

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., June 5, 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

Allen Maxwell, Acting Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Walter Jones, Director of Missions.

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

A letter of resignation was read to the Board from Buell Lanier, Coroner, Columbus County. The resignation will be effective July 1, 1978. A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to accept the resignation with regrets and to appoint Bill Rhodes as Coroner to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Lanier subject to qualifying. Mr. Rhodes was the democratic nomination for Coroner in the May Primary with no opposition in the General Election in November.

L. R. Bowers, Airport Authority Chairman, requested that any funds not spent from the Airport operation funds be reserved to purchase furniture for the new airport terminal when it is completed in the near future.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved to grant the request.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that Helen Gamble be appointed to replace Clara Cartrette on the Columbus County Council on the Status of Women as Ms. Cartrette has submitted her resignation.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to request John Yates to meet with the Board to review the proposed flood hazard map prepared by HUD for the County..

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson, and recommended by the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that a refund be issued to James Cecil Formyduval, Jr., Lees Township, in the amount of \$10.33 for taxes paid on a garage which has been removed from the property.

Ordered: that the 1973 tax listing of R. Daniel Kinlaw, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$313.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1974 taxes listed in the name of R. Daniel Kinlaw, Tatum Township be released on the valuation of \$3,565.00 due to double listing.

Kirk Grosch, Community Development, met with the Board to give a report on the rights-of-way on the roads in the Community Development Projects. Mr. Grosch stated that he

was having problems with most of the rights-of-way and probably would not be able to obtain the right-of-way for any of the projects, except, possibly, the roads in the Chadbourn area. The Board asked that he make another effort on each road before closing the project.

Mr. Grosch also presented an agreement to the Board with Von Oesen & Associates, Inc. who is the engineer for the Community Development Projects.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the Chairman sign the Agreement subject to the approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Grosch advised the Board that there were three vacancies on each of the Advisory Councils in the West Columbus Group and the East Columbus Group, and asked that they name a replacement for those vacancies.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the employees who would be required to retire because of the 65 year age limit, be extended for a period of one year if the employee desires to work an additional year.

The following requests were approved upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Williamson for the Library Budget:

1. Transfer \$275.00 from Fund Balance for painting Whiteville Library Building as some areas required two coats of paint.
- 2.a Start Assistant Director at the salary requested for 1978-79 which is \$114.00 above this year salary. Position has been vacant and funds available from this source. are
 b Allow Library to hire summer worker out of funds/available from assistant director's having been vacant, at a cost of \$1,120 for ten weeks.
3. Transfer of balance of salary funds to operating budget for use in Title VI Newspaper Indexing Project.

A further request was made to use administrative cost in the amount of \$1,091.00, which will be paid by Title VI, to purchase a card catalogue cabinet and cards.

The following is a list of priorities which the Board compiled as needs within the next three years to be used by Southeastern Economic Development Commission in their Capital Survey:

Three gymnasiums for schools which includes Tabor City
 Garage and equipment for County vehicles
 Present buildings renovated to meet requirements for handicapped
 Branch Library at Riegelwood and addition to County Library
 Renovations to Miller Building for use as a skilled nursing service

Representative Richard Wright met with the Board to make brief comments on bills before the Legislature. Of special interest is the bill to allow the citizens of Columbus County to vote on a dual law enforcement system which Mr. Wright stated would soon be finalized as it has passed the House and Senate. Mr. Wright encouraged the Board to hold the referendum in November at General Election time.

The Budget Estimate for 1978-79 was presented to the Board by the Finance Officer and a hearing was set for June 19th at 9:30 a.m. to give the public an opportunity to be heard. Notice was also placed in the local paper that a copy of the Budget Estimate was on file with

the Clerk to the Board and is available for public inspection. This Estimate includes Revenue Sharing monies budgeted for 1978-79.

Supt. Sam Stell, Whiteville City Schools, and several members of the Whiteville Board of Education met with the Board to express concern about the needs of the City School Unit. They were informed that the Board would make application to the State Board of Education for a Literary Loan to help replace the building that was destroyed during the winter at the Whiteville High School. The Clerk was instructed to contact the State Office to ask for forms to begin the process of borrowing the funds.

Dr. Black, Irene Young and a State Architect met with the Board to discuss the space allotted to the Health Department in the Miller Building. After a discussion of the needs, the Board asked Commissioner Dew to go to the Miller Building with the Architect and review the plans and report back to the Board on suggestions for the renovations.

A response was read to the Board from Southeastern Regional Mental Health Dept. stating that they had no funds available to renovate the section of the Miller Building to be used by the Mental Health Department in Columbus County.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until June 19, 1978, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Soggs
Clerk

Waldo M. Murlow
Chairman