

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., January 17, 1972, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

E. W. Williamson, Chairman

J. Roland Gore

H. J. Watts

W. O. Johnson

T. E. Burns

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The following business was transacted:

Ordered: that Mr. Carl Hardin with the State Highway Commission be allowed to use maps in the Tax Supervisor's Office to get names of landowners along the new route of Highway #74,

Ordered: that the resignation of Judy Ann Mehalic, Clerk in Tax Office, be accepted with regrets.

Motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Burns that the Board respectfully requests the Council of Governments to approve SHC Project, No. 6.801570, Columbus County, U S #74 from West of Hallsboro to East of Bolton, Federal Highway Administration.

Ordered: that J. Hubert Norris be paid for two weeks work and two weeks vacation in July so he will qualify for retirement.

Mr. Bennett White, Chairman, Board of Elections, officially requested two voting machines for South Whiteville Precinct, and if funds are available, two for Fair Bluff Precinct. An order was passed at the January 4th meeting to purchase two voting machines for South Whiteville Precinct subject to the request of the Board of Elections. Funds are to be appropriated out of surplus. Contract for Voting Machines is \$4,386.28.

ROAD PETITION: SOUTH WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP: This road connects 1130 to 1131. It is one mile in length and has 8 occupied homes located on it,

The following releases were passed upon the recommendation of the Tax Supvr's Office:

Ordered: that the poll tax listed in the name of R. W. Dowless, Jr., Bogue Township, be released for the year 1971 due to a clerical error.

Ordered: that the personal property taxes listed in the name of Nathan Larry Lee, Ransom Township, be cancelled for the year 1970. Mr. Lee was killed in action in the Republic of Vietnam on May 11, 1971.

Ordered: that the property listed in the name of Joseph Etheridge/^{Lees Township,} be adjusted to correct acreage. Presently it is listed as 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ and should be 2 acres.

Mr. V. A. Fish, State Jail Inspector, A. L. Duke, Sheriff and John Coleman, Deputy Sheriff came to discuss the operation of the new jail when it is ready to be opened. Mr. Duke stated his recommendations and Mr. Fish stated the requirements to be met. After the discussion the following decision was made by the Board:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gore, seconded by Commissioner Watts, and un-

namiously passed that the Sheriff operate the Jail with the additional staff of five deputies and two cooks to be employed when the jail is ready for operation.. It is also recommended that Columbus County ask for another magistrate, making a total of three in Whiteville, so one would be on duty at all times in the jail.

Mr. Earl Duncan came to express an interest in contracting the audit for Columbus County offices at the end of the fiscal year. No decision was made at this time.

Mr. Kernit Ward came to offer Columbus County a chance to buy the Ward Building which joins county property near the courthouse. The Board will discuss this offer and notify Mr. Ward at a later date. His offer was \$80,000 for the building & lot.

Mr. LeRoy Stocks, Elections Board Member, came to voice complaints and objections in various matters concerning county transactions. A letter written by Mr. Stocks is on file containing his views.

The Board expressed a desire for the County Attorney to attend the Conference for County Attorneys in Chapel Hill.

Ordered: that James Prevatte, Lumberton, N. C., be approved as Special Deputy for the La Charlais Nightclub near Boardman, subject to meeting all other requirements of law.

Ordered: that tax listing be extended 30 days in the Tax Supvr.'s Office only, for the 1972 tax listing.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until February 7, 1972, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

Edward W. Allen
Chairman