

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., July 2, 1979, 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 June 18th meeting were approved upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

Clerk of Court, Lacy Thompson, met with the Board to ask that a rate of pay be set for a person he has hired to be supervisor in the preparation of a new jury list which is required every two years.

See minutes of 7-16-79 for correction E.W.S.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to pay the supervisor at a rate of \$3.30 per hour with instructions to the County Attorney to find out if the employee had been hired in compliance with the County Affirmative Action Policy and if not, take steps to comply.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to purchase one radio each for Welches Creek and Hallsboro Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squads at an approximate cost of \$1100.00 each to be paid from Surplus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved to increase the hourly wage of LaFayette Best to the same hourly rate as other CETA employees at the Solid Waste Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to increase the hourly wage of Janice Ezzell, CETA Employee, to \$3.50 per hour, effective this date.

The following tax release was approved upon recommendation of the Tax Collector and upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Dew:

Ordered: that a refund be given to Henry Powell, P. O. Box 224, Hallsboro, N. C., in the amount of \$11.82, for paying the wrong Henry Powell's taxes. Taxes paid in error are for the year 1978 and are in Bogue Township.

Commissioner Dew reported to the Board that Ann Jones, Receptionist at Social Services Department, had told him that due to a bronchial problem, she wanted to post a "No Smoking" sign in the area where she worked. There was a discussion of the matter and was tabled until a later time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign an indirect cost plan with Community Employment and Training Department (CETA) for the 1979-80 fiscal year for a 2.1% cost allocation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to reappoint the Tax Collector, Roscoe Enzor, for an additional one year term and the Tax Supervisor, Ralph Jolly for a two year term.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to allow the Airport Authority to use their unexpended funds for the fiscal year 1978-79 to match grants or for capital outlay for the Airport. \$1325⁰⁰

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to consider forming a regional housing authority and instructed the Clerk to write letters to Pender and Brunswick Counties to find out if they wish to join in a regional authority. Subject to the response of these Counties a meeting will be held later for a discussion with the interested counties.

A letter was read from Yadkin County stating their position on the Medicaid costs for counties and asked support from other counties in taking steps to try to curb the cost to counties.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the Board go on record as supporting Yadkin County and other counties in their efforts to curb Medicaid's share of costs to be paid at the county level.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the Clerk send a Letter of Intent to the Governor's Public Officers & Employees' Liability Insurance Commission to state the County's intent to participate in the Liability Insurance Coverage Policy and to include all employees in the coverage, and apply for prior years coverage.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to sign the following contract with J. L. Stanley:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT

THIS CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT, made and entered into this the 2nd day of July, 1979, by and between THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, a body of politic under the General Statutes of North Carolina and sometimes hereinafter referred to as the party of the first part or the said "county", and J. L. STANLEY, trading and doing business as COLUMBUS COUNTY E. M. S., and sometimes hereinafter referred to as the party of the second part and/or the said "service";

W I T N E S S E T H ;

WHEREAS, the General Statutes of North Carolina provides that a county is authorized to contract with an ambulance operator to remain on call for the transportation of indigents or persons served by the County Department of Social Services as public assistance recipients; and

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS is further authorized by Statute to contract for ambulance services in any and all portions of the said county; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Columbus County are cognizant of the fact that the citizens and residents and patients of Columbus County are in need of additional transportation to the various medical institutions and hospitals throughout the Southeastern United States for their own health and well being; and

WHEREAS, numerous rescue squad members from the various squads have stated that the additional transportation beyond the Columbus County Hospital, Inc. (Whiteville), sometimes works an extreme personal hardship on their lives; and

IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED AND AGREED between the party of the first part and the party of the second part and for mutual promises of an agreement hereinafter contained and pursuant to the general powers of authority of the party of the second part to furnish the said ambulance services, that the parties hereto mutually covenant and agree and contract as follows:

(1) The party of the first part shall pay to the party of the second part the sum of Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) Dollars on or before the 1st day of September, 1979, and for the payment of one year services as hereinafter provided. If for any reason the party of the second part terminates the contract prior to one year from this date, then the said Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) Dollars will be prorated according to the calendar months remaining of the said year, and that the party of the second part will refund the balance of the money immediately to the party of the first part.

