

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 9:30 a.m., Monday, March 10, 1980, in a special called meeting to reschedule the first Monday meeting which was not held due to hazardous driving conditions from a snow storm.

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 (Part-time)

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Commissioner Hinson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the February 18th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

Mr. L. R. Bowers, Chairman, Airport Authority, met with the Board to request a supplement of \$650.00 per month for the months of March through June, for the operation of the County Airport. He stated that Eugene E. Grainger, who contracted with the Airport Authority to operate the Airport was losing money due to inflation as the Airport is being used less and the cost of supplies are higher.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to appropriate \$2,600.00 from Surplus to supplement the Airport operation fund so that Mr. Grainger may continue to hire a part-time assistant through the month of June.

Mr. Jim Bullock, Electrical Inspector, met with the Board and presented the following schedule for electrical inspectors to use for charging for their services in the County:

1. A minimum of \$15.00 and a maximum of \$25.00 per trip, to include mileage, waiting time, or any unexpected circumstance that might arise. Trailer houses and residences up to 300 Amps would be included in this fee.

2. A minimum of \$25.00 and a maximum of \$50.00 on commercial buildings and residences of 400 Amps and above.

3. Rough-in fees will be determined by job size and mileage.

4. When two or more units are inspected on the same trip, fees will be prorated as to mileage and waiting time.

5. Industrial fees will be determined by contractors and inspectors.

6. Mileage fees are to be determined at 19¢ per mile.

7. Quarterly reports will be given to the Tax Supervisor for units inspected.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to adopt the above schedule for electrical inspectors appointed by the Board to work in Columbus County.

Jack B. Ervin, Executive Director of the Columbus County Economic Development Commission, reported that the Authority had been advised by the Department of Commerce that the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina had reported that the average weekly manufacturing wage proposed to be paid by Green Hill, Inc. at its proposed meat processing and refrigeration plant in Columbus County was less than the average weekly manufacturing wage presently paid by all manufacturing in Columbus County and was also less than 10% above the average weekly manufacturing wage paid in the State of North Carolina and that for such reasons the Authority's application to the Department of Commerce for approval of the proposed meat processing and refrigeration plant cannot be approved. Mr. Ervin pointed out that G.S. 159C-7 provides that where a company such as Green Hill, Inc. does not pay an average weekly manufacturing wage above the average weekly manufacturing wage paid in the county or 10% above the average weekly manufacturing wage paid in the State that the Secretary of the Department of Commerce may nonetheless approve the proposed project if he shall have received (i) a resolution of the governing board of the county requesting that the proposed project be approved notwithstanding that the operator will not pay an average weekly manufacturing wage above the average weekly manufacturing wage in the county and (ii) a letter from the appropriate State official, selected by the Secretary to the effect that unemployment in the county is "especially severe".

Mr. Ervin reported that the unemployment rate for Columbus County has been approximately 6.3% for the past three months and for the State as a whole approximately 4.5%. Thus, the unemployment rate for the County exceeded that of the State by at least 25%, such that under the regulations of the Department of Commerce, the Secretary can approve the project since unemployment in the County is "especially severe". The Company, in its Memorandum of Agreement with The Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority dated January 20, 1980, has represented that the financing of the project by the Authority will serve the purposes of Chapter 159C of the General Statutes of North Carolina in that the Project will alleviate unemployment through the creation of approximately 30 jobs initially and 100 jobs within two years in Columbus County and the surrounding area.

Mr. Ervin reported that the Authority recommended to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus that such Board adopt the necessary resolution requesting the Secretary of the Department of Commerce to approve the proposed project for Green Hill, Inc., notwithstanding that the Company will not pay an average weekly manufacturing wage in excess of the average weekly manufacturing wage presently paid in the County, for the reasons stated in Exhibit A hereto.

Thereupon, Attorney Robert H. Burns introduced the following resolution, which was read:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO APPROVE A PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL PROJECT FOR GREEN HILL, INC., NOTWITHSTANDING THAT GREEN HILL, INC., DOES NOT EXPECT TO PAY AN AVERAGE WEEKLY MANUFACTURING WAGE IN EXCESS OF THAT PAID IN COLUMBUS COUNTY

WHEREAS, The Columbus County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority (the "Authority") has agreed to issue its bonds in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$850,000 to finance for Green Hill, Inc. (the "Company") the construction and equipping (the "Project") of a plant in Columbus County for the processing and refrigeration of meat products and in accordance with the provisions of G. S. 159C-7 or will file shortly with the Secretary of the Department of Commerce an application for the approval of the Project; and

WHEREAS, subparagraph (1) of a G.S. 159C-7 of the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina provides:

