

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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



AGENDA

**Monday, June 17, 2024
5:00 P.M. – Closed Session
6:30 P.M. – Regular Session**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order:** Chairman Ricky Bullard

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, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (5) REAL ESTATE, and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(6) PERSONNEL

- 2. Closed Session in Accordance with N.C.G. N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(3) Attorney-Client Privilege, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(4) Economic Development, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (5) Real Estate, and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A)(6) Personnel.**

RECESS CLOSED SESSION and enter into REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Regular Session Resumes at 6:30 P.M.

- 3. Invocation:** Commissioner Barbara Featherson
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice Chairman Giles E. Byrd
- 5. Approval of Agenda, Tax Refunds & Releases:**
 - a. 06/17/2024

Pages: 1-3

6. Board Minutes Approval:

- a. May 20th, 2024 Regular Session
- b. June 3rd, 2024 Regular Session

Board Minutes Section

7. Public Input

8. Administration - Employee Spotlight: County Manager Eddie Madden will recognize Jeffery Powell from Solid Waste as the employee spotlight.

9. Columbus County Schools – Approval of the Application for North Carolina Education Lottery Funds for Williams Township School Gymnasium and Classroom Facility: Assistant Superintendent for Columbus County Schools Jesse E. Beck is requesting approval of the North Carolina Education Lottery Funds in the amount of \$2,840,075 for construction of Williams Township School Gymnasium and four elective classrooms. **(Jesse “Eddie” Beck will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 4-5

10. Administration – Approval of The Adams Company Contract to Administer the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant: Assistant County Manager Gail Edwards is requesting approval of the contract with The Adams Company to administer the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant. **(Gail Edwards will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 6-17

11. Sheriff’s Office – Approval of the Quote to Purchase Two Vehicles for Transport: Sheriff William Rogers is requesting approval to purchase two vehicles in the amount of \$78,094. The budget amendment associated with this purchase was previously approved and will come out of the Sheriff’s Office Budget. **(Robert Creech will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 18-20

12. Sheriff’s Office – Approval of the Reduction of Accrued Time: Sheriff William Rogers is requesting approval to reduce accrued time. **(Robert Creech will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

13. Opioid Settlement – Approval of the 2024-2025 Opioid Settlement Fund Resolution and Budget Ordinance: Grants Administrator Tess Norris is requesting approval of the 2024-2025 Opioid Settlement Fund resolution and budget ordinance. **(Tess Norris will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 21-27

14. Health Services – Approval of Nicole Hopkins Contract: Health Services Director Kim Smith is requesting approval of Nicole Hopkins’ contract for opioid settlement services at the Health Department. **(Kim Smith will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 28-33

- 15. Health Services – Annual Review of Columbus County Health Rankings:** Health Services Director Kim Smith will give the annual review of the Columbus County Health Rankings. (Kim Smith will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 34-37**
- 16. Southeastern Community College – Approval of the Capital Request for \$100,000:** Southeastern Community College President Dr. Chris English is requesting approval of the capital request for \$100,000 for various capital projects in FY 24/25. (Dr. Chris English will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 38-39**
- 17. Emergency Services – Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and Capital Project Ordinance for the Acceptance of the Emergency Management Disaster Relief and Mitigation Grant:** Emergency Services Director David Ransom is requesting approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and Capital Project Ordinance for the acceptance of the Emergency Management Disaster Relief and Mitigation Grant for \$15,000 to purchase/install a river gauge at 904/Pireway. (David Ransom will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 40-61**
- 18. Emergency Services – Approval of the Low Bid from Thomas Construction Group for 911 Center:** Emergency Services Director David Ransom is requesting approval of the low bid from Thomas Construction Group in the amount of \$3,129,000.00 plus an allowance of \$55,000.00 for Fire Alarm for a total of \$3,184,000.00. (David Ransom will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 62-63**
- 19. Airport - Approval of the Lowest Qualified Bid from Highland Paving Company and associated contract for the Apron Expansion Project:** Airport Director Phil Edwards is requesting approval of the lowest qualified bid with Highland Paving Company, LLC, in the amount of \$2,506,918.25. This project is grant funded - the grant agreement and Capital Project Ordinance were approved by the BOC on May 20, 2024. (Tess Norris will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 64-135**
- 20. Airport –Approval of the Work Authorization for Professional Services with Talbert & Bright, Inc., for Apron Expansion Project Construction Administration:** Airport Director Phil Edwards is requesting approval of the work authorization for professional services with Talbert & Bright, Inc., for Apron Expansion Construction Administration. (Tess Norris will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 136-160**
- 21. Attorney’s Office – Approval of Additional Defendants in the Opioid Settlement:** Attorney Amanda Prince is requesting approval of additional defendants to include Kroger and its affiliates in the Opioid Settlement. (Amanda Prince will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Page: 161**

22. Economic Development – Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tabor City Regarding the Shell Building Project: County Attorney Amanda Prince is requesting approval of the MOU with Tabor City regarding the Shell Building Project. (Gary Lanier will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 162-170**

23. DSS – Monthly Report: DSS Interim Director Dwella Hall will give the monthly update for May, 2024. (Dwella Hall will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.) **Pages: 171-178**

24. Finance – Approval of Budget Amendments and Capital Project Ordinances: Finance Director Lacie Jacobs is requesting approval of the following budget amendments and capital project ordinances:

- a. Whiteville High School Project – Closeout Ordinance
- b. Whiteville High School Project – Budget Amendment – Fund 10
- c. West Columbus School Project – Closeout Ordinance
- d. West Columbus School Project – Budget Amendment – Fund 10
- e. Sales Tax and Schools - End of Year (EOY)
- f. Fines and Forfeitures - End of Year (EOY)
- g. 2023 SCIF Grant - End of Year (EOY)
- h. Sheriff Civil - End of Year (EOY)
- i. Special Alcohol and Drug - End of Year (EOY)
- j. Transportation - End of Year (EOY)
- k. Health Department – WIC
- l. Register of Deeds - End of Year (EOY)
- m. Animal Protection - End of Year (EOY)
- n. Sheriff GHSP - End of Year (EOY)
- o. Economic/Physical Development - End of Year (EOY)
- p. Cultural/Recreational Dept. - End of Year (EOY)

Pages: 179-197

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

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

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|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 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 |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Board of Adjustments | Dis. III | Jerry Freeman | 09/30/2023 | |
| Board of Adjustments | Dis. V | Warren Miller (resigned) | 09/30/2024 | |

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

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

- a. May 20th, 2024 Combination Minutes
- b. June 3rd, 2024 Combination Minutes

Board Minutes Section

27. Water and Sewer District I, II, III, IV, and V– Approval of the Combined Districts’

Annual Capital Improvement Plan: Public Utilities Director Harold Nobles is requesting approval of the Annual Capital Improvement Plan for all water districts. **(Harold Nobles will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 200-201

28. Water and Sewer District I, II, III, IV, and V– Approval of the Combined Districts’

Customer Service Policy Amendment to Include Credit Card Fee Schedule: Public Utilities Director Harold Nobles is requesting approval of the combined water districts Customer Service Policy amendment to include a flat rate of \$3.95 that will be charged per debit/credit card transaction to the customer for water bills that are below \$80. A total of 3.95% will be charged per debit/credit card transaction to the customer for water bills that are above \$80.00. **(Harold Nobles will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

Pages: 202-211

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

29. Comments: Commissioners and County Manager.

30. Adjournment