

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., September 8, 1981, Monday being a legal holiday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman (Part-time)

C. Waldo Marlowe

Junior W. Dew

Lynwood Norris

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 the Reverend Joe Forbes, Pastor, Chadbourn and Evergreen United Methodist Churches.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the August 17th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Marlowe.

Dempsey Herring, Recreation Director, met with the Board to request that he be allowed to use the pick-up truck that had been used by the Animal Warden.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to transfer the pick-up truck from the Animal Warden Department to the Recreation Department.

Mr. Herring also requested that he be allowed to hire a maintenance employee in the Recreation Department as the YACC Program will end September 30th and there is a strong indication that there will not be funds for the continuation of the program which has employed five workers in the Recreation Department. No action was taken on this request.

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

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Utilities Commission is presently considering the deletion of certain runs for Trailways Systems; and

WHEREAS, Whiteville is presently being served by Continental Trailways with runs throughout the day and evenings; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Utilities Commission is considering the deletion of the Lumberton to Wilmington route beginning at 7:30 p.m., Route #3403 and the deletion of the Wilmington to Lumberton route beginning at 9:00 a.m., Route 3400; and

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus is presently being served by the use of the said routes by carrying commercial passengers and, in particular, commercial shipping;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, N. C., that they do here unanimously oppose the deletion by the North Carolina Utilities Commission, of Routes # 3400 and 3403 of the Continental Trailways Company between the cities of Lumberton and Wilmington, N. C., and request a copy of said resolution to be forwarded to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, attention of Craig Stevens, Raleigh, N. C., to be read into record of this matter when the hearing takes place.

/s/ Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to approve the contract with Moore & Price, PA, to perform the compliance audit for the County's Revenue Sharing Funds.

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

WHEREAS, before the Spanish,
before the English,
before the French,
before any white man set foot on this land,
the American Indian was inscribing his heritage on the mountains
and valleys, lakes and streams,
flat and low areas of the land that is now the great State of North
Carolina; and
WHEREAS, to honor these great people, we proclaim the week of September 20-26,
1981 as Indian Heritage Week in Columbus County.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By /s/ Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

ATTESTED: /s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

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

WHEREAS, the Whiteville sub unit office of the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has for over 16 years provided high quality rehabilitation services to the handicapped citizens of Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, various Vocational Rehabilitation services and programs have enabled hundreds of handicapped citizens to attain the highest possible physical, mental, social and vocational potential; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County tax payers have saved thousands of dollars due to the rehabilitation and employment of their disabled citizens; and

WHEREAS, the successful rehabilitation process depends upon the support and cooperation of the people of Columbus County and the citizens of the City of Whiteville,

THEREFORE, I, Ed Walton Williamson, by and through the power vested in me as Chairman of the Commissioners of Columbus County, and by resolution of the Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 23, 1981, as REHABILITATION DAY.

This the 8th day of September, 1981,

/s/ Ed Walton Williamson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to allow the Finance Officer to destroy the following records which are over ten years old and within the allowance of the RECORDS MANUAL published by the NC Department of Archives and History:

Bank Statements for AA, AFDC, AD, and General Fund		1970-71
Various Bank Statements		1970-71
Supporting Data for General Fund	9522/10600	1970-71
Salary Warrants for General Fund	# 2728/3973	1970-71
Mental Health Expense check copies		1968-71

Columbus County Health Levy Check Copies	#1/163	1970-71
Cooperative Health Check Copies	#1/575	1970-71
General County Fund Expense Check Copies	#9255/292	1970-71
Library Fund Expense Check Copies	#30/230	1970-71
Jail Construction Fund Expense Check Copies	#1/74	1970-71
Undistributed Tax Account Check Copies	#1179/1265	1970-71
Debt Service Check Copies	#1/2	1970-71
Facility Fees Check Copies	#1 for three years	1969-71
Economic Development Check Copies	#1235/1433	1970-71
ABC Fund for Schools Check Copies	#11/18 & 1/10	1969-71
Schools Undistributed Fund Check Copies	#1/26	1968-69
" " " " "	#1/26	1969-70
" " " " "	#1/28	1970-71
Schools' ESEA Title II Check Copies	#1/70	1970-71
Schools' General Fund Expense & Salary Check Copies		1970-71
Schools' ESEA Check Copies - Salary & Expense		1970-71
College Capital Outlay Check Copies	#205/354	1970-71
College Debt Service Check Copies	#1/3	1970-71
College Building Fund Check Copies	#1/271	1970-71
College Current Expense Check Copies	#414/1090	1970-71
Riegelwood Sanitary District Deposits	#2694/2701	1970-71
Drainage Districts & Sanitary District Check Copies	#16/34	1970-71
Register of Deeds Deposits	#1855/2086	1970-71
Clerk of Court Deposits		1970-71
Board of Education Deposits		1970-71
Tax Distributions		1964-69
Medicaid Registers		1964-70
Aid to Disabled Registers		1967-71
Aid to Aged Registers		1967-71
Drainage District Deposits		1970-71
Revaluation Deposits		1970-71
Returned Check Copies		1970-71
Deposits made by County Accountant, Health Department, Economic Development and Tax Collector		1970-71
Tax Distribution Deposits		1970-71
Tax Distribution for Revaluation		1970-71

