ 4,190	43.1%
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	3,000	145	2,855	4.8%	-	0.0%	\$ 145	4.8%
SOIL CONSERVATION	32,350	594	31,756	1.8%	1,912	6.2%	\$ (1,317)	-4.4%
DEPARTMENT OF AGING REVENUES	1,832,020	66,240	1,765,780	3.6%	79,162	4.6%	\$ (12,922)	-1.0%
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	3,198,741	537,265	2,661,476	16.8%	523,454	15.9%	\$ 13,811	0.9%
SOCIAL SERVICE	7,996,435	122,062	7,874,373	1.5%	637,709	7.7%	\$ (515,647)	-6.2%
VETERANS SERVICE	2,000	-	2,000	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
PUBLIC SCHOOLS	21,000	1,768	19,232	8.4%	1,824	8.7%	\$ (57)	-0.3%
LIBRARY	167,037	26,567	140,470	15.9%	25,699	11.2%	\$ 868	4.7%
RECREATION	45,825	8,947	36,878	19.5%	26,045	82.4%	\$ (17,099)	-62.9%
LEASES-GASB 87	-	-	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	1,829,604	407,346	1,422,258	22.3%	285,722	22.6%	\$ 121,625	-0.3%
INVESTMENT EARNINGS	-	-	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
TRANSFER FROM REVENUES	689,827	-	689,827	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	6,194,337	-	6,194,337	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Total General Fund Revenues	85,836,458	13,304,036	72,532,422	15.5%	16,245,862	21.50%	\$ (2,941,826)	-6.0%

Note:

Some revenues were received in August but not posted in the respective month due to month end close out.