"The Secretary [of the Department of Commerce] shall not approve any project unless he shall make all of the following, applicable findings:

(1) In the case of a proposed industrial project,

(a) That the operator of the proposed project pays, or has agreed to pay thereafter, an average weekly manufacturing wage (i) which is above the average weekly manufacturing wage paid in the county or (ii) which is not less than ten percent (10%) above the average weekly manufacturing wage paid in the State"

and

WHEREAS, G.S. 157C-7 also provides that

"In any case where the secretary shall make all of the required findings respecting a proposed industrial project except that prescribed in subparagraph (1)a of this section, the Secretary may, in his discretion, approve the proposed project if he shall have received (i) a resolution of the governing body of the county requesting that the proposed project be approved notwithstanding that the operator will not pay an average weekly manufacturing wage above the average weekly manufacturing wage in the county and (ii) a letter from an appropriate State official, selected by the Secretary, to the effect that unemployment in the county is especially severe."

and

WHEREAS, the Company cannot represent that the Company expects to pay an average weekly manufacturing wage which is in excess of the average weekly manufacturing in Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, the Company has represented that the Project will create employment for approximately 30 residents initially and 100 residents within two years in Columbus County and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has requested and recommended that the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus request the Secretary of the Department of Commerce to approve the proposed Project notwithstanding that the Company does not expect to pay an average weekly manufacturing wage in excess of that presently paid in the County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, North Carolina, as follows:

Section 1. Because unemployment in Columbus County is, in its opinion, especially severe, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus does hereby request that the Secretary of the Department of Commerce approve the Project pursuant to G.S. 159C-7, notwithstanding that the Company does not expect to pay an average weekly manufacturing wage that is above the average weekly manufacturing wage in Columbus County.

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. The resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Commissioner Edward W. Williamson moved the passage of the foregoing resolution entitled: "RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO APPROVE A PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL PROJECT FOR GREEN HILL, INC., NOTWITHSTANDING THAT GREEN HILL, INC. DOES NOT EXPECT TO PAY AN AVERAGE WEEKLY MANUFACTURING WAGE IN EXCESS OF THAT PAID IN COLUMBUS COUNTY", Commissioner Junior W. Dew seconded the motion, and the resolution was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners C. Waldo Marlowe, Junior W. Dew, Edward W. Williamson, David L. McPherson and L. A. Hinson.

NOES: None

Mr. Henry Fisher reported to the Board that he has a drainage problem caused by a neighbor cutting trees into the Pine Log Swamp and asked the Board if they could help him solve the problem. At the suggestion of the Board, Commissioner Marlowe called the Corp of Engineers to ask for an inspection of the Swamp if it was under their jurisdiction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the CETA employee, Glen Williamson, who replaced Marston Cox on the CETA Program, be paid at an annual rate of \$8,299.20 which is the same as Mr. Cox 's salary when he transferred from CETA to the regular County payroll.

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

Ordered: that the 1976 through 1979 taxes be cancelled on the taxes listed in the name of Lee King, Whiteville Township, on the valuation of \$4,100.00, due to double listing.

Ordered: that a refund be given to G. R. & Nancy M. Hinson, Rt. 1, Box 88D, Clarendon, NC, 28432, Williams Township, in the amount of \$8.40 for 1979 taxes paid in error in listing a heating system.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Mrs. C. M. Powell, South Williams Township, in the amount of \$126.72 for 1979 taxes paid in error as the property is located in South Carolina and not in Columbus County.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Guilford Edwards, Sr., Heirs, Fair Bluff Town-

ship, in the amount of \$85.32 for 1979 taxes paid in error in listing property that should be listed in the name of Charles F. Edwards.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Vollie Edwards, Fair Bluff Township, in the amount of \$30.00 for 1979 taxes, due to an error in appraisal of property.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Charles F. Edwards, Fair Bluff Township, in the amount of \$34.68, for 1979 taxes paid in error on bulk barns that he did not own and an error in appraising other property which he does own.

Ordered: that the following be released due to duplication of listing, improvements made after January 1, 1979 or exemptions for Elderly and Permanently Disabled allowance:

Roscoe & Barbara P. Edwards	Western Prong Township	\$1,750 valuation
Charles Garfield McPherson	Williams Township	1,900 valuation