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to send a letter of request to the Governor's Office to ask that Columbus County be declared a disaster area due to 32.4 inches of rainfall within a 23 day period in August which resulted in a loss of the sweet potato crop in the County of 65%.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to nominate Commissioner Dew to be considered as a member to serve on the NC 2000 Committee established by the Governor.

Kirk Partin, DVM, met with the Board to request that the Board adopt a resolution prepared by him, to not accept funds from the State for medically unnecessary abortions. He went into a lengthy discussion on the contents of the resolution but did not present the Board with a copy of same. In his comments he stated that in his opinion the County is not required to accept the funds, that it is morally wrong, other programs suffer from using funds for abortions that could be directed to them, there are alternatives to abortions, the public that was polled by him is against abortions and that taxpayers should not be forced to fund abortions. Others present at the meeting with Dr. Partin were Philip and Dale McPherson, Wayne Partin, Jerry Spivey and Bennie Kissam. These citizens also supported Dr. Partin's views on medically unnecessary abortions.

The Board agreed to meet with the area Legislators to get a more definite determination of the abortion program as set out by the Legislature and the Department of Human Resources. The Attorney was asked to contact the Attorney General for legal requirements on the State abortion funds as it relates to administration by the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to send a letter of inquiry to the Attorney General and Department of Human Resources to find out if State abortion funds are not accepted by Columbus County if other State and federal funds would be jeopardized.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to sign an agreement with David M. Griffith, LTD, to prepare the County's indirect cost plan for the year ending June 30, 1981.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to amend the College Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$828.56 from Revenue Sharing which is the amount left from 1981 fiscal year on Project #184-184A.

Lacy R. Thompson, Clerk of Superior Court, met with the Board to request additional storage space for the Clerk of Court and District Attorney Offices. He stated that they are desperate for additional space. He presented the Board with a statement of fees that had been transferred to the County through the court system. He also requested that the County provide a law library in the Courthouse. No action was taken on these matters except that the Board would visit the Courthouse after the meeting to review the space and discuss what can be done to relieve the situation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson to hire a county administrator to take care of matters such as the above which the Board doesn't have time to do. No second was made to this motion. Commissioner Marlowe stated that he felt that the Board should take some time to discuss hiring an administrator rather than make a hasty decision. Other members agreed, and further agreed to discuss hiring an administrator later in the meeting after other business was finished for today.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to appropriate \$5,000.00 to the Good Shepherd Home with the stipulation that the Board receive an annual audit report from them showing how the funds are spent.

Julean Self, State Personnel Analyst, met with the Board to present the proposed classification and pay plan for Columbus County that was prepared by her. She gave a detailed presentation and allowed the Board to ask questions on the plan. She expressed disappointment that the Sheriff's Department would not participate in the study and stated that all employees should participate for the most beneficial effect. No action was taken on the adoption of the plan but the Board wanted time to review it further before a decision is made.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to purchase a generator for Emergency Management Department at a cost of \$661.74. Two informal bids were received, one from Tabor City Auto Parts for \$661.74; and one from Columbus Motor for \$671.45.

At 2:40, a motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to adjourn into executive session to discuss a property matter.

The Board reconvened back in regular session. Commissioner Hinson left the meeting at this time to meet with the Solid Waste Department. Other members went to the Courthouse to review space usage, but later met back at their regular meeting place.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to increase the salary of Gayle Godwin, Accounting Clerk, in the amount of \$50.00 per month.

See meeting of Sept 21. Attached

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to increase the vacation and sick leave allowance for county employees to be the same as State employees. The increase is as follows: 0/2 years - 10 days; 2/5 years - 12 days; 5/10 years - 15 days; 10/15 years - 18 days; 15/20 years - 21 days and over 20 years - 24 days. This is for vacation time. Sick leave will remain at 10 days per year.

The Tax Collector's Report for August was presented to the Board for review.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until September 21, 1981, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Sogge
Clerk

Edward W. Miller
Chairman