GENERAL FUND (Annual Operating Budget)	FY 24/25 BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD TOTALS	BALANCE REMAINING	% EXPENSED YTD	ACTUAL YTD TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23	% EXPENSED YTD AS OF 8/31/23	DIFFERENCE OF YTD TOTALS	DIFFERENCE OF % EXPENSED YTD
EXPENDITURES								
GOVERNING BODY	267,268	46,038	221,230	17.2%	51,873	16.9%	\$ (5,834)	0.3%
ADMINISTRATION	592,008	77,691	514,317	13.1%	899,358	86.2%	\$ (821,667)	-73.1%
PERSONNEL	313,937	44,358	269,579	14.1%	335,182	52.4%	\$ (290,824)	-38.3%
FINANCE	829,639	201,104	628,535	24.2%	115,004	12.7%	\$ 86,101	11.5%
TAX DEPARTMENT	1,965,934	246,347	1,719,587	12.5%	289,101	15.1%	\$ (42,754)	-2.6%
LEGAL DEPARTMENT	441,718	103,877	337,841	23.5%	197,426	34.4%	\$ (93,550)	-10.9%
NC JCPC PROGRAM - TEEN COURT	77,477	10,830	66,647	14.0%	12,340	15.9%	\$ (1,510)	-1.9%
COURT FACILITIES	491,446	68,499	422,947	13.9%	69,758	16.1%	\$ (1,259)	-2.2%
ELECTIONS	838,810	80,090	558,720	12.5%	70,056	13.3%	\$ 10,034	-0.8%
REGISTER OF DEEDS	556,607	79,991	476,616	14.4%	77,872	13.7%	\$ 2,119	0.7%
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM	607,619	125,208	482,411	20.6%	106,873	21.7%	\$ 18,336	-1.1%
CENTRAL GARAGE	241,875	34,443	207,432	14.2%	(558)	-0.4%	\$ 35,001	14.6%
NON-DEPARTMENTAL	1,764,921	1,228,791	536,130	69.8%	-	0.0%	\$ 1,228,791	69.6%
PUBLIC BUILDINGS - ALL OTHER	2,166,436	244,641	1,921,795	11.3%	233,377	10.2%	\$ 11,265	1.1%
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT	10,367,355	1,789,967	8,577,388	17.3%	1,560,727	15.1%	\$ 229,240	2.2%
GOVERNOR HWY GRANT	338,620	21,993	316,627	6.5%	-	0.0%	\$ -	6.5%
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER	5,756,282	765,333	4,990,949	13.3%	670,528	15.2%	\$ 94,805	-1.9%
EMS	31,000	5,000	26,000	16.1%	-	0.0%	\$ 5,000	16.1%
EMERGENCY SERVICES	908,643	309,102	599,541	34.0%	463,651	12.8%	\$ (154,549)	21.2%
FIRE MARSHAL	210,216	5,839	204,377	2.8%	-	0.0%	\$ 5,839	2.8%
CORONER MEDICAL EXAMINER	30,000	400	29,600	1.3%	5,500	18.3%	\$ (5,100)	-17.0%
ANIMAL CONTROL	728,323	96,633	631,690	13.3%	88,562	12.5%	\$ 8,071	0.8%
FIRE & RESCUE	2,767,440	556,428	2,211,012	20.1%	-	0.0%	\$ 556,428	20.1%
NC 911 OPERATIONS	1,170,204	44,681	1,125,523	3.8%	-	0.0%	\$ 44,681	3.8%
AIRPORT	705,069	77,153	627,916	10.9%	33,070	4.8%	\$ 44,083	6.1%
INSPECTIONS	585,139	73,583	511,556	12.6%	67,336	14.3%	\$ 6,247	-1.7%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING	387,004	79,778	307,226	20.6%	76,087	13.9%	\$ 3,691	6.7%
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	708,855	44,237	664,618	6.2%	33,133	5.4%	\$ 11,104	0.8%
SOIL CONSERVATION	351,593	56,173	295,420	16.0%	51,905	15.5%	\$ 4,268	0.5%
DEPARTMENT OF AGING	2,988,977	404,254	2,584,723	13.5%	363,542	12.8%	\$ 40,712	0.7%
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	6,494,973	723,000	5,771,974	11.1%	727,898	11.5%	\$ (4,899)	-0.4%
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	10,468,704	1,442,360	9,026,344	13.8%	1,459,825	14.0%	\$ (17,465)	-0.2%
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	3,697,024	286,731	3,410,293	7.8%	406,720	16.8%	\$ (119,989)	-9.0%
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER	178,450	28,797	149,653	16.1%	27,093	15.7%	\$ 1,704	0.4%
EDUCATION	17,056,693	2,982,964	14,073,729	17.5%	3,028,770	18.4%	\$ (45,806)	-0.9%
LIBRARY	1,578,087	269,954	1,308,133	17.1%	274,581	16.2%	\$ (4,627)	0.9%
RECREATION	548,110	67,927	480,183	12.4%	83,234	14.2%	\$ (15,307)	-1.8%
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS	687,704	52,339	635,365	7.6%	61,272	14.0%	\$ (8,933)	-6.4%
TRANSFER TO	6,136,298	-	6,136,298	0.0%	-	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Total General Fund Expenditures	85,836,458	12,776,535	73,059,923	14.9%	11,941,095	15.8%	\$ 813,446	-0.9%

