



## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MANAGER

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## News Release

### Board Action from March 5 Meeting

**March 6, 2012, Monroe, NC** – The following is action taken by the Union County Board of Commissioners on Monday, March 5.

#### Government Center Phase VIII Renovations

The Union County Board of Commissioners on Monday awarded a bid in the amount of \$1,882,600 to Godfrey Construction for renovations to the 7th, 8th and 9th floors of the Union County Government Center. A portion of the 3rd floor will also be renovated.

The Government Center renovation project began in 2007 with eight planned phases. Phase VIII is the last phase of renovations which will provide more efficient space and address maintenance items such as modernizing the two tower elevators, cosmetic renovation of the two tower stairwells, replacing deteriorating concrete sidewalks on the north side of the building, and recoating the concrete balcony on the first floor.

The space to be renovated is currently occupied by Central Administration, Finance, Legal, Internal Audit and Information Technology/GIS.

#### Earth Day 2012

Commissioners endorsed the County's continued participation as a joint host and organizer of an Earth Day festival with the City of Monroe.

For the past three years, Union County and the City of Monroe have collaborated on a public outreach and education event that promotes environmental stewardship as well as "green" and healthy living practices. This year's event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 14 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. in downtown Monroe.

Anticipated activities include a children's fun run, a 5k run/walk, face painting, educational booths, environmental demonstrations, exhibits, food vendors, earth friendly games, live music, door prizes, earth friendly vehicle displays, costume contest and poem readings from Union County elementary students. The event will also be utilized as a community outreach for the

collection and proper disposal of hazardous household waste, electronics, tires, motor oil and other items that require environmentally safe disposal.

### **Town of Weddington Fire Service**

Commissioners directed County staff to work with the Union County Fire Commission in providing information and obtaining public input regarding Weddington fire service.

Information to be provided by County staff and the Fire Commission includes defining a municipal fire district, explaining how a municipal fire district differs from other fire service models currently utilized in Union County and identifying the tax implications associated with a municipal fire district.

### **Document Imaging for DSS**

The Board of Commissioners on Monday awarded a bid to One Source Document Solutions for document imaging at the Union County Department of Social Services.

A recent assessment of the document imaging needs of Union County departments revealed that DSS would benefit the most of any other department by implementing a document imaging system.

Document imaging will eliminate excessive amounts of paper and free up space currently used to store documents.

The State of North Carolina has been working on a new application for DSS agencies called NCFast that will centralize all DSS client information in one central repository located in Raleigh. In conjunction with this new application, the State is asking counties to implement document imaging systems that capture the necessary supporting documentation of the client. Union County was chosen as one of several counties to test the new NCFast application. The first test phase will be applied in the Food Stamp division at DSS.

The estimated first year cost for implementation of document imaging at DSS is \$682,571. Based on the percentage of State reimbursement received by other counties, Union County should recoup \$218,427.

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