

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., September 21, 1981, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman

C. Waldo Marlowe (Part-time)

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 Dother Melvin, Pastor, St. James AME Church.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the September 8th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris to hire George Walker at the Solid Waste Department. There was a discussion on the motion and action was delayed until the County Attorney could be present.

Ms. Bible, Library Director, and Ms. Jane Lewis, Library Board of Trustees' Chairman, met with the Board to request the appropriation of funds to hire a temporary employee to drive the bookmobile, at an hourly rate of \$3.67 per hour. The request was made because of an anticipated temporary disability of the two present employees who drive the bookmobile.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to appropriate \$2,500.00 for an emergency fund to hire a person to drive the bookmobile if circumstances develop that a temporary driver is needed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign the Statement of Assurances for assuring the Department of the Treasury that the County will comply with the Rules and Regulations for spending revenue sharing funds. It was further stipulated that the Boards of Education be asked to sign a similar statement for the funds they spend from revenue sharing directed to the Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that the Board present a plaque to each employee that retires from county employment, to recognize their years of service to the County.

An Agreement was presented to the Board to be signed by the Chairman agreeing to the terms of Sencland Community Action transporting dialysis patients to New Hanover Memorial Hospital for treatment. The document was not in agreement with the action taken by the Board at an earlier meeting and was not approved for signature but Mr. Clark was asked to revise the Agreement and return to the Board at their next meeting. Mr. Clark also advised the Board of funding that is being received from the North Carolina Kidney Foundation and the American Kidney Foundation to help support the transportation program. The North Carolina

Kidney Foundation is granting \$300.00 per month for the first quarter of this fiscal year but due to cuts in Title XX Funds this will not be available after September. The American Kidney Foundation will furnish fifty percent of the transportation costs but no time was given when these funds will expire.

A letter was presented to the Board by Philip McPherson from Benton K. Partin, II, expressing appreciation to the Board for being allowed an audience with them and discussing the abortion issue. He stated they are prepared to tell the Board how they can legally stop accepting State funds for abortions and are prepared to meet with the Board and Legislators to discuss these ways. The Board read the letter and asked Mr. McPherson to work with the anti-abortion group and set up a meeting with local Legislators and inform the Board of the time of a meeting, which they will attend.

There was further discussion on the vacation and sick leave plan of county employees as it relates to the State plan. On September 8th the Board had agreed to convert to the State plan but after further study found that some employees would get less time in their earlier employment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to remain with the County's original plan and not convert to the State plan at this time.

Attorney Hill came to the meeting at this time.

There was a discussion concerning the employment of George Walker at the Solid Waste Department after which a motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to hire George Walker as a Sanitation Equipment Operator at a beginning salary of \$646.00 per month and increase the salary of Randy Hammond to \$707.00 per month as a Sanitation Equipment Operator to replace Michael Hardwick who has resigned.

The Chairman asked for any bids that had been received on the sale of the Burroughs L8900 computer. No bids were received.

Commissioner Williamson read a letter from the Attorney General's Office at this time relating to the State funded abortions. In the letter it was stated that counties are required by law to administer the abortion program.

The following persons were appointed to serve on the Lumber River Committee upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Dew:

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Donna Scott             | Fair Bluff       |
| Billy Edward Williamson | Rt. 1, Evergreen |
| Randy Britt             | Fair Bluff       |
| Hilda Williamson        | Rt. 1, Chadbourn |

This Committee is to work to protect the Lumber River as a water resource.

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

Ordered: that a refund check be written to William Clyde James, South Williams Township, for 1979 taxes paid in error for Clyde Clayton James.

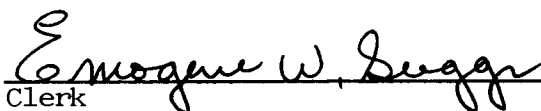
Ordered: that a refund be written to the Columbus County Tax Collector in the amount of \$137.81 for the years 1970 through 1980 for taxes credited to the wrong account. The correct accounts will be credited and redeposited back to the General Fund.

Commissioner Hinson suggested that the Board consider asking the local Legislators to pass a bill to allow a deposit on cans and bottles returned to merchants and discuss this at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Hinson to change the locks on all doors that could be opened with the master key to the Administrative Building. After further discussion it was decided to change the locks on the doors to the Finance Office and the Tax Supervisor's Office downstairs and three offices upstairs that could be opened with the master key which has disappeared.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until October 5, 1981, at 10:00 a.m., which is regular meeting time.

APPROVED:

  
Clerk

  
Chairman