Total Revenue over/(under) Expenditures

- 527,501

4,304,767

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	CAPITAL PROJECT	
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>		
COURTHOUSE CAP PROJ REVENUES	7,917,194	8,196,942	(279,690)	104%	7,917,485	100%		
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>								
PRIOR YEAR EXPENDITURES	7,917,194	8,142,866	(225,672)	103%	2,153,844	35.3%		
COURTHOUSE CAP PROJ EXPENDITURES		-			638,953			
	7,917,194	8,142,866	(225,672)	103%	2,792,797			
HUD SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>	2,295,193	419,982	1,875,211	18%	161,182	8%	\$ 258,800.41	10%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	2,295,193	374,788	1,920,405	16%	352,097	18%	\$ 22,690.95	-2%
Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures		45,194			(190,915)			
TRANSPORTATION	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>	1,660,355	-	1,660,355	0%	625	0%	\$ (625.00)	0%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	1,660,355	68,560	1,591,795	4%	66,406	5%	\$ 2,153.31	-1%
Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures		(68,560)			(65,781)			
DEBT SERVICE	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>	4,750,651	-	4,750,651	0%	-	0%	\$ -	0%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	4,750,651	120,164	4,630,487	3%	326,244	1%	\$ (206,079.90)	2%
WATER DISTRICTS I-V	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
WATER DISTRICT I	890,600	152,130	738,470	17%	85,606	10%	\$ 66,523.71	7%
WATER DISTRICT II	1,484,761	218,061	1,266,700	15%	135,553	9%	\$ 82,508.58	6%
WATER DISTRICT III	820,724	125,471	695,253	15%	78,441	10%	\$ 49,030.19	5%
WATER DISTRICT IV	965,242	145,240	820,002	15%	62,589	7%	\$ 82,651.51	8%
WATER DISTRICT V	882,571	187,801	694,770	21%	99,885	12%	\$ 87,916.32	9%
COMBINED WATER DISTRICT TOTALS	5,043,898	828,703	4,215,195	N/A	460,072	N/A	\$ 368,630.31	N/A
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>								
WATER DISTRICT I	890,600	69,493	821,107	8%	32,141	4%	\$ 37,352.76	4%
WATER DISTRICT II	1,484,761	107,824	1,376,937	7%	42,509	3%	\$ 65,315.16	4%
WATER DISTRICT III	820,724	66,027	754,697	8%	29,756	4%	\$ 36,271.04	4%
WATER DISTRICT IV	965,242	68,492	896,750	7%	71,826	8%	\$ (3,334.26)	-1%
WATER DISTRICT V	882,571	51,062	831,509	6%	34,063	4%	\$ 16,998.28	2%
COMBINED WATER DISTRICT TOTALS	5,043,898	362,898	4,681,000	N/A	210,295	N/A	\$ 152,602.98	N/A
SOLID WASTE	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
	7,026,329	1,657,081	5,369,248	24%	225,070	3%	\$ 1,432,011.09	21%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	7,026,329	524,211	6,502,118	7%	100,075	1%	\$ 424,136.02	6%
Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures		1,132,870			124,995			
FIRE DEPARTMENTS	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
	2,072,807	662,295	1,410,512	32%	723,980	41%	\$ (61,685.33)	-9%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>								
Ad Valorem Taxes	2,072,807	83,456	1,989,351	4%	11,357	1%	\$ 72,099.09	3%
Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures		578,839			712,623			
AMBULANCE AND RESCUE UNITS	FY 24/25	YTD	BALANCE	% Collected	ACTUAL YTD	% YTD AS	DIFFERENCE OF	DIFFERENCE
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TOTALS AS OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>OF 8/31/23</u>	<u>YTD TOTALS</u>	<u>OF % YTD</u>
	859,754	232,572	627,182	27%	123,877	17%	\$ 108,694.34	10%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>								
Ad Valorem Taxes	859,754	8,310	851,444	1%	559	0%	\$ 7,750.81	1%
Excess revenue over/(under) expenditures		224,262			123,318			

BUDGET AMENDMENT					FY 24/25
Name of Department: HUD					
Agency Head Signature:					
Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin: October 8, 2024					Date Received in Admin:
Budget Code	EXPENDITURES			Requested	
Fund Dept Category	Classification			Increase or (Decrease)	
50	4970	519100	ACCOUNTING SERVICES PROF		\$23,300
Total Net Expense					\$23,300
Budget Code	REVENUES			Requested	
Fund Dept Category	Classification			Increase or (Decrease)	
50	3497	499101	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED		\$23,300
Total Net Revenue					\$23,300
This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County Finance Office:					
This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County County Manager:					
XXX This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on:					
Signature					Date
Explanation of Increase or Decrease:					
APPROPRIATE FUND BALANCE TO PAY FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICES WITH MAULDIN & JENKINS TO SUBMIT THE FY 22, FY 23 AND FY 24 AUDIT IN THE FEDERAL REAC SYSTEM. ALSO ADDITIONAL SERVICES FROM KEITH GREEN WITH ADDITIONAL PREP WORK FOR THE UNAUDITED SUBMISSION IN THE REAC SYSTEM AND GUIDANCE IN THE SUBMISSION					

COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Ordinance amending appropriation to the State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Fund / American Rescue Plan Capital Project Fund

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina that the May 15, 2021 ARPA/SFLRF Grant project ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1: The following revisions are hereby made to the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) / American Rescue Plan (ARPA) pursuant to G.S. 159 -13.2.

