

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., March 2, 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, Jr., Attorney

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 16th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Dew.

The following persons appeared before the Board:

Members of the County Board of Education and Administrative Personnel present:

Richard Dameron, David Small, John F. Carter, Raymond Shaw, Mitchell Tyler and Robert Ezzell.

Members of the Whiteville City Board of Education and Administrative Personnel present: Dr. W. C. Burns, Sam Stell and Chip Leavett.

Presentations were made to the Commissioners requesting additional funds for energy for April, May and June. Both Units stated that they would have no fuel in their tanks at the end of this fiscal year even if the requests presented today are granted.

The County delegation requested \$75,000.00 for electricity and \$25,000.00 for fuel oil. The City delegation requested \$5,000.00 for gas and \$41,000.00 for electricity. They stated that they would leave it to the discretion of the Board to decide on the amount for fuel oil to be purchased during this period of time.

There was a discussion on the requests and later in the meeting the Board decided to set a later meeting to make a decision after having more time to study the situation.

Stoney R. Locklear, Economic Development Planner for the Waccamaw Siouian Development, and Kent Patrick, Executive Director, met with the Board to request \$2,000.00 for matching funds to receive a federal grant for the Waccamaw Siouian Community. Mr. Locklear presented the Board with a copy of their plan for economic development for their community for which the grant is to be used. No action was taken at this time.

The following resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Marlowe:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A SPECIAL BOARD OF EQUALIZATION & REVIEW

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 105-322 allows the Board of County Commissioners to appoint a Special Board of Equalization & Review to carry out the duties im-

posed by that section by resolution which shall be adopted no later than the first Monday in March of the year for which it is to be effective; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, have been petitioned by some citizens of Columbus County to appoint a Special Board of Equalization & Review; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners have after reviewing the said requests deem it just and proper and in the best interest of seeking ultimate equality in the examination and review of the tax list of Columbus County, North Carolina, for the current year of the taxable property according with the standard requirements by North Carolina General Statute 105-283;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY, North Carolina, as follows:

(1) That a Special Board of Equalization and Review is hereby appointed by this resolution to consist of the following members:

Edward W. Williamson, L. A. Hinson, Lynwood Norris, Junior Dew, C. W. Marlowe, Ann Williamson, William Honeycutt, and Vance Maultsby. That pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 105-322, the Board of County Commissioners designates L. A. Hinson as Chairman of the Special Board of Equalization & Review.

(2) That each member of the Special Board of Equalization and Review shall serve gratuitously except for actual expenses incurred which shall include mileage where necessary and other lawful allowances.

(3) Each Special Board of Equalization and Review member shall, prior to entering upon their responsibilities and duties, must take the oath as perscribed by the General Statutes of North Carolina, and shall not be influenced by personal or political friendships or obligations.

(4) Each member of the Special Board of Equalization and Review shall be a lawful citizen and resident of Columbus County, North Carolina.

(5) The term of service for each member of the Special Board of Equalization and Review is two years in duration and each member is subject to reappointment at the expiration of his respective term.

(6) That the filling of a vacancy shall be made by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, and the person who fills any vacancy shall complete the term of his or her predecessor.

(7) That all meetings shall be conducted and shall be no earlier than the first Monday in April, and no later than the first Monday in May and shall be called by the Chairman of the Special Board of Equalization and Review and shall be continued by adjournment as the Board deems necessary to perform their respective duties.

(8) That the meetings shall be in compliance with North Carolina General Statute 105-322 (f).

(9) That the duties and powers of the Special Board of Equalization and Review

are the same as conferred by North Carolina General Statute 105-322(g) and any additional powers as may be conferred by Statute.

(10) That the Special Board of Equalization and Review shall always act in compliance with Article 21 of Chapter 105 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

ATTESTED

BY: /s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BY: /s/ Edward W. Williamson

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to appropriate \$2,000.00 to the Roseland Volunteer Fire Department for the remainder of this fiscal year. This action was taken after the presentation of the Charter and By-Laws of the Department confirming their establishment as a volunteer fire department.

The following resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris, as a revised resolution of the one passed on December 15, 1980:

WHEREAS, the petition was filed with the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, seeking a resolution defining the Klondyke Fire District in Chadbourn, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the petition defines certain proposed boundaries of the said proposed fire district and sets out standards for the Commissioners to consider; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners met at a public hearing with all interested parties, in the Civic Center in Chadbourn, North Carolina; after due advertisement as set forth in the North Carolina Statutes 153A-303; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing there was a strong vote in support of the establishment of a service fire district pursuant to the General Statutes of North Carolina;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that it is in the best interest for the fire protection of the citizens of Columbus County, North Carolina, and in particular the Klondyke Fire District's citizens, that the fire district be established;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that the Klondyke Fire District be established as a service fire district; that the service fire district is shown on a map which is attached to this resolution and marked "Exhibit A" and incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that the present tax rate of Columbus County, North Carolina, as applicable to the citizens and property owners of the Klondyke Fire District is One and 30/100 (\$1.30) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) valuation and the County tax value does not exceed the limitations as set forth in the General Statutes of North Carolina;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County,

North Carolina, that the tax values for sustaining the Klondyke Fire District is up to but not in excess of ten cents (.10) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) valuation and that the property owners and residents of the service district have the ability to sustain the additional tax necessary and that the total tax within the district is not in excess of the limitations set forth in the General Statutes of North Carolina, and can not be exceeded by the sum of ten cents (\$.10) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) valuation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that the County of Columbus and the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., a non-profit corporation, further obligates themselves as follows:

(1) That the contract made in addition to and not to supercede any other contracts which may exist between the County of Columbus and the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., or the Town of Chadbourn, North Carolina.

(2) That the obligations set forth herein on the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. are in addition to those presently incurred by the said department.

(3) That the County of Columbus hereby contracts with the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. to collect annually the additional taxes of the Klondyke Fire District at a rate of up to but not in excess of ten cents (\$.10) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) valuation to be dispersed to the said Department as actually collected from the Klondyke Fire District tax payers, except for the sum in the execution of the contract, the said Department hereby agrees to accept all the terms thereof and including the establishment of the said district and the maintaining and providing of adequate fire protection within the said District. That the said payments are to be made monthly to the said Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and that the active members of the organization must remain in good standing and must show some identification, such as a badge, hat, or car plate to identify themselves as a bona fide fire fighter and that no other person other than the active members of the said non-profit corporation shall be allowed to use this identification.

(4) That the Klondyke Fire Department shall have the minimum equipment as specified by the North Carolina Insurance Services Office as necessary in maintaining a grade rating of Nine (9) Community. That the said equipment shall be kept in good operating order at all times, and that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, have the authority to accept minor deviations from the specified equipment when such deviations do not affect the ability of the fire department to fight fires.

(5) That the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. shall carry liability insurance on its firemen and equipment, leaving the County of Columbus free from any and all obligations for damages and claims resulting from activities of the fire department, shall also carry Workmen's Compensation Insurance on the active members with the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

(6) That the fire department shall carry out organized training programs as necessary and specified by the fire chief.

(7) That this contract will expire on the 31st day of December, 1981.

(8) That the County of Columbus may at its option automatically renew the same by making payments to the Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. within One Hundred Eighty (180) days after the expiration of the said date.

(9) That if the County of Columbus does not automatically make payments, then the contract will automatically expire. (Description on page 385)

This the 2nd day of March, 1981

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

ATTESTED:

/s/ Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with Klondyke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. to allow them to apply for a loan from Farmers Home Administration in the amount of \$130,000.00.

Burke Salsi, representing Fred S. James & Company, met with the Board to discuss the possibility of Columbus County becoming self-insured for workmens' compensation under the proposed plan/endorsed by the Association of County Commissioners. Mr. Salsi made a presentation to the Board on the details of the proposal which is the result of a state wide study of counties and there is strong indication that there will be a substantial savings for those counties that participate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the County be tentatively included in the process and make a final decision at the time a contract is presented. This is to allow time to find out the response of other counties and further consider the proposal.

J. B. Evans, Mrs. Belle McNeill and Mrs. I. M. Scott met with the Board to request that Fair Bluff Branch Library be allowed a full-time librarian. They presently have a 3/4 time librarian. It was stated that all other branches have full-time librarians.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that Commissioner Hinson bring this request to the attention of the Library Board of Trustees at their next meeting and report back to the Commissioners. The Board indicated support of the request.

The following resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris:

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF HOUSE BILL #169 RELATING TO VACANCIES
IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, a certain bill is now pending before the North Carolina Legislature, HB169, concerning the appointment by respective political parties a vacancy which may occur in County

government; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has in the past been handled satisfactorily by the local Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, has studied the possible ramifications of the said bill and do not consider the same to be practical for local government vacancies;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that the members are not in favor of the passage of House Bill Number 169 by the 1981 General Assembly.

ATTESTED:
/s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BY: /s/ Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

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

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Willie Lee & Annie E. Blackburn, Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$3,750.00 due to an error in listing a ½-ton truck that he does not own.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Palmer & Dorothy Suggs, Bug Hill Township, be released on the valuation of \$950.00 due to an error in listing an acre of land.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Roosevelt & Emma Lou Vaught, Cerro Gordo Township, for 1980 taxes due to appraisal of his house two times, and allowed the Senior Citizens exemption. Refund is for \$45.15 for 1980 taxes.

Ordered: That a refund be given to R. Gobson Stocks, Bug Hill Township, for 1980 taxes in the amount of \$1.95 due to an error in listing a lot to him which was the incorrect lot. The appropriate lot is listed on the Late List.

Ordered: That a refund be given to Cooperative Savings & Loan Company, South Williams Township, in the amount of \$56.23 for 1980 taxes paid in error due to double listing.

Ordered: That a refund be given to Barclays American Leasing, Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$90.44 for 1978 and 1979 taxes on property that is leased to a person in Horry County, SC.

