

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., July 7, 1980, 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 (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 June 16th and 26th were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Williamson. Commissioner Dew abstained from voting as he had not received a copy of the minutes to review.

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and recommended by the Tax Supervisor and/or Tax Collector:

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Dora Jane Gore, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$3,485.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that a refund be written to Henry Walker, Jr., Whiteville Township, for 1979 taxes overpaid in the amount of \$24.85 due to an error in addition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign the certification of the roster of volunteer firepersons for Hallsboro and Brunswick Volunteer Fire Departments, to be forwarded to the State Auditor allowing participation in the NC Firemen's Pension Fund as it relates to firepersons under GS 118-23.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed authorizing the Chairman to sign the Waste Removal Agreement with the City of Whiteville for the Courthouse, Administration Building and Health Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint Louise M. Covington, Whiteville, to serve on the Library Board of Trustees. She replaces Mr. Howard Straughan whose term expired on June 30th. Ms. Covington's term will expire June 30, 1984.

The Tax Collector's Report for June and the fiscal year was presented to the Board for review. The collection rate, unofficially, is 93.1% which is 1.5% less than the year ended June 30, 1979.

Commissioner McPherson suggested that the Board make an effort to increase the percent of collections. The Clerk was asked to write a letter to the Tax Collector stating that the Board gives him a vote of confidence but is not totally satisfied with the

percent of collections and for him to continue to work on collecting back taxes. Commissioner McPherson also stated that if the books were purged for uncollectable taxes the rate would be higher and that inflation was a factor in a lower collection rate.

Commissioner Dew reported that he has discussed the offer made by Donnie Beck to provide preventive maintenance on the Solid Waste Department equipment and feels that Mr. Beck has made an acceptable offer that can be worked into a suitable contract with the County for maintenance service. The Board asked Commissioner Dew to talk further with Mr. Beck and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Howard Stanley, Emergency Management Coordinator, was designated by the Board to attend the energy conservation conference, either in Raleigh or Greenville, as the representative for Columbus County.

The Board reviewed the printout of the unofficial census report for Columbus County and each Township and Town within the County. It was the feeling of the Board that the count was not an accurate count of the population as they have received reports from some citizens that they neither received census forms or were contacted by an enumerator. The County Attorney was asked to write a letter to Congressman Rose and request that some action be taken to correct this as population count is an important factor in receiving federal funds.

Commissioner McPherson was designated as the voting delegate to the NCACC Annual Conference in Charlotte. Mr. Ralph Jolly was designated to obtain door prizes for the convention representative of Columbus County products.

At 12:00 Noon the Board adjourned to the Landfill to auction two pieces of equipment that is no longer used by the Landfill.

A Koehring Crane Crawler was sold to Nance Farms, Darlington, SC for \$7,250.00
An Army Generator, Model KDA-4045 was sold to Boyd's Land Clearing, Loris, SC for \$225.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed in the June 12th meeting to donate the proceeds from the Crane Crawler to the Law Enforcement Officers Association to erect a fence around the County Fairgrounds (\$7,250.00).

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until July 21, 1980.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman