

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 6, 1977, Monday being a legal holiday.

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. Sguus, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman and the invocation was given by The Reverend Paul Boone, Pastor, Whiteville United Methodist Church.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the September 15th and 18th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew.

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY

(1) That for properly maintaining the school term in Guideway Elementary School, Columbus County Administrative Unit, as required by Article IX, Section 3, of the Constitution and the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, it is necessary that Guideway School Building be replaced, as building burned in December of 1976.

(2) That in order to provide said building it is necessary that the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$124,000.00) be obtained by borrowing the same, to be used by the Columbus County Board of Education for said purpose.

(3) That the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County does hereby approve of and authorize the application for, and procurement of, a loan for said purpose from the State Literary Fund of the State of North Carolina, operated under G.S. 115, Article II, and said Board does hereby authorize and direct that all necessary steps be taken to procure said loan under the terms of said statutes and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education governing the making of loans from said funds, and the Chairman and Clerk to the said Board are hereby authorized, empowered and directed for and on behalf of this Board to join with Columbus County Board of Education in making the necessary application therefor, and to take such action under this resolution and under said statutes, rules and regulations as may be necessary for said purpose. The County Accountant is hereby authorized and directed to make application to the Local Government Commission for approval of the issuance of such notes.

(4) That the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County hereby agrees to levy, at the appropriate tax levying period in each and every year, upon all taxable property in said county, ad valorem taxes at a rate sufficient to meet the interest and principal payments on such part of the loan requested herein as may be approved by the State Board of Education, and thereby

provide the funds necessary each and every year to meet and repay the interest and principal payments due on such approved loan, under the terms of the statute by authority of which the said loan is made, and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education governing such loans.

The resolution was duly adopted by the following vote:

Those voting in the affirmative were:

C. Waldo Marlowe
Junior W. Dew
Edward W. Williamson
L. A. Hinson
David L. McPherson

Those voting in the negative were:

None

Whereupon the Chairman announced that the said resolution was duly and properly adopted.

The Commissioners discussed a proposed agreement between the County of Columbus for receipt of funds from the State of North Carolina through the N. C. Criminal Justice training and Standards Council for the purpose of supplementing the salaries of certain law enforcement officers of the County. Under the terms of the contract, the County will have to keep records and make reports to the Council and disperse the funds received according to law.

Commissioner Williamson introduced the following resolution, which was read:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Columbus:

1. That the contract between the County of Columbus and the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training & Standards Council be and the same is hereby approved.

2. That the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and the Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign and execute the said contract for and on behalf of the County of Columbus and forward the same to the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Council.

3. That upon final execution a copy of said contract will be filed with the minutes.

Upon motion of Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson, said Resolution was passed unanimously by vote of 5 for, 0 against.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign the Agreement with the Department of Corrections to house certain prisoners in the local jail to be reimbursed by the State at a rate of \$8.00 per day.

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner McPherson:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Dillion J. & Allie Jacobs, Bug Hill Township, be released on the valuation of \$4480 for the Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Adgelene Lawrence, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$9640. House not completed until January 28, 1977.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Crowell Thomas Dyson, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$10,280. Error in copying abstract.

Ordered: that the 1977 tax listing of Mrs. Jewel Grainger, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$2,705 for the Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Mazzie Belle McDaniel, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,700. due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1977 late listing penalty of Shooter Ice Cream Company, South Williams Township, be released in the amount of \$4.44. They have several listings in different townships, which were listed on time, but through an oversight they failed to list South Williams Township property.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Willie Moore, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,000. for Disability Exemption

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Mary S. Freeman, Bogue Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$2,600. for the Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of B. M. Horne, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,175. due to an error on the valuation of auto.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Geroge S. & Edrie H. Wooten, Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,000. for the Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of W. F. & Lucille McQueen, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$7,200. due to an error in copying abstract.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of William Raeford & Annie Parker, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$26,670. due to double listing by not removing property from record when sold to Raymond & Frances Sikes, Roy Rogers Sikes and Larry O'Neil Cribb.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Jimmy P. Ferguson, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$25,470. due to land being double listed.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Townsend Builders, Chadbourn Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,190 due to double listing.

