

According to adjournment, the Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in the Commissioners' office on Tuesday, November 26, 1929, at 10 a. m. All members of the Board were present.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss with W. A. McGirt, and other members of the committee of the State Highway Commission the proposition of paving Highway 23 across Columbus County. The committee referred to above was composed of Messrs. McGirt, Waldrop, Morrison, and Best.

Mr. Waldrop, State Highway Engineer, explained at length the proposition which the State Highway Commission has to offer Columbus County, the substance of which was as follows:

1. That the State Highway Commission refused to accept the offer made in a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County relative to the County's making a donation to the State Highway Commission in the sum of \$205,000.00 under the condition that the State Highway Commission would pave Highway 23 its entire length across Columbus County, sand-asphalt being the form of hard-surface.

2. That the State Highway Commission would take Columbus County's gift of \$205,000.00 and would spend it on said project as far as it would go toward completing the hard-surface.

3. That starting at Whiteville the \$205,000.00 would be spent in a ratio of one mile toward Clarkton to 1 1/3 miles toward the South Carolina line. It was estimated that the \$205,000.00 would pave approximately 15 miles and their proposition was to pave, say, 6 miles toward the Bladen County line and approximately 8, possibly 9 miles toward the South Carolina line. That after the donation of Columbus County had been expended, W. A. McGirt proposed to use the \$80,000.00 already allotted to Highway No. 23 North of Whiteville toward the completion of said project from the six-mile point to the Bladen County line.

4. That if said \$80,000.00 did not cover the cost of hard-surfacing on the north end of Highway 23 in Columbus County, W. A. McGirt proposed to raise additional funds from some source in order that said project might be completed, that the foregoing proposition was to be made under condition that the State Highway Commission use sand-asphalt as the type of hard-surface on whatever amount of said project the State was able to complete.

After hearing the proposition of the State Highway Commission as presented by J. D. Waldrop, the Commissioners did not feel inclined to take a vote either for or against acceptance of such an offer at this meeting and on motion by J. R. Blake, seconded by D. W. Merritt, the matter was deferred until the regular monthly meeting to be held on December 2, 1929.

Other business transacted by the Board during this meeting was as follows:

Ordered: That the land sale certificates on J. C. Sibbett Est. in Whiteville Township for the years 1926-27-28 be reduced on one-half of the

1927-30.37
1928-27.21

valuation in accepting payment for those years. It is further ordered that the Tax Collector shall refund on the same basis for 1929 taxes.

Ordered: That the 1927 land sale certificate against what was originally known as the Barber McClellan property but now owned by Donald McRackan Est. in Chadbourn Township be reduced to one-half of its original amount. This reduction is granted in lieu to an order passed by a former Board covering the 1924-25-26 taxes on the same basis of reduction. For some unknown reason the 1927 taxes were not included in the original order as passed. *amt. 21.01*

In accordance with a request made by W. A. McGirt, 3rd District State Highway Commissioner, both by letter and in person before the Board, relative to organizing the County in an effort to have a large motorcade going from Columbus County to attend the bridge opening celebration at Wilmington on December 10th, the County Commissioners appointed township committees composed of three members in each township, and they are in turn to appoint sub-committees in their respective townships for the purpose of getting as large crowd as possible going from the several communities.

There being no further business to be transacted at this time the Commissioners voted adjournment of this meeting in order until their regular monthly meeting to be held on December 2, 1929.

G. C. Ratchiffe
Clerk

Approved

D. J. McLaughlin
Chairman