

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., November 21, 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 the Reverend John Walkup, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Whiteville, N. C.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the November 7th were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

The Board reviewed the bills presented for payment by C & C. Painting Company.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to approve payment of the bills, one check to be made for labor and one check for rent of the bucket-lift- both payable to C & C Painting Company.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to amend the budget of the Health Department in the amount of \$16,986 for a home nursing program, which will be funded entirely from federal funds for this fiscal year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to approve (as to form) the bond for the Coroner through December 4, 1978. Said bond is to be filed with the Clerk of Superior Court.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that the following road be added to the State system:

Road is located in the Tabor City area, known as "Shelley Subdivision"; South Williams Township.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that County employees be granted November 24th and 25th as Thanksgiving Holidays, which is in concurrence with State employees' holidays.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to allow the Finance Department to hire an additional CETA worker, to be deleted from the Landfill Department. Be it further ordered that the Landfill Department be allowed to hire a permanent employee at a beginning salary of \$646.00 per month and that Devon Hardwick be promoted to the position vacated by Graham Williamson, which is a permanent position of equipment operator.

A request was made to the Board by Lawrence Bowers, and supported by Rudolph Walters and Eugene Grainger, that the County appropriate funds in the amount of \$26,500.00 to match State

funds to build a terminal at the County Airport.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the budget be amended to grant this request to the Airport Construction Fund.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved that the County assume the responsibility for the insurance on the old hospital building beginning on November 22, 1977, and that the value be placed at \$2,000,000.00 for the building and \$275,000.00 for the contents. The boiler insurance will be determined at such time as Floyd's Insurance Agency gets an inspector to determine the needs, which will be additional to the above costs.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that the County Board of Education be granted a loan from the General Fund to purchase equipment for Guideway School in the amount of \$25,000.00. Repayment is contingent upon federal funding of an approved application for equipment funds, but no funds are available at this time.

Members from various fire and rescue departments from within the County met with the Board to request additional funds for service outside the incorporated areas of the County by volunteer fire departments.

After a discussion of the situation a motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that the County Attorney draw a contract that may be signed by any department that wishes to participate to offer the service for funding of \$2,000 per year in addition to the \$4,000 that is presently being funded to fire and/or rescue squads. Exception to this will be that volunteer fire departments which are separate from rescue squads within city limits will be eligible for \$2,000 funding and the rescue squad will continue to receive \$4,000 which has been established in the past.

The following is a resolution passed upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Williamson:

Whereas, G.S. 153-9(39) empowers a board of County Commissioners to provide for the organization, equipment, maintenance and government of fire companies and fire departments; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County is of the opinion and has found and determined that it is for the best interest and necessary for the protection of the citizens of said County and their property (a) to encourage and financially aid in the equipment, maintenance, and government of fire departments in the County in order that these departments can protect public school buildings and other property buildings, as well as homes and other property in rural areas of the County, (b) to establish a protective fire fighting organization to work with and to supplement the Columbus County Civil Preparedness Organization, and (c) in general to provide for the more adequate and efficient protection of life and property in the rural areas of Columbus County and to provide a trained body of men to assist the urban areas of the County in case of emergency.

Whereas, the Board of Columbus County have heretofore taken action to create a Columbus County Fire Commission consisting of three members; one a member of the Board of County Commissioners; one a member of a volunteer fire department; and one a citizen at large.

Whereas, after the creation of the Fire Commission, the Board of Commissioners offer financial assistance for the maintenance and operation of any fire department qualifying for financial assistance under the terms of this resolution in the amount of \$4,000.00 per year, payable in August of each year. This payment shall be used for purchases and maintenance of equipment and for the operation of the department. No individual fireman or group of firemen shall individually receive any pay or remuneration from this payment herein provided for services rendered as volunteer firemen.

The Evergreen Fire Department applied for financial assistance under the provisions of the Resolution passed on May 5, 1975, and agreed to meet all of the standards and comply with all of the provisions set forth in the aforesaid Resolution, as consideration for the receipt of the financial assistance applied for and a motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign the necessary documents to approve the application of the Evergreen Fire Department. Payments to the Department will be made on a yearly basis beginning this fiscal year.

The Evergreen Fire District is described as follows:

Beginning at a point (1) on Road #1516, 0.4 mile northeast of its intersection with Road #1515; thence in a southeasterly direction to point (2) on N. C. Highway #242, 0.7 mile east of its intersection with Road #1515; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point (3) on Road #1529, 0.7 mile north of its intersection with Road #1003; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point (4) on Road #1003, 0.7 mile east of its intersection with Road #1529; thence in a southwesterly direction to a point (5) on U. S. Highway #74-N.C. #130, 1.3 miles southeast of its intersection with Road #1574; thence, in a southwesterly direction to a point (6) on Road #1574, 0.2 mile southeast of its intersection with Road #1414; thence in a westerly direction to a point (7) on Road #1414, 0.2 mile southeast of its intersection with Road #1574; thence in a southwesterly direction to a point (8) on Road #1504, 0.2 mile southeast of its intersection with N. C. Highway #242; thence in a southwesterly direction to a point (9) on N. C. Highway #242, 0.2 mile south of its intersection with Road #1504; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point (10) on Road #1504, 0.2 mile northwest of its intersection with N. C. Highway #242; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point (11) on Road #1512, 2.9 miles southwest of its intersection with N. C. Highway #242; thence in a northerly direction to a point (12) on U. S. Highway #74 - N. C. #130, 3.2 miles northwest of its intersection with N. C. Highway #242, excluding property on Road #1511; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point (13) at the intersection of Roads #1574 and 1506, excluding property on U. S. Highway #74 - N. C. Highway #130 between this and the preceding point; thence in an easterly direction to a point (14) on Road #1508, 0.7 mile northwest of its intersection with Road #1510; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point (15) on Road #1506, 0.4 mile west of its intersection with Road #1509; thence in a northeasterly direction along the Robeson-Columbus County line to point (1), the beginning, including property on Roads #1506 and 1516 between this and the preceding point.

A map of this property description is filed with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

The following tax releases were made upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Samuel Francis Avritt, Jr., South Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,550 due to listing car in this County and person resides in Wake County where car is also listed.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Ed Inman, Tatum Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,430.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Giles Byrd, Waccamaw Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,050. Two lots were listed to R. A. Etheridge on late list.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Miles Sutton, Rt. 1, Box 401, Riegelwood, N. C. Ransom Township in the amount of \$204.39 for taxes paid in Joe Sutton Heirs property for the years 1972 through 1976 due to double listing.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Miles Sutton, Ransom Township, in the amount of

\$10.02, for fire district taxes paid on Joe Sutton Heirs property for the years 1972 through 1976 due to double listing.

There was a discussion concerning the re-roofing of the County Hall. The Attorney was instructed to place an advertisement in the paper to receive bids for this work.

John Ingram, Council of Governments, met with the Board to discuss future goals and report on past work of the Council. He stated that "equal opportunity" was the main objective in all programs in which the Council is involved. He asked the Board to fill in forms stating their future needs and also any comments on the performance of the Council in past services.

John McNeill, Dr. Black and Health Dept. Staff Members met with the Board to further discuss the needs of the Health Department relating to moving into the old hospital building. They asked for confirmation on space for their Department, condition of the space and the approximate time they could expect to move.

The Board stated they plan to meet in the near future to decide on space allotments but that new request have been made and they plan to consider space for extended nursing care which has been a priority request by citizens of the County.

John Minton, Community Development Director, met with the Board to discuss the management agreement and rehabilitation statement in connection with the Community Development Program. There were several points of discussion, after which the Board requested some changes in both documents. The revised documents are to be brought back to the Board for approval.

upon motion the meeting recessed until 7:00 p.m., November 21, 1977, to meet with the Senic River Committee.

Eugene W. Suggs
Clerk

APPROVED:

Waldo McClure
Chairman