Ordered: That a refund be given to Lillie Mae George, Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$47.07 for 1980 taxes due to paying the incorrect Lillie Mae Georges' taxes.

Ordered: that a refund be given to James M. Hall, Ransom Township, in the amount of \$118.03 for 1979 taxes paid in error.

Sheriff Clayton Norton and Chief Deputy Sasser met with the Board to request that the Board allow the Sheriff's Department to continue the slot for a deputy that was partially funded by a LEAA grant but expired January 31, 1981.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to fund the above request to continue the deputy slot from County funds and that the funds be appropriated from Surplus to cover the salary and fringe benefits for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Deputy Sasser also requested that they be allowed to purchase autos within this fiscal year in order to get bids from all companies who will not bid after July first due to company policies and practices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to advertise for six autos in the near future but no commitment was made to purchase them. Commissioner Dew asked that bids be taken for both regular and compact size cars.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to appropriate funds from Surplus to cover the cost of paying a private citizen to haul some marijuana to a disposal site. The case was not brought to court for trial and the hauling was done at the request of the Sheriff's Department. The request for payment was made by Deputy Sasser in the amount of \$280.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to write a letter to Southeastern Community College in support of the Adult Basic Education Programs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to appropriate \$30,000.00 from Surplus for the County Board of Education to purchase property for Tabor City Schools and that the funds be transferred to the Board of Education at the time of the transfer of the property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the Chairman and Finance Officer contact the State Personnel Office to request assistance in updating the County's grievance procedures and the Affirmative Action Plan to meet the requirements of CETA's regulations for Columbus County to continue to receive federal funding of the CETA programs.

The following resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Dew:

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO FOUR-LANE AND EXPAND NC HIGHWAY 130 BETWEEN WHITEVILLE
AND CHADBOURN

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County North Carolina, adopted a resolution on the 23rd day of July, 1979, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the resolution, various discussions have taken place concerning the expansion of Highway 130 into a four lane road; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, have re-examined their position in this matter and have talked with various citizens who will be benefited by the widening of the said road, as well as those landowners whose property will be affected;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that after examination of the prior resolution, the said Board does hereby reaffirm their support of the expansion of North Carolina Highway 130 into a four lane road between the towns of Whiteville and Chadbourn in order to alleviate the traffic conjection;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that they do hereby reaffirm their prior position of the resolution bearing the date of July 23, 1979.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

/s/ Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

ATTESTED:

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The following is a description of the Klondyke Fire District as revised:

Beginning at point (1) on US Highway 74, 1.5 miles northwest of its intersection with NC Highway 410; thence northeasterly to point (2) on NC Highway 410, 1.3 miles north of its intersection with SR 1572; thence southeasterly to point (3) on SR 1572, 0.3 mile north-east of its intersection with SR 1562; thence southeasterly to a point (4) on SR 1005, 0.6 mile north of its intersection with SR 1559; thence southeasterly to point (5) on SR 1558, 0.5 mile southeast of its intersection with SR 1005; thence southeasterly to point (6) on US Highway 74-76 at the deadend of SR 1558, excluding property on SR 1558 between this and the preceding point; thence southeasterly to point (7) at the intersection of NC Highway 130 and SR 1435; thence southwesterly to point (8) at the intersection of SR 1435 and 1436, in-cluding property on SR 1435 between this and the preceding point; thence southwesterly to point (9) on SR 1429 at the bridge over Soules Branch; thence southwesterly along Soules & Five Mile Branch to point (10) at its intersection with SR 1005; thence westerly to point (11) on NC Highway 410, 0.5 mile south of its intersection with SR 1427; thence westerly to point (12) on SR 1317, 0.2 mile south of its intersection with SR 1442; thence northwesterly to point (13) on SR 1442, 0.2 mile west of its intersection with SR 1317; thence northwesterly to point (14) on SR 1420, 0.7 mile southwest of its intersection with SR 1317; thence north-westerly to point (15) on SR 1300, 1.1 miles south of its intersection with SR 1412; thence northwesterly to point (16) on SR 1419, 0.1 mile south of its intersection with SR 1412; thence northwesterly to point (17) on SR 1412, 0.1 mile southwest of its intersection with SR 1419; thence northwesterly to point (18) on Loop Road 1416, 1.4 miles southwest of its easternmost intersection with SR 1414; thence northerly to point (19) on SR 1414, 0.7 mile west on its easternmost intersection with SR 1416; thence northeasterly to point (20) on US Highway 76, 1.1 miles southwest of its intersection with SR 1443; thence northeasterly to point (21) on SR 1504 at the bridge over Dunn Swamp; thence northeasterly along Dunn Swamp and Button Canal to point (22) on SR 1574, 0.2 mile southeast of its intersection with SR 1414; thence northeasterly to point (1), the beginning. This description excludes all pro-perty within the City of Chadbourn.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until 7:30 p.m., March 4, 1981, to continue unfinished business.

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

APPROVED:
Edward W. Williamson
Chairman