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that John Paul Lennon be appointed to serve on the Juvenile Task Force of Columbus County. This was made as a recommendation by COG as Mr. Lennon has been designated by Chief Deputy Sasser as the person to be the Juvenile Supervisor under the LEAA Grant and is to work exclusively with problem children.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson, and passed to resubmit an application for a CETA project to clean up the Simmons Bay and Gapway Projects' as a part of maintenance of the projects. The Board designated Commissioner Williamson and Garland McCullen to prepare the application for submission to CETA.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that upon the submitting of an amended budget by Robert Clark for the use of \$10,000. for the transportation program, that the Finance Officer be allowed to transfer the funds to SENClard Community Action.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that Commissioner Williamson work with Howard Stanley to select 20 buildings to be checked by Mr. Stanley under the energy program and that the selections be sent to the State Department of Commerce for approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved that the County charge \$15.00 per copy for the historical book that is being published for Columbus County. This change is effective as of this date but all books sold by certificates prior to this date will be the same as previously stated in the minutes of December 3, 1979. Also, the total number of volumes is to be 3,500 and the maximum amount of funds obligated by the County is raised to \$28,000 from \$25,000, due to the increase in the cost of publication. This action was taken upon information presented to the Board by Ms. Bible, Library Director, and upon her recommendation, as the book will have more pages than originally estimated and more illustrations which increased the cost.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to ~~pass~~ dedicate the historical book to the memory of Miss Alice Lowe and Bruce Powell, Jr. for their outstanding contributions of historical information to the book. This was also a recommendation of Ms. Bible.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the Library budget be amended to add \$5,000 Z. Smith Reynolds Grant to purchase books for the Riegelwood Branch Library.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to amend the budget of the Board to purchase a file cabinet in which to place the card catalogue for the indexing of the minutes of the Board's meetings. This appropriation is to be made from CETA indirect cost funds. The Board also agreed to reimburse the Library Fund for supplies used in the preparation of the index. This is to be paid from the indirect cost funds.

The retirement of Willie Mae Smith, Housekeeper, was presented to the Board and received with regrets. The Clerk was instructed to advertise for a replacement for the housekeeping position.

There was a discussion of the leak in the roof in the Law Enforcement Center. There was an agreement of the Board to request the Attorney to look at the guarantee on the roof by T. R. Driscoll Company of Lumberton, who was the contractor. If the repair is not covered by the guarantee further action will be taken to get the repair made.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that the County Attorney take action to try to recover the cost of the damage to the compactor at the Landfill. The damages were a result of a truck owned by Browning-Ferris Industries colliding with the compactor. The cost of the repairs was approximately \$7,000.

The following budget revisions were approved for the Health Department upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson:

Family Planning:	Increase Revenue #10-350-00	in the amount of \$	1,602.
	Increase Expenditures #10-591-02	in the amount of \$	7,623.
	10-591-05		2,278.
	Decrease Expenditures #10-591-14	in the amount of	2,070.
	10-591-46		3,629.
	10-591-44		600.
	10-591-32		1,000.
	10-591-11		1,000.
	Increase Expenditures #10-591-46	in the amount of \$	1,150.
	Decrease Expenditures 10-591-14		1,000.
	Decrease Expenditures 10-591-44		150.00
Glaucoma/Diabetes:	Increase Revenue #10-350-05	in the amount of \$	1,293.
	Increase Expenditures #10-596-74	in the amount of	1,293.
MCH Program:	Increase Revenue #10-350-01	in the amount of \$	3,500.
	Increase Expenditures #10-592-44	in the amount of \$	3,500.
Home Health - 3rd Party Reimbursements:			
	Increase Revenue #10-350-02	in the amount of \$	15,000.

Increase Expenditures	#10-593-46	in the amount of	\$10,000
	10-593-32		2,000
	10-593-14		3,000

Home Health Expansion:

Increase Revenue	#10-350-03	in the amount of	1,752
Increase Expenditures	10-594-46		1,000
	10-594-74		752

W. I. C.:

Increase Revenue	#10-350-09	in the amount of	5,318
Increase Expenditures	10-599-02	in the amount of	1,944
	10-599-05		
	-06		
	-07		200
	10-599-46		198
	10-599-11		114
	10-599-14		800
	10-599-74		1,300
	10-599-32	printing	525
	10-599-32	office supplies	150
	10-599-34		87

Commissioner McPherson and Williamson reported to the Board on their trip to the Revenue Sharing Conference with NACo in Washington. Commissioner McPherson felt the chances of re-enactment of Revenue Sharing funds for counties looked good but that the States probably would not be included in the distribution. Commissioner Williamson stated that there was also talk of an across the board decrease of funds to help balance the federal budget.

Letters were presented to the Board and read from:

Soil Conservation Committee in response to Cedar Branch study.
Richard Wright in regard to dumpsters at Vinegar Hill on property of Laverne Spivey requesting additional containers or removal of present containers.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until March 17, 1980, at 10:00 a.m., which is regular meeting time.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Logg
Clerk

Waldo Malone
Chairman