The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 8:30 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 1979, in a budget discussion with representatives from the County Board of Education and Administrative Personnel.

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

Others present at the meeting were:

Walter Batten, Chairman, Board of Education

John Frank Carter, Board Member

Jim Rabon, Associate Supt. of County Schools

Robert Ezzell, Finance Officer

Mitchell Tyler, Personnel Officer

Representatives from WILMINGTON MORNING STAR and THE NEWS REPORTER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and stated that he had called the meeting at the request of County School Officials and asked Mr. Rabon to present their request to the Board.

Mr. Rabon stated that he is the upcoming Supt. for Columbus County Schools and his interest is for the children of the County and not personal. He made a straight-forward presentation of the needs of the schools for fiscal year 1979-80 and asked that the Board give the request of \$200,000 serious consideration. Their other choice is to terminate personnel and programs such as vocational programs and cultural arts programs at various schools in the County.

This request is for Current Expense only and for the County Unit only.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that the Board give this request serious consideration but no decision was made at this meeting to appropriate or not appropriate the requested funds.

Information was also given to the Board by letter that an increase of 5.9 % has been requested for Medicaid Services from the Department of Human Resources as a result of pending legislation which would (or may) increase the County's participation. No action was taken on this information at this time.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until June 4, 1979, which is regular meeting time.

Emogene W Suggi CHERK