

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., December 20, 1976, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David 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 The Reverend Tommy Beaver, Pastor, Christ the King Luthern Church, Whiteville.

The following business was transacted:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson that the minutes of the December 6th meeting be approved as recorded except that the Clerk record the name of the Commissioner who makes each motion and second in that meeting and all meetings in the future. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dew and unanimously passed.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner McPherson:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners that the Columbus County Bar Association is authorized to place a portrait of the Honorable Raymond B. Mallard, former Resident Superior Court Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District and Chief Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals, in the Superior Courtroom in the Columbus County Courthouse; and further, that the Columbus County Bar Association may in the future, place a portrait in said Courtroom of any native Columbus Countian who has achieved the judicial status of Superior Court Judge or above.

The following list of names were presented to the Board to form a committee to study the feasibility of implementing a County Manager System in Columbus County:

Names submitted by Waldo Marlowe for Zone 1:

Lennox Long	Rt. 1, Nakina
Eston Blackmon	Rt. 4, Whiteville
Jesse Graham	Rt. 1, Bolton
Royce Johnson	Rt. 1, Delco

Names submitted by Junior W. Dew for Zone 2:

Roscoe Lennon	Rt. 1, Evergreen
R. N. Jordan	Rt. 2, Clarkton
Carl Bryant	Rt. 1, Hallsboro
Eloise Byrd	Lake Waccamaw

Names submitted by Edward W. Williamson for Zone 3:

A. J. Worley	Rt. 1, Cerro Gordo
Eugene Nance	Rt. 2, Chadbourn
Casey Williams	Rt. 2, Chadbourn
LeRoy Thompson	Rt. 1, Chadbourn

Names submitted by David McPherson for Zone 4:

Odum Godwin	Rt. 1, Chadbourn
Harold Hinson	Taobr City
William Chestnutt	Tabor City
Clara M. Duncan	Rt. 1, Nakina

Names submitted by L. A. Hinson for Zone 5:
 Beatrice Smith Whiteville
 James L. Collier Whiteville
 Paul Woodall Whiteville
 William Prease Rt. 1, Whiteville

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson that the above names be accepted to form a study committee, the motion was seconded by Commissioner McPherson and unanimously passed. The time for the first meeting, which will be jointly with the Commissioners, was set for January 4, 1977, at 7:30 p.m., in the regular meeting place of the Commissioners.

A letter of resignation, effective December 31st, was received from Ida McPherson, Tax Clerk, stating that she felt it would not be proper ethics for her to continue as a county employee due to the fact that her husband is now a member of the Board of Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and unanimously passed to accept the resignation with regrets.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson, and unanimously passed, Commissioner Williamson was appointed to sign to necessary papers to rent the tobacco and peanut allotments for 1977 crop year for the best available price.

Upon motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and unanimously approved the following persons were reappointed to serve on the Columbus County Health Board for another three year term:

Dr. J. T. Wyche	Whiteville
W. E. Brown	Chadbourn
B. T. Elliott	Whiteville
Catherine Lee	Whiteville
Dr. Jerry Paschal	Whiteville
Clarence Willoughby	Tabor City

Social Services Director, Joanne Vereen, requested an additional \$1,000 be transferred from Hospitalization to Family Planning as the present funds are not sufficient to continue the Family Planning Program. The State and Federal Government will furnish 95% of the funding. A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson to allow the Accountant to make the budget transfer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williamson and unanimously approved.

Amanda Bible, Library Director, asked permission to hire one full-time employee in lieu of two part-time employees which would not involve any additional funds or cause any employee to be dismissed as the present employees have expressed a desire not to work part-time if a full-time employee could be hired. A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and unanimously passed to grant this request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and unanimously carried to appoint Commissioner McPherson to serve on the Community Development Advisory Board.

The following Resolution was unanimously passed upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson:

WHEREAS, seven Columbus County jurisdictions are submitting individual Community

Development preapplications to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Columbus County being one of those jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that each preapplication be provided with an administrative element which is deemed capable of carrying out the activities proposed in that particular application; and

WHEREAS, the eventuality of one or more Columbus County jurisdictions preapplication's being funded exists with the possibility of duplicate administrative service resulting,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that should more than one Community Development preapplication receive funding consideration in Columbus County, then the administrative elements will be renegotiated and combined in an effort to reduce overhead and duplication. Should all seven preapplications from Columbus County receive funding consideration, a joint Community Development office would be established in a central place to be agreed upon by all parties to conduct activities on a county-wide basis. In that event, the administrative budget could be renegotiated to conduct the overall administrative element.

ALSO, WHEREAS, it is understood to be the prerogative of the individual preapplicant to set policy concerning the ownership guidelines relating to homes to be rehabilitated under the Community Development program; and

WHEREAS, in many instances homes in dire need of rehabilitation in all jurisdictions of Columbus County are occupied by renters rather than individual homeowners; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be a bad precedent to spend public money to rehabilitate non-owner-occupied low to moderate income homes without some protection to the renter from rental increases resulting from repairs to same,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that any owner of a renter-occupied dwelling in Columbus County eligible for Community Development housing rehabilitation assistance who wishes to participate in the program must agree in writing not to raise the rent on the rehabilitated dwelling in question for a period of at least two years.

/s/ Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Hobson Ivey, Landfill Supervisor, requested the Board to appropriate funds to purchase 100 new trash containers as he has numerous calls from citizens in the County for additional containers and several of the old ones are in need of extensive repairs. A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and unanimously passed to approve the purchase of 50 new containers, with funds to be appropriated out of Revenue Sharing.

Approval was given by the Board to allow the Accountant to release the payroll before Christmas Holidays begin upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Williamson.

Mr. Jimmy Godwin, Chairman of the Youth Needs Study Task Force, along with other members of the Study Group, presented the Board with a preliminary report on their assessment of the needs of youth in the County. The Board commended the group for their interest and work and the following action was taken:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County that the Preliminary Report on the assessment of youth needs in the County be accepted and endorsed by the Board to be referred to the Department of Human Resources, Division of Youth Services to be used as a guide in making decisions in dealing with juvenile status offenders, the prevention of juvenile delinquency and improving the juvenile justice system.

The Clerk was instructed to forward a copy of the Report along with a letter to the Department of Human Resources informing them of the action taken by the Board.

Roscoe Enzor, Tax Collector, reported to the Board on progress made in tax collections up through December 17th. He stated that the current year taxes were not up to the collections at the same time last year but he felt that it would be by the end of December. He also stated that delinquent taxes were much higher than to the same time last year. He invited any suggestions the Board might give but none were made at this time.

There was a general discussion on the possibility of improving the open market facilities for the sale of farm fresh products which was operated on the 701 By-Pass during the 1976 season. The Board asked Commissioner Hinson to discuss the possibility of the Whiteville Chamber of Commerce and the County working jointly to improve the market facility and report to the Board at the next meeting.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until January 3, 1977, at 10:00 a.m., which is regular meeting time. The Board went to the Courthouse to try to make temporary arrangements for space to store files for the Clerk of Court and talk with Judge Grady concerning office space for Columbus County Judges.

APPROVED:

Emogene N. Suggs
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman