

The Honorable Columbus County Board of Commissioners met in the Columbus County Courthouse Courtroom at 7:30 P.M., March 11, 1988, in accordance with a special called advertised meeting by the Chairman:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Junior Dew, Chairman

Samuel G. Koonce, Vice-Chairman

Lynwood Norris

Ed Worley

Giles E. (Buddy) Byrd

*Roy L. Lowe
Administrator/Clerk*

*Ida L. Smith
Deputy Clerk*

ABSENT:

James E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney

WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tim Owens, Chairman

Katie Powell, Vice Chairman

David Flowers

Robert Leder

Charles Lennon

Mack Thompson

Richard Crutchfield

John Gayle Barkley

Lana S. White

Jerry Paschal, Superintendent

Donnie Viets, Attorney

COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leo Mercer, Chairman

Beasley Strickland, Vice-Chairman

Richard Dameron

Joann Barnes

Raymond Shaw

Mitchell Tyler, Superintendent

The Chairman called the meeting to order and the invocation was given by Commissioner Worley.

The meeting then recessed to the Columbus County Courthouse Courtroom to provide seating facilities for the large number of people in attendance.

The Chairman stated that the purpose of the called meeting was to discuss the Critical School Facility Needs Application with the Columbus County Board of Education and the Whiteville City Board of Education.

The State law requires that a priority list be made jointly by both school systems and since these Boards have failed to resolve the difference over priorities, they are being presented to the Board separately for the Columbus County Board of Commissioners to make the final decision.

Superintendent Mitchel Tyler presented the Columbus County Schools list of priorities as follows:

#1 Priority - Eastern Area Consolidated High School (Acme Delco/Hallsboro Attendance Districts) - Estimated Cost - \$10,374,000

#2 Priority - Southern Area Consolidated High School (Williams Township /Tabor City/Nakina Attendance Districts) - Estimated Cost - \$10,395,000

Superintendent Jerry Paschal presented Whiteville City Schools priority list as follows:

#1 Priority - Central Middle School - Estimated Cost - \$2,282,405.

#2 Priority - Whiteville High School - Estimated Cost - \$1,791,148.

#3 Priority - Edgewood Elementary - Estimated Cost - \$1,204,663

The Chairman thanked Superintendents Tyler and Paschal for their presentation and proposals.

Chairman Dew presented the following proposal for all Boards to consider. The first proposal is the Eastern High School and the second proposal is the Southern High School. On July 1, 1988, we will freeze the one cent sales tax (that the County is presently using to balance the budget) and place in an escrow fund and do not appropriate these funds in the budget. At the beginning of construction of the second project, we will begin the third project (Whiteville City Schools) with either matching funds or the Critical Needs Fund by the State.

MEETING RECESSED

At 8:12 P.M. the meeting recessed for consideration of Chairman Dew's proposal.

MEETING RESUMED

At 9:00 P.M., the meeting was called back to order.

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce and seconded by Commissioner Worley to request the School Boards to get together and submit one signed application to the Board of Commissioners for approval and execution.

AYES: Commissioner Koonce

NOES: Commissioners Norris, Dew, Worley and Byrd

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Koonce to request both School Boards submit applications with their own list of priorities and leave the decision to the State. Commissioner Worley stated that he had spoke with Mr. Ed Regen with the N.C. County Commissioners Association and he stated that this is legal.

Superintendent Tyler stated that the application regulations require that the two school systems present one application and if our County does not meet the guidelines provided within the regulations, then we will not be considered.

AYES: Commissioners Koonce and Worley

NOES: Commissioners Norris, Dew and Byrd

** A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd and seconded by Commissioner Norris to establish East Columbus High School as #1 priority.

AYES: Commissioners Norris and Byrd

NOES: Commissioners Koonce, Dew and Worley

** Above noted motion corrected on March 21, 1988, Book 20, page 107 to read:

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to establish East Columbus High School as #1 priority for Critical Needs application. Votes corrected as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Norris, Dew and Byrd

NOES: Commissioners Koonce and Worley

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Byrd to establish South Columbus High School as #2 priority.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Koonce and seconded by Commissioner Worley to establish Whiteville City Schools as #2 priority.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Koonce and Worley

NOES: Commissioners Norris, Dew and Byrd

ORIGINAL MOTION VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Norris and Byrd

NOES: Commissioners Koonce, Dew and Worley

A motion was made by Commissioner Koonce to recess the meeting until 7:30 A.M., March 14, 1988.

The motion died in lack of a second.

MEETING RECESSED

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Koonce and passed unanimously to recess the meeting at 9:15 P.M. to reconvene at 7:30 A.M., March 14, 1988.

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