

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., February 6, 1978, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

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 McPherson.

The following business was transacted:

Commissioner Hinson asked that the words "before contacting Dr. Black" be deleted from the minutes of the January 16th meeting which concerns his meeting with Cecil Edwards, Sanitarian. Mr. Hinson stated that he felt that Dr. Black should participate in the discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to grant the request .

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to approve the minutes of the January 16th meeting with the above deletion.

Jimmy Godwin, Youth Task Force Chairman, presented a Program Agreement to the Board for consideration to implement a program for specialized foster care as an alternative for juveniles who might be sent to training school.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to approve the Program and amend the Budget for funding the Program in the amount of \$1,998.09 for the balance of the 1977-78 fiscal year as the County's share of funds, to be matched with State funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved that Peggy Wray serve as Temporary Clerk II in the Tax Collector's Office and that her salary be increased to \$646.00 per month while she performs these duties.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved that the salary of James Turbeville be set at \$676.00 per month as the replacement for J. R. Hunt, subject to the receipt of a letter of resignation from Mr. Hunt which has been filed with the Sheriff's Department. This motion is effective on the date of the receipt of said letter.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and unanimously passed to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, tobacco has commercially been produced in what is now the United States of America since approximately the year of 1612 and has been exported from the colonies and later the individual states since the approximate year of 1619; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America now grows and markets approximately two billion pounds of tobacco each year and that the State of North Carolina is the largest individual producer of tobacco; and

WHEREAS, the economic welfare of Columbus County, North Carolina, and the several tobacco producing states are especially dependent upon the success of the tobacco industry for that:

(a) A major portion of our population earns their income working in the growing, processing, transporting and selling of tobacco.

(b) The tax base which contributes especially to our local, state and federal welfare programs is to a great extent comprised of investments in farms, farm equipment, warehouses, tobacco transportation, processing, and manufacturing plants in our area.

(c) The commerce in tobacco products generates considerable revenue from income taxes and sales taxes and excise taxes throughout the world, which funds are available for economic welfare to all persons; and

WHEREAS, the recent personal and official actions of Mr. Joseph Califano, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare has seriously endangered the welfare of our citizens by his adverse effect upon the tobacco industry without proper proof of any substantial danger to the health of the individual citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESLOVED that the President of the United States James E. Carter, Jr., our North Carolina Senators, Robert Morgan and Jessie Helms, our Congressmen, Charlie Rose, be called upon to take every reasonable action that is necessary to restrain and prevent further action by Mr. Califano in his official capacity as Secretray of Health, Education and Welfare, which actions may adversely effect the tobacco industry. We further request the aforementioned individuals to take such action as may be necessary to remove Mr. Califano on the grounds that he has wrongfully abused the authority of his office and has utterly disregarded his oath and his responsibilities as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for the United States of America.

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

/s/ L. A. Hinson, Commissioner

/s/ Junior Dew, Commissioner

/s/ David McPherson, Commissioner

/s/ Edward W. Williamson, Commissioner

Mr. Ervin Stocks met with the Board to request that the road located in Waccamaw Shores Subdivision be added to the State system. Upon contact with the Department of Transportation by phone it was learned that the Waccamaw Shores Road does not meet the qualifications required by the State to be added to the system. A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that a letter be sent to the Department of Transporataion from the Board requesting that the said road be added to the State system. It was further ordered that a copy of the letter be sent to S. P. Stanley, who was the developer of the subdivision.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint W. C. Sealey, Lake Waccamaw, to the Columbus County Pollution Abatement & Industrial Facilities Financing Authority to replace John P. Stevens who is deceased.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to reappoint R. C. Soles, Jr., Hubert Bartley and E. L. Green to the Economic Development Commission for another term.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to accept the no less than \$1,750.00 (\$1,650.00 Net) from the insurance company for the auto wrecked by Howard Stanley. The Attorney was instructed to contact the insurance adjuster and relay the information to him.

A further motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to authorize Mr. Stanley to purchase another car from Surplus Property Agency.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to amend the Extension Service Budget to include \$2,500 in State funds to be used to purchase equipment for Extension Service.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to award Saddler Hall of the old hospital building to Mental Health Department for administrative office space.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to appropriate \$15,000 for February through June, for Adult Development Activity Programs and \$2,700 for Exceptional Children Programs. These Programs are to be located in the old hospital building in the eastern section which was originally used for nurses home. This is to be a cooperative effort of Columbus County Board of Education and Southeastern Regional Mental Health Department. The Board agreed for Steve Smith to get estimates on the cost for installing overhead lights and appropriate locks on the doors in the area to be used by the adult participants which is a requirement of the Department of Human Resources for the operation of this service.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the Hospital Board of Trustees file the necessary forms to find out if the County will be allowed to operate a skilled nursing facility. As a result of this action it was decided that the Board ask for a joint meeting with the Board of Trustees, Hospital Medical Staff, and the Committee representing citizens in favor of the service, said Committee being present at this meeting, accompanied by Dr. Carroll. The joint meeting is now set for Monday, February 13th at 7:30 pm, at the Hospital conference room subject to the acceptance by those concerned.

There were documents presented to the Board in support of the County implementing a skilled nursing service from the Whiteville City Council and citizens from the Western Prong section of the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to reappoint Commissioners McPherson and Williamson as members of the Council of Governments General Membership Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to write a letter of support for the FmHA Office, managed by Hugh Clark, for a commendable job done for Columbus County citizens. Through the efforts of this office much tax base is added to the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to give \$50.00 to Joseph Etheridge from the Out-Door-Poor Fund for immediate relief.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to grant extensions for the following through March 31st, for listing taxes

Zip Marts, Inc.
 Agrico Chemical Company (Includes properties formerly owned by Kerr-McGee)
 Family Dollar
 Firestone Store #2350
 Belk-Hensdale
 Golden Corral Corporation
 Federal Pacific Electric Company
 Whiteville Oil Company
 Ruth Cowan
 Lucy West
 Baker Industries, Inc.
 Donald W. Holmes
 S. P. Stanley
 Beulah Smith
 E. N. Smith Heirs
 Robert L. Young
 Eugene Meares
 Dixie Grain & Feed
 C. & J. Tire Service
 George Bullard
 Norman Davis
 Charles Lanfston
 Glenn Singletary
 Waccamaw Tractor Company
 Cape Fear Tractor Company
 Columbus Aluminum Products Company
 R. Forest Hall, III
Elgie Clemmons
 Jack Council (Council Tool Company)
 Cooke's Shoe Shop
 Alice M. & Hubert Cooke
 Chadbourn Fabric Shop
 Brenda & Bobby Stanley

The following tax release was made upon the recommendation of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Bobby Shirdon, Chadbourn Township be cancelled on the valuation of \$6,470.00 due to an error in transferring property to Mr. Shirdon which belonged to J. L. & L. E. Watts and is on the late list.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson to and passed to deliver the attached tax charge to the County Tax Collector after being duly signed by the Chairman to charge the Tax Collector with collecting the total of \$4,400,132.12 for the year 1977 taxes.

It was brought to the attention of the Board that the contract for rent of the office for use by the judges would expire this month. The Board instructed the Attorney to negotiate a continuation of the contract on a monthly basis.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning contracts to appropriate funds for fire departments which agree to serve the County outside the designated districts or incorporated limits. It was agreed to not change from the original plan passed in the meeting of October 3, 1977, which would allot \$2,000 to those signing contracts.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign contracts with the above mentioned fire departments which will be prepared by the Attorney as instructed by the Board as to the contents of the contract.

Columbus County Commissioners

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

111 WASHINGTON STREET - WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28472 - PHONE 919-642-3860

State of North Carolina
County of Columbus

To the Tax Collector of Columbus County

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office fo the TAX Supervisor and in the tax receipts delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Columbus, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 6th day of February, 1978.

Chairman, Board of Commissioners
of Columbus County

Waldo Marlowe

ATTEST:

Ernestine W. Seeger
Clerk of Board of Commissioners of Columbus County

Amount of County-wide property taxes to be collected: \$4,400,132.12

Penalty 1,432.25

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the Attorney contact Raplh Rogers, Hospital Administrator, to discuss the possibility of contracting with the Hospital to get heat in the old hospital building by using the Hospital maintenance workers until the County can advertise and hire a maintnenace employee.

A further motion was made instructing the Clerk to place an advertisement in the local paper to take applications for a maintenance employee to work at the old hospital building at a salary range of \$7,800 - \$9,000 annually.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved that the old hospital building be named "Miller Building" to honor the memory of Dr. W. E. Miller.

* See minutes of Feb 20, 1978

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew to approve the Boundary Maps and descriptions for both Williams Township and Hallsboro Volunteer Fire Depts. as presented to the Board by William Thompson, Fire Chief for Hallsboro Dept. Boundary descriptions will be inserted in minutes at such time as all necessary documents are presented and approved. The motion was approved.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until February 13, 1978, at 7:30 p.m., to meet jointly with the Hospital Trustees, Medical Staff and Committee for Skilled Nursing Facility.

APPROVED:

Eugen W. Suggs
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman