

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., January 19, 1981, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman

C. Waldo Marlowe

Junior W. Dew

Lynwood Norris

James E. Hill, Attorney (Part-time)

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Thom Billington.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the January 5th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Marlowe and seconded by Commissioner Dew. Commissioner Hinson requested that it be noted that he was attending a meeting of the Board of Commissioners in Robeson County as designated by the Board to attend to Columbus County business and was not present during the entire meeting in Columbus County.

Mitchell Tyler, Supt., County Schools; Richard Dameron, Chairman, Board of Education and Robert Ezzell, Schools' Finance Officer met with the Board to request an advance of \$30,000.00 from their 1981-82 Capital Outlay appropriation to help purchase land for Tabor City Schools.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the request made above be approved to purchase the property for Tabor City Schools.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to void the following tax release upon the recommendation of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Albert Gore, Bug Hill Township be released on the valuation of \$800.00 and that a refund be given to him in the amount of \$10.40 due to an error in transferring property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed, as recommended by the Tax Collector, to release the following:

Ordered: that a refund check be given to Pioneer Savings & Loan, Inc., Whiteville, NC, in the amount of \$225.22 for 1980 taxes paid for L. C. & Ann L. Rich, Ransom Township, for taxes paid in error.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Farmers Home Administration, Whiteville, NC, in the amount of \$75.61 for 1977, 1978 and 1979 taxes paid in error for Jessie Leach, Fair Bluff Township,

Ordered: that a refund be given to Linda Ross, Paterson, NJ, in the amount of \$22.50 for 1979 taxes paid for Annie Bell Rouse, Welches Creek Township, but paid for the incorrect Annie Bell Rouse.



Commissioner Marlowe out at 10:25

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to replace the carpet in some of the offices of the Clerk of Court in the Courthouse and to paint part of the Courthouse Annex that is used by the Agriculture Extension Service.

Commissioner Marlowe in at 10:30

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Marlowe to appoint Commissioner Williamson to serve on the Agriculture Extension Service Advisory Committee. Commissioners Williamson, Norris and Hinson voted against the motion and it was not passed.

Commissioner Hinson nominated Commissioner Norris to serve on the above Committee and was selected by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson to dispose with the idea of hiring a county planner and use the County's appropriation to go along with Commissioner Dew's motion (made at an earlier meeting) to hire a county administrator. Commissioner Dew suggested that the Board set a meeting time to get together to draw up guidelines and set up the criteria under which an administrator would be hired.

Commissioner Hinson withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to pay the invoice for the five voting machines purchased by the Board of Elections without funds being appropriated to pay for same. It was stipulated by the Board that a letter be sent to the Board of Elections that no purchases are to be made that have not been provided for in their budget unless additional funds are appropriated by the Board of Commissioners before the purchase is made and a properly signed purchase order been obtained.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Marlowe to appoint Commissioner Norris to serve on the Cape Fear Council of Governments Executive Committee for the year beginning in February.

Commissioners Williamson, Norris and Hinson voted against the motion and it was not passed.

Commissioner Hinson made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Williamson to serve on the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed. Commissioner Norris stated that he did not have time to attend the meetings to serve on the Executive Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Marlowe to appoint Commissioner Hinson to the General Membership Board of the Council of Governments.

Commissioners Williamson, Norris and Hinson voted against this motion and it did not pass.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to reappoint Commissioner Norris to the General Membership Board of COG.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to give Philip Wayne Greer \$50.00 for immediate relief.

Attorney Hill came to the meeting at this time.

Attorney Hill presented a draft of an ordinance to be considered by the Board to regulate the sale of precious metals in Columbus County. Mr. Hill briefed the Board on the contents of the proposal.

After a discussion of the proposal, a motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that the Attorney proceed with the requirements of the General Statutes for considering the passage of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the County purchase a set of General Statutes of North Carolina to be used by Judge William Gore. The funds are to be appropriated from facilities fees and the Statutes are to be passed to the judge that follows Mr. Gore in that position. The amount of the purchase is \$655.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to send a letter to the Department of Transportation requesting that the funds appropriated to be spent for improvements to SR#1532, in the 1979-80 priority list, be reassigned to SR#1532 beginning at the intersection of SR#1534 and going east rather than the original specifications.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the Chairman be authorized to sign the two Options to Lease presented to the Board by Jerry Ledwell, subject to the review by the County Attorney. One Option to Lease is to lease Miller Hall of the Old Hospital and outside property to be used at a later time for expansion of a skilled nursing facility to Columbus County Nursing Center, Inc. if the nursing facility becomes a reality. Option two is to lease the kitchen space and loading dock in that area to the above.

The Board expressed concern that the leases not be for a long period of time.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until February 2, 1981, which is regular meeting time.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs  
Clerk

Edward W. Dew  
Chairman