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William P. Mayo, County Attorney
Jim Chrisman, Assistant County Manager

BEAUFORT COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

April 11, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Spruill Resigns Position of Beaufort County Manager Effective June 24th"

The Beaufort County Board of County Commissioners accepted today the resignation of its County Manager, Paul G. Spruill, as of June 24, 2011. The Board could, however, extend his employment until June 30, 2011 if necessary.

"Mr. Spruill has provided us adequate notice to get our budget adopted and initiate a competitive process to find a new County Manager," said Jerry Langley, County Commission Chairman.

"In the event we use the services of an interim County Manager for a short time after Mr. Spruill's departure, we will rely on Jim Chrisman, Assistant County Manager and Chief Financial Officer, to serve as interim County Manager," said Langley.

"I advocated that we hire Mr. Spruill from the beginning of our search process 8 years ago and I am sorry to see him leave us, but I always understood that this day might come," added the Chairman.

The Board of Directors of Tideland Electric Membership Corporation will employ Spruill as its General Manager and Chief Executive Officer effective July 5, 2011. Tideland Electric is headquartered in Pantego, NC, but provides electricity to over 20,000 consumers in significant portions of six counties including Beaufort, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Pamlico, and Washington.

Spruill, a native of Bertie County, began his employment as Beaufort County Manager on July 10, 2003.

"Twelve individuals from diverse backgrounds, counting past and present county commissioners, have served on the County's elected Board during my time here and I have thoroughly enjoyed working for each one of them and with a very dedicated County Government workforce," said Spruill.

"When my previous work agreement expired in August, 2009, the present Board of Commissioners exceeded my expectations by offering a new employment term of four years with generous compensation. In my time here, I could not have asked the employer to accommodate me to any greater degree than what they put forward," added Spruill.

Spruill went on to explain that the opportunity to learn from a Board of Directors and a group of capable employees while working in the capacity of a General Manager and Chief Executive Officer for a sizeable electric utility was too promising to pass up.

"I am very excited about the opportunity afforded to me by my new employer, but I am most excited about my good fortune of continuing to work in eastern North Carolina," said Spruill.

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BEAUFORT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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April 11, 2011

Mr. Jerry Langley, Chairman
Beaufort County Board of Commissioners
121 West Third Street
Washington, NC 27889

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Please accept my many thanks for the kind words you and the six county commissioners shared with me on April 4th during our closed session to discuss personnel matters.

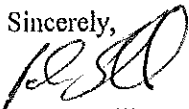
I shared with you then that I intended to take formal action on April 11th to resign my position as the Beaufort County Manager effective June 24, 2011. I also explained that it is my goal to serve you and the Board of Commissioners as County Manager in order to adopt the FY 2011-2012 Budget. Should you request that I extend my employment until June 30, 2011, I will do my best to make such arrangements if necessary.

I thank you and each county commissioner for your kindness and understanding as I move forward with my career as the CEO/General Manager at Tideland Electric Membership Corporation with headquarters in Pantego, NC. As I visited with the leadership of all of the County Departments, I was humbled upon receiving more kind sentiment and their best wishes.

I cannot thoroughly express my feelings about this community that my wife and I now call home. My new work opportunity will allow me to not only continue working in eastern NC, but also allow me to continue living in Beaufort County. We have Beaufort County's Board of Commissioners, its employees, and its citizens to thank for giving us the opportunity to find this place when you brought us here eight years ago.

I look forward to assisting the Board of Commissioners with its search process in any way that I am asked. I believe the appointment of County Manager under the leadership of this Board of Commissioners is a very positive and exciting career opportunity for individuals interested in the job of managing a North Carolina city or county.

Sincerely,



Paul Spruill,
Beaufort County Manager