

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., December 6, 1976, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Donald P. Currie, Chairman

C. Waldo Marlowe

Edward W. Williamson

Mayo Brown

W. B. Buffkin, Absent

Sankey W. Robinson, Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

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

The following business was transacted:

The Board of Commissioners received from the Columbus County Board of Elections a certified copy of the proceedings of said Board of Elections taken on November 4, 1976, evidencing said Board's determination of the results of the canvass of the returns of the special bond referendum held in the County of Columbus on November 2, 1976, upon the question of issuing \$4,500,000 Water Bonds of said County.

After said proceedings had been considered and reviewed by the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Waldo Marlowe introduced the following resolution which was read:

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE RESULT OF THE SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM HELD  
ON NOVEMBER 2, 1976

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus:

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus, having received from the Columbus County Board of Elections a certified copy of the proceedings of said Board of Elections taken on November 4, 1976, evidencing said Board's determination of the results of the canvass of the returns of the special bond referendum held in the County of Columbus on November 2, 1976, upon the question of issuing \$4,500,000 Water Bonds of said County, does hereby declare and certify the result of said referendum to be the result which is set forth in the following statement of result of said referendum, which statement has been prepared by said Board of Commissioners:

STATEMENT OF THE RESULT  
of the  
SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM  
held in the  
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA  
on November 2, 1976

At a special bond referendum held in the County of Columbus on November 2, 1976, 24831 voted were registered and qualified to vote.

At said referendum 3630 votes were cast for the order adopted on September 17, 1976, authorizing the County of Columbus, North Carolina, to contract a debt, in addition to any and all other debt which said County may now or hereafter have power or authority to contract, and in evidence thereof to issue Water Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$4,500,000. for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for the construction of a water system for said County, including supply, storage, treatment, distribution and appurtenant facilities, the acquisition of an existing water line for incorporation into such system and the

acquisition of any necessary land, rights of way and equipment, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, and 7253 votes were cast against said order, and a majority of the qualified voters of said County who voted thereon at said referendum having voted against the approval of said order, was thereby not approved.

Board of Commissioners for the  
County of Columbus, N. C.

Section 2. The County Accountant and ex officio Clerk shall file a copy of the foregoing statement of the result of said referendum in her office, shall insert such statement in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners which is as follows:

At 11 o'clock A.M. the County Board of Elections of Columbus County met and received from the registrars and judges of election for the several precincts in the County of Columbus the returns of the special bond referendum held in said County on November 2, 1976 upon the question of issuing \$4,500,000 County Water Bonds of said County.

After said returns had been canvassed by the County Board of Elections, E. L. Green introduced the following resolution, which was read:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE CANVASS OF THE RETURNS OF THE SPECIAL BOND REFER-  
ENDUM HELD IN THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS ON NOVEMBER 2, 1976 AND DETERMINING  
THE RESULTS THEREOF

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Elections of Columbus County:

Section 1. The returns of the special bond referendum held in the County of Columbus on November 2, 1976 upon the question of issuing \$4,500,000 Water Bonds of said County having received from the proper election officers and having been canvassed, the Board has found and determined and does hereby declare:

(a) That each registrar and judge for said referendum was duly qualified by law and had taken the necessary oath.

(b) That the election officers had incorporated in their returns not only the number of votes cast for and against the question submitted, but also the number of voters registered and qualified to vote in each precinct in said referendum.

(c) That at said referendum there was submitted to the qualified voters of said County the following question:

Shall the order adopted on September 17, 1976, authorizing not exceeding \$4,500,000 Water Bonds of the County of Columbus, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for the construction of a water system for said County, including supply, storage, treatment, distribution and appurtenant facilities, the acquisition of an existing water line for incorporation into such system and the acquisition of any necessary land, rights of way and equipment, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, be approved?

(d) That no complaints have been made to this Board against the regularity of said referendum.

(e) That said referendum and the registration therefor were duly and properly held in accordance with law.

Section 2. The following schedule correctly shows the designations of the several precincts at which said referendum was held and, as to each precinct, the location of the voting

place, the number of voters registered and qualified to vote, the number of votes cast in favor of the question submitted, the number of votes cast against the question, and the totals of such numbers:

PRECINCT	VOTING PLACE	VOTERS REGISTERED & QUALIFIED TO VOTE	QUESTION SUBMITTED VOTED FOR-AGAINST	
Bogue	Hallsboro School	1677	268	551
Bolton	Town Hall	939	337	212
Bug Hill #1	Community Hut (Paul Gore)	294	14	144
Bug Hill #2	Guideway School	347	44	141
Bug Hill #3	Nakina High School	397	32	227
Cerro Gordo	Fire Station	851	165	279
Chadbourn	Civic Center	2370	164	397
Cherry Grove	Community Center	367	31	173
Fair Bluff	Fire Department	1199	250	385
East Lees	Simmons Store (Highway 130)	523	54	267
North Lees	Hill's Old Stroe (Highway 130)	406	244	42
South Lees	Carrie M. Jones Station	226	16	87
West Lees	Intersection of SR 1006 & 905 (Edith Evans Building)	323	35	158
Ransom	Acme Delco School	1808	56	212
Tatum	Evergreen School Gym	1484	301	517
Waccamaw	Town Hall	991	250	332
Welches Creek	Community Center	597	89	192
Western Prong	Community Center	320	53	147
Whiteville #1	Courthouse	1804	419	370
Whiteville #2	City Hall	879	114	184
North Whiteville	Community Center	466	85	208
South Whiteville	Beside Hill's #2 Store	1422	96	404
West Whiteville	Armory Building	812	156	281
Williams #1	Roseland Community Building	1133	83	582
Williams #2	Mollie Community Center	559	46	302
South Williams	Courthouse (Tabor City)	2637	115	337
	Absentee Voting		113	122
TOTALS. . . . .		24831	3630	7253

Section 3. From the canvass made, this Board does hereby determine and certify:

(a) That 24,831 voters were registered and qualified to vote.

(b) That at said referendum 3,630 votes were cast for the order adopted on September 17, 1976, authorizing the County of Columbus, North Carolina, to contract a debt, in addition to any and all other debt which said County may now or hereafter have power or authority to contract, and in evidence thereof to issue Water Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$4,500,000 for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for the construction of a water system for said County, including supply, treatment, distribution and appurtenant facilities, the acquisition of an existing water line for incorporation into such system and the acquisition of any necessary land, rights of way and equipment, and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to apy the principal of and the interest on said bonds, and 7,253 votes were cast against said order, and that a majority of the qualified voters of said County who voted thereon at said referendum voted against said order.

Section 4. The Executive Secretary of this Board is hereby directed to transmit immediately a certified copy of this resolution to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus.

Upon motion of E. L. Green, seconded by William L. Lambert, the foregoing resolution was passed by the following vote:

AYES:               3      

NOES:               0      

\* \* \* \* \*

I, Annie Ruth Strickland, Executive Secretary of the County Board of Elections of Columbus County, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing has been carefully copied from the recorded minutes of said County Board of Elections at a meeting held on November 4, 1976, at the Courthouse in Whiteville, North Carolina, said record having been made in Minute Book No. 11, beginning at page 17 and ending at page 17, and is a true copy of so much of said proceedings of said Board as relate in any way to the canvass of the returns of the special bond referendum held in the County of Columbus on Novmeber 2, 1976.

WITNESS my hand this the 4th day on Novmeber, 1976.

/s/ Annie Ruth Strickland  
Executive Secretary of the County Board of  
Elections of Columbus County.

The minutes of the November 15th meeting were approved as recorded.

The Board granted permission for the Hospital Baord of Trustees to turn on the boiler in the new building by the Board of Trustees assuming the expenses involved and purchasing the necessary insurnace on the boiler. The Board was informed of this request by the County Attorney who stated that the recommendation was made by the Architect and the Attorney had informed them that the responsibility would be with the Board of Trustees.

Ordered: that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Change Order #P-1 involving changes in the plumbing contract with Faulk Plumbing Company which in effect reduced the Contract by the amount of \$1.328.00.

Ordered: that the terms of the persons appointed to serve on the Council on the Status of Women be terminated at the end of six months from the time of appointment. The Council was intended to be on a trial basis for a period of six months.

Ordered: that the Clerk contact Wallace Clontz, Architect, to have specifications drawn to paint the woodwork on the outside of the Courthouse and place an advertisement in the paper to secure bids. It is further ordered that the carpet and drapes in the courtrooms be cleaned as planned in the present FY Budget.

Ordered: that the Clerk contact the State Personnel Office and have incorporated into the Administrative Policy that the Board of Commissioners would determine the classification and starting salary of employees in the Sheriff's Dept. and the Register of Deeds' Office after considering recommendations made by the respective department heads. It is further ordered that employees who work in a position other than their regular position be paid by the agency which used their services, such as the Board of Elections, and not be given compensatory time off from their regular position. After making these changes a motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe, and unanimously passed to accept the revised Policy, and notice be given to the State Personnel Office to file the revised Policy which includes the employees under the State Selective Service System.

The following releases were made by recommendation of the office of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that the 1976 taxes listed in the name of Federal Paper Board Company, Inc.

Waccamaw Township, be released on the valuation of \$90.00 due to an error in listing the number of acres, i.e., 34 acres were listed and should have been 32.

Ordered: that the 1976 taxes listed in the name of L. Isabelle Wright, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$2,340.00 due to listing the wrong year model of a trailer home.

Ordered: that the 1972 and 1973 taxes listed in the name of Jonathan Lafayette Cutrell, Fair Bluff Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$6,734 for 1972 and \$6,675 for 1973 for vehicles also listed to Service Telephone-Corporation Excess.

Ordered: that the 1975 and 1976 taxes listed in the name of Olen Lovett, Cerro Gordo Township, be released on the valuation of \$14,050 due to double listing.

Ordered: that a refund be issued to E. L. Hufham, P. O. Box 4, Chadbourn, N. C., Chadbourn Township, in the amount of \$30.00 for overpayment of 1976 taxes due to an error in exchanging deeds with Leroy Williamson.

Ordered: that a refund be issued to W. L. Simmons, 819 Greenwood Drive, Greensboro, N. C., Bug Hill Township, in the amount of \$78.54 for the years 1974 through 1976 due to an error in listing the number of acres of property owned.

Ordered: that the following persons be appointed to serve on the Community Development Advisory Board. The duties of this Board will be to help compile information to apply for grants for community development in the critical areas of the County. The following were appointed subject to their acceptance:

Ben Wyche, Helen Bethea, S. T. Enzor, Priscilla Jacobs, Luther Rich, Jr., Eugene Walters, Elbert Ward, Ralph Jolly, Bill Freidman and John W. Wilson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe to appoint Donnie Graham, 322 West Columbus Street, Whiteville to fill the unexpired term of C. R. Ward on the Area Mental Health Board due to Mr. Ward not attending the meetings of the Board.

At 12:00 Noon the meeting adjourned for the purpose of swearing in the newly-elected Board Members thus ending the terms of Donald P. Currie, Mayo Brown and W. B. Buffkin.

APPROVED:

*Eugene W. Suggs*  
Clerk

*Donald P. Currie*  
Chairman

At 12:00 Noon the newly elected Commissioners assembled in the meeting room of the County Commissioners and the oath of office was administered by Lacy R. Thompson, Clerk of Superior Court as follows:

Junior Winford Dew	County Commissioner
David L. McPherson	County Commissioner
L. A. Hinson	County Commissioner

Sankey W. Robinson was asked to act as moderator to appoint a Chairman for the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Robinson stated the floor was open for nominations for chairman.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson to appoint Commissioner Marlowe as chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinson. No other motions were made and Commissioner Marlowe was unanimously appointed as chairman by acclamation of the Board.

Chairman Marlowe asked for nominations for Vice-chairman.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson to appoint Commissioner Dew to serve as vice-chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinson and unanimously passed.

At this time a motion was made to adjourn for lunch.

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 2:00 p.m., December 6, 1976, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior Winford Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the following business was transacted:

Ordered: that Junior W. Dew serve as ex officio member of the Columbus County Library Board. Motion - Commissioner Williamson, Second - Commissioner Hinson

Ordered: that L. A. Hinson be appointed to serve on the Area Mental Health Board. Motion - Commissioner Dew, Second - Commissioner McPherson

Ordered: that David McPherson and Edward W. Williamson be appointed as delegates to the Cape Fear Council of Governments. From these two names the Executive Committee will choose one to serve on the Executive Committee until February which is the time for their Annual Meeting to re-elect members for one-year terms. Motion-Comm. Hinson, Second-Comm. Dew

Ordered: that Edward W. Williamson and Willis Burroughs be reappointed to serve on the Columbus County Fire Commission and that Charles Moore be appointed to replace Junior Dew for a term of one year. Motion - Comm. Dew, Second - Comm. McPherson

Ordered: that the Clerk send out a copy of the agenda and the minutes to the following news media at the same time as these items are sent to the Board Members:

Columbus County News	Fayetteville Times	Wilmington Morning Star
News Reporter	Taber City Tribune	

Motion - Commissioner Hinson, Second Commissioner Williamson.

The motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed by the Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made, seconded and duly carried to retain James E. Hill, Jr. as County Attorney. Mr. Hill was not available to discuss at length the terms accepting the appointment but agreed to meet with the Board at a later time which was set at 8:00 a.m. on December 7th at the regular meeting place of the Board. Motion - Comm. McPherson  
Second - Comm. Hinson

A motion was made, seconded and duly carried to appoint a committee of four from each Commissioner's Zone to form a study group and report to the Board at the end of ninety days on the feasibility of employing a county manager. A further motion was carried to name the persons to serve on this study committee at the meeting on December 20th. Motion - Commissioner Hinson, Second - Commissioner McPherson

Commissioner Williamson stated that The Honorable Frank Grady had asked about office space for Judges serving Columbus County. The Clerk was directed to ask Judge Grady to state his exact request and needs by way of letter to be given to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

In relation to office space being discussed Commissioner Hinson stated that he was in favor of giving the Health Department first priority of space when the Hospital is vacated. This had been an established priority by the Board at an earlier time.

The Honorable R. C. Soles, Jr. came by to express his wishes for a good working relationship between the Board and his office in Raleigh and invited them to contact him at any time he could be of help to them.

Upon motion the meeting recessed until 8:00 a.m., December 7, 1976, to continue unfinished business.

APPROVED:

Emory W. Suggs  
Clerk

Waldo Malone  
Chairman