

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., April 18, 1977, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chiarman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chiarman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

James E. Hill, Jr. Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by The Reverend Wayne Blythe, Pastor, Hallsboro Baptist Church.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the April 4th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner McPherson.

The resignation of Emmett Brown, Deputy Sheriff, was accepted upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Williamson. A further motion was passed that the Sheriff be allowed to hire a replacement for Mr. Brown on April 25th at a salary of \$676.00 per month. If the present Sheriff's Dept. Budget is not sufficient to cover the expenditure the Finance Officer is given authority to amend the Budget to cover this expenditure.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson ordering a refund be made to Minerva Williams Heirs, (Leonard Williams) Rt.1, Box 313, Whiteville, Tatum Township, in the amount of \$27.48 for an error in transferring property for 1976 taxes.

Bids were opened at the appointed time for the sale of a cabinet which had been used in the Office of the Register of Deeds. Only two bids were received and are recorded as follows:

Sears-Smith Insurance Agency	\$ 87.00
Cole Monuments	\$ 125.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved to sell the cabinet to Cole Monuments for \$125.00

Only one bid was received in response to the advertisement for autos for the Sheriff's Department. The bid was opened and recorded as follows:

Fair Bluff Motors	4 sutos @ \$5,230.00	for a total of \$20,920 (Not including tax)
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A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to accept the bid from Fair Bluff Motors with delivery date to be after July 1, 1977.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that Joanne Vereen, Social Services Director, be appointed as Trustee of the trust monies, which are non-budgetary, and which are administered by the Department of Social Services for indigents, children and other persons who may be unable to care for themselves. A further motion was passed to approve the bond payable to the County Finance Officer in the amount of \$10,000 for Mrs. Vereen. The bond is to be recorded and filed with the Clerk of Court.

The following action was taken as a result of approximately thirty citizens appearing before the Board for clarification on the Board's position on the issue of a referendum on the continuation of dual law enforcement in the County:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that there be a show of hands by the Board Members who support a county-wide referendum as to whether there be a continuation of dual law enforcement systems in the County.

Upon a count of hands raised, all Members affirmed support of the county-wide referendum named above. This action reaffirmed the action taken earlier in January. Both Representative Wright and Senator Soles were present at the meeting and commented on the issue.

Other matters before the Board are as follows:

The Tax Collector's Report was presented to the Board for collections through March. Commissioner McPherson instructed the Clerk to ask the Collector to include the percent of collections to date on reports in the future.

The Board of Education presented their budget request for FY1977-78 which was an increase of approximately \$253,875 in Current Expense but no increase in Capital Outlay. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. Dempsy Herring, who is making a study on recreation facilities in the County, reported to the Board on his study. He requested the Board to appoint the Study Commission as a recreation commission and be made a working department of the County. He also commented on the budget proposal he had prepared with a total request of \$40,000 to implement a recreation program in the County which would include all age groups. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. Keith Oats, Environmental Engineer, presented a series of slides and comments on a mosquito control as a matter of information to the Board. He is an employee of the State and informed the Board that the State will assist counties in implementing mosquito control programs and also fund the programs by reimbursing the county two-thirds of their expenditures.

Mr. Oats had prepared a budget proposal for the Board to consider if they wish to implement the program. No action was taken at this time.

Upon motion the meeting recessed until 9:00 a.m., April 19, 1977.

APPROVED:

Emogene M. Suggs  
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe  
Chairman