Project Appropriations					
Account Number	Account Description	SLRF Expenditure Category (EC)	Budget as of 10/17/22	Changes	New Budget
93-4972-512100	Salary & Wages - Regular	1.1 Covid-19 Vaccination	31,798	-	31,798
		Vaccination Incentive Program for Employees (\$100.00 per Employee)			
93-4972-518100	FICA	1.1 Covid-19 Vaccination	2,425	-	2,425
		Vaccination Incentive Program for Employees (\$100.00 per Employee)			
93-4972-518200	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	1.1 Covid-19 Vaccination	3,393		3,393
		Vaccination Incentive Program for Employees (\$100.00 per Employee)			
93-4972-523920	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	1.5 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	16,800	(345)	16,455
93-4972-545505	REVENUE REPLACEMENT STANDARD ALLOWANCE	6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES			
		Salaries & Benefits for Employees working from 3/21/2021 to 11/20/2021			
		Administration	237,793		237,793
		Human Resources	143,843		143,843
		Finance	327,314		327,314
		Tax Office	660,381		660,381
		Attorney	215,045		215,045
		Facility Services (4160)	66,262		66,262
		Register of Deeds	147,405		147,405
		Info Tech Services	246,617		246,617
		Facility Services (4264)	9,471		9,471
		Facility Services (4265)	389,118		389,118
		Sheriff's Office	3,491,793		3,491,793
		Sheriff's Office - Detention Center	1,501,575		1,501,575
		Emergency Services	671,630		671,630
		Fire Marshall	86,091		86,091
		Airport	32,679		32,679
		Sheriff's Office - Animal Protective Services	180,336		180,336
		Planning Department	35,167		35,167
		Building Inspections	201,267		201,267
		Economic Development	171,992		171,992
		Soil Conservation	127,265		127,265
		Veterans Services	76,592		76,592
		Library	749,241		749,241
		Parks & Recreation	59,870	171,253	231,123
		Total Salaries & Benefits	9,828,747	171,253	10,000,000
93-4972-550013	VIPER RADIO	1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	500,000	(149,211)	350,789
93-4972-549900	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	1.1 COVID VACCINATION	1,000		1,000
93-4972-558035	WATER INFRASTRUCTURE - DISTRICT I	5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	294,652		294,652
93-4972-558036	WATER INFRASTRUCTURE - DISTRICT II	5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	26,125	(3)	26,122
93-4972-558038	WATER INFRASTRUCTURE - DISTRICT IV	5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	52,735	(5,347)	47,388
93-4972-558045	FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE	5.21 BROADBAND: OTHER PROJECTS	7,760	(4)	7,756
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE APPROPRIATIONS	10,765,435	16,343	10,781,778
Revenue Source					
Account Number	Account Description		Budget as of 10/17/22	Changes	New Budget
93-3429-432033	STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS/AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS		10,765,435	16,343	10,781,778
		TOTAL REVENUE APPROPRIATIONS	10,765,435	16,343	10,781,778

Section 2: The project undertaken pursuant to this ordinance is in accordance with the Recommended Budget and any changes made during the County Commissioners' budget work sessions.

Section 3: The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy all applicable regulations. The terms of any financing agreement also shall be met.

Section 4: The County desires to expend its own funds for the purpose of paying certain costs of various projects, for which expenditures the County reasonably expects to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the County.

Section 5: All expenditures relating to obtaining any bond referendum and or installment purchase will be reimbursed from bond proceeds and installment purchase proceeds in accordance with the requirements of the United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150 -2.

Section 6: This declaration of official intent is made pursuant to Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations to expressly declare the official intent of the County to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be hereinafter incurred by the County for certain expenditures paid by the County on or after the date which is sixty (60) days prior to the date hereof.

Section 7: The County intends to seek Federal, State, and/or other grant funding to reduce the amount of loan proceeds. The adoption of this ordinance authorizes the County Manager and/or his representative to apply for and accept such funding if awarded.

Section 8: This project ordinance shall be entered in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County. Within five days hereof, copies of this ordinance shall be filed with the finance office in Columbus County, and with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County. Copies of the Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer, the Project Manager, and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

This project amendment is effective on October 21, 2024.
ADOPTED, this 21st day of October, 2024

(910) 914-4119
Telephone

Columbus County
HUMAN RESOURCES

(910) 914-0597
Telephone

APPROVED
Columbus County Board
of Commissioners on 10-21-24
James Healey, Clerk to the Board



Salary Adjustments

Sheriff's Office

- Classification change – reclassifying a part-time Deputy employee to a full-time Sergeant Patrol position at a Grade 68 with a salary of \$55,000. Employee will also be taking on additional duties.
- Classification change – reclassifying a current full-time employee from a Sergeant Patrol position at a Grade 69 to a Lieutenant position in Detention at a Grade 72, salary will increase from \$62,000 to \$64,000. Employee will also be taking on additional duties.

Social Services

- Decrease position count for Child Support Agent II by one position salary of \$36,170.
- Funding from Child Support Agent II position will be used for increases of some current staff for work against positions as well as employees being released from probation.

Tax Office

- Classification change – reclassify current full-time employee in a Customer Service Representative position at a Grade 60 salary \$35,000 to the vacant Senior Tax Program Specialist at a Grade 63 full-time position. Salary will remain the same.
- Salary increase for employee released from probation current salary \$39,574 salary will increase to \$41,552.70.

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

MOTION:

At 7:50 P.M. a Motion was made by Commissioner Watts and second by Commissioner Featherson to recess regular session and enter into Columbus County Water and Sewer Districts I, II, III, IV and V.

Agenda Item #22: APPROVAL of WATER and SEWER COMBINATION MINUTES:

- **October 07, 2024 (5 sets)**

MOTION:

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

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 approve, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #23: COMMENTS:**A. Board of Commissioners****Commissioner Watts commented:**

- Thank you to all the County employees who went to help in the western part of the state. Let's continue to remember those who are still going and supporting. The situation might be worse than what the pictures show, so they need all the help they can get.
- We have amazing County employees who volunteered to assist, and they deserve commendation.
- The Yam Festival in Tabor City is this weekend—everyone is invited!
- Come for “A Yam Good Time”—it'll be a great time!

Commissioner Coleman commented:

- I want to echo what Commissioner Watts said. Thank you to all the County employees—you've really shown up for us. I've always said we have some of the best, and you've proven it again.
- I appreciate the County managers for all they do.
- It's heartwarming to know we have dedicated people like you working for us. We're proud of you—thank you for everything you do!.

Vice Chairman Byrd commented:

- I want to concur with all the comments made and personally thank each of you for the incredible job you did in reaching out to help others.
- For those going to assist in the future, be proud of what you've achieved and the impact you're making.
- Some time ago, the Board sent a letter regarding a recent storm that wasn't classified as a cyclone. I read, Mr. Madden, that other counties like Brunswick, Pender, and others received disaster relief, but Columbus County wasn't named. Did you see that? I'll need clarification—I saw it declared a federal disaster area but didn't see the specific counties listed. I believe Congressman Rouzer mentioned Columbus County was named a disaster area, but it may not qualify for FEMA's full assistance. It appears the aid might be in the form of disaster relief loans rather than direct financial assistance.

Mr. Madden responded by saying that we'll confirm and follow up with everyone regarding the final details.

- I also want to commend the recent success in collecting \$441,000 in back child support for the county.
- Additionally, \$88,000 was recovered from fraud cases, which is a great step forward.
- I believe they're doing excellent work, and with time, more progress will be made.

Commissioner Featherson commented:

- Like the others, I want to thank all the employees who went to the western part of North Carolina to provide aid.
- Thanks to everyone who donated, even if they couldn't go in person.
- Let's keep remembering these individuals in our prayers as they work toward recovery—it will be a long journey back to normalcy.
- Personally, I want to thank each of you for all you've done.

- On the topic of FEMA, in the western part of the state, they offered only \$750 to affected residents, and even that wasn't a grant but a loan.
- It's frustrating to see millions and billions spent in other countries while our people are offered so little.
- The fact that they're expected to pay back this \$750 feels unreasonable.
- People really need to go out and vote to make their voices heard on these issues.

Commissioner Floyd commented:

- Not much to add from this end of the table; everything's already been covered by the time it reaches here.
- I'll echo Mr. Watts and the others—thank you, thank you, thank you.
- Same as the other commissioners—thank you to everyone who went to Western Carolina.
- Thanks to our leader, Mr. Madden, for the sacrifices you make and the time away from your family—it means a lot.
- We're all feeling grateful here tonight.
- Thank you, Mr. Priest, for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance

Misty Hardee commented on her trip to help with the disaster relief from Hurricane Helene:

Good afternoon, my name is Misty Hardy, and I work for the Department of Aging. Recently, Mary and I embarked on a journey together to Fletcher, North Carolina, right near Asheville, to lend a helping hand. We arrived at a shelter where we met the homeless of Asheville—many who had been living in encampments along the riverside. When the floods came, the waters washed away everything they had, leaving them with almost nothing.

At the shelter, we saw families of all kinds, including many Hispanic families and veterans who had once lived together in a small encampment. Watching their struggles was hard, and it hit close to home for me. My own family was homeless for four and a half years. Hurricanes Matthew and Florence took away what we had, so I truly understood the pain and helplessness many of them felt. For most of them, there was no one to turn to, no family members who could offer them a place to stay. For now, the shelter is all they have.

Throughout our time there, I was in awe of the wonderful people we worked alongside, including those from DHHS. They were incredible partners, teaching us so much and supporting our efforts. I am still in communication with some of these amazing individuals, and my heart remains with the people we met there.

I want to thank you all for giving us the opportunity to go on this mission. The moment our director mentioned it, I knew I wanted to be part of it. Helping others is something I am deeply passionate about. I spent 27 and a half years working for National Spinning, and when it closed, I found myself with a new path at the Department of Aging. I couldn't ask for a better place to work, with an incredible director and a supportive environment.

So, thank you. Thank you all for making this possible and for the chance to make a difference.

Chairman Bullard commented:

I just like to say I appreciate the things everyone is doing. Thank you very much.

B. County Manager

County Manager Eddie Madden commented:

- Reminder: the Legislative Conference is coming up on November 14-15.
- Today, we had a Zoom meeting with our audit firm, which is scheduled to be here in person starting Wednesday to work with our team and conclude the FY24 audit.
- Significant progress has been made by the finance staff, and Assistant County Manager Nick West has been working alongside them to keep the audit process on schedule—commendable work by all.
- Veterans Parade: Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 9.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and we've been encouraged to wear pink on Thursday—please participate if you can.
- Commissioner Watts mentioned the Taste of Tabor event; details are in your packet regarding location and time.
- The North Carolina Rural Center will host a Listening Tour event this Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the fourth floor of the administration building to gather community input on their role and ways to improve.
- Thank you to Mr. Priest for joining us tonight; I understand this visit fulfills a merit badge requirement—congratulations, and we look forward to supporting you on your path to becoming an Eagle Scout.
- Please let us know if there's any way we can assist you in reaching your goals.
- Despite aiming to be thorough, I sometimes miss details, and tonight I overlooked one of our employees, Ms. Mary Mason from the Department of Aging, who was also deployed to the western part of the state.
- Ms. Mason, thank you; we appreciate your dedication.

Agenda Item #24: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION:

At 8:10 P.M., Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Floyd The motion unanimously passed.

JANA NEALEY, Clerk to the Board

RICKY BULLARD, Chairman