

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m. April 19, 1971, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

H. J. Watts

W. O. Johnson

J. Roland Gore (Absent)

T. E. Burns (Absent)

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The reading of the minutes was omitted at this time.

The following business was transacted:

Ordered: that Kenneth C. Smith and Daniel C. Faulk be approved as special deputies for 74 Club, located in Boardman, subject to the requirements of HB#278.

Ordered: that a check for \$25.00 be given to Mrs. Dollie Williamson from the Out-Door-Poor fund.

Ordered: that the Policies and Guidelines presented by Col. Walters for the approval of the Board to be used by the Economic Development Commission be tabled until a later meeting.

Ordered: that all departments be directed to present their Budget Estimate request not later than May 3rd.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Watts, seconded by Commissioner Johnson and un-
anomously adopted by those present as follows:

WHEREAS, Columbus County is located in the Southeastern portion of North Carolina ;
and:

WHEREAS, the same has vast agriculture lands and is presently undergoing economic
growth with new industrial development and many new citizens coming to Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, said change in the trend of population migration and industrial develop-
ment has increased the need for adequate highways and transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County is not presently located on any interstate highway or
North-South Corridor; and

WHEREAS, there is an extreme need for such transportation facilities as an inter-
state highway or a North-South multi-lane corridor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board does hereby unanimously urge the
appropriate authorities to take immediate action to extend Interstate 20 from Florence, S. C.
to the coast of N. C., passing through Columbus County and at the same time to immediately
begin construction of a North-South Corridor extending from the Northern costal states to
to the southern costal states and passing through or as nearly as possible to Columbus County,
N. C.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all due concern and aid be given to the State of N. C.
for the improvement of Highway #701 which also passes through Columbus County, N. C. as one
of the major highways of the county system at the present time.

A copy of the foregoing resolution is to be sent to Mr. Beverly Paul, Director of the Cape Fear Council of Governments, Wilmington, N. C.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GREATER WILMINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO SECURE A HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the economy of Southeastern North Carolina is expanding as a result of the growth of existing business and industry as well as the establishment of new industry of new industries creating additional jobs; and

WHEREAS, political and business leaders throughout Southeastern North Carolina are dedicated to continued economic growth of the region and State of North Carolina in order to sustain a rising level of prosperity in which all citizens may participate; and

WHEREAS, economic growth requires modern transportation of all types and to present Southeastern North Carolina is not adequately linked to the Interstate Highway System by modern four lane highways; and

WHEREAS, the Ports of Wilmington and Morehead City bolster the economy of all Eastern North Carolina, yet are the only deep waters ports in the entire United States not directly connected to the Interstate System; and

WHEREAS, the citizenry of Southeastern North Carolina are acutely aware that a direct connection with Interstate Highway 40 is in the best interest of continued growth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the County Commissioners, do formally endorse and support the efforts of the Greater Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington to improve the highway net serving Southeastern North Carolina and urge the North Carolina Highway Commission to :

1. Establish the junction of I-40 at I-95 as soon as possible and locate this junction point as far south of Smithfield as is feasible because it will provide the most direct route from Southeastern North Carolina.
2. To locate this connection in the vicinity of Benson-Four Oaks, North Carolina.
3. To begin immediately the acquisition of right-of way from Interstate 95 to the Port of Wilmington. This right-of-way should be adequate for construction to Interstate Highway standards.
4. To proceed with the construction of at least one lane as soon as feasible.
5. To make it abundantly clear to the Department of Transportation of the United States of America and its Federal Housing Administration that this project is being carried out with the intent of eventual designation as Interstate Highway 40.
6. To begin efforts immediately to have the Department of Transportation extend Interstate 20 from Florence, South Carolina to the Port of Wilmington, North Carolina in the next expansion of the Interstate System, thus linking all counties of Southeastern North Carolina with two major interstate highways.

ATTEST:

/s/Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk to the Board

ROAD PETITION: Whiteville Township: This road is an extension of Thompson Street. It is .5 mi. in length and has 9 occupied homes located on it.

Mr. Melvin and Mr. Lassiter from the Department of Local Affairs came to discuss the possibility of Columbus County applying for federal funds through their organization. There has been some difference of opinion as to whether Columbus County could apply due to the fact the County had levied taxes to construct a jail. Mr. Melvin said the matter had been investigated and he was sure the County would be declared eligible to apply for funds by the Law and Order Commission.

Mr. George Vaughn, from the Division of Community Planning, came again to discuss the proposed zoning ordinance for Columbus County. A motion was made by Commissioner

Watts, seconded by Commissioner Johnson that a public hearing be held concerning the amending of the Southeastern Community College Zoning Ordinance to the entire County of Columbus. Said hearings regarding proposed change to be held so all parties in interest and other citizens be given an opportunity to be heard. Notice of said public hearings shall be published once a week for two successive calendar weeks in the News Reporter with the first notice to be not less than 15 days prior to date fixed for said hearing. The dates for advertising will be May 17th and 24th, and the hearing will be held on May 28th at 8:30 p.m.

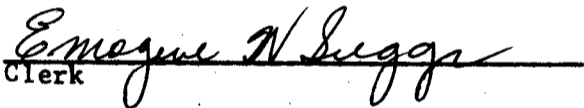
The motion was carried by majority vote. (AMENDED ALRIL 21st)

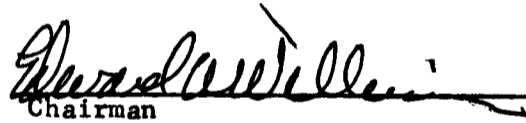
A salesman from the ADDRESSOGRAPH-MULTIGRAPH CORP. came to present the advantages of an addressograph machine for the Tax Supervisor's Office.

Ordered: that the Chairman & Clerk be authorized to sign Bond, Interest, and Redemption check in the amount of \$11,012.50 to pay the debt service for the County Hospital and the Annex Building.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until April 21, 1971, at which time they will sit as a Board of Equalization & Review.

APPROVED:


Clerk


Chairman