(2) That the party of the second part will provide and will maintain and equip all ambulances with the minimum equipment as provided by and according to the Department of Human Resources, E. M. S. Office of Raleigh, North Carolina, and any and all federal agencies which may be applicable; the party of the second part will maintain an ambulance ready to go at all times at the Columbus County Hospital, Inc. (Whiteville, N. C.) for the transportation of any and all patients and citizens of Columbus County whether the same be indigent or fee paying; and that the responsibility of payment of all employees as provided by Statute or as set forth by E. M. S. of the Department of Human Resources and any and all federal agencies shall be that of the party of the second part and that the party of the first part shall have no additional responsibilities beyond the sum as above stated. That the party of the first part is cognizant of the fact that when the party of the second part is in operation in the transportation of a patient, that an ambulance will not be available at the Columbus County Hospital, Inc., but the party of the second part recognizes his responsibility to return the ambulance as expeditiously as possible and in addition thereto covenants with the party of the first part that the same will return to the Columbus County Hospital, Inc., as fast and as safely as humanly possible.

(3) That the party of the second part shall not hold the party of the first part responsible for any additional bills for the transportation of any citizens of Columbus

County beyond the amount of the payment as stated above, and that the party of the second part is further authorized by the party of the first part to seek any reimbursements he may desire from any and all state or federal agencies, as well as, private insurance companies.

(4) That the party of the first part and the party of the second part hereby agree that the contract may be renewable by the giving of sixty (60) days prior notice to the date of the expiration of the one year by either of the parties hereto, provided the same is acceptable by or to the other party.

This the 5th day of July, 1979.

COUNTY OF COLUMBUS

Attested by:

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs

BY: /s/ C. W. Marlowe

/s/ J. L. Stanley
J. L. Stanley, T/B/A
Columbus County E. M. S.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

COUNTY ACCOUNTANT

Provision for the payment of the monies to fall due under this agreement, has been made by application duly made, or by bonds or notes duly authorized as required by the County Fiscal Control Act.

This the 5th day of July, 1979.

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs
County Accountant

COUNTY ATTORNEY

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing instrument and approved the same as being legal and in proper form.

This the 2nd day of July, 1979.

/s/ James E. Hill, Jr.
County Attorney

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to assign the ten additional CETA Title VI slots as follows:

One each to City of Whiteville, Town of Bolton, Recreation Department, Library, Miller Building, County Hall, Maintenance Department for County Buildings, Landfill, and Finance Office. Each position is to be funded until September 30, 1979, at a rate of \$2.90 per hour. Commissioners Dew and Williamson were appointed to screen the applicants.

See minutes of 7-16-79
A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the Clerk and Attorney write a letter to Georgia-Pacific Corp., Main Office, and make them aware that the Board is receiving a number of complaints from hunters, who are renting their woodland for hunting purposes, because of the increase in the cost of rent. Also remind them, in restrained terms, that the tax rate in Columbus County has remained the same for three years, and that other property owners whose property joins Ga.-Pacific are paying on a higher valuation than Ga-Pacific in some instances.

There was a short discussion on the issue of a bond referendum as requested by the County Board of Education. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Boards of Education and ask that they submit a priority list of projects they wish to be considered in the referendum before the Board makes their decision on holding the referendum.

There was a discussion concerning purchasing a storage tank to be used by the Dog Warden, Solid Waste Department and Recreation Department to store gasoline for their use. Junior Babson, Dog Warden, was asked to confer with the other Departments and present a proposal at the next meeting on the cost of the proposal.

A second request was received from an employee of the FHAm to change the entrance at the Floyd Johnson Building from the present front entrance to the end of the building that is now glass. The Board had discussed this matter at an earlier meeting and decided not to make the change due to the structure of the building not being conducive to this modification, and still feel it should not be changed.

A letter was read from Judge Frank Grady requesting additional facilities in which to hold court. He suggested renovation of the Courthouse Annex auditorium and assigning the upstairs offices to court-related personnel. The Board tabled this matter until later meeting and when additional funds are available.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to approve the payment of \$767.00 to Steve Whitacre for property discoveries for 1978.

Other reports presented were: Revaluation - 37½% Complete; Tax Collector's Report for June - 94.70% Collected for 1978 taxes and Register of Deed's Report for May.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until July 16, 1979, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs CLERK

Waldo Marlowe CHAIRMAN