

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., March 20, 1978, 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 McPherson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the February 22nd and March 6th were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner McPherson.

Mr. Avery Ward and Mr. Richard Wright met with the Board to discuss the issue of the boundary line between Bug Hill and Lees Townships. The Attorney suggested that Commissioner Marlowe not be present during the discussion as he and Mr. Ward both filed for the commissioner seat in the zone in question. Mr. Ward was determined ineligible by the County Board of Elections by reason of location.

Commissioner Marlowe was excused from the meeting, after which a presentation was made to the Board by Mr. Wright using maps and RECORD BOOK Minutes of 1868, which is a permanent official record of meetings of Commissions of the County, filed in the Office of the Register of Deeds. Mr. Wright referred to the minutes of the meeting on July 31, 1868, which was a record of the descriptions of precincts established for Columbus County, numbering eight at that time. Bug Hill and Lees Townships were two of the eight precincts established in 1868 according to the record. Mr. Ward's request is that the Mooney Ford Road line be clarified for future generations to determine which township they reside within, should this still be the precinct line.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that a committee be named to gather information to clarify the question of the precinct line between Lees Township and Bug Hill Township with reference to the Mooney Ford Road. Further, that the committee consist of a Board of Elections Member, County Commissioner, Richard Wright and the County Attorney. It was further agreed that if the services of a surveyor is needed after preliminary findings, that a surveyor be employed.

Commissioner Dew was selected as the Commissioner to serve on the Committee.

After this action was taken Mr. Ward announced that he will not be a candidate for the office of County commissioner regardless of where the line is determined to be located for the upcoming election.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved to give Ms. Ora Greene \$50.00 from the Out-Door-Poor Fund for immediate relief.

The following resolution was adopted upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OFFICIAL MAP AND BOUNDARY LINE FOR BUCKHEAD

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WEHERAS, Ernest Jacobs, representing the Buckhead Volunteer Fire Department, presented the original boundary map for the Buckhead Volunteer Fire Department, along with a description of said boundary, to the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Board agrees to allow the Buckhead Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection to the area of the County designated in the description presented to the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that the boundary map and the description of the Buckhead Volunteer Fire Department are hereby approved by the Board and the description of said boundary is recorded as follows:

Beginning at a point (1) on Road 1807 at the Columbus-Bladen County Line; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point (2) on Road 1740, 0.3 mile east of its intersection with Road 1807; thence in a southwesterly direction to a point (3) on Road 1800 at the bridge over Friar Swamp; thence, in a southwesterly direction along Friar Swamp to a point (4) at its intersection with N.C. Highway 211; thence, in a northwesterly direction to a point (5) on Road 1740, 1.4 miles southwest of its intersection with Road 1737; thence, in a northeasterly direction to a point (6) on Road 1737 at the Columbus-Bladen County Line; thence, in an easterly direction along the Columbus-Bladen County Line to a point (1), the beginning, including property on loop Road 1766.

A letter from the Library Director was presented to the Board asking approval by the Board to reduce the number of hours that the Libraries will be open, as a voluntary measure to conserve energy.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved not to reduce the hours at this time as all County offices would be involved which would require detailed planning, but would keep abreast of the latest developments and abide by directives from the Governor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to allow Stuart Sasser and Jimmy Smith, with the Sheriff's Dept., to repay funds withdrawn from the Retirement System at such time as they qualify under the Retirement System's regulations which is ten years of service with the agency making the agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign a contract with Henry Tuton and W. C. Bullard to repair the plaster in parts of the Miller Building at a cost of \$28.50 per room, with approximately 71 rooms to be repaired. Contractors are to be paid each Friday after invoices have been approved by Commissioner Dew.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved that Howard Stanley be allowed to attend the North Carolina Association of Local Governmental Employees' Safety Officers meeting in Charlotte at the County's expense.

Mr. L. R. Bowers, Airport Authority Chairman, met with the Board to inform them that the low bid for constructing an airport terminal was \$80,042.00 and that \$27,042 was needed to accept the low bid. He stated that he had contacted the Department of Transportation and felt sure they would furnish half of the additional cost. He requested the County to appropriate

the remaining half of the cost.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to appropriate one-half of the funds needed to accept the low bid for construction of an airport terminal.

The following Resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew to allow the continuation of the Section Eight Housing Program in the County:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners proposes to enter into an Annual Contributions Contract with the United States of America, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by PHA as follows:

Section 1. The Contract, numbered Contract No.3242-E, is hereby approved and accepted both as to form and substance and the Project Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Contract in triplicate on behalf of Columbus County, and the Clerk to the Board is hereby authorized and directed to impress and attest the official seal of the County on each such counterpart and to forward said executed counterparts to the Government together with such other documents evidencing the approval and authorizing the execution thereof as may be required by the Government.

Section 2. The Project Administrator is hereby authorized to file with the Government from time to time, as monies are required, requisitions together with the necessary supporting document, for payment under the Contract.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

/s/ C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew, and upon the recommendation of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that a refund be made to Arthur F. Eason, Welches Creek Township, in the amount of \$16.08 for 1977 taxes paid in error due to property being transferred erroneously.

Ordered: that a refund be made to McNeill Watkins, P. O. Box 343300, Carol Gables, Florida, in the amount of \$93.96 for the years 1974-1976, Whiteville Township, for being charged with a lot which doesn't exist.

Whiteville City Councilman Paul Boone, accompanied by Councilman Marion Davis and City Manager Howard Jones, met with the Board and made a request that the County implement a system whereby dogs will be properly identified by some desirable means at tax listing time, indicating that the dog has been listed for tax purposes and also, be able to identify the owner.

The request was discussed but was tabled until more consideration can be given to the suggestion.

Mr. Boone also expressed his personal feeling concerning the proposed bicycle trail

in the County and asked that the Board give serious consideration to establishing a bike trail as he felt that it was a progressive move to support the trail. Information by the Board is that presently there are legal factors to be decided before further action can be taken as to who owns the property in question.

A letter was read to the Board from the Whiteville City Manager responding to the contract offered to certain fire departments in the County, whether within the incorporated areas or not. The letter referred to proposals by Mr. Jones which appeared in the local paper but were not familiar to the Board. Councilman Davis stated that he felt that the taxpayers within the City would be paying for a service to non-taxpaying citizens outside the City to offer fire protection outside the City limits, which would be expensive and which they were not presently equipped to handle. Mr. Jones stated that he felt it was the responsibility of the County to furnish fire protection service and that the City of Whiteville would not answer any calls outside the City limits after July 1, 1978. The contract being discussed would supplement the Fire Department \$2,000.00 to answer calls outside the incorporated area.

Col. (Ret.) Walters and Don Rabon, Vice-President of Croft Metals, met with the Board to discuss the second phase of selling industrial revenue bonds for Croft Metals, which is locating a plant in Fair Bluff. Due to the documents not being received from the Department of Commerce, the discussion was delayed.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until April 3, 1978, at 10:00 a.m., which is regular meeting time.

APPROVED:

Euogene W. Logg  
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe  
Chairman