

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., August 15, 1977, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

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 Commissioner Hinson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the August 1st and 4th/^{meetings}were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

Lennox Long of the Nakina Community met with the Board to ask about a lot in that area which belonged to persons who have died and had no heirs. His interest was that the County secure the lot and help construct a building that could be used as a voting place.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed advising Mr. Long to confer with the County Attorney and return at the next meeting to find out the proper course of action to take and if possible the lot could be given to the Nakina Community rather than the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to accept the resignation of Louisa Benson, Assistant Librarian, effective August 9th.

Jack Hooks, Sam Stell and Billy Hooks, Whiteville City Schools Officials, met with the Board and requested that the Commissioners deed Legion Stadium Field and the property immediately behind the Field to the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education. Presently the City Board has a 99 year lease on the field which will expire in 75 years. The reason for the request is that the stadium needs repairs and grants cannot be applied for unless the agency making application is owner of the property on which the funds are to be spent. The Board were favorable of granting the request but some members adjourned to the site before making a decision.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commisisoner Hinson and approved that the property requested be deeded to the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education, which is Legion Stadium and the property immediately behind the Stadium except the cemetery plot which presently holds graves which were moved from the the site known as "Poor House Land". The motion further stated that definate plans be made to move the remains to a perpetual care cemetery or other appropriate sites and later award this plot to the City Board of Education, except that an enterence be reserved to the cemetery as long as the County owns the property.

The City Board of Education Chairman stated that the Board would be willing to move the graves and re-establish them in the same condition as they now are but felt they de-
served

more dignity to which the Commissioner agreed. Commissioners Williamson and Hinson were appointed to study the possibility of moving the graves from their present location to another site and report to the Board at the next meeting.

The City Board of Education also requested they be allowed to transfer \$250,000.00 from Current Expense Funds into Capital Outlay Funds to have matching moines to match a federal grant for which they will apply to build additional rooms in the school system.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to approve the transfer of the funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved to allow the following tax releases by recommendation of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Harold Lee and Rachel Taylor, Whiteville Township be released on the valuation of \$125.00 due to an error in listing an automobile style.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Randy Stephens, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$1625.00 due to an error in listing the wrong model automobile.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Larry M. Long, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$8,175.00 due to an error in listing a mobile home. Home was listed in Edgecombe County.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Jettie P. Spivey, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$5100.00 due to a dwelling being listed in error.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Billy Ray & Ida Jean Ward, Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,000 for disability exemption.

Ordered: that the late listing penalty of \$34.49 be released from Electronic Data Systems Leasing Co. due to an error as the Comapny was granted an extension of time to list taxes.

Ordered: that the 1973 taxes listed in the name of Rolie Dicker, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the late listing penalty on the valuation of \$6,840.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Alton Skipper, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,000.00 for disability exemption.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Billy Hooks, Whiteville Township be released on the valuation of \$8,210.00 due to an error in listing and transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of J. B. Eure, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$1200.00 due to an error in listing and transferring property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign the "STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES" which is required to continue to receive funds from Revenue Sharing Funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and

passed to ask Cecil Edwards, Chief Sanitarian, to resolve the problem referred to in a letter from Riegelwood Sanitary District Commission requesting that the area around the trash containers be sprayed at once to control the health hazard allegedly created from the containers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved to increase the salary of Jettie Babson, CETA employee, to \$3.15 per hour to be more consistent with regular employees who are performing similar duties.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to set the time for the public hearing on September 20, 1977, at 8:00 p.m., in the Superior Court room in the County Courthouse to allow citizens to be heard on the MASSAGE PARLOR ORDINANCE Proposal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign a lease agreement for a period of six months to rent two rooms in the Professional Center to be used by the District Court Judges. The cost is to be \$155.00 per month for both rooms.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hisnon and passed requesting the Register of Deeds to transfer records that have no administrative value and have reached their scheduled age to be destroyed, to the Department of Archives & History for storage rather than destroy them as the Register of Deeds had requested.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to allow the birth records of Columbus County between the years of 1913 and 1966 to be transported to New Bern, N. C. to be rebound during the August 25th through 29th with the Register of Deeds accompanying the records.

**
Page 556
A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to recind the motion allowing the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education to transfer funds from Current Expense Fund to Capital Outlay Fund until they have met the requirements of G.S. 115-100-13.

Col. Walters (Ret.) met with the Board and reviewed the history and growth of the Economic Development Commission from 1964 through 1976, and more especially from the time he became Director, which was 1968. He stated that the Office had assisted in applying for grants that had been received by various agencies in the County in the amount of \$4,200,311. The Office had assisted in bringing twelve industries into the County, seven of which are still in operation. In his presentation he stated that these industries are a source of employment to 4,939 persons and added 30 million dollars to the county tax base.

Wallace Clontz, AIA, met with the Board to further discuss the repair and painting of the outside of the Courthouse. After a discussion the Board instructed the Attorney to look into the possibility of allowing the work to be done on a cost plus basis as advertising for bids has been unsuccessful in obtaining a qualified contractor.

Upon motion the meeting recessed until 9:00 a.m., Thursday, August 18, 1977, to continue unfinished business.

APPROVED: Waldo Maloney Chm.
Emerene W. Buggs Clerk