

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., March 6, 1978, it being first 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 McPherson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the February 20th and 22nd were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Dew.

Chairman C. Waldo Marlowe announced, pursuant to Chapter 159C of the General Statutes of North Carolina and the regulations thereunder, that he had been advised that The Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority intended to file an application with the Secretary of the Department of Commerce for approval of an industrial and manufacturing project in Columbus County, North Carolina, to be leased to Croft Metals, Inc., consisting of the acquisition of an existing 100,000 square foot building (presently known as the "New Farmers Warehouse") and the site thereof which will contain approximately 12 acres located on U.S. Highway 76 two-tenths of a mile south of Fair Bluff in Columbus County, and to improve and equip the same for the manufacture of aluminum products, including windows and doors, to be financed by approximately \$1,000,000 aggregate principal amount of bonds of the Authority. Since such application for approval cannot, under regulations of the Department of Commerce, be officially received until, among other things, the Board approves the project in principle, the Authority has recommended and requested that the Board pass a resolution approving the project in principle without in any way prejudicing the right and responsibility of the Board under G.S. 159-4(d) to approve or not to approve the issuance of the bonds after the Department of Commerce has approved the project and the Local Government Commission has approved the bond issue, by which time additional information relative to the project, the company and the proposed financing will have been developed.

Thereupon, Commissioner Ed Walton Williamson introduced the following resolution which was read:

RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF AN INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING PROJECT IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE LEASED TO CROFT METALS, INC., TO BE FINANCED BY APPROXIMATELY \$1,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF BONDS OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY.

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

Section 1. The proposed industrial and manufacturing project in Columbus County, North Carolina to be leased to Croft Metals, Inc., consisting of the acquisition of an existing 100,000 square foot building (presently known as the "New Farmers Warehouse")

and the site thereof which will contain approximately 12 acres located on U.S. Highway 76 two-tenths of a mile south of Fair Bluff in Columbus County, and to improve and equip the same for the manufacture of aluminum products, including windows and doors, to be financed by approximately \$1,000,000 aggregate principal amount of bond of The Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority is hereby approved in principle.

Section 2. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, is directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Department of Commerce.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Commissioner Ed Walton Williamson moved passage of the foregoing resolution entitled: "APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF AN INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING PROJECT IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE LEASED TO CROFT METALS, INC., TO BE FINANCED BY APPROXIMATELY \$1,000,000 AMOUNT OF BONDS OF THE COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY", Commissioner David L. McPherson seconded the motion, and the resolution was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Ed Walton Williamson, David L. McPherson, Junior Dew, and L. A. Hinson

Noes: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to appropriate \$2,000.00 for the newly organized White Marsh-Welches Creek Community Volunteer Fire Department subject to the approval of the Attorney after review of the Charter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign the CERTIFICATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT for Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department which entitles the certified members to be eligible for benefits under the North Carolina Firemen's Pension Fund Act.

The following tax releases were approved upon the recommendation of the Tax Supvr. and upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Esther M. & Spurgeon Duncan, Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$660. due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Mitchell Ken Ray, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$850. due to error in valuation of 1972 auto.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Ulysses Williams, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,000. due to error in listing house that does not exist.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Jack L. Reynolds, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,050. due to error in transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of James Carlie Nance, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$500. due to an error in transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of J. K. Williamson, Cerro Gordo Township, be released on the valuation of \$12,780 due to an error in transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Carol C. Floyd, Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,550. due to double listing of car.

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of D. W. & Verna Cribb Heirs, Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$5,710. due to double listing.

Ordered: that the taxes listed in the name of Andrew Dockery Munn, in the Acme-Delco Fire District, be cancelled for the years 1975-1977 as Mr. Munn does not live in the Fire District.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Audrey Cullifer, P. O. Box 281, Whiteville Township, Whiteville, N. C., in the amount of \$39.00 due to double listing an auto. Auto was listed in Montgomery County and taxes paid there by her daughter,

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the Tax Collector be allowed to charge a fee of \$1.00 for a permit to move a mobile home out of the County, subject to the Attorney verifying that this is a legal transaction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint the following persons to the Community Development Advisory Council to replace Johnnie Capps, Martha Young, Thelma Henry, and Claude Pierce who have resigned:

James Barber, Chadbourn Area; Frank Godwin and Ola Pierce, Hallsboro Area, and Alice Brown of Boardman.

Mr. John Minton, Community Development Director, offered his services to apply for a grant to hire a planner for the County, or for agencies participating in Shared Community Development to hire a planner jointly. He suggested that the application could be made to either of two agencies, HUD Section 701, which is a 60/40 matching funds, or FHA, which is 75/25 match.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed instructing Mr. Minton to proceed with the application for a planning grant for the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to write a letter of support for grants applied for by Steve Smith, Sheltered Workshop Director, for funding a transportation program for all human service agencies in the County. It was further approved upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson that SENCLand Community Action, Inc., be the operator of the program if a grant is received.

Mr. Elmer Faulk, Mr. C. O. Wright and Mr. Cleon Worley met with the Board to request that the Home Builders Assoc. be represented on the Committee that is to investigate the complaints alleged against Cecil Edwards, County Sanitarian.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the County Health Board be written a letter asking that they consider this request and that S. P. Stanley be considered as the representative for Home Builders Assoc., and that Jim Hill, County Attorney, attend the meetings, but not as a voting member of the Committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that a contract be entered into with the Hospital Board of Trustees to allow a hospital maintenance worker to work at the Miller Building until budget time, at which time further consideration will be given to hiring a person as a County employee. The contract with the hosp-

ital will include a salary of \$9,000 per year, with fringe benefits which are allowed all Hospital employees. The Board felt that due to the many deficiencies in the building that a person familiar with the heating, electrical and plumbing lines is needed and it would be unwise to hire a new employee at this time with no knowledge of the lines until some improvements have been made. The Clerk is to notify each job applicant for the position at the Miller Building of this action and state that the position will be advertised again later.

RESOLUTION FOR THE DR. W. E. MILLER MEMORIAL BUILDING

WHEREAS, Warren Edwin Miller, M. D., F.A.C.S., was born of John Clarence Calhoun Miller and Florence Fontana (McWhorter) Miller, of Scotch-Irish descent on 22 January, 1902, in Carnesville, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., was educated at Hartwell High School, Davidson College (Undergraduate Work) and Emory University (Medical School); and interned at Grady Memorial Hospital (Atlanta) and was a resident in surgery for two years at Union Memorial Hospital (Baltimore), and thereafter spent two years as a doctor with Dr. Salisbury at Grando Mission on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona prior to coming to Columbus County, North Carolina, to establish and distinguish himself as one of the outstanding medical doctors within Southeastern North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., converted the fifteen room Maultsby dwelling into his privately owned hospital in 1935 and the same was heartily welcomed by the citizens and residents of Columbus County who had for many years traveled long distances to James Walker Memorial Hospital in Wilmington, North Carolina, or Thompson's Hospital in Lumberton, North Carolina. The Miller Hospital opened on 15 May, 1935, with accommodations for twelve patients and a limited area of supportive services, including Dr. Miller's operating room, which was used on the opening day. Within months it became apparent that this small hospital could not cope with the growing demands for health care in Columbus County. The porches were closed in to accommodate more patients' beds which brought the total number up to twenty six, which soon became insufficient for the needs of the County; and,

WHEREAS, The formation of the non-profit corporation and the Board of Trustees was recommended by The Duke Foundation, a guiding light to Dr. Miller's endeavors, and the same was accomplished in 1937; and,

WHEREAS, In 1938, a drive began for the erection of a new hospital, contingent upon the passage of a fifty five thousand dollar bond issue to be voted on by the citizens of Columbus County. There was also promised a forty five thousand dollar federal grant, some anticipated donations, and The Duke Endowment. In May, 1939, the trustees received fifteen thousand dollars from The Federal Public Works Administration and then proceeded to purchase a four and one-half acre tract of property for the new hospital. There was some tension prior to the bond referendum, but the same passed by a vote of better than three to one, although a similiar referendum had been turned down by the citizens of Columbus County in

1929. In March, 1940, a sixty bed hospital opened with the cost exceeding the anticipated one hundred thousand dollars by ten thousand dollars. In May, 1943, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., volunteered for military service and entered the Army Air Force at the rank of Major. He was assigned to Dale Mabry Field, Tallahassee, Florida, as Chief of the Surgical Staff. After serving eighteen months in the Southwest Pacific, he retired from active duty at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. While in service, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., distinguished himself and received the Selective Service Medal, The World War II Victory Medal, The Phillipine Liberation with two bronze stars (three awards) and the Asiatic Pacific Area Campaign with one bronze star (two awards) and the American Area Campaign Defense Medal; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., returned to Columbus County and found the physical needs of the patients were not met by the hospital and that an enlargement of the hospital was needed for proper patient care. His efforts were again awarded in January, 1954, when the new wing was dedicated. No doubt his gratification was boundless when the south wing for surgical patients was opened, bringing the capacity of the hospital to one hundred beds; and,

WHEREAS, on December 23, 1936, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., married Edna Minetta Webster of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and of this marriage two children were born, Bruce Webster Miller and Douglas Edwin Miller; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren Edwin Miller's contribution to his profession extended beyond the realm of his office and the hospital for he was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (1937-1962), a director of the North Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, a pioneer in the establishment of the Cancer Center for Incurables at Lumberton, and President of his local chapter of American Cancer Society. He also acted in early stages of the fight against polio, and was for ten years a member of the Columbus County Chapter of the Polio Foundation. He also served on the Rural Health Committee for several years; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. W. E. Miller's energies were endless and his hours long, for he found time to give in other areas in the community and church. He was a member of the Rotary Club and a thirty-second degree Mason. For five years he was chairman of the Selective Service Board and for ten years a member of the Whiteville School Board. He was affiliated with the Democratic Party and with the Westminster Presbyterian Church, in which he was a Ruling Elder. Even Dr. Miller's hobbies required skill just as his profession did. His relaxation came from golf, woodwork and planes. Flying was more than a hobby, for many times he used his plane to carry patients (regardless of age, sex, race or other discriminating factors) to hospitals for special treatment. He was a charter member of the Flying Physicians and in 1959 was cited by the United States Government for his participation in the flight of the Flying Physicians to Alaska, in which they demonstrated an evacuation plan in case of actual emergency; and,

WHEREAS, on the 10th day of December, 1960, the entire County of Columbus was saddened; for in the hospital which he established Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., died "a victim of cancer" which he labored so diligently to help eradicate throughout his life; and,

WHEREAS, soon thereafter the W. Edwin Miller Memorial Fund which was created by those who loved and admired their friend and surgeon was used for equipment for the children's wing. Soon thereafter the south surgical wing of the hospital was dedicated in the memory of Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., and known as the Miller Hall.

B E I T THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, that the hospital which Dr. W. E. Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S., worked so long to establish and which will be turned into the health and medical related services for the citizens of Columbus County, will be renamed in memory of Dr. Warren Edwin Miller, M.D., F.A.C.S. and the same will be hereinafter known as "DR. W. E. MILLER MEMORIAL BUILDING".

This the 6th day of March, 1978.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BY: /s/ C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

A group of citizens who reside on SR#1532 met with the Board to request improvement on said road. A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that SR#1532 be added to the list of priorities being sent to the Department of Transportation for 1979-80 as the priority list for 1978-79 has already been approved on February 22, 1978.

The meeting adjourned to the Hospital to meet jointly with the Hospital Board of Trustees to discuss the skilled nursing question further.

MEMBERS OF THE HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT:

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| C. Lacy Tate, Chairman | Hartford Lennon |
| Clyde Wayne, Vice-Chairman | Paul Rogers, Jr. |
| Ned Council | William F. "Bill" Floyd |
| Ralph Rogers, Administrator | |

After lunch was served, there was a discussion of the procedure to apply for being allowed to operate a skilled nursing facility. Mr. Rogers stated that in order to submit a LETTER OF INTENT to the Health Planning Agency in Raleigh it was necessary to give an estimated cost of capital expenditures and identify where the funds would come from.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that the Board of Trustees hire an architectural firm, with experience in this type of work, to survey the Miller Hall section of the building and give a projected cost on the list itemized by the Division of Planning Services. The expense of the architect will be paid by the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appropriate funds in the approximate amount of \$7,625.00 to re-roof Section "B" of the Miller Building. Mr. Hawks is to remove existing shingles also which is included in the appropriation.

The Board was presented a letter of support for implementing a skilled nursing care service in the County from the Town Council of Tabor City.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until March 20, 1978, at 10:00 a.m.

E. Eugene W. Jiggs Clerk

APPROVED:
Waldo Marlowe Chairman