Ordered: that a refund check be issued to Jimmy Batten, % H & H Mobile Home Co., P. O. Box 704, Jacksonville, N. C. , Chadbourn Township, to refund late listing penalty. The mobile home was incorrectly valued and is being corrected to reflect book value.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of George S. & Edrie H. Wooten, Acme-Delco Fire District, be released on the valuation of \$5,000. for Senior Citizens Exemption.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed designating authority to ~~Geraldine~~ Geraldine Blackburn to sign the Special User-Seller Fuel Oil Report which is remitted to the Department of Revenue.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to increase the salary of the Town Clerk at Cerro Gordo to \$3.50 per hour by request of the Mayor of Cerro Gordo.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew to increase the salary of Elrich Turner/ to \$3.15 per hour to be more consistent with other CETA employees at the Landfill.

Mr. Cleon Worley met with the Board to discuss his findings concerning the exterior of the Courthouse with regard to needed repairs. He expressed an interest in making the repairs under specific terms. The County Attorney stated that he had contacted the Attorney General's Office

for clarification as to the route to take in letting contracts when no response is given to advertising in accordance with G. S. 143-129. Upon the suggestion of the Attorney no decision was made until further information is received for the Attorney General.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved for the following road petition be added to the State System for maintenance:

Road known as Norman Miller Road located in Whiteville Township - Road is 746' in length and has 8 homes located on it.

Hugh Clark requested that an employee now working in his office be allowed to work as a CETA employee until she can be placed on permanent employment through Farmers Home Administration which is being processed but will take about two weeks to complete. His office has a backlog of applications to be processed and the worker is needed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew to grant Mr. Clark's request if funds are available. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved to appoint Commissioner McPherson to review the list of Water Resources Projects & Programs and rate each project or program to help determine the priorities for 1978. He is to present his recommendations to the Board for review at the next meeting.

The Chairman announced that it was the appointed time, 11:00 a.m., to open bids for the sale of a 1974 Chevrolet pick-up which has been advertised. Only one bid was received which was opened and read aloud: Paul Hughes \$475.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to reject the bid because it did not meet the terms of the advertisement; i.e.-a certified check for the total amount of the bid was not enclosed. The Attorney was instructed to readvertise.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved to allow the following records be destroyed in accordance with the COUNTY RECORDS MANUAL published by the Department of Archives & History:

Register of Deeds	Uniform Commercial Code Records for 1967-68 All Health Certificates & Blood Test Records for Marriages up through June 30, 1976.
County Finance Officer	Bank Deposits made by Tax Collector, Register of Deeds, Clerk of Court, Board of Education, Southeastern Community College and Finance Officer through June 30, 1967 Check Copies for Schools Current Expense & Capital Outlay, ESEA Title I, Co-operative Health, General County, College Current Expense & Capital Outlay, Schools Driver Training, Schools Debt Service and Special Building Fund through June 30, 1967. Supporting Data for General Fund through June 30, 1967. Bank Statements for College Debt Service, Riegelwood Sani- tary District, Library, Revaluation, Schools ESEA I, MAA, Schools Undistributed, Economic Development, Undistributed Tax Account, Schools General Fund, College Current Expense and Capital Outly, General County, AFDC, AD and AA through June 30, 1967.

The Board adjourned to the Hospital for a luncheon meeting with the Hospital Board of Trustees. Also present were Architect Beverly Freeman and other Personnel from his firm, D. R. (Bob) Allen, General Contractor and Dr. Bullock, Chief of Staff. There was a report by those present to the Board of Commissioners and time was given for questions in regard to the Board accepting the new hospital building for beneficial occupancy, which was endorsed by the Board of Trustees. Attorney Hill stated that the Board would discuss the matter further when they re-convened in the afternoon session.

Later, in the session the Attorney contacted the Architect and requested a "punch list" which was delivered to the Board with only the inside list available. No list was available for the outside of the building which was the major concern of the Board. There were several cracks in the outside brick wall which the Contractor attributed to extreme weather conditions.

Due to deep concern of the cracks, a motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved designating the Chairman to contact Dr. Paschal, William Ashley and Fred Tedder, as experts in the field, to go with the Board to the hospital site and inspect the cracks and give the Board an opinion on the matter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the County and Whiteville Libraries merge under the following conditions, as agreed by both respective Boards and which were represented at this meeting:

1. That the Division of the State Library be requested to provide one or more consultants to work in Columbus County to finalize specific plans and conditions under which the actual merger of these two libraries will take place. All meetings with the two library boards or any representatives thereof will be chaired by State library personnel who will give guidance and information which may be necessary.

2. At a date agreed upon, the City of Whiteville will make available to the County of Columbus that property on which the Whiteville Public Library is now located plus the vacant lot on its west side.

3. The present tax levy on Whiteville taxpayers will cease once the merger is effective and the County assumes operation.

4. The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County will provide adequate space and facilities sufficient to accommodate the merged operation.

5. At a date to be set, the County will assume and acquire complete charge of the operation of what is now Whiteville Public Library.

6. After a date to be set, both present Library Boards will meet as a joint body for a designated period, these meetings to be chaired by a consultant from the State Library. At the end of this set period, the first Board of the merged library will be appointed and will come from the present members of both Boards. The makeup of the new Board will be determined by the joint Boards during this designated period.

/s/ Hilda F. Jordan 8-9-77
Columbus County Public Library
/s/

/s/ John Ward 8-11-77
Whiteville Public Library
/s/ Horace B. Whitley 8-23-77
City of Whiteville, Mayor

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus herein called the "Applicant" has thoroughly considered the problem addressed in the application entitled FEDERAL GRANT FOR AMBULANCE VEHICLE ACQUISITION FOR CERRO GORDO AND ACME-DELCO-RIEGELWOOD RESCUE SQUADS and has reviewed the project described in the application; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of Public Law 89-564 as amended, the United States of America has authorized the Department of Transportation, through the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program to make federal grants to assist local governments in the improvement of highway safety,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS IN OPEN MEETING ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA THIS THE 6TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1977, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the project referenced above is in the best interest of the Applicant and the public.
2. That J. Howard Stanley, Coordinator, Civil Preparedness be authorized to file, in behalf of the Applicant, an application in the form prescribed by the Governor's Highway Safety Program for federal funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 each to be made to the Applicant to assist in defraying the cost of the project described in the application.
3. That the Applicant has formally appropriated the cash contribution of \$20,000.00 as required by the projects.
4. That the Project Director designated in the application form shall furnish or make arrangements for other appropriate persons to furnish such information, data, documents and reports pertaining to the project, if approved, as may be required by the Governor's Highway Safety Program.
5. That certified copies of this resolution be included as part of the application referenced above.
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DONE AND ORDERED in open meeting

BY: Waldo Marlowe, Chiarman

Commissioner Williamson offered the foregoing resolution, who moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinson and was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved to appoint Commissioner Williamson to contact various agencies to inquire if they wish to apply for grants for Older Citizens Programs.

Sheriff Coleman requested additional help in serving executions for collecting back taxes, either an additional worker for his office or help from the Tax Collector's Office. No action was taken at this time.

John Miller, Navy Recruiter located in Whiteville, met with the Board and requested a CETA employee to work in his office as a clerk. The Board stated that there were no slots available at this time and referred him to Southeastern Community College which is in the process

of implementing a new program which allots employees to various agencies.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until such time as the Chairman can arrange a meeting with Dr. Paschal, William Ashley and Fred Tedder to tour and inspect the hospital building.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs Clerk

Chairman

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 9:00 a.m., Monday, September 12, 1977, in a special called meeting.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chiarman

Juniro W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The Commissioners assembled in their regular meeting place and adjourned to the site of the new hospital building for a tour and inspection.

Later they reassembled in the regular meeting place. After a lengthy discussion the Attorney advised the Board to not accept the building until State and Federal Officials inspect the building on September 19th and meet with the Board on September 20th to report on their findings and give their approval that the building is satisfactory to be used as a hospital.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson to not accept the hospital building for beneficial occupancy until after September 20th meeting. The motion was passed.

Gerald Hege met with the Board to express concern in getting doctors to come to Columbus County and told the Board of his efforts to find suitable places for office space for any interested doctors who consider coming to the County. He asked if the County could provide any enticement in the way of office space . The Attorney was asked to look into the legal aspects of the County assisting in providing office space for interested doctors as they felt the need to get doctors is great.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until September 19, 1977, at 10:00 a.m.